

# History of the Lerch Family

1560 - 2018



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## And Alfred Lerch Family

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We appreciate the hard work and long hours of the original editor and secretary of the Lerch Reunion, the late Camille H. H. Heckman, who compiled the data and typed the original manuscript. Her colorful, period prose and quaint phrasing has been left intact.

The last section of the book to date, Civil War veteran Benneville Lerch and his son, Alfred, came to be only due to the research by Pennsylvania cousin Thomas R. Lerch.

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Please note: This is the most confusing document I have ever read.  
It is as “right” as I can make it.

HAL

## OUR HOMELAND

"Einleintaungs Worten, Anfang den Larich Familie."

Odenwold, a wooded mountainous region in the Grand Duchy of Hessa Darm Statt. History of that town begins with the partition of Hesse in 1567, but two years earlier, in 1565, we have records that they belonged to Marke-bold Congregation. The baptisms and marriages accurately dated, as being their birthplace. At that date they had a Larich Dahl, and Marke-bold was two miles away from the church. Also called Langenselbold Gemeinshafticha Kirche. Authorized by letters direct from the Ministers in 1932. We feel safe to their affability.

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## ORIGINAL LETTER FROM GERMANY

Lagenselbold, 7 August 1932

Den 12, Juni, 1688, haben Joh. Conrad Lerch, und Gertrudes, beida Eheleuta, ein Sohnlein Andreas lassen taufen, Der Gevatter war Andreas Schmid, der shafer allhier.

Das obriger auszug mit dem originalim Krichen buche zy Lagenselbold, Band 1, Ernst ubereinstimmt beglaubige ich durch unterschrift und Amtssiegel.

G. L. Lill, Pfarrar.

## "PREFACE"

How the Generations Came:

Most of the Northampton Countians can guide them by it. There might be a few exceptions, but rather these ancestors than after the ones who came later and were" traveling in the Northwesterly direction. History predicts that the last named are more or less descendants from another party that immigrated in years later. But, Patience endureth all. It will take some studying to find your ancestors no doubt, but still it is easy towards what it meant at the beginning for one man to trace these many points. Realizing it was to locate many from the Eighth and Ninth, generation because some could not give their ancestors of One or Two generations.

Let us rejoice with the progress made, and try to do our bit, not criticizing, or find faults, as long as we cannot do better. Be courteous, loyal, help to bear each other's burdens, by so doing many obstacles can be removed, and live in peace, and harmony, continue as one great family, fulfill the adage that in union there is strength.

Thinking of our Ancestors how they toiled; first had to clear the land from trees, from the wood, then prepared and built their homes, with no seed drill, and grass cutting machine, or self-binder, no factory, to make their clothes, but had to sow flax, cut it, bleach and prepare it for the linen material. Raised sheep, cut the wool, washed and bleached for weeks near a stream sometimes two miles away from their homes, and went on horseback twice a day to sprinkle it. They had to do that because they had no big cisterns two hundred years ago and the limestone well water would not answer the purpose.

First, they raised the cattle. In butchering, they gathered the tallow, melted it, and poured it in forms called candle forms. This process is used at the present time, as candles are always in use around the holiday seasons.

Their floors were mostly bare, but were scrubbed bright and clean, decorated with silver sand every Saturday. No bakers came around, and there was no need for a tin can opener. They dried most of the berries, apples, etc. They even made their coffee from oats and some bran and wheat. They had bags full of dried tea, and other needful things. But they had to do it. Think of the blue Mondays. Rubbing first of all, by hand, next they rubbed on a smooth board. To boil their soap they would splash water on wood ashes (for they had no coal) and strained them. That they called lye, and made very good and healthy soap,

They knitted their stockings, mittens, made their shoes. The writer saw shoes where the hair of the animal was still on the inside of the shoes, while the outside were of nice leather treated with a liquid called shellac made from the sap of certain trees, They were neat, sewed and strong and nice.

In summer they went barefooted, even to Church, and Sunday School, they would wear Shaker sunbonnets, made of linen, and pasteboard. When frost, and cold weather would set in, they would wear warm woolen stockings and shoes. Carriages and buggies were scarce. The women, as well as the men had riding horses, to go to Church and business places. Stones measuring 27 to 30 inches were permanently placed for them to alight and get on their horses. They used wooden baking troughs, or molds, with covers where the bread was kneaded. After it was baked, they scraped the dough from the mold and then by putting water on it made the paste resembling yeast to start the next bread.

It was in the Eighteenth Century that people learned to bake wheat bread and pies. Before, it was barley and rye. They would get one dress a year. The flax was woven into a fabric, after the women spun it, at home. The dress worn Sundays the previous year would then

be the weekday dress. The same principle was carried out in footwear. Often one pair served for weekdays and Sundays. Every Saturday evening they would thoroughly clean, and grease them with sheep tallow prepared for that purpose, and those were strict "rules."

Many interesting records of the different ages, but best of all, they worshipped the same "God" and "Trinity," knowing but one way of Salvation through "Jesus Christ" the crucified one. While all things change, let us keep our faith steadfast, perform our duties nobly, till finally, we reach our destination, safe and "Reunions" have no end.

Many of our well-known members have answered their last call. How eager they were to see this "History Book" finished, and worked with all their energy to get data, but so far, and no farther. "We have no abiding City, Ours is a city yet to come, Onward, onward, we are hastening, on to that Eternal Home. From above descending spirits move, to wipe the falling tear from mortal eyes, To bring to Earth, the nectar from the Skies. To blend with human grief, the Angels sympathize."

There prevailed a missing link, for nineteen years, preventing the setting up of this "History." The Historian passing from this life, the present historian was elected in 1940, and finally discovered the rather puzzling, but not unfamiliar circumstances, and set up the "History," with accompanying literature, and self composed "poems," while reading it, to make it more admirable.

The writer extends sincerest thanks, for all favors, knowing that heights cannot be reached by a single step. And pearls do not swim on the water, but we must dive deep. Neither can crops be reaped, with out storm, and rain, but sunshine, and this is the sunshine of all our efforts.

The following members deserve respect as contributors to the Historian, while others served in various ways, from young to old, and made this "LERCH" reunion a success. Contributors were all philanthropists, names, viz: Adam Lerch, Rev. C. D. Lerch, Historian Wm. P. Lerch, Henry L. Lerch, Milton T. Lerch, all deceased. Rev. George J. and Mrs. Laubach and sister Mrs. Wilbert Best. Russel W. Lerch, Annie L. Lerch, Katherine Zullick, Lula Young, Ruth A. Schneck, Willis Engler, Mr. Clyde V. Boyer, Chicago, genealogist, Fred Lerch, Business man, California; Stella Wagner, Elda L. Atherholt, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. William T. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Odenwelder, Mrs. Eugene Fehr, Ralph and Laura Hess, Mabel M. Gogle, Hilda L. Hewitt, Ezra Lerch, Clarence Lerch, Chas. A. Roberts, genealogist, Allentown, Pa.; Ida Ringer, Clara Hess, Camilla H. H. Heckman, historian, secretary and writer.

P. S. -Please note these points of instruction: Gen. stands for Generations also for General, and Children are numbered by issue as 3 chil'n., 1st gen., 2nd gen., till to 8th gen. Months, Days and Years by Cyphers as 2 yrs. 6 mo. 3 day's.

### **"ORIGIN OF THE LERCH, LOERCH, NAME"**

It is said that at one time, when the peasants in Germany, were out in the harvest field, they were attracted by a commotion amongst the Sky-larks, called Lorch, in German, in an adjoining field, over a certain spot in the ground. Upon investigation, they discovered a male infant, yes deserted! and not knowing where it belonged, they were at a loss to know what to do. Finally one of their number, a pretty maiden stepped forward and said in German, "Gib mir den youngen Loerch, a bird, ich will ihn aufziehen." Which interpreted means: "Give me the young Lark, I'll raise it." Thus is the Legend of the "Lerch" name.

## "HISTORY OF THE LERCH FAMILY IN THE U. S. A."

A Clan has gathered by the name of Lerch,  
Their ancestral point they began to search.  
Their plan, and efforts, not in vain,  
Here stands the "Records" very plain.  
Author, Historian Camilla H. H. Heckman.

The letter in German in this book is also printed in English and is a substantial foundation, where the "Lerchs" built on their "History."

On the 12th of June 1688, John Conrad Lerch and Gertrudes married to each other, had an infant son baptized, bestowing the name Andreas Lerch. Godfather being Andrew Schmidt, laborer. The German letter, with the original church record at Langenselbold, Vol. No. 1, accords through transcription and officially. The seal of the letter head reads: Evangelical KirchenGemeinSchaft in Langenselbold, Germany, Evangelical Congregational Church. It is 9 miles from Merkobel, where Andreas was born and reared. Signed Rev. G. L. Lill, pastor.

The Lerch history beginning in Germany had a place where this name was spelled different ways, viz: Loerch, Lorch, Larch. Their home-town was called Lorch Dahl, but in the 18th century it was changed to LERCH, and still remains, From there they scattered over a large area in the world. In Germany there were wars; difficulties, unrest in civic and religious laws, laying in ashes many villages. Our people feared. Being hard working peasants, some day all would be taken from them, and desired to keep their faith, fled to another country, "America."

## "AN EMBLEM OF RESPECT IN POETRY"

Our Forebears came from foreign lands,  
To this America so grand.  
From war, and tumult, they did flee,  
For Peace, and Piety, did plea,  
Though waves, and clouds, before them rolled,  
They would not wander from "God's" fold.  
But kept the "Faith," though sore distressed, And found this home securely blest.

Author, Camilla H. H. Heckman,  
Sec., R. No. 4, Allentown, Pa.

They have truly woven for us a beautiful pattern. And left for us descendants a wonderful example, that we could not forget, and tried to study more and more till finally our dreams of two hundred and three years, through professional and educated people have succeeded accurately, and by personal visits, have learned, that the original home of the Lorch, or Lerch, is Marke-bold, Germany.

## LERCH FAMILY

This Auguration page is the Nucleus point of the "Lerch Family." They came from Lerch Dahl Marke-bold, Germany. Landed at Philadelphia, September 16, 1738.

Andreas Lerch b. in Marke-bold, Germany in 1688 and d. 1738, 50 years.

1st gen. Sabina, (nee) Lerch, or Mrs. George Freiman b-February 7, 1710, d-in America April 16, 1802. Issue 4 children. 2nd gen., Catherine Freiman b--1743 m-William Becker. 2nd gen. Elisabeth Freiman b-1745 m-Jacob Meyers. 2nd gen. Margaret Freiman b-June 1747, d-May 29, 1823, m-Mr. Michael, b-1746, d-1820. 2nd gen., Anna Sabina Freiman b-December 26, 1753, d-October 11, 1825, m-Christian Ruch b-January 7, 1748, d-Dec. 2, 1827, and sons, Peter, Sr., Lerch, b-1718, Anthony Lerch, Sr., b-1720. Gratius or sometimes called Pancratius, b-1727.

1st gen. Anthony Lerch, Sr. of Lower Saucon Tws'p, Pa., b-Sept. 20, 1720, d-Aug. 28, 1793, 72 years, 11 mo., 7 days. M-Anna Margretha Lauer, b-March 7, 1728, 4-February 14, 1796, 67 years, 11 mo., 9 days.

Children of Anthony and wife Anna Margretha (nee) Lauer Lerch.

All 2nd gen. 9 children, John Lerch b-Nov. 17, 1747, d-March 17, 1818, 70 years, 4 months, m-Sibilla Morry, b-June 24, 1752, 4 December 30, 1817, 65 years, 6 mo., 6 days.

Issue of 1st gen. Sabina Lerch, m-to George Freiman, emigrants from Germany to Philadelphia. With the Lerch party, they landed Sept. 16, 1738.

2nd gen. Catherine Freiman, b-December 14, 1739, d-Dec. 19, 1809, m-William Becker, son of Peter, b-1734 at Langweiler, Germany; d- July 11, 1811. He was buried in Old Williams Tws'p Church Yard.

3rd gen., Margaret Becker July 11, 1769, m-Charles Stauffer, 2nd gen. Eliz. Freiman, m-Jacob Meyer. Lived around Egypt. Children baptized in unknown church. 2 gen. Margaret Freiman, June 25, 1747, d-May 29, 1823, m-Michael Boyer, Dec. 29, 1746, d-Aug. 2, 1820. They lived in Saucon until 1773. Quit shoe making. Later a successful farmer on a 134 A. farm at Newburg, Nor. Co., Pa. Revolutionary soldier. Buried at Hecktown, Pa.

3rd gen., John Boyer, b-Oct. 4th, 1769. Baptized Saucon Church Ref. M-Catherine Lerch, daughter of Anthony, Sr.

As early as 1560, there are records on file in Germany. Although we take the most interest in it since they have immigrated, in Phila., Sept. 16, 1738. But the character, or father of this history, as we would honorably call him, has been favorably known as early as A. D. 1722, in the Palatinate, Germany. The Protestant Church at Langenselbold records one by the name of Casper (Kaspar) Lorch. Though they traveled in different directions, and different vessels they evidently joined each other's party at some point and arrived with each other at one time, and same destination.

No. 1, Kaspar, and his son Johannes started at Rotterdam. Andreas, No. 1, and 3 sons, No. 1, Anthony, No. 2, Peter, No. 3, Gratius, at Deal, England. No. 1, Andreas, No. 1, John, and Johannes, No. 2. These last named J's were two families who were very close friends in Germany. Records showed that they had intermarried with each other. No. 1, John Laubach, No. 2, Johannes Lerch and Andreas Lerch. They were about the same age and were termed a generation ahead from the others. They came on the vessel named Queen Elizabeth, the captain was Alexander Hope, landing at Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 16th, 1738.

No. 1 Andreas Lerch was born 1683, died 1738; daughter Sabina Lerch, married a Mr. Frieman, born 1710, died 1802, no issue, 1st son Anthony born 1718, more facts later, 2nd son Peter born 1720, 3rd son Gratius, born 1722. Gratius was not registered and it was unlawful to

register under eighteen years. Some younger children came along. As Andreas died the same year, we trace our ancestral paint to Sons Anthony, Peter, and Gratius. Some history is traced to the younger children included in the Andreas Lerch landing.

It is interesting to note their course of traveling. They started eastward, from the river Nile in Germany, then proceeded to Holland, to Rotterdam, changed to afore said vessel Proving that they started on the same ship, Queen Anne, with No. 1, Johannes and No. 1, Kaspar, or Casper, making a stop at Holland, they then went across the ocean. According to historical facts, there were about 400 passengers. On their arrival at Philadelphia, Pa., they engaged a Conestoga wagon, to take them to Durham, Pa., Furnace, a small charcoal furnace where Riegel's Mill now stands, where they had friends living. They spoke the German language. Naturally, when they met each other lovely and affectionate greetings were exchanged, resembling the little greeting following, in German.

### "EIN KLEINER GRUSZ"

Mit freed und freud und Seligkeit, Begehnen wir euch all heit. Mit gluck erreichten wir den strand, und Bohren wert von streiten laud. Mit gnad und lieb der "Herr," regiirt, uns blaubichen so selig furht. Mit Seiner lieb brachter uns yestz, zu eira Heimath unverletz.

In English translated it reads: With Piety, and Joy, and Peace, To you our greetings we release Successfully we reached the strain, Came far from the war stricken land. With Grace, and Love, the "Lord" controls, We followed all as faithful souls. With His true love, He brought us here, Unharmred to home of friends so dear.

This Riegel's furnace was in operation since 1727 in full blast, by John Taylor, Supt. James Morgan, and James Logan, iron master. Here they unloaded their goods brought from the Father-Land, and settled down to early Spring whence they proceeded in search of more of their American friends.

Three to four miles distant in a northwesterly direction. About one mile distant from the furnace, they crossed Durham Creek, and followed an Indian trail-path, till they came to a high hill, namely Christian hill, where there was a large Indian Encampment and implement factory. Some of the descendants have weapons, which are more than 200 years old as relics of that factory.

On the northern exposition of Christian hill was at that time a cleared spot where the Indian tribes north of Durham furnace held their annual council with other Indian tribes. 1st. Gen. Anthony Lerch, and Christian Laubach, saw from Christian hill, that grand country stretch out to the northwest, They were so pleased with the valley that they immediately followed onward till they came to a creek. It is now called Saucon or Laubach's Creek. It had suitable power to run mills. A poem to honor "Dear Nature's Supplies":

No lovelier spot can ever be hit,  
Than the clear water of Saucon Creek,  
While power it gives for industries great,  
Through energy of our forebears, great progress was made.

P. S.-The Historian is author of all the poems in this "History" but two - C. H.

The aforesaid derived the name after Captain Christian Laubach fought the Indians along with his company of "Saucon Rangers" at the Frontier from 1755 to 1757, when his company merged with Capt. Wetherall's by "Orders of Benjamin Franklin, Sec. of Wars." Here along the trail or path, the Lerch's and Laubach's erected first log cabins. They cleared small tracts of land.

In the Geo. W. Laubach history, we find recorded, that Andreas (Andrew) Lerch, Sr., purchased land from the Hon. John Thomas, and Richard Penn, viz: 1st, conveyed to Anthony



Lerch, Feb. 12, 1755, 146 Acres 14 Perches, 2nd, Feb. 24, 1789, 60 A. 20 P., 3rd, March 7, 1789, 23 A. 83 P. Total 1229 A. 117 P. Next Anthony conveyed to his son Peter Oct. 12, 1760, 210 A. afterward Peter to son David, 1815, 29 A. 117 P. After they had settled on that land, they erected buildings. Later sawmills, gristmills, along this Saucon Creek, which provided water and power to conduct their business and industries. Andreas was 50 years when they landed, and must have died same year as to records, this history gives the activities of his three sons as notable characters. Anthony Lerch, Sr., 1st son, born in Markebold, Germany, September 29th, 1718, is the character of many descendants. In this year 1755, in America, possessed 229 A. 117 P. legally which he had received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and granted it to his son Anthony, Jr. also granted to him Dec. 8, 1773, two tracts of land on which a mill was built May 18, 1773. Also granted to him the water rights and dam for the mill.

Here at this mill Richard Blockhouse, proprietor of the old charcoal furnace at Durham obtained his grain flour and feed he used while managing the iron works. In 1743, a gristmill was built in Bethlehem, Pa., the present site of Luckenbach's mill. The iron for this mill was cast at the charcoal furnace at Durham. For many years, the Moravians at Bethlehem, Pa., dealt extremely with the Durham iron works. Viz: in bellows, pipes, plates for stoves. The Lerch's is located on the old road leading from Saucon Church to Durham about one-half mile east of Laubach's mill and about three-fourth of a mile west of the old William's Tw's'p Church. The following are the various transactions of this mill. Owners and prices, note the difference financially in several years. 1st. Anthony, Sr., year 1755, 2nd. Anthony Lerch, Jr., year 1773, 3rd. Mr. Leidich, 1796, 4th. Mr. Kichline, year 1816, 5th. Geo. Applegate, year 1855. 6th. Mr. More, paid in the year 1865, \$1000.00, 7th. Oliver Myers, year 1870, 8th. Mr. Harris, 9th. Mr. Ruch, year 1900, 10th. Mr. Kunsman present owner paid \$4,200.00, year 1919.

The oldest member when we organized the "Lerch Reunion," and contemplated to have it an annual affair, was the late Hon. Adam Lerch, Wernersville, Pa., who was instrumental in getting for us large quantity of important history, directly communicating with Revs. Schilling, Rohrbach and G. L. Lill, pastors of Langenselbold Gemeluschaft Protestant Church in Germany. It took the pastors one hour to look over the records and cost 3 marks or 75 cents and took three months to bring the letter back to Wernersville, Berks Co., Pa, He was the 5th Gen. from Kaspar who landed at Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. fifth, 1738, along with Andreas and sons. That branch is as follows:

No. 1, Kaspar; No. 2, Nicholas; No. 3, John; No. 4, Daniel; No. 5, Adam. Kaspar was a member of aforesaid church in 1722. Records of that church trace Lerch's as far back as A. D. 1560, a period of 364 years. Evidently, of the two Johns that are recorded, one was Andreas' son and the other was Nicholas' son.

Anthony Lerch, Sr. born Sept. 20, 1720, died Aug. 28, 1793. On Dec. 1774, he became a member of the Northampton County Committee or Observation. In 1755, he hauled provisions to Fort Allen, Weissport, Pa. In 1761, he was elected County Commissioner. He married Anna Margaretha- some give it Lauer- and some say it was Larch.

Anthony, Sr., a cousin to the Kaspar branch whose biography is accurately traced from their birthplace in Germany. She was born March 17, 1728, died Feb. 14, 1796. Issue 10 children. Matrimonial partners namely: 2nd gen. all 10.

No. 1, John, born Oct. 17, 1747, died March 17, 1818, m- Sybilla Christina Morry, born June 24, 1752, died Dec. 30, 1818. No. 2, Anthony, Jr., Captain in the Revolution, born March 18, 1750, died April 21, 1798, m-1774, Anna Welsh, born 1752, died March 3, 1803. No. 3, Catherine Lerch, born March 8, 1752, m-Adam Beidleman. No. 4, Anna Margaret Lerch, born Dec. 31, 1754, died April 13, 1829, buried at Springfield Church, m-Geo. Errich, born April 21, 1751, died August 17, 1833. No. 5, Nicholas Lerch, born March 30, 1757. No. 6 (John) Frederick Lerch, born April 17, 1759, died August 1, 1826, m-Elizabeth

Sweitzer, born June 18, 1761, died Dec. 6, 1838. No. 7, Anna Maria, born Feb. 2, 1762, died 1783, m-Peter Shimer, born Jan. 20, 1760, died Oct. 22, 1828. No. 8, Peter Lerch, born March 7, 1764, died February 24, 1813, m-Anna Margaret Riegel, born Aug. 15, 1765, died March 17, 1826. No. 9, Elizabeth Lerch, born Aug. 2, 1768, died Oct. 24, 1833, m-John Leidy, born March 9, 1764, died Sept. 16, 1846, had one son and two daughters. No. 10, Susanna Lerch, January 3, 1773. 3rd Gen. Peter Lerch was revolutionary soldier.

At Williams Tw's'p Church are records of a son of John Lerch and wife, Anna Maria, born 1740, baptized Feb. 10, 1740. Daughters Maria Magdalene, born June 17, baptized July 27, 1742 and Susanna, born October 13, baptized Nov. 17, 1747, were children of afore said couple. David and wife, Elenora Lerch. A son, born Feb. 2, baptized him Joseph, March 3, 1798. We learned through these records that they were good Christians. No nobles or rich, but hard working and ambitious. We owe a debt of gratitude to our Honorable President Adam Lerch, at the time of his demise, and though his labors are ended here, his work follows on. While we cherish his activities, and lasting benefits derived through him, we know he is resting in peace, and hath joined the Great Reunion, which knows no parting.

Poem, "Reward to the Faithful." Author Camilla H. H. Heckman. When words and works combine noble deeds, and love and mercy, each our regrets, This world will be with blessings filled, Though we depart our voice is stilled.

Revs. Rohrbach and Schilling resided on the Mountain of Leading Castle Kreissgohn, Hassa, Germany, pastors of the church.

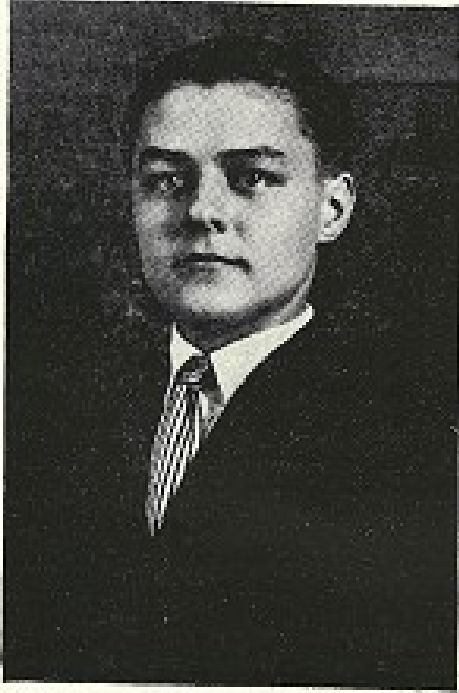
The first marriage of a Loerch (Lerch) was in 1663: John Lerch, married to Agnes Stetsenbach, in Germany. Issue eight children:

Anna Margaret, born September 1, 1664; No, Hanse Gustave, born Jan. 26, 1666; No. 3, Hans Kasper, born February 1, 1667; No. 4, Hans Bartholomew, born April 10, 1670; No. 5, Peter Lerch, born May 24, 1674; No. 6, Elizabeth Lerch, born, July 9, 1676; No. 7, Anna Elizabeth, born Aug. 25, 1680.

2nd Gen., Hans Kaspar Lerch, m. October 10, 1691, to Katrina Betzen, issue 9 children: No. 1, Matthias Lerch, born Nov. 4, 1692; died Feb. 26, 1695; No. 1, Kasper, born Nov. 4, 1692, these were twins; No; 3, Veronica; born Jan. 1695; No. 4, Hans Jacob, born Jan. 23, 1696; No: 5, Jon Kasper, born October 16, 1698; No. 6, Elisabeth, born Feb. 2; 1700; No. 7, Hans Rudolph, born-March 25, 1702; No. 8, Anna Katrina, born April 1; 1705; No. 9, Hans Michael, born Nov. 2, 1708, died 1709.

3rd Gen., Hans Jacob Lerch, married to first wife, Miss Morvis, Oct. 29, 1718, one child, Anna Katrina, born May 14, 1719. Married second wife, Sussanna Mervis, 1720, issue 6 children: No. 1, Veronica, born Feb. 14, 1721, died Sept. 17, 1729; No, Maria Elizabeth, born April 20, 1722; No. 3, Jacob, born Sept. 12, 1724; No. 4, Hans Martin, born Feb. 8 1727, died Feb. 25, 1729; No. 5, Hans Martin, born July 2, 1730; No. 6, John Heinrich, born Nov. 12, 1733.

3rd Gen., Matthias Lerch, married to first wife, Anna Ludwig, May 3, 1735. Issue five children: No. 1, John Jacob Lerch, born May 21, 1736; No, Barbara, born May 3, 1738; No. 3, Maria Eva, born Feb. 25, 1739; No. 4, Martha Probers, born Aug. 28, 1744; No. 5, Anna Margaret, born April 4, 1747.



PAUL LERCH, Pianist



MRS. HOWARD ZULLICK



MRS. ANNIE LERCH

P.

3rd Gen., Matthias Lerch, married to second wife, Elizabeth Ludwig, 1760. Issue 5 children: No. 1, Martha Elizabeth, born Dec. 12, 1749; No. 2, Martha Katrina, born Nov. 24, 1751; No. 3, Anna Elizabeth, born Feb. 13, 1762; No. 4, Bernhardt, born Aug. 5, 1764; No. 5, Maria Elizabeth, born Feb. 8, 1766.

4th Gen., Jacob Lerch, married 1748, to Dorethea Willendeck. Issue 11 children: No. 1, John Jacob, born Sept. 27, 1749; No. 2, Lucy, b-March 22, 1752; No. 3, Michael, b. Feb. 25, 1753; No. 4, Maria Eva, b-Nov. 29, 1755; No. 5, Maria Margaret, b-Feb. 3, 1758; No. 6, Maria Elizabeth, b-Aug. 18, 1766, d-1760; No. 7, Maria Elizabeth, Sept. 10, 1762; No. 8, Jon. Martin, b-Aug. 11, 1765; No. 9, Maria Katrina, b-April 13, 1767; No. 10, John Balzer, b-Aug. 29, 1769; No. 11, Andrew Uriah, b-May 24, 1771.

4th gen., Hans Jacob Lerch, m-Oct. 15, 1763, 3rd wife, Elizabeth Willendick. Issue 7 children: No. 1, Julyanna, b-April 1763, d-1763; No. 2, Julianna, b-Sept. 16, 1763; No. 3, Anna Katrina, b-Aug. 8, 1767; No. 4, Elizabeth, b-April 30, 1770; No. 5, Johanna, b-July 14, 1774, d-1774; No. 6, Martin, b-April 14, 1776; No. 7, Margaret, b-Feb. 21, 1779.

4th Gen., Martin Lerch, m-Marla Eva Huber, Feb. 13, 1757. Issue 9 children: No. 1, John Jacob, b-May 16, 1756; No. 2, John Tony, b-Nov. 1, 1760; No. 3, Jon Geo., b-Feb. 9 1762; No. 4, Dorothea, b-May 11, 1763; No. 5, Maria Elizabeth, b-Aug. 17, 1766; No. 6, Geo. Wilhelm, b-Dec. 17, 1769; No. 7, Wilhelm, b-Dec. 10, 1773; No. 8, Jacob, b-Nov. 18, 1775; No. 9, John Geo. b-June 6, 1778.

We call this Kaspar the 1st Gen. after which the Lewisburg Tw's'p, Pa., people trace their ancestry. His father was one of the John's who landed at Philadelphia with Anthony, his older brother, Sept. 16, 1738. Records show he married Margaret Frichensin in 1728 in Germany. Issue 3 sons: Ni Claus, b-Nov. 28, 1728; John, b-Sept. 29, 1731; John Christopher, b-Jan. 31, 1734. Sponsors at baptisms were the Town-Miller and an Aunt by the name of Stredler. From this origin, Caspar's branch recorded.

These are confidential records. Miss Josephine Lerch, great-granddaughter of this Kaspar Lerch, visited the old homestead at Hanan, Markobel, Langenselbold, and other places of interest in Germany before the 1914 World War. Kaspar was also a cousin to Andreas Lerch. History relates that Anthony had married Anna Margareta Lauer, an aunt to his father making his own children first cousins, something that was not unusual at that age, and under the conditions they had to live. Kaspar's sons, whom he brought along were aged ten, seven and 4 years old. A younger child is also mentioned.

History does not relate any thing of Andreas, or Kaspar's wives. Naturally, the female sex at that age was not regarded as prominent. They were more or less regarded as very inferior to the male sex. To have many children, and share the burdens of the family, that was all they were good for. Even as heirs, the sons ranked higher than the girls. Our present age may feel proud that things have changed, that female characters are recognized and receive honors due them, which is a rich blessing.

We do not have a record of Andreas burial place. Anthony, Sr. marks the beginning of our "History," on one part, and Kaspar for the other part.

Kaspar was well financed, records show, and he had a son 50 years younger. He was a resident of Oley Tw's'p, Bucks CD., Pa. In 1759, his tax was 6 shillings for 130 acres. Yost, his son, was a single man. William and Nicholas, his brothers, were taxed as landlords, half rate viz: 10 lbs. Yost was 21 years in 1759 showing he was born the same year they traveled to America. Andreas, 3rd, also owned real estate in Exeter Tw's'p near Reading, Pa., in 1785. It seems he was the delegate of Berks Co., Pa., to choose two (2) Brigadier-Generals at Lancaster, Pa., July 4th, 1776. They were 1st Col. Bird; 2nd, Patton; 3rd, Levan. Majors- 1st, Hiester; 2nd, Jones; 3rd, Lindamuth; 4th, Leopler. Captains 1st, Keim; 2nd, May; 3rd, Lien; 4th, Cremer; 5th, Lutz; 6th, Rice; 7th, Miller; Adjutant, just 1, Ely. Privates, 1st, Hartman; 2nd, Filbert; 3rd, Morgan;

4th, Tolbert; 5th, Spohn; 6th, Wenrich; 7th, Moser; 8th, Setzer; 9th, Winters; 10th; Lerch; 11th, Wister; 12th, Smack.

3rd Gen., Andreas Lerch, son of William Lerch, grandson of first Immigrant Andreas Lerch. He is the 10th private. There are few wills and documents on record at Easton, Pa. Anthony Lerch's will. was probated Oct. 31st, 1793. Gratus Lerch's was probated Oct. 9th, 1794. John Lerch's, March 31st, 1818. John's, Jr., Jan 1886. All four are on record at Easton, Pa. See other pages.

Andrew Lerch conveyed a tract of land to Abraham Levan, from Berks Co., Pa., in 1800 about a mile south of Kreidersville, Northampton Co., Pa. It contained about 220 A. of the best wheat land, Oct. 2, 1800. In proprietary purchase money, Kaspar Lerch gave Pa., of 189 acres a deed to Christopher Lerch, for a farm in Heidelberg Tws'p. John Lerch of Bucks County, Pa., owned several tracts of land, and later also settled in Allen Tws'p, Northampton Co., Pa. George Lerch was of the Northampton Co. branch. He settled in Berks Co., Pa., and he died in 1873 in Reading. Pa. He had two sons, William and Daniel. The latter died in 1890, a partner of Bights and Lerch Hardware Dealers.

Of Kaspar No. 1, there are five generations, viz: 2nd, Nicholas; 3rd, John; 4th, Daniel; 5th, the late Honorable Adam Lerch.

No. 1, Kaspar Lerch settled at Tulpehocken Creek, Pa. This valley was noted for nice farms. This Kaspar was baptized Oct. 28, 1694 in the Church at Langenselbold, Germany. The record comes directly from Rev. Lilly, pastor there in 1924, and all notes since received as letters to this organization are copies of their Church Constitution. Sponsors were his Uncle and Aunt Lerch. On Jan. 12, 1724, he was married to Anna Margaret Frichsens. At night, Feb. 2, 1825 this couple baptized a little son named John Wm. Lerch. A single man named Fisher was sponsor, Feb. 2, 1726, they baptized a little daughter at their home that was very weak. Sponsors were Aunt Anna and parents. Tracing history in this country, it shows the oldest and three younger boys, viz: Nicalus, Daniel and Adam, came along but no girl.

The following is the history of Kaspar, 1st gen. and 2 gen. John, who was married, no record who his wife was, only his Children, viz: 3rd gen. No. 1, John Lerch; 2nd, David Lerch; 3rd, Elizabeth, married to Morris Evans; 4th, Evan Lerch; 5th, Sarah, married Mr. Ludwig; 6th, Kate, married John Lieb; 7th, Susan, married- no record. 2nd gen., Daniel was the father of Hon. Adam Lerch.

Through thorough investigation, we could find them buried in this country. But sorry that their history is very scarce.

3rd, Gen., Hon. Adam Lerch, dec'd. was far a long time Notary Public, also surveyor at Wernersville, Berks Co., Pa. There must be some of the aforesaid generations in Northumberland Co., Pa., who rank high as progressive "citizens, leading useful lives, raising the standard of the community, by example and influence. Samuel Lerch of Lewis Tws'p, Pa., and David Lerch of Delaware Tws'p, Pa, have upheld the civic influence by serving in local offices and taking a prominent part in their sections.

3rd Gen., John Lerch was born in Heidelberg Tws'p, Berks Co., Pa.

He bought a 144 acre farm in Paradise Valley, Lewis Tws'p, Pa., till 1823 where he and his 4th Gen. son John farmed. In 1832 this John and brother 4th Gen. David moved to Lockport, N. Y. 2nd Gen. David lived in Berks Co., Pa. near the Haines Church, a Reformed and historic spot. 3rd Gen., Elizabeth Lerch, married Morris Evans of Berks Co., Pa., and moved to N. Y. State. 3rd Gen., Sarah Lerch, married Mr. Ludwig. 3rd Gen., Kate, married John Lieb, near Milton, Pa, Susan died single.

4th Gen., Samuel Lerch, son of 3rd Gen. John Lerch, Haines Church, born 1896, moved to the 144 acre farm in Northumberland Co., Pa., when only 16 years old. His older sister took charge and remained in possession of him and son Samuel P. Lerch to date, Aug. 30, 1922.

Samuel Lerch, Sr., died Sept. 9, 1873, aged 66 years, 2 months and 19 days, of complications. He was survived by his wife Mary, nee Raup, who died Oct. 19, 1882, aged 72 years, 8 months and 27 days. Issue of Samuel Lerch was 5th Gen. John Lerch, died at 29 years of age, also his sisters, Katie, Sarah and Jane in youth. 5th Gen. Susan Lerch, married Thomas S. Klapp of Milton, Pa. 5th Gen. Daniel Lerch resided at Watsontown, R. R. No. 3, Pa. 5th Gen. Clara Lerch, married J. D. Gresham of Milton, Pa. One child died in infancy. 5th, end of John Lerch history of the 3rd.

5th Gen. Samuel P. Lerch, Jr., born Sept. 23, 1839. He lived all the house where he was born till death, except for five years. These years he spent in neighboring counties, following his professional career. Data proved he must have been around Lower Saucon T'wsp, in his younger and single years in about 1858 to 1865. He married Margaret Catherine Fulmer, daughter of Chas, of Turbotsville Tws'p, Northumberland So., Pa., born Oct. 28, 1842, died Sept. 11, 1902. Samuel Lerch was usually known as the Lewis T'wsp Lawyer. People sought his services, He served as elder for a long time in the Paradise Reformed Church, Northumberland Co., Pa. Educated in the public schools and McEwensville Academy. Issue viz: 5th Gen., Rev. Chas. David Lerch, born Oct. 17, 1868. Educated in public schools and McEwensville Academy. Taught school 9 years. Received the A. B. degree from Ursinus College in 1895 and Theology in 1898. Pastor of Mausdale Charge, Montour Co., Pa., for 11 years. Married Miss Minnie James of Bloomsburg, Pa., Sept. 29, 1909. Moved to Crawford, Virginia, and he was pastor of Rockingham Charge, Virginia Classis, for 4 years. On October 1, 1913, elected pastor of Ringtown Charge in northern portion of Schuylkill Co., until his death. (See death on separate page).

On October 19th, 1915, in crossing from Nescopeck, Pa., at 8 A. M., Mrs. Charles D. Lerch met with a most tragic death in an auto accident, myself only escaping by a hairbreadth. No issue.

