

Genealogical Data Concerning
the Ancestors and Descendants
of
JOHN JACOB SHAFFER
(1763-1816)

of
MERCERSBURG, FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

With supplementary data on the Lesch, Kopp, Reiss, and Krafft
families of Heidelberg and Tulpehocken Townships,
Berks County, Pennsylvania.

by
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SHAFER

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daughter Mrs. John M. Stevens, Coatesville, Pa.

daughter Mrs. Thurman E. Nesbitt, McConnellsburg, Pa.

Frank Shaffer Long

by niece Miss Mary Emma Brewer, Philadelphia, Pa.

Hurst McDowell Shaffer

by niece Miss Thelma E. Shaffer, Baltimore, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cromer Shaffer

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Mr. and Mrs. William Oliver Shaffer

by son Arthur Nello Shaffer, Baltimore, Md.

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INTRODUCTION

One of the commonest German surnames is *Shaffer*, which means—no matter how it is spelled—*shepherd*. The father of all German migration to Pennsylvania was Francis Daniel Pastorius, whose name was simply Shaffer in its Latin form. Of the original settlers in the German colony in New York—whose vicissitudes were described by John Conrad Weiser in his autobiography—several were named Shaffer, among them the ancestor of the families here being considered. By the time fairly comprehensive records are available for Lancaster and Berks Counties of Pennsylvania there were about a dozen Shaffer households. All of this is prelude to the statement that tracing a Shaffer on a family tree is a difficult procedure.

Fortunately, data were discovered in the deed and estate records of Berks County which provided a clear lineage to John Jacob Shaffer who migrated to Mercersburg about 1810 and died there five years later. Much other data on Shaffer families came to light to clutter our files; but we are tempted to believe that Frederick Shaffer—the earliest ancestor—had brothers in the New World whose families lived with him at Tulpehocken. Without knowing the homeland of these people in Germany it would be difficult to obtain further records of them.

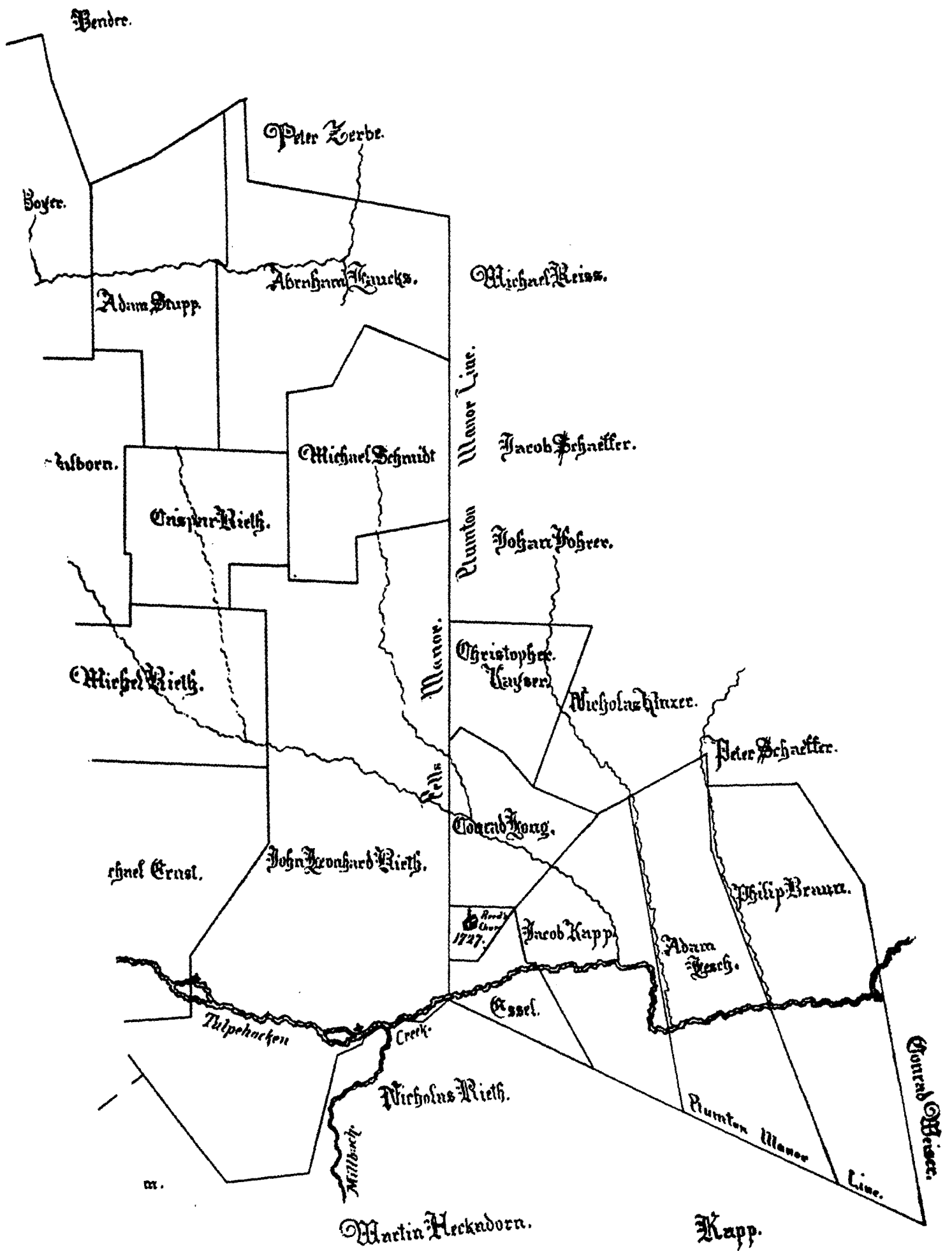
For the sake of clarity, we have not introduced other Shaffers into this record. For the sake of convenience, we are using the uniform spelling *Shaffer*, except where direct quotations are made.

No genealogist is ever satisfied that he has uncovered all data available about an ancestor or his family, but as rule of thumb guidance, the law of diminishing returns leads us to believe that we have a fairly complete account of both the ancestors and descendants of John Jacob Shaffer.

The authors invite correspondence relating to the data contained in this pamphlet, of which additional copies may be purchased for \$1.50 per copy.

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Part of the Tulpehocken Settlement. Note lands of Jacob Schaeffer, Michael Reiss, Jacob Kapp, Adam Lesch. The present village of Womelsdorf is located at the lower right of this map.

THE SHAFFER ANCESTRY

I. FREDERICK SHAFFER

I. *Frederick Shaffer*, the earliest American ancestor of the Shaffer family here under consideration, was listed with one other adult in his household in the ration lists prepared under the direction of Governor Hunter of New York in 1710. He resided in Queensbury, in Livingston Manor (on the east side of the Hudson River). In the 1712 list, one child is included. He is recorded as a private in Captain John Conrad Weiser's Company which consisted of Palatine Volunteers serving against Canada in Queen Anne's War. October 11, 1715, he was naturalized as a British citizen in the Town Hall, Albany, New York. In 1717, he was recorded as "Heinrich" Shaffer, wife Rosina, one child, at New Quunsberg (Hartmansdorf), in the Schohary Valley, on the Simmendinger List. He settled in the Tulpehocken Valley between May 13, 1723 (when a letter from James Mitchell of Donegal to James Logan cited the earliest German migrants to the area) and January 10, 1725 (when he was enrolled on the first tax rating for Tulpehocken). He is one of the signers on the petition for a road to "begin at the Lutheran Meeting House on the Tulpehocken and to end in ye High Road at ye Quaker Meeting House near George Boone's Mill in Oley," dated 1727. December 5, 1739, the attorneys for William Page, the proprietor of Plumton Manor, deeded a 275-acre tract therein to Frederick, which he held at the time of his death in 1765. On September 24, 1753, Frederick, Peter, and Michael Shaver of Berks County were naturalized in Pennsylvania, listed as "such who conscientiously scruple to take an oath." It is possible these three men were related, acting as heads of families in taking this action. A Michael Shaffer died in 1759 and a Peter died in 1775, leaving families in Berks County. August 19, 1765, letters of administration in Frederick's estate were granted John Shaffer ("only son, issue, and heir"). We may assume that he was born about 1685-1690, married Anna Rosina shortly before or after he left Europe, and had only one son, John, born about 1710. Likely he was buried on Zion's (Reed's) graveyard.¹

II. JOHN SHAFFER

II. *John Shaffer* (c. 1711-1775), son of Frederick and Rosina Shaffer, became sole owner of his father's tract upon his death in 1765. He deeded 260 acres of this to his son Jacob on September 2, 1766, and the remaining 15 acres to his son John on September 1, 1766, along with a tract for 141 acres which had been patented to Michael and Katharine Miller who sold it to John on April 14, 1742. These deeds identify his wife as Elizabeth, his occupation as yeoman, his residence as Tulpehocken. His will made October 11, 1773, and probated September 16, 1775, further identifies his wife and children. Records of Christ Lutheran Church also concur in these identifications, one of the baptismal records of their children giving her maiden name as Bauer. Although her will, written February 4, and proven May 3, 1777, identifies the same children as her husband's will, there is a possibility that she was his second wife, and the mother of some, but not all of his children. The baptism of his neighbor Michael Reiss' children (at which he served as sponsor in 1752 and 1757) is recorded with the notation that this was Shaffer's second wife. Since no definite information is available, conjecture is all that can be made. He is likely buried at Christ Church or at Reed's Cemetery.

