

THE  
ROSENBERGER FAMILY  
OF  
*Montgomery County*

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HISTORICAL  
AND  
GENEALOGICAL SKETCHES

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**By EDWARD MATHEWS**

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EDWARD MATHEWS.



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## PREFACE.

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A SHORTER account of the Rosenberger family, prepared by the writer of this book, was published in a local newspaper at the beginning of 1888. This pertained only to two branches in Hatfield. The more extended account in this volume was written at the instigation of the publisher, Isaiah R. Haldeman, himself related to the family both by birth and marriage. To obtain the facts herein recorded required much labor and research in proportion to the size of the book. The official records and registry of deeds and wills at Norristown, Doylestown and Philadelphia have been searched, and various persons connected with the family by ties of relationship have been consulted. A number of short journeys have been necessary to localities identified with the early settlement of the pioneers of the family. Persons living in distant places have been more free in giving information than some nearer at home. Certain portions will be of interest to the public generally, whilst other chapters will interest only those descended from those bearing the name of Rosenberger. It would have been desirable to have had the genealogy more full and complete, but this was

found impracticable. The family of Rosenberger has been much extended in Montgomery and adjacent counties, and also in distant portions of the United States and Canada. The writer has endeavored to present something of family and local history that might otherwise have been lost, and hoping that it will incite an increased interest in the past annals of this region of country this little volume is presented to the public.

NORTH WALES, Pa., October 20, 1892.

E. M.



# THE ROSENBERGER FAMILY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

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THE name of Rosenberger is of ancient origin in Germany, signifying Rosemount, or Rose Castle. The first settlers of the name of Rosenberger in Montgomery county came to the townships of Franconia and Hatfield. The earliest of these was Henry Rosenberger, who came to the Indian Creek Valley in Franconia in 1729. He was followed in 1739 by the coming of Benjamin Rosenberger to Hatfield. In that year he bought 125 acres, bordering the county line at Line Lexington, which he held for five years. John Rosenberger came also to Hatfield and first bought land where is now the village around Hatfield station about 1749-50. Daniel Rosenberger purchased another tract in Hatfield lying along the county line near the hamlet called Hockertown in 1740. It is supposed that these families were all related and it is certain that Daniel and John were brothers. The descendants of Benjamin are now largely settled in Bucks county. All the earlier members of these families belonged to the religious sect called Mennonites.

## HENRY ROSENBERGER OF FRANCONIA.

The first of the name who came to Montgomery county is believed to have been Henry Rosenberger, an emigrant from Germany, and a Mennonite. He purchased land in Franconia on November 14, 1729, of James Steele, of Philadelphia. For £30 he obtained 159 acres. This was situated about two and one-half miles west of Souderton. It covered an area through which flows the Indian Creek. The greater part was the slope towards the northwest from the present Souderton and Harleysville turnpike to that stream, and including the site of the Mennonite burying ground. Within these boundaries are now the farm of Jacob S. Alderfer, Shucey's mill, and the farm of Michael Swartley. The latter is the fifth in descent from Henry Rosenberger, and owns the homestead. Here, down in the valley of the Indian Creek and on its southeast side, is a stone farm house of unusual size. It bears the date of 1809 and the name of John Swartley in German, who was the grandfather of the present owner. To the north is a modern barn, and close to hand an older one. The latter is the oldest building about the premises. On the wooden beam over the door is inscribed the name of Henry Rosenberger and Barbara, his wife, with the date 1755. The first barn of all, in existence between 1730 and 1755, stood more closely adjacent to the banks of the stream, which was thought handy to wash away the manure, at a time this was thought of little value. A stone spring house stands seventy yards west of the house, near the creek, and bears the date of 1793. For this distance the water for household purposes was carried for three or four generations. In the present garden, just west of the house, stood the humble log dwelling which sheltered

the old Mennonite preacher and his family. It was only one and one-half stories. It existed for eighty years.

The boundaries of the wilderness tract purchased of Steele in 1729 were: "Beginning at corner in line of Christian Haldeman; thence by same northeast 100 perches to line of Francis Daniel Pastorias; thence by same northwest 254 perches; thence southwest 100 perches by marked trees; thence by marked trees southeast 254 perches to beginning." This was part of 1000 acres which Penn's commissioners of property, Isaac Norris, James Logan and Thomas Griffith had sold to Steele in 1728. The deed was witnessed by James Robinson and Abraham Reiff. The Christian Haldeman here mentioned held a tract on the south side of the turnpike, where is now the Jonas Moyer estate. In the list of taxables of Franconia in 1734 is found the name of Henry Rosenberger. In the old records, Franconia is styled, "The Dutch Township," and to the present day its population is almost wholly of German or Dutch origin.

We know nothing of the personality of Henry Rosenberger. He built a house and barn and cleared some land, enduring the hardships of a first settler. By the date of 1745 he had a son old enough to own the plantation, and to whom it was then conveyed. It is not known what became of the father thereafter, but probably he staid with his son. The boundaries of the deed of 1745 are copied from the first deed and Henry Funk and Christian Moyer, two Mennonites, were the witnesses. The son Henry paid his father £200.

### THE MENNONITES.

There were few records kept of the affairs of the old Mennonite churches. In many cases we have no accounts of the early

preachers and elders. Tradition says that Henry Rosenberger became a preacher among them, and served as such at the Franconia Meeting. It is known that he was the preacher during the time of the Revolution. He is repeatedly mentioned in the Funkite controversy, in the pamphlet written by Christian Funk, "The Mirror for all Mankind." This pamphlet, written in German, says that Rosenberger sided with the majority, and opposed Funk. The dispute ended with Funk being disfellowshipped, and caused a breach in the church, as Funk and his friends started a separate branch. Funk was an ardent patriot, and charged his brethren with being too slow in recognizing the justice of the American struggle for liberty, and the necessity for separation from Great Britain. In the end, Rosenberger was among those who advocated the readmission of Funk to the fellowship of the church. Funk died in 1811 and lies buried in the neighboring Herrite cemetery.

#### THE FRANCONIA MEETING HOUSE.

This is one of the typical places of worship found in many localities of eastern Pennsylvania. A church was organized and a house of worship built here as early as 1730. The recent structure was succeeded by another in 1892. Like all others of this people it is plain to austerity. Many horse sheds encompass it round about. It is built upon an elevation, from which a splendid view may be obtained of hill and valley to the north and west. This overlooks a densely populated farming country, extending to the distant hills of Berks and the highlands beyond the Schuylkill. In the nearer view are the pleasant vales of the Indian Creek and the North Branch of the Perkiomen.

On the northwest side of the church lies the extensive burying ground, where repose the dead of many generations, and thickly dotted with marble tombstones. This meeting is one of the strongest in numbers, having over seven hundred members. A communion service in the Spring brings out a very large attendance, and the services have a quaint interest for the stranger. The services, beginning at eight in the morning, last over three hours. The women are seated within the two aisles, while the men occupy the side pews, their hats being hung on long rows of pegs over the aisles. In the rear vestibule, entered by a side door, is the women's room, where are hung their bonnets and extra clothing. The Scriptures are read in German, and several preachers in turn exhort the congregation. The elements of the communion are handed to each member by the bishop, who has an assistant, meanwhile constantly exhorting. In time of prayer is seen a kneeling throng. The preacher from a hymn book reads one verse at a time in a sing-song tone. This is sung to an old-fashioned tune, sounding sweetly to the ear as it comes from the white capped throng. Thus is conducted the worship of the followers of Menno Simon.

## JOHN SWARTLEY.

Henry Rosenberger had a daughter Mary, and it is said one named Sarah. Mary was wed by John Swartley. This John Swartley, like many other German immigrants of Colonial times, was a Redemptioner. He had not the money to pay his passage to America. Upon his arrival in Philadelphia he was sold for a term of years by the master of the vessel. Henry Rosenberger paid for the expense of his coming and thus acquired

the right to his services for the term of three years, as provided by the laws of that period. This was about the year 1772, or three years before the beginning of the Revolutionary war. Swartley was then a youth of about eighteen. He came to Franconia, worked faithfully upon the Indian Creek farm, and found favor in his master's eyes as a worthy young man. What is more, he found favor with his daughter Mary, his future wife, and after obtaining his freedom, he married her. It was a good stroke of business, for he obtained a good wife, and inherited a fine farm, which he transmitted to his descendants, who hold a large portion to the present day. Tradition says that Philip, brother of John, married Sarah Rosenberger and removed to New Britain. He was born in 1764 and died in 1840.

The plantation had been enlarged in 1763 by the purchase of twenty acres, contained in a long narrow strip on the southwest side. This was bought of Jacob Oberholtzer and was thus bounded: "Beginning in line of Christian Moyer; thence by same northeast 20 perches; thence by other land of Henry Rosenberger northwest 160 perches; then of other land of Jacob Oberholtzer southwest 20 perches; then by same southeast 160 perches to beginning." For this £100 were paid.

It is not certainly known when Henry Rosenberger died, but this is supposed to have been in 1809. If so, he must have reached the age of eighty-five or ninety. He was buried in the neighboring graveyard, but has no tombstone.

Mary, the wife of John Swartley, died in 1809, and her husband obtained a second wife, of the name of Hagey. In the graveyard his remains lie between these two wives. His own death occurred in 1817, at the age of sixty-three, he having been born in 1754. His second wife survived him one year. He had



brothers whose descendants now live in New Britain, Bucks county, and elsewhere.

The children of Jacob Swartley were six sons and two daughters. The sons were John, Samuel, Henry, Abraham, Joseph and Philip. In the will of John Swartley mention is made that Abraham got eighteen acres, Joseph eighty acres, adjoining Joseph Freed and Ralph Moyer (now the Jacob Alderfer farm), whilst the homestead, and 109 acres was devised to Philip. The latter was born January 2, 1795, and died July 30, 1880. He built the mill further down the creek, which was owned by his son Samuel. It is now the property of Jacob Schuey.

#### BENJAMIN ROSENBERGER OF HATFIELD AND GWYNEDD.

Benjamin Rosenberger was contemporary with Daniel and John in Hatfield during Colonial times. As early as 1739 he purchased 125 acres on the county line, comprising the present farm of Oliver G. Morris and the Frick farm at Line Lexington, of Ebenezer Kinnersley. This he held till 1744, and it is probable that he made the first improvements there. He sold to his son John, but who only retained possession one year.