Obituary of our beloved co-worker and devout minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, hear what others say.

Rev. Charles D. Lerch, for 20 years pastor of Ringtown Charge, died Saturday afternoon, Jan 2, 1934, at 3 o'clock at the parental homestead, where he had gone to regain his health. He had been granted a leave of absence by his congregation a week prior to his homegoing, which was caused by a heart condition. His health was affected by the untimely and tragic death, Oct. 23, 1915, when his wife was trapped in their overturned automobile and burned to death. Brother Lerch never quite recovered from this serious shock. (For the charges and where he studied, see another page.) The funeral services were held from his sister's home, with brief services at the house, conducted by the Rev. Walter R. Clark of the Paradise Church and the Rev. Elias S. Noll, a classmate at Ursinus College and pastor of the Mahanoy Charge, East Susquehanna Charge. Continued services at Trinity Church. Rev. Clark Heller, Danville, Pa., read the scriptures. Prayer by Rev. P. A. Delong, D. D., Watsontown, Pa, Rev. Walter R. Clark preached from the text: "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." (Rev. 2: 19).

The sermon was a beautiful tribute to the life and work of the deceased and to the Christian ministry. Rev. Calvin P. Wehr class and roommate at Ursinus College and Seminary, and co-worker in E. S. Classis for 20 years, spoke a touching eulogy concerning the life and spirit of his devoted friend and brother. Many floral tributes and mourning friends from a wide area, large delegations from the various congregations of Ringtown charge where he was the devoted pastor.

Nineteen pastors were present: Revs. Walter P. Clark, Clark Heller, P. A. Delong, D. D., Wyoming Classis; Calvin P. Wehr, D. D.; Elias S. Noll, C. E. Correll, Ph. D., Morgan A. Peters, Stanley C. Baker, Jno. C. Brumbach, Chas. A. Huyette, A. Levan Zechman, L. M. Martin, E. O. Butkofsky, Daniel K. Daub, Alvin Dietz, East Susquehanna Charge. Jno. Sanders, Mercersburg

Classis, Potomac Synod. Two of his co-workers, Rev. A. E. Grove, Jr., Lutheran, Nurburg, Pa., M.A. Krause, Lutheran, Ringtown, Pa.; Rev. W. R. Flower, Turbotville, Pa.

Burial was made in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Danville, Pa.

Rev. Chas. A. Huyetta, President of Classis in charge, Rev. A. Levan Zechman, the invocation, Rev. C. E. Correll offered prayer, Rev. C. A. Huyette read the committal and pronounced the benediction, reading Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar," by Rev. Alvin F. Dietz.

So one by one we lay down our task, and as those we have loved a while, have gone on, we carry on in his name until we too shall meet him face to face.

5th Gen., Samuel Lerch, born Aug. 23, 1871 and educated in afore mentioned schools and institutions. He manages homestead, farm, and handles dry lime, is a successful farmer, and deacon of the Paradise Church, Pa. No issue.

5th Gen., Amy Fulmer Lerch, born Feb. 23, 1878 and married to Seidel E. Revennolt. He is a rural mail carrier in his hometown. She was also educated in the same educational institutions. They live at Turbotville, Pa.

They are very successful in life's endeavors, in church and state affairs. Issue being 6th Gen., 5 children: 1st, Milford L. Rovenolt, at home, 17 years, in graduating class of Turbotville High School, 1923, interested in farming. 2nd, Margaret Sevilla Rovenolt, 15 years, a 1923 High School girl, afore named institution, interested in music. 3rd, Charles Samuel Rovenolt, 14 years, bright and alert, undecided what course to take. 4th, Alvin S. Rovenolt, going to school, 11 years, very active. 5th, Nevin S. Rovenolt, 9 years, good scholar.

4th Gen., Sarah Edith and Margaret Irene Lerch are twins. They grew up together in the old homestead, a joy to their aged parents. They were educated in schools, also Turbotville High school, living ill the old home as seamstresses. Loyal to church and civic affairs. This is the end of Samuel P. Lerch family.

The former's brother is a successful farmer at Turbotville, Pa., passed through the educational school and academy, married Sarah Gouger, Dec. 23, 1873. He served many positions in the Reformed church. Is a director of the Farmers National Bank, Watsontown, Pa, Issue 2 children.

5th Gen., 1st, Bertha Lerch, born 1875 and educated in elementary and academic courses. 5th Gen., 2nd, Donald G. Lerch, born 1878, passed through schools, finished at Franklin and Marshall College, Hahneman Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1903. Practices ill Allegheny, Pa. Married a R. N. Nurse, issue 6th Gen., 2 children. The oldest died, youngest is living.

5th Gen. No. 3, Susan Lerch, married Mr. Klapp, no record. 5th Gen., 4th, Clara Lerch, married Mr. Gresh, no record. Rev. Charles D. Lerch, of Ringtown, Schuylkill Co., Pa., respectfully submitted these notes in 1933.

Though they are summoned to higher habitations, Hon. Adam Lerch and Rev. Chas. D. Lerch, first cousins to each other, both very faithful members, of our Reunion, though absent, their "memory" will always be held dear in our hearts.

According to records of history, Anthony, one part of this big Lerch family tree, was an enthusiastic character. In religion and civic affairs going forward in an ambitious and zealous way instilling his genius to his descendants, and thus while his remains have been laid to rest, and his soul returned to "Him," who gave it, yet that predominance he has left gave his followers an example, noble, grand, and is as a bulwark, and beacon-light, respected and challenges the demonstration of the highest morals of a good and useful life.

## AN EPITAPH IN HONOR OF ANTHONY LERCH, SR FATHER OF THE LERCH CLAN

When friend and friend each other meet, And loving hearts each greet. 'Tis sweet, and beautiful to see, Such happiness, should always be. But think awhile, do not forget, the labors of the ones who are dead. Their tasks were heavier than we know, Now, all is easier as we go. But one thing will remain the same; the "Heavenly Home" we wish to claim.

Camilla Heckman, Author.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., was born in Germany, Sept. 20, 1720, died Aug. 28, 1793. He was married to Anna Margretha Lerch, nee Lauer.

Issue 10 children. No. 1, John Lerch, born Oct. 6, 1747; No. 2, Anthony, Jr., Lerch, born March 17, 1750; No. 3, Catherine Lerch, born, March 8, 1752; No. 4, Anna Margaret Lerch, born Dec. 7, 1754; No. 5, Nicolas, born March 7, 1757; No. 6, John Frederick Lerch, born April 17, 1759; No. 7, Anna Maria Lerch, born Feb. 14, 1762; No. 8, Peter Lerch, born March 3, 1764; No. 9, Elizabeth Lerch, born Sept. 2, 1768; No. 10, Susanna, born Jan. 21, 1773. Their second son, Anthony Lerch, Jr., moved to Warren, Essex Co., N. J., March 28, 1803.

2nd Gen., Frederick Lerch, born April 17, 1759, died August 1, 1826. Married 1780. Elizabeth Sweitzer, born June 18, 1761, died Dec. 6, 1838. 1st Child, Anthony Lerch, born March 17, 1784; 2nd child, John Lerch, born July 31, 1785; 3rd, William Lerch, born Jan. 14th, 1787, died Feb. 2, 1788; 4th, Frederick Lerch; 5th, infant son, born and died Jan. 9, 1789; 6th child, George Lerch, born Feb. 21, 1791; 7th Child, Philip Lerch, born Oct. 26, 1792; 8th child, Jonas Lerch, born Jan. 1, 1794; 9th child, Elizabeth Lerch, Feb. 2, 1796; 10th child, Henry Lerch, born Aug. 11th, 1797; 11th child, Thomas Lerch, born March 27, 1799; 12th child, Susanna Lerch, born Aug. 22, 1800; 13th Child, Catherine Lerch, born May 28, 1892; 14th Child, Andrew Lerch, born Jan. 15, 1804; 15th child, Margaret Lerch, born Oct. 20, 1805; 16th child, Christian Lerch, born Dec. 30, 1807; 17th Child, Julianna Lerch, born Nov. 2, 1809.

Those above are of the branch of Sarah A. nee Lerch, Koehler. Other connections are Grandfather, Michael Abel, born Feb. 11, 1764, died January 2, 1864 and Grandmother Anna M. Abel, born March 15, 1768 and died June 16, 1848. Also, David Kemmerer, born Jan. 9, 1775, died March 21, 1855. Anna Kemmerer, born Sept. 28, 1780, died Oct. 12, 1857. They are ancestors of Harvey E. Lerch, Easton, Pa.

The Lerch's were tall and well-built people, of a robust complexion, healthy and straight form, well fitted for army and hard work, and dark brown hair. It is really compulsive to use names in writing this biography of our Lerch's ancestors several times, as a guide to different trends that will recompose the Nummary, and Naturity, Chronology, Residences and Resting Places. The following item specifies the chronology and names in succession. Also, where some have resided, their occupations and their final resting place. The father of those sons who are honored as the progenitors of this worldwide history, is really the pillar of this great foundation, also proves the suavity and compassionate spirit to bring his family to a religious and peaceful place. As a custom at that time, males and children over 16 years were only registered at the shipping wharfs or Castle Garden as it was named. But tradition suffices that three boys aged 14, 12, and 10 respectively, and the mother accompanied them.

He was 50 years and died the same year in 1738. Most of those early settlers are buried at Lower Saucon graveyard, viz: Anthony, Sr., Peter, Sr. Gratus, Sr., Peter, Jr. and Tobias, Sr. Anthony, Sr. lived 2 miles south east of Freemansburg on a farm in Saucon Tws'p, Northampton Co., Pa. Some are resting on the Williams Tws'p church graveyard. Younger brother of Anthony, Sr., John, was the first general (generation?) in America. He lived in Allen Tws'p, Northampton Co. Pa. Is buried at Stone Church, Kreidersville, Pa.



## EARLY PILLARS OF THE SCATTERED LERCH'S BRANCH

Peter Lerch, the revolutionary soldier, is buried at Lower Saucon Church, Northampton Co., Pa. He was a private in the 1st Company; of the 4th Battalion, Northampton co. militia, commanded by his brother Capt. Anthony Lerch, Jr. The muster roll dated April 23, 1782.

Seven wagons with provisions went with Benjamin Franklin to Fort Allen on January 15, 1756. Anthony Lerch had one and was in service 30 days. Gratus had one and was in service 17 days.

Later in 1785 Peter married Anna Margaret Riegel, born Aug. 15, 1765, died March 17, 1826. Issue 12 children. 1st ch., Anna Maria, born Dec. 7, 1785, died Sept. 12, 1801; 2nd ch., Elizabeth Lerch, born Sept. 1787, died July 1858, married Oct. 2, 1808, Simon Dreisbach. 3rd ch., David Lerch, born Jan. 28, 1790, married A. Stout; 4th ch., Peter Lerch, born Dec. 25, 1791, died August 21, 1845; 5th ch., Catherine Lerch, born April 29, 1795, died in childhood; 6th ch., Samuel Lerch, born March 31, 1796, married Regina Beil; 7th ch., Anthony Lerch, born Dec. 4, 1797, married Reich; 8th ch., Margaret, born May 14, 1800; 9th ch., Susanna Lerch, twins, born same date, died in infancy; 10th ch., Hannah Lerch, born March 2, 1802, married Edward Shimer; 11th ch., Benjamin Lerch, born May 14, 1805, died May 1, 1811, aged 5 years, 11 months and 17 days; 12th ch., Anna Margaret Lerch, born Oct. 14, 1808, died in infancy. Samuel and Anthony moved to near Geneva, N. Y.

## PETER LERCH BRANCH

1st Gen., Peter Lerch, born 1818, as a widower married Jan. 2, 1748, Eva, born Knauss, widow of John Fraser. Peter died in 1762. She married Andrew Eisenhard, Aug. 25, 1760 at Emmaus. She was born Aug. 11, 1719, died Feb. 24, 1763, and had a daughter, born March 24, 1761.

3rd Gen., Elizabeth Lerch, born Sept. 10, 1787, died Dec. 7, 1858, Married Oct. 2, 1808, Mr. Dreisbach, born Jan. 21, 1785; died Sept. 13, 1842. Their daughter, Hannah Dreisbach, born Jan. 10, 1810, died Aug. 16, 1852, married, June 29, 1827, Augustus L. Von Steuben, born June 16, 1804, died Jan. 18, 1887. Their daughter Eliza Cecilia Von Steuben, born July 12, 1828, died Sept. 19, 1865, married 1844, Jos. Marsh, born Jan. 18, 1818, died Jan. 23, 1866. Their daughter, Hannah M Marsh (still living) born June 2, 1854, married Sept. 4, 1870, Len Uhler, born July 12, 1840, died July 1, 1925. Their daughter, Mary Alice Uhler, married Charles R. Roberts, genealogist and historian, of 520 N. 6th St., Allentown, Pa.

Pancratius Lerch, called Gratus, died 1794. He had married Anna Maria Bahl, born Oct. 11, 1727, died Dec. 10, 1796. Issue: 9 children viz: 1st, Gratus Lerch, born Sept. 11, 1727, died Dec. 9, 1796 on tombstone. 2nd, Philip, born 1728, died 1783, married Elisabeth born June 29, 1754, died May 13, 1837, issue 2 sons, John Lerch and Henry Lerch. Their mother married second (husband, Peter Shimer. No. 3, Anna Maria Lerch, born Oct. 21, 1750, died March 19, 1825, married John Beier; No. 4, Jacob Lerch Esq., born Aug. 27, 1755, died March 19, 1826, married Susanna (?). Feb. 21, 1759, died Oct. 28, 1821. No. 5, Eva Barbara Lerch, born, Aug. 16, 1759, died, no record; No. 6, Tobias Lerch, born March 5, 1861, died June or July 3, 1796, married Margaret (?) born June 30, 1764, died Aug. 15, 1820. No. 7, Maria Appollona Lerch, born 1763, married Henry Ohl. No. 8, Elisabeth Lerch, born 1863, married John Laubach and for his second wife he married No. 9, a sister, Catherine Lerch, born 1865.

## **SABINA LERCH FREIMAN BRANCH**

It will be a delight to know the thorough and correct item relative to the many phrases stating that Sabina Lerch, older sister of Anthony, Sr., married to Geo. Freiman, instead of Freeman, which means a great difference in the vocable and still more in business, and that they had 4 children instead of no issue. A "will," when on record is a good guide to follow when writing history.

1st Gen., Sabina Lerch, born Feb. 7, 1710, in Loerch Dahl, Marko-bold, Germany, immigrated and landed in Philadelphia, Pa., died in America, April 16, 1802. She married Geo. Freiman (note her age) when he made his "will," in 1790 and was probated in 1812. Probably he died that year. He has no tombstone. Issue 4 children, viz: 1st, Catherine Freiman, born 1743, married Wm. Becker. 2nd, Elisabeth, born 1745, married Jacob Meyers. 3rd, Margaret Freiman, born June 25, 1747, died May 29, 1823, married Mr. Michael, born, 1746, died 1820. 4th, Anna Sabina Freiman, born Dec. 26, 1753, died Oct. 11, 1825, married Christian Ruch, born July 7, 1748, died Dec. 2, 1827.

## **MATERNAL ANCESTORS THE MORRYS**

This history does include some maternal ancestors. In the succeeding item, we see 3rd Gen. Jacob Lerch, married to Sybilla Morry. Her great-grandfather, Jacob Marry married Elisabeth Tollan and was the father of Geo. Wilhelm Marry, born March 4, 1700 at Andreasburg, Saxony, Germany, and immigrated March 12th, 1721, landed in New York City, Nov. 6, 1721, married Anna Engel, Oct. 6, 1722. Issue 6 children, viz: 1st, Jacob Marry, born June 7, 1726. 2nd, Wilhelm Marry, born Jan. 7, 1728, 3rd, Elisabeth Morry. 4th. Mana Morry. 5th, Anna Morry. 6th, Hanna Morry.

Sybilla Morry Lerch is the daughter of 3rd Gen. Wilhelm Morry. 1st son of Anthony Lerch, Sr. was 1st General in America, is buried at Stone Church, Kreidersville, Pa. Viz: John Lerch, born June 24, 1752, died Dec. 30, 1817, 65 years; 6 months and 6 days, married Sibilla Morry (the Morry's lived in Upper Saucon, Pa.): Issue: 8 children.

## **1ST GEN. JOHN LERCH BRANCH**

1st, John Lerch, born Jan. 3, 1774, died May 31, 1817, 24 years, 4 months and 2 days. 2nd, Anna Mary Lerch, born April 10, 1776, married Geo. Kleppinger, died Feb. 3, 1840, 63 years, 9 mo. 23 days. 3rd, Adam Lerch, born Dec. 24, 1778, married Magdalena Waldman, died Jan. 26, 1840, 61 yrs. 1 mo. 2 days. 4th, Jacob Lerch, born May 15, 1784, married Catherine Newhard, died Sept. 27, 1860, 79 years, 4 months, 12 days. 5th, Abraham, born March 9, 1784, died Jan. 5, 1868, 83 years, 9 months, 2 days, married Mary Kleppinger. No issue. 6th, Joseph Lerch, born Dec. 21, 1786, married Salome Bliem, died Sept. 4, 1856, 69 years, 8 months, 13 days. 7th, Michael Lerch, born Nov. 19, 1789; married Susan Housten, died Feb. 28, 1847, 57 years, 3 months, 9 days. 8th, Margaret Lerch, born June 1792, died May, 1866, married Samuel Dietz.

3rd Gen., Joseph Lerch, married Salome Bliem. Issue 8 children. 1st, Stephen Lerch, born, Feb. 12, 1820, married Margaret Falis, died Nov. 25, 1870, 50 years, 9 months, 13 days. 2nd, David Lerch, born Aug. 11, 1821, married Sallie Young. 3rd, Joseph Lerch, born Dec. 31, 1822, married Elisa Hummel, died Aug. 12, 1858. 35 years, 7 months, 11 days. 4th, Catherine Lerch, born April 3, 1825, died March 4, 1833, 7 years 11 months, 1 day. 5th, Sarah Lerch, born June 7, 1828, married Reuben Kuntz. 6th, John Lerch, born Oct. 16, 1829, married Sarah E.

Jones, died Jan. 16, 1886, 56 years, 3 months. 7th, Amandas Lerch, born May, 1833. 8th, Benneville Lerch, born June 29, 1839, married Miss Saeger.

2nd Gen., Anthony Lerch, Jr., married Anna Welch; issue 10 children: 1st, Catherine Lerch, married John Boyer, of Durham, Pa., their children, viz: being 3rd Gen. are 5 in all, Jacob, Annie, David, Margaret and John. No. 2 David, born Jan. 1777, died Nov. 27, 1834, 57 years, 10 months, 9 days, was married to Eleanor Jones. 3rd, Annie Lerch, married Jacob Case, of Anneville, NJ. 4th, Daniel Lerch, married and had children residing near Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 5th, Susan Lerch, married Jacob, son of Rev. Casper Wack. 6th, Isaac Lerch, married Elizabeth Daniel, their son moved to Michigan. 7th, Andrew, died without issue. 8th, Margaret Lerch, married Wm. Case, of Hunterdon Co., N. J. 9th; Anthony Lerch, married Susan Stucker, their son moved to Reading, Pa. 10th, Wm. Lerch, married and moved to Ohio. 11th, Mary Lerch, married John Adams, of Warren, N. J.

3rd Gen., David Lerch, married to Eleanor Jones, issue 5 children, viz: 1st, Joseph Lerch, born Feb. 21, 1798, died Nov. 26, 1866, 68 years, 9 months, 5 days. Was married to Judith Smith, no issue. 2nd, Anna Lerch, born May 26, 1800, married John Woodring, had 3 children. 3rd, Eleanor, born Dec. 24, 1802, married 2nd husband, Rev. Joseph S. Dubbs, D. D. Their children were Joseph, Henry and Silas Dubbs. 4th, David Lerch, born March 3, 1805, died June 13, 1859, in Saucon, Pa., 54 years, 3 months, 10 days, married to Lydia Kemmerer, Issue 8 children. 5th, Sarah Lerch, born April 2, 1807, married Thomas. Bastian. Issue 6 children.

### 3RD GEN. FREDERICK LERCH BRANCH

2nd Gen., J. Frederick Lerch, born April 17, 1759, died Aug. 1, 1826, married 1780, Elizabeth Sweitzer, born June 18, 1761, died Dec. G, 1828. Issue: 16 children. 1st, Anthony Lerch, born Feb. 15, 1872, married March 30, 1806, Catherine Dreisbach, had four children.

3rd Gen., Peter, Frederick, Susanna and Catherine. 2nd, John Lerch, born March 17, 1784, married Rosina or Regina Messinger. 3rd, William Lerch, born July 31, 1785, married Moriah Messinger, born Feb. 21, 1792, died Oct. 23, 1858, 55 years, 8 months, 2 days. He died Sept. 12, 1860, 75 years, 1 month, 15 days. 4th, Frederick Lerch, Jr., born Jan. 14, 1787, married Anna Brown. 5th, Geo. Lerch, born Jan. 9, 1789, married Maria Andre. 6th, Philip Lerch, born Feb. 21, 1791, married Catherine Correll. 7th, Jonas Lerch, born Sept. 16, 1792, married Elisabeth Able. 8th, Elisabeth Lerch, born March 1, 1794, married Peter Yeager. 9th, Henry Lerch, born Feb. 11, 1796, married Miss Stretcher. 10th, Thomas Lerch, born Aug. 11, 1797, died May 22, 1858, married Anna May Willauer, born Jan. 3, 1800 died Feb. 4, 1815. 11th, Susanna Lerch, born March 27; 1799, died July 12, 1805. 12th, Catherine Lerch, born Aug. 22, 1800, died March 10, 1803. 13th, Andrew Lerch, born May 28, 1802, died March 16, 1803. 14th, Margaret Lerch, born Jan. 13, 1804, married Peter Woodring. 15th, Christian Lerch, born Oct. 20, 1805, married Susanna Uhler. 16th, Susanna Lerch, born Dec. 30, 1807, married Samuel Daniel Riegel, 17th, stillborn.

This aforesaid 3rd Gen. Frederick Lerch, had the second largest family on record among the Lerchs. He was a prominent farmer of Mt. Bethel Tw's'p, Pa., owned real estate now in possession of Messingers, moved from Mt. Bethel to Forks Tw's'p, Pa., in 1788 bought a big farm and operated it. He was prominent in religious and civic affairs, upholding high standards of citizenship by his morality. Four of his children died in youth. The other thirteen grew to maturity, were accomplished men and women, reared nice families, out of which came capable and progressing descendants, professors, ministers, teachers, leaders of the law, of state and county, noted musicians and vocalists, and last but not least, kind and generous, loyal, showing their Good Samaritan Spirit in many ways.

1st Gen. Anthony Lerch, Sr., 2nd Gen. Frederick Lerch, 6th son of Anthony Lerch, Sr., 3rd Gen. William Lerch, 3rd son of Frederick The writer feels very sorry that she could not get the least response from some when she so urgently wrote to the many families, and through notices in scores of newspapers, results are she could not define it accurately to the point, as the ones who answered her requests.

### **EAST ALLEN Tws'p & SHOENERSVILLE BRANCH**

3rd Gen. William Lerch, also 3rd son of Frederick Lerch, was born July 31, 1785, in Mt. Bethel Tws'p, Pa. He married, 1812, Moriah Messinger, born Feb. 21, 1792, a sister of Michael and George. Messinger. William operated a 136-acre farm until 1811, when he purchased a farm of 100, acres in East Allen T'wsp, Northampton County, Pa., near Weaversville, along the Easton Road, now owned (1942) by the State. They moved and lived there with their family of 8 children, all grown to maturity, and married but the sixth, a beautiful daughter, who without complaining died suddenly through the night in her 22nd year. The grief impaired the health of her mother. Issue 8 children, viz:-

- 1st. Mary Ann, born 1813, married George Warner, after marriage moved to Ohio, no history.
- 2nd. Conrad Lerch, born 1815, married Mary Laubach, moved to Lycoming county. History predicable.
- 3rd. William Lerch, Jr., married Catherine Daniel.
- 4th. Thomas Lerch, married Hannah Rape.
- 5th. Nathan Lerch, married Maria Catherine Schoener.
- 6th. Elizabeth Lerch died May 1, 1843, aged 21 years, 6 months, 16 days.
- 7th. Roseanna Lerch, married Edward Koons.
- 8th. Araminda Lerch married David Keim.

The parents lived on the farm till they died, the mother on October 23, 1858; aged 66 years, 8 months, 2 days. The father Sept. 12, 1860; aged 75 years, 1 month, 15 days. They are buried on the Shoenersville Old Cemetery, having well preserved tombstones of a beautiful type. All were confirmed in the Reformed faith in Christ's Union Church at Shoenersville, Lehigh County, Pa., dedicated to that name when the cornerstone was laid in 1880. To this day most of the Lerch's clan are or the Reformed faith, as well as the Ministers. The Lerches all accumulated wealth, and at this age are well financed, and are real estate owners.

4th Gen. 1st-Mary Ann Lerch, married George Wagner and moved to Ohio in the 1800th century. No history.

4th Gen. 2nd-Conrad Lerch and wife Mary, moved to Williamsport, Lycoming, Pa., where he was a prosperous farmer and owned one of the finest farms and stock. They lived there till they died and are buried there. They reared a large family and educated them. They were very aristocratic. Issue 10 children:

- 1st. Mary E. married Edwin Fogleman; issue one daughter, Mrs. Agnes Dittmore.
- 2nd. Araminda, married a Reeser.
- 3rd. Clara, married a Pearson. Issue, four children viz: 1st, Mabel Pearson was killed by a train in her teens. She was a talented singer and musician. 2nd. Max L. Pearson. 3rd. Charles C, Pearson; 4th, Ward B. Pearson, married to Opal Alahan-3 children-John Ward Pearson, Ethel Maxine Pearson, and James Pearson.; No. 4, Henry Lerch married Miss Zerbe; 5th, George Lerch married Miss Getcha; 6th, Milton C. Lerch was a refined unmarried man, perfect worker, honest, and trustworthy employee, and a great traveler; is buried in his home town. He was in

the 70s when he died. 7th, Ella Lerch, married Mr. Barner; 8th, Lizzie Lerch married H. H. Showers; 9th, Sarah Lerch married D. R. Zerbe; No, 10, Ira Lerch married and issue are four children, viz:-(1st) Frank Lerch, (2nd) Mrs. Frank Osman; (3rd) Mrs. Raymond Shadle; (4th) Mrs. Tracy Lerch. These grandchildren of the late Conrad Lerch as well as their parents are stationed around the Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pa., area, and have their Churches and have their final resting places too.

4th Gen. William Lerch, married Catherine Daniel. Issue, five children, viz:---(1st) Cyrus Lerch married Mary Nonnemacher, had a son George--buried at Shoenersville. (2nd) Maria Lerch married Mr. Bender, principal of the Weaversville, Northampton County, Pa., Academy in the year of about 1870. Later moved to Philadelphia. Her parents resided as farmers close to Bethlehem, Northampton County, Pa., and were very rich, retiring they bought the residence aside of the Washington Hotel, Main Street, Bethlehem, Pa., lived there till death. Albert, a son then received it, also died there. (3rd) Camilla Lerch married David Weaver. They operated farms, were very hard workers, till they moved to their newly purchased home, 3rd & Prospect Ave., Bethlehem, Pa., after working some years as repair man he met sudden death by being crushed between the bumpers of freight cars. She remained at the same residence till death, being in the 70's. She was a noted cook and wonderful sewer, and her charitable character will never be forgotten. They are buried on Nisky Hill Cemetery, Bethlehem, Pa.,

Two children survive, viz: Edwin Weaver, married, and has children and grandchildren; Katie Weaver Graver, no issue. (4th) Martin Lerch. (5th) Albert Lerch, both single. (6th) Walter Lerch married a Philadelphia lady and lived there till death.

4th Gen. Thomas Lerch, born Dec 14, 1817; died Feb. 15, 1891, was married to Hannah Reph, born 1826, died 1900, both buried at Schoenersville, Pa. He owned and operated a large farm, containing the nicest buildings, in that age, close to Odenwelders Crossing, in East Allen Tws'p, Northampton County, Pa., along the Schoenersville & Bath road. He was quiet, but a conscientious and a good manager, and a hard worker. His wife was the daughter of William and Susanna Marsh Reph. At the age of 12 yrs., her family moved to the West. She was a beautiful girl, and courageous, She did not like the West. At the age of 18, she took her child and started East by walking, She said the people told her to go always toward the rising of the Sun. She was treated very nicely when she told them, so that they kindly lodged and provided means to help her to reach her desired destination, which she encountered safely. Later she married. She was a good helpmeet, and especially skilled and had the dexterity for fine art. Her flowers made from human hair and zephyr and other things credited her with high honors. They reared a nice family, and were all considered first class people, whose good works will follow them. He was one of East Allen Township's best financed men, helped in. religious, and civic affairs, and a good provider for his family; issued 10 children. They are buried at the Schoenersville Cemetery, and all their children were confirmed there,

5th Gen. Ellamand Lerch married William Uhler.

5th. Gen. John Lerch, born 1852, died 1926, married (1st wife) Aravesta Steinmetz born 1852, died 1895; (2nd wife) Elizabeth Kester Kleppinger, still living. Issue, five children.

6th Gen. Cora Lerch, deceased, 6th Gen., Emma Lerch, married second husband, Delus Hawk. She died. 3rd. Ralph Lerch married Araminda Fogel. They have children. These three were with first wife, 2nd wife: 4th, Stanley Lerch, born Sept. 26, 1898; died May 19, 1918- 19 yrs, 7 months, 23 days. Helen Lerch married Richard Hoch, they have children. 5th Gen.-1st, Mr. and Mrs. Uhler had six children: 1st, Lillie Uhler, born Feb. 6, 1869; died Oct. 4, 1899; married Alfred Daniel, had 3 children: Pearly S., born Jan. 26, 1888; died May 13, 1903; 2nd, William married wife Gertie, died; 3rd, Victor, married-no history. 2nd. Ella Uhler, married; 3rd. Lizzie Uhler married to George Moyer - they have children - no history. 4th-Howard Uhler; 5th, Amanda Uhler; 6th, Richard Uhler, married.

5th Gen. Elenor Lerch married first husband, Israel Kline, three children-Harvey Kline married Lizzie Lesh. They have children and grandchildren. 2nd Alexander Kline, dead; 3rd William Kline. She married the 2nd husband, Charles Messinger.

5th Gen. Alexander Lerch, born 1855, died 1924, married Elenora Walker, born 1857, died 1918, issue 8 children.

6th Gen. Annie Lerch, married Ervin Reinhard, issue 9 children, viz: 7th Gen. Ruth Reinhard, married Milton Lilly; issue 1 son-8th Gen. Allen Lilly.

7th Gen. Frank Reinhard married Verna Barrall; issue 2 children 8th Gen. Lee and Norman Reinhard.

7th Gen. Russel Reinhard, married, 2 children.

7th Gen. Stanley Reinhard, single.

7th Gen. Dorothy, Isabella, Lee, and Louisa, all deceased.

7th Gen. Evelyn Reinhard, single.

6th Gen. Laura Lerch, died, single.

6th Gen.-Harvey Lerch, married Lottie Messinger; issue, 2 sons, 7th Gen. Ferry and Roy Lerch, single.

6th Gen. Mabel Lerch, married Mr. Rex; issue 2 daughters-7th Gen. Catherine and Reba Rex.

6th Gen. Son, died.

6th Gen. Hannah Lerch, married Mr. Clauser; issue 1 son, 7th Gen. Ray Clauser.

6th Gen. Jennie Lerch, single.

6th Gen. Paul Lerch, married Ella Huber; issue 1 daughter-7th Gen. Virginia L. Lerch.

6th Gen. Cecelia Lerch, born 1858, died 1926, married Theodore Hess, born 1848, died 1937; issue 6 children-6th Gen. Frank Hess, married Mary Seyfried; issue 2 children, 7th Gen. Clarence Hess, married Marie Hoch; issue, 2 children, 8 Gen.-Gilbert Hess and Eleanor:

7th Gen. Allen Hess married Lucy Smoyer; issue 2 children- 8th Gen. Ernest and Ruth Hess.

6th Gen. Elmer Hess married Florence Biery; issue 1 daughter 7th Gen. Irma Hess.

6th Gen. Palmer Hess married Clara Snyder; issue 3 children 7th Gen. Grace Hess married Lester Miller; issue, 4 children; 8th Gen. Jean E. M.-George J.-Richard P. M. and Ann Miller.

7th Gen. Dorothy Hess married Robert Kist; issue 1 daughter, 8th Gen., Esther Mae Kist.

7th Gen. Miriam Hess married Elias Spengler.

6th Gen. Cula Hess married Martin Haller; issue 1 daughter. 6th Gen. Eliza Hess married Charles Beck; issue 9 children.

6th Gen. Hattie Hess married Robert Reinhard; several children. 5th Gen. Asher Lerch, born 1859, died 1891, married Sarah Edelman, born 1859. died 1933; children 6th Gen. William Lerch, married.

6th Gen. Naoma Lerch married Van Matthews. 5th Gen. Wilson Lerch, born 1861, died 1878.

5th Gen. Alice Lerch married Peter Moyer; several children.

5th Gen. Emma Lerch married Samuel Miller, several children. 5th Gen. Maria Lerch, born Sept. 25, 1870, married Wilson J. Wagner, born Nov. 10, 1867; issue.

6th Gen. Ruth Ellen Wagner. Mr. Wagner was a schoolteacher.

Both were reared in East Allen Tws'p, Pa., were honored and respected, energetic and industrious. After marriage, they moved to Bangor, Northampton County, Pa., and followed the same lucrative principles. Their own daughter, Ruth, followed the millinery trade. She has been a great comfort and help to her parents, with her solicitous suavity.

6th Gen. Nathan Lerch, born Aug. 12, 1819, died April 22, 1896 aged 76 years, 8 months, 10 days-married Dec. 25, 1839. Maria Catherine Schoener, born Aug. 20, 1815, died Dec. 30,

1893- aged 78 years, 4 months, 10 days. He was the 5th son of William and Moriah nee Messinger and was born in East Allen Tws'p, Pa., which his parents bought in 1811 shortly after their marriage. The same year William lived there and managed that farm till death, a period of 49 years and 6 months. His wife preceded him in death by two years, he had two hired Single girls, viz: Sarah Ann, nee Lerch Beil and Henrietta nee Stuber Hackman. Nathan was the youngest of the four sons and was appointed executor in his father's will and also took for his share the farm and owned it till death, being in the Lerch name for 77 years. He operated the farm for three years but always lived at Schoenersville Church, 2nd brick house, which the progenitor of aforesaid place his father-in-law built in 1830, when he retired from the hotel business, The Blue Ball Tavern, which he had built in 1794. He followed the tailoring business, and governed the hotel, this being centrally located. He accommodated and sheltered the Conestoga wagons, merchants bringing the produce from Philadelphia, Pa., and distributing through the little country stores that were stationed far apart at that age. Four hundred acres he bought at that time, and it was all covered, nothing clear. It took him from 1784 to 1794 to cut the trees and get the logs by which he built the log cabin, viz: "Blue Tavern." He retired and moved to the brick house in 1839. One single daughter, Hannah Schoener, and youngest daughter, Mrs. Nathan Lerch and husband went with him where he lived. He died Oct. 28, 1849. Aged 85 years, 9 months, 28 days.

### HOW A VILLAGE WAS FORMED

A few lines of history of the Progenitor or Schoenersville, Pa., and his family which is written from verbal statements which the writer obtained from her grandmother, the former's younger daughter, viz Mrs. Nathan Lerch.

Adam Schoener, born in Alsace, Germany, at an early age learned tailoring as his trade. He lived some time along the coast of the beautiful Rhine River. He was very successful and earned and also saved. So at the age of twenty-one, young men were compelled to train for military service and enter the militia when called. Being a man of short stature, he did not see himself capable to perform the duties required. Taking a large red bandana handkerchief, he tied a few pieces of clothing, his tailor tools, slipped away safely, and his cash took him to Castle Garden at Philadelphia, Pa., from whence he searched a place where he could follow the trade, and built a peaceful home and reared a respected family.

He often rehearsed his great success, and he never allowed anyone to be turned or go away without showing the best hospitality and giving when in need. He was born Dec. 31, 1763, came to this village in 1784. Ten years later after his house was finished, he married, 1794, Catherine Elizabeth Rimmel, born July 17, 1774. He died Oct. 25, 1840, 85 years, 9 months, 28 days. She died Dec. 26, 1839, 65 years, 5 months, 8 days. A sad coincidence, she died one day after her youngest daughter's wedding day.

The parents are resting on the old cemetery at the church, well-preserved boxlike tombstones along the south side fence toward the Bethlehem road. Issue, 7 children, viz: Anna Margretha Schoener, born, Oct. 14, 1796, married Henry Frankenfield. She died July 29, 1842. Buried at Allentown, Pa. They had children.

2nd. Louisa Schoener, born 1799 married Henry Reimer; 3rd, Abraham Schoener, born 1801, married Rebecca Dealt; 4th, Lydia Schoener, born 1803, married Henry Kurtz; 5th, Hannah Schoener, born 1804, unmarried. 6th, Thomas Schoener, born 1810, married in Monroe Co., Pa., unknown: 7th, Maria Catherine Schoener, born Aug. 20, 1815, died Dec. 30, 1893, 78 years, 4 months, 10 days, married Dec. 25, 1839.