Children of John and Elizabeth (Bauer) Shaffer:

- III a. John Shaffer, February 20, 1735.
- III b. Simon Shaffer.
- III c. Frederick Shaffer.
- III d. John Jacob Shaffer, September 10, 1743.
- III e. Anna Rosina Shaffer, December 10, 1745-?
- III f. John Peter Shaffer, April 2, 1747-?
- III g. John William, December 17, 1751.²

III. JOHN SHAFFER

III a. *John Shaffer* (February 20, 1735-November 17, 1804), son of John Shaffer, and grandson of Frederick, is buried at St. Daniel's churchyard, where a legible tombstone records the dates of his birth and death. He married Anna Sophia Lesch, as recorded in her parents' wills, the Christ Lutheran baptisms, and

several deeds. He farmed the tract his father deeded him in 1766, selling it May 1, 1789, with wife Sophia, to Jacob Kintzer. He left no will, but letters of administration in his estate were granted January 8, 1805, to Leonard, a son, his widow Sophia having renounced her rights.

References in *Pennsylvania Archives* record his service in the American Revolution as follows:

1) Series V-5-148. January 25, 1776, Col. John Patton's Battalion: Lt. Col. John Reiss, Captain Michael Furrer, 1st Lt. John Shaffer. 2) V-5-183. May 10, 1780, second battalion, seventh company, Captain John Shaffer, Jacob Knoll, Ensign. 3) III-6-293, list of Captain (John) Shaffer's battalion. Both Reiss and Furrer were neighbors at Tulpehocken at this time. Reiss' daughter married one of Shaffer's sons; one of his sisters served as sponsor for one of the Shaffer sons, and Furrer served as sponsor for him, too. Knoll married one of Reiss' sisters.

Children of John and Anna Sophia (Lesch) Shaffer:

- IV a. John Shaffer, July 23, 1761.
- IV b. John Jacob Shaffer, March 30, 1763.
- IV c. Michael Shaffer, March 7, 1765.
- IV d. Michael Shaffer, February 26, 1767.
- IV e. Peter Shaffer, November 3, 1768.
- IV f. Leonard Shaffer, August 11, 1770.
- IV g. John Adam Shaffer, February 21, 1773.
- IV h. John Adam Shaffer, April 3, 1775.³

Anna Sophia Lesch, who married III a. *John Shaffer*, was the daughter of *John Adam Lesch* and *Anna Sophia Kopp*, his wife. She was confirmed at Christ Lutheran Church in 1753, age 16, making her birthyear about 1737.

John Adam Lesch, or Adam Lesch as he is more generally known, came to the Tulpehocken region between 1723 and 1725. A tract of 206 acres was patented to him on December 5, 1739, which was located near Reed's Church. He erected a stone building on this property in 1753 which still stands there. This tract he sold to John Kurtz on April 12, 1764. One of Kurtz's descendants, Herbert Kurtz, still occupies this home. He was a trustee of Christ Church from 1743 until 1758. According to the Koch-

erthal records, Lesch served as sponsor at the baptism of John Adam Zech, son of John and Anna Magdalena, at New York city on September 29, 1710, although he most likely was but a youth then. He was naturalized in Pennsylvania April 10, 1755, having received the Sacrament March 30.

A second tract of land which he inherited from his father-in-law, Jacob Kopp, he and his wife sold to Peter Reed on May 13, 1763.

His will, recorded in Lancaster County, was dated January 26, 1768, and proved March 25, 1768. His wife's will, also recorded in Lancaster County, was written August 29, 1770, and proved March 25, 1771. The following is recorded among the burials of Christ Church, "1771, Buried March 10, John Adam Lesch's widow, Anna Sophia, was the daughter of John Jacob Kopp, born October 13, 1695, mother of eight children, 76 years, 4 months. Christ's Church Cemetery, Ps. 25:16."

Children of John Jacob Lesch and Anna Sophia Kopp:

1. Susanna Margaret Lesch m. Valentine Viehman.
2. Catharine Elizabeth Lesch m. Michael Erhard.
3. Christina Lesch m. ----- Neff.
4. Mary Elizabeth Lesch m. Jacob Boyer.
5. Anna Maria Lesch m. ----- Henninger.
6. Anna Sophia Lesch m. John Shaffer.
7. Mary Margaret Lesch m. ----- Keyser.
8. John Jacob Lesch m. Mary Catharine -----.

(Only a small amount of information could be discovered concerning the children of Adam and Sophia Lesch. Their only son, John Jacob, died before his only daughter, Maria Sophia, was born, April 6, 1756, and his widow married a second time to Michael Rieth. The only daughter was the care of her grandparents, as is evidenced by the concern shown for her in their wills and in deeds they granted after her birth.

(Susanna Margaret Lesch who married Valentine Viehmann was the mother of one son recorded at Christ Church, Adam, born February 23, 1744. Catharine Elizabeth, who married Michael Erhard, had two children whose births are recorded at Christ

Church: John Adam, December 27, 1744, and John Jacob, June, 1750. Her father's will placed her portion of his estate in the hands of his brother George, since she lived "far from here.")⁴

Jacob Kopp, the father of Anna Sophia, Adam Lesch's wife, was also a settler at Tulpehocken between 1723 and 1725. He was patented a tract on December 4-5, 1739, which he willed dated February 3, 1741, to Adam Lesch and George Lesch, his sons-in-law; Sophia Lesch, his daughter; and John Jacob Braun, son of Elizabeth Madelina Braun. George Lesch and John Jacob Braun bequeathed this tract to Adam Lesch, February 18, 1741.

Jacob, his wife, and four children, sailed from Rotterdam for England on July 15, 1709. April of the following year they sailed from England, arriving at New York in June or July 1710. They lived at the Hayesbury Camp on the East bank of the Hudson River in 1711, and he served in that company of Palatine volunteers in Queen Anne's War. He was naturalized as a British citizen on October 11, 1715, at Albany.

Children of Jacob Kopp and -----:

1. Anna Sophia Kopp, October 13, 1695, m. John Adam Lesch.
2. Anna Kopp married George Lesch.
3. Elizabeth Magdalena Kopp, 1697, married Philip Braun.
4. -----.

(Elizabeth Magdalena Kopp, wife of Philip Braun, and her husband are buried on a hillside on their farm, which adjoined Adam Lesch's and Jacob Kopp's. Stones there state that he was born 1693, died August 19, 1767; she, born 1697, died September, 1760.)⁵

John Adam Lesch was very likely the son of *Baltzer Lesch* who was listed as encamped at St. Catherine's near London, on June 2, 1709, with other Palatines, waiting transportation to America. He was then 38, a Lutheran, husbandman and vinedresser. He then had three sons, aged 14, 8, and 2, and a daughter aged 9. In 1710 and 1712, Baltzer Lesch's Susanna, presumably meaning widow, was recorded on Governor Hunter's ration lists, with the same number of children; it is presumed that Baltzer died in England, en route, or shortly after arrival in America.