Benjamin Rosenberger was of a dealing, trading, speculative disposition, and we find him buying and selling various properties in different townships all his life. His next purchase was a tract of land of 112 acres in Hatfield, lying further southwest. This was 86 perches by 210 in dimensions. The neighboring landholders were James Dunn on the southeast, Jacob Wireman on the southwest, John Shooter on the northeast, and Edward Warner on the northwest. This place was bought of David Thomas for £120. It had belonged to a grant of 1210 acres made to Jonathan Hayes in 1705, who made the first improve-

ments. His only son Jonathan had two sisters, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Maris, and Mary, wife of Evan Lewis. The daughters were the heirs after the death of their brother. They sold to John Williams in 1723, who conveyed to David Thomas in 1731.

We next find him the owner of the late Server farm, just north of Lansdale, a large part of which is now included within that borough. This he had bought at a date now unknown, but which Rosenberger sold to Solomon Sell in 1760. It comprised 106 acres, and in later times belonged to Edward Jenkins and his son Philip. A little later, before 1766, he came into possession of a farm in Gwynedd, near Friends Corner, in later times owned by Jonathan Lukens. This he sold in 1776 to Cadwallader Foulke. In 1772 he bought a lot in Upper Gwynedd, comprising fifty acres, of Jonathan Clayton, near the present Kneedler hotel. Probably this had no building on it. It was sold by his heirs in 1781 to Jacob Heisler, the tavern keeper for £420. It is supposed that he also owned a farm in Franconia, as his widow Helena died in that township. In the old deeds Benjamin Rosenberger is mentioned as a carpenter. At one time he also owned the present Beaver farm near North Wales.

The death of Benjamin Rosenberger took place during the Revolution, near or in 1777, after an active life of over fifty years in this county. His surviving children were five in number, Elias (or Yellis), John, Gertrude, wife of Jacob Landis of Franconia; Elizabeth, wife of John Alderfer, of Lower Salford; and Henry, of New Britain, Bucks county. John was a resident of Hatfield, and Elias afterwards removed to Springfield, Bucks county, and 1800 was living in Rockhill. John Rosenberger, the other son, became the owner of the 112-acre farm in Hatfield, bought by his father in 1751. His children were Benjamin,

Jacob, Anna and Susanna. Of these, Benjamin, the eldest, and grandson of the first Benjamin, became the owner in 1798.

Helena Rosenberger, widow of Benjamin Rosenberger, Sr., died in Franconia in the Summer of 1799. In her will mention is made of her grandchild Helena, wife of Michael Wireman, and great grandchild, Anna Wireman. From her daughter Elizabeth, who married John Alderfer, have sprung many descendants in Lower Salford.

About the close of the last century a Christian Rosenberger held a farm in Upper Gwnedd near the Towamencin line. This he bought in 1795 of the Kinsey estate, but which he sold in 1797. He afterwards bought a farm of 129 acres in Lower Providence, and died in that township in 1824. The writer has not ascertained to which family he belonged.

#### YELLIS ROSENBERGER AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

Yellis, the eldest son of the first Benjamin of Hatfield, finished his life in Rockhill, Bucks county, near Perkasio and Sellersville. His death took place in the early Fall of 1808. His will was registered on the 3d of October of that year. In this, he bequeathed to his son Benjamin, the "plantation where I now live," containing 130 acres, then bounded by lands of Andrew Schlichter and Abraham Stroud. He also owned fourteen acres of woodland. The other children mentioned were Henry, Anna, wife of Joseph Naragary, and Rebecca, wife of Jacob Bechtel. The first daughter received £1000, and the other a farm in Springfield, where John Bissey lived. It is stated that the son Henry had already received his portion.

Yellis, or Julius Rosenberger, as he is often called in the old deeds, inherited the trading, money-making disposition of his

father, and the records of Bucks show that he bought and sold many different properties in that county. He was born before 1735. In 1760 he bought of Henry Funk a plantation in Hilltown of 166 acres for £400, which he sold in 1765. Before 1773 he lived in Springfield, on the Saucon line, a portion of his farm being in Northampton county. In that year he bought a farm of 159 acres in Bedminster on the Hilltown border, of George Rothrock. In 1774 a farm of 106 acres in Hilltown was bought of Valentine Kramer. In 1795 he bought 70 acres in Rockhill of Christian Dotterer, which just before his death in 1808 he sold to his son Henry. He had also acquired a farm of 130 acres in that township. The Springfield farm was inherited by his son Benjamin, as well as one in Rockhill. There is a tradition concerning a large tract of land in Rockhill which in those days was held by non-resident owners. It comprised, along with arable land much of the Rockhills. Several squatters had settled on this land, among whom was a Rosenberger. They were ordered to vacate, but refused, and were only dispossessed by a sheriff's posse. The latter came "with a band of soldiers," as the story goes, in the absence of Rosenberger. The women folks at home were very belligerent, and prepared to scald the intruders. The sheriff finally broke down the door and got possession. The writer has no dates as to the time of this transaction, or which family were engaged.

#### BENJAMIN ROSENBERGER OF ROCKHILL.

Benjamin, the eldest son of Yellis Rosenberger, was born about 1758, probably in Hatfield. Afterwards he lived in Saucon in his youth, and before his majority was teamster in the American army of the Revolution. The latter part of his life, he lived in

Rockhill, Bucks county. He also owned a grist-mill saw and oil-mill in Haycock and 27 acres. He married Margaret Nash. He reached the age of sixty-six, his will being registered April 24, 1824. In this document mention is made of his children, Abraham, Elias, William, John, Jacob, Joseph, Benjamin, Elizabeth, Rachel and Rebecca. Of the daughters, Elizabeth was married to Henry Nunnemaker, Rachel to Isaac Clemmer, and Rebecca to Henry Hartel. The homestead of Benjamin was half a mile east of Sellersville, and afterwards at a mill which subsequently belonged to Rev. J. Y. Strassburger.

#### HENRY ROSENBERGER OF ROCKHILL.

Henry Rosenberger lived in Rockhill the earlier part of the century. His death occurred in the Spring of 1824. In his will of the 15th of May of that year mention is made of his wife Ann, and children, John, Henry, Elizabeth, wife of Henry Stauffer; Margaret, wife of John Freed; Mary, wife of Jacob Hoffel; Nancy, wife of Michael Derstrine; Catharine, wife of George Deihl, and Henry, together with grandchildren Henry and Samuel. Held a plantation which was ordered sold.

#### CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN ROSENBERGER.

Elias—Had seven children by two wives, Benjamin, Jacob, Elias, Henry, Mary, Rebecca and Isaac.

William—Born in 1800; married Susanna Button. Had children, Aaron, Joel, William, Elias, Jacob, John and Isaac. Of these, Aaron was Clerk of the Orphan's Court for Bucks county for three years, from 1861 to 1864, elected on the Republican ticket. Now a resident of Philadelphia.

Joel is a farmer, of Hatfield. The father of this family died in 1877. Elias lived in Upper Milford, Jacob in Bridge-town, and Isaac, John and William in or near Perkasio.

Jacob had children, Mary, John and Joseph, and lived in Bedminster

John had children, Horace, Emanuel, Abraham, John, Elizabeth and Henry. Was twice married into Shutt and Underkoffer families. He lived in Upper Providence.

Abraham had children, Hannah, Enos, Samuel, Israel, Abraham, Joseph, Levi, Mahlon and others, or thirteen in all. Enos was a teacher by profession. Had charge of the schools of North Wales for five years. Has for many years been a resident of Kutztown, Berks county. Hannah married Israel Place, whose son A. R. Place, was a teacher and is now a lawyer, resident of Lansdale. Mary married John O. Zimmerman. Abraham, the father of this family lived at Black Rock, in Upper Providence. His death took place about 1860.

Joseph married ——— Moyer. Had children, Salome, Henry, John, Isaac. Lived in Hilltown and Bedminster.

Benjamin remained unmarried.

Elizabeth Nunnemaker had children Elias, Aaron, Charles, Henry, Maria and Elizabeth. Lived in Bedminster.

Rachel Clemmer had Jacob and Lucy. Lived in Hilltown.

Rebecca Hartel had Elizabeth and Rebecca. Lived in Norristown.

#### CHRISTIAN ROSENBERGER OF GWYNEDD AND LOWER PROVIDENCE.

There was a Christian Rosenberger, living in Montgomery county a century ago, whether of a separate family, or related to the others, the writer has not ascertained. His name first



ENOS H. ROSENBERGER.





appears in the records in 1795, when he bought for £408, 123 acres of the Kinsey estate in Upper Gwynedd, but which he sold two years later. In 1797 he bought 129 acres in Lower Providence, where he remained. His death took place in 1821. He was a wealthy man and an extensive landholder. In his will mention is made of his wife Elizabeth and eight children. The names of those given were, David, Jacob and John. These heirs in 1826 sold a farm of 64 acres to John Stinson, also six houses and 300 acres in Worcester and Providence to various parties. The land was near the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike.

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# THE ROSENBERGERS OF HATFIELD.

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DANIEL, DAVID, ISAAC AND JOHN—THE OLD MILL AND THE HOME-STEAD—CHILDREN OF JOHN ROSENBERGER.

Investigations concerning the local history of Hatfield and the genealogy of its early settlers are beset with many difficulties. The township was not organized in 1734, and therefore we have no list of taxables, made elsewhere in the county at that time. The time of organization was about 1741-43. In many cases titles were not recorded, and in consequence cannot be found anywhere at this time. Whilst the eastern and southern portions were settled by Welsh people, the central, western, and northern parts were first occupied by German Mennonites, whose descendants form a large proportion of the population to-day.

A large section of the northern part of Hatfield was first cleared and improved by two brothers of the name of Rosenberger—David and John.

DANIEL ROSENBERGER.

We will first give the result of some investigations concerning Daniel Rosenberger, the lands he bought, and the record of his descendants. His lands composed 359 acres, bought in two parcels and at different times. This large plantation bordered

on the county line for a mile, and extended over half a mile southwest. Within this tract are now the properties of David, Samuel and Henry Rosenberger, Milton Jenkins, John Landis, and Kile's tavern property. Across this nearly level area, two branches of the Neshaminy pursue their way, one coming from Hilltown, the other having its rise in the northern corner of Hatfield. The extensive and pleasant meadows that border their banks were highly prized by the early settlers. Probably at first much of the low ground was marshy and too wet for cultivation, but which has now been reclaimed and become productive.