4th Gen., Nathan Lerch, born Aug. 12, 1819, died April 22, 1896, 76 years, 8 months, 10 days. They were married by Rev. Jacob Christian Becker, Reformed pastor, and son, Rev. Cyrus

Jacob Becker, baptized, confirmed and married to the 3rd generation. This father and son Deckers covered a period of 150 years with 91 years at the Schoenersville-Howertown charge. Both were graduated at the age of 18 years. They were real spiritual physicians and unexcelled theological servant of the "Lord." They lived their life exemplifying what they preached, peaceful and amicable to all members of the union congregations. Their passing was mourned by many but one eulogy covers the many years of labors. "Well done! Blessed in the Lord, are the death of His Saints. Enter now into the Joy of the Lord."

Nathan Lerch and wife were educated in the German and English languages, which was a rare thing at that age. Both could write English very nicely and also speak it.

They celebrated their golden wedding Dec. 25, 1889. Rev J. C. Becker was the speaker and they enjoyed a good turkey dinner, with children and grandchildren. He never used tobacco. She was instructed in the English language by Samuel Siegfried, whose name is written in her schoolbook named "The English Emancipator." Mr. Lerch was a very good surveyor and had private lessons in law. He spent many an hour with the late Hon. Judge Harvey of the Lehigh Co., Pa., courts, and the Supt. of Public Schools, Mr. Rupp. He sold the lots where the homes are built that comprise this village of Schoenersville, Pa., and financed them, and helped even in the carpenter work. He financed Mr. E. R. Benner when he quit teaching, and went in the merchandise business, bought the stock and store awl other buildings, from Richard Snyder. He financed several veteran schoolteachers for their furniture, and helped them, as they were always his next-door neighbors.

They were very generous in their family, and no one was turned away hungry. She was called Mommy Lerch in the community and her advice was sought by many who knew her. Many coming to church would take meals at her place before going home. The Lutheran ministers as well as the Reformed enjoyed her hospitality. Upon request by Rev. C. J. Becker, Reformed pastor, and Rev. A. R. Horne, Lutheran pastor, Mr. Lerch and Mr. John Mitman, cleared a long-standing debt of the church. To erect frames to build barns he was called to take the lead and he was a good judge and mechanic.

They were devout Christians, brought up their children that they were faithful to God, and also led their children in the same way. Mr. Lerch was a good vocalist and many years served the choir. Read his Bible regularly. He provided well for his family and his children and grandchildren are all devoted strictly to religious activities, sincerely following the hagiologist, thereby enabling them to leadership, and gold medals from higher denomination in Christian education. He influenced his descendants to fine morals, not slothful and sleazy, but an enthusiastic exemplar in all walks of life. Mrs. Lerch set Divine things first; this poem she taught her descendants: "Kirchen geh seimet nicht, Almosen geben armet night." In English: "Church going robs no time, giving alms will make none poor." They are buried in the old cemetery at the driveway, with nice red granite tombstones, the only red ones erected on the aforesaid burial ground. In Memoriam: "Sweetly rest in peace, thy reward hath come, Let thy labor cease, God hath called thee home." -Author C. H. H. H.

Issue 11 children; only 5 grew to maturity, viz: 5th Gen. Reuben H. Lerch, born June 12, 1842, died Jan. 1923, married A. M. Elizabeth Lazarus. Both are buried on the Mickley Cemetery, Pa. They were prosperous farmers in Whitehall Tws'p, Pa. He was one of the regular members of that church; nothing could make him miss the services. Their kind loving spirit was greatly admired, had many friends, their hospitality and good provisions were an outstanding solace for many. They attained a ripe old age. Issue 4 children. 6th Gen., William H. Lerch was married to Lydia Shafer, deceased. Issue, daughter. 7th Gen., Elasta Lerch. 6th Gen., Emma Jane Elizabeth Lerch, married to Benjamin Metzger of Allentown, Lehigh Co., Pa. A telegraph operator, now deceased,. later moving to Bayonne, NJ., reared a nice and well-educated family, mostly telegraph operators, and also married. The mother and the single daughter are with her at former address, while the married children have moved to different sections. 12 children.



7th Gen., Minnie Emma Metzgar, married Geo. D. Wilkinson, deceased. Issue 3 children. 8th Gen., Geo. D. Wilkinson, Howard M. Wilkinson and Richard B. Wilkinson. 7th Gen., Marcus Auslem Metzgar, deceased. 7th Gen., Mary Elizabeth Metzgar, single. 7th Gen., Mazie Edna Metzgar, deceased. 7th Gen., Mabel Esther Metzgar, deceased. 7th Gen., Myrtle Eva Metzgar, married Arthur C. Downing. Issue 1, Arthur C. Downing, Jr. 7th Gen., Miles Albert Metzgar, deceased, married Helen Gubelman, issue 1, Doris Joan Gubleman. 7th Gen., Margaret Maria Edith Metzgar, married Fred F. Schantz. Issue 2 children.

8th Gen., Spencer Craig and Gilbert Allan Schantz; 7th Maud Elmira Ida Metzgar, married Alexander Mclear. 7th Melba Ethel Metzgar, married Henry S. Dewey, issue 1, Emma Elizabeth Dewey. 7th Gen., Marion Eleanor Metzgar, married Randolph E. Stromburg, issue 1, Ruth Marie Stromburg. 7th Gen., shall Abraham Metzgar, single.

8th Gen., Geo. D. Wilkinson, Jr., married Barbara Lontz. 6th Gen., Ida Catherine Lerch, married Henry P. Ringer, issue 3 children. 7th Gen., Reuben Ringer Sr., married Colleta Meyers, issue 2 children. Reuben Ringer, Jr., married Lillian Heintzelman. Issue one Dennis Ringer. 7th Gen., Stanley Ringer, married? 6th Gen., Raymond H. Ringer, married Deborah Meyers. These brothers have married sisters. Issue: 3 children. Ernest Ritter, married. Issue: Jean and Arlene Ringer. 6th Gen., Roy H. Ringer, married Verna Hahn. Issue 4 children, Daniel, Ruth, Alton and Leona Ringer. The Ringer families are conscientious hard working farmers. Henry and wife have the credit of rearing a trio of sons that measure up to all that a farmer and tiller of the soil ought to. H. P. is manager of the Trojan Powder Farms for many years and his scientific methods in the producing of the farms products have won for him laurels and grand prizes for the farm. It is remarkable how well preserved they are at their age. Mrs. Ringer from her early years worked on the farm like a man. There is nothing that she did not work side by side with any man. As a housewife and cook, she is excellent. Both are interested in religions and civic affairs. They have a beautiful brick home at East Catasauqua, Pa., where they reside. Their three sons are following in the parents' footsteps, are progressive potato growers, and poultry raisers, and have faithful helpmates and fine children.

5th Gen., Sarah Ann Ellemanda Lerch, married Samuel Diehl.

They lived the greater part of their life on a farm north of Catasauqua, Pa. They were reckoned as leading people in religious and also in civic circles. They were financially well situated. Very liberal to the poor. And for cleanliness and having things in proper shape, they were in the first class. Both passed the three score years and ten, and are buried on the Howertown, Pa., cemetery. They had one sad affliction, only the 3rd child grew to mature age, and the mother had to follow them all to the grave; the surviving daughter six weeks after the husband. Issue 5 children, viz: Calvin David Beil, Rosa Margaret Beil, Lillian Catherine Beil, Oscar Beil and Minnie Beil, all deceased.

5th Gen., twins, Camilla C. and William A. Lerch, deceased. 5th Gen., Lucinda Lerch, deceased. 5th Gen., Ellen Jane Lerch. 5th Gen., David F. Lerch, deceased. 5th Gen., Ida Louisa Alice Lerch, born June 17, 1855, died Jan. 14, 1923, 69 years, 6 months, 27 days, married May 25, 1873, Erwin Samuel Hackman, born July 24, 1849, died Sept. 15, 1914, 65 years, 8 months and 2 days. He was a public school teacher in her early years under Supt. Rupp's administration. Her father with her and son operated the old homestead farm, the two staying there but the father went evenings to his family at Schoenersville, until she married Mr. Hackman. Then they took charge of the farm and lived there twenty years till the death of the father. They were always hard working, often sacrificing self to do good to others, kindhearted to the children. The door was always open to charity and helping those in poorer circumstances. They served in religious and civic capacities, he as school director, deacon and elder at Christ Reformed church at Schoenersville till death. They were baptized, confirmed, and married and their children and some grandchildren were baptized and confirmed by the same Rev. Cyrus J. Becker. Mrs. Hackman served as choir member and as Sunday School teacher close to her end till health

impeded. They are laid to rest in the new cemetery at Schoenersville, Pa., with nice red granite tombstones. "Thy lovely forms rest side by side, Free from Earth's tumult and the night. While we thy dear ones anxious wait, To meet Thee at the Heavenly Gate." Author, daughter, Camilla Heckman.

Issue, 6 children. viz: 6th Gen., Maggie Catherine Hackman, born July 6, 1873, died June 22, 1880, 8 years, 11 months, 10 days. 6th Gen., Camilla Harriet Hackman, born April 30, 1875, married Harvey Welcome Heckman, S. of V., born Dec. 4, 1871. While this family was brought up as farmers and spent many years operating their own farms, nevertheless, after retiring from the former he was engaged ill carpentering, painting and butchered hundreds of cattle for local people and his sausage went to California to be fried and eaten. He served as school director many years but resigned. In church work, always active, secretary in Sunday School, but for the last 47 years overseer. He was confirmed and married by the late Dr. A. R. Horne, Feb. 2, 1895. They celebrated their 25th or silver wedding on his 50th or golden birthday anniversary, thus were 3-5's dates linked. They observed their 45th anniversary, this time were 6 dates linked, born 1875, 51 years confirmed, 50 years Sunday School teacher, March 1895, 65 years of age and 45 years married.

Camilla was very fond of books and writing, as well as vocal and instrumental music, her teachers after being finished with the elementary courses urged her, and parents to mature, in educational lines. Being the oldest, and no boys on the big farm, they needed her. Acknowledging that she was endowed with kind parents, she resolved she would cultivate what she had, if no public school teacher, she would study the Bible along with her home work and be a Sunday School teacher. Today she does firmly acclaim that Matt. 6th 33 v. suffices, viz: "Seek ye the first the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you." These 3 chapters "Sermon on the Mount." she memorized when a young girl, received a present from the Sunday School. She started to teach a class in German, taught twenty-two years, and twenty-eight years in English. Every place attended, while living there she was elected as a teacher, and also Bible School through the week time. Gave recitals at churches to buy a window in honor of her class Schoenersville S. S. room. Contributed two large windows in the main auditorium. When the church was remodeled in 1927, she also collected to improve the old cemetery, and in 1905 gave \$10.00 to modernize the S. S. room and \$10.00 to the present steeple. She served on different church choirs for 17 years.

As Supt., she organized the first cradle roll, Jan. 1, 1916, but after a few years resigned. She organized the first sewing circle of No. 1798 Hanover Grange. A past president of Camp 273, P. O. of A. She was appointed as delegate from Lehigh and Northampton Co. by the Sabbath School Association to attend the convention at Williamsport, Pa., and received gold medal there Oct. 13, 1939. She has also received her certificate as Teacher Emeritus. She is affiliated with the Missionary Society of the historic Reformed church and the Auxiliary of the Phoebe Home at Allentown, Pa.

In 1920, she organized the "Lerch Reunion," elected secretary ever since and in 1941 also elected historian. She took several trips abroad, through the western states and through the south as far as Cuba and Caribbean Sea. Besides doing her duties on the farms, she wallpapered for 20 years. Huckstered 19 years and did lots of sewing at home and for other people, also assisting in butchering for other people for 41 years. She has written and composed many poems while engaged by the Hierographic Syndicate, Texas. She tries to keep her home and yard decent at Schoenersville, Pa., and is a great flower woman, and loves to share and decorate other places, with what God so kindly entrusts to her. She was baptized and confirmed by the late Rev. C. J. Becker, Reformed, at the Schoenersville church. She is a regular attendant in God's house on the Lords day. If not at her church and Sunday school, she attends several sessions in the city. Her Reformed service at home is only missed in case of sickness or when she is invited as a speaker at special Sunday School anniversaries. She strictly abstains from profane language, dancing

and gambling. Naturally intruders snicker and place thorns for her flowers, but she does not bother with ignorant fumbler. In choosing companions, she considers quality and not quantity. Her favorite poem: In life the greatest victory won, with little said and plenty done.

Issue one daughter. 7th Gen., Ruth Agnes Hackman Heckman, born March 4, 1902, in Bethlehem, Northampton Co., Pa. She was baptized by the late Rev. C. J. Becker on April 6, 1902 at Schoenersville, and after that regularly she accompanied her mother to Sunday School and church as long as she was home. At an early age, she graduated from the Hanover Tws'p public schools and Catasauqua High school. She was also taught music at the same time. In 1920, she entered the Shippensburg, Cumberland Valley Teachers College, to finish her regular course and specialized in music. She passed successfully and was honored as one of Lehigh County's first class teachers and elected as a grade teacher at Egypt, Whitehall Tws'p, Pa.

The following year she was elected by the Schoenersville school board and taught successfully. She resigned when she entered into matrimony with Edward E. Schneck, born May 18, 1902, an official of the Allentown National Bank. Later when his father retired, he visioned a better income by operating his father's farms, and his demonstrations were very copious. He soon bought one of the farms and now has a large dairy of accredited Holstein cattle. He is an ambitious and classed as a scientific dairyman and farmer. He attended public schools. Catasauqua, High school and Allentown Business College. He was baptized and confirmed by Rev. Jas. F. Lambert, at: SL Paul's Lutheran Church at Catasauqua, Pa., is a member and upholds the principles and doctrine of his church, and is a very intimate friend to his pastor. They reside close to East Catasauqua, Pa., and Schoenersville.

8th Gen., Dalton Edward Schneck, born June 5, 1827, baptized by Rev. Dr. Jas. F: Lambert, June 19, 1927, at the Sacred Heart hospital, Pa., with water from the Jordan River he brought along when he visited the Holy Land. In addition, the other singularity was his Cesarean birth. He is a capable piano-accordion player, graduated from the public school at Schoenersville, and passed the first year in Catasauqua High school. He is bright, takes interest in the dairying, is very kind to animals, loves auto driving, aviation, and is a plucky well built boy. He is a regular attendant at Schoenersville Church and Sunday School.

6th Gen., Sarah Alabama Eliza Hackman, born Aug. 2, 1877, died Nov. 14, 1928, 51 years, 3 months, 12 days. She married Nov. 7, 1896, Thomas Geo. Gogle, deceased, both are buried on their plot on the new cemetery at Egypt, Whitehall Tws'p, Pa. He was a foreman in the cement mills and she conducted a grocery store at their home at Northampton, Pa. They were members of the Reformed wing of Egypt Union church where he was confirmed. The sainted Rev. C. J. Becker, who also baptized her in youth, confirmed her when single at the Schoenersville Christ's Union church. They reared a nice family but because of the death of the mother, they had to be separated, so soon, but all got along very well.

Issue 6 children, viz: 7th Gen., Lizzie C. E. Gogle, born April 25, 1897, married Stanley T. Biery. Issue 6 children, viz. 8th Gen., George Biery, College graduate, employed at Bethlehem Steel works; 8th Gen., Irene Biery, employed as purchasing lady at Colman's Dry Goods Store at Northampton, Pa., 8th Gen., Janet Biery; 8th Gen., Ann Biery. Mr. Biery is also a Penn State graduate. They all are very loyal and regular and faithful members of St. Paul's church at Northampton, Pa., are descendants of a very distinguished family also on the paternal side.



CAMILLA H. HECKMAN  
Secretary and Historian



REV. GEORGE J. LAUBACH

7th Gen., Clarence E. Gogle, born July 19, 1898, married Esther Bartholomew. Issue one daughter. 8th Gen., Marie Gogle, born April 10, 1920. 7th Gen., Thomas Gogle, born Aug. 20, 1900, married Elsie Reinhart, one daughter, Dorothy J., born June 16, 1924. Marion Gogle, married Samuel Shafer, issue 1 daughter. 8th Gen Lucile Shafer. 7th Gen., Evelyn Gogle, born June 17, 1908, married Sal Demoto, lives in New York. The rest live at Northampton, Pa.

7th Gen., Leonard Gogle, born June 11, 1911, is at Washington, D. C., is married. 6th Gen., Lizzie Elemina Hackman, born Nov. 28, 1880, was confirmed at Schoenersville church, Reformed wing, by the sainted Rev. C. J. Becker married Steward D. Heller, born Nov 18, 1880, Reformed member of the Altonah church. They were married March 7, 1907. She was a very bright scholar, Sunday School teacher, choir member, silk weaver, and a successful tailoress. They were prominent farmers, and after retiring took up Evangelistic work, and studied faith healing, which keeps them busy to answer the many calls. They reside near Macada, Pa.

Issue one son, 7th Gen., Lyman Stephen Erwin Heller, born July 1, 1909, married Arlene Bachman of Bethlehem, Pa., and are residing there ever since. They both attended the public schools and graduated from Bethlehem High School, Northampton Co., Pa. Since then, he is a reliable clerk in the Bethlehem Steel works. With his good housewife, they live a comfortable Christian life and are greatly respected. Issue 2 children. 8th Gen., Leroy Steward Heller, born Nov. 10, 1932. 8th Gen., Ruth Jean Heller, born Aug. 1, 1935.

6th Gen., Lula Estella Hackman, born Jan. 7, 1886, was baptized and confirmed by the Sainted Rev. C. J Becker, in the Reformed faith, at Schoenersville Church, was affiliated with all organizations, member and teacher in the Sunday School, choir member, also of Ladies Aid Society. Graduated from the Schoenersville public school. She was loyal to her parents at all times. She married Jonas U. Young, of Schoenersville, Pa., a blacksmith employed at the Atlas Cement mills and a very noted mechanic. Later he went and bought a store at East Allentown, Pa., selling that, they saw a better plan to start at Catasauqua, Pa., in the merchandise business. They progressed agreeably. Their children were all confirmed by Rev. Dr. Jas. F. Lambert, for 50 years pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran church. The parents have also united with the same. Affiliated with all the organization taking active part. Mr. Young is a good sportsman. He got fine specimens, both in hunting and in fishing. The children all graduated from the elementary and high schools at Catasauqua, Pa. The girls are single, and are faithful employees of the Bell Telephone Co. for many years. The son has a lucrative position at the steel defense works at Bethlehem, Pa.

Issue 3 children. 7th Gen. Mildred Ida Young, born March 25, 1908. 7th Gen., Reynold E. Young, born Oct. 8, 1911, married Lucile Keener. 7th Gen., Mary E. Young, born May 19, 1919.

5th Gen. Preston Thomas Lerch, born July 8, 1858, died Nov. 1935. 77 years, 4 months, was married to Sarah Hauser. He was born at Schoenersville, Pa. He attended the public schools until 15 years of age, then his father placed him and an older sister on the Lerch farm near Weaversville, East Allen T'wsp, He worked very hard at his age, but by it all he grew to a nice and strong man, very compassionate, intelligent, in civic and church affairs. Was baptized and confirmed at Schoenersville Christ Union Church, Reformed, by the late Rev. C. J. Becker. After leaving the farm he moved to Weaversville, Pa., attended the Howertown church with the same pastor. He worked in store again and lived some time in his hometown. Like Abraham of old it seemed he with his good wife and small boy was called away from his community and kindred to start another vocation. He served as a faithful leader, which was fulfilled by his family and grandchildren. His only son became one of the supporters and Grace Reformed church officials and members, as well as the pastors, all Northampton Co" Pa., and Sunday School workers, pay tribute to the living ones. And while father and son, passed to rest, their works do follow them. They are buried at Dry Run Union cemetery and the four children.

6th Gen., William Preston Lerch, born Aug. 1, 1879, died Dec. 4, 1938, 59 years, 4 months, 3 days, married Lillie E. Clauser. He was born on the old Lerch homestead near Weaverstown, Pa., in the same house, in the same room, where this secretary and writer of this history was born, but not of the same parents, however, are first cousins. W. P. Lerch was a self made man, in all respects, sacrificing for others till his life ebbed away so unexpectedly, leaving places vacant that are hard to be filled. Always willing under many hindrances which few only realized, always cheerful, never complaining, but going, rather than lay burdens on others he carried them. He resided with his parents and attended the public schools at the former places, graduated from the elementary school at Northampton, Pa., and from the Coplay High School in 1897. He worked in a grocery store, then he learned the bakers trade, worked for A. P. C. C. company. He was a devout Christian man. He was a charter member of Grace Reformed church at Northampton, Pa. and organized many religious societies. He was superintendent of the Sunday School fifteen years, two years assistant. Also affiliated with different lodges, officer of the Maccabees at the time of his unexpected departure. He was interested in civic affairs as well as in religious.

A promoter and good citizen whose cheerful words chased many a gloom and sorrow. His passing was mourned in his hometown. 'Twas sad he died on his mother's 81st birthday anniversary. For twenty-one years secretary of the Scheck's Reunion, and twenty years historian of the Lerch's.

This was his favorite poem: Father into thy gracious keeping, Leave we now our loved ones sleeping. Over the river they beckon to me, The gleam of their snowy robes I see. Loved ones gone to the further, side, But their voices delete in the rushing tide. Author unknown.

This family issued 18, the most on record in the Lerch clan. Amongst them are teachers, nurses, domestics, vocalists, at the head, and leaders of organizations, trust worthy and reliable citizens. Proficient and religious in civil life.

2nd. Gen., Frederick Lerch numbered 17. 4th. Nathan Lerch numbered 11 children. It is notable when a history can record families like these three. In the Bible, we read of the twelve tribes of Israel, in the Psalms, children are like vines around a man's table, and counted a blessing Issue 18 children.

7th-gen., Hilda Irene Lerch, married Wesley Stoltz of Catasauqua, Pa. Members of Salem Reformed Church. Issue 3 children, viz: 8th Gen., Henry Wm. Stoltz, Esther Ruth Stoltz, Irene Stoltz. 7th Gen., Howard Nathan Lerch, married to Elsie Keller, of Northampton, Pa. 7th. Gen., Marie Agnes Lerch, married to Robert Day, Bath R. 2, Pa. Issue 6 children, viz: Wm. Amos Day, Robert, Jr. Day, Louise Elizabeth Day, Elaine Nelda Day, Galen Lerch Day.

7th Gen., Edgar Amandus Lerch, married Erma Christman; of Northampton, Pa. Issue 3 children. 8th Gen., Robert Charles Lerch, Gloria Ruth Lerch, Nancy Jane Lerch. 7th Gen., Verna May Lerch, married Gerald Oberholtzer, 626 Cedar St., Allentown, Pa. Issue one child. 8th Gen., Gerald L. Oberholtzer. 7th Gen., Beatrice Sarah Lerch, deceased. 7th Gen., Russel William Lerch, of 924 Dewey Ave., Northampton, Pa. Single. Treasurer of this clan and fills the place left vacant by his father, at numerous organizations. Is a good synergistic. 8th Gen., Mabel Ida Lerch, married Norman Frederick of Northampton, Pa. Issue 4 children. 8th Gen., Donald Paul Frederick, Mae Mabel Frederick, Ray Frederick, Shirley Anne Frederick. 7th Gen., Preston Oscar Lerch, married Eva Kohler, of Northampton, Pa. Issue one daughter. 8th Gen., Patricia Ann Lerch. 7th Gen., Albert Martin Lerch, 924 Dewey Ave., Northampton, Pa. Graduated from Stroudsburg Teachers College and is teaching in his home town. He is affiliated with several organizations in civic affairs, and one of the leaders in Grace Reformed church.

7th Gen., Miles Eugene Lerch, deceased. 7th Gen., Pearl Lillie Lerch. Graduated Trained Nurse of Haff Hospital, Northampton, Pa. Served at the Phoebe Home at Allentown, Pa. Through the summer at some recreation camps, later at Quakertown hospital. 7th Gen., twins, June Evelyn Lerch and Elwood Lerch, deceased. 7th Gen., twins, Catherine Caroline Lerch and

John James Lerch. 7th Gen., Elsie Hattie Lerch. 7th Gen., Walter Watson Lerch, died. These fourteen children survived their father.

The writer gave as much of the history as she received. Very sorry that she could not on this account give a sketch of each one, because they all truly synchronize to subservience.

This is the branch of this clan that males and the name Lerch brings the 8th Gen: 1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Lower Saucon Tws'p Pa, born Sept. 20, 1720, died Aug. 28, 1793.

2nd Gen., Frederick Lerch, Forks and Mt. Bethel, Northampton Co., Pa., born April 17, 1759, died Aug. 1, 1826.

3rd Gen., Nathan Lerch, East Allen Tws'p, Schoenersville, Pa., born Aug. 12, 1819, died April 22, 1896.

5th Gen., Preston Thomas Lerch, Northampton, Pa., born July 8, 1858, died 1923.

6th Gen., William Preston Lerch, East Allen Tws'p, Northampton, Pa., born July 31, 1879.

7th Gen., Edgar Amandas Lerch, Northampton, Pa., born Feb. 24, 1905.

8th Gen., Robert Charles Lerch, Northampton, Pa, born Jan, 1, 1926.

5th Gen., Alabama Minerva Lerch, born Oct. 19, 1860, died Dec. 30, 1932, married Oct. 19, 1890, Alfred Hess, born March 18, 1860, died Jan. 27, 1920. 59 years, 10 months, 9 days. They married at Schoenersville and lived. there till 1896, moved to his farm one mile distant toward Catasauqua. Along with farming, he operated a retail milk route and handled green groceries, poultry, and with his ambitious and talented wife, reared a nice family. Religious and interested in affairs that were producible and reparative to the community, and the business in which they were dominant. They always gave to charity, they always provided extremely well for nourishment and clothing and cared even till death. for those in need, Selling the farm they intended to move back to their farm at Schoenersville, the Schoener homestead, when he was stricken with pneumonia and departed this life. The rest of the family moved to said place where the mother passed away twelve years later. Both are interred in the new cemetery, Schoenersville, Pa., Issue 4 children.

6th Gen., Ralph Samuel Hess, born Feb. 9, 1891, married Laura Lichtenwalner of Allentown, Pa., born Nov. 23, 1890, A daughter of one of the countermarks of the western part of Allentown whose late farm of several hundred acres was converted into a nice residential section including the Great Muhlenberg College and Egner Chapel. They reside in a beautiful brick home at 2508 Allen St. He was well liked by the many customers when he assisted his father in the dairy business, He was of a conducive disposition, to all. He handles nursery stock. This family has traveled "far and wide" with their cars. Mrs. Hess attended Allentown schools, and finished at Teachers College, Kutztown, Pa. They have two refined children, viz:

7th Gen., Harold R. Hess, born Nov. 19, 1920. 7th Gen., Arlene M. C. Hess, born Sept. 1, 1923.

6th Gen., Catherine Levina Hess, born May 1, 1893, married Warren Odenwelder, an energetic young farmer. For a while, they engaged in farming, later working at public works, and for the McNess company. They have a nice home along the Schoenersville highway opposite A. & B. Airport. Their eminence as citizens, church workers, civic affairs and social, is valuable. They have reared a family of a good qualified type. They educated them so they are able to mingle with the honorable class of people. They are members of Christ Reformed Church, where he is also deacon, his daughter Sunday School teacher and son, assistant pianist. Issue 4 children. 7th Gen., Ruth H. Odenwelder, Nov. 6, 1920; 7th Gen., William L. Odenwelder, enlisted in the marines; 7th Gen., Martha Alabama Odenwelder,

6th Gen., Mabel Minerva Hess, born Feb. 1, 1895, married Charles Gogle, deceased. He was a public worker, strong and trustworthy. At his death (which came so suddenly) his employer, where he worked at Pen Argyl for almost fifteen years, proclaimed him one of the best. He is resting on the new cemetery at Schoenersville, Pa., where he and his faithful wife and

4 children lived. They progressed and were active, in religious and civic affairs, desiring to give their children a good education, and teach them to work, but still after his demise, God did not forsake the widow and fatherless who so firmly trusted in Him. The children honor and respect their good mother, and they in return are receiving a rich blessing. They graduated from the Schoenersville public schools (the same where their mother did years ago) and some graduated from Catasauqua H. S. and imitate their parents as willing workers and bringing joy instead of grief. Mabel is the great granddaughter of the progenitor of this place, and lives in the home that he built upon retiring and died. They are actively affiliated in church and Sunday School societies. Members of Christ's Reformed Union church at this place. Issue 4 children, viz:

7th Gen., Dorthea Gogle, m Harold Bilheimer, issue 3 children. 8th Gen., Charles Bilheimer, 8th Gen., Harold Bilheimer, Jr.; 8th Gen. -Judith Sharon Bilheimer. Mr. and Mrs. Bilheimer are living at home.

She assists at home and he works at Bethlehem Steel works. He has fine talents, a pleasing personality and is not only a palaver, but also a pacifier and a good provider. He is of the Lutheran faith. 7th Gen., Alfred Gogle, private in medical army; 7th Gen., Sterling Gogle; 7th Gen., Florence Gogle.

6th Gen., Raymond Nathan Hess, born April 13, 1896, married Lillian Dunlap, of Northampton, Pa. They are members of Grace Reformed church of Northampton, Pa and are also very active in civic affairs. Both are good leaders, advocates for the up-building of the community. He is a wholesale milk dealer, a heritage that is born into him, having helped his father very faithfully while single. He works very hard and is a good provider. They have a lovely home on Main St., Northampton, Pa. Issue 2 Children, viz: 7th Gen., Gerald Hess, deceased; 7th Gen.. Jean Hess, a bright girl, student of Northampton grade schools and high school. Specializing also in music and beauty parlor.

The end of the East Allen Tws'p and Schoenersville, Pa., descendants of Anthony Lerch, Sr.

#### **STONE CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON CO., PA., BRANCH**

1st Gen. Is also Anthony Lerch, Sr., born Sept. 20, 1720.

2nd Gen. John Lerch, born June 24, 1752.

3rd Gen. Joseph Lerch, born Dec. 21, 1786.

4th Gen. David Lerch, born Aug. 11, 1821.

5th Gen. Fred Lerch, born Nov. 10, 1869.

6th Gen. Glen Lerch, born April 8, 1905 and 6th Gen. Muriel Lerch, born Dec. 23, 1910.

Children of Fred Lerch.

7th Gen. Kathryn Lerch-daughter of Glen Lerch.

7th Gen. Diane Lerch-Daughter of Muriel Lerch Cameron.

This item is credited to Hon. Fred Lerch, of Beverly Hills, California, president and manager of Lerch, Inc., at that place.



## THE BATH & EASTON, NORTHAMPTON CO., BRANCH

This branch is the closest to the foregoing clan.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., born in Germany, Sept. 20, 1720, died in Lower Saucon and buried there Aug. 28, 1793. Had married Anna Margretha Lauer, born March 7, 1728, died Feb. 14, 1796.

2nd Gen., Frederick Lerch, born April 17, 1759, died Aug. 1, 1826, married in 1780, Elisabeth Sweitzer, born June 18, 1761, died Dec. 6, 1858, buried at Forks Church, Pa.

3rd Gen., Christian Lerch, born Oct. 20, 1805, died July 23, 1878, married Susanna Uhler, born Nov. 13, 1807, died Oct. 21, 1853.

4th Gen. Joseph Lerch, born Sept. 27, 1832, died Dec. 1, 1909, married Matilda Kemmerer, born April 30, 1834, died Jan. 29, 1915.

5th Gen., Clement Lerch, born March 23, 1867, died Oct. 21, 1939, married Alice Louise Schmickle.

6th Gen., Clarence F. Lerch, born April 16, 1897, married Mazle M. Dech.

7th Gen., Lieutenant in service for his country, Robert L. Lerch. The Precedence shows 7 generations of male characters. The following gives the whole families, as much as possible, through inquisition.

These families have been working more along business industries In towns and cities, energetic and cautel in their enterprises, good citizens, and active in religious and civic affairs. 3rd Gen., Christian, Lerch was married to Susanna Uhler. Issue one son. 4th Gen., Josiah Lerch married Anna Matilda Kemmerer. Issue 4 children. 5th Gen., David Lerch, born March 27, 1855, deceased. Harvey E. Lerch, born Feb. 7, 1859, married Sept. 6, 1879, Anna Elizabeth Kepler, born Feb. 1861, died March 30, 1922, he died April 11, 1932. 5th Gen., Clement Lerch, born March 23, 1867, died Oct. 21, 1939, married Alice Louisa Schmickley.. Issue 5 children, viz: 6th Gen., Willard Lerch, died age 3 years. 6th Gen., Clarence F. Lerch, born April 16, 1897, married Mazie M. Dech. Issue 3 children. 7th Gen. Elizabeth D. Lerch, married Ben F. Rohn, Jr. 7th Gen., Robert L. Lerch, Lieutenant. 7th Gen., Alice L. Lerch; married Robert C. Engle. 6th Gen., Capt. Robert W. Lerch, born Nov. 16, 1900, married Phyllis Mellencamp. Issue one daughter. 7th Gen. Roberta Alice Lerch. 6th Gen., Lester C. Lerch, born Dec. 25, 1906, married Helen Stofflet. Issue 4 children. 7th Gen., Elizabeth Lerch, 1st wife of John Beck. 7th Gen., June Lerch, was his second wife; 6th Gen., Lorraine Lerch. 7th Gen., Lester Lerch, Jr., deceased. 6th Gen., Anna E. Lerch, married Francis Lerch.

## SPELLING THE LERCH NAME

There had been some dispute in the Lerch name early tradition relates. Benjamin Franklin wrote the name Lark in 1756. Anthony Lerch wrote it from 1750 to 1760, Lergh, Lark, Larch, Lerck. The names of Peter and Andres were written by English clerks Lerick. But at the Moravian Theological Seminary, it was decided to spell it "Lerch" and remained permanent to present time.

1st son of Anthony Lerch, Sr., John, escaped the Indians' attack.

A ghastly experience had John No. 1 and his wife and three children; William, Nicholas and Yost, with seventy other persons, when they sought refuge in the Friedensville mill and stockade near Nazareth, Northampton Co., Pa., from a gruesome raid of savage Indians in Jan. 1756. Son William's name appears in the Lower Saucon Church records in 1750. Listed as passengers on the ship Queen Elizabeth-also recorded in the archives of the Sec. of state at Harrisburg, Pa., are Andreas or (Andrew) 12 years. Peter 13 years, Anthony, Jr., 14 years. This Peter died as husband of 2nd wife at the age of 36 years at Lower Saucon, Northampton Co., Pa., in 1762. Items given on another page. 1st Gen., Gratius Lerch, immigrant from Germany, 1738,

made his will on June 5, 1794. Exhibited on Sept. 9, 1794, dilucidating death. William Lerch, 44 years, Nicholas and wife and Yost are 3 of the 17 children named in Casper Lerch's will in 1784. Yost lived in Heidelberg Tws'p, Pa., in 1759 to 1806.

William Lerch with wife and 3 children lived in Northampton Co., Pa., in 1740 to 1760. The name spelled Lerch also in Berks and in Reading, Pa., records in 1759. Andreas Lerch and sons, Anthony, Peter and Gratius came to Saucon Creek, Northampton Co., Pa., in 1738. In 1739 Caspar Lerch also with said party went to Tulpehocken Creek, Berks, Co., Pa. In another column are recorded Caspar's Descendants and their success. Anthony Lerch, Sr., immigrant stayed at Lower Saucon, Pa., but his oldest son John Lerch at an early date habitated Allen Tws'p, Pa. He was appointed first General of America in 1770. This is generation No. 2. Not the one who escaped the Indians. This one married Sibilla Morry, and is the ancestral point 2nd to Anthony Lerch of Allen Tws'p, Northampton, Co., Pa. Lerch "Branch." and are buried at Stone Church, Kreidersville, Pa. Names and dates accurately given on another page.

Testaments and executors names of Lerch's Testator. 1766 Kaspar Larich, Exec. Christopher Larich, Tes. 1774 Baltzer Lerch, Exec. Wm. Lerch and Johann Staut, Tes. 1817, Anna Barbara wife of Baltzar Lerch, Exec. Peter Amaand, Tes. 1824, Rosina Lerch, wife of Yost, Exec. Matthias Richards, Tes., 1841, John Lerch, Exec. Jacob Lerch, Tes. 1857, David Lerch, Exec. John Teppler, Tes. 1867, Jacob Lerch, Exec. Geo. Last Tes. 1868, David Lerch, Exec. John Adam Dechert, Tec. 1872, David B. Lerch, Exec. Tyrus Lerch-Israel Noecher, Tec., 1873, George Lerch, Exec. Daniel and Wm. Lerch. He is 4th Gen., from Anthony Lerch, Sr., born in N. J. A hardware merchant in Reading, Pa., Another Casper Lerch was the 4th listed on ship. 44 years. Died, 1766, aged 72 years.

Casper Lerch's children who were named in his "will" propriety warrant that bears date Dec. 2, 1742, of 180 acres in Heidelberg, Pa., are William Lerch, Nicholas, Balzer, Christopher, Jacob, Yost, Elisabeth Margaret, Catherine, Rachel Lerch, his son Christopher the executor. After making certain bequests to his wife Margaret, he bequested to each of his children 25 lbs. except to Christopher who had purchased the old homestead Sept. 9, 1766 at a consideration of 225 lbs: Most of the Lerch's in Berks Co., Pa., are his descendants except those of George Lerch who died in 1873. No records show William Lerch, born 1750, son of Gratius, as a real estate owner. Nicholas Lerch in Heidelberg Tws'p, Pa., consisted of a farm of 232 Acres. He had one son John and 3 daughters. Names on another page. His wife Rosina was administratrix.