Only two of their children's names are known: John Adam, already considered; and George, very likely born about 1801, who married Anna Kopp. George had several children, among whom were 1) Baltzer (who married Anna Christina Schaefer and had at least five children recorded in Christ Church records); 2) John Jacob (perhaps: a John Jacob, "wife a Weiser," served as sponsors at Christ Church in 1747); 3) Susanna Philippina, June 23, 1723, according to the Moravian archives; 4) Hermanus (b. 1726, listed in Moravian records; left 1753, died April 8, 1791. He was thrice married, once to Anna Margaret Heinsch (1727-1777), widow of Frederick Beyer, on July 29, 1758; and finally to Anna Barbara Beroth (August 7, 1732-September 15, 1813) in 1779, a widow of Martin Hirt (1729-1760), all Moravian families, founded Bethabara, N. C., but returned to Bethlehem, where he died.

(The children of Baltzer Lesch and Anna Christina Schaefer (the daughter of Michael Schaefer), were John Jacob, March 30, 1757; Anna Maria, April 12, 1760; Anna Catharine, July 12, 1761; John Peter, April 14, 1763; and Maria Salome, March 22, 1767. Baltzer Lesch was taxed in Bethel Township on lists covering 1767-1784. Nothing further has been discovered concerning these families.)⁶

III b. *Simon Shaffer*, son of John, married Susanna _____, and likely migrated to other regions, for only two children are recorded in Christ Church baptisms under his name, and nothing further is detected of him through local records.

Children of Simon and Susanna (_____) Shaffer:

1. Rosina Shaffer, December 9, 1764.
2. Anna Eva Shaffer, June 29, 1766.

III c. *Frederick Shaffer*, son of John, married Margaret _____, and very likely moved to Lancaster County, for a will, written July 31, 1797, proved September 30, 1802, names a wife Margaret for a Frederick Shaffer of Lancaster County. Several Frederick Shaffers are listed with Revolutionary War service.

Children of Frederick and Margaret (_____) Shaffer:

1. Rosina Shaffer, May 28, 1764.
2. Eva Shaffer, April 21, 1766.

III d. *John Jacob Shaffer* (September 10, 1743-April 1772) married in 1766, Mary Magdalena Rieth, who married George Hoofnagle after Shaffer's death. The death record at Christ Church states he died of consumption, was buried at Reed's cemetery, April 21, 1772. His will was written April 14, probated April 22, naming Peter Lisse and Adam Emrich as executors, who sold his land to Michael Fohrer on July 2, 1774. Various deeds identify him as a blacksmith.

Children of John Jacob and Mary Magdalena (Rieth) Shaffer:

1. John Jacob Shaffer.
2. Maria Barbara Shaffer.⁷

III g. *John William Shaffer* (December 17, 1751-) married Anna Maria _____. He, too, evidently migrated to other regions, for after four children recorded at Christ Church, his name disappears from local record.

Children of John William and Anna Maria (_____) Shaffer:

1. John Shaffer, November 26, 1774.
2. John Jacob Shaffer, January 31, 1776.
3. Eva Barbara Shaffer, January 1, 1779.
4. Maria Catharine Shaffer, January 3, 1783.

IV a. *John Shaffer* (July 23, 1761-), eldest son of John (1735-1804), was a farmer in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, for a time. On May 1, 1797, he and his brother Jacob purchased two tracts from Conrad and Barbara Weiser, then of Penn Township, Northumberland (now Snyder) County. The first of these, for 179 acres, was part of the original Conrad Weiser estate. The other, for 50 acres, had been sold by Peter Fraidley, the sheriff of Berks County, to John and Sophia Shaffer, January 7, 1795, by whom it was deeded to Conrad and Barbara Weiser, January 12, 1796.

John and Christina, his wife, sold their share in this land to the brother Jacob on May 14, 1801, and received a deed the same date for a tract which his father and mother, John and Sophia, had purchased April 14, 1795, from George Ege. This land they sold in 1804 and 1806. On April 24, 1811, a John Shaffer ("late of

Berks County") purchased a tract in Montgomery Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, from Gerhard Buckwalter. John and Christina, his wife, sold a tract April 30, 1816, which they had purchased from Cairus and Samuel Sterrett. Further information concerning them has not been discovered.⁸

IV f. *Leonard Shaffer* (August 11, 1770-October 7, 1817) married Elizabeth Hain on November 30, 1800, and they had several children, three of whom are recorded at St. Daniel's Church, as follows: Sophia, October 25, 1805; Leonhardt, November 26, 1806 (died April 8, 1826, buried at Hain's Church); and Hanna, March 28, 1813; and from other sources: Benjamin (m. Catharine Mengel) d. November 24, 1887, Cumru Township, Berks County; John, of Washington, D. C.; Joseph (whose son Daniel was a cigarmaker at Norristown, Pennsylvania); Catharine (m. John Saylor). Sophia, above, married Daniel Hebener; and Leonard Shaffer's widow afterwards married George Gernant, sheriff of Berks County, 1844-1847.

IV h. *Adam Shaffer* has two children recorded at St. Daniel's Church: Elizabeth, January 4, 1796, and Simon, October 6, 1800.

There may be more descendants here, but information is both too sketchy and too complicated to determine which of numerous Shaffers belong to these families.

¹ Walter A. Knittle, *Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration* (Philadelphia: Dorrance Company), 1937, pp. 289, 298. Charles A. Fisher, "Early Tulpehocken Settlers," *Historical Review of Berks County*, IV (July, 1939), 4, pp. 108-109. Lancaster County deed records, B-1-27; Berks County deed records, B-1-547; Berks County administration records, 2-153. *Pennsylvania Archives*, II-2-332.

² Berks County deed records, B-1-547, B-2-157, 159; will records, 2-232, 2-285. Parish registers, Christ Lutheran Church, Stouchsburg, Pennsylvania.

³ Parish registers, Christ Lutheran Church; tombstones, St. Daniel's Lutheran Church, Robesonia, Pennsylvania. Berks County administration records, 6-171; deeds, 15-28. *Pennsylvania Archives* as stated.

⁴ Parish registers, Christ Lutheran Church; datestone on Lesch homestead. Berks County deed records, B-2-167, A-5-126. Lancaster County will records, B-1-608, X-2-397, X-2-398. *Pennsylvania Archives*, II-2-335. Fisher, *op. cit.*, pp. 104-107.

⁵ Berks County deed records, B-2-167. Fisher, *op. cit.*, p. 106. Tombstones near Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania.

⁶ Fisher, *op. cit.*, p. 107. Parish registers, Christ Lutheran Church. Moravian Archives, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

⁷ Berks County will records, 2-107; deeds, B-1-550. Parish registers of Christ Lutheran Church.

⁸ Berks County deed records, 23-180; 24-132, 134, 135, 138. Franklin County deed records, 10-529, 15-478.

IV. JOHN JACOB SHAFFER

IV b. *John Jacob Shaffer*, known as Jacob, son of John, grandson of John, and great-grandson of Frederick, was born March 30, 1763, at Tulpehocken, Berks County, and died September 28, 1816, at Mercersburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Jacob owned with his brother John a fifty-acre tract deeded them by their parents in 1797 and a 179-acre tract purchased from John Conrad and Barbara Weiser at the same time. In 1801 John sold his share of these properties to his brother Jacob, who, in turn, sold them April 1, 1809, to Nicholas Eckert. It is believed at this time that he left Berks County for Franklin, for on April 16, 1810, he purchased land consisting of 206 acres, known as the slitting mill, in Montgomery Township, Franklin County. This he sold on August 4, 1815, but he purchased other property which was listed on October 20, 1818, when Daniel Shaffer, his son, appeared in Franklin County orphans' court, requesting a writ of evaluation and partition. This consisted of a stone house and lot in Mercersburg occupied by son William Shaffer; another stone house in Mercersburg, ½ lot adjoining the last-named property; a frame house and lot; 4 other lots, and 9 acres of land in Montgomery Township. All of this real estate was purchased by the son Daniel, various deeds and releases being recorded in Franklin County records in the estate. The last of these, dated February 12, 1841, is from his widow, Elizabeth.

Traditionally, his wife was named Mary Elizabeth Reiss, daughter of John Reiss, but no record of her death or burial has been located so far to confirm this tradition, although all evidence seems to support it. He is buried in the Reformed and Lutheran Graveyard at Mercersburg.