In 1734, the three Morris brothers, James, Richard and John, granted 1000 acres to Ebenezer Kinnersly, a weaver of Lower Dublin (now Philadelphia). The latter never settled here, but soon began to divide and sell his purchase. Kinnersly's tract was a narrow parallelogram, over half a mile in width and about three miles in length. It extended along the County Line from the east corner of the township to nearly the northern end. It was of Kinnersly that Daniel Rosenberger made his first purchase of land, and the date was 1740. This comprised 159 acres, and was the upper or northwest side of his subsequent plantation. This deed is not on record, but the facts above are stated in the recitals of a later deed now in possession of Henry Rosenberger, one of the descendants.

Then there were 200 acres more, purchased at a much later date—twenty-nine years afterwards. The latter purchase took place only two years before his death, so that during nearly the whole of his life, Daniel Rosenberger only possessed the smaller portion of the tract afterwards held by his posterity.

These two hundred acres were purchased of George Krieble in 1769. Fortunately for the purposes of history, the previous

conveyances of this land are given in a brief of title of another deed of the date of 1772. It is as follows: 1702, William Penn to John Morris, 1000 acres; 1732, John Morris to his nephew John Morris 300 acres; and to the cousins of the latter, James and Richard Morris, 700 acres; 1734, the three Morris' to Ebenezer Kinnersly, 1000 acres; 1738, Kinnersly to Henry Funk, a miller of Franconia, 200 acres. Funk continued the owner till his death. In pursuance of his will, his sons John and Christian conveyed the same to Jacob Bear, his son-in-law, in 1761. So Funk may be regarded as the first one who improved the land, and he held it for twenty-three years. In 1763 Jacob Bear sold it to John Yellis, of Towamencin—in this deed the name of the township is spelled "Towamencin." Now arose some trouble about the title. Yellis became informed that the conveyance of Henry Funk might prove insufficient, because Funk, who was a German, had never taken out naturalization papers, and had always remained an alien. Jacob Bear had also refused to be naturalized. So, to remedy this defect, Yellis procured a patent from the Penns, or the Proprietary government, at the hands of James Hamilton. This he done in 1763, and in the same year he sold the whole to George Krieble, of Upper Milford. Finally in 1769, Krieble sold the 200 acres to Daniel Rosenberger.

The larger portion of this latter purchase was conveyed by will to Isaac, youngest son of Daniel Rosenberger. In this document, written in 1771, the father says: "I bequeath the remainder of my lands which I bought of George Krieble, yet 159 acres, which I give to my son Isaac." It was on November 6, 1772, that the other heirs, David and Fronica (Anny) released the same to Isaac. The boundaries then given were, "Beginning

at a stone in line of Samuel Musselman; then by same and by lands of Isaac Wisler and Abraham Allebach northwest 117 perches to corner of David Rosenberger; thence by same northeast 151 perches and southeast  $2\frac{3}{4}$  perches and northeast 89 perches to a road leading to Philadelphia and also the County Line; thence by part of the half acre bought for said road and by County line southeast 104 perches to corner of John Funk; then by same southwest 240 perches to beginning." As a consideration £20 and 18 shillings were paid. The deed was witnessed before Archibald McLean by Mary Loller.

No information has come down to us concerning the personality of Daniel Rosenberger. He was a Mennonite, and attended the worship of his people at the church near Line Lexington, where his remains lie buried. After his purchase in 1740, his lifetime extended thirty-one years. Tradition says he first settled for a brief period near the County line, where Samuel Rosenberger now lives. Then he soon removed a short distance westward to where is now the residence of Henry Rosenberger. Here he built a stone house, in a low place, close by an extensive meadow. It was at this place that he died. This upper part of his plantation was devised to his son David, who built a new house in 1780, the date stone of which was preserved, and may yet be seen in the cellar way of the present building. It bears the initials, "D. R. B.," standing for "David Rosen Berger." He made his will on the 15th of August, 1771, and died shortly afterwards, as it was registered on the 23d of September. His wife who survived him, had the singular name of Fronica. His children mentioned were David, Isaac, Ann and Mary. The will was witnessed by Valentine Ulrich, John Rosenberger, and Christian Funk, Mennonites all. The two hundred acres were

conveyed to his son David, and 159 acres to Isaac. Isaac was then not quite twenty years of age. The widow was to receive £700 from her son David, showing that old Daniel had become a comparatively wealthy man for those days.

#### DAVID ROSENBERGER.

The two hundred acres bequeathed to David Rosenberger was bounded on the northwest by the cross road, now a turnpike, running from the County line to Hatfield station. It comprised the Landis farm, those of Henry and Samuel Rosenberger, the lot of David Rosenberger and the tavern property. At the premises of Henry Rosenberger, his great grandson, he continued to reside during his life. At about the east corner of his land a branch of the Neshaminy (anciently called Beaver Creek) comes flowing down from Hilltown. Between him and his brother Isaac a mutual water right was agreed upon to water their respective meadows. That agreement was made November 26, 1772, by which David Rosenberger granted to his brother Isaac "the right to half part of the use of said dam and water, water courses and right to ditch from said dam leading to his meadow." At a later period there arose considerable dispute concerning this right among their descendants.

David Rosenberger lived to be quite an old man—probably over eighty years of age. His death did not take place till 1829, or fifty-five years after he had received his patrimony from his father in 1771. He also acquired a farm of 78 acres in Hilltown, which he had willed to his daughter Fronica. The homestead of 109 acres was conveyed to his son Henry in 1821. Another farm of 78 acres, at present that of Samuel Rosenberger, was conveyed to his son John by this will of September 19, 1829. The name of his wife was Barbara Detwiler. His children were

Christian, David, Philip, Henry, Abraham, John, Valentine, Mary, wife of Joseph Kulp; Susanna, wife of John Richart; Fronica, Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Shutt. Henry, born in 1799, who then got the homestead, died in 1865. He had sons—George, David, Aaron, Josiah, Simon and Enos. In 1866 Aaron bought the farm of the heirs. His son Henry now owns the same. To David, one of the three sons of Henry R. Rosenberger, the writer is under great obligations for many facts contained in this narrative. The latter built the house now occupied by the Kile tavern in 1852, and kept a store there for a dozen years. A tavern license was first granted in 1862. Simon became a physician, and is now a resident of California. Enos removed to Kansas.

#### ISAAC ROSENBERGER.

Isaac was probably the youngest son of Daniel, the pioneer, and received the lower portion of his plantation, comprising 159 acres. Among his contemporaries his first name was generally given the German pronunciation. This tract is now mostly occupied by the fine farm of Milton Jenkins, comprising 135 acres. Here, surrounded by shade trees, are excellent farm buildings of modern construction, situated at some distance from the County line. The farm is watered by a creek, flowing southward, which joins the other branches of the Neshaminy south of Line Lexington. Near the present dwelling are two old houses, relics of the past, one of stone, the other of logs. The latter was built before the Revolution, at a date unknown, but perhaps about 1772. It was the residence of the first Isaac Rosenberger. The latter afterwards erected a stone house and a barn adjoining. In 1810 he purchased twenty-two acres adjoining on the

southern side, so that he possessed 170 acres. He was born November 30, 1751, and his death took place July 30, 1830, in his seventy-ninth year. His children were Martin, Joseph, Isaac, William, John, Betsey, wife of John Aker, and Sarah, wife of Jacob Ruth.

After the death of the elder Isaac Rosenberger, the farm was sold to Martin Rosenberger, and by him conveyed in 1831 to Isaac Rosenberger, Jr. The latter, born in 1782, died in 1853. His second wife, Elizabeth, died in North Wales, December 19, 1886, at the remarkable age of nearly ninety-eight. Isaac D. Rosenberger, of North Wales, is one of his sons. He was formerly a Justice of the Peace in Hatfield. Another son was Joseph Rosenberger, of Hilltown. The latter was well known as a business man. Kept a store, and was one of the directors of the Doylestown Bank. His sons, Isaac and Charles, are dealers in feed, coal, hay, etc., at Colmar. Susanna, wife of Michael Snyder, was a daughter of Isaac Rosenberger. The latter kept the Line Lexington hotel, and was the father-in-law of Oliver G. Morris, of that place. The old homestead was bought in 1855 by Milton Jenkins, the present owner.

The first Rosenbergers in America probably came from the Palatinate, once a province of western Germany, bordering on the Rhine. On the 20th of September, 1738, Hans Peter Rosenberger arrived in Philadelphia on a ship from Rotterdam, containing a number of emigrants from that country. John F. Rauchenberger arrived a week latter. Among some families in Montgomery county, the name is now spelled "Rosenberry," as is the case with Christian Rosenberry, of Lansdale, who is descended from ancestors living in Skippack and Worcester townships, but earlier in Hatfield.



## JOHN ROSENBERGER, NO. 1.

Concerning John, probably the youngest of the Rosenberger brothers, we have considerable knowledge concerning the lands he bought, the location in which he settled, and of his descendants. Nevertheless, this knowledge is rather fragmentary and imperfect. In "Frick's" graveyard, Hatfield, lies the body of Johannes Rosenberger, born, 1724; died, 1808, at the age of eighty-four. As the date of death on the tombstone corresponds exactly with the time given in the county records, it is concluded that this is the John Rosenberger under consideration. He doubtless came along with the others from Germany, but as he was not of age before 1745, he could not become a landowner, before that time. He is said to have been a youth of eighteen at the time of coming. During his lifetime he purchased many hundred acres, now divided into many farms. His ambition was to give a farm to each of his children. The site of Hatfield village and station was owned by him, and thus might, not inappropriately have been called by his name. His lands extended from thence to the Franconia line, and even beyond. They covered an extremely level territory, with extensive meadows, and were of a stronger soil than is found in the lower part of the township. A branch of the Neshaminy arises there and flows southward through meadow and woodland to join other tributaries. These farms are now owned by Jacob Kulp, William Delp, Enos Krieble, John Rosenberger, John Kindig, Jacoby Ott, J. Wireman, Abraham Gehman and J. D. Gehman, besides the smaller lots of the village of Hatfield.