Baltzer Lerch's will dated Jan. 1, 1774, had Johannes Staut executor. The number of children is not mentioned, but all were under 14 years of age. In Rupp's collection, there are 30,000 Lerches. One John Jacob Lerch landed on Oct. 11, 1752. Casper, Nicholas, Baltzer, and Christopher Lerch all died in Berks Co., Pa., Andrew (Andreas) 2nd Gen. deed of real estate on record from 1740 to 1785 in Exeter Tws'p, Pa., courthouse is at Reading, Pa. There is no doubt that Casper, John, Andreas, Peter, Anthony and Gratius Lerch, all born in Germany, immigrated on Queen Elizabeth, landed at Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 16, 1738 were close relatives.

## **THE TWO JOHN LERCH'S LAND AT ONE PLACE, THEN SEPARATE**

The two John Lerchs that landed at Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 16th, 1738 although abiding some time at Lower Saucon, Pa., took course in different directions one going north to Allen Tws'p, Pa., the other toward Reading, Berks Co., Pa, according to Williams Tws'p church record. One worshipped there and his children consecrated in baptism. No matter where they settled they worked hard and owned farms, according to census, cared and saved for their children. Williams Tws'p church records show these baptisms viz: 1st son of John and Anna Maria Lerch, born 1740, baptized Feb. 10, 1740. 2nd daughter of John and Anna Maria Lerch,

born May 17, baptized June 27, 1742. 3rd, Susanna, daughter of John and Anna Maria Lerch, born Oct. 13, baptized Oct. 17, 1747.

Also, the family of David Lerch is recorded. One son David and wife, Ellennora, nee Jones, Lerch, born Feb. 21, baptized March 3, 1798. 1st Gen., Gratus Lerch, born Sept. 11, 1727, died Dec. 9, 1790, married Anna Maria Bahl, born Oct. 1727. 2nd Gen., Tobias Lerch, born March 5, 1781, died June 6, 1796, married Margaret Hess. 3rd Gen., Joseph Lerch, born Aug. 29, 1794, died Jan. 19, 1865, married Dec. 16, 1817, Susan Oberly, lived in Lower Saucon Northampton County, Pa. Issue 8 children. 4th Gen., Levina Lerch, Dec. 14, 1818, 1st husband, Mr. Gross. Issue 2 children. 5th Gen., Susan Gross, born Jan. 22, 1839, married Gary Younken. No issue. 5th Gen., Ellen Gross, born March 21, 1844, married Jas. Koehler. 4th Gen., Levina L. Gross, married 2nd husband, Jacob Gernet. Issue 4 children. 5th Gen., Joseph Gernet, born Dec. 27, 1849. 5th Gen. Preston Gernet, born 1855, died 1892. The mother Levinia died May 11, 1900. 5th Gen., Ida L. Gernet, born Feb. 22, 1859, died Sept. 11 1939, married Hiram Laubach. Issue 2 children. 6th Gen., Laura M. Laubach, born June 17, 1888, married Walbert Best. Issue 2 children. 7th Gen., Helen E. Best, born Dec. 14, 1919. 7th Gen., William H. Best, born May 30, 1923. 6th Gen., Rev. George J. Laubach, born June 27, 1892, married Verona Brotzman. 7th Gen., George B. Laubach, born May 7, 1918.

In the two families (Best and Laubach) we can gratefully say, they have been pillars, to uphold our reunion. Under all conditions, they have done what they could. Mrs. Best gave her service until compelled to quit on account of sickness in her family. Rev. George J. Laubach with his faithful wife were the loyal friends, when conditions were almost impossible to be there. His prayers are very impressive, other remarks and addresses were very beneficent and have won for him hosts of true friends, 4th Gen. Brothers and sisters of Livinia L.: 4th Gen., Tobias L., born 1820; Jos. L., born June 1, 1821; Eliza L., born April 17, 1824; Reuben L., born Dec. 12, 1825; Franklin L., born Oct. 8, 1828; Anna Maria L., born Nov. 1831; Martin O. L., born July 29, 1833.

Mrs. Laubach's presence is always desired her readings cheer and keep awake the young and the old, and their pleasant personality is admired in the social discourse,

May the Lord bless them in the future with health and strength to fulfill their subservient missions. Their only son George, a graduate of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., is an efficient medical student at Philadelphia, Pa. He was always respectable, and favorable with the young and old. His ability and conduct will make him a successful man in his profession. Rev. George J. Laubach is pastor of three congregations, St. Peter's at Seemsville, Pa.; St. John's, Howertown, Pa., and Christ's Union at Schoenersville, Pa. A very busy couple helping in all activities. For many years they worked and the opposite wing enjoys their company as well as their own denomination. One significant point is that the Laubachs and Lerchs came with each other to America.

### **A POEM OF RESPECT TO OUR FAITHFUL HELPERS**

Hearts that are filled with Divine love,  
Always treasure the gifts from above.  
Kindness and peace is the zeal of devotion.  
Without pride or exalted commotion.  
Not only the words, but also the actions do prove,  
As they in the midst of councils do move.  
Resembling the rose whose fragrance is told, As soon as its leaves unfold.  
Not only waiting the time of receiving,  
But give the flowers while people are living.

Author, C. H. H. Heckman.

## THIS IS THE SAUCON BRANCH

1st Gen., Gratius Lerch, brother to Anthony Lerch, Sr., was married to Anna Maria Bahl. Issue 3 children. Philip Lerch, record on preceding page. Jacob Lerch, born 1755, died 1826. 2nd Gen., Tobias Lerch, born March 15, baptized May 20, 1763. Sponsors Philip Bahl and Elizabeth Freyman in Saccon Heim the German name at that time. In the same records we find that on Easter Sunday Margaret Lerch, evidently the wife of Anthony, was confirmed with a class of twenty-six. Extracts of the Penna. German Society. He died in 1796. His son, 3rd Gen., Tobias Lerch, married Elizabeth Anne Hess. 4th Gen., Reuben Lerch married, no record. 5th Gen., Nathan Lerch married Mary Fehr.

5th Gen., William T. Lerch married Carrie Roth. They are loyal members and have done many things to uphold the progress that has been made while we are organized and have given their time, day and night, and would do still more if strength would permit. They have reared a fine trio of boys who through their influence, are well educated and become prominent young men, industrious, imitating the art of service, amongst the community, church and civic affairs, setting good examples and loyal, providing well for their families. They have chosen good helpmates and always ready to serve, which meant so much, and was so heartily appreciated by the secretary. Issue 3 children. 6th Gen., Howard T. Lerch, married Perma Lerch. Issue 5 children. 7th Gen., Robert Lerch, Merrit Lerch, Bernadine Lerch, Marjorie Lerch, Dolories Lerch. 6th Gen., Paul Lerch, married Marion Lerch. 7th Gen., Richard Paul Lerch, born Jan. 17, 1940. Not only was their name the same when single but also they considered that a Lerch nuptials knot would complete the Lerch final. Accompanied by parents they enjoyed a trip to Ringtown, Schuylkill Co., Pa., where the highly respected member Rev. Charles D. Lerch, performed the ceremonies. This family, though young, has helped us remarkably in this reunion, he being organist of Saucon Church, Pa., and has a very lucrative position with Mr. Black, Building Supplies, Allentown, Pa., always very busy. Still they have time to help us in vocal and instrumental music that we are unable to do. But some day the good shall be rewarded.

6th Gen., Austin W. Lerch, married Ethel M. Lerch. 7th Gen., Gladys Mae Lerch. 5th Gen., Wallace Lerch, married Addie Harris. 6th Gen., Florence Lerch married Kenneth Wagner. 5th Gen., Gertrude Lerch married Charles Hinkle. 5th Gen., Stella Lerch married Clinton Wagner. 6th Gen., Ralph Wagner married Helen Kunsman. 6th Gen., Stanley W. Wagner married Gladys Kruper. 7th Gen., Gladys Wagner. 7th Gen., Lee Wagner. 7th Gen., Mary Ann Wagner. 6th Gen., Mildred Wagner. 6th Gen., Mary Wagner married Mr. Barnett. 6th Gen., Lester R. Wagner. 7th Gen., William Barnett. 7th Gen., Karon Barnett.

These names are recorded in 1790 in the first census columns and are called Lerchs facilities. It records the names of the head ancestors of nearly every branch in this history stabilitated in the five connected townships. Anthony, Sr., Anthony, Jr., Hons. Jacob, Gratius, Peter, Tobias, Frederick, and John. The writer feels sorry that she has to present so little history of this well-known and prominent brunch, due to the fact my request was not regarded. 4th Gen., Selinda Lerch, married Cornelius Cressman. No issue. 4th Gen., Reuben Lerch married Delia Ruch. No record. 4th Gen., a Mrs. Weaver, 4th Gen., a Mrs. Brown, 5th Gen., a Mrs. Beidleman. All have children, some professional. 4th Gen., Milton T. Lerch married Marietta Stauffer. He was our first treasurer in the reunion. He was a prosperous farmer in his earlier years, both were fine religious people, interested in affairs to promote the organizations that he served. Honest and kind-hearted. Many meetings were held at their home at 224 Goepf Street. Bethlehem, Pa. And the hospitality given shall be cherished always. He served faithful until death. Aged 74 years. 5 months, 15 days. He passed to his Eternal Home May 31, 1933.

Our charter president and intimate cousin, preceded him only 21 days. fell asleep May 10, 1933. A man whose wholeheartedness was eligible at all times denying himself to make his friends and coworkers happy. This was a sad loss and was mourned by the clan. In life they

were often journeying peacefully together, in death they were not parted. Henry was never married. The former's issue. 2 children. 5th Gen., Bertha Mae Lerch married Nelson Newhard. Issue 4 children.

6th Gen., Margaret Newhard. 6th Gen., Gretchen Newhard. 6th Gen., Nelson Newhard, Jr. 6th. Gen. Homer C. Lerch was elected treasurer to succeed his deceased father, until unable to attend all account of other duties. He is married. Issue, one son, Allan Fulmer Lerch.

### **RECORD FROM AN OBITUARY IN THE LOCAL PAPER**

July 7th, 1928 records the death of Mrs. Sarah A. Lerch, of heart failure, aged 76 years, 6 months, 14 days. Her husband (minus his name) preceded her in death more than 40 years. Survived by the following children: Hector Lerch, Pleasant Valley, Pa.; Victor Lerch, Bethlehem, R. No. 3, Pa.; Roscoe Lerch, Rittersville, Pa.; Wilson Lerch, Union City, No, J.; Mrs. Howard Lafaw, Shelly, Pa.; Mrs. Robert Siegfried, Friedensville, Pa. 18 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. No history from first son, and the names are taken from registers at annual reunions from the others, thus preventing the writer to form connections with the early immigrants, with only names (as this is) of the 5th Gen. It was too expensive to trace it. Victor's issue, 2 children, William A. Lerch was married to Stella Johnson. Issue twins, viz: William A. and Oleida Lerch. 2nd child, Marion Lerch, married Paul C. Lerch. Issue one son, Richard Paul Lerch. Roscoe Lerch married Adella. Issue 7 children, Adalla Lerch, Sterling Lerch, Paul Lerch, Robert Lerch, Viola Lerch; Pearl Lerch married Roland Philips.

### **MORE OF THE ALLEN Tw's'p, PA., JOHN LERCH DESCENDANTS**

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, born 1720. 2nd Gen., John Lerch, born 1747. 3rd Gen., Joseph Lerch, born 1822. 3rd Gen., John Lerch, born: 1829, died 1886, married Sarah E. Jones of Bethlehem, Pa. He was appointed postmaster and later was a great merchant at that place. 4th Gen., Joseph died in infancy. 4th Gen., Frank Lerch, survived his father. They are buried in Bethlehem, Pa. 3rd Gen., Joseph Lerch, born 1822, married Elisa Hummel. Issue 3 children. 4th Gen., Amelia, no record. 4th Gen. Henry C. Lerch, born Sept. 12, 1849, died May 16, 1866, married Malinda Smith. Issue 3 children. He conducted a store at Cherryville, Pa., 5th Gen., Emma Lerch, married John Brader. 5th Gen., Aquilla Lerch married Robert Meyers. 5th Gen., Harry J. Lerch married Stella Mauser. Issue 4 children.

6th Gen., Joseph N. Lerch. 6th Gen., J. Mauser Lerch. 6th Gen., Elizabeth. B. Lerch. 6th Gen., Harrison J. Lerch. 3rd Gen., Benneville Lerch, born June 29, 1839, married Sonia Saeger. 4th Gen., Charles Lerch, buried at Allentown, Pa., all three. 4th Gen., Amandus Lerch, son of Joseph and Elisa Hummel, was born in Allen Tw's'p, Pa. 1856, died Nov. 20, 1933. Eliza Person preceded him in death. Ho made his home since with his sister, Mrs. Sarah Berger. While he had his family, they operated their farm. But he had many other activities keeping him in constant touch with the smaller communities of Northampton Co. and made him hosts of friends. For many years, he was a correspondent for the Allentown Morning Call. Always active in church work, he was a life long member of Zion's Stone Church, took an active part in organizing the Union Sunday School. A Lutheran member of the Church council. Another of his interests was music, playing the bass violin, smaller violin, and cello.

He was married to Eliza Person who preceded him in death fifteen years. Since he made his home with his sister, Mrs. Sarah Berger, she was h is only survivor. Both are buried Zion's Stone Church, Kreidersville, Pa.

These are the descendants of 1st Gen., Kaspar Lerch, 2nd Gen., Nicholas Lerch; 3rd Gen., John Lerch; 4th Gen., Samuel Lerch, Sr.; 5th Gen., Samuel Lerch, Jr., born Oct. 23, 1839. This was a missing link for the 18 years that Wm. Lerch was trying to set the history. All runs accurately since the present historian has sure evidence, though somewhat enthralling, but nothing fallacious about it, even living at Lewisburg Tws'p, Pa. One son was living at Lower Saucon, Pa. 6th Edward Wagner Lerch, born March 6, 1857, married Susanna Laubach, born May 10, 1883, died July 26, 1913. They were of Lower Saucon, Pa. Issue 4 children. 7th Gen., Clarence Herbert Lerch, born March 16, 1884, died Oct. 10, 1920 at Bethlehem, Pa. 7th Gen., Floyd Samuel Lerch, born Nov. 4, 1888, Philadelphia, Pa., married Jennie Maclaren, June 18, 1913, 2 children. 8th Gen., Edward Wagner Lerch. 8th Gen., Robert James Lerch, born Aug. 1, 1918. 18. Veteran at Philadelphia, Pa. 7th Gen., Helen Florence Lerch, born Oct. 29, 1913, married Gerald James Oldroyd, one child. 8th Gen., Margaret Lois Oldroyd, born Feb. 18, 1917 at Philadelphia, Pa. 8th Gen., Edward W. Lerch, born March 23, 1914, married to Norma Frederick, 1 daughter. 9th Gen., Janet Lerch, born 1936. 7th Gen., Margaret Blanche Lerch, Jan. 10, 1893, married Mr. Littlefield, 7030 Ogentz, Oregon. This branch includes 9 generations. The fine cooperative spirit has made this an outstanding item of this history.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., is the ancestral point of this noted family. They have been faithful in their calls in life in many ways. Religiously and in civic affairs, as good vocalists and also instrumental music, with which this family is gifted. He aided us in our association, served as president, and with his faithful companionship, and sad loss was felt at his sudden, unexpected departure. But as God doeth all things well, we feel assured that he is resting in peace. His parents were 5th Gen. Samuel A. Lerch, died April 26, 1923, married to Miranda R. Holland-Heft, born in Lower Saucon Tws'p, Pa., May 16 1859, died March 11, 1934, 74 years, 9 months, 25 days. Issue one son and 4 grandchildren.

6th Gen., Stuart F. Lerch, born in Durham, Pa., Nov. 9, 1879, married Mary VanLuvanee, died 1839, aged 60 years. At his death, he was a member of the congregation and choir of Lower Saucon, Evan. Reformed Church, and served as treasurer of the Missionary Society. Issue 2 sons. 7th Gen., Joseph F. Lerch and 7th Gen., Samuel E. Lerch and 8th Gen., 3 grandchildren.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., 1720. 2nd Gen., Frederick Lerch. 1759; 3rd Gen., Frederick Lerch, 1787; 4th Gen., Frederick Lerch, 1827; 5th Gen., Emmanuel Lerch, 1854; 6th Gen., Nellie Lerch, married H. L. Magee, 320 Mt. Prospect Ave., Newark, N. J. 7th Gen., Ida M. Magee, married Mr. Gallardo. 4th Gen., Frederick also had a daughter, 5th Gen., Martha Lerch, married Edwin Scholl. Issue 2 children. 6th Gen., Amy Scholl, married to Jas. DeGroot, 6th Gen., Edwin Scholl, Jr., deceased.

When the writer was appointed and elected to write the Lerch history book she tried to coincide and through newspapers in many states, begging for their family history of their closest kin, thus enabling the writer to bring out the generations and co-equal all systematically, not to disaffect or cause deception when finished. This is the answer: No History, No Record.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, 1720; 2nd Gen., Frederick Lerch, 1759; 3rd Gen., Frederick Lerch, 1787, married Anna Brown; 4th Gen., Aaron Lerch, married-no record, issue 5 children. 5th Gen., Ellen King, married to A. M. King, one daughter. 6th Gen., Mary King married E. C. Heberling. Issue 2 children. 7th Gen., Grace Heberling, 7th Gen., Henry Heberling. 5th Gen., Fannie Lerch, married Mr. Koontz. Issue 2 children. 6th Gen., Frank Koontz, 6th Gen., Rello Koontz, married Jas. D. Hugo; issue 7 children. 7th Gen., Geo. T. Hugo. 7th Gen., Jane J. Hugo. 7th Gen., John R. Hugo. 7th Gen., Emma I. Hugo. 7th Gen., Dorthy M. Hugo. 7th Gen., Alfred C. Hugo. 7th Gen., Clarence Hugo. 5th Gen., Oliver Lerch, no record. Issue 3 children. 6th Gen., Aaron Lerch, married. 6th Gen., Margaret Lerch. 5th Gen., Frances Lerch, both single. 5th Gen, Martha Lerch, married Philip Orlenwelder, issue 6 children. 6th Gen., Lizzie Odenwelder, married Mr. Ihrle, deceased. 6th Gen., Margaret Odenwelder, married Horace Heller, issue 3 children. 7th Gen., Richard Heller. 7th Gen., Phares Heller. 7th Gen., minus

name. 6th Gen., Calvin Odenwelder married Miss Hess. Issue 2 children. 7th Gen., Dorothy Odenwelder married Mr. Frederick, issue 2 children. 6th Gen., Mary E. Odenwelder married Harvey E. Saylor, issue 2 children. 7th Gen., Harvey R. Saylor married Barbara Seyfried, issue. 8th Gen., Sandra Saylor. 7th Gen., Martha S. Saylor married Harleigh Fatzinger, 6th Gen., Warren Odenwelder married Catherine L. Hess, issue 4 children. 7th Gen., Ruth Odenwelder. 7th Gen., Warren Odenwelder, 7th Gen., Willard Odenwelder, 7th Gen., Martha Odenwelder. 6th Gen., Elmer Odenwelder married a Miss Hess.

5th Gen., Rosa E. Lerch, born Nov. 2, 1865, died Feb. 8, 1928, married Henry J. Frantz, one daughter. 5th Gen., Samuel Lerch married Mary Lilly, children, viz: Mrs. Thomas Anthony, Kreidersville, Northampton Co., Pa.; Mrs. Chas. Farber, Northampton, Pa., Mrs. John Jacoby, same address; Mrs. Geo. S. Frantz, Pennsville, Northampton Co., Pa. and Mrs. Mary Anthony, Chapmans Quarry, Northampton, Pa.

Anthony Lerch, Sr., at Saucon Creek, Northampton Co., Pa.

Anthony Lerch, Jr., at Saucon Creek, Northampton Co., Pa.

Gratius or PanCratrius Lerch, at Saucon Creek, Nor. Co., Pa.

Hans Jacob Lerch, at Saucon Creek, Northampton Co., Pa.

Peter Lerch, at Saucon Creek, Northampton Co., Pa.

Tobias Lerch, at Saucon Creek, Northampton Co., Pa.

John Lerch in 1770, 1st General (?) in America, Allen Tws'p, Northampton Co., Pa.

Michael Lerch, Allentown Tws'p, Northampton Co., Pa.

Abraham Lerch, Allen Tws'p, Northampton Co., Pa.

Frederick Lerch, Forks Tws'p, Northampton Co., Pa.

Kaspar Lerch, Lewisburg, Northumberland Co., Pa.

Frederick Lerch, born in 1868 in Germany, immigrated to Sioux City, Iowa. Issue:

One daughter, Emily Lerch Englehart.

Christopher Lerch, Mannlen, Huntingdon, Pa.

Christopher Lerch, Jr., Tyrone, York Co., Pa.

Christopher Lerch, Jr., Dauphin Co., Pa.

Geo. Lerch, Dauphin Co., Pa.

Andrew Lerch, Dauphin Co., Pa.

Jean Lerch, Franklin, Westmoreland Co., Pa.

John Lerch, Heidelberg, Berks Co., Pa.

Philip Lerch, Bern, Bucks Co., Pa.

Records from an old bible in possession of Mrs. John Lerch, Canton, Ohio. Johannes Lerch, born Nov. 25, 1767, died March 14, 1841, married April 7, 1794, at Lebanon, Pa., Catherine, daughter of Daniel and Margaret Biebel, born Dec. 13, 1772. Issue 8 children. 1st, John Lerch, born Oct. 31, 1794. 2nd, Catherine Lerch, born Feb. 4, 1797, died March 20, 1868. 3rd, John William Lerch, born March 10, 1799. 4th, David Lerch, born Oct. 2, 1810. 5th, William Lerch, born Jan. 10, 1804. 6th, Daniel Lerch, born July 16, 1806. 7th Augustus Lerch, born Aug. 8, 1808. 8th, Thomas Lerch, born Aug. 15, 1813.

We have Lerch people at Lebanon, Pa., at present, who made themselves perspicuous, but sending several requests, no advice was available. Geo. Warner married Emma Lerch. Issue-2 sons: Melvin Warner died aged 67 years, married Jennie George, issue 2 children, viz: Bessie Warner Hernandez and Arnold Warner.

This is the Carroll, Nebraska Branch. Mrs. Cora Jane Person, Texley, bears the honor of traveling from Nebraska and not only attended our reunion, but was one of our loyal co-operatives, helping to make this history book interesting. 1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., born in Germany, Sept. 20, 1720, died Aug. 28, 1793, married Anna Margaretha Lauer, born Mar. 7, 1728, died Feb. 14, 1796. 2nd Gen., John Lerch, born Nov. 20, 1747, died Mar. 17, 1814,

married Sibilla Morry, born June 24, 1752, died Dec. 30, 1817. 3rd Gen., Adam Lerch, born July 24, 1778, died 1824, married Magdalena Waldman, born Dec. 3, 1783, died June 26, 1840. 4th Gen., Mary Lerch, born April 20, 1820, married Wm. Person. 5th Gen., Edwin Person, born May 16, 1844, died Oct. 20, 1908 in Lincoln, Nebraska, married Mary Jane Behringer. 6th Gen., Cora Jane Person, born May 11, 1874 in Northampton Co., Pa., married Andrew Texley, M. D. Lives at Carroll, Wayne Co., Pa. Issue 2 sons, 7th Gen., Lloyd Texley, 7th Gen., Lawrence Texley, 7th Gen., 2 Texley Sisters, a cousin of Cora, viz: Miss Olivia Person, resides at West Point, Nebraska.

This is the Allen Tw's'p Northampton Co., Pa., branch. They have engaged mostly in farming, very ambitious and hard working people, and very bright in educational affairs and are faithfully devoted to religion.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, born 1720. 2nd Gen., John 1747, 3rd Gen., Joseph Lerch, 1789, 4th Gen., Samuel Lerch, 1829, married Mary Lilly. No issue. Married 2nd wife, Sarah Harper, one son: 5th Gen., John Lerch, born Feb. 7, 1857, died April 21, 1923, married Kate Delp. Issue: 3 children. 6th Gen., Amandes Lerch, Oct. 28, 1886, married Anna Smith, born March 22, 1887. Issue one daughter. 7th Gen., Kathryn, born June 30, 1914, married Howard Zullick. Issue one child. 8th Gen. Robert Zullick, born Oct. 2, 1940. 6th Gen., Harvey S. Lerch, born June 8, 1894, married Miss Schmoyer, born June 11, 1895. Issue 7 children.

7th Gen., Dorothy Irene Lerch, born Sept. 22, 1913. 7th Gen., Howard Samuel Lerch, born Jan. to, 1915. 7th Gen., Mazie Mae Lerch, born Aug. 26, 1916. 7th Gen, Mae Helen Lerch, born May 12, 1921. 7th Gen., Josephine Ella Lerch, March 19, 1927. Daniel Robert Lerch, April 5, 1929. 7th Gen., Mazie Mae Lerch, married Mr. Creyer. 8th Gen., Joyce Lerch Creyer, born June 6, 1937. 6th Gen., Wm. G. Lerch, born July 3, 1900, married Leila B. Keller, born July 31, 1903. Issue 10 children. 7th Gen., Geo. Eugene Lerch, born Jan. 10, 1922. 7th Gen., Marion Irene Lerch, born Dec. 21, 1922. 7th Gen., John Charles Lerch, born Jan. 7, 1924. 7th Gen., Albert Henry Lerch, born Nov. 21, 1924. 7th Gen., Russel Alan, born Sept. 12, 1926. 7th Gen., Carl Wm. Lerch, born Oct. 21, 1928. 7th Gen. David Stanley Lerch, born Jan. 9, 1930, died April 5, 1931. 7th Gen. Elinor Margaret Lerch, born Oct. 6, 1935. 7th Gen., Ruth Annabel Lerch, born June 27, 1935. 7th Gen., Lillian Louise Lerch, born March 10, 1938.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr. 2nd Gen., John Lerch, 3rd Gen., Joseph Lerch. 4th. Gen., Samuel Lerch. 5th Gen., Lafayette Lerch. Issue 2 children. 6th Gen., Annie Lerch, married Stephen Rader, one daughter. 7th Gen., Eleta, married Mr. Smith, issue. 8th Gen., Judith Ann Smith. 6th Gen., Howard Lerch married Minnie Eisele, issue one daughter. 7th Gen., Beatrice Lerch. This is the most complete record in the whole book due to loyal co-operation by Mrs. Elda Lerch Atherholt, a principle which she pursues and carries out, denying herself to do good to others. She is an accomplished musician and vocalist, member of the Bach's Choir at Bethlehem, Pa. Organist and choir leader of Zion Stone church at Kreidersville, Pa., is affiliated with other organizations in religious and civic affairs. She is very good in dramatics. Her parents have reared a nice family of children, all well Versed in many ways of music. They are hard workers, strictly imploring the higher standards in life, which improve and upholds the welfare of a good community.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, born in Germany Sept. 20, 1720; died Aug. 28, 1793, buried at Lower Saucon, Pa., 72 years, 11 months, 7 days, married Anna Margretha Lauer, born March 7, 1728, died Feb. 14, 1796, 67 years, 11 months, 9 days, also buried at Lower Saucon Church, Pa. 2nd Gen., 8th son of Anthony, Sr., Peter Lerch, born March 7, 1764, died Feb. 24, 1813, married 1785, Anna Margaret Riegel, born Aug. 15, 1765, buried at Lower Saucon Church, Northampton Co., Pa. 3rd Gen., 6th son of Peter Lerch, viz: Samuel Lerch, born March 31, 1796, married Regina Beil. 4th Gen., Samuel Lerch, born April 23, 1837, died April 22, 1921, married Mary Shimer, born April 16, 1839, died June 26, 1910. Had 3 children, Lovene, Ella and Hannah Lerch, deceased. 5th Gen., Lovene Lerch, born May 22, 1859, died Aug. 11, 1934, married



Emma Young, born May 27, 1864, died Nov. 30, 1936. Issue 2 children. 6th Gen., Hannah Alice Lerch, born March 29, 1887, married Howard Rice, born Aug. 24, 1886. No issue. 6th Gen., Frank Lerch, born Jan. 21, 1884, married Laura Hower. She died May 24, 1905. Issue 2 children. 7th Gen., Mary Lerch, born Jan. 13, 1904, married Arthur Hahn, born April 17, 1898. Issue 2 children. 8th Gen., Marion Lerch, born Nov. 26, 1921. 8th Gen., Betty Lerch, born June 10, 1927. 7th Gen., Lloyd Lerch, born May 15, 1905, married Stella Borger, born April 3, 1906. Issue 4 children.

8th Gen., Sherwood Lerch, born Jan. 8, 1927. 8th Gen., Ruth, born June 20, 1924. 8th Gen., Mary Jane Lerch, born Sept. 16, 1931. 8th Gen., Samuel Lerch, born Oct. 28, 1937. 6th Gen., Frank Lerch, married 2nd wife, Stella Kleppinger, born July 25, 1889. Issue 3 children. 7th Gen., Clara Lerch, born June 17, 1909, married George Biery. Issue 8 children. 8th Gen., Franklin Biery, born Nov. 7, 1929. 8th Gen., Donald Biery, born Dec. 26, 1920. 8th Gen., Corrine Biery, born Sept. 10, 1932. 8th Gen., Richard Biery, born Jan. 31, 1935, deceased. 8th Gen., Lucille Biery, born Oct. 20, 1937. 8th Gen., Dale Biery, born April 29, 1939. 8th Gen., Bruce Biery, born Oct. 20, 1937. 8th Gen., Annabella Lerch Biery, born Nov. 24, 1941. 7th Gen., Elda Lerch, born Jan. 30, 1911, married Cyrus Atherholt, born Feb. 8, 1901. 7th Gen., Annabella Lerch, born April 17, 1915, married Luther Fehnel, born July 28, 1916.

Mr. Lerch and his five children have given us fine sextet selections at our reunions. Not only can they fill the vocal parts, but also handle the instruments. Thus, we can systemize two phrases vertical, "A good tree beareth good fruit" and "train a child in the way that it shall go, and it shall not depart from it." The following is the run of the generations, from the immigrant, to the present time. Representing only males.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., born Sept. 20, 1720.  
2nd Gen., Peter Lerch, born March 17, 1764.  
3rd Gen., Samuel Lerch, Sr., born March 31, 1796.  
4th Gen., Samuel Lerch, Jr., born April 23, 1857.  
5th Gen., Lovene Lerch, born April 22, 1859.  
6th Gen., Frank Lerch, born Jan 21, 1884.  
7th Gen., Lloyd Lerch, born April 3, 1906.  
8th Gen., Sherwood Lerch, born Jan. 8, 1927.

This branch is scattered over Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon, and Monroe counties. Were always reliable and ready to aid this Association. Under all conditions, they would spend the whole day and the writer is often sorry that they were called to their eternal rest so soon. They contemplated volitive co-operation and were very much concerned that their descendants should continue these gatherings and support them after they were departed. They served as officers and always brought their meals and had nice tables spread as is customary among the Lerchs Freund-Schaft. This record was not difficult to trace. Mr. Willis Angler gave a fine sketch, tracing only the first and second ancestors. He and his family and this whole branch always had this as their motto, "What you do, do with your might, things done by half are never done right."

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., born Sept. 20, 1720, died Aug. 28, 1793, married Anna Margretha Lauer. 2nd Gen., John Lerch, born Nov. 17, 1747, married Sibilla Morry. 3rd Gen., Abraham Lerch, born March 9, 1784, died Jan. 15, 1868. Issue, 2 sons. 4th Gen., Peter Lerch, married Susanna Kunsman. 4th Gen., Owen Lerch, married Miss Hartman. Issue 5 children. 5th Gen., Lucetta Lerch, married Mr. Roberts. Issue 3 children. 6th Gen. Mary Roberts married Mr. Borger. 6th Gen., Christianna Roberts. 6th Gen., Edna Roberts, married Willis Engler. Issue 3 children. 7th Gen., Calvin Engler. 7th Gen., Frances Engler. 7th Gen., Arlene Engler. 5th Gen., Abraham Lerch, married Sallie Smith.

Issue 4 children. 6th Gen., Quinton Lerch. 6th Gen., Mamie Lerch. 6th Gen., Carrie Lerch. 6th Gen. Alfred Lerch. 5th Gen., Milton Lerch, married Louise Serfass. Issue one daughter. 6th Gen., Lizzie Lerch, married Francis Christman. Issue one daughter.

7th Gen., Lorraine Christman. 5th Gen., Elmira M. Lerch, married Frank Wagner. Issue one daughter. 6th Gen., Ella Wagner, married George Watt; 4th Gen., Owen Lerch, married 2nd wife, Miss Kunsman. Issue 4 children. 5th Gen., Maria Lerch married Saph Strohl. 5th Gen., Charles Lerch, married Miss Lerch. Issue 2 children. 6th Gen., George Lerch. 6th Gen., Mary Lerch. 5th Gen., Lillie M. Lerch, married Quinton Eckert. Issue one daughter. 6th Gen., Daisy Eckert, married Jacob Hiestand. 5th Gen., Julia Ann Lerch, married Mr. Von Steuben. Issue one son. 6th Gen., Von Steuben married Evelyn ? Issue one son. This branch runs, viz: 1st, Anthony, 2nd, John, 3rd, Abraham, 4th Owen, 5th Abraham, 6th Quinton Lerch. This ends this branch.

Included in the Allen Tws'p Pa., Branch, 1st, General (generation?) John Lerch in America 1770. This is one of the largest and also includes noted characters as leaders of state, also some very aged people, who even at the age of 80 years, Mrs. Jonas Heiney has assisted her daughter Florence, both of Allentown, Pa., to gather these many notes and set up so interesting a memorial to the "Lerch Clan" as long as they live. With willing minds, hearts and hands, labor is sweet and honorable. To gather history and dates and names of a period of 277 years and scattered from Germany to America, all over the U. S. A. amongst 30,000 registered Lerch's is no easy task, and as in all cases, the most diligent ones have the best results. The writer cannot go on without acknowledging now and then a word of praise to the good members of this "Lerch Family" who have aided from California, the Carolinas and more than a score of the states of the Union.

### "ADVERTENCE"

Today we sow, but others reap,  
These "Items," they will love to keep.  
Those "Ancient Notes" are very "Grand,"  
But no more Notes from the "Father-Land."

Author, C. H. H: Heckman,  
R. D. No. 4, Allentown, Pa.

1st. Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., born in Germany, Sept. 20, 1720, married Anna Margretha Lauer, born March 7, 1728, died Aug. 28, 1793, 72 years, 11 months, 7 days. She died Feb. 14, 1796, 67 years, 11 months, 9 days. 2nd Gen., John Lerch, born at Lower Saucon, Pa., Jan. 17, 1747, died March 17, 1818. First General (Generation?) in America, 1770. Married Sibilla Christiana Morry, June 4, 1752, died Dec. 13, 1817. Her maternal ancestors are also recorded on another page of this "History Book."

3rd. Gen., Michael Lerch, born Nov. 19, 1789, died Feb. 28, 1847, married Sussanna Houston, issue 3 children. 4th Gen., William Lerch, married Catherine Erdman. 4th Gen. Eleanor Lerch married Thomas Dodds. 4th Gen. Ida M. Lerch married Mr. Shoenerberger. 5th Gen., Leva Shoenerberger. 5th Gen., Hannah Shoenerberger married John Newhard, later Mr. Mohn. 5th Gen., Alice Lerch married Robert Young.

4th Gen., Catherine Lerch, married Joseph Kleppinger. Issue 6 children. 5th Gen., Ellen Kleppinger, married Peter Heilman. Issue 3 children. 6th Gen., Lizzie Heilman, married Joseph Church. 6th Gen., Vesta Heilman, married Mr. Ketterer. 6th Gen., Frank, married ? Issue 3 children. 7th Gen., Emma Heilman. 7th Gen., Joseph Heilman. 7th Gen., Mary Heilman married E. Christman. Issue 2 children.

8th Gen., Carrie Christman married Mr. Sobers. 8th Gen., Lillian Christman, deceased. 5th Gen., Frank Kleppinger married Diana Fry. 5th Gen., Wm. Kleppinger married Miss Person. 5th Gen., Ed. Kleppinger married Mary Person. 5th Gen., George Kleppinger married Elizabeth Kester. Issue 2 children. 5th Gen., Laura Kleppinger married Thomas Shaffer. Issue, some children. 4th Gen., Olinda Lerch, born Feb. 10, 1830, died April 2, 1917, married John Borger. Issue 10 children. 5th Gen., Amanda E. Borger, born June 11, 1850, married John Hilberg. Issue 4 children. 6th Gen., Wm. Hilberg. Issue 1 son. 7th Gen., Harold Hilberg. 6th Gen., John Hilberg. 6th Gen., Ida Hilberg. 6th Gen., Thomas F. Hilberg married Lizzie Hess. Issue 4 children. 7th Gen., John Hilberg. 7th Gen., Dorothy Hilberg. 7th Gen., Barbara Hilberg. 7th Gen., Annie O. Hilberg married Clifford Wuchter. Issue 5 children. 8th Gen., Willard Wuchter. 8th Gen., Theodore Wuchter. 8th Gen., Martha A. Wuchter. 8th Gen., Clifford C. Wuchter. 8th Gen., Vivian Wuchter. 7th Gen., Mabel E. Wuchter.