Children of John Jacob and Mary Elizabeth (Reiss) Shaffer:

- V a. John William Shaffer [August 4, 1789].
- V b. Elizabeth Shaffer, February 16, 1791.
- V c. Daniel Shaffer, January 29, 1793.
- V d. Anna Margaret and Anna Maria, July 7, 1802.
- V e. Jacob Shaffer married Lydia _____, Bedford, Pa., in 1828.
- V f. Rebecca Shaffer, married Frederick Smith, April 30, 1818.
- V g. Samuel Shaffer, Meadville, Pa., in 1828.
- V h. John Shaffer, April 5, 1809.⁹

Mary Elizabeth Shaffer, wife of Jacob, was very likely the daughter of *John Reiss*. Family tradition states this unanimously, and evidence available in Berks County, without confirming it, supports it adequately. John Reiss was born October 26, 1747, and died December 24, 1831, buried in Zion's (Reed's) Cemetery, near Stouchsburg. His wife's name was Mary, according to a deed he made September 1, 1795, in which he deeded the land he had inherited from his father to his daughter Maria Catharine, wife of Michael Seibert. A complete list of his children has not been discovered. He served as a colonel in the American Revolution, for which record see the biography of John Shaffer. The death record for him at Christ Church refers to him as esquire, so that he likely held some local judicial position at the time of his death.

Children of John and Mary (-----) Reiss:

1. Mary Elizabeth, March 24, 1769 (presumed to have married Jacob Shaffer).
2. John Reiss, July 22, 1770.
3. Mary Catharine, November 28, 1771-August 16, 1826, married May 24, 1791, Michael Seibert (July 1, 1766-February, 1822, son of Wendel and Catharine Seibert).¹⁰

John Reiss was the son of *Michael Reiss*, according to John's tombstone and to the records of his father's estate, which he settled. A Hans Michael Reiss arrived on the *Two Sisters*, aged 22, on September 9, 1738, on the same vessel bearing Andreas Hoover, ancestor of President Herbert Hoover. It seems likely this is the same Michael who reappears in the baptismal records of John Casper Stoeber in 1743. He seems to have followed a varied career, judging from surviving records concerning him. In 1752 he and Garret Brenner jointly purchased a tract in Tulpehocken Township containing an iron works. This he sold to Garret Brenner in 1759. This land contained "Charming Forge," known then as the "Tulpehocken Eisenhammer." The same year (1759) he was involved in a share of an ironworks in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, of which he purchased from Ludwig Stone one half. The disposition of this property was not located. In 1765 he entered articles of agreement with Nicholas Dornmeyer and Michael Forrer, his neighbors, to build a sawmill at joint expense on a 167-acre tract owned by Dornmeyer. A tract

of 150 acres which he held at the time of his death, located in Bethel Township, was sold to George Ege, ironmaster, by his executor. Another lot, which he held in Reading, was sold according to his wishes after his son John reached his majority, in 1769.

The tracts which he owned (and evidently occupied) at the time of his death were one of 216 acres and one of 43 acres which he purchased in March 1755 from Peter Anspach and Magdalena, his wife, only child and heir of Erasmus Buggenmeyer, late of Tulpehocken Township, and these the various children released to John Reiss in 1780 and 1785.

Michael Reiss' will, dated August 20, 1762, named his wife and five of his children. In 1772, John, the eldest son, petitioned the 'orphans' court, naming additional children and asking for permission to dispose of land purchased after the will was written.

Children of Michael and Anna Maria Krafft Reiss:

1. Maria Catrina Reiss, October 28, 1743, m. Jacob Knoll
2. Magdalena Reiss, December 22, 1745, married Philip Marsteller
3. Johannes Reiss, October 26, 1747
4. Anna Maria Reiss, October 8, 1749, m. 1767, John Thom (June 15, 1739-October, 1804, Lebanon, Pennsylvania)
5. John Ludwig Reiss, August 16, 1751, d.y.
6. Maria Elizabeth Reiss, January 28, 1757, d.y.
7. Eva Reiss, d. unm.
8. Adam Reiss, m. Maria Kurtz
9. Leonard Reiss, m. Anna Maria Arndt
10. Christina Reiss, m. Christian Buhler

(Magdalena Reiss married Philip Marsteller, son of Frederick and Barbara Marsteller, born at Trappe, Pennsylvania, January 4, 1742, died 1809, Alexandria, Virginia, to which he had moved in 1803. He was Paymaster of the Pennsylvania Militia, a Colonel in the American Revolution, member of the Pennsylvania Assembly, 1776-1777, and a pallbearer of George Washington.

(Adam Reiss who married Maria Kurtz, May 25, 1784, lived in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, where he died April 12, 1828, leaving several children, Lydia, wife of Philip Uhler, John, and Adam.

(Leonard Reiss married Anna Maria Arndt (February 25,

1764-September 6, 1804) in July, 1785, and lived in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Four of their ten children were living when the mother died in 1804.)¹¹

Anna Maria, wife of Michael Reiss, was a daughter of Andreas Krafft and his wife, Mary Catharine [Kitzmiller], who after his death married John Jacob Gicher. Andreas Krafft arrived in Philadelphia on the *James Goodwill*, September 11, 1728, with Pastor John Casper Stoever. Records of his estate name his children. He held a 142-acre tract in Bern and Tulpehocken Townships, Berks County, Pennsylvania, which was released to his sons-in-law, Henry Sheppeler and Michael Kehl after his death. His wife may have been a Kitzmiller, daughter of John Jacob and Anna Maria Kitzmiller who served as sponsors for the first four of their children.

Children of Andreas and Maria Catharine [Kitzmiller] Krafft:

1. John Jacob Krafft, May 17, 1730-d. before Andreas
2. John Krafft, September 30, 1731
3. Anna Maria Krafft, April 16, 1733, m. Michael Reiss
4. Anna Margareta Krafft, December 27, 1734, m. January 12, 1754, Johannes Ache
5. Maria Catharine Krafft, March 15, 1736, m. Michael Kehl
6. Maria Elizabeth Krafft, April 17, 1737, m. February 10, 1754, Andreas Schaat (Schad)
7. Justina Catharine Krafft, March 4, 1739, m. Henry Sheppeler
8. Andreas Krafft, February 1, 1741
9. Maria Magdalena Krafft, September 7, 1742, m. Thomas Wenerick
10. Maria Susanna Krafft, April 9, 1744, d. before Andreas Krafft
11. Anna Elizabeth Krafft, m. Adam Gruber¹²

¹¹ Berks County deed records, 24-132, 134, 135, 138. Franklin County deed records, 10-634, 18-342; Orphans Court records, B-291. Tombstone in Reformed and Lutheran graveyard, Mercersburg, Pennsylvania. Parish registers, Christ Lutheran Church.

¹⁰ Parish registers, Zion Lutheran Church, Stouchsburg, Pennsylvania, tombstones, Zion Lutheran cemetery. Berks County records, 70-15.

¹¹ Baptismal registers of the Rev. John Casper Stoever. Berks County deed records, A-1-217; A-1-347; A-2-29; A-5-154; B-1-140; B-3-15; 13-52; 16-37, 38. Berks County will records, 2-10; orphans court records, 2-133. Ralph Strassburger, and William J. Hinke, *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* (Norristown, Pa. The Pennsylvania German Society), 1934, vol. I, pp. 209, 211, 212. Parish registers, Salem Lutheran Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

¹² Baptismal registers of the Rev. John Casper Stoever. Berks County Commissioner's records, P-1-327. Strassburger and Hinke, *op. cit.*, I, 21-22.

V. WILLIAM SHAFFER

Va. *John William Shaffer*⁵ (Jacob,⁴ John,³ John,² Frederick¹)
b. August 4, 1789 (?), Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pa., according to a birth and baptismal record found in St. Daniel's Church but not proved, evidently came to Franklin County with his parents when they settled there in 1810. He married Catherine Albert, daughter of William and Priscilla Albert of Williamsport, Maryland.

No history of William Shaffer has been found except through Court records. When his brother Daniel petitioned to have his father's estate settled in 1818, William was living in Mercersburg. Burial records show his youngest son Daniel was born in Baltimore, Maryland. How long William lived in Baltimore and when he went there is not known. He died in 1827, for in November of that year administration records in Chambersburg state his widow Catherine renounced her rights to administer on his estate.

No burial record of William has been found.

Children of William and Catherine (Albert) Shaffer:

- Va-1. William, b. 1815? Fought in Mexican War and died somewhere in Texas of Yellow Fever on his way home.
- Va-2. Rebecca, b. 1817, d. July 11, 1862
- Va-3. Elizabeth, b. 1819, m. John McCune (no further record)
- Va-4. Daniel, b. April 6, 1821, d. May 2, 1899

From Mr. Seth Metcalfe, Mercersburg, it was learned that after William Shaffer's death his widow married a Mr. Metcalfe, traditionally known as "Billy."