## THE OLD MILL.

At the upper road crossing of the brook, and on the western side thereof, may be seen a depression or hole in the bank, about which trees of considerable size are now growing. This was the site of a grist-mill, once in existence, which was built by John Rosenberger before the Revolution. The exact time is not known, but the mill was on land purchased by him in 1769, and the mill was built then or soon after. It was a great accommodation to the neighborhood, as it was the first mill erected in this region of country.

The mill was demolished about 1820 by Peter Conner, then the owner, or so long ago that few now remember it. The waters of the little stream probably then flowed in a considerably larger volume than now. The old mill had a race course, extending up the western bank of the brook. Evidences of it may yet be plainly seen in the forest land above. The mill was propelled by water drawn from three dams. The site of the lower or main one can now be perceived half a mile above, while the upper dam was a mile distant. The place where stood the old mill is now on the premises of William Delp.

## THE HOMESTEAD.

In the northern end of Hatfield village and close to the eastern side of the railroad are the modern farm buildings formerly owned by Enos Kriebel. Here was the site of the old homestead of John Rosenberger. Until 1884, the old log house stood there, but which was then torn down, and later the old barn was destroyed by fire. Its site may yet be seen at a little distance westward of the present new building. Here were the springs

of water which caused that selection of a site for a residence. Owing to the failure to record the old deeds the writer has been unable to ascertain the exact time when John Rosenberger purchased the land where he built a dwelling and made his home. Probability points to about 1749–50. A strip of territory covering the site of the present upper village of Hatfield, was possessed by Edward Warner, a Philadelphian, previous to 1743. In that year Warner sold the same to Alexander Foreman, who already held lands in New Britain. Among the curious clauses of this deed is one providing that fifty bushels of wheat be annually paid by Foreman to the Warners; to be delivered at any mill within fourteen miles of the land. The stipulation about the “fourteen miles” indicates that then there was no mill nearby. On November 3, 1754, Edward Warner made his will, and Anna Warner, Joshua Howell, and Francis Rawle were appointed his executors. From these executors John Rosenberger received a formal release of the wheat rent on 95 acres 80½ perches in 1759. He had been in possession of this land for some years previous however, as in this document it is stated that he had bought the same of Alexander Foreman. Here are the boundaries as given in 1759, showing that he already held another tract on the northwest side: “Beginning at a post in corner of John Lapp’s land; thence by Moyer’s road northwest 58 perches to corner of other land of John Rosenberger; thence by same northeast 244 perches; thence by Daniel Rosenberger’s land southeast 47½ perches to post in a run of water; thence by John Lapp’s land southwest 244 perches to beginning.”

It will be seen this was a long, narrow tract, five times as long as wide—784 feet in width by 4026 in length, or over three-

quarters of a mile. "Moyer's road," above mentioned, was the Cowpath. The plantation extended from the Cowpath to a branch of the Neshaminy crossing the turnpike to Hockertown. John Lapp, then a large landholder on the southwest side, afterwards removed to New Britain, and was the ancestor of the family of that name there.

Ten years after, in 1769, this John Lapp, then of New Britain, sold to John Rosenberger 104 acres adjoining, bounded as follows: "Beginning at a white oak standing in Moyer's road, and also a corner of Benjamin Rosenberger's land (deceased); then by same along Moyer's road northwest  $53\frac{1}{2}$  perches to corner of land bought of the Warner estate; then by same 244 perches to a post in a run; then by land late Daniel Rosenberger's and Jacob Bear's southeast 79 perches to corner of Benjamin Rosenberger's; thence by Isaac Wisler's land 153 perches southwest; thence by same 12 perches northwest; thence by same 92 perches southwest to said Moyer's road; thence along said road 6 perches to beginning."

It will be perceived that this likewise was a long, narrow strip. Altogether the two purchases extended 118 perches along the Cowpath, or 1047 feet, while it was 9 perches wider at the opposite end. In 1770 another portion of 109 acres was obtained by a patent received from the Proprietary Government. This comprised land lying on the northwest side of the turnpike, including the farms of Enos Kreible, John Rosenberger, and Henry Rosenberger. This had been occupied by John Rosenberger for perhaps twenty years before. Thus, we have record of at least 308 acres bought before the Revolution. At a later period several hundred more were purchased.

The above patent, bearing the great seal of John Penn, is now in possession of Abraham Rosenberger, living on the turnpike running to the County line. It is of date of June 19, 1770, and grants to John Rosenberger 109 acres and 31 perches for £115, 15 shillings. Its boundaries were; "Beginning at a stone by a black oak; a corner of John Kunkle's land; thence by same northwest 155 perches; thence by Jacobina Leidie's land and Jacob Reed's southwest 110 perches; thence by Christian Keenfort's (Conver's) land southeast, 42 perches and southwest 22 perches; thence by Henry Rosenberger's land northeast 39 perches and southeast 75 perches; thence by a line of marked trees northeast 110 perches to beginning." This was part of the 1020 acres held by the Penns in Upper Hatfield up to this date. This tract probably extended up to the Franconia line and beyond the Cowpath. It is quite certain, however, that a portion of these 1000 acres had been cleared and cultivated before this time. It will be perceived that the present name of Conver was differently spelled in the old documents. In this patent the tract conveyed to Rosenberger is called "Dutchman's Hall."

The death of John Rosenberger, Sr., took place in October, 1808. The name of his second wife was Christiana. Barbara was the name of his first wife. He was a Mennonite, and was one of the four trustees to whom was deeded the lot where now stands the Line Lexington Mennonite Meeting House. This lot is in New Britain, and was obtained from James McAllister in 1752.

#### CHILDREN OF JOHN ROSENBERGER.

The children of the first John Resonberger were seven in number, viz.: Martin, Abraham, John, Benjamin, Daniel, Henry and Catharine, who married Abraham Allebach. The latter

received the eastern portion of her father's lands, now the farm of Jacob Kulp, one of the descendants of John Rosenberger. Tilghman Kulp, his father, having married a daughter of Jacob Rosenberger.

Martin—Became a miller, and to him his father sold 77 acres in 1776, in three lots of 44, of 27, and 6 acres. He was probably the oldest son, having been born at a date no later than 1753. The name of his wife was Elizabeth, but he died when a young man, leaving four minor children, some of whom were under six years of age. His death was from some lingering disease, perhaps consumption, as he was induced to make his will in February, 1781, but his death did not take place until the following July. In this will, the mill and the plantation were ordered to be rented until his youngest child was eighteen; then to be sold and the proceeds divided between the widow and her four children. In their grandfather's will of 1808, mention is made of three of these children—John, Elizabeth, and Mary. His real estate was not sold till 1799, when it was bought by Peter Conner. The old mill property has been owned since 1874 by William Delp.

Benjamin—To Benjamin was conveyed the homestead, now owned by Enos Kreible, and other lands. This was sold to him in 1794 in two lots of 57 and 68 acres, or 125 in all. The first lot of the Krieble farm was part of the 109 acres obtained by patent in 1770, but occupied many years previous. The 68 acres was below the line of the turnpike, and was part of the 95 acres sold by Alexander Foreman to John Rosenberger, and confirmed to him by the executors of the Warner estate in 1759, and at a later date owned and subdivided by Tobias Shull. Upon this is built the village of Hatfield. The remaining 27 acres had

been sold to Martin Rosenberger. Thirty-seven years after getting the homestead from his father, Benjamin, in turn, had become an old man, and in 1831 conveyed the same to his son Benjamin, Jr., for £1400, stipulating that he should have home and maintenance the remainder of his life. He died in 1832, at the age of seventy-one. In 1833 the farm was sold to John Rosenberger, miller, of Hilltown. The subsequent transfers have been: 1856, John Rosenberger to William S. Strunk; 1861, Strunk to Henry Rosenberger; 1866, Henry Rosenberger to Tobias Hangey, and in 1872 from Hangey to Enos Krieble.

The children of Benjamin Rosenberger were: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Benjamin, and Nancy, wife of Abraham Wireman. Benjamin Rosenberger, now of North Wales, is a grandson of Benjamin, son of John the pioneer. Benjamin, Sr., was born in 1761, and died in 1832.

Daniel—To Daniel was conveyed in 1790 for £400 two lots, one of 51½ acres, and one of 25 acres. The first was the upper portion of the 109 acres obtained by patent in 1770. It is now the farm of Rev. John Rosenberger, a Mennonite preacher, and the fourth John Rosenberger from the first. His large and commodious stone house stands on the bank overlooking the meadow below, through which flows the brook the waters of which turned the old mill of his ancestors. The other, or smaller tract obtained by Daniel from his father, was in Franconia, bought in 1789 from the Clibborn Wilson estate. Daniel died in 1830 at the age of sixty-five. Daniel, Jr., son of the above and grandson of the pioneer John, was in 1892 living in Hatfield at an advanced age. From his intelligent account of past events the writer was under great obligations for many facts related in this history. The children of Daniel, Sr., were John, Martin, Jacob, Daniel,

Elizabeth, wife of John Frick; Lena, wife of Daniel Reeder; Nancy, wife of George Gayman; Barbara, wife of Christian Allabach.

Abraham—To Abraham was conveyed in 1794, the amount of 144½ acres in Franconia, which was another portion of land bought of the Clibborn Wilson estate by John Rosenberger in 1790. It is now the farm of John Loux. The children of Abraham were: John, Mary, wife of Andrew Swartz; Anne, wife of Valentine Clymer, of New Britain, and Elizabeth, wife of John Hunsicker, of Skippack.

John, Jr.—John, Jr. himself bought a farm in Hatfield, on the borders of Franconia. This is now owned by Abraham Gayman. He was succeeded in ownership by his son Samuel, whose daughter Hannah married Jacob Gayman. Their son Abraham now holds the farm. This fine farm has a deep depression near the Franconia line, which is quite in contrast with the plain country of Hatfield. The banks are very steep and high and through which flows a rivulet westward to the Skippack. John Rosenberger died in 1832, aged seventy-seven years. His children were: John, Samuel, Mary, wife of John Allebach; nad Barbara, wife of Samuel Detwiler. John, Jr. was born May 3, 1755; died, September 18, 1832.