5th Gen., Milton Borger, born March 13, 1852, died Aug. 21, 1854. 5th Gen., G. Allen Borger, born March 19, 1856, died Dec. 5, 1879. 5th Gen., Anna C. Borger, born Mar. 4, died 1938. 5th Gen., Mary A. Borger, born Aug. 26, 1862, died Oct. 30, 1862. 5th Gen. Henry M. Borger married Sarah Koch. Issue 3 children. 6th Gen., John Borger. 6th Gen., Amandas Borger. 6th Gen., Stella Borger married Lloyd Lerch. Issue 4 children. 7th Gen., Sherwood B. Lerch, born Aug. 8, 1927. 7th Gen., Ruth B. Lerch, born June 20, 1929. 7th Gen., Mary Jane Lerch, Sept. 16, 1931. 7th Gen., Samuel Lerch, Oct. 28, 1937.

5th Gen., Sarah S. Borger married Jonas Heiney. Issue 3 children. 6th Gen., Florence M. Heiney, married Eugene S. Fehr. Issue one daughter. 7th Gen., Vilma H. Fehr married Ralph Arner. Issue 2 children. 8th Gen., Nancy L. Arner. 8th Gen., Jeanette A. Arner. 6th Gen., Francis W. Heiney, married Nettie Caecasse, 7th Gen., Frances F. Heiney. 7th Gen., Irma L. Heiney married H. Earl Dreisbach. 7th Gen.; Elizabeth Dreisbach married Ivan Dreisbach. 8th Gen., Elaine Dreisbach. 8th Gen., Margaret O. Dreisbach married Paul Deily. Issue 4 children. 9th Gen., Janice E. Deily. 9th Gen., Betty S. Deily. 9th Gen., Pulletta W. Deily. 9th Gen., Bobby F. Deily. 5th Gen., Emma Borger married Benjamin Sheirer. Issue 6 children. 6th Gen., Grace Sheirer married Harvey Blank. Issue 3 children.

7th Gen., Alton L. Blank. 7th Gen., Arthur B. Blank. 7th Gen., Emma R. Blank. 6th Gen., Raymond Sheirer married Eva Dunbar. 6th Gen., Mae L. Sheirer married Claude Snyder. 5th Gen., Ella M. Borger married Milton H. Leh. Issue 5 children. 6th Gen., T. Franklin Leh married Ruth Gangaware; 1 son. 7th Gen., Robert Gangaware. 6th Gen., Olinda Leh. 6th Gen., John H. Leh, 1 daughter. 7th Gen., Patricia Leh. 6th Gen., Sarah M. Leh married John Walsh, 1 daughter. 7th Gen., Joan Walsh. 6th Gen., William E. Leh, married Anna Beers. 5th Gen., Laura J. Borger married James F. Beil. Issue 1 son. 6th Gen., John Beil married Jennie Becker. Issue 6 children. 7th Gen., Harold Beil. 7th Gen., John Beil. 7th Gen., Donald Beil. 7th Gen., Jean Bell, 7th Gen., Robert Beil. 7th Gen., Alma R. Beil married Ralph Luckenbach. 1 son. 8th Gen., George J. Luckenbach.

This is one of the largest Lerch families, mostly residents of Easton, Pa, and Wilson Borough, but the writer is sorry she did not get more responses. John Lerch, the father of this family of 15 children, was a prosperous farmer in Forks Township, close to Easton, Pa. Well qualified in religious and civic affairs. Loyal to his large family, good provider, influenced and educated his Children, who were all industrious, willing workers, on farms or in offices, in art, church work. Son Henry, 1st president of this "Reunion", Recorder of Deeds in Easton Court House at Easton, Northampton County, Pa. Many regrets, heart felt sympathies as well as encumbrances were visible at their departure. Most of them are buried at Forks Salem Church Graveyard, Pa.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, born Sept. 20, 1720, married Anna Margretha Lauer, buried at Saucon, Pa. 2nd Gen., John Frederick Lerch, born April 17, 1759, married Elisabeth Sweitzer; born at Forks, Northampton County, Pa. 3rd Gen., John Lerch, born March 17, 1784, married

Rosina Messinger, buried at Forks, Northampton County, Pa, 4th Gen., John M. Lerch, born July 26, 1821, died April 21, 1893, married Anna Catherine Uhler, born Nov. 29, 1827, died Aug. 18, 1914, both buried at Forks Salem Church Yard. Issue 15 children. 5th Gen., John Joseph Lerch, born May 4, 1848, died Feb. 14, 1852, buried at Forks Church Yard, Pa. 5th Gen., Chas. Clinton Lerch, born April 20, 1849, died April 19, 1852, buried at Forks Church Yard, Pa. 5th Gen. Sarah Matilda Lerch, born July 18, 1850, died Feb. 23, 1852, buried at Forks Church Yard, Pa. 5th Gen., Geo. S. Lerch, born Oct. 18, 1860, died Nov. 3, 1902, buried at Easton, Pa, 5th Gen., Wm. Valentine Lerch resides at Easton, Pa. 5th Gen., Samuel H. Lerch, married, and died April 20, 1912, in Easton. 6th Gen., Anna Lerch, survives.

5th Gen., Henry Lerch, first president of Lerch clan, died in office May 10, 1933, buried at Forks Church Yard. 5th Gen., Jas. S. Lerch, of Easton, Pa. 5th Gen., Emily Lerch, married Frank Heitzman resided at Norristown, Pa. 6th Gen., son John, also married. 5th Gen., Susan Lerch, married Wilson Young. Issue 6th Gen., Mrs. Er. Hahn. 6th Gen., Clyde Young, married a Miss Uhler. 6th Gen., John Young married. 7th Gen., Faye Young and sister, Easton, Pa.

5th Gen., Lillie A. Lerch, married Solon E. Jones, of Easton, Pa., died in 1927. 5th Gen., Esther R. Lerch, married Chas. Allams. 6th Gen., 1 son, of Easton, Pa. 5th Gen.; Amanda R. Lerch, married Chas. Kindt. 6th Gen., Walter Kindt, of Easton, Pa. 5th Gen., Lizzie S. Lerch, married Bauman, deceased, of Easton, Pa. 5th Gen., Mary W. Lerch, married Raymond P. Hay, of Easton, Pa., died 1927.

1st Gen., Anthony Lerch, Sr., born, in Germany at Markobold, Sept. 20, 1720, married Anna Margretha Lauer, resided in Lower Saucon, Northampton County, Pa., both buried at Lower Saucon Church. 2nd Gen., Peter Lerch, born March 7, 1764, married 1785, Anna Margaret Riegel, born Aug. 15, 1765, died Feb. 24, 1813 and March 17, 1826, buried at Lower Saucon Church Yard, Northampton County, Pa.

3rd Gen., David Lerch, born Jan. 29, 1790, married Mary Stout, born Oct. 12, 1796, died June 4, 1869, see other issue. 4th Gen., Peter Lerch, born 1818, died 1886. Issue 2 sons. 5th Gen., Alfred Lerch, born Sept. 10, 1840, died April 5, 1906, and infant son. 4th Gen., Isaac Lerch, born 1820, died 1886, single. 4th Gen. Samuel Lerch, born 1823, died 1890, married Maria Shull, born Dec. 15, 1844, of Tincum Pa. Issue 3 children. 4th Gen., Quinton Lerch, married Della Garnby. 4th Gen. Hannah Lerch, married Mr. Kutzler, died in Northampton County, Pa., near Nazareth.

5th Gen., Clinton S. Lerch, born Nov. 7, 1849, a lifelong resident of Tincum Township. He was a self-made man, very industrious, bright and cheerful, well liked in organizations, agreeable and practicing a good moral life, devoted to his family, rearing them, sharing with them through all conditions, enabling them to gain the higher standards of life, in education and other valuable emissions, becoming a ware of our appointment of a meeting to pay tribute to our ancestors and learn to know each other, and associate in Jove and harmony. He brought his whole family, that he truly loved, to share the pleasant time with him that day, which was one of his main anticipations ever since. His was a heart-felt greeting, which his wife and their children have inherited and are imitating in their daily lives. He was on the first executive board, had the most of a family present, and most regular attendance. In early life, he taught school in the township. In 1897, he was appointed Justice of the Peace by Governor Daniel H. Hastings and served 35 years, retiring in Jan. 1932 at the age of 182 years. Served 42 years as secretary of the Bucks County, Pa., Mutual Fire Insurance Company and was Deacon of the Lower Tincum Church for 52 years. Though he rests from his labors, his works still follow on. He died of a heart attack, survived by his 2nd wife, and the following children from the 1st union: Ezra M. Lerch, of Philadelphia, Herman E. Lerch, of Tincum, Quintus S. Lerch, of Pipersville, and Hilda L. Lerch Allen of Wilson. Also 14 grandchildren and 1 great grand child. All have been very good helpers at our reunions, officials, are prominent citizens, able workers in all kinds of

industries. At the first meeting when minus singing books and an organist, Hilda played from memory the beautiful hymn, very suitable and so full of meaning, "God Be With You Til We Meet Again", and her excellent help though so many miles away "is encouraging and greatly appreciated."

Clinton S. Lerch, died Sept. 11, 1932, married first wife Mary Amanda Strouse, born Sept. 15, 1854, died June 27, 1898, married March 18, 1872. Issue six sons and two daughters. 6th Gen., Wilson Lerch, born Dec. 26, 1872, died March 31, 1873. 6th Gen., Anna Mary Lerch, born June 23, 1874, died Oct. 3, 1894. 16th Gen., Ezra M. Lerch, Aug. 26, 1875, married June 6, 1900, Louisa Frish, born Jan. 7, 1880, died Jan. 29, 1928. Issue 5 children. 7th Gen., Marion E. Lerch, born June 22, 1901, married Albert Corson, born Oct. 2, 1926, 1 son, 8th Gen., Richard Corson, born Aug. 11, 1930. 7th Gen. Earl Aubrey, born May 124, 1905, died May 11, 1806. 7th Gen., Ethel F. Lerch, born Oct. 4, 1908, married Harry Haff, born June 20, 1908. Issue 3 children. 8th Gen., Twins Harry and Milton Haff, born Nov. 7, 1932.

8th Gen., James Haff, born March 10, 1935. Homer Lerch, born Nov. 30, 1912, died July 3, 1913. 8th Gen., Russell Homer Lerch born Nov. 30, 1912, died July 3, 1913. 8th Gen., Dorothy Lerch, born April 22, 1915.

6th Gen., Ezra Lerch second marriage to Adeline Elizabeth Teely. 6th Gen., Herman E. Lerch, born Jan 31, 1877, married Jan. 29, 1899, Anna M. Allen, born Oct. 31, 1876. Issue 8 children. 7th Gen., Helen Lulu Lerch, born Dec. 14, 1901. 7th Gen., Mary Mildred Lerch, born June 4, 1913, both single. 7th Gen., Edna Lerch, born April 8, 1905, married Wm. Warnock, June 5, 1936. Issue 1 son, Wm. Warnock, born Feb. 1, 1941. 7th Gen., Clinton Lerch, Jr., born Sept. 4, 1906, married Carrie Brink, Dec. 26, 1931. 8th Gen., Donald Allan Lerch, born June 12, 1939. 7th Gen., Elsie Lerch, born Oct. 21, 1908, married Adolphus Abello, July 5, 1933. 8th Gen., Doloris Marte Abello, born April 22, 1937. 7th Gen., Viola Lerch, born March 1, 1910, married Charles Egolf, Nov. 28, 1940, 7th Gen., Charles A. Lerch, born Oct. 20, 1911, married Helen Cadwalden, Aug. 26, 1940. 8th Gen., Craig Allem Lerch. 7th Gen., Herman A. Lerch, born Nov. 27, 1912. 6th Gen., Quintus Lerch, born Sept. 2, 1883, married Sept. 14, 1908, Gertrude Mae Solliday, born April 29, 1884. 7th Gen., Paul Ormond Lerch, born Aug. 30, 1913, married Dorothy Shaddinger Oct. 1, 1932. Issue three children. 8th Gen., Sylvia Ann Lerch, born Feb. 20, 1933. 8th Gen., Robert S. Lerch, born June 9, 1937. 8th Gen., Joan Arlene Lerch, born Oct. 13, 1940. 6th Gen., Hilda Lulu Lerch, born Feb. 1, 1891. First married Jan. 18, 1911, to Harry Allem, born May 24, 1886, died Jan. 16, 1923. Issue three children. 7th Gen., Anna Madeline Allem, born Sept. 3, 1914, married Edward Massey born Feb. 18, 1933, 1 son. 8th Gen., Charles Edward Massey, born Sept. 15, 1933. 7th Gen., Quintus Lerch Allem, born April 6, 1920, died May 6, 1920. 7th Gen., Homer Lerch Allem, born April 11, 1922, single. PFC Homer Lerch Allem, enlisted in U. S. Army, stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Hilda L. Allem married second time June 29, 1938, Leroy Hewitt.

The Lerch family is proud to record eight sets of twins.

1st set, 3rd Gen., Peter Lerch, married Anna Tallis, Saucon, Northampton County, Pa. Peter T. Lerch and Anna C. Lerch, born May 14, 1801, no record of other children.

2nd set, 4th Gen., Nathan Lerch married Maria Catherine Schoener of Schoenersville, Lehigh County, Pa. William A. and Camilla Lerch, born March 15, 1848, died Feb. 18 and 23, 1849, buried at Schoenersville Graveyard. Nine other children.

3rd set, 5th Gen., Samuel P. Lerch, married Margaret Catherine Fulmer, of Lewisberg, Berks County, Pa, Sarah Edith and Margaret Irene Lerch, born May 14, 1883.

4th set, 6th Gen., William P. Lerch, married Lillie Clauser of Northampton, Northampton County, Pa. June Evelyn and Elwood June Lerch, born about 1920, Elwood J. deceased.

5th set to same family a few years later, Catherine Caroline and John Jas. Lerch.

6th set, 6th Gen., Lula Estella Hackman married Jonas U. Young of Schoenersville, Northampton County, Pa. Mildred Ida and Miriam Manetta Young, born March 25, 1909,

Miriam M. died April 17, 1909. 7th set, 6th Gen., Wm. A. Lerch married E. Stella Johnson of Coaldale, Pa. Wm. A. Jr. and Oleda Lerch, born June 6, 1925, Wm. A. died Oct. 15, 1925. 8th set, 7th Gen., Ethel F. Lerch married Harry Haff of Tinicum, Bucks County, Pa, Harry and Milton Haff, born Nov. 7, 1932.

If any errors in this history, the writer is unaware and sorry. She wrote it as she received it. 9th set of twins, Anna Mary Knecht and Howard R. Knecht, born Sept. 4, 1856, died July 7, 1932 and (2) Nov. 22, 1932.

From 1920 to 1942, the Context of the activities of the Lerch "Reunions," Looking back twenty-two years of actual serving the Lerch family at Reunions, the secretary feels that a great work was accomplished. For twenty-one consecutive years, not one Reunion was postponed. Thus far, though many have gone to their reward whose absence we keenly feel, we know what "God," doeth is well. We will submit to his Holy Will. Where vacancies were suffered, others have come and helped along. Therefore, we will always bow to Him, be grateful for His unceasing protection, be faithful, in our weakness, look to Him for strength imitating our early ancestors, to whom today we pay respect after 204 years have passed.

Though many things changed, we delight that their same Divine Leader is still leading on. Generations after generations pass away, but the green fields, the blue sky, as well as the beautiful sunshine illuminates our sphere, lightens our way, and the beautiful moon, and the glittering stars are still located above us, reminding us that the signs are still the same, as in the age when our first settlers made if possible, through their influence, we are what we are.

Therefore, it is our duty to offer gratitude. After being urged constantly by relatives and friends of the Lerchs, that I should organize a gathering and start a "Lerch Reunion," I considered the matter thoroughly. First, thinking where our ancestors came from? Second, what kind of people they were? Third, and where they located? After learning that it dawned upon me, that we really should be thankful, and they should be remembered and honored. Finally, I felt it my pleasant duty to go forward, fully confident that what a conscience dictates, should be done. Now came the question how? Naturally without trying, I cannot find out. I called up Mr. Graham, manager of Central Park, Rittersville, Pa., whether that place was available for a gathering on Sept. 3rd, 1920. He answered "yes." His courtesy was remarkable, and this brought encouragement. But how shall we know each other? All was silent, but something prompted me.

T'was 10 P. M., Saturday, Aug. 26th, 1920. I took my pen and paper and wrote to The Allentown Morning Call, The Bethlehem Globe, The Easton Daily Express, Philadelphia Record, adding neighboring papers please copy, these notes: "All descendants of Andreas Lerch who emigrated from the Palatinate Germany to Philadelphia,

Pa., Sept. 16th, 1738, shall please meet Sept. 3rd, 1920, at Central Park, Rittersville, near Allentown, Pa., at 2 P. M. All Lerch's please wear as an insignia, or emblem, a small white bow on dress or coat lapel." "A True Poem."

The little white bow, we shall not forget,

For some wore it, on Monday yet.

The day was clearing, a shower passed at noon. At the park was no rain, and an unexpected large crowd was there. From Tinicum, Bucks County, Pa., Monroe, Carbon, Lehigh, and Northampton Counties, Pa., as well as some other close friends, were all very well represented. Hon. Clinton Lerch, Justice of Peace, Deacon of Reformed Church (see issue of his valuable life he lived on another page), Tinicum, Pa., brought the largest family. A daughter, now Hilda Allen Hewitt, served as pianist. She played from memory, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again.." The late Wm. P. Lerch presided as chairman. I recited Harbaugh's "Heimweh," a Pennsylvania German poem, as a small program, then followed the business session. I took the minutes and ever since secretary, to this date July 20, 1942. Henry Lerch, Easton, was elected president. Milton T. Lerch, of Bethlehem, Pa., treasurer. Both kept their offices till

death severed them in May 10th and 31st respectively, a sad loss. They all enjoyed themselves so much and were so interested in the matter that they forgot to remove the little white bow, and wore it going to places Monday's yet. Minutes of the Sept. 3, 1920, at Central Park, Pa. Activities just mentioned. We may add the 5-minute speakers called were: Ida Lerch Hackman, Martha Lerch Schell, Clinton S. Lerch, three former school teachers, Henry Lerch, an ex-deeds recorder in Easton Court House, Ezra and Herman Lerch, of Tincum, Pa."

The first officials were President, Henry Lerch, Easton, Pa.; Vice President, Stuart Lerch, Hellertown, Pa.; Secretary, Camilla H. H. Heckman, Schoenersville, Pa.; Treasurer, Milton Lerch, Bethlehem, Pa.; Historian, Wm. P. Lerch, Northampton, Pa.

Executive Committee: Howard K. Clemens, Asher C., Robert H., Hower C., Jas. S., Clinton, Oliver W., these are all Lerch's and Frank Cernet. At this writing, July, 1942, only four survive. Saturday before Labor Day was decided to have our Reunions for quite a time. 1921 we met at Central Park at Rittersville, Pa. 1922, 1923, at Oakland Park, Pa. 1924-25-26, at Dorney Park near Allentown, Pa. These years the Monroe Co., the Tincum, Berks Co., Philadelphia and New York, and even Northampton and Lehigh Co. Lerches' were in their best years, and we enjoyed a very good attendance. We had no deaths, and no unfavorable weather, no depression. There were never disagreements, nor contrariness existing, and the officers left their seats when called by death, to join the Greater Reunion.

We all sadly felt the loss sustained when our faithful members were called away, seeming only a short time that we learned to know them.

The oldest couple first recorded at our 1921 Reunion, was: Reuben H. and his wife Betsy (Elizabeth) L. Lerch, Mechanicsville, Pa. We were looking into the future with a sincere geniality, but none would know the outcome? but trust in "God", He will show, and as these lines are written, the writer feels "Divine and Kind Providence", has palled the way for twenty-two years, with no day too inclement that we had to postpone it. Has kept, and protected us from unusual sorrows and misfortunes, providing with "His" power the means that gave us unmeasured goodness, in all past endeavors. And I as secretary and historian in honor of this large clan, with many years of service will not cease thanking, and be faithful in my weakness to uphold "Him", and cherish with gratitude all co-workers and friends of this clan, along with the kind acts, and the "Dear Lord", for His blessings and protection over us all.

### **"A POEM OF LOVE"**

"Yes truly 'Lord', we love Thy way, and try to do what Thou wilt say. For Thou can keep us in Thine arms so free and safe from all alarms, Till we no more on Earth may roam, but are summoned to the 'Reunion' above."

With the 3rd, that was in 1922, at Oakland near Bethlehem, Pa., and we had a nice program, prizes and the two new cousins, Hon. Adam Lerch, Justice of the Peace and Surveyor, of Wernersville, Berks County, Pa., and Rev. Charles D. Lerch, of Ringtown, Schuylkill Co., Pa., were present for the first time, with their broad smiles and cheering words, were good helpers and eloquent speakers. It was such a beautiful day and the program was rendered so perfectly. Pres., Nelson Newhard of Bethlehem, Pa., with his talented four Children, wife, and mother, had the Kitchen Band performance, with loud laughter, and applause, it proved that all enjoyed it to the fullest extent. Rev. George J. Laubach, Easton, R3, Pa., one of the pillars yet gave the Invocation. Adam Lerch gave the Response. Three hundred registered. Rev. C. D. Lerch, address of welcome. A fine group photograph was taken. As we look upon their faces, it reminds us of the zealous and faithful workers and sincere friends. The others on the program were Catherine Weaver, Edith Fehr. Mr. N. Newhard at the piano. The hymns were: "Come Thou Almighty King," "Don't Step There" and "Abide With Us." The oldest were Mrs. Reuben

Lerch and Mrs. Riegel; the youngest, Ruth Odenwelder, Shoenersville, Pa, The farthest comer was Claire Lerch, Jersey Shore, Lycoming County, Pa. Benediction by Rev. George J. Laubach. No obituaries for three years. Contests, games, Social intercourse completed the day. Respectfully submitted, Camilla Heckman, secretary.

Again at Oakland Park, Sept. 1st, 1923. Nearly all was the same as previous year. The same hymns, Merrit Brown gave the Response, Miss Louise Lerch accompanied by her sister from Allentown, Pa., rendered vocal selections. She has served since in the Great Operas at New York. Also, Mr. Granville Shupp accompanied by his wife were highly complimented. The income was \$47.03, we had \$6.03 to start our bank account at Bethlehem, Pa. Obituary, Sarah Ann Lerch Beil.

Not much difference was made in the 4th. Held at Central Park, Aug. 30, 1924. Same officials and executive committee, program participators, games and contests, good attendance and very good eats. Mrs. Lizzie Bauman and sister Mary Hay, were the coffee committee, from Easton, Pa. All the committee responded, O. K. Fine day, all was declared a perfect success. Old officers unanimously elected and decided to meet next year. It was sad to note the obituaries out of one family the two sisters, Sarah in 1923, and 1924 Ida Louisa Alice Lerch Hackman. The secretary's mother, whose absence was keenly felt, and Reuben Henry Lerch, also uncle and aunts of the Historian Wm. P. L. Camilla H. H. Hackman, secretary.

The 5th. Lerch Reunion, Saturday, Sept. 5, 1925, with an increased number present, at Dorney Park Fine day, with smiles and greetings, renewed each one's zeal to work harder to keep it growing. Going through the same routine of business and games, and eating a hearty meal in the beautiful Orange Pavillion with its rippling waters and fragrant flowers, created a relaxed spirit within us that we felt many years younger, while we played and joined the ranks of sports and contests, which is always a source of merriment and laughter. The Clan is still increasing, and the youths and maidens help and aid us in so many ways finally implanting in them a desire to continue, when the seniors are called to their reward. At 2 P.M., the meeting was called to order. Opening hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers." Invocation, Rev. Charles D. Lerch. Address of Welcome, Rev. George J. Laubach. Response, Hon. Adam Gearhart Lerch, telling the origin of the Lerch name and how he wrote to Germany to obtain the history and records, that are printed in this Volume. The Legion Poem, relating to important facts, was sold that day, the income to replenish the treasury, and was welcomed by members, 100 at 10c were sold. Recitation "Poor Grandma," Verna Lerch. Piano Quartet, "Valse Lorraine", Edmond Missa, by Margaret, Grethen, Harold, Nelson Newhard, Jr. Mr. Nelson Newhard, Sr., at the piano. National hymn, "America, the Beautiful." Business session. Reading of the minutes by secretary. All officers and executive committee re-elected. Same place and date for next Reunion. Prizes given as usual. Remarks, 5-minute addresses by new comers. Plans and ideas for the up-building of the meetings. Historian's address. Mr. Wm. P. Lerch. Recitation, "Mr. Brown Gets a Hair Cut," by Mrs. Wilbert Best. There was again some savings for the bank. Closing hymn, "Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing." Benediction, Rev. C. D. Lerch.

The Sixth Annual "Reunion," was held at Dorney Park, Sept. 4th, 1926. They arrived very early and had a nice social time before the program. The day was not so clear, but there was sunshine in the hearts. Several hundred had congregated, and a pleasant day was spent. Promptly at 2 P.M., the President Henry Lerch called the meeting to order. Miss Margaret L. Newhard at the piano. This was the first time the Opening Hymn composed by the secretary was used. (Tune "America.")



## OPENING HYMN (TUNE "AMERICA")

Composed in honor of the Lerch Reunion by the Originator and Secretary for seven successive years, Mrs. Camilla H. Heckman.

*Thank God we meet again, Members of Lerch'es clan, In joyful praise.  
We surely love this day, Reunion hold its way,  
And come from far away, To join the throng.*

*From the Pal-a-ti-nate, Of Germany He came, Andres and sons.  
In Seventeen Thirty-eight, September Sixteenth Date,  
Now see what we have made, To honor Him.*

*Though different names we bear, In Lerch we own a share, And ne'er forget.  
Descendants multiply, This great name will defy,  
And always stand close by, Reunion Day.*

*Enthusiasm fills, Each heart and how it thrills, Drear Dwine it kills.  
For none will leave this day, Forever fade away,  
Recruit all will say, Lift Lerch Flag high.*

*As clan we'll firm remain, In this world's broad domain, Till called above.  
In union there to meet, Departed friends to greet,  
Worship at Jesus feet, In final peace.*

Invocation, Rev. Chas. D. Lerch. Address of welcome, Rev. Geo. J. Laubach. Response, Rev. C. D. Lerch. Quartet, Margaret, Gretchen, Harold and Nelson Newhard, Jr. Vocal selection by Mrs. VV. A. Lerch, accompanied by Helen Siegfried. Address by Robert Lerch, Easton, R. 2. Recitation by Edith Fehr. Piano duet, Miriam and Dorothy Hess. It was decided to set a permanent date and ask a year ahead, so as to announce it at the gathering before they would disperse. That proved a great success. Our date was taken Aug. 6, 1927 and we had to take Aug. 27 and it brought some unsuitable circumstances. Some origin poems were sold and added cash to the treasury printing programs, badges, stationery, \$12.50. Prize for youngest child, 1 spoon, 69c. Oldest person, \$1.00 to Isabella Riegel, Bethlehem, Pa, \$1.00 to the farthest comer. Bill for contest prizes, \$4.20. Bills amounted to \$19.64 and income \$33.56. Net profit, \$13.92. These are profits of a rainy day, what will nice weather bring?

## OBITUARIES

### 1927

Lillie Lerch Jones, m.  
Anna C. Lerch Berger, m.  
Cecelia Lerch Benner, m.  
Sarah U. Willauer, Ill.  
Emma H. Lerch Miller, Ill.  
Sarah A. Lerch, m.  
Robert H. Lerch, m.

### 1928

Richard H. Lerch, m.  
Richard Ray Lerch, infant twin.  
Milton H. Koehler, m.  
Walter D. Gerent.  
George Lerch, s.  
Martin Lerch, s.  
Mrs. Ezra (Louise) Lerch

"Down the waves of mystic sea, Drifted our loved ones away. From all earthly cares are free, With Christ their Redeemer they stay. Waiting for you and me, Till we shall meet them again." Author, Camilla Heckman, Secretary.

Closing hymn- "Lord dismiss us with Thy blessing." Benediction, Rev. Geo. J. Laubach.

Seventh Annual Reunion at Saucon Park, Pa., Aug. 20, 1927. As this is the vacation month, the regular pastors were absent, but our good treasurer soon had Rev. Wm. Erb, Hellertown, Pa., who brought us an able message, which all appreciated. Opening hymn, "Thank God we meet again." The same officers as 1926 participated. Same on program. A fine day, a good attendance, and co-operation, the park was a gorgeous display of flowers, and the cool stream is unexcelled. The program was O. K. We had rented a piano for the day. We presented a dime to all under 10 years of age. These are the notes of each program circular: If you have any talent kindly make it known to president or secretary and they will see to it that you will take part on the program next year. Be sure to register if you expect to receive an invitation card next year. Try to help the secretary to get the addresses of all the Lerchs. Get Together. Shake Hands. Get Acquainted.

Oldest lady, Isabella Riegel. Oldest gent, Theodore Hess. Youngest, Wallace Lerch, 8 weeks. Farthest comer, Max Pearson. All received prizes. The offering was \$24.42; the net profit after deducting all expenses was \$4.48. It was decided to have the last Saturday in July as a permanent date for the Reunion and place selected a year ahead to announce so all could arrange to come. Closing hymn, "Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing." Benediction, Rev. Wm. Erb. Obituary, John P. Lerch.

Eighth Annual Lerch Reunion at Dorney Park, Pa., Saturday, July 28, 1928. It was a nice day, large gathering, results were remarkable. It proved the zeal carried out of an ambitious clan, building a life history that will not decay in ages to come, but live in honor of our ancestors whom we reverence through our feeble efforts. The officers were all present, an encouraging asset in any organization. At 2 P.M., the president opened the meeting by singing "Thank God We Meet Again." Margaret Newhard at the piano. Invocation, Rev. Chas. D. Lerch. Address of welcome, Rev. George J. Laubach. Response, Allam G. Lerch. Vocal solo, Ella Mae Fehr, sister Edith accompanied on piano. Reading, "Getting Married," by Mrs. Wilbert Best. Vocal solo, Marion Lerch, accompanied by Paul Lerch on piano. Piano quartet, Margaret, Gretchen, Harold and Nelson Newhard, Jr. Vocal solo, Stuart Lerch with violin obligato by son Samuel and Paul Lerch at the piano. Historian's address. Secretary's report. Business session. It was decided to have reunion same day and place next year. Officers and executive committee re-elected. Eulogy for the departed, by Rev. George J. Laubach, followed by first verse of "Nearer My God, to Thee." Prizes: Oldest gent, Theodore Hess, 80 years, and oldest lady, Mrs. Reuben Bender, 75 years. The farthest comer, John Heitzmall, 52 miles, gave it back. Youngest child, Martha Odenwelder, \$1.00 each of the four. Donation to children under 10 years of age. Thirty-five present. The clan was furnished free coffee, Mary Lerch Hay, Easton, Pa., committee.

The following was about the run of the expenses and income for the years before depression, which came at the same time that so many seniors also passed away. These few lines the writer adds as an idea how things changed in a few years, making it a bit harder to hold up the financial part by the secretary and treasurer when prices were soaring and the attendance was less, and work and wages less, always trying to keep the dark side of the cloud hidden, doing many things the most economical way. But not depriving anyone else of the pleasures, enjoyed at these reunions. Always anticipating to have one day this volume of history, it meant not all roses, but many thorns and much sprinkling to keep the plants thriving. The main thing was to keep that saving account together. We were very agreeable as officers and committees when the challenge came, but we had to be very alert and economical, and deny ourselves to save the hank account for cash to print this history. Much begging and writing to members and friends, many nights' sleep was sacrificed to bring this longed for project to an end. But the same ones who

stuck together have their wishes granted, feel so glad that they are able to give this loyal treat to cousins and friends that their weariness is thrown into the sea of forgetfulness.

Expenses, viz: For prizes altogether-\$5.89. Five lbs. coffee, cream, and sugar, \$3.30. Sec. Supplies, stationery, and postage, 50 cents. For printing programs, \$2 50, invitation cards also, \$2.50. \$7.50 to president. Donations to children under 10 years, \$3.50. Total expenses, \$20.69. Income by selling badges, \$3.50. Offering lifted, \$24.00. Total income minus expenses, \$6.81. Closing Hymn: "God be with you till we meet again." Obituaries, Claude Samuels, Stephen Koehler, Mary Lerch, Anthony, and Delia R. Lerch. Names of contest winners: Peanut scramble, Ruth Odenwelder; balloon bursting, June and Mahlin Lerch; whistling, Paul and Marion Lerch; baby carrying, Stella Kindt, W. C. Best; solving puzzle, Mary Koehler, Mahlon Lerch: throwing handkerchief, Stella Kindt, Homer Lerch. Thanks to all who helped to make this meeting a pleasant success. Contest committee, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Odenwelder, Annie Lerch, Wm. F. and Russel Lerch, Stanley Reinhard, Paul and Marion Lerch and Willis Engler. Respectfully submitted, Camilla H. H. Heckman, Sec. The Ninth Annual Reunion of the Lerch family at Dorney Park, Saturday, July 27, 1929. A very beautiful day, the attendance excelled all former reunions. At 2 P.M., the president called the meeting to order. All officers were present. Opening hymn. Invocation, Rev. Charles D. Lerch. Rev. Geo. J. Laubach absent on account of sickness in family. Rev. C. D. Lerch gave the address of welcome. Vocal solo, Ellamae Fehr, sister Edith at the piano. Violin solo; Mary Young, accompanied by Jean Stearn on the piano. Piano solo by Evelyn Reinhard. Vocal solo by Stuart Lerch, Paul Lerch at the piano. Piano duet by Margaret and Gretchen Newhard. Vocal solo, Marion Lerch, Paul Lerch at the piano. Memorial for deceased members, singing first verse of "Nearer My God to Thee." The program was very good. The Lerch family has talented people to render its programs. All old officers re-elected. Carrie V. Lerch, Palmer Hess added to the executive committee. The same as preceding year the oldest, the youngest was Jane Ida Ringer, farthest comer was Abraham Lerch of Port Jervis, N. Y., the largest family was Clinton Lerch and his married children's families. Seven counties were represented, Bucks, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northumberland, Super (?), Northampton. Closing Hymn, "God be with you, till we meet again." Benediction by Rev. Chas. D. Lerch.

## OBITUARIES

### 1928

Milton Lerch  
Earnest Biery  
W. A. Lerch  
Sarah A. E. Gogle

### 1929

Amanda O. Hess  
Mary Lerch Young  
Stephen Kohler  
Charles P. Lerch  
Eliza Hess Beck

We miss them but why shall we mourn, when from earth's sorrow they forever depart, Hushed be your sorrow, their joy is unspoken, our friends departure unto us be a token of the wisdom of Him who doeth all for the best, Why sorrow for those in the abode of the blest. - Camilla H. H. Heckman, Sec.

The Tenth Annual Reunion was held at Dorney Park, Pa., July 26th, 1930. Through sickness the regular pastor, Rev. George J. Laubach could not be present. Otherwise, a nice program was enjoyed. This was the first time we had rain and hailstones while the contest was in progress, but it was soon over. A. S. Kleppinger of Macungie, Pa., 84 years, was our guest and was very much interested in reunions and also in printing histories. We had a Very large attendance. It was encouraging to have the whole families present, the proper way to teach them,

later they know how to continue. There were seven counties represented. Obituaries: Milton C. Lerch, Florence, Lillie J., Elmira, Clarence, Wm. H. Lerch, Francis Engler, Isabella L. Riegel, Clarence Wertman.

C. H. Heckman, Sec.

The Eleventh Lerch Reunion was held at Dorney Park, Saturday, July, 25, 1931. A fine day and good progress seemed to be the motto. All numbers on the program were well rendered. Invocations, Rev. Charles D. Lerch, Address of welcome, Rev. George J. Laubach: Response, Hon. Adam G. Lerch, aged 83 years, his faculties and memory remarkable. Violin solo, Arlene Engler, accompanied on piano by Mrs. E. E. Koontz. Piano solo, Evelyn Reinhard. Dialogue by Virginia Kemmerer and Ethel Moser. Piano duet, Harold and Gretchen Newhard. Recitation, Frances Moser. Vocal solo by Marion, accompanied by her husband, Paul Lerch. Reading by Mrs. Wilbert Best. Vocal duet by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lerch, accompanied by Gretchen Newhard. Eulogy for deceased. Camilla H. Heckman, Sec. The treasurer, M. T. Lerch, reported total income, \$27.50. Offering, \$24.00. Expenses, \$20.69. Balance for bank, \$6.81. Whole amount in bank, \$100.00. Old officers re-elected. Closing hymn, "God be with you till we meet again." Benediction, Rev. C. D. Lerch. Our obituary list increased, we feel sorry that so many sweet voices are hushed, and we miss the pleasant faces and friendly greetings. Death Reaper not dilly took ripe fruits, but also young and tiny blossoms along its way. "But, God doeth all things well."