Children of Mr. Metcalfe and Catherine (Shaffer) Metcalfe:

- 1. Thomas and Jane (Twins) Thomas married a Miss McCurdy of Fort Loudon, Pa., and they were the parents of a son Daniel who was the father of Mr. Seth Metcalfe, Mercersburg. Jane married Michael Cromer who performed the champion feat of cutting 12½ acres of wheat in a day. See: *Old Mercersburg*, p. 146.

Va-2. *Rebecca Shaffer*, daughter of William and Catherine Shaffer, married John Crilly a school teacher, and lived in Mercersburg

where Rebecca died on July 11, 1862, buried in the Methodist Cemetery in Mercersburg. In 1871 after the great Chicago fire John Crilly went to Chicago to live. The family were Methodists.

Children of John and Rebecca (Shaffer) Crilly:

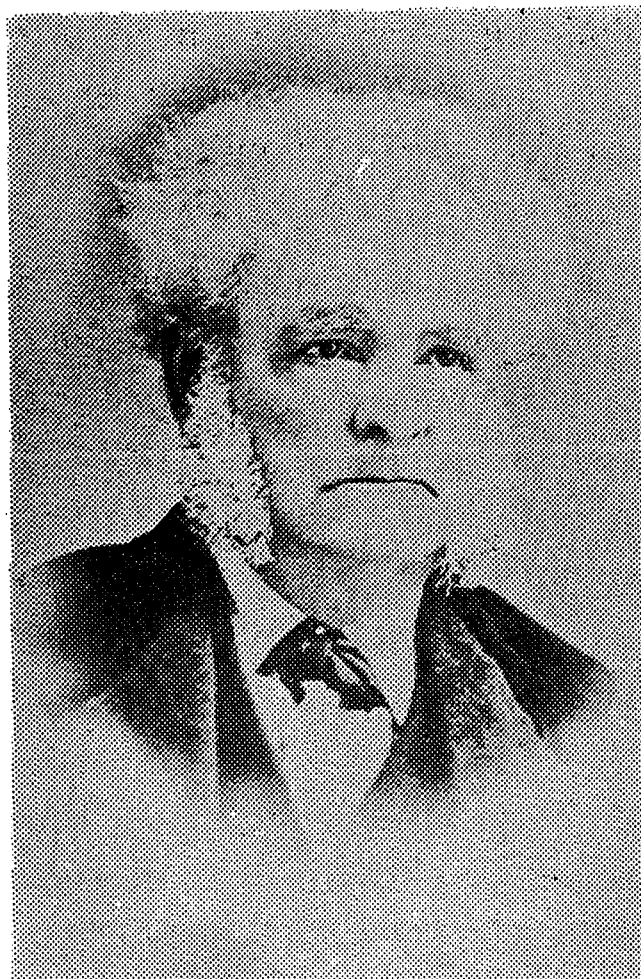
Daniel, m. Elizabeth Snyder
Washington
Theodore
William
Frank, m. Harriet Snyder
Blanche
Kate

(Elizabeth and Harriet Snyder were granddaughters of Elizabeth (Shaffer) Weiser, a sister of William Shaffer. Theodore and Washington Crilly served in the Civil War.)

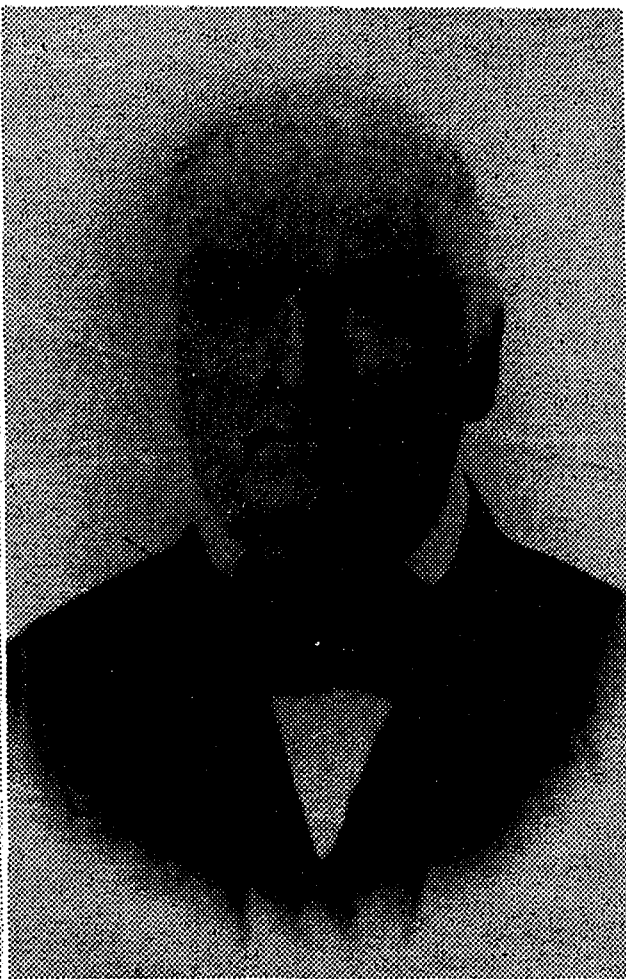
Vb. *Elizabeth Shaffer*, daughter of Jacob and Mary Elizabeth Shaffer was born in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pa., February 16, 1791, and married June 21, 1808, Henry Solomon Weiser (February 14, 1786, Womelsdorf, Pa.-March 29, 1860, Mercersburg, Pa.), an innkeeper and salecrier in Mercersburg, where they moved about 1810. Elizabeth died January 10, 1878, Fort Loudon, Pa., and they are buried in Mercersburg. For further information, see the Weiser Family history to be published in 1960 by John Conrad Weiser Family Association, P. O. Box 121, Gettysburg, Pa.

Children of Solomon and Elizabeth (Shaffer) Weiser:

1. John Jacob Shaffer Weiser, January 15, 1808-April 17, 1883.
Lived at Pine Grove Furnace, Cumberland County, Pa.
2. Eliza Weiser, January 21, 1810-October 26, 1890. Fort Loudon, Pa., married Jacob Snyder.
3. John Weiser
4. Daniel Weiser
5. Samuel Weiser
6. Jabetz Weiser
7. Rebecca Weiser, December 11, 1821-October 25, 1885, Marion, Pa., married George Burkholder.
8. George Weiser
9. Catharine Weiser married William Burkholder
10. Reuben Weiser (Pvt. Co., 126th Pa. Vol., Civil War)



JOHN SHAFFER
(1809-1895)



DANIEL SHAFFER
(1793-1862)

Vc. *Daniel Shaffer* (Jacob, John, John, Frederick), January 29, 1793-December 1, 1862, was born in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pa., as proved by birth and baptism records found in Christ Lutheran Church and by the original "taufschein" now in the possession of a great-granddaughter, Miss Ellen C. Doty. He married Catherine Eichelberger, b. June 18, 1792, daughter of Godfrey and Rosina (Mowrey) Eichelberger, of Lebanon County. It is assumed he came to Mercersburg about 1810, the time his father settled there. His father died intestate in 1816 and in 1818 Daniel petitioned to have the estate settled. He, his mother Elizabeth, and brother William were appointed administrators.

Family records and history tell us Daniel was a very prominent and wealthy citizen of Mercersburg. After his father's estate was settled, he eventually bought all the property each of his brothers and sisters had inherited. He owned a store and tavern and was listed as an innkeeper. He was County Commissioner, 1828-1831; Postmaster at Mercersburg, 1834-1841 and again 1845-1849. He worked to bring the Classical Institute, later known as Marshall College to Mercersburg in 1835. He was Treasurer of Marshall

College, and a member of the Building Committee. In 1840 he owned the Old Mansion House on the southwest corner of the Square which he deeded to Marshall College. Family tradition states unanimously he gave generously to Marshall College.

Daniel Shaffer was a trustee of Marshall College when the school merged with Franklin College at Lancaster and moved there. The money which had been collected by denominations other than the Reformed Church was returned to the respective denominational colleges. The Lutheran share went to Gettysburg College and was used to establish the Franklin Professorship now known as the Franklin Chair of Greek. This chair has been held since 1946 by Dr. William Frederick Shaffer, a great-grandnephew of Daniel Shaffer.