This farm is part of a tract obtained by patent by Jacob Reed in 1770 from Thomas and Richard Penn, conveying 215 acres. It was then bounded as follows: "Beginning at stone; thence by Jacob Leidie's land and William Althouse's northeast 213½ perches; then by John Schelenberger's land southeast 136 perches; thence by Jacobina Leidie's southwest 40 perches, and southeast 21 perches and southeast again 31 perches; thence by John Rosenberger's land 58 perches southwest; thence by Chris-



tian Comfort (or Conver) southwest 110 perches ; then by Hayes land northwest 166½ perches northwest to beginning." For this £228 were paid by Reed. Although owning a pretty good sized piece of land, tradition says that Reed could not make a living on it, and was forced to sell out. His residence was at the present Gehman premises, and his tract also comprised the farm of A. L. Moyer, further southwest. Reed lived here during the Revolution. It is an interesting fact that predatory bands of British and Tories penetrated this far north, and committed depredations upon Reed's property, the loss inflicted being assessed at £45. John Rosenberger, Jr. bought of Reed in 1793. He was then living in Franconia. The next day after purchase, John conveyed fifty acres to his brother Daniel.

Henry—To Henry was conveyed the farm now owned by Jacoby Ott, formerly A. H. Rosenberger's. He afterward went to Rockhill, Bucks county, to live. The Ott farm was sold to a Shellenberger, perhaps as early as the beginning of this century. His children were: John, Henry, Annie, wife of Michael Derstine; Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Stover, and three other daughters, who married into the Cuffel, Freed and Stover families.

Catharine—The latter was the only daughter of the first John Rosenberger. She was one of the oldest children, born 1750-1, and married Abraham Allebach about 1769. The latter obtained from his father-in-law the farm east of Hatfield Station, now owned by Jacob Kulp. Here there is an old stone house, perhaps built by him. His life was cut short in middle age by yellow fever, at a time when the scourge was prevailing as an epidemic in Philadelphia—the early part of October, 1794. He ventured to go there to market, took the dread malady, came home and died. His widow long survived him, dying in May,

1835, at probably the age of eighty-five. Their children were: John, Christiana, Abraham, Benjamin, Mary, wife of Jacob Cope; Susannah, wife of David Ruth; Lizzie, wife of Benjamin Rosenberger; Barbara, wife of John Wasser, and Catharine, wife of Joshua Detwiler. Abraham was the father of Jesse Allebach, of Hatfield. He was born about 1770, and remembered that at the day after the battle of Germantown a crowd of American soldiers swarmed about his father's premises, five hundred in number. In 1796 the farm was sold to Isaac Rosenberger. It had been received by Abraham Allebach from his father-in-law, John Rosenberger, in 1776. It was a long, narrow strip extending from the Cowpath to Beaver Run, comprising 101 acres.

#### THE INDIANS.

A short distance above Hatfield village, and within the lands of the homestead of old John Rosenberger, a few Indians lingered longer than elsewhere, or down to the time of the Revolution. Daniel Rosenberger, now a resident of the village, remembers hearing his father Daniel relate of seeing two of these Indians, when a boy. He was born in 1765. They had a sort of encampment between the present line of the railroad and the small creek, and also a burial place on the higher grounds of the present meadow of Enos Krieble.

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# THE ROSENBERRY FAMILY.

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THOSE now spelling the name Rosenberry instead of Rosenberger are descended also from Benjamin Rosenberger, of Hatfield. It is said that the present spelling is only a modern change or variation.

## HENRY ROSENBERRY OF SKIPPACK AND WORCESTER.

Having given an account of Benjamin, son of Yellis Rosenberger, of Rockhill, and some of his descendants, we next turn to his brother Henry. The latter was born in 1761, probably in Hilltown. He was twice married, first to Mollie Hulshower, said to have been from Milford, Lehigh county. His children by this wife were five, John, Betsey, Kate, Susan and Mary. His second wife was a widow, Mrs. Katie Kram, whose maiden name had been Beam, or Boehm. He was not a landholder in this county, but a renter. Previous to his death he lived in a tenant house on the farm of Paul Custer, Worcester. This farm was purchased from the Custer estate by Benjamin Brunner in 1864, and comprised 49 acres. The death of Henry Rosenberry took place in January, 1834. He left no will, and the administrators of his estate were his son John H. Rosenberry, of Skippack, and John Kratz, same township. His children by the second wife were Abraham, Hannah, and Anna or Nancy. Of these, the latter, born in 1810, became Nancy Gotwals, now of Norristown. Mary married ——— Lewis. Abraham lived in Lower Providence and had children, Anna, Rebecca and Hannah. His death took place in 1885, aged seventy-three.

## JOHN H. ROSENBERRY.

Was the son of Henry, by his first wife Mollie Hulshower. He was born April 1, 1799. Married Elizabeth Gotwals in 1824. He lived in Skippack township. His children were Charles, Catharine, Mary, Christian, Abraham, Elizabeth, John, Amos, Jesse and Henry. The father of this family died September 10, 1872. The marriages of the children were: Charles to ——— Hummel; Catharine was twice married. Her first marriage was to a Hagey, by whom she had two children, Elizabeth, who married Frank Dorn, of Telford, and a daughter who died in infancy. Her second husband was Joseph Kindig, by whom she also had two children, John R. and Annie; John married Fannie Rosenberger, and Annie married Charles B. Kratz, of Telford. Mary to Sylvester Lewis; Christian to Susan Hendricks; John to Elizabeth Flores; Jesse to Elizabeth Kauffman; Ann to Joseph Rossiter; Elizabeth to ——— Taney. Henry, the youngest, born in 1842, was a soldier in the Union army, and died in the service.

John, Jr., is a resident of Skippackville. Is a veterinary surgeon with an extensive practice. Jesse, a farmer, resides adjoining. The latter has children, William and Anna, whilst the children of John have been Anna Maria, Henry, Emma and Katie. Christian has long been a resident of Lansdale, where he has been a stock dealer and hotel keeper. His children are Alice, Elmer (deceased), Wellington, Lizzie, wife of Robert A. Shepherd, publisher of the *Lansdale Republican*, Annie, Sallie and Minerva. Wellington was chosen Burgess of Lansdale in 1892, and is already becoming widely known as a dealer in various goods and as a rising young politician.

## PART II.



## SOME GENEALOGICAL LISTS.

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IN the succeeding pages some tables of the Rosenberger genealogy are given in addition to what is furnished in the earlier portion of this volume. The account is but fragmentary, and only pertains to a portion of those families having the family name.

### THE DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN ROSENBERGER, OF HATFIELD.

*Benjamin*—Born in 1761, was one of the sons of John No. 1, who came from Europe and settled in Hatfield. His sons were: Isaac, Abraham, Jacob and Benjamin.

*Isaac*—Lived in various places and died in Towamencin. His children were: Benjamin, John, Amos, Ann and Catherine. Benjamin lived near Hockertown; Amos at Spring House. Catharine married William Reifinger, of Norristown. Ann married Joseph Landis.

*Abraham*—Married Fronica, daughter of David Rosenberger. Had children: Tobias, of Hatfield, Jonas and Benjamin, of Philadelphia, and Rebecca. Of these, Tobias married Barbara Detwiler. Had children: Sarah Ann, wife of A. W. Kulp, of Hatfield; Mary Ellen, wife of William B. Fretz, of Hatfield; Jacob and Jonas. Benjamin married Sarah Frick, lived in Hatfield, New Britain, Hilltown and Philadelphia. Had children:

Mary, Amanda, John, Lizzie, wife of Oliver Althouse, of Telford; Ida, wife of Lincoln Kaler, of Philadelphia; Emma, and Allen of Germantown. John is a grocer of Philadelphia. Jonas married Lizzie, daughter of Dillman Godshalk, of Skippack. Had children: Frank, Davis, Irwin, and Dillman. Rebecca married Jacob Fry. Removed to Sterling, Illinois. Had children: Rebecca, John and Ellen.

*Jacob*—Lived in Hatfield. Never married.

*Benjamin*—Married Susanna Gayman. Had children: Abraham, Henry, and Benjamin. Henry died an infant. Abraham married Eliza Ann Dance, and died one week afterward. Benjamin G. married Rachel Benner, daughter of Abraham Benner. Lived formerly in Worcester. Resides in North Wales. Had children: Abraham, of Philadelphia; Susanna, deceased; Sallie, wife of Joseph Bustard, a farmer of Worcester; Lizzie, wife of John Weikle, of North Wales, engineer in Freed's flouring mill.

#### DESCENDANTS OF DANIEL ROSENBERGER, OF HATFIELD.

The children of Daniel Rosenberger, the emigrant, were: David, Isaac, John and Mary, as elsewhere stated.

#### THE POSTERITY OF ISAAC.

The children of Isaac were five: Jacob, Henry, Isaac, Annie and Elizabeth.

*Jacob*—Married Catharine Rickert, and had four children: Daniel, Barbara, Christiana and Mary.

*Henry*—Married Hannah Detwiler, and had six children: Jacob, Samuel, Mary, Hannah, Christiana and Sarah.





ISAIAH R. HALDEMAN.



*Annie*—Married a Swenk, of Bedminister. Had five children: John, Isaac, Abraham, of North Bethlehem, Elizabeth and Christiana.

*Isaac*—Married Susan Detwiler. Had seven children: Martin, John, William, Isaac, Mary, Sarah and Elizabeth.

*Elizabeth*—Married Henry Wireman, of New Britain. Had eight children: Michael, Martin, Isaac, Sophia, Catharine, Christiana, Annie and Elizabeth.

CHILDREN OF JACOB ROSENBERGER.

*Daniel Rosenberger*—Son of Jacob. Married Elizabeth Stover, of Bedminister. Their children were Joseph, who married a Derstine, of Bridgetown; Catharine; Leah, who married Charles D. Haldeman, of Hatfield; Henry, who married Mary Beidler, daughter of Nathan Beidler, of Bedminister; Amos and Samuel, who died young. Of these six children, the only one now living is Leah. Joseph had three children: Amos, Titus, and Amanda. Leah had two children: Harvey and Isaiah, the publisher of this history. Henry has five children: Ella, Kate, Minerva, Henry and Annie.

*Barbara*—Daughter of Jacob, and grand daughter of Isaac Rosenberger. Married Rev. George Landis, a Mennonite preacher, at Richland Centre. Had four children, Jacob, Ephraim, George and John.