The Twelfth Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Dorney Park, Pa., July 30, 1932: A beautiful day, every one in the best spirits, comments were heard about the good program and many attended from near and far. New Lerch's were added to the records for the first time. Officers were all present. Hon. Adam Lerch, 83 years, presented many interesting points recorded in the "History," telling that in 1933 the history book would be made and outlined some sketches how they would appear. But as the saying goes: "After the brightest sunshine, form the darkest clouds." This was the last year for him and three other foremost officers noted in 1932 minutes. The secretary, feeling that the opening saved trouble to search for hymns at reunion time, composed a closing hymn, used the first time today. Daniel Lerch of Walnut street, Allentown, Pa., had requested the secretary to present "Heemweh lied," by Henry Harbaugh, Penna. German, at the 1933 reunion. The request was carried out, but sad to say Mr. Lerch was called to the greater reunion. The meeting was called to order by the president, Henry Lerch. Reg. Hymn, Gretchen Newhard, pianist. Invocation, Rev. Geo. J. Laubach. Response, Rev. Chas. D. Lerch. Requested number, "Heemweh Lied" (by Henry Harbaugh) by Secretary. Pantomime and vocal music, Ruth Odenwelder and brother Warren, Dorothea and Alfred Gogle, Martha Saylor and Gilbert Hess, entitled the "Vacant Chair." Accordion solo by Loraine Christman. Vocal Duet, Paul and Stuart Lerch, Mrs. Jas. Greek accompanied on piano. Violin solo, Mary Young, accompanied by Virginia Hauser on piano. Dancing specialty by Fay Young. Monologue by Mrs. Geo. J. Laubach. Vocal solo by Mrs. Paul Lerch, accompanied on piano by husband. Remarks by Thomas and Brooks Lerch from Wyomissing, Pa. The farthest comer was C. Seidel Revenolt from Turbotville, Pa. Treasurer and historian absent. A small amount for bank. Everyone was anxious that the history book should be published. The following is the closing Hymn:

(Tune, "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing")

I.

Now our hearts are filled with gladness, With the program we enjoyed Thanks to all who nobly rendered, Ready, willing, ne'er annoyed. Willing workers, willing workers, Triumph peacefully at last.

(Repeat last line.)

## II.

Heartily with love we welcomed, All the clan along our way. Feeling we have been improved, By the things we did today. Let us Cherish, let us cherish, Our Ancestors gone before.

## III.

May the Dear Lord guide us always, Keep the Lerchs ever safe. Guide us to our various places, Watch, protect us by His grace. Keep us safely, keep us safely, Here and in Eternity.

Author, C. H. H., 1932.

Benediction, Rev. George J. Laubach. Respectfully submitted, Camilla Heckman, Sec.

The Thirteenth Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Dorney Park, Pa., July 29, 1933, very successfully. Ideal weather, fine accommodation, are the essential elements to make good meetings. We had sad reverses through the past year. Death had cast a gloom over the Association's board of managers. It hurts when such sudden vacancies occur, such congenial workers, who never swerved, but congenial and ready to do their best for the welfare of all. Nevertheless, we feel grateful that we were influenced by their noble counsels, and could behold the beautiful life that they lived. What they did will never vanish from our memories. The meeting was called to order by the vice president, Stuart Lerch. Opening hymn, Paul Lerch, pianist. Invocation, Rev. Chas. D. Lerch. Address of welcome, Rev. Geo. J. Laubach. Violin solo, Arlene Engler, accompanied on piano by Mrs. E. E. Koontz. Reading, Mrs. Austin Lerch. Accordion solo, Loraine Christman. Piano duet, Ruth Lilly and Evelyn Reinhard. Reading, Mrs. Wilbert Best. Vocal solo, Louise Riegel. Reading, "Jimmie's Vacation," by Mrs. Geo. J. Laubach. Piano duet, Harold and Nelson Newhard. Recitation, Geo. B. Laubach. Vocal solo, Stuart Lerch, accompanied by Paul on the piano. Pantomime and hymn, "Some Day We'll Understand," by Margaret, May, Arlene Fenstermacher, Gilbert Hess, Dorothea Gogle, Ruth Odenwelder, Camilla Heckman, accompanied by Mary Young on violin,

Business Session. Stuart Lerch elected president for vacancy, and Homer Lerch, treasurer, in his late father's place. Three vice presidents, viz: Willis Engler, Wm, T. Lerch, and Herman Lerch. Also some to fill vacancies on executive committees:

Wm. T., Homer G., Russel W., Paul R., Mrs. Wm. T., Mrs. Homer C., Mrs. Paul R, Mrs. Annie Lerch, Mrs. Lula Young, Stanley Reinhard, Annie Reinhard, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Odenwelder, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hess, Mabel Gogle, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Hahn, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hay. Secretary and historian's report. Remarks by visitors. Closing hymn, "How Our Hearts Are Filled with Gladness." Benediction by Rev. C. D. Lerch.

Deceased throughout year, viz: Henry Lerch, president; Milton T. Lerch, treasurer; Clinton S. Lerch and Alabama Lerch Hess, executive committee. Sallie, Charles, Florence, Mrs. Charles and Stella M. Lerch. Camilla Weaver, Francis Beidelman, Sarah L. Fogel. Lizzie Messinger and Henry Berger. Games and contests same as always. Later all partook of their supper, feeling well repaid for efforts disbursed. Camilla Heckman Sec.

The Fourteenth Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Dorney Park, Pa., July 28th, 1934. Program at 2 P. M. Hymn. Invocation, Rev. Geo. J. Laubach. Response, Adam G. Lerch. Violin solo, Arlene Engler, accompanied by Bessie Miller. Dialogue, "Mammies in House Work and Washing," Mrs. Wilbert Best, Mrs. Granville Schupp, Mistress in Red Dress, was a much admired number, full of laughter. Accordion solo, Loraine Christman. Piano duet, Truman Reese accompanied by Paul Lerch. Vocal duet, Mary and Louise Riegel, accompanied by Paul Lerch. Vocal solo, Granville Schupp, accompanied by wife. Dancing specialty, Fay L. Young. Monologue, son George and Mrs. Geo. T. Laubach. Vocal duet, Paul and Stuart Lerch, accompanied by Mary Crook. pantomime and song, "Waiting at the Ancient Gate," by Margaret, May, Arlene Fenstermacher, Dalton Schneck, Elinor and Gilbert:

Hess and Camilla Heckman, in memory of the departed members, accompanied by Mary Young on violin.

Business session. All re-elected. Historian report by Wm. P. Lerch, closed in due form. A perfect program rendered. The large audience left each other well satisfied with the day spent. The treasury began to diminish, printing and prizes increased in prices and final steps had to be taken to save the cash to print the Histories. Farthest comer, Cora Texley, Nebraska. Deceased members during the year: Delia, Miranda, Lydia, Louise, Amandas, Susan and Rev. Chas. D. Lerch, Edwin Benner, Walter Kindt, Jr., Esther L. Bendel, Lizzie L. Bauman, Lizzie L. Musselman, C. Heckman, Sec.

Fifteenth Annual Lerch Reunion at Dorney Park, Pa., July 27, 1935. Regular hymns. Invocation, Rev. Geo. T. Laubach. Address, Rev. Paul Leinbach. All served as at previous year, except a quartet, "In the Hour of Trial," by Mary Riegel, Marion, Paul, and Stuart Lerch. A reading by Oleda Lerch. "A Massive Gate-Way," by Annie Lerch, Marion and Paul Lerch, Florence Gogle, Martha Odenwelder, Dalton Schneck and Secretary. All officers re-elected. Reading, Mrs. George T. Laubach. The day was beautiful. Since 1921 we had permanently set this last Saturday in July and not one ugly day. The heads of our Brotherhood at Schoenersville Church, for the same idea took it for their picnic, after we had selected and announced it for a whole year ahead as there were no picnics scheduled at churches or Sunday Schools. We tried to keep the "Golden Rule," but most people only have money as their "God," have forgotten the 13th chapter of Corinthians. We therefore selected another date, so it did not conflict and keep members from other active organizations, and the Dear Lord has richly blessed us. Where there is love and peace, God addeth the power and that is the Lerch family "Bulwark." After the new visitors from afar had learned our plight and we selected another day, they came again and we have good weather and a good attendance and are not in the hot days to swelter in the heat. The Lerch family strictly adheres to the 4th Commandment, to honor our parents, which may be duly confined also to our older and ancestral generations. It is authentic, they never asperse the seniors, have given time and talent. and labors free gratis, and still they are more auriferous and at their journey's end, their conscience is clean. Last hymn and benediction by Rev. Paul Leinbach. Deceased throughout year: Joseph, Alice R, George, Mrs. Levine, Gus, and Levine Lerch. Annie L. Dealt, Alfred Snyder, Gertie L. Daniel, Emma L. Y. Smith. Respectfully submitted, Sec. Camilla H. Heckman. Paul and Stuart Lerch are to be complimented on History work.

Sixteenth Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Dorney Park, Pa., Saturday, July 25th, 1936, with a large audience, in the absence or the president, Paul Lerch opened the meeting, singing the opening hymn, Paul at the piano. Invocation, Rev. George J. Laubach. Address of welcome, Rev. Earl R. Kreidler. Response, George B. Laubach. Reading, Oleda Lerch. Violin solo, Arlene Engler, accompanied by Mrs. Francis Engler. Reading, A Flipper Ride, Mrs. Austin Lerch. A Soldiers Dance, and two other performances, Miss Fay L. Young. Recitation, "Her Many Beaus, and Did Not Marry," Mrs. George J. Laubach. Quartette, "Come Unto Me," Mary Riegel, Marion, Paul and Stuart Lerch, accompanied by Mrs. Henry Kemmerer. A Pa. German Letter by Camilla Heckman. Secretary's report. Historian's report, Wm. P. Lerch. Remarks by visitors.

Old officers re-elected. A committee appointed to secure place for next reunion, viz: Wm. P., Russel W., Homer C., Paul R. Lerch, and the Secretary. The third Saturday in June was selected as a permanent meeting day. Never were cousins present from such a distance and such encouraging letters were received from those unable to attend. The farthest comer was Ida Magee Lerch Gallaid and husband, from South Carolina, 850 miles, but returned the gift, as he was so much benefited and enjoyed the meeting, that he could not accept another gift. Another was an aged lady, Mrs. Amelia Rader from Washington, D. C. The oldest lady was Selinda Lerch Cressman, 83 years. Baby Ringer was the youngest, 8 weeks old.

Our Rev. Laubach's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Laubach, celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary, July 28, 1937, through the year. Best wishes and God's richest blessing

for the future. And Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Newhard, Sr., Silver Wedding. Same greetings to you. The contest committee, Mr. and Mrs. W. Odenwelder, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Engler, Mabel Gogle. Winners in contests were Fay Young, Willard and Martha Odenwelder, Sterling and Florence Gogle, Ralph Hess, Mrs. S. Kemmerer, Mrs. C. R. Young, Ruth Bryan, J. H. Lerch. Closing hymn. Benediction, Rev. Earl R. Kreidler. This was a very well rendered program. After supper was enjoyed, all felt benefited with the day spent.

C. Heckman, Sec.

Seventeenth Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Central Park, Pa., Saturday, Aug. 7th, 1937. Being the date and place was not announced at the preceding year's reunion, it always causes some hindrance to the attendance. In the forenoon, the weather was discouraging, but the afternoon brought a nice assembly of social and co-operative friends and cousins. Where one was absent, we had those who successfully substituted. We were sorry that the family of G. Philip Lerch, Bellaire, L. I., N. Y., and Ed. Lerch and daughter, who were our guests for the first time, had auto trouble and came late. Our younger people are to be complimented for the excellent service they give us. At 2 P. M., Miss Evelyn Reinhard served in place of the pianist. Vice President Willis Engler, called the meeting to order. Hymn. Invocation and prayer, Camilla Heckman substituted for Rev. Laubach. Vocal solo by Ellamae Fehr. Piano solo by Ruth R. Lilly. Violin solo, Arlene Engler, accompanied by Mrs. Francis Engler. Accordion solo, Annabella Lerch. Piano duet, Ruth Odenwelder, and brother Warren. Vocal solo, Ellamae Fehr. Piano solo and duet, Ruth Lilly and sister, Evelyn Reinhard. Silent Prayer. Hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee," accompanied by Secretary.

Business session. All officers re-elected. The historian, Wm. P. Lerch, urges more co-operation in History work. Mr. and Mrs. Ervin (nee Annie Lerch) Reinhard and Camilla Heckman, attended all 17 reunion meetings. Alfred Kahler, oldest present, and Levine Kahler, farthest comer. Youngest Joyce Croyer. Largest family Wm. P. Lerch. Next reunion, 3rd Saturday in June, 1938 at Central Park, Pa. Last hymn. Instead of benediction, the audience offered Mizpah. Deceased through year: Clara L. Beidelman, Richard Biery, Irvin Brown, Elmer Heberling, Theodore Hess, Mary L. Koehler, Hon. Adam Gearhard Lerch, 88 years, Belinda Lerch, Emma Y. Lerch, Jas. Fred Lerch, Willis Young, Anna Lerch Oplinger, Mary Lerch Hay, Hiram U. Laubach.

Eighteenth Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Central Park, Pa., Saturday, June 8th, 1930. A large gathering, ambitious and willing helpers, on program. The ministers, singers, readers, musicians, contestants all ready for a good time, We had a grand treat, Mrs. Jennie Steinbecker, of Allentown, Pa., St. Peter's Lutheran Church, entertained with her Junior Choir, presenting the noted hymn, "Stilla Nacht, Heiliga Nacht." They received a hearty applause in return. Frank Reinhard was appointed president elect. Opened with hymn. Invocation, Rev. G. J. Laubach and address of welcome. Tap dance, Fay L. Young, accompanied by Helen Best. Piano solo, Warren Odenwelder. Saxophone solo, Marjorie Lerch, accompanied by Annabelle Fehnel, Frank Lerch and children, Clara L., Lloyd, Mary, Elda, Annabelle, songs, viz: "Silver Threads Among the Gold," "Grandfather's Clock." Piano duet, Ruth Lilly and Evelyn Reinhard. Silent prayer for deceased. Largest families, Frank Lerch, Howard Lerch. Oldest, Alfred Kahler, 88 years old. Youngest, Patsy and Etan, 3 weeks. It was decided to have the 1939 reunion at Central Park, Pa., the 3rd Saturday in June. Contest Committee: viz: Lula Young, Annie Lerch, Russel Lerch, and Ralph Hess. The committee brings joy and laughter to us as a crowd, they are what gasoline is to the car. They get them moving. They also will sell the badges, and if anything else is for sale. They are the ones who cannot sit and rest, as much as the others, so they deserve credit while they live.

Our financials are not increasing. We miss our departed in that part of the program. Deceased in a year: David C. S. Brinker, Chas. S. Gogle, Anna May Lerch, Emma L. Hawk, Levine A. Lerch, Thomas Gogle, Mary L. Weaver, Marietta Lerch. Recorded by Camilla Heckman, Sec.

## **200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDING OF ANDREAS LERCH AND SONS ANTHONY, PETER & PANCRATIUS LERCH**

Landed Sept. 6th, 1738 at Philadelphia, Pa., from Germany. Another wonderful day was witnessed by an audible gathering Sept. 18th, 1939, at Zion's Stone Church near Kreidersville, Pa, where many of our forebears are resting from their labors, but their works follow on. The name "Lerch" is upheld in that community, and are the standards at the House of God, leading and preserving things, and taking the utmost precaution that nothing can mar that sacred place. Mrs. Elda Atherholt, faithful and active member deserves the entire honor that can be bestowed on anyone for her generous deeds she assimilated in preparing that place for this most outstanding occasion. She also serves as the able choir mistress and organist of same place. And the phrentisterion church council, with their good wives left the Harvest Home decorations. The writer cannot think of any thing more honorable, and more beautiful; words are inadequate, because what they do or decorate is complete. How everyone enjoyed that quiet serenity which is customary at the Church of God, which is the most exalted place for all reunions. The members of the clan greatly appreciated the hospitality of this grand lady and the religious church council who made this affair so successful.

Stone Church is built on an elevated spot and with its gorgeous steeple, can be seen for miles around. It proves to the passers by that men of knowledge, loyal and kind hearted, are leaders, if you consider their well kept and scientifically planned church, nice cemeteries and fences around it and also around all other places. It proves that they are God fearing and try to practice the "Golden Rule," at all their festivities and anniversaries. They have crowds and all consent to the foregoing sentiment. Promptly at 2 P.M., the meeting began. Our two talented musicians, Elda Lerch Atherholt, mostly arranged the program organist "of said church with her choir, and Paul Lerch with his choir of Saucon Church, Pa., where he serves as organist.

The invocation was offered by Rev. Charles Ruloff, Lutheran pastor of the congregation. Our pastor, Rev. George J. Laubach, a member of the clan, always helping, gave a fine address relating how one Lerch's and Laubach's came to Philadelphia, Pa., together on one ship and even were friends in Germany already, intermarried with each other and after 200 years, Laubachs and Lerchs are together in peace and harmony. Beautiful hymns and choir anthems were rendered, with group singing, vocal solos and duets, relieving speakers. Wm. P. Lerch, the historian spent the forenoon searching names on the cemeteries, for a history that was very valuable to him. He filled his position well. He could tell, and explain the Lerch history verbatim, and to the point. He could easily hold the attention of an audience, and of good will little did anyone think that that would be his last meeting to be with the Lerch's until December 4th, 1938, on his aged mother's 81st birthday, he was called to join that "Great" Reunion that shall never break up. Another faithful member gone Home. The Secretary composed "a poem," in honor of the event, including all that history revealed, containing 207 lines, which will be given with each History Book as a gift. Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Lerch presented the Memorial Hymn. Misses Riegel and Fehr rendered duets. Everyone performed his or her duties excellently. A nice offering was lifted. Our expenses were reasonable and no place was more quiet, and comfortable, since we gather annually, than this sacred place. Free from the disturbing rumbling noises of vanity, the program was furnished at a very low figure by Russell W. and sister Catherine Lerch. Ushers were Lula Young and Annie Lerch, who treated the people with the best courtesy. A Registering



Book showed about two hundred present. Mrs. Atherholt and her Choir rendered very fine anthems, and audience joined in. To hear these two Choirs sing seemed like a real heaven on earth, nothing could be added, it was a complete success. Closing with the Lord's Prayer and Doxology, and Benediction by Rev. George J. Laubach. All were well satisfied with the 200th anniversary celebration.

### **SPECIAL MEETING, APRIL, 1939**

After William P. Lerch, Historian, a beloved member of our clan, was called away suddenly and unexpectedly, a special meeting was called, and his son Russell was appointed to fill the office of his late father. At least till a predecessor would be named, since he was familiar with the literature, and documents, preparatory to writing the History. The Association suffered a heavy loss, but all will have trials, simply trust in God, who knows our needs, and He can heal the hearts that are wounded. -Secretary Camilla H. Heckman.

### **THE 19TH ANNUAL LERCH REUNION**

The 19th Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Central Park, Allentown, Pa., Saturday, June 17, 1939. Program as follows: Invocation and Address of Welcome, Rev. G. J. Laubach. Response, Albert Lerch, Reading; "Jimmie on Vacation," Mrs. G. J. Laubach; Piano Solo, Evelyn Reinhard. Vocal Duet, Ella Mae Fehr and Mary Riegel, accompanied by Paul R. Lerch, on piano. A comedy skit, "But you find em awer dummer," by Elda Lerch Atherholt, as Lena Himmelburger, and Annabelle Lerch Fehnel as Sadie Awerdumm. Very good. Accordion selections, Dalton Schneck, the Secretary's grandson: Saxophone Solo, Marjorie Lerch; Accordion Solo, as a tribute to the departed, "Somewhere a Voice Is Calling," by Annabelle L. Fehnel, rendered solemnly and sweetly. Vocal Solo, Phyllis Lerch, 5 years, from Blairstown, N. Y.

The day was fair and a good attendance.

### **"A TRUTH"**

Honor the brave, do not forget,  
And make them happy before they're dead.  
Author, C. H. H.

An example worthwhile to follow: Rev. and Mrs. George J. Laubach live on a farm, are connected with three churches, where he preaches, and Mrs. Laubach, a talented initiative, are very busy in Church work, and still regularly attend the reunions. They have always the hardest numbers on the program. The Secretary thinks it her duty to extend the sincerest gratitude in the name of the Clan to them. The most numbers are given by distant members. Where is our local talent? They better stick to their country, so they will not lose their citizenship.

Oldest member present, Sarah Lerch, 81 years. Largest families, Frank and Howard Lerch (tie). Some 200th Anniversary Poems were sold for 15 cents to keep out of a deficit.

We also note a Golden Wedding, Mr. and Mrs. George Wartmen, with dinner at Schoenersville Restaurant. Deceased through the year were: Catherine Lerch, Mabel Lafaw, Ida Gernet Laubach, Stuart Lerch, Mrs. George Leidich, Paul C. Wartman. And a son was born to

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lerch, Pianist and sincere co-workers in every way. May God's richest blessing abide with them?

Closed in due form, Benediction by Rev. G. J. Laubach, followed  
By contests and games.

## 20TH ANNUAL LERCH REUNION

The 20th Annual Lerch Reunion was held at Saucon Park, Bethlehem, Pa., June 15, 1940. At 11 A. M., a thunder storm came by, and some people thought there would be no meeting, but soon the sun shone, and the pavilion so nice and big we did not have a complaint. But after dinner, they came and a fine program was enjoyed. We are trying to make ends meet. We did not make any expenses for programs, nor Invitation Cards, we save according to other years \$17.00. The Secretary wrote 200 sheets with hymn, "Thus far the Lord hath led us on, and the Mizpah verse, also 250 invitation cards. All worked O. K. And the park was delightful, with the lovely flowers. We have two things to enjoy, programs and flowers. The Secretary has two anniversaries today that she regards highly, that she did not gain by her own power, but by "Divine Grace", 1st. the 50th year as Sunday School Teacher. Oct. 10, 1939, she was appointed as a delegate, by the secretary of the Reformed Board of the Sabbath School Association, to go to Williamsport, Pa., where the Convention Convened. Was presented with 50 year Gold Medal, in the Church where the audience numbered 1000 according to registration cards. Taught 22 years German and 28 years English.

Second, it is 20 years that she is serving as secretary all the while, since I ordained it, and had always the best co-operation. The program: We had no piano, so Elda Lerch Atherholt led the singing, and President Frank Reinhard presided. Invocation, by Rev. George J. Laubach, also Address of Welcome, Response, Albert Lerch. Vocal solo, Shirley Reinhard; duet, violin and clarinet by Bernadine and Robert Lerch. Reading, Mrs. Geo. Mertz. Dramatic reading, "Romeo and Juliet" by Mrs. Geo. J. Laubach. The young and old have their sadness removed when Mrs. Laubach gives us a number in a Pennsylvania Dutch reading by Annabelle Fehnel, very good, title "Der Spesuch(?) Wer Net Gewellt." Ditto by Arlene Lerch. Elda and Annabelle, sisters, vocal duet. Elda and Annabelle, dialogue, "Aunt Betz and the Oil Stock Man." We have an element amongst our people that we may feel proud, no matter is it, music, singing, reading, working or playing instruments, and that is a great blessing.

For last year's Reunion we tried to save money, and we dispensed from having printing done and the secretary wrote the hymns. We were anxious to have a history to know who we are and who our ancestors are. We economized in every way possible. Through the depression, our Treasury was losing, and the expenses exceed the income and that was the only way to remedy it. We have finally accomplished a great part of our dreams, the foundation is laid. The book is outlined for printing. Fine co-operation, from educated, genealogists, and why do some not send their history. The Secretary sent 225 cards urging everyone for the same that the first historian begged for 21 years, but as we did our duty, we are satisfied they did not consider it interesting to them. We were more than pleased after corresponding with publishing offices through their courtesy we received many letters from all over, even California, where we never knew but it had Lerchs. That idea brought great results. Business session. All officers re-elected, also same place to meet coming year. Prizes went to oldest, Selinda Cressman, 87 years. Youngest, Judith Smith, Largest family, Mrs. Lillie Lerch. Farthest comer, Quintus Lerch. The expenses were \$8.50. Netted for the treasury \$4.30. Business session all officers re-elected and Camilla Heckman also Historian. Closing hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." Benediction, Rev. George J. Laubach. Deceased through year: Catherine Yahreas Meyers, 56 years; Melville Lerch Werner, 6 years. Contest Committee Lula Leung, Annie Lerch, Russell Lerch. Winners, church

plus, Robert Lerch; banana eating, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Smith; door prize, Mrs. Frank Lerch. Camilla H. Heckman, Secretary and Historian.

The 21st Annual Lerch Reunion, also on the 21st of June, 1941, at Saucon Park, Pa. It also marks the "History Book" ready for final revisions relative to printing. The day was beautiful, Summer beginning, sitting under the grand pavilion, all around these gorgeous flowers, with cool rippling stream walled off for safety, all was beyond words for comfort. Also a nice distance away from the highway to relieve parents from constant worrying about their children. It is one of the prettiest parks in many counties. The courtesy from the managers is fine. Annie Lerch had decorated the pavilion with National Colors. The Lerch Flag, and the Union Flag. Everyone was so pleasant and contented. The President being in service for National duties, Mrs. Annie Lerch was President pro tem, she is one of our main pillars of this Reunion, of our country, and does always more than the average person, is kind and affectionate, a very type of the "Good Samaritan". At 2 P.M., first hymn "America," Invocation, Rev. George J. Laubach, and also address, his theme was "Do More Missionary Work at Home." Response, Mrs. Annie Lerch. Trio, "Friendship of Jesus" and "Come to Me," by Mrs. Atherholt, Mrs. Fehnel, Mrs. Smith. Dramatic reading, "Making a Man" by Mrs. G. J. Laubach. German dialect, Mrs. Lloyd Lerch. Eulogy for deceased, hymn, "Beautiful of Prayer." Five minute address, Mrs. Mertz. The meeting was hurried through, being Rev. Geo. J. Laubach and Mrs. Atherhalt, organist, each officiated at weddings at 4 o'clock.

In 1940, Rev. George J. Laubach celebrated his Silver Anniversary as pastor for 25 years at St. Peter's Congregation, near Seemsville, and St. John's, Howertown, Pa. Wishing him and family many more anniversaries, and "Divine Blessing." Business session: All officers re-elected. Secretary for the 22nd year. Closing hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee." Financials, \$1.36 deficit. Deceased, John Lerch, 70 years, 9 months, 8 days; Preston R. Lerch, 59 years; Hannah (nee Marsh) widow of Levi Uhler, 88 years, 1 month, 25 days. Contest winners, Florence Gogle, Mrs. Raymond Beidelman, Mrs. Wm. Lerch, Mrs. Steve Rader. Oldest, Willis Engler. Youngest, Robert Zullick. Largest family, Mamel Gogle, Frank Lerch, tie. Mrs. Ray Kaehler, Gladys Beidelman. Respectfully submitted, Camilla Heckman, secretary and historian.

To note the difference through the years of the attendance. This was the second year, Sept. 2nd, 1922, at Oakland Park, Pa., when a group picture was taken. All on the picture, the names follow. 214 had registered: Hilda L. Allem, first pianist, Homer L. Allem, Esther Allem, W. R. Apgar, Walter Barch, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bauder, Florence Barch, Lizzie Bauman, Helen Best, Irvin Brawn, Irene Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Brown, Margaret Barch, Miss Florence Brawn, Mrs. Walter Brown, Irene Brown, Margaret Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Beidelman, Esther Bendel, Mrs. Wilbert Best, Mrs. Christman, Selinda Cressman, Mrs. Jas. Dearoof, Annie Dewalt, Mr. and Mrs. Quintus Eckert, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Engler, Francis Engler, Julia Fax, Fannie Fegley, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gogel, Dorothea Gogel, Alfred Gogel, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gernet, Fannie Gernet, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gernet, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gaston, Pricilla Gradwahl, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Hess, Mrs. Chas. Hess, Grace A. Hess, Peter Hess, Alabama Hess, Exec., Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hess, Harold Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hess, Ida L. A. Hackman, Ruth A. H. Heckman, Camilla H. Hi Heckman} Secretary; Mr. and Mrs. Steward Heller, Lyman E. S. Heller, Mrs. Preston Heller, Mr. and Mrs. Delus Hawk, Mary Lerch Hay, Exec.; Clara Hausman, Mr. and Mrs. John Heitzman, Cula Hess Haller, Mr. and Mrs. Solon Jones, Exec.; Walter Jones, Annie Keiser, Edith Koch, Leon Koch, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Koch, Floyd D. Koch, Edith B. Koch, Alfred Koehler, Elmira Kaehler, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Kemmerer, Francis Kemerer, Ruth E. Kindt, Frances L. Kindt, Ellen King, Walter Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Milton T. Lerch, Edna Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Preston T. Lerch, Rev. Chas. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Lerch, Vice President; Floyd Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. Lerch, Exec.; Howard K. Lerch, Exec.; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lerch, Sarah A. Lerch, Marian Lerch, Jennie Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Amandas Lerch, Kathryn Lerch, Mary J. Lerch, Margaret B. Lerch, Mrs. Ed. Lerch, Salome C. Lerch, Mr.

and Mrs. Floyd Lerch, Anna L. Lerch, Florence Lerch, Mrs. Anna Lerch, Abraham Lerch, Louise Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Lerch, Exec.; Howard F. Lerch, Carrie V. Lerch, Alice E. Lerch, Robert H. Lerch, Exec.; Helen M. Lerch, Etta P. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Lerch; Anna Lerch, Wallace T. Lerch, Annie S. Lerch, Kenneth H. Lerch, Ruth E. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Asher C. Lerch, Exec.; Susan Lerch, Howard J. Lerch, Robert L. Lerch, David R. Lerch, Aaron O. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Lerch, Henry Lerch, President; Wm. P. Lerch, Historian; Mrs. Wm. P. Lerch, Marie A. Lerch, Hilda I. Lerch, Verna M. Lerch, Edgar A. Lerch, Russell Lerch, Ezra Lerch, Laura E. Lerch, Delbert Lerch, Oliver W. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton S. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Lerch, Thomas J. Lerch, Hon. Adam Lerch, President.

Rev. George J. Laubach, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram U. Laubach, Ruth Laury, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Leh, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lougenbach, Catherine Major, Floyd C. Milheim, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Newhard, Margaret Newhard, Gretchen Newhard, Harold Newhard, Nelson Newhard, Jr., Mrs. Martha L. Odenwelder, Elizabeth Odenwelder, Eualen Ott, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Odenwelder, Ruth Odenwelder, Warren Odenwelder, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Oldroyd, Helen Oldroyd, Clara Pearson, Ida Ringer, Mrs. Adlia Ruth, Edward Ruth, Mrs. Gee. Ruth, George Ruth, Olive Ruth, Annie M. Ruth, Ellen S. Ruth, Ethel Roth, Preston B. Roth, Ida S. Roth, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roth, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Ruch, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey E. Saylor, Harvey R. Saylor, Martha S. Saylor, William Swartz, Mrs. Carl Schippers, Mrs. Martha Scholl, Mrs. Harvey Trout, Sallie Unangst, Mrs. Julia VonSteuben. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Weaver. Steward P. Weaver. Commilla Weaver. W. W. Weaver, W. F. Wagner. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wagner. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wartman, Mrs. Jonas Young. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Young. Lester Young, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Young. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Young, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Young.

These 219 the writer has copied from the Register Book. But some are on the group picture that had not registered. And some she knows were there who are not on the group picture. But these small errors do easily happen, all the same we can feel proud that there are 143 on the picture, all the officers, but the 1st. Pres. Henry Lerch, which we regret very much. The following names are from 10 years later, in 1932, July 30th, at Dorney Park, Pa.

Hilda L. Allem, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Beidelman, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Beidelman, Paul Baatz, Ira Bieber Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bauman. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Best, Selina Cressman, Mary Daniels, Annie Dewalt, Quintus Eckert, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Engler, Arlene Engler, Mrs. Frances Engler, Edna Ehrgett, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fehr, Samuel Fehr, Fannie Fegley, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gogle, Dorothea, Alfred, Flora and Sterling Gogle, Mary Hay, Margaret Heller, George Heller, Mr. and Mrs. Delus Hawk, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hess, Gilbert Hess, Eloner Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hess, Ruth Hess, Ernest Hess, Alabama Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hess, Harold Hess, Arlene Hess Clara Hausman, Camilla H. Heckman, Secretary; John James, Ruth E. Kindt, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kindt, Francis Kindt, Walter Kindt, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koehler Ezra Koehler, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lerch, Thomas V. Lerch, Brooks W. Lerch, Hon. Adam Gearhart Lerch, Paul R. Lerch, Marion Lerch, Rev. Chas. D. Lerch, Carrie Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lerch, Treasurer; R. G. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Quintus. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Lerch, Vice President; Joseph Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lerch, Mrs. C. S. Lerch, R. G. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Preston T. Lerch, Mr. and Mrs. Amandas Lerch, Catherine Lerch, Hattie Lerch, Carl Lerch, Howard Lerch, Perma Lerch, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. J. Laubach, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Laubach, Alice Lazarus, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Langenbach, Mrs., Martha Odenwelder, Mabel Rex, Reba Rex, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Reinhard, Evelyn Reinhard, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Reinhard, Stanley Reinhard, Jr., Russell Reinhard, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Ringel, C. Seidel Rovenolt, Samuel Ruth, Flora Ruch, Mr. and Mrs. Steward Riegel, Mr. and Mrs. Quintus Strohl, Violet Strohl, Martha Saylor, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Schupp, Buddy Schupp, Ruth A. H.

Schneck, Dalton E. Schneck, Mrs. C. M. Schippers, Alan Stauffer, Mrs. Claven Ulshafer, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Walton, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Wagner, Ruth Wagner, Lizzie Young, Mr. and Mrs. John Young, May Young, Fay Young, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Young.

The attendance of these Reunions I wrote to see how they would differ in numbers. In 1922, it was 219, and 10 years later, in 1932, it was 155. A difference of 64, not so bad, as 40 passed away, and we had a hard depression, people had not the means, and privilege to do as they desired.

### **LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF ANTHONY LERCH Probated Oct. 3, 1793**

In the name of God, Amen. I, Anthony Lerch, the elder, of Lower Saucon township in the County of Northampton in the State of Pennsylvania, Yeoman, being of perfect health, sound mind, memory and understanding (thanks be to God). do this day in the year of our Lord 1786, make publish and declare this my last will and testament in manner following, to wit;

First, I recommend my soul to God and my body to the earth to be entered in a decent Christian like manner at the discretion of my executors; and as to what world estate it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life I do give and bequeath in manner and form following, to wit:

I do order and direct that my just debts and funeral expenses be honorably discharged and satisfied, and it is my will that my beloved wife Margaret do live and remain in the new addition lately built by me to my house and wherein we now live, during the term of her natural life without any interruption hindrance or denial of my son Peter his heirs or assigns. And I do give and bequeath unto my said wife Margaret 200 pounds in gold or silver coin current in Pennsylvania, to be paid her within nine calendar months next after my decease; also I do give and bequeath unto my said wife immediately after my decease one riding mare, saddle and bridle, one milch cow, and whatever household furniture she may choose to take for her own use out of my estate.

Item- I do give and bequeath unto my four sons as follows, to wit: Unto my eldest son John the sum of 75 pds., unto my son Anthony the sum of 50 pds., unto my son Frederick the sum of 50 pds., to be paid to each of them or their respective heirs as soon as convenient after my death. And I do order that as soon as may be after my death my executors put on interest the sum of 100 pds. which I give unto John Shymer, son of my daughter Ann Mary deceased, when he arrives at the age of 21 years, at which period the same shall be paid to him with interest thereon recovered, but if my grandson should die in his minority and without lawful issue then and in that case I do order that the said 100 pds. and interest be divided amongst my seven children and five grandchildren hereinafter mentioned. in equal proportion, my said five grandchildren taking but one share or eighth-part, And I do give bequeath and devise unto my son Peter Lerch and to his heirs and assigns all that tract of land whereon I now live situate in Lower Saucon township \* \* \* containing in the whole about 200 acres \* \* \* and for which my son Peter shall pay into my estate the sum of 600, pounds \* \* \* The rest and residue of my estate whatsoever and wheresoever I do give and bequeath the same unto and amongst my seven children and five grand-children as follows: unto my son John one-eighth part, unto my son Anthony one-eighth part, unto my son Frederick one-eighth part, unto my son Peter one-eighth part, unto John, Adam, Margaret, Esther, and Samuel Beidelman (children of my daughter Catherine the late wife of Adam Heidelberg) one eighth part to be equally divided amongst them, unto my daughter Susannah one-eighth part, unto my daughter Margaret the wife of Geo. Emich one-eighth part, unto my daughter Elizabeth the wife of John Leidy one-eighth part \* \* \*.

And lastly I do ordain constitute and appoint my sons John Lerch and Anthony Lerch executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking and making void all other and former wills and testaments by me heretofore made, ratifying and confirming this only and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said Anthony Lerch the testator have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year written.

Witness: Frederick Laubach

Andres Heller

Anthony Lerch (seal)

Children of Anthony Lerch and wife Anna Margaret Lauer:

John Lerch born 1747

Anthony Lerch born 1750

Catherine Lerch born 1752

Anna Margaret Lerch born 1754

Nicholas Lerch born 1757

Frederick Lerch born 1759

Anna Maria Lerch born 1762

Peter Lerch born 1764

Elizabeth Lerch born 1768

Susanna Lerch born 1773

John Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born November 17, 1747, baptized in Lower Saucon Reformed Church, and died March 17, 1818; married Sybilla Christine Morry, born June 24, 1752, died December 30, 1817.

Both buried in the "Stone" Churchyard near Kreidersville, Pa. John removed to near Allentown, Pa., about 1770, on the east side of the Lehigh river, about one mile from Seigfried's Bridge, north, on a tract of 150 acres purchased by his father in 1770. Anthony, Sr., conveyed the property to his son, December 18, 1773. John Lerch hauled four, six and nine-pounder balls from the Durham furnace in Bucks County, to Philadelphia, for the Continental Army in 1780-81 (Reichel's "Crown Inn"). Issue:

Anna Margaret Lerch, born Apr. 31, 1772, baptized Lower Saucon Reformed Church

John Lerch, born Jan. 3, 1774; baptized Lower Saucon Reformed Church; died May 31, 1798. No issue.