Daniel Shaffer and wife had eight children and at one time there were six of his family living past eighty years of age. He died December 1, 1862, and it is assumed he is buried in Mercersburg. His widow Catherine died November 30, 1876, at the home of her daughter Ellen Jane Cessna and is buried in Bedford, Pa.

Children of Daniel and Catherine (Eichelberger) Shaffer:

- Vc-1. Catherine b. 1812 d. 1869 m. James Williamson, lived in Buckstown, Pa. Issue 1 son
- Vc-2. Mary Elizabeth (Eliza) b. 1814 d. 1912¹⁹⁰⁶
- Vc-3. Rebecca b. 1816 d. 1904 m. Col. John H. Murphy, lived in Nebraska
- Vc-4. Susan Barbara b. 1819 d. 1907
- Vc-5. Washington b. 1821 d. 1918
- Vc-6. Mary Margaret b. ? d. age 95 m. Andrew Spangler
- Vc-7. Ellen Jane b. June 8, 1827 d. 1922
- Vc-8. Charlotte b. 1831 d. 1865 unm. School teacher.

Vc-2. *Mary Elizabeth*, known as "Eliza," daughter of Daniel and Catherine Shaffer, married John Carson, b. 1812. He was a small, fair Scotch-Irishman, very religious and an exhorter in the Methodist Church. He was a shoemaker for families, going from house to house in the winter. He died 1849 of consumption and is buried in the Methodist Cemetery in Mercersburg. At the time of his death, he was 37 years old. His daughter Mary died when a child of the same disease. Eliza Carson was appointed Postmistress at

Mercersburg April 14, 1853, and served until April 1861. Later she went west to live with a daughter. She died in Nebraska and is buried at Galesburg, Ill.

Children of John and Mary Elizabeth (Shaffer) Carson:

Daniel (Civil War service, buried Galesburg, Illinois)

Matilda

Catherine

Mary

John Harvey

William and Wilson (twins)

Cyrus Nevus Married Ruth Ellen Bailey and lived in Los Angeles ;
issue Reuben, Elizabeth, Ruth Ellen, Margaret, Twin boys.
Of these Elizabeth was the only one to marry. She married
Karl Hermann and lived in Chicago.

Matilda, daughter of John and Mary Elizabeth (Shaffer) Carson, married Isaac P. Koons, April 16, 1857. He was principal of Knoxville Academy, Knoxville, Illinois.

Children of Isaac P. and Matilda (Carson) Koons:

1. Mary Ellen (Minnie) b. Sept. 5, 1858, Knoxville, Ill., d. Feb. 28, 1954, bur. Omaha, Nebr., m. Dr. David James Reynish
 1. Alice Ethel Reynish b. Oct. 6, 1892, Kansas City, Mo., m. Benjamin Seaton
 1. Eloise Seaton b. June 7, 1923 m. DeVoe Wright
 1. Diane Wright b. Feb. 16, 1944
 2. Edna Gertrude Reynish b. Feb. 17, 1895, Burchard, Nebr. m. Marlin C. Phillips, July 15, 1918, Kearney, Nebr.
 1. Raymond Morris Phillips b. Jan. 30, 1920, m. Helen Laird
 1. William Laird Phillips
 2. Marlin Reynish Phillips b. Jan. 31, 1925 m. Gwendolyn Faltys
 1. James David Phillips b. Sept. 20, 1950
 2. Ann Susan Phillips b. Nov. 20, 1952
 3. Mary Marget Phillips, b. Mar. 28, 1956
 3. Margaret Reynish b. Dec. 22, 1902 m. _____ Nelson
2. Fred Koons
3. Irma Koons m. James Jones, Tulsa, Oklahoma
4. Merle Koons
5. Alice Koons
6. Carl Koons, jeweler, Beatrice, Nebr.
7. Edith Koons m. ~~William~~ H. Ellis, Wilmette, Illinois.

Vc-3. *Rebecca Shaffer*, daughter of Daniel and Catherine Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg in 1816. She married Col. John H. Murphy in 1836. He is mentioned frequently in *Old Mercersburg*.

Their children were Cyrus, Kate, Winnie and Marion who married R. C. Coblentz, Esq., of Sterling, Illinois.

There may have been more children, but no further records of the family have been found. Rebecca died in 1904 in Nebraska.

Vc-5. *Washington Shaffer* (Daniel, Jacob, John, John, Frederick) was born in Mercersburg, 1821. From the scant record of this family it appears he went West when a young man. He married Cecelia Whaley somewhere in Ohio. She was only 16 years of age and had been reared by an uncle, Dr. Munger, her mother having died when she was 5 years of age. Cecelia was the daughter of Justin and _____ Leete Whaley. Washington Shaffer died in Illinois.

Children of Washington and Cecelia (Whaley) Shaffer:

Catherine

Daniel

Mary Ellen

Frank Washington

Myrta

Elizabeth Carson

Susan Belle m. Jacob Martin, Lewiston, Illinois, in 1895, issue 1
daughter Mary Cecelia b. January 29, 1901, Canton, Illinois.

Vc-7. *Ellen Jane Shaffer* b. June 8, 1827, daughter of Daniel and Catherine Shaffer married John Cessna, b. 1821 at Bedford, Pa., a descendant of Major John Cessna, Revolutionary War and Count de Cessna, a French Huguenot who fought in the Battle of Bayne in Ireland 1690. John Cessna was a graduate of Marshall College, Mercersburg, class of 1842. He tutored Latin for two years after graduating. In 1844 he and his bride returned to Bedford to make their home. He was a prominent politician and was the youngest Speaker of the House Pennsylvania ever elected, serving two terms in 1851 and 1863. John and Ellen Cessna entertained Presidents Polk, Harrison and Buchanan at the Bedford Springs Hotel, which at that time was the "Summer White House." He and President Buchanan were good friends. The china

and silver used at these dinners are still the prized possessions of their granddaughter, Miss Ellen Doty. Ellen Jane died 1922 and is buried in Bedford, Pa. Mr. C. Paul Cessna, Alumni Secretary and Historian of Gettysburg College, who died October 5, 1958, was one of their descendants.

Children of John and Ellen Jane (Shaffer) Cessna:

Daniel

Carrie

Ellen

William

Marion

Mary Etta Married E. C. Doty in 1895, Bedford, Pa.

ch. James C. Doty

Ellen Cessna Doty, Bedford, Pa.

Mary Etta Doty died 1927

Harry

Vd. *Anna Margaret and Anna Maria*, twin daughters of Jacob and Mary Elizabeth Shaffer were born July 7, 1802, as shown by birth and baptism record in Christ Lutheran Church, Berks County, Pa. Anna Margaret died in childhood.

Anna Maria, known as Polly, married John Lakens, born in Franklin County. He operated a mill at Welsh Run, Pa. No record of their children has been found except they had six daughters and three sons. Polly died in 1827.

Ve. *Jacob Shaffer* (Jacob, John, Frederick) likely born in Berks County married Lydia? He did not settle in Mercersburg for at the time his father's estate was settled, Jacob and his wife were living in Bedford, Pa. They had a son Jacob who served in the Civil War.

Vf. *Rebecca Shaffer*, daughter of Jacob and Mary Elizabeth Shaffer, married Frederick Smith on April 30, 1818. No other record of this family has been found. They must have left Mercersburg, for in Court records of 1828 they lived in Bedford.

Vg. *Samuel Shaffer* (Jacob, John, John, Frederick) of whom no record has been found except that he was in Meadville, 1829.

Vh. *John Shaffer* (Jacob, John, John, Frederick), born in Berks County, Pa., April 5, 1809, married Martha Bratton, born

April 3, 1811. They were married on November 4, 1830, by the Rev. F. Rahauser. John Shaffer was a hatter by trade but at one time kept an inn near Fort Loudon. He and his family went from Mt. Parnell to Galesburg, Illinois, in 1875, in a covered wagon and a surrey. He moved from Galesburg to Pana, Illinois, in 1858, where he was a farmer. He died in 1895. His wife died in 1886. Both are buried in Pana.