*Christiana*—Married Dillman Kulp, of Perkaspie. Had five children, Jacob, Isaac, Mary Ann, Catharine and Elizabeth.

*Mary*—Married Abraham Gehman, of Hatfield. Had five children, Jacob, Catharine, Annie, Elizabeth and Maria.

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*Leah*—Daughter of Daniel, as above mentioned, had two children, Harvey and Isaiah. Harvey, born October 5, 1857, married Sallie Cope. Has four children, Charles, Flora, John

and Harvey. He lives in Philadelphia and is engaged in the express business for himself. Isaiah, born February 4, 1868, married Katie, daughter of Rev. John Rosenberger, of Hatfield. Has one child, Ella. He is a printer by trade and editor and proprietor of the Harleysville *Weekly News*.

THE POSTERITY OF HENRY, SON OF ISAAC AND GRANDSON  
OF DANIEL.

*Jacob D. Rosenberger*—Deceased, of Hilltown, oldest son of Henry Rosenberger and Hannah Detwiler, was born in the old homestead in that township in the year 1819, and married Eliza Swartley, daughter of Jacob Swartley, of Line Lexington. He died of paralysis of the heart, January 21, 1892. He was quite wealthy. His wife had preceded him in death about two years. He was the father of thirteen children, nine of whom survived him. These children were :

*H. Frank*—Lives in Allentown. Married Amanda Kline, of Center Valley, and has one son, Robert. He has been a school teacher since 1863, and is a graduate of the Kutztown Normal School.

*William*—Lives in Hilltown. Married Wilhelmina Shellenberger, of Hatfield, and had four children, of whom Henry and Alvin are living.

*Isaiah*—Lives in Harleysville. Married Jemima, daughter of David Rosenberger, of Hatfield. Is employed in the creamery of his brother-in-law, at Harleysville, since 1884.

*Artemas*—Lives in Hilltown, on the old homestead. Married Mary Ann Hendricks, of Hilltown, and has children, Wesley, Lizzie and Herman.



ISAIAH S. ROSENBERGER.



*Mary*—Was twice married, to Jacob Snyder, of Hatfield, and Jacob F. Fellman, of Rockhill. Had one son by the first marriage and three children by the second, of whom Kate married Frank Mintzinger, of Hatfield.

*Sallie*—Married John M. Kulp, of Dublin. Had children, Leidy and Ellen. Ellen married Henry Moore, of New Britain.

*Hannah*—Married Aaron H. Moyer, of Harleysville (his third wife). Of his six children four are living.

*Eliza*—Married Jacob S. Rosenberger, son of John, of Hagersville. Has four sons. Resides in New Britain.

*Susan*—Married William Kratz, of Hatfield. Resides in Hilltown, and has four children.

#### POSTERITY OF ISAAC ROSENBERGER, NO. 2, OF HATFIELD.

This Isaac Rosenberger was the third in descent from Daniel, the emigrant, and his father's name was also Isaac. He was born in 1782 and died in 1853. He owned the later Stong farm, Horsham, west of Prospectville, from 1806 to 1833, when he removed to the ancestral property in Hatfield, now owned by Milton Jenkins. His children were Joseph, Isaac, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah and Martin.

*Joseph*—Lived in Hilltown, was a business man widely known, a storekeeper, and director of Doylestown Bank. He married Mary, daughter of Henry Ruth, of New Britain. Had ten children. Those living (1892) were Isaac and Charles, of Colmar; Joel, of Philadelphia; Susan, wife of Reuben Alderfer, of Hilltown; Lizzie, wife of Edward Jones, of Richboro, Bucks county; Anna, wife of Mahlon Moyer, of Perkasio; and Emma, wife of William Souder, of Souderton.

*Isaac*—The third Isaac in succession, was formerly a Justice of the Peace in Hatfield, but for many years has been a resident of North Wales. Married twice; to Eve, daughter of John Shellenberger; second, to Jerusha Lefferts. His children were Isaac, John, Levi, Lizzie and Napoleon. Of these Isaac removed to Punxatawney; Levi to Philadelphia, and Napoleon also; Lizzie, deceased, was the wife of Charles Diehl.

*Mary*—Married Michael Snyder, for many years hotel keeper at Line Lexington. Had children Simon R., William R., Elizabeth S. Landis, Susanna S. Morris and Wilhelmina S. Yost. Susanna, wife of Oliver G. Morris, of Line Lexington, has living children, Charles, a clothing merchant of Philadelphia; Norman, a law student; and Mary, a school teacher.

*Elizabeth*—Married John Eckert. Had children, Susanna, wife of Leidy Sheip, of New Britain; William; Elmira, wife of Samuel Kerns, of Chalfont; Mary; Catharine, wife of Lee Fiuck, of Souderton, deceased; Elizabeth and Oliver.

*Sarah*—Married Jacob Ruth. Had children, Isaac, Elizabeth, Sarah, Aaron and Susannah. Elizabeth married Samuel Hines, and Sarah to Joseph Swartley, of New Britain.

*Martin*—Married Sarah Hartzell. Had children, William, Frank, John, Sarah, and Mary Ann, wife of John McClintock. John had one son, Elwood. William married a Medary; had one son.

#### CHILDREN OF ELIZABETH WIERMAN.

*Michael*—Married Catharine Wisler, and had children, Isaac, Martin, Michael, Jacob, Eliza, Sophia, Henry and Abraham.

*Isaac*—Was twice married, first to — Delp, and second to Barbara Stouffer. Had Sophia and Elizabeth by first wife and William by second wife.



*Catharine*—Married Peter Hines, an Englishman, who lived on the Neshaminy, two miles west of Chalfont, now the farm of Thomas Stevens, where he died in 1844. His children were Samuel, Joseph, Mary, Sophia, Henry and Eliza. Of these Samuel resides in Lansdale, and was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War. Henry is the well known undertaker, near Chalfont, and Joseph is a farmer in New Britain.

*Annie*—Married John Apple, and lived in Hatfield.

*Christiana*—Married Francis Davis, and had two daughters, Carmine and Angeline.

*Elizabeth*—Married John McKinney, a blacksmith, whose shop was at the junction of the Bristol and State roads, Bucks county. Had children, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Jacob, Mary Ann and two others. Removed to Somerset county, and afterwards to Bedford county, Pa.

Martin and Sophia Wireman were not married.

#### DESCENDANTS OF DAVID ROSENBERGER, OF HATFIELD.

As stated elsewhere, David, son of Daniel Rosenberger, the emigrant, had among other children a son John. His wife was Barbara Detwiler. His children were David D. ; Martin, of Towamencin; Joseph, of Philadelphia; Samuel; and Barbara, wife of Henry Fretz, of Hatfield. Of these, David D. was thrice married: to Betsey, daughter of Samuel Rosenberger, to Catharine Clemmer, and to Lydia Bitting. His death occurred in 1877. His children were John, Mary, wife of Isaac Hagey; Kate, wife of Charles W. Keck, of North Wales; Margaret, wife of Theodore Hardenfelt, of North Wales; Samuel, of Pine Run Creamery, Doylestown township; and Abner Rosenberger, of Skippack.

*Martin*—Son of John, lived in Towamencin. Married Esther Bergey. Had children, John B., of Lansdale; Frank; Benjamin; Lizzie, wife of Benjamin Ruth; and Sallie, wife of John Clemens. John B. was the founder of the Lansdale *Republican* and now conducts a news store and restaurant in Lansdale. Married Mary Fetterolf, and has children, Rebecca, Frank, George, John and Jerome.

#### DESCENDANTS OF DANIEL ROSENBERGER, SON OF JOHN, NO. 1, OF HATFIELD.

As mentioned elsewhere, Daniel had children, John, Martin, Jacob, Daniel, Elizabeth, wife of John Frick; Lena, wife of Daniel Reeder; Nancy, wife of George Gayman; Barbara, wife of Christian Allebach.

*Martin*—One of these sons, married Hannah Rosenberger, daughter of Henry Rosenberger. His children were Jacob, Henry, Daniel, Martin, Sophia, Hannah and Christianna. Sophia married Aaron Heckler; Hannah to Charles Driesbach. Of these, Jacob lives half a mile east of Kulpsville, in Towamencin township.

*John*—Married Beatrice Stover. Had no children.

*Jacob*—Married Elizabeth Swartley. His children were Abraham, Jacob, Daniel, Mary and Elizabeth.

*Daniel*—Married Mary Benner. Had no children.

*Barbara*—Married Christian Allebach. Had Susan, wife of Abraham Slotterer; Ann, wife of Enos Derstine; and David.

#### HENRY, SON OF JOHN, NO. 1, OF HATFIELD.

*Henry*—One of the sons of the pioneer John, removed from Hatfield to Rockhill, where he died in the Spring of 1824. In his will, registered on May 15, he ordered his planation sold.

He had sons John and Henry ; daughters, Margaret, wife of John Freed ; Elizabeth, wife of Henry Stover ; Mary, wife of Jacob Hoffel, or Coffel ; Nancy, wife of Michael Derstine ; Catharine, wife of George Deihl. Two grandsons are mentioned, Henry and Samuel.

### PHILIP ROSENBERGER AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

Philip was one of seven sons of David Rosenberger, of Hatfield, and grandson of Daniel, the pioneer, who first bought land near the County Line. He removed to Lower Providence, where he bought property as early as 1811. He afterwards lived near the Perkiomen Bridge, on a farm of ninety-one acres, bought of his father in 1815. His wife was Mary Landis, whom he married in 1808, and his children were five in number. His death occurred in January, 1835. The names of his children were :

*Samuel*—Born February 21, 1809.

*Christian*—Born March 16, 1827.

*Eliza*—Who married a Weikel.

*Maria*—Who married a Yocum.

*Philip*—Born June 20, 1820.

*Samuel*—Married Sarah Bertolet and had eleven children, viz : Philip, born 1838 ; Jacob in 1839 ; Mary in 1841 ; Eliza in 1843 ; Sarah, December 19, 1844 ; Samuel, February 27, 1846 ; Hannah in 1847 ; Alvan, October 2, 1851 ; Abraham, September 12, 1854 ; Harvey, September, 14, 1857.