Anna Mary Lerch, born 1776

Adam Lerch, born 1778

Jacob Lerch, born 1781

Abraham Lerch, born Mar. 9, 1784; died Jan. 5, 1868. No issue.

Joseph Lerch, born 1786

Michael Lerch, born 1789

Margaret Lerch, born 1792

Anthony Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch and Anna Margaret Lerch, was born March 18, 1750, baptised in the Tohickon Reformed Church, and died April 21, 1798. He married, in 1774, Anna Welsh, daughter of John William Welsh and wife Marie Elizabeth, neighbor of German Valley, New Jersey, born May 17, 1752, died March 28, 1803. Both buried in the "Straw Church" yard, near Phillipsburg, New Jersey. Anthony, Jr., became quite well to do, and a man of prominence in his community. During the Revolution, we find that he served as captain in the Northampton County Militia (Pa. Archives, ser. 5, vol. 8, pages 191, 332, and 566). He took the oath of allegiance to Penna., Mar. 30, 1778. Shortly after the conclusion of the war for independence, Anthony received his father's sawmill tract in Lower Saucon Township, and in addition erected a gristmill. He was successful in operating these mills, and in 1786, he opened a

general store in the same township. He was elected member of the State Assembly, from Northampton County, serving during the years 1789 and 1790 (Henry's Mss. "History of Northampton County," page 77).

Shortly after 1790, Anthony Lerch removed to Greenwich township, Sussex (now Warren) County, New Jersey. Here he purchased a large tract of land, part of which he donated to the Greenwich Presbyterian Church and upon which the present church building was erected. In his new home, Anthony continued to take a leading part in the affairs of the neighborhood. However, death cut his career short, at the age of only 48 years.

An the time of his decease, Anthony Lerch, Jr., had nearly 2500 acres of land in his possession. His will is of record at the State House, Trenton. An extract follows:

**LAST WILL & TESTAMENT OF ANTHONY LERCH, JR.**  
**Proved May 9, 1798**

In the name of God, Amen. I Anthony Lerch of Greenwich in County of Sussex and State of New Jersey \* \* \* do this 22nd day of Feb. in the year of our Lord 1798, make publish and declare this my last will and testament in manner following \* \* \*

Imprimis- I order and direct that all my just debts and funeral expences be fully discharged and satisfied.

Item 2- I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife Anna, her bedding and bed; and one cow, her choice in the flock; and a privilege to live on and enjoy the profits of the plantations and mills on which I now live \* \* \* until my son Daniel Lerch does (or would if he lives) arrive to the age of twenty-one years, in order to enable her to raise the smaller Children, at which time she shall receive the sum of 400 pounds \*\*\* in lieu of her claim of dower; and from them a privilege to possess and live in the two rooms on the lower floor in the east end of the dwelling house I have lately built, and half of the front cellar; and to have her cow kept on the tract summer and winter and with the other cattle; and to have sufficient of firewood cut and brought to her door fit for use, at the expense of the possessor of the aforesaid mill tract; and also have out of my estate yearly the sum of 30 pounds while she remains my widow.

Item 3- I give and devise to my son David Lerch the plantation now in the occupancy of Michael Righart, being in Springfield in the County of Bucks, State of Pa., containing 245 acres \*\*\* in consideration whereof my said son David shall pay into my estate the sum of 2,200 pounds lawful money \*\*\*.

Item 4- I give and bequeath to my son Daniel Lerch \*\*\* all the land commonly called the mill tract, which I purchased from Philip Fine, containing 83 acres, and also so much of the plantation adjoining (also purchased of Philip Fine) \*\*\* so as to have in the whole 130 acres \*\* in consideration of which devise, my said son Daniel Lerch shall pay into my estate the sum of 1800 pounds \*\*\*.

Item 5- I give bequeath and devise to my son Isaac Lerch \*\*\* the residue of the land I purchased from Philip Fine, containing 200 acres \*\*\*; and also 2, equal third parts of a lot of woodland, lying in the townships of Alexandria and Bethlehem, adjoining lands of widow Anna Henderson, containing 73 acres \*\*\* in consideration whereof my said son Isaac Lerch shall pay into my estate the full sum of 1100 pounds \*\*.

Item 6- I give and bequeath to my son Andrew Lerch the plantation purchased of John Carpenter, being in Greenwich aforesaid, containing 190 acres \*\*; and also one equal third part of the aforesaid lot of woodland in Alexandria and Bethlehem, \*\* for which my said son Andrew Lerch shall pay into my estate the sum of 1400 pounds \*\*.

Item 7- It is my will that if either my son Daniel, Isaac or Andrew do die in their minority that then the land herein devised to such son so dying shall descend in the first instance to my

son Anthony Lerch, in the second instance to my son William Lerch, \*\*\* at the respective valuations and payments as herein before specified, when they or either of them arrive to the age of twenty-one years; but if my son Anthony or William should not get any land of my estate I do give and bequeath to my said sons Anthony and William respectively or either of them, not having lands as aforesaid, the sum of 200 pounds lawful money to be paid when my son Andrew arrives at the age of twenty-one years.

Item 8- I do hereby direct and empower my executors or the survivors of them to sell and convey by such good, and lawful deeds of assurance as I have for the same, three tracts of land lying in the back woods containing 1330 acres, also one tract of land situate in Lower Saucon township in Northampton County containing 28 acres, \*\*\*.

Item 9- As to tile rest and residue of my estate whatsoever and wheresoever I do give and bequeath the same to and amongst my eleven children as follows: unto my son David one-eleventh part, unto my son Daniel, one-eleventh part, unto my son Isaac one-eleventh part, unto my son Andrew one-eleventh part, unto my son Anthony one eleventh part, unto my son William one-eleventh part, unto my daughter Catherine, the wife of Jacob Boyer one-eleventh part, unto my daughter Ann the wife of Jacob Case one-eleventh part, unto my daughter Susannah one-eleventh part, unto my daughter Marg, one-eleventh part, and unto my daughter Mary one-eleventh part; but it is my express will and I do hereby order that whatsoever sum or sums of money stands charged to any" of my said children in my book shall be so much in advance and accounted in such child's respective share.

Item 10 I hereby nominate and appoint my brother-in-law David Welsh, my brother Peter Lerch, and my friend and neighbor Thomas Stewart guardians for my minor children and also to have the charge of renting the lands until my sons respectively come to have possession thereof.

Item 11 And lastly I do hereby ordain constitute and appoint my before mentioned dearly beloved wife executrix and my son David Lerch and my son-in-law Jacob Case executors for this my last will and testament \*. In witness thereof I the said Anthony Lerch the testator have hereunto set my hand and seal the date within written.

Witness: Thomas Stewart  
Robert Stewart Sr.  
Anthony Lerch (Seal)

Children of Anthony Lerch and Anna Welsh:

Catherine Lerch,	born 1775
David Lerch,	born 1777
Anna Lerch	
Daniel Lerch	
Susan Lerch,	born 1783
Isaac Lerch,	born 1784
Andrew Lerch,	born Jan. 1, 1787 died Nov. 11, 1840; no issue. Buried in Straw Churchyard.
Margaret Lerch	
Anthony Lerch,	born 1789
Mary Magdalena Lerch	
William Lerch,	born 1793

Catherine Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born March 8, 1752, and died before 1786. She married Adam Beidelman. Issue:

John Beidelman  
Adam Beidelman  
Margaret Beidelman  
Esther Beidelman



Samuel Beidelman

Anna Margaret Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born December 31, 1754, baptised in the Lower Saucon Church. She married George Emich (Errich?).

Nicholas Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born March 30, 1757, baptised in Tohickon Reformed Church. According to tradition, Nicholas fell from a horse when a boy, receiving injuries that resulted in his death.

Frederick Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born April 17, 1759, baptised in Tohickon Reformed Church, and died August 1, 1826. He married Elizabeth Sweitzer, born June 18, 1761, died December 7, 1838.

Private in Revolution, under Capt. John Santee, Northampton County Militia, (Pa. Arc., ser. 5-, vol. 8, pages 81, 199, 354). Settled in Forks Tws'p 1788, where he purchased a large farm, and where he remained until his death. At the time of his wife's decease, there were 12 children, 91 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren living. Issue:

Anthony Lerch,	born 1782,
John Lerch,	born 1784
William Lerch	born 1785
Frederick Lerch,	born 1787
George Lerch,	born 1789
Philip Lerch,	born 1791
Jonas Lerch,	born 1792
Elizabeth Lerch,	born 1794
Henry Lerch,	born 1796
Thomas Lerch	born 1797
Susanna Lerch,	born Mar. 27, 1799, died in infancy.
Catherine Lerch,	born Aug. 22, 1800 died no issue.
Andrew Lerch,	born May 28, 1802 died no issue.
Margaret Lerch,	
Christian Lerch,	
Susanna Lerch	

Anna Maria Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born February 4, 1762, and died about 1783. She married Peter Shimer of Redington, Pa., born January 30, 1760, died October 22, 1828. He later married widow of Philip Lerch (Elizabeth Kratzer) and had 7 children through that union. Only child:

John Lerch Shimer, born Jan. 15, 1782; died Aug. 12, 1854.

Peter Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born March 7, 1764, and died February 24, 1813. He married Anna Margaret Riegel, born August 15, 1765, died November 17, 1826. Peter inherited his father's farm in Lower Saucon Township. Both buried in the Churchyard there. Issue:

Anna Margaret Lerch. Three of this name were born, in 1781, 1785, and 1808. All died in infancy or childhood.

Elizabeth Lerch,	born 1787
David Lerch,	born 1790
Peter Lerch,	born 1791
Catherine Lerch,	born Apr. 24, 1794, died in infancy
Samuel Lerch,	born 1796
Anthony Lerch,	born 1798
Susanna Lerch,	died in childhood
Hannah Lerch,	born 1802

Elizabeth Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Sr.) and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born August 2, 1768, and died October 24, 1835. Married John Leidy, born March 9, 1764, died September 26, 1846. Both buried in the Lower Saucon Churchyard. Issue:

Samuel Leidy,           born 1786  
Margaret Leidy,  
Elizabeth Leidy,

Susanna Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Sr.), and Anna Margaret Lauer, was born January 31, 1773; baptised in Lower Saucon Reformed Church; married (?) Amey of Bucks County, Pa.

Anna Mary Lerch, daughter of John Lerch and Sybilla C. Morry, was born April 10, 1776, and died February 3, 1840; married George Kleppinger. Issue.

Margaret Kleppinger, married Peter Leisering.  
Elizabeth Kleppinger, died in childhood.  
Polly Kleppinger, married Samuel Muffley.  
John Kleppinger, married Anna Datesman.  
Lydia Kleppinger, died without issue.  
Sally Kleppinger, married Gabriel Shirey.  
George Kleppinger, married Polly Newhart.  
Catherine Kleppinger, married John Laubach  
Isabella Kleppinger, married Mantle Brown.  
Elizabeth Kleppinger, married John Person.  
Joseph Kleppinger, married Catherine Lerch.

Adam Lerch, son of John Lerch and Sybilla C. Marry, was born December 24, 1778; baptized Stone Church Reformed congregation, and died January 26, 1840, in Allen Tws'p, Northampton County. He married Magdalena Waldman. Issue:

Rachel Lerch, married Michael Newhart.  
Sarah Lerch, married John Zellner.  
Polly Lerch.  
Elizabeth Lerch.

Mary Lerch born March 11, 1812, died May 27 1886, married William Person, born Sept. 20, 1820, died Feb. 28, 1891. Both buried Petersville, Pa.

Harriet Lerch.  
Owen Lerch.  
Peter Lerch.  
Catherine Lerch.

Abraham W. Lerch, born 1814

The following issue of Adam and Magdalena were baptised Stone Church Reformed:

1. Regina Lerch, born Dec. 20, 1808.
2. Magdalena Lerch, born Dec. 18, 1812.

Jacob Lerch, son of John Lerch and Sybilla C. Morry, was born May 15, 1781, and died September 27, 1860; married Catherine Newhart. Issue:

Reuben (Larry) Lerch, removed to Nashville, Tenn., about 1833.  
John Lerch.  
Jacob Lerch.  
Joseph Lerch.  
Abraham Lerch,  
Maria Lerch.  
Samuel Lerch.  
Thomas Lerch. Died before 1860.

Joseph Lerch, son of John Lerch and Sybilla C. Morry, was born December 31, 1786, and died September 4, 1856. He married Salome Bliem, May 2, 1819. She was born December 15, 1796, and died April 24, 1847. Both buried at Zion Stone, Church, near Kreidersville, Pa. Issue:

Stephen C. Lerch,	born 1820
David Lerch,	born 1821
Joseph Lerch,	born 1822
Catherine M. Lerch,	born Apr. 3, 1825; died Mar. 4, 1833. Buried at Zion's Stone Church.
Sarah Lerch,	born 1828
John Lerch	born 1829
Benneville Lerch,	born 1830
Mandes Lerch,	born May 19, 1833; died Jan. 6, 1896. Buried at Zion's Stone Church.

Michael Lerch, son of John Lerch and Sybilla C. Marry, was born November 19, 1789, and died February 28, 1847; married Susan Huston. Issue:

John Lerch.  
Catherine Lerch.  
Olinda Lerch.  
William Lerch.

Margaret Lerch, daughter of John Lerch and Sybilla C. Morry, was born June 17, 1792, and died May 16, 1866; married Samuel Dietz. Children:

John Dietz.  
Jacob Dietz.  
Catherine Dietz.  
Sally Dietz.  
Priscilla Dietz.

Catherine Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, was born May 18, 1775, and died February 5, 1848. She married John Boyer, born October 4, 1769, and died March 31, 1844. Both buried at Durham, Bucks County, Pa. For complete record, see the Boyer chapter. Only the descendants of John Boyer, Jr., will be given in this chapter). Issue:

Anna Boyer, born Nov. 5, 1792. Married John Knecht.  
Jacob Boyer, born Oct. 31, 1795. Married Maria Laubach.  
David Boyer, born Dec. 2, 1797. Married Maria –?  
Margaret Boyer, born Aug. 31, 1800.  
John Boyer, born 1805.

David Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, was born January 18, 1777, and died November 27, 1834. He married Eleanor Jones, of Bethlehem Tws'p, Northampton County, who died in North Whitehall Tws'p, Lehigh County, and Feb. 1857. Issue:

Joseph J. Lerch,	born 1798
Anna Lerch,	born 1800
Eleanor Lerch,	born 1802
David Lerch,	born 1805
Sarah Lerch,	born 1807

Anna Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) married Jacob Case. Resided below Flemington, N. J. Issue:

Larry Case  
John Case  
Charity Case  
Margaret Case

Daniel Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, married and removed to Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where he drowned in his mill pond. Issue

Anna Lerch, married --Smith

Philip Lerch, married --Winter

Lewis Lerch, died unmarried.

This data from "Early Germans of N. J."

Susan Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, was born April 10, 1783, baptised in the Lower Saucon Reformed Church. She married Jacob Wack (son of Rev. Casper Wack). Issue:

Charity Wack

Mary Wack

Casper Wack

Isaac Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, was born September 15, 1784, baptised in the Lower Saucon Reformed Church, and died in 1816. He married Elizabeth Daniels (a daughter of Joseph Daniels, English immigrant). They lived near the Presbyterian Church in Greenwich Tws'p, Warren County, N.J. Issue:

Robert Lerch, died at about 30 years, without issue

Peter Lerch, married Sarah Fish Bach. Removed to Mich.

Margaret Ann Lerch, married Nicholas Neighbor Bowman

Margaret Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, married William Case. They resided at "The Forge," near Bloomsbury, N. J. Issue:

Jacob Case, married Rebecca Hunt

William Case, married Matilda Brackley

Anna Case, married Robert Kelly

Elizabeth Case, married Brackley Winter

Margaret Case, married James Hulshizer

Mary Case, married John Adams

Anthony Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, was born April 5, 1789, baptised in the Lower Saucon Reformed Church. Married Susan Stucker, April 24, 1811. (Easton Lutheran Church). Settled in Reading, Pa. Issue:

Peter Lerch

Andrew Lerch

Rosina Lerch

Elizabeth Lerch

George Lerch, resided in Reading Pa., died 1873

William Lerch

Mary Magdalena Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, married John Adams of Warren County, N. J. Had issue.

William Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch (Jr.) and Anna Welsh, was born May 25, 1793, baptised in Lower Saucon Reformed Church, and died in 1847. Married -?-Fair about 1822. In 1831, removed to Reidsburg, Clarion County, Pa. Issue:

William Lerch Edward Lerch

Rachel Lerch

Anna Lerch

Anthony Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth. Sweitzer, was born February 15, 1782, baptised in the Lower Saucon Reformed Church. Married (1st), March 30, 1806, Catherine Dreisbach, born July 17, 1786, died April 5, 1816; buried "Straw" Churchyard. (2nd) March 20, 1817, Elizabeth Frees. Resided in Greenwich Tws'p, Warren Co., N. J. Issue:

Peter Lerch

Frederick Lerch, born July 29, 1813; baptised Easton Reformed Church Susan  
Lerch, born Jan. 26, 1808; baptised Easton Reformed Church  
Catherine Lerch, born Mar. 26, 1816; baptised Easton Reformed Church, married  
1835) William Schooley, of Greenwich Twp., Warren County, N. J.  
Removed to Ohio. She was one of the fattest persons ever known. Weight,  
764 lbs.; waist, 9 feet 6 in.; arm, 3 feet 2 in. in circumference.  
Anthony Lerch, born Feb. 16, 1818; baptised Easton Reformed Church  
Luther Lerch  
Mary Anna Lerch, born Mar. 13, 1820; baptised Easton Reformed Church

John Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born March 17, 1784,  
baptised Dryland Reformed Church, and died July 24, 1841. He married April 5, 1807, Rosina  
Messinger, born Feb. 18, 1790, died June 15, 1840. Both buried Forks Tws'p Churchyard. John  
was a blacksmith in Forks Tws'p Elected County Commissioner in 1838. Issue:

John Lerch  
Mary Lerch, born 1808  
Sarah Lerch, married John Stecher.  
Samuel Lerch  
A daughter married -?-Seip. Issue: Sabina Seip,

William Henry Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born July 31,  
1785; baptised Dryland Reformed Church, and died September 12, 1860. Married Maria  
Messinger, born Feb. 21, 1792, died Oct. 23, 1858. Both buried at Shoenersville, Pa. Farmer  
near Weaversville, Northampton County, where he settled in 1811. Elder and deacon of  
Shoenersville Reformed Church. Issue:

Conrad Lerch  
William H. Lerch  
Thomas Lerch  
Mary Ann Lerch, born Mar. 18, 1813, married Abraham Werner  
Elizabeth Lerch, born Oct. 21, 1821, died May 7, 1843;  
buried at Shoenersville, Pa.  
Rosanna Lerch, married Edward E. Kuntz  
Araminda Lerch, married David Keim.  
Nathan Lerch, born 1819

Frederick Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born January 14,  
1787, baptised in Dryland Reformed Church, also recorded in the Easton Reformed Church, and  
died May 2, 1857. He married Anna Maria Brown, Nov. 20, 1811. She was born Jan. 5, 1794,  
died June 9, 1860. Buried Forks Twp. Churchyard. Resided in Forks township, Northampton  
County. Issue:

Daniel Lerch  
Melchior Lerch, born 1817  
Simon Lerch  
Charles Lerch  
Frederick Lerch  
Jeremiah Lerch  
Sabina Lerch married Jacob Frace.  
Jonas Lerch, born July 21, 1832, died Feb. 23, 1833.  
Buried Forks Tws'p Churchyard.

George Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born January 9, 1789,  
and died January 4, 1857. He married Anna Maria Andrews, born March 18, 1791, died May 29,  
1874. They were buried in the Easton (Pa.) Cemetery. Resided in Forks township.

Issue:

Samuel Lerch, born Sept. 21, 1813  
Maria Lerch, born April 13, 1816  
Margaret Lerch, born Sept. 1, 1818  
Sophia Lerch, born May 6, 1821; married Peter Ohnangst,  
Jan. 6, 1841, Easton Reformed Church.  
Elizabeth M. Lerch, married Stephen Derhammer  
Edward Lerch, born 1824

Philip Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born February 31, 1791, and died June 29, 1864, in Bethlehem Twp., Northampton County. He married Catherine Correll, November 5, 1816, Easton Reformed Church. Issue:

Reuben Lerch  
Philip Lerch  
William Henry Lerch  
Samuel Lerch  
Daniel Lerch  
Elizabeth Lerch  
Catherine Lerch

His will also mentions grandchildren: Allen Lerch and Augustus Lerch.

Jonas Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born October 26, 1792, baptised in Easton Reformed Church. He married Maria Able (Abel), born March 8., 1797, died May 2, 1878. Jonas was elected County Commissioner for Northampton, in 1837. He died July 26, 1855. Both buried in Forks Twp. Churchyard. Issue:

Amandus Lerch      Aaron Lerch      Peter Lerch  
Matilda Lerch, born March 8, 1823; married Hiram Knecht.  
Sarah Ann Lerch, born June 25, 1827, died Dec. 20, 1901, married Thomas Uhler,  
born June 16, 1814, died April 2, 1881. Both buried, Forks Twp.  
Churchyard.

Elizabeth Lerch, daughter of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born January 1, 1794, and baptized in the Easton Reformed Church. She married Peter Yeager of Forks Township. They had children.

Henry Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born February 11, 1796, and died in Forks Township, Jan. 13, 1858. He married (1st) Mary Ann Stecker, born Nov. 12, 1810, died Mar. 25, 1852. Both buried Forks Twp. Churchyard. Issue:

Richard Lerch  
Lewis Lerch, died in Easton, 1867  
Julia Ann, born Mar. 22, 1836, died July 2, 1857. Buried Forks Twp.  
Churchyard.  
Anna Elizabeth, born Oct. 8, 1843, died Sept. 14, 1845.  
Sara Amanda, born Feb. 12, 1848, died Sept: 7, 1851.  
Also a number of children through a second marriage.

Thomas Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born August 11, 1797, baptised in the Easton Reformed Church. He married Maria (Polly) ---, born Jan. 3, 1800, died Feb. 4, 1885. Thomas was a farmer in Forks Township, where he died May 22, 1858. Both buried Forks Tws'p, Churchyard. Issue:

Benjamin F. Lerch  
Maria Lerch

Emma Lerch born July 19, 1830, died Aug. 21, 1880, married Joseph Messinger, born Jan. 27, 1829, died Aug. 21, 1909. Both buried in Forks Tws'p Churchyard.

Margaret Lerch, daughter of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born January 13, 1804, baptised in the Easton Reformed Church. She married Peter Woodring. Issue:

Benjamin Woodring  
Matilda Woodring, married Philip Sandt  
Philip Woodring  
Anna Woodring, married --Uhler

Christian Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born October 20, 1805, and died July 23, 1878. He married, December 12, 1830, Susanna Uhler, born Nov. 13, 1807, died Oct. 21, 1853. They resided in Forks Township. Both buried in Forks Township with children named below. Issue:

Josiah Lerch  
Elizabeth Lerch, married John Brown  
Sybilla Lerch, married Martin Lawall

Following children are buried in churchyard with parents:

Matilda Lerch, born June 2, 1837; died April 29, 1838  
Marion Lerch, born July 5, 1839, died Aug. 23, 1842  
James J. Lerch, born Oct. 14, 1847, died May 1, 1867

Susanna Lerch, daughter of Frederick Lerch and Elizabeth Sweitzer, was born December 30, 1807, baptised in the Easton Reformed Church. She married Samuel Riegel. They had one son.

Elizabeth Lerch, daughter of Peter Lerch and Anna Margaret Riegel, was born September 10, 1787, baptised in Lower Saucon Reformed Church, and married on October 2, 1808, Simon Dreisbach.

David Lerch, son of Peter Lerch and Anna Margaret Riegel, was born January 28, 1790, married Mario Stout. David was a farmer in Northampton County. Issue:

Reuben Lerch  
Hannah M. Lerch, married Peter Kutzler, Allentown, Pa.  
Quintus D. Lerch  
Peter Lerch, born 1818  
Isaac Lerch, born Jan. 8, 1820, died July 31, 1886.  
No issue.  
Samuel Lerch, born 1833

Peter Lerch, son of Peter Lerch and Anna Margaret Riegel, was born December 25, 1791, baptised in Lower Saucon Reformed Church, and died August 2, 1845, in Northampton County. He married May 28, 1815, Catherine Lerch. Her tombstone says born Nov. 7, 1793, died June 9, 1883. Both buried in Lower Saucon Churchyard. Issue:

Benjamin Lerch, born July 9, 1818, baptised in Lower Saucon Reformed Church  
Samuel Lerch  
Charles Lerch  
Peter A. Lerch, born January 3, 1832, baptised in Lower Saucon Ch.  
Elizabeth, born Feb. 12, 1820, died Nov. 29, 1843 Fayette, born April 28, 1829, died Jan. 22, 1833

Samuel Lerch, son of Peter Lerch and Anna Margaret Riegel, was born March 31, 1796; married Regina Beyl. Issue:

Abraham Lerch, born Jan. 15, 1819, baptised in Lower Saucon Church  
Samuel P. Lerch  
Franklin Lerch

Hannah Lerch  
Warren C. Lerch  
William M. Lerch  
Elizabeth Lerch, married --Depew  
Lydia Lerch, married --Schaeffer  
Ellen Lerch, married --Newell  
Amanda Lerch, married Robert Tear  
Maryette Lerch, married --Stahl

Anthony Lerch, son of Peter Lerch and Anna Margaret Riegel,  
was born December 4, 1798; married --Reich. Issue:

Peter Lerch  
Benjamin Lerch  
Edward Letch  
William Lerch  
Margaret Lerch

Hannah Lerch, daughter of Peter Lerch and Anna Margaret Riegel, was born November 2, 1803. She married March 18, 1821, Edward B. Shimer, born June 27, 1797, died October 10, 1869. They resided in Forks Township. Issue:

Sabina S. Shimer, married Samuel Messinger. Issue:

1. James E.; 2. George Frank; 3. Charles S.; 4. Hannah C.
5. Maria Shimer, married Jacob Scholl. Issue: Ella C.; Mary J.; Elizabeth; Emma.
6. Elizabeth Shimer, no issue.
7. Frank L. Shimer, married Sabina Babp. Issue: Benjamin L~.; Charles E.; Hannah; Erwin B.; Josephine.
8. Reuben L. Shimer, married Susan Shimer. Issue: J. Edward.
9. Peter A. Shimer, married Ellen Werkheiser. Issue: Porter W.; George E.; Martha J.; Preston C.; Mary C. Elizabeth A. Shimer, married William Werkheiser. Issue: Rosa A.
10. Mary Shimer, married Samuel Lerch. Issue: Ellen; Hannah; Lovene.

Samuel Leidy, son of Elizabeth Lerch and John Leidy, was born in 1786, and died while a member of the Legislature at Harrisburg, in 1835; married Elizabeth Shimer, born May 12, 1791, died May 15, 1853. Issue:

Thomas Leidy, married Hannah Schaffer.  
John Leidy, married Sarah Heckman.  
Elizabeth Leidy, married Levi Lynn.  
Anna Maria Leidy, married William B. Kemmerer. Samuel A. Leidy, married Mary Ann Truckenmiller. Elizabeth Leidy, married Charles Kemmerer.

Margaret Leidy, son of Elizabeth Lerch and John Leidy, married, April 8, 1810, Abraham Shimer. He was born February 7, 1785, and died March 10, 1859. Issue:

Elizabeth Shimer, married August E. Shimer. Issue: Wm. L.; Abraham; Susanna M.; Nathan G.  
Catherine Shimer, married John S. Oberly. Issue: Stephen; Aaron; Margaret; John L.; Edwin; Clara.  
Susanna Shimer, married Nathan Grim. Issue: Jacob L.; Catherine; Abraham.  
Julia A. Shimer, married Richard E. Hillman. Issue: Shimer B. Hillman; Emma M. Hillman.



Elizabeth Leidy, born Dec. 21, 1799, died Jan. 2, 1882, daughter of Elizabeth Lerch and John Leidy, married Benjamin Riegel, miller at Riegelsville, Penna. Burial at Riegelsville. He was born Aug. 17, 1792, died Dec. 4, 1860.

John L. Riegel.

Elizabeth Riegel- (Is she Elizabeth Catherine Riegel, who married John Knecht, miller of Shimersville?) If so, she was born May 3, 1821, died July 4, 1891. Married Feb. 2, 1841, John Knecht, born Aug. 5, 1814, died Feb. 22, 1891. Both buried Lower Saucon. He was the proprietor of a saw and gristmill at Shimersville, Pa.

Abraham W. Lerch, son of Adam Lerch and Magdalena Waldman, was born October 10, 1814, baptized Lutheran Cong. at Stone Church in Allen Township, Northampton Co., and died September 23, 1898. In 1840, he married Mary Kleppinger, who died April 23, 1899. Clerk in his uncle Abraham's store 1828-1840; then as a partner in the business until 1853, when he became sole owner. In 1870, he formed a partnership with his two sons, and they traded together as Lerch & Co. for many years.

Abraham was also extensively engaged in the manufacture and sale of roofing slate; justice of the peace for a number of terms; member of the State Legislature 1878-82; also, elder and trustee of the Reformed Church. Issue:

Sally Lerch, married Lewis Koons.

George H. Lerch

James M. Lerch

Catherine Lerch, married Dr. Clinton Seager.

Amanda, married; died before 1898. Issue: Ella.

Joseph Lerch, son of Jacob Lerch and Catherine Newhart, resided in Allen Township, Northampton Co., where he died about 1867. His wife preceded him in death. Issue:

George W. Lerch, probably the same who died in Northampton, Pa., Sept. 30, 1928. Wife Alice Rader.

Ellen Lerch.

Mary Lerch, married Edwin Young.

Stephen C. Lerch, son of Joseph Lerch and Salome Bleim, was born February 12, 1820, and died November 25, 1870. He married (1st) Margaret E. Fallis; (2nd) (?)- In 1853, this family removed to Stark County, Indiana. The last two children named were through the second marriage:

Sarah Lerch

Martha Lerch

Jennie L. Lerch

James M. Lerch

Margaret Lerch

David Lerch, son of Joseph Lerch and Salome Bleim, was born August 11, 1821, and died at Easton, Pa., Jan. 29, 1910. He married Sally Young, born September 17, 1830, died August 19, 1888. Both buried in the Easton, Pa., Cemetery. Issue:

Frank J. Lerch.

William H. Lerch.

Jacob Lerch, born 1857.

Mary Matilda (Tillie) Lerch, living in 1929.

Harry Lerch, born June 1, 1864; died July 30, 1906.

George Lerch, still living in 1929.

John Lerch, still living in 1929.

Frederick Lerch, still living in 1929, married and had at least two children:  
Muriel; Mary.

Erwin Lerch, still living in 1929.

Joseph Lerch, son of Joseph Lerch and Salome Bleim, was born December 31, 1822, and died August 12, 1858; married Elizabeth Hummel. Issue:

Amelia Lerch.

Henry Clay Lerch, born 1849.

Amandas Winfield Lerch.

Sarah Lerch, daughter of Joseph Lerch and Salome Bleim, was born June 7, 1828; married Reuben Kuntz. Issue:

Milton Kuntz. Robert Kuntz.

George Kuntz. Sally Kuntz.

John Lerch, son of Joseph Lerch and Salome Bleim, was born Oct. 16, 1829, and died Jan. 16, 1886. Buried in Nisky Hill Cemetery, Bethlehem, Pa. John married Sarah E. Jones of Bethlehem Tws'p, who died May 8, 1910. Issue:

Joseph A. Lerch, born Aug. 4, 1860; died May 20, 1861.

Franklin J. Lerch, born Oct. 18, 18063.

Benneville Lerch, son of Joseph Lerch and Salome Bleim, was born June 29, 1839; married Sunia Seager. Only child: Charles Lerch, died at 5 years; buried with parents in Union Cemetery, Allentown, Pa.

William Lerch, son of Michael Lerch and Susan Huston, lived in Allen Township, Northampton Co., where he died May 17, 1882. He married Catherine M. (?). Issue:

H. L. Lerch.

Alice M. Lerch.

John Boyer, son of Catherine Lerch and John Boyer, was born August 12, 1805, and died March 31, 1872; married Lydia Beyl, born September 24, 1808, died April 24, 1881. Both buried at Riegelsville, Penna. Issue:

Anna Boyer, born 1831.

Abraham Boyer, born 1836.

Joseph J. Lerch, son of David Lerch and Eleanor Jones, was born February 21, 1798, died 1866, Lower Macungie Tws'p, Lehigh Co., baptized in the Williams Tws'p Church, Northampton County. He married, September 4, 1825, Judith Smith, No issue.

Anna Lerch, daughter of David Lerch and Eleanor Jones, was born May 26, 1800, and died Oct. 30, 1844; married John Woodring. They had three children.

Eleanor Lerch, daughter of David Lerch and Eleanor Jones, was born Dec. 24, 1802; married (1st) Nov. 17, 1818, John S. Murphy; (2nd) Rev. Joseph S. Dubbs. Children:

Joseph Henry Dubbs, D.D., born Oct. 5, 1838. Professor of History and Archeology at Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

Silas Dubbs, born Aug. 29, 1842; died Oct. 22, 1844.

David Lerch, son of David Lerch and Eleanor Jones, was born March 3, 1805, and died June 13, 1859; buried at Friedensville, Pa. He married Lydia Kemmerer. Issue:

David Lerch.

Joseph Henry Lerch, died in Lower Saucon, Oct. 24, 1918.

Apparently no children.

George Kemmerer Lerch, traded with brother, Alfred, under firm's name of Lerch Bros. in Lower Saucon.

Jonas Simon Lerch.

Alfred Sylus Lerch.

Sarah Ann Lerch:

Isabella Lerch, married (?) Ruth of Lower Saucon. She died December 30, 1915.

Sarah Lerch, daughter of David Lerch and Eleanor Jones, was born April 2, 1807; married Thomas Bastian. They had six children.

William Lerch, son of Anthony Lerch and Susan Stucker. Settled in Pottstown, Pa., and about 1872 removed to Erie, Pa., where he served 3 years as a member of the Select Council, and where he died in 1881; married Mary E. Daffin (Dafen). They had five children.

George Lerch, member Co. H, 129th P. V. 1., killed at Battle of Antietam, Civil War.

William Lerch, Lieut. in same company. Mail agent Erie & Pittsburgh R. R., and later clerk in Erie P. O.

Catherine E. Lerch, married Capt. Louis Luckenbill of Schuylkill Co.

Rogers Sherman Lerch, served in Civil War. Alderman in Duluth, Minn.

Henry Olay Lerch, born June 17, 1844 at Pottsville, Pa.

Served in Civil War. Married March 18, 1870, Mary E. Groom of Albany, N. Y.

William Lerch, son of William Lerch and (?) Fair, married and had at least one child. Removed to Clarion Co, Pa. Issue:

John E. Lerch, born Feb. 28, 1850. Studied at Penna.

College Pastor of a Lutheran congregation at Shelby, Ohio."

Mary Eliza. Lerch, daughter of John Lerch and Rosina Messinger, was born February 26, 1808; baptized Easton Reformed Church, died March 9, 1866. Married, March 31, 1828, Abraham Knecht, born July 12, 1800, died Nov. 9, 1884. Both buried Forks Salem Churchyard.

Daniel Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Anna Maria Brown; married Levina Frace (daughter of Jacob of Forks Tsp.). Daniel was an innkeeper of Plainfield Tws'p Northampton Co. He died in Easton, Penna., about 1877. Issue:

Nettie Jane Lerch, married.

Mary Alice Lerch.

Albert Lerch,

Anna C. Lerch.

Ellen E. Lerch.

David Theodore Lerch, died in Easton, June 20, 1898. No children.

Melchior Lerch, born Feb. 9, 1817, died Feb. 12, 1880, son of Frederick Lerch and Anna Marie Brown, married Loretta Uhler, born May 3, 1824, died April 23, 1919. Both buried Forks Salem Churchyard. He died in Forks Tsp., Feb. 21, 1880. Issue:

Chas. H. Lerch of Easton, died June 8, 1918,

Jeremiah Lerch, son of Frederick Lerch and Anna Marie Brown, died in Easton, Pa, Nov. 23, 1904; married (1st) Amanda ---(2nd) Elizabeth R. ---No children. Jeremiah was buried in Forks Tsp.

Sabina Lerch, daughter of Frederick Lerch and Anna Marla Brown, married Jacob Frace, Issue:

Edwin Frace.

Charles Frace.

Susanna Frace, married

Ellen Frace, married -?-

Possibly other daughters.

Samuel Lerch, son of George Lerch and Anna Maria Andrews, was born September 21, 1813, and died April 5, 1899. He married (1st), March 2, 1834, Susan Kocher, born Sept. 7, 1817, died Aug. 15, 1848. (2nd) Caroline Shawl, born Jan. 14, 1819, died March 5, 1900. Resided in Easton. All buried in Easton Cemetery. Issue (the last 7 mentioned were through the second marriage):

Reuben Lerch, born March 16, 1837; died March 4, 1863.

George P. Lerch, born Jan. 9, 1843; died Sept. 8, 1862.

Samuel Edwin Lerch.

Selinda Lerch, married Reuben Serfass.

Ida Lerch, married John Lehr.  
James F. Lerch.  
Ellen Lerch, married Joseph F. Young.  
Emma M. Lerch, born Dec. 29, 1853; died July 11, 1884.  
Richard Lerch.  
Edwin Lerch.  
Daniel Lerch, died before 1900, leaving children.  
William Lerch, died before 1900, leaving children.