Children of John and Martha (Bratton) Shaffer:

- Vh-1. Mary Elizabeth b. December 12, 1831, d. May 4, 1870 m. Harvey Eichelberger, moved to Graham, Texas
- Vh-2. William Wallace b. October 24, 1833, d. March 2, 1907 S. Farmer in Kansas
- Vh-3. George Washington b. January 7, 1836, d. September 25, 1872
- Vh-4. John Upton b. January 18, 1838, d. ? m. Laura Beatty, Louisville, Ky. 4 daughters—2 sons, editor of newspaper
- Vh-5. Margaret Ann b. March 14, 1840, d. April 8, 1861
- Vh-6. Luther McCollough b. May 21, 1842, d. January 2, 1878 dau. in Calif.
- Vh-7. Martha Ellen b. August 6, 1844, d. December 8, 1895
- Vh-8. James Knox Polk b. November 10, 1846, d. July 3, 1909
- Vh-9. Jacob Bratten b. January 21, 1849, d. April 2, 1890, had dau. Pearl
- Vh-10. Alice b. February 20, 1851, d. February 26, 1930 (school teacher)
- Vh-11. Frank b. March 14, 1853, d. April 5, 1920 (florist)

Vh-4. *John Upton Shaffer*, third son of John and Martha Shaffer, served in the Civil War and went to Kentucky, where he met and married Laura Beatty. One of their children was a daughter Jessie who married H. Warner Overley and lived in Louisville. Mrs. Overly died in 1956.

Vh-8. *James Knox Polk Shaffer*, fifth son of John and Martha Shaffer, married Mary Sophia Hubbard of Ohio and lived in Pana, Illinois, where he had an implement business. They had three children.

1. Jessie May b. May 23, 1887, d. December 17, 1950
2. Bessie Leone b. June 30, 1888, m. Guy N. St. Clair July 27, 1910. Live in Flint, Michigan
3. Frank Carlyn b. May 1, 1890

Va-4. DANIEL SHAFFER

Va-4. *Daniel Shaffer*⁶ (William,⁵ Jacob,⁴ John,³ John,² Frederick¹) was born in Baltimore, Maryland, April 6, 1821, according to family burial records. On June 27, 1844, he married Margaret Sharrar born September 22, 1826. He was a tailor by trade in Mercersburg where he and his family lived.

During the Civil War he was taken a civilian prisoner by Gen. J. E. B. Stewart's raiders, to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia, where he spent six months. See "The Return of Daniel Shaffer."

He died May 2, 1899. His wife died July 1, 1893. Both are buried in the Methodist Cemetery, Mercersburg, Pa.

Children of Daniel and Margaret (Sharrar) Shaffer:

- Va-4a. Ellen Jane b. May 6, 1846, d. July 7, 1907
- Va-4b. William Oliver b. February 22, 1848, d. April 28, 1926
- Va-4c. Mary Emma b. September 20, 1850, d. May 22, 1935
- Va-4d. Robert Coyle b. September 20, 1853, d. June 1936, m.
Ellen Davis, no children
- Va-4e. John Sharrar b. August 20, 1855, d. October 14, 1940
- Va-4f. Edward Murray b. September 20, 1860
- Va-4g. Daniel Tydings b. September 10, 1866, d. July 5, 1921
- Va-4h. Mortimer b. March 24, 1868, d. July 14, 1868

Mercersburg Journal, March 27, 1863
(Vol. 19-46)

"THE RETURN OF DANIEL SHAFFER"

While our citizens mourn the death of Mr. Rice, they yet rejoice in the return of his prison companion, Mr. Daniel Shaffer, who returned on Tuesday evening last. Mr. Shaffer has kindly allowed us the use of his name and memory in giving our readers some account of experiences during their imprisonment in Richmond.

While in Richmond they were first in Libby Prison and afterward in Castle Lightning. Libby Prison is an entire block of buildings formerly used as a tobacco warehouse. Having been dragged from home on October last with only scanty clothing they suffered much from exposure. The room in which the citizen prisoners were placed was about 125 feet by 50 feet. In this room about 130 men were confined, with but little fire, with neither beds,

bedding, tables nor chairs. The windows were boarded up and so kept out not only the cold but also the light.

Four half candles dimly lighted the room during the evening. Those who had blankets or overcoats could use them in lieu of beds, but many had to lie on the bare floor, and without any covering except their scanty clothing.

Between Christmas and New Years they were moved from Libby Prison to Castle Lightning, about a mile distant in consequence of the breaking out of small pox and also to make room for the soldier prisoners taken in the battle of Murfreesboro.

In Castle Lightning they greatly suffered from cold, not having any fire during their five weeks, but at that treated better in other respects as will be seen here after.

In this prison Mr. Rice began to suffer from rheumatism.

Early in February they were again placed in Libby Prison. Soon afterward Mr. Rice was removed to the hospital, a room in the same building.

The prisoners of one room were not allowed the least intercourse with those in another unless in very exceptional cases. Accordingly, Mr. Shaffer did not see Mr. Rice after his removal to the hospital.

As to food, the men fared badly. Dry bread and meat in the morning and bread and soup in the evenings constituted their meager diet. Indeed there is good reason for supposing the meat was either horse or mule flesh. Both it and the bread was seasoned with saltpeter. The fare was getting worse every week and the quantity lessened. At Castle Lightning however, they were allowed to send out for rolls, butter, etc., and so their diet was better.

This was not permitted in Libby Prison. The difference lay in the generosity of the Captain commanding. Time passed slowly in the prison. Having such uncomfortable quarters and nothing to do, the men resorted to all the little pastimes within their reach, which indeed were very few. They could get the Richmond papers by paying \$.15 for a full sheet or \$.10 for a half sheet. Scarcely a book was found among the 130 prisoners.

Mr. Shaffer somewhere picked up a rat nibbled Testament which enabled him to pass part of his time in comfort as well as pleasure.

He has brought it home with him. Some of the men gambled, some made finger rings from bone, and so between pacing the room, sitting on the floor, a little reading, some slight amusement, occasional tailoring and many sad hours of thoughts of home, the five months of their prison life passed. For two months before their release they had preaching every Sabbath by Rev. Mr. Stockton, a Union prisoner from Tennessee.

The prices reported here for months past are verified by our citizens. A little bread or roll of cup cake size cost from 15 to 25 cents. A Mr. White, native of Mercersburg, but now a citizen of Richmond ordered a pine head board to be placed on Mr. Rice's grave. It cost him \$40.00. Mr. James Grove, also a prisoner was offered \$180.00 for a coat, pantaloons, and vest made for him by Mr. Shaffer of rough army blankets. The simple making of a very common suit cost \$90.00.

Confederate money seems to be very little valued by the chivalry.

We are sorry to say that the \$75.00 sent by the Council of this place to our citizen prisoners last Christmas was never received by them, accordingly the receipt published in the Journal purporting to come from Mr. Rice was a forgery. If rebels steal from the dead is it surprising that they steal from the living. Our government also sent clothing to Richmond but the prisoners did not receive more than two thirds of it.

It is very strange and hard too, that the release of Messrs. Shaffer, Rice, and Grove was ordered before Christmas, but was carried in the pocket of Detective Cashmire, a leading officer in Richmond and so never presented.

They were assured by examining officer Baxter, who found no charge against them and whose favorable report to General Winder secured said release that they should eat their Christmas dinner at home. Through neglect of Cashmire, however, they were kept three months longer. Later a general exchange was effected and over a hundred citizen prisoners were released. On Wednesday the 18th last, they were taken to City Point where our truce boat awaited them and thence to Washington and home.

There was great rejoicing on the arrival of Mr. Shaffer.

He was dressed in a blanket suit made by himself in prison, having bought the blankets from Union soldiers who were about



DANIEL SHAFFER
(1821-1899)
and friend,
MORTIMER
MURRAY



MARGARET
SHARRER
SHAFFER
(1826-1893)

to leave. He says that the authorities at the prison always deprive the prisoners just before their release of blankets, overcoats, canteens, etc. As one by one the men pass down the stairs, a guard requires them to deliver their loose clothing.

Sometimes these men were sick and diseased. It was noticed at the truce boat that our officers allowed confederate prisoners to return all their clothing. Thus endeth the first chapter. We trust the second need never be written. Men with Daniel Shaffer in prison were G. D. Rupley and Joseph Winger, came home and would return as they had given word of honor to do so if exchange did not come about.

James Grove and Perry Rice died in prison.

Ellen Jane Shaffer, daughter of Daniel and Margaret Shaffer was born in Mercersburg, married Harry A. Bowers (born 1850 died 1919) and lived in Mercersburg. Ellen Jane died July 7, 1907, and is buried in Mercersburg.