Of these, Philip married Carrie Kilhiner and had five children. Elmer, born 1861 ; Alice, Ada, Frank, Daisy—the later died March 7, 1891.

*Mary*—Married W. Mapes, of Fulton, Michigan. No children.

*Eliza*—Married Henry Walton. Has eight children. Lives at Kimball, Ontario, Canada.

*Sarah*—Married Harrison H. Kindig. Has six children. Lives at Fulton, Michigan.

Henry and Hannah died in infancy.

*Samuel*—Married Mary Hitchcock. Has eight children, whose names are Marvin B, born February 25, 1868; A'ice, born June 10, 1870; Bertha, Eva, Ada, Floyd, Walter, David. This family lives at Fulton, Michigan.

*Dr. Alvan J.*—Married Martha Petty, September 25, 1878. Has three children; Edith E., born August 12, 1879; Bertolet P., born September 26, 1881; Alvan A., born December 25, 1883. They live at Wausau, Wisconsin.

*Abraham B.*—Married Kate Walton, August 5, 1880, at Bloomington, Illinois—no children. Second wife Kate Bachman, married March 20, 1890. Lives at Harrison, Wisconsin.

*Harvey L.*—Married Lillie ——. Has two children. Lives at Menominee, Michigan.

#### DAVID ROSENBERGER.

(See Pages 18 and 19 )

David Rosenberger, of Hatfield, married Mary Ann Swartley, daughter of Philip Swartley, of New Britain township; his second wife was Catharine Haldeman. He had five children—Josiah, Monroe, Jeannetta, Lyman and Jemima the later two being the only children living; the former having died young.

*Lyman*—Born January 14, 1854. Was twice married—to Sallie, daughter of Jonathan Barndt; and Lizzie Ann, only child of William Clemens, deceased. With his first wife he had one child, Sallie. The children of his second wife are Wellington born April 18, 1877; Harry, born July 3, 1879; and Stella, born November 17, 1880.

He has been the successful proprietor of the Harleysville creamery since 1884 and is the owner of the finest residence in the village. He is also the inventor of an ingenious novelty.

*Jemima*—Born February 28, 1862. Married Isaiah Rosenberger (<sup>See page 38</sup>). Has no children.

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# AN ACCOUNT OF THE ROSENBERGER FAMILY.

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BY ENOS L. ROSENBERGER, OF KANSAS.

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The following account of a portion of the Rosenberger family was sent to the publisher by Enos L. Rosenberger, of Hiawatha, Kansas, after the bulk of this volume was in type. We give it in a separate chapter, as although it contains some facts previously narrated, it also furnishes considerable information not elsewhere stated. The writer formerly lived in Hatfield and had interested himself in the family history while a resident of this county.

“First, it has been an old saying that the first Daniel Rosenberger was one of three brothers that came from Germany, from a place called “Zwuibrucken” (two bridges). Daniel’s son Daniel was my grandfather, who was twice married; first to Anna Funk and second, to Barbara Detwiler. Resulting from these marriages were seventeen children, of whom four died young. The names of the thirteen others were Christian, David, Philip, Abraham, Mary, Elizabeth, Ann, Daniel, Susan, John, Frany, Henry and Valentine. Of these, Abraham re-

moved to Providence township, where he left descendants. Mary married into the Wismer family, her husband being Christian Wismer. Elizabeth married David Shutt, and removed to Providence. Susan married John Rickert. Valentine died at the age of 15. Christian had a son Christian, who was married to a daughter of Henry Leidy, a hatter, of Line Lexington, and he had a store at old Hatfield station before railroad times. Ann married Samuel Heckler, and settled in Hilltown, where their descendants remain.

“My uncle David Rosenberger settled in Providence; also lived in Hilltown, east of Sellersville. Of his children, Elizabeth married Peter Roth, who lived and died north of Telford, and his children live there now. Dr. William Roth, who married Rev. Isaac Detwiler’s daughter, is a grandson. Barbara married Christian Shelly.

“John Rosenberger, one of the named executors in the will of his father, settled on part of the old homestead and lived and died there. His children were Martin, who lives near Kulpsville; Barbara, who married Henry Fretz and lives southeast of Hatfield station; David D., who lived at one time at Gwynedd Square and afterwards at New Galena. He died about 1875. Samuel, who married a daughter of John Wile, and moved to Indiana and afterwards to Illinois. His wife was a sister to Mrs. Tobias Clemmer, of Harleysville, still living. Joseph died in Philadelphia about 1882; Sarah died single at the age of 16.

“My aunt Fanny was married to Abraham Rosenberger and settled on the farm specified in her father’s will in Hilltown, but they both died in one month’s time, leaving three orphan children, viz: Benjamin, who lived in Hatfield, New Britian

and Hilltown, but now in Philadelphia; Jonas, formerly of Providence, but now of Philadelphia, and Tobias, who was a prosperous farmer near Hatfield station, where he died a few years ago. He had a large family.

“My father Henry was the youngest of my grandfather’s children, and one of the executors of his will. He lived and died on the old homestead till near the close of his life, when he bought a ten acre-lot in Hilltown, where he died in 1865.

“My father’s children were George, David, Aaron, Josiah, Simon and Enos (myself). Of these, George now lives near Quincy, Illinois. David lives on part of the old homestead, at Hockertown. His children are Lyman, of Harleysville, and Jemima, who married Isaiah Roseberger, now of Harleysville.

“Aaron is now a resident of Arizona Territory. His children are Henry, now residing on part of the old homestead in Hatfield; Reuben, now of Arizona; Josiah, now in Kansas; Mary, wife of John Leibrick, now of Burlington, Iowa Lizzie, wife of Newton Seals, now of Moscow, Idaho.

“Josiah died in Ohio.

“Simon lives in Passadona, California. His children are William, Edward and Emma, wife of Edward Paine.

“Enos L. lives in Hiawatha, Kansas, and is proprietor of the Commercial House. His children were seven daughters. Mariette died at the age of 11, in Harleysville; Ellen, wife of John Clemmer, of Harleysville; Sallie, who died in 1882; Lillie, wife of B. F. Eyer; Ida, Lizzie and Mamie. My mother, Catharine Rosenberger, was born August 4, 1824, and died August 4, 1890. Her maiden name was Catharine Delp, who was a sister to George Delp, the father of the Delp family near Harleysville.”



# AN OLD TIME SALE BILL.

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The following is a copy of the personal property sale bill of Isaac Rosenberger, in 1830 :

## *Public Sale.*

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To be Sold at Public Sale,

On THURSDAY and FRIDAY, the 2d and 3d days of September next, at the late residence of Isaac Rosenberger, dec'd. in Hatfield township, Montgomery county,

The Following Articles, viz :

SEVEN work horses, eighteen milch-cows, sheep and swine. waggons, ploughs, harrow, hay by the hundred, rye and oats in the sheaf, wheat by the bushel—also, grass in the meadows, Indian corn and buckwheat in the field. in lots, and a great variety of farming utensils. too numerous to insert—also, household goods and kitchen furniture in their variety. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M. on each day —Attendance and conditions at sale, by

JACOB ROSENBERGER,  
HENRY ROSENBERGER,  
ISAAC ROSENBERGER,

August 16th, 1830.

*Administrators.*

# A ROSENBERGER CHART.

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Enos L. Rosenberger, of Hiawatha, Kansas, prepared a genealogical chart of a portion of the Rosenberger Family, which is copied in another form below :

First.—Daniel, who came from Germany.

Second.—Children of Daniel—Isaac, David and three daughters who married into the families of Swartz, Kratz and Wagoner, and one a second time to a Derstine.

Third.—Isaac had children—Isaac, Jacob, Mary and Annie, wife of Henry Wismer.

Fourth.—David had children—Christian, David, Philip, Abraham, Mary Elizabeth, Ann, Daniel, Susan, John, Frany, Henry, Valentine.

The descendants of David, son of Daniel, the emigrant, are traced out as follows :

Christian married Elizabeth Kraut. Children were David, John, Jacob, Ann, Hettie, Maria, Christian, and one whose name is unknown. Of these, David married a Miss Corner, had a family, went West, became a Methodist. John also moved West, had a family, and was a Methodist preacher. Ann married Samuel Heckler, lived in Hilltown. Hettie married Jacob Wismer, lived in Philadelphia, and had eight children. Maria married a Rittenhouse and moved to Ohio. Christian married

a daughter of Henry Leidy and removed West, where she died.

Philip settled at Evansburg; was married to Mary Landis sister to Henry Landis, father of Rev. Henry Landis, a Mennonite preacher. His children were Samuel, Elizabeth, Christian, Philip and Maria. Of these, Samuel went to Medina county, and died about 1875. Christian died at the age of 15. Maria married a Yocum. Philip lives near Perkiomen Bridge.

Abraham married Margaret Detwiler, sister to his father's second wife, whose name was Barbara. His children were David, Peggie, Ann, Hannah, Fanny, Joseph, Abraham and Samuel. Of these David settled at the old homestead in Providence. Peggie married a Hunsicker; had no children. Ann married Joseph Kulp; had no children. Hannah married a Keppler near Phoenixville; one of two children was drowned in the Schuylkill river. Fanny married Christian Moyer and lives in Hilltown. Joseph settled in Providence. Abraham lives in Providence; no children. Samuel lives in Limerick.

Mary married Christian Wismer; had children Barbara, Henry, Jacob, David, Nancy, Christian, Elizabeth, Mary and Abraham. Of these Barbara was twice married—to Covner and Bean. Her first husband hung himself in Ohio. Henry lives in Skippack; was twice married. Jacob lives in Chester county. David lived in Skippack and died in 1875. Nancy married a Bean, and lived in Skippack. Christian lives in Hilltown. Elizabeth remained single, as also did Mary. Abraham became a Mennonite preacher, lived in Skippack and died in 1878.

Elizabeth married David Shutt first, and settled in Providence on a large farm. Her second husband was Fred Alderfer. Her children were five by last husband. Those bearing the name of Shutt were Jacob, May, David, Nancy and Deborah.

Jacob settled in what is now Doylestown township. Samuel, one of his sons, was a deacon in the New Britian Baptist church. Mary married a Keyser and moved to western Pennsylvania; had family. David lived in Providence, where he died. His widow afterwards married his brother Jacob. Nancy married John Rosenberger and lived along the Perkiomen. Deborah married Abraham Groff and lived in Bridgetown. Her children were David, Jacob, Isaac and Elizabeth.