Edward Lerch, son of George Lerch and Anna Maria Andrews, was born Feb. 19, 1824, and died March 21, 1896. Married Mary A. (?), born Feb. 16, 1826, died July 24, 1900. Both buried in the Easton, Pa., Cemetery. Issue:

William A. Lerch, born Dec. 6, 1850 died June 26, 1865.  
Owen Lerch.  
Fietta Lerch, married Irwin Katz.  
Levina Lerch, married Thomas H. Young.  
Elizabeth Lerch, married Frank Stemetz.  
Philip G. Lerch.

Josiah Lerch, born Sept. 27, 1832, died Dec. 1, 1909, son of Christian Lerch and Susanna Uhler, married Anna Matilda, daughter of Jesse Kemmerer, born April 30, 1834, died Jan. 29, 1915. Both buried Forks Salem Churchyard.

Clements Lerch.  
Perhaps others.

Drusilla Lerch, daughter of Christian Lerch and Susanna Uhler, married, February 11, 1851, Reuben Kemmerer. Issue:

Edward Kemmerer.

Quintus D. Lerch, son of David Lerch and Maria Stout, married Elizabeth Ann (?). Lived in Varick, Seneca Co., N. Y., for some time. Quintus died Oct. 7, 1886, in Fayette, Fulton Co., Ohio.

Peter Lerch, son of David Lerch and Maria Stout, was born March 26, 1818, died May 31, 1886. Married (?). Issue: Only Child:

Alfred S. Lerch.

Samuel Lerch, son of David Lerch and Maria Stout, was born July 15, 1823, and died Jan. 10, 1890. Settled in Tinicum Tsp., Bucks Co., Pa., when a young man. Married Sarah Shull (daughter of Peter). She was born May 11, 1825, died Feb. 8, 1867. Farmer. Member and deacon of the Reformed Church for many years. Issue:

Clinton S. Lerch, of Tinicum.  
Samuel Lerch, of Lambertville.  
George W. Lerch, born 1854.

James M. Lerch, son of Abraham W. Lerch and Mary Kleppinger, married Ellen (?). He died January 20, 1909, in Lehigh Twp, Northampton Co., Pa.

Frank J. Lerch, son of David Lerch and Sally Young, was born April 14, 1853, and died March 16, 1921; married Lillie J. (?) born Sept. 19, 1858, died April 3, 1925. Both buried at Easton, Pa. Issue:

Frederick N. Lerch.  
Perhaps others.

William Henry Lerch, son of David Lerch and Sally Young, was born June 18, 1854, and died Nov. 2, 1929. Probably no children.

Jacob Lerch, son of David Lerch and Sally Young, was born Feb. 23, 1857, and died Aug 18, 1912; married Georgiana, born Mar. 20, 1861, died Mar. 4, 1926. She died at Fountain Hill.

Will at Allentown mentions son William and daughter Sallie, wife of Frank P. Laufer. Both buried at Easton, Pa. Issue:

Elizabeth Lerch, born Sept. 6, 1880; died May 21, 1910. Married Charles Sharp.

William H. Lerch.

Sallie Lerch, married Frank P. Laufer.

Anna Boyer, daughter of John Boyer and Lydia Beyl, was born Oct. 15, 1831, and died Sept. 18, 1868; married John P. Beck, born Sept. 11, 1826, died March 21, 1886. Both buried at Hecktown, Pa. Issue:

Lydia Elizabeth Beck, married Orantas Pearson.

Issue: John B.; Clara Bertha, Clara Ann Beck.

Abraham Boyer, son of John Boyer and Lydia Beyl, was born Dec. 19, 1885, and died Nov. 22, 1918; married (1st) Elizabeth Appel, born Jan. 12, 1833, died May 13, 1861. Both buried at Riegelsville, Pa. He married (2nd) Catherine Long, born Aug. 31, 1838, died Aug. 30, 1911, buried at Durham, Pa. Issue:

Jacob Oscar Boyer, born 1859.

Esther Jane Boyer, born 1874.

Edith Long Boyer, born April 17, 1878; died Dec. 23, 1931. Burled at Durham, Pa.

Jonas Simon Lerch, son of David Lerch and Lydia Kemmerer, died in Saucon Tws'p, Northampton Co., June 26, 1878. Married Matilda (?). Issue:

Howard K. Lerch,

Carrie Lerch.

Alfred Sylus Lerch; son of David Lerch and Lydia Kemmerer, died in Lower Saucon Tws'p, Northampton Co., March 26, 1890. Married Sarah Ann (?). Issue:

Mabel L. A. Lerch.

Hector D. Lerch.

Victor D. T. Lerch.

Jennie F. Lerch.

Roscoe G. Lerch.

Eleanor Lerch.

Wilson G. Lerch.

Reuben H. Lerch, son of Nathan J. Lerch and wife, was born at Schoenersville Pa., June 12, 1842; married Elizabeth Lazarus, Issue:

William H. Lerch, born July 28, 1865; married Lydia Schaeffer.

Emma J. Lerch, married Benjamin Metzgar.

Ida C. Lerch, married Henry Ringer.

Elizabeth Lerch, died in childhood.

Samuel Edwin Lerch, son of Samuel Lerch and Susan Kocher, was born May 3, 1845, and died May 5, 1885; married Sabina E. (?), born Sept. 21, 1848, died Sept. 19, 1903, at Easton, Pa. Issue:

George Lerch.

Royal M. Lerch.

Frank Lerch.

Philip G. Lerch, son of Edward Lerch and Mary A. (?), married Ellen M. (?). She died July 16, 1893. They settled in Stephenson Co., Ill. Issue:

Edward R. Lerch.

Franklin A. Lerch.

George W. Lerch, son of Samuel Lerch and Sarah Shull, was born March 9, 1854 in Tincum Tws'p, Bucks Co., Pa. Tinsmith. Member of the Reformed Church. Married, Nov. 1, 1880, Anna Strouse, born July 31, 1859. Issue:

Howard W. Lerch.  
Edna F. Lerch.  
Carrie E. Lerch.

Jacob Oscar Boyer, son of Abraham Boyer and Elizabeth Appel, was born June 22, 1859, and died July 4, 1906; married Ida Henrietta Stever, born Nov. 22, 1864. Issue:

Elizabeth Mae Boyer, married Walter R. Perigo. Issue:  
Clyde V.; Cora Belle; Etta L.

Harry Edgar Boyer, married Luella Myers. No children.

Esther Jane Boyer, daughter of Abraham Boyer and Catherine Long, was born April 10, 1874; married Philip Henry Sipler, born Aug. 29, 1865. Issue:

Philip Sipler, married Edith Morgan. Issue: Jean B.; Eleanor M; Esther Lois.

Edward Dyer Sipler, married Mary A. Dunkle. Issue:

Dorothy May.

Nevin Boyer Sipler, died in childhood.

Howard Dwight Sipler

Edith Boyer Sipler.

### **DESCENDANTS OF CATHERINE LERCH & JOHN BOYER**

Catherine Lerch, daughter of Hon. Anthony Lerch, Jr., and wife Anna Welsh, was born May 18, 1775, and died Dec. 5, 1848. Married, Sept. 22, 1791, John Boyer, born Oct. 4, 1769, in Lower Saucon, died Mar. 31, 1844. He was a son of Michael Boyer and wife Margaret Lerch Freiman. Immediately following their marriage, they acquired a farm in Durham Twp., Bucks Co., which became their permanent home. Both members of the Durham Reformed Church, and buried in the adjoining cemetery. Issue:

Anna Boyer, born 1792.

Jacob Boyer, born 1795,

David Boyer, born 1797.

Margaret Boyer, born Aug. 31, 1800, died 1827.

John Boyer, born 1805.

### **Fifth Generation (from Andreas Lerch)**

Anna Boyer was born Nov. 5, 1792, baptized Lower Saucon Reformed Church, died May 3, 1875. Married John Knecht, farmer of Durham Twp., born Jan. 5, 1792, died April 14, 1865. Reformed. Both buried Durham Cemetery. Issue:

David Knecht, born 1818,

John Knecht, born 1820.

Margaret Knecht, born 1822.

Catherine Knecht, born 1831.

Jacob Boyer was born Oct. 31, 1795, baptized Lower Saucon Reformed Church, died Sept. 29, 1858. Married Maria Laubach, born Nov. 21, 1799, died Dec. 19, 1897. They settled in Allen Twp., near Kreidersville, in 1830. Reformed, Both buried at Zion's Stone Church, near Kreidersville. Issue:

George Boyer, born 1821.

Catherine Boyer, born 1824,

Elizabeth Boyer, born 1832.

Sara Ann Boyer, born 1834.

David Boyer, born 1837.  
Harrison J. Boyer, born 1837.  
Dr. Benj. F. Boyer, born 1842.  
Lydia Boyer, born 1845.

Also Anna, Maria, and John, who died without issue.

David Boyer was born Dec. 2, 1797, and died Dec. 18, 1826. Married, Jan. 25, 1821, Maria Lutz. Farmer in Durham Twp. Buried Durham Reformed Churchyard. Issue:

John L. Boyer, born 1826.

Also, Catherine, Michael, and Caroline, who died in infancy.

John Boyer, Jr., was born Aug. 12, 1805, baptized Easton Reformed Church, died Aug. 21, 1872. Married Lydia Beyl (daughter of Abraham Beyl and wife, Eva Regina Edelman), born Sept. 24, 1808, died April 24, 1881. Both buried in Riegelsville, Penna., Cemetery. John inherited his father's farm in Durham Twp., near Riegelsville, and became quite prosperous. He was a scholarly man, and one of the early officers of the St. John Reformed Congregation of Riegelsville. Issue:

Anna Boyer, born 1831.

Abraham Boyer, born 1835.

Also, Catherine and Samuel, who died young.

### Sixth Generation

David Knecht was born October 28, 1818, died June 9, 1891. Married (1st) Hannah (?), born Jan. 2, 1820, died Aug. 12, 1848; (2nd) Catherine Ruch, born Sept. 24, 1821, died May 24, 1988.

All buried in Durham Cemetery, Issue:

John R. Knecht, born July 2, 1854, died Feb. 3, 1884; married Dec. 1, 1881, Anna M. Lacey, born Feb. 3, 1848, died May 15, 1907. Both buried Durham Cemetery. Their daughter married a Van Syckle,

John Knecht was born Aug. 11, 1820, died April 11, 1898; married Sept. 29, 1842, Sarah Fackenthal, born March 28, 1823, died Aug. 14, 1898. Both buried in Durham Cemetery. Issue:

Peter Knecht, born Jan. 9, 1844, died Jan. 20, 1917; married Oct. 22, 1870, Emma Rufe, born Feb. 2, 1849, died June 6, 1921. Buried Durham Cemetery. No issue.

Hiram D. Knecht, born Sept. 5, 1849, died July 13, 1930; married Oct. 16, 1872, Elizabeth Sleiffer, born July 24, 1845, died Feb. 9, 1929. Buried Durham Cemetery. No issue.

Anna Knecht, born April 6, 1858, died Nov. 15, 1929; married June 6, 1882, Milton T. Hess, born April 4, 1858. Resided at Coopersburg, Pa. No surviving issue.

Margaret Ann Knecht was born July 5, 1822, died Dec. 28, 1889; married Nov. 2, 1843, Henry B. Pearson, born June 18, 1824, died Jan. 9, 1892. Buried Durham Cemetery. Issue:

Catherine Pearson, address (1929) Friedensville, Pa.

Wm. Henry Pearson, born Nov. 8, 1847, died Aug. 12, 1909.

Edward Pearson.

Catherine Knecht was born Feb. 1, 1831, died March 24, 1900. Married Jacob Harris. Buried Lower Saucon Cemetery. Issue:

Susanna Harris, married Theodore Laubach.

Anna Harris, married Wilson Wagner.

Peter Harris, married Minerva Stover. Hellertown, Pa. (1929).

George Boyer was born Dec. 30, 1821, died April 20, 1897. Married Elizabeth Ruch. Buried at Zion's Stone Church, near Kreidersville. Teacher, postmaster, justice of the peace, at Kreidersville. Issue:

Edwin Boyer, died Aug. 25, 1888 in Allen Twp., married Sept. 12, 1869, Ellen E. Beil, who died Mar. 14, 1909.

Elizabeth Boyer married Solomon Stettler, Kreidersville.

Marietta Boyer, married James F. Kleppinger, of Northampton, Pa. Issue: James Kleppinger.

Amanda C. Boyer, married James Deiter.

Ellen Boyer.

Alfred Boyer, died before 1894.

Catherine Boyer was born Feb. 25, 1824, died Jan. 19, 1883. Married Samuel Kleppinger. Buried Zion's Stone Church. Issue: Mary; Elias; Allen A.; Chas. S.; Melissa E.; Amanda, married Thomas E. Kuntz.

Elizabeth Boyer was born April 23, 1832, died July 12, 1914. Married (1st) Aaron Washburn; (2nd) Henry Zellner. Resided at Springtown, Pa. Had 4 sons and 3 daughters.

Sara Ann Hoyer was born Nov. 29, 1834, died May 2, 1920. Married Henry Young. Buried at Zion's Stone Church. Resided at Siegfried's (present Northampton Borough), Pa. Issue:

Jacob Young, single (1929).

William Young, married Miranda Kleppinger. Merchant with son Harry at Laury's, Pa.

George Young married Esther Cole.

Mary Young married Joseph Hoffman. Issue: Erwin of Coplay, Pa. (1929).

Emma Young, married Lovine Lerch. Two children.

Hannah Young, married James E. Koker. Issue: Grace Koker.

Viola Young, died in infancy.

David Boyer was born Sept. 2, 1837, died Dec. 8, 1912. Married Rebecca B. Young. Buried at Zion's Stone Church. Farmer near Kreidersville for 30 years, then sold farm and removed to Siegfried's and followed carpentry. Issue:

Mary R. Boyer, born 1861.

Minnie C. Boyer, born Dec. 24, 1872. Unmarried. Kreidersville (1929).

Thomas A. Boyer, born 1875.

Harry V. Boyer, born Apr. 6, 1877, Northampton, Pa. (1929).

Harrison J. Boyer was born Sept. 2, 1837, died Aug. 29, 1915. Married Henrietta Young, born Nov. 1, 1841. He was a schoolteacher for some years, then a merchant, manufacturer of cement, Clerk of Orphans Court, wholesale hatter, director of National Bank. No issue.

Dr. Benjamin F. Boyer was born May 1, 1842. Educated in Weaversville Academy, Allentown Seminary, and Franklin & Marshall College. Second Lieut., Co. F., 202 Pa. Vols. Studied medicine after 1865. Degree of M.D. from Long Island College Hospital in 1867, and from Bellevue Hospital College in 1868. Practiced medicine at Springtown, Penna. Married Anna C. Trumbauer, born Mar. 28, 1850, died Sept. 5, 1906, buried Springtown Cemetery. Issue:

Emily Boyer, born Aug. 29, 1870, married Warren S. Long, Doylestown, Pa.

Howard F. Boyer, born Feb. 17, 1873, graduate of Lehigh University. Married Rebecca Eisenhart. Issue: Carl, Rebecca.

Hon. Calvin S. Boyer, born April 8, 1876, graduate of Millersville Normal School and Law Dept. of University of Michigan. Judge of Bucks County Courts. Married and has children.



Nellie G. Boyer, born March 8, 1879, died Feb. 21, 1908 at Logan, Utah, where she was engaged in missionary work. Graduate of Millersville Normal School.

M. Elizabeth Boyer was born Sept. 22, 1871. Graduate of Millersville Normal School. Married Wm. H. Witte, 16 York St., Camden, N. J. Issue: Wm. K; Julia A; Emily.

Caroline A. Boyer, born Nov. 3, 1877, married Professor W. T. Melchior. Address (1929) 140 Westminster Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.

Lydia Boyer was born April 4, 1845, died Aug. 4, 1885, buried at Snyder's Church, near Bath, Pa. Married Rev. Robert Lisberger, born June 24, 1830, died June 27, 1900. Issue: Rev. George Lisberger.

And others.

John L. Boyer was born Feb. 27, 1826, died July 28, 1894. Married Catherine L. (?), born April 8, 1828, died March 3, 1908. Buried Durham Cemetery. Farmer in Durham Twp  
Issue:

Caroline Levisa Boyer, born Aug. 20, 1848, married Henry Rufe.

David Cyrus Boyer, born June 24, 1850, died Aug. 9, 1927. Married (1st) Mary Ann (?), born Mar. 25, 1849, died Jan. 23, 1887; (2nd) Emma, born June, 1862, died March, 1924. Buried Durham Cemetery. No issue.

John F. Boyer, born Nov. 19, 1854, died Jan. 19, 1926. Buried Durham Cemetery.

Sylvester F. Boyer, born Sept. 12, 1862, died April 23, 1889. Buried Durham Cemetery.

Anna Boyer was born Oct. 15, 1831, died Sept. 18, 1868. Married Sept. 29, 1850, John P. Beck, born Sept. 11, 1826, died March 21, 1886, Buried Hope Cemetery, Hecktown, Pa.  
Issue:

Lydia Elizabeth Beck born 1852.

Clara Ann Beck, born 1860.

Abraham Boyer was born December 19, 1835, died Oct. 22, 1918. Married (1st) May 20, 1858, Elizabeth Appel (daughter of Jacob Appel and wife, Elizabeth Shimer, of Lower Saucon), born Jan. 12, 1833, died May 13, 1861, both buried in Riegelsville Cemetery; (2nd) Catherine Long, born Aug. 31, 1838, died Aug. 30, 1911, buried Durham Cemetery. Owner of several valuable farm properties in Bucks and Northampton Counties, and also proprietor of the Keystone Furnace, Glendon, Penna. Elder of St. John Reformed Church, Riegelsville, Pa. Issue:

Jacob Oscar Boyer, born 1859

Esther Jane Boyer, born 1874.

Edith Long Boyer, born April 17, 1878, died Dec. 23, 1931. Buried Durham Cemetery. Unmarried. Graduate at Riegelsville Academy, and Y. W. C. A. School of Domestic Science, Boston.

Mary R. Boyer was born Oct. 14, 1861. Married Owen H. Hess. Address (1929) Nazareth, Pa. Issue:

Mabel A. Hess, born Oct. 30 1885, married Robert W. Heffner. Address (1929) 1845 Richmond Ave., Bethlehem, Pa. Issue:

Francis A.;

Betty M.

Floyd D. Hess, born June 27, 1892.

Thomas A. Boyer was born Jan. 8, 1875. Millwright. Address (1929) Northampton, Pa. Married Laura Odenwelder, born Aug. 26, 1877, deceased. Issue:

E. Albert Boyer, born Sept. 4, 1897.

Emma Boyer, born Dec. 18, 1898.

Catherine Boyer.

Lydia Elizabeth Beck was born Jan. 15, 1852, died Jan. 29, 1929. Married, Sept. 29, 1869, Orantas Pearson of Philadelphia. Issue:

John Beck Pearson, married Sadie White. Issue: (1.) Clara May married Herbert Williams, issue: John Allen; (2) Raymond Beck Pearson.

Clara Bertha Pearson, married W. Park Moore of Philadelphia. Issue: (1) Eugene Willard Moore married Sara Fry, issue: W. Park, Eugene Willard; (2) William Clifford Moore married Eleanor Holmes, issue: Wm. Robert, Nancy Jane; (3) Dorothy Clara Moore married Edward Worley.

Clara Ann Beck was born Nov. 28, 1860, died June 26, 1937. Buried Moravian Cemetery, Nazareth, Penna. Unmarried. Journalist, historian and noted genealogist of Eastern Penna. Miss Beck was graduated from Bucknell College, 1877, at the age of 16, being the youngest student ever to receive its degree. She had the distinction also of being the first woman elected a member of the Nazareth School Board, 1931-35.

Jacob Oscar Boyer was born June 22, 1859, died; July 4, 1906. Married Ida Henrietta Stever (daughter of Adam Stever and wife, Lucinda Miller) born Nov. 22, 1864, died Jan. 30, 1934, Buried in Riegelsville Cemetery. Jacob attended Palatinate College, Myerstown, Pa., and afterwards became a prominent farmer and politician in Pohatcong Twp., Warren Co., N. J. New Jersey tax assessor for 16 years; Justice of the Peace for more than 20 years; commissioner of deeds and notary public; member of county board of elections. Issue:

Elizabeth Mae Boyer, born May 4, 1883, married Feb, 14, 1907, Walter Randolph Perigo, born, Feb. 18, 1870, died Sept. 12, 1925. Farmer, miller, real estate agent, buried Alumbach Cemetery, Reading, Pa. She married (2nd) Charles H. Riegel; (3rd) Roy Seabury. Address (1942) 54 S. Front St., Easton, Penna. Issue: Clyde Vincent Boyer, born December 31, 1907. Name changed to Boyer by petition granted by Essex Co. (N. J.) Common Pleas Court, Dec. 13, 1927. Attended N. Y. University's School of Retailing. Department store executive. Married Jan. 24, 1929, Dorothy June Shaw, born June 21, 1909. Address (1942) 2458 Greenleaf Ave., Chicago, Ill. Issue:

1. Allen Winfield Boyer, born April 23, 1930.
2. Virginia Ann Boyer, born Aug. 22, 1932.
3. Elizabeth (Betty) Jane Boyer, born Feb. 3, 1939.

Harry Edgar Boyer, born Feb. 26, 1885, married March 11, 1908, Luella Mae Myers. Graduate of Easton Business College. Manufacturer of extracts. Assessor of Pohatcong Twp., Warren Co., N. J, Address (1942) 1527 S. Main St., Phillipsburg, N. J. No issue.

Esther Jane Boyer was born April 10, 1874. Registered Nurse, graduate of Jefferson Medical Training School, Phila., Pa. Married, Nov. 30, 1901, Philip Henry Sipler, born Aug. 29, 1865, died Oct. 21, 1932. He was president of P. H. Sipler Co., hardware merchant, Darby, Penna., and band director. Her address (1942) 430 S. 4th St., Darby, Penna. Issue:

Philip H. Sipler, Jr., born Sept. 10, 1902. Succeeded father in hardware business, Married April 9, 1922, Edith Morgan, born July 4, 1902. Address Darby, Penna. Issue:

1. Jean Boyer Sipler, born Aug. 20, 1924.
2. Eleanor Morgan Sipler, born Oct. 2., 1926.
3. Esther Lois Sipler, born Feb. 8, 1929.
4. Philip Sipler, born June 21, 1932, died Dec. 29, 1934.
5. Howard D. Sipler, born Dec. 3, 1935.

Edward Dyer Sipler, born May 3, 1905. Head teller 1st National Bank of Phila. Married Feb. 7, 1927, Mary A. Dunkle, born July 21, 1909. Address (1942) Darby, Penna. Issue:

1. Dorothy May Sipler, born Aug. 27, 1929.
2. Edward Dyer Sipler, born July 10, 1934.

Nevin Boyer Sipler, born Feb. 16, 1907, died Sept. 23, 1910.

Howard Dwight Sipler, born Oct. 10, 1911. Graduate Swarthmore College. Connected with Scott Paper Co., Chester, Pa., married Jan. 29, 1938, Elizabeth Hunt Passmore, born Oct. 12, 1911. Residence (1942) 235 Park Ave., Swarthmore, Penna. Issue:

1. Dwight Passmore Sipler, born Sept. 5, 1839.
2. Christine Darlington Sipler, born Sept. 20, 1941.

Edith Boyer Sipler, born July 14, 1916.

### **DESCENDANT OF JOHN BOYER & WIFE, ANNA MARIA LERCH**

John Boyer, or Johannes Boyer, was born August 15, 1742, and died January 5, 1825, according to his gravestone in the Lower Saucon Tw's'p (Northampton County, Pa.) churchyard. He married Anna Maria Lerch (a daughter of Gratius Lerch and wife Anna Maria Bahl, of Lower Saucon). She was born Nov. 21, 1750, and died March 19, 1825, surviving her husband only a few months. She, too, is buried in Lower Saucon. They were both members of the Reformed Church of Lower Saucon.

It seems highly probable that John was an immigrant, though the ship lists do not record his name. However, it is a well-known fact that these lists are not complete. That he was German is known from an old family Bible, which has descended from him. The earliest definite record that we have of John Boyer, is the tax list of Lower Saucon Township, for the year 1766. This list also includes the names of Blasius Boyer and Jacob Boyer, father and son, respectively. Blasius, with his family, removed to Philadelphia County, about 1768. His will, of record at Philadelphia, does not mention a son named John, and it seems safe to conclude that he was not John's father. He may have been an uncle or other close relative.

On the list of Upper Saucon, an adjoining township, for the same year (1766), we note the name of Abraham Boyer, who is listed for the first time. Abraham appears to have been a substantial farmer, being assessed for 260 acres of land. Whether or not he was related to John, may never be known. His name disappears entirely from the records of Northampton County after 1768.

John Boyer was, as the records tend to show, a very close relative of Frederick Boyer 1745-1825 and Michael Boyer 1746-1820. All three appear on the tax list of Lower Saucon for 1772, Frederick, and Michael for the first time. We know though, that Michael lived in the vicinity in 1767, perhaps before. They often appeared as sponsors at the baptisms of each other's children. A close social relationship existed between the respective descendants of these three early Boyers, down to the present generation. A careful study of all Boyer references in deeds, wills, Orphan's Court, Church and other records of Northampton, Bucks and Berks Counties, has failed to establish the parentage of these three Boyers. This is not surprising, in view of the tradition that they were immigrants. It seems likely that the parents remained in Germany. An analysis of all available facts, leaves no reasonable doubt that John, Frederick and Michael were brothers or first cousins.

The Pennsylvania Archives, volume 8, series 5, pages 86, 339 and 359, record that John Boyer, of Lower Saucon, was a Revolutionary War soldier. He served in 1782 as a private under

Capt. Jesse Jones, in the Northampton County Militia, 4th Battalion, 4th Company. In 1783, we find that he served in the 1st Battalion, under Captain Edward Shimer.

John Boyer was a prosperous farmer in Lower Saucon, where he lived until the time of his death. His farm was located less than a mile northwest of the Lower Saucon Church. It remained in possession of the family for several generations, and was sold to the Bethlehem Steel Company, a few years before the late war. A substantial cash consideration was involved.

John Boyer's will may be seen at Easton, Pa., in the Northampton County Court House. It was proved March 21, 1827.

(END OF ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT)

## ALFRED LERCH

Alfred Lerch was born Oct. 15, 1878 and died Jan. 5, 1963. He was also known as Alfred Rhoads Lerch, assuming his mother's maiden name as his middle name. He is the son of Benneville F. Lerch, born June 29, 1839, died Dec. 27, 1895, and Emma Rosetta Rhoads, born Mar. 24, 1857, died July 31, 1889.

His parents were not married. His father lived in a hotel in Bethlehem where his mother worked, presumably the Grand Central Hotel. Emma was a daughter of Reuben Rhoads (Roth) and Catherine Angstadt. Reuben's grandmother, Maria Adam Grosscup, was a Cherokee Indian.

Alfred had a tough life beginning with his mother's death when he was 10. Apparently, his father occasionally gave him money until he reached the age of 15. His father died when he was 17. His maternal grandfather, Reuben Rhoads, raised him. He began life on his own working at German-speaking bakeries in Philadelphia.

NAME (BORN)	PAGE(s)	FATHER (PG)	SPOUSE
Stoffel			
Johon Conrad		Stoffel	Gertrude Bien
Andreas (1687)	3,7,12	Johon Conrad	Elizabeth Faust
Anthony, Sr. (1720)	9,17,73	Andreas (1683)	Anna Margaretha Lauer
John (1747)	73,74	Anthony, Sr. 1720	Sybilla Morry
Joseph (1786)	20,79	John	Salome Bleim
Benneville (1839)	87	Joseph 1786	1st. Sunia Seager, 2nd. Emma Rosetta (not married)
Alfred (10/15/1878)		Benneville (B. F.)	Lottie Wagner 1888

First Lerches settled at Durham Furnace, Pa., where Riegel's Mill now stands.

It was unlawful to list children under 18 on ships registry.

Hometown in Germany was Lorch-Dahl, changed to Lerch in 18th century.

Most early Lerches were buried at Lower Saucon Graveyard. Some at Williams Township Church.

His first language was Pennsylvania German, or "Dutch." He also spoke English and learned German in Philadelphia. Baking became one of his many professions.

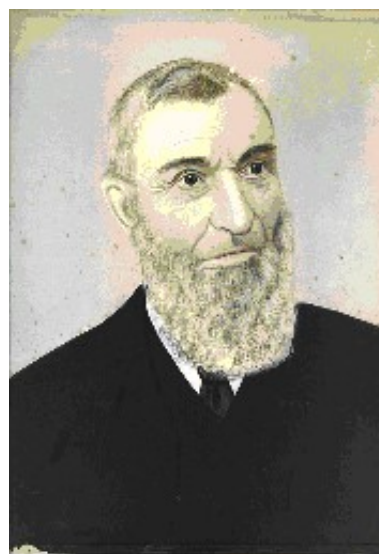
About 1895, Alfred joined the U.S. Navy. It is rumored that he joined under a fictitious name, and eventually walked away from this venture having not appreciated the position. It is further whispered that he looked over his shoulder the remainder of his life and possibly this was the cause of his frequent relocations.

Around the turn of the 20th century, Alfred answered an ad for a bakery worker in McClure, Pa. There he worked for James A. Wagner and eventually married the boss's daughter, Lottie, born May 18, 1889, died Aug. 15, 1973. When he arrived in McClure, Alfred was pleased that they spoke Dutch and played the card game, "Hoss" (Hasenpeffer).

Some of Alfred's professions, in addition to baking in Philadelphia and Beavertown, Pa. include: farming at Raubs Mills (near Beaver Springs, Pa.); trolley operator in Philadelphia; restaurateur in Lewistown, Pa., and; furniture store in Lewistown.



Alfred and Lottie Lerch, c. 1950



Reuben Rhoads

Children of Alfred Lerch and Lottie Wagner Lerch were as follows:

1. Edward Reuben Lerch, born, 12/7/1907 at Philadelphia. Died as a young boy.
2. Mildred May Lerch, born 7/25/1909 at Beavertown, Pa., died 11/8/1987. Married Martin Berger. Children: Jeannette Berger Rodgers, Eleanor Berger White, Martin Berger, Jr., and Larry Berger.
3. Wilfred Rutherford, born 2/7/1911 at Beavertown. Died as a young boy.
4. James Albert Lerch, born 3/10/1912 at Hammonton, N.J., died 11/15, 1981. Married Delilah Brown. Children: Lila Lou Lerch Thomas and Jean Elizabeth Lerch Xanthopoulos.
5. Richard Samuel Lerch, born 11/28/1913 at Osceola Mills, Pa., died 1/6/2000. Married Jesse Woods. Children: Susan Lerch Williams, Edward Lerch, and Thomas Lerch.
6. Emma Rosetta Lerch, born 6/21/1915 at Beavertown, died 12/2/2003. Married Carl Delong. Children: Loraine Delong Dodd and Nancy Delong Leary.
7. Edwin Marlin Lerch, born 8/7/1916 at Beavertown, died 5/8/2006. Married Mary Barrett. Children: Twins Diane Lerch and Donna Lerch Ihnen, Robert Lerch, and Debbie Lerch-Walters.

8. Verna Viola Lerch, born 6/20/1919 at Philadelphia. Married Rush Fultz. Children: Rush Fultz, Jr., Alfred Fultz, David Fultz, Ellen Fultz Lane, James Fultz, and Mona Fultz.
9. Ralph Harold Lerch, born 12/15/1920 at Philadelphia, died 7/25/1998. Married Pearl Steinberger. Children: Harold Lerch, Jane Lerch, and Alfred Lerch.
10. Frances Irene Lerch, born 3/12/1930 at Raubs Mills, Pa. Married: 1. Robert Hartsock, no children. Married, 2. Clifford Leister. Children: Marilyn Leister McIntyre, Dawn Leister Rowe, and Linda Leister Gible.

### BENNEVILLE F. LERCH

Benneville Lerch, father of Alfred, b. June 29, 1839, d. Dec 27, 1895, aged 56(?) years, was a respected salesman and a Civil War veteran. Not much is known beyond the following Civil War record and Obituary. He was a sergeant in the union army. The dates on the record below are confusing since his obituary states that he "served until the close of the Rebellion." Perhaps the writer did not find the entire documentation. Note that his name is listed as Benjamin, also how listed on the baptismal certificate of his son, Alfred.

Lerch, Benjamin F.	G - 128 I	4 - 178
Enrolled	7/30/62	At Allentown, Pa.
M.I.	8/12/62	As Sergt. At Hbg, Pa.
D.O.	5/19/63	
<b>Discharged:</b>		
Age at enrollment	27	Complexion
Height		Eyes
Hair		Occup.
<b>Residence:</b>		
<b>Remarks:</b> Pro. from Corpl. 7/31/62		

Copied from Pennsylvania Archives Civil War Veterans Card File

### BENNEVILLE LERCH OBITUARY

from The Morning Call, Allentown, Pa.

Benneville F. Lerch  
Saturday, December 28, 1895

#### Obituary

Benneville F. Lerch, the veteran salesman, died yesterday morning at 10:30 in his rooms at the Grand Central Hotel, where he was boarding. His illness was a brief one, being confined to bed only since last Friday. Heart disease was the cause of death. Deceased was born near Kreidersville, Northampton County, and was 58 years of age. He was the son of the late Joseph Lerch, a farmer. When he was 21 years of age, he went to Bethlehem and started in as clerk in the store of his brother,

the late John Lerch. He remained with him several years, and then came to this city and was associated with Charles Roeder in the dry good business on the present site of Danowsky's drug store. Soon after the war broke out, Mr. Lerch enlisted in Co. G., 128th Regiment, in which he served until the close of the Rebellion. Since that time, he was employed at various times by Kramer and Co., D. S. Menges, Koch and Shankweiler and for the past ten years, he was connected with the store of W. R. Lawfer and Co. He was regarded as one of the best salesmen in this city. Deceased was married to a daughter of the late Joseph Saeger. She died thirty years ago. Two brothers survive, Amandus Lerch of Petersville and David Lerch of Easton, and one sister, Mrs. Reuben Koons of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Lerch was a man well liked by all who knew him and his death is widely lamented and deeply deplored. The Lerch family yesterday, had a reunion at Petersville, Northampton County, which the deceased was expected to attend. Jacob Danner drove there to notify them of the death. The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon at Grand Central Hotel to which relatives and friends, members of Regiment No 128, Penna. Vol. Infantry and the employes of W. R. Lawfer & Co. store are respectfully invited without further notice. Services will be held in Salem's Reformed Church. Rev. G. W. Richards officiating. Interment in West End Cemetery.



Benneville F. Lerch



Emma Rosetta Rhoads

Alfred and Lottie retired to Lewistown prior to World War II with all eight living children. The four sons worked in a furniture store at Lerch Furniture Co., an enterprise founded by James. Eventually, son Edwin removed to Urbana, Il. for a career at Chanute Air Force Base. Daughter Frances and husband relocated to Manheim, Pa., later East Petersburg, Pa.

(ALSO FROM ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT)

**"SOME DAY"**

*Some day our Friend ship cords will sever,  
And we on Earth must part forever.  
Be not dismayed, this is no Fate,  
We'll meet beyond that Golden Gate.  
We'll try to walk the Narrow Path,  
And thus escape the fearful Wrath.  
With smiles and "Patience," onward go,  
Hold fast the Anchor here below.*

*We'll guard our words, and learn the Truth,  
The Gifts of "God," we'll not misuse.  
He gives us every year the Best,  
And still at times we do protest.  
Let's come to "Him," with grateful Thanks,  
No matter how or where our ranks.  
We met each other Twenty years,  
Sometimes in Joy, sometimes in Tears,  
It greaves us sore to leave our Friends,  
When the Angel of Death, its Reaper sends,  
But be content, and sorrow no more,  
For they are safe on that "Golden Shore."  
Just Watch, and Pray, while here we roam,  
Till we may enter that "Heavenly Home."*

*Composed and written expressly for the Lerch History,  
by Camilla H. H. Heckman, Sec'y-Historian, in 1941*

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The historian copied all the records she received in this book and is grateful to all. If any errors, they were done inadvertently.

Thanks to all for your kind cooperation.

C. H. H. H.  
(1942)

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# The Door



How wonderful if there were a door to Heaven that we could open at will! This door could eliminate all of our troubles and sorrows by simply allowing us to unbolt it and enter God's domain. Actually, "the door" is at our fingertips and within our reach. Jesus said, "*Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.*" (Revelation 3:20 RSV.) Jesus added, "*He who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.*" (Revelation 3:21 RSV.)

Jesus is the doorway to heaven. We cannot enter as we are. We are sinners with sinful, mortal bodies. We must be changed before we can cross the threshold to Heaven. The apostle Paul tells us, "*For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*" (1 Corinthians 15:53-57 RSV.)

The aged door in the picture above was once a beautiful entrance to my Mother's childhood home. It is testimony to the fact that in the beginning, God wound-up His creation, which is now winding down. By three steps, one could enter Mom's home, and by three steps, one can enter Heaven:

1. Confess your sins. *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* (1 John 1:9 KJV.)
2. Believe in Christ. *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.* (Acts 16:31b KJV.)
3. Ask Jesus into your Heart. *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:* (John 1:12 KJV.)

Jesus can and will save you from your sins, and make a place for you in Heaven: *In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.* (John 14:2-3 RSV.)

If you would like to enter the door to Heaven, pray, "*Dear Father in Heaven, I know I am a sinner and have sinned against you. I am sorry for my sins and sinful nature, and ask for your forgiveness. I accept Jesus now as my Savior, who shed His blood for me. I give my life to you and will strive to live for you. Thank you, LORD, for saving my soul. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.*"

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