Susan married John Rickert. Their children were Abraham, Tobias, Valentine, Joseph, David, John, Henry, Frany and Catharine. Of these Frany married a Musselman and Catharine a Rickert.

John lived and died on the old farm of his father's. His children were Martin, Barbara, wife of Henry Fretz, David, Samuel, Joseph, Mary and Sarah.

Frany married Abraham Rosenberger, and had children Benjamin, Jonas, Tobias, Barbara and Maria. Of these Barbara married a Fry and moved West.

David married Catharine Delp. Their children were Abraham, Elizabeth, Barbara, Ann, Adam, Daniel, Mary, Catharine and Philip. Of these Elizabeth married Peter Roth, and had children Elias, David, Abraham, Nancy, wife of Abraham Klein; Catharine, wife of Isaac Bilger; Daniel and Peter. Abraham Roth moved to Ohio. Barbara married Christian Shelly, and lives in Milford Square. Her children were Reuben, Jonas, John, Lewis, Tobias, Moses, Philip and Catharine, wife of Charles Moyer. Ann married Christian Hunsberger, and lived in Hilltown. Her children were Elizabeth, Sarah, David, Mary, Kate and Ephraim. Adam moved West and died in Franconia. His children were Isaac, David,

Jacob, Mary and others. Daniel moved West and died in Hancock county, Ohio. His children were Israel, Abraham, Isaac, David, Jemima and Jacob. Mary married Peter Stover, moved West in 1876. Had fifteen children, of whom all have names of Adam, Peter, Joseph, Charles, David, Philip, Peggie, Mary and Barbara. Philip, the remaining son of Philip Rosenberger, died a youth of 15.

Henry had children, George, David, Aaron, Josiah, Simon, Henry and Enos, whose children have already been given elsewhere.

#### DESCENDANTS OF JOHN ROSENBERGER.

In the history of the Fretz Family is contained a list of descendants of John Rosenberger, who married Mary Hockman. He was born in Hatfield April 12, 1790, and died September 12, 1873. He was a farmer and a Mennonite. His children were Elizabeth, Catharine, Mary, John, Henry, Samuel, Abraham, Sarah, Nancy and William.

Of these Elizabeth married John Anders. Had children Henry, Josiah, Catharine and Nathaniel.

Catharine married Ephraim R. Landis, of Haycock. Had children, George, William, Mary, John, Reuben, Katie and Emma.

Mary married David H. Anders, a professor of music. Had one child, Horace R. Anders.

John became a Mennonite preacher. Married Annie Clemmer, of Franconia. Was ordained to the ministry of Line Lexington Mennonite church October 28, 1884. Had children, Mary, Lizzie, Sue, Harry, Emma, Katie, Ella, Levi, John and Annie. Mary married Henry F. Hendricks; lives in Kansas.

Lizzie married William Godshall and lives at Lansdale. Sue married John Meyers, of Lawndale. Harry married Ella Lapp and lives near Hilltown. Emma died young. Katie married Isaiah R. Haldeman (<sup>See Page 37-38</sup>). Ella married Harry M. Heckler, of Harleysville. Levi is employed by the Reading Railroad Company as freight agent at Lansdale.

Henry H. also became a preacher. Married Mary Frick. Was ordained Bishop in the Brethren Church at Lawndale in May, 1866. His children were John, Abraham, Franie, Kate. Sarah, William and Henry. Of these Franie married John R. Kindig, of Hatfield, in 1885. Had children, Harvey, Mary, Harry and Emma. Rev. Henry H. Rosenberger, the father of this family, died April 10, 1890.

Samuel married Elizabeth Stover, and belonged to the River Brethren. They had children, Mary, Milton, James, John, Henry, Rachel and Samuel.

Abraham married Anna S. Kulp, of Franconia. Had children, John K., Ervin, Sallie, Katie, Ann Mary and Carrie.

Sarah Ann married Enos Landis, a farmer in Brown county, Kansas, Dunkards. Had children, William Henry, Ellen Jane and Mary Edna.

Nancy, born 1842. Died unmarried, 1880. William, died an infant.

#### WILL OF DAVID ROSENBERGER, OF HATFIELD.

This will was made September 19, 1822. Its execution was left to Barbara, John and Henry Rosenberger. It left to his widow Barbara various articles of household furniture, two cows, ten bushels of rye, six bushels of wheat, four bushels of



LEVI C. ROSENBERGER.





buckwheat, two hundred weight of pork, one hundred pounds of beef, and the same amount yearly. She was also to have certain portions of the house for her use, firewood, etc. His son Henry received "the messuage I now dwell in, and a certain tract thereunto belonging" in Hatfield, comprising nearly 109 acres. Also "to Henry a lot of nine acres in Hilltown, which I purchased of Frederick Fluke, subject to the payment of \$1,100. To my son John a certain new messuage and tract of land in Hatfield on the County Line, comprising eighty-six acres; also a lot, which I purchased of Peter King in Hilltown, containing five acres; also a lot in Hilltown, comprising two acres, being one-half portion of lot which I purchased of Samuel Ziegler, subject to the payment of \$1,100. I give to my daughter Frany the plantation I purchased of Henry Detweiler in Hilltown, containing seventy-eight acres; also the remaining half part of five-acre lot I purchased of Samuel Ziegler, subject to the payment of \$1,050. I give to my eight grandchildren, by my daughter Elizabeth, namely Jacob Shutt, David Shutt, Mary Shutt, Ann Shutt, Deborah Shutt, Barbara Alderfer, Frederick Alderfer and Henry Alderfer, the sum of \$50 each." The sums arising from the sale of his real and personal estate was devised to his six sons and four daughters, Christian, David, Philip, Abraham, John, Henry, Mary, wife of Henry Wismer; Ann, wife of Joseph Kulp; Susanna, wife of John Rickert, and Franey. This will was witnessed by Jacob Rosenberger and Samuel Tetwiler.





ISAAC R ROSENBERGER



# BIOGRAPHICAL.

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## ISAAC R. ROSENBERGER, OF COLMAR, PA.

Isaac R. spent his early life on his father's farm during the Summer months, and at the district school in the Winter season, until he was 15 years of age. From that time until he arrived at the age of 21 years he performed such work as was necessary upon the farm, in the store and lumber yard. After that he worked a farm on his own account for himself, and in 1872 he located at Colmar, and engaged in the wholesale and retail flour, feed, coal, hay and phosphate business. Here he conducted business alone until 1881, when he admitted his brother, Charles R., as a partner. In 1885 the Rosenberger Brothers extended their business by building a large warehouse at Doylestown, and later at Buckingham, Northeast Penn Railroad, where they are engaged in the same trade as at Colmar.

Isaac R. was married December 4, 1866, to Miss Harriet, daughter of William Brunner, of Chalfont. His wife was born February 16, 1848. They are the parents of six children: Mary Alice, born April 12, 1868, died September 29, 1881; Harrington, born October 27, 1869; Flora Estella, born June 4, 1871, died June 20, 1876; Ella Blanche, born March 4, 1873; Charles Grant, born December 4, 1874; William, born September 20, 1878.

Joseph Rosenberger (<sup>See pages 19-20</sup>), the father of Isaac and Charles, was a farmer, merchant and lumber dealer at Mount Pleasant, Bucks county, where he located after marriage and where he died. He was prominently identified with township and county affairs, yet in no sense of the word a politician. Theodore W. Bean, the author of the "History of Montgomery County," pays this tribute to the father, one of the most respected of the Rosenberger Family :

"He was one of those well and favorably known popular men who always looked upon the bright side of life, beloved and respected by all who knew him, and especially by the poor and needy, who well remember his acts of kindness, many of whom he had, from time to time, in his employ. His demise left a void in the community still unfilled."

#### DR. A. S. ROSENBERGER, OF COVINGTON, O.

Dr. A. S. Rosenberger, of Covington, O., was the fourth son of Daniel and Elizabeth Rosenberger. Daniel moved to Ohio about the year 1835, and settled in Hancock county.

The subject of this sketch was born in the county and State named on May 8, 1848. He assisted his father on the farm, helping to clear a portion of it, and attending the district school during the Winter. When 18 years old he entered Oberlin (Ohio) College, and in 1868 commenced the study of medicine at Findlay, O. He graduated from the Cleveland (Ohio) Homeopathic Hospital College, in 1870, commenced the practice of medicine in Carey, Wyandott county, O., in April of same year, and remained there until the Fall of 1872, when he moved to Leipsic, Putnam county, O. Here



DR. A. S. ROSENBERGER.





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Workman, who died in 1889, leaving her with a family of eight children. The next, younger than the subject of this sketch, is Edward, who lives near McComb, on a farm. He is a minister in the German Baptist Church. The youngest son, Elhanan, died when about 8 years of age. Two children were born by the second marriage—Jacob, living near Leipsic, and Alice, living in Leipsic, with whom the mother is now living, the father having died in November, 1876.

DR. HENRY D. ROSENBERGER, OF HATFIELD, PA.

Dr. Henry D. Rosenberger was born February 8, 1852, on the old homestead in Hatfield township. He attended the township school in the Winter—only about one half of the sessions, as in the Fall he had to work on his father's farm. In the Spring of 1872 he attended Washington Collegiate Institute, at Trappe, Pa., taking a ten-weeks' course; Prof. A. Rambo was principal at the time. In the Winter of 1872-73 he taught Hickory Grove school, in Hatfield township.

In the Spring of 1873 he commenced reading medicine in the office of his uncle Dr. Isaac Detweiler. The following November he entered Hahnemann Medical College, of Philadelphia, graduating in March, 1875. The following Summer he practiced medicine with his preceptor, Dr. Detweiler, at Lawn-dale, Bucks county. On January 1, 1876, he started to practice in the village of New Britain, Pa., and in three years had gained a good practice. In the Spring of 1879, finding that mental labor would no longer agree with him, he abandoned the medical profession and went to farming, moving on his father's farm, where the Doctor still resides.

The subject of this sketch was married December 16, 1875, to Miss Mary A., oldest daughter of Jacob M. Allebach, of Skippack. They have one daughter—Emma Estella, born April 16, 1877.