Children of Harry and Ellen Jane (Shaffer) Bowers:

1. Baby born—no record
2. Ella May Bowers—no record
3. John Edward Bowers b. December 31, 1883, d. November 29, 1949, m. Mary -----
 1. Christine Bowers
4. Daniel Forrest Bowers b. August 10, 1885, m. Susan Lowans b. November 27, 1885
 1. Ellen Jane Bowers b. 1905
 2. Robert Shaffer Bowers b. 1907
 3. Forrest Lester Bowers b. 1909
 4. George Edward Bowers b. 1912
 5. Penrose Augustus Bowers b. 1915
 6. Virginia Bowers b. 1917
5. Frank Chester Bowers b. February 10, 1887, d. January 3, 1950
6. Robert Lynn Bowers b. November 16, 1888, m. Katherine Powers (February 18, 1897-October 18, 1918)
 1. Katherine R. Bowers b. 1917
 2. Mary Jane B. Bowers b. 1918 d. 1918m. 2 Goldie Osmond widow
 1. William Osmond Bowers

Mary Emma, daughter of Daniel and Margaret Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg. She married David Smith Long (1845-1919). They were members of the Methodist Church and lived in Mercersburg, where they were buried.

Children of David and Mary Emma (Shaffer) Long:

1. William Coyle Long b. April 15, 1870, d. June 19, 1938 m. Alice Embly n.c.
2. Ada Elizabeth Long b. August 16, 1872, d. August 30, 1949 m. George Denton Brewer
 1. Mary Emma Brewer, teacher of music
3. Sarah Maude Long b. February 14, 1874, school teacher, un.m.
4. Frank Shaffer Long b. September 10, 1876, d. February 20, 1956. Had own barber business in Mercersburg
5. Anna Margaret Long b. June 18, 1879, d. October 29, 1882

Robert Coyle, son of Daniel and Margaret Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg, married Ellen Davis and they lived in Altoona, Pa., where he worked many years for the railroad at the round house there. There were no children. He is buried in Mercersburg.

John Sharrar Shaffer, third son of Daniel and Margaret Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg and lived all his life there. He was a merchant tailor. He married Hannah Mary Briggs (January 5, 1860-June 1, 1926). He died October 14, 1940. Both are buried in Mercersburg.

Children of John and Hannah (Briggs) Shaffer:

1. Nellie Irene Shaffer b. February 15, 1880, d. December 24, 1935 m. W. S. McCardell
2. Clyde Ellis Shaffer b. March 20, 1882, d. October 28, 1918
3. Penrose Jones Shaffer b. March 20, 1886
4. Vera Karen Shaffer b. May 19, 1895 m. 1, David H. Goodling
 1. John R. Goodling U.S.A.A.F. died April 6, 1945
 2. Frederick W. Goodling
 3. Dorothy Goodlingm. 2, Merrill J. Weiss n.c. lives in Allentown, Pa.

Edward Murray Shaffer, son of Daniel and Margaret Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg, went to Elmira, New York, where he had his own tailoring business and where he lives. He married Susan Curry (November 14, 1867-January 19, 1948). At this time (1958) Edward Murray Shaffer will soon observe his ninety-eighth birthday. He is able to be up and about each day.

Children of Edward and Susan (Curry) Shaffer:

1. Frank b. September 13, 1888, d. May 8, 1893
2. Margaret Jeanette b. June 3, 1891, d. May 15, 1893
3. Meriam Katherine b. March 24, 1894, m. Harry A. Bessant
 - b. December 23, 1893
 1. William Edward b. August 27, 1920, m. Elizabeth Hall b. September 1, 1927
 1. William
 2. Edward
 3. Elizabeth Susan
 4. Katherine Linda
4. Marjorie Elizabeth b. July 7, 1896, m. John Bernard Toomey
 - b. November 19, 1894
 1. Judith Susan b. July 18, 1934

Daniel Tydings, son of Daniel and Margaret Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg, and married Margaret Kate Byers (February 14,

1869-January 19, 1943). Daniel Shaffer was a carriage painter. He died July 5, 1921.

Children of Daniel and Margaret (Byers) Shaffer:

1. Bruce Byers b. August 29, 1889, d. August 1954 m. R. Grace Dennisar
2. Margaret b. 1893, d. December 19, 1935 m. Harry Yeager
 1. Bruce
 2. Jack
 3. Robert
 4. Mary Jane
 5. Anna and two deceased
3. Emma b. 1896 m. Harry Starliper
 1. Lillian
 2. John and one deceased
4. Blanche b. September 19, 1900, d. April 21, 1956 m. Ernest Rockwell
 1. Harry
 2. Robert
 3. William
 4. Paul
 5. Elizabeth
 6. Eugene



GROUP PICTURE MADE IN 1909: THE SHAFFER FAMILY
Rear: Hurst McDowell, William Edward, Wade Hampton, Thomas Oscar, Michael Cromer, Walton Jones; Front: Ruth May, Russell Reitzel, Ida Blanche, William Oliver, Mary Ellen, Arthur Nello.

VIII. WILLIAM OLIVER SHAFFER

*William Oliver Shaffer*⁷ (Daniel,⁶ William,⁵ Jacob,⁴ John,³ John,² Frederick¹) was born and reared in Mercersburg and spent his entire life there, was engaged in the saddlery business for over fifty years, which he entered after the Civil War. He was a well known citizen of Mercersburg and was familiarly known as "Pool" Shaffer, a nickname received in his boyhood days by his companions due to an attachment to a gentleman by the name of Pool who lived in Mercersburg. For years he was the wood measurer of the town and every load of wood brought to the town was measured by him, since, in those days very little coal was used by the people of Mercersburg. He was an avid reader and spent many hours at this favorite pastime in his later years. On April 6, 1867, he married Barbara Prudence Reitzel, born February 25, 1850, daughter of George and Catherine (Reeseman) Reitzel of Welsh Run, Pa. They reared a large family and lived a useful life. He enjoyed being with his family and friends, of whom he had many. He died April 28, 1926. His wife died October 4, 1909, both buried in Fairview Cemetery, Mercersburg.

Children of William and Barbara Shaffer:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mary Ellen | b. November 7, 1869 | d. March 19, 1934 |
| 2. Ida Blanche | b. September 17, 1871 | d. June 9, 1952 |
| 3. Michael Cromer | b. March 3, 1873 | d. June 15, 1941 |
| 4. Thomas Oscar | b. November 30, 1875 | d. March 19, 1939 |
| 5. Wade Hampton | b. March 4, 1877 | d. March 25, 1936 |
| 6. Hurst McDowell | b. February 10, 1879 | d. November 4, 1940,
unm. |
| 7. William Edward | b. September 21, 1880 | d. June 5, 1944 |
| 8. Ruth May | b. May 25, 1883 | |
| 9. Walter Daniel | b. 1884 | d. 1885 |
| 10. Russell Reitzel | b. June 21, 1886 | |
| 11. Walton Jones | b. April 21, 1888 | |
| 12. Arthur Nello | b. September 20, 1891 | |

Barbara Prudence Reitzel was the daughter of George and Catherine (Reeseman) Reitzel of Welsh Run, Pa. She was a member of the United Brethren Church, Welsh Run, for many years, but a few years before her death she became a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Mercersburg. Her "girls" and her "boys" were always girls and boys to her, even after they reached mature age with children around their own fireside. The life so long interwoven with theirs has never and will never be forgotten.

Mary Ellen Shaffer, daughter of William and Barbara Shaffer was born in Mercersburg, married Arthur W. Kingsbury (born November 29, 1871, at Montandon, Pa., son of David and Sarah Kingsbury), in 1890. Ellie, as she was known, died in Baltimore, Maryland, where she had lived for many years, March 19, 1934. Arthur died May 19, 1926. Both are buried in Loudon Park Cemetery, Baltimore, Maryland.

Children of Arthur and Ellie (Shaffer) Kingsbury:

1. Floyd Kingsbury b. February 7, 1891, d. March 22, 1891
2. Russell Leon Kingsbury b. August 13, 1892, d. November 6, 1943 m. Kate Jefferies n.c.
3. Janet Elizabeth Kingsbury b. October 7, 1902, d. July 20, 1920, unm.
4. Arthur Mack Kingsbury b. January 24, 1905, m. 1, Emma Shelly b. November 28, 1924, m. 2, Mildred A. Bond b. September 17, 1905, n.c.

ch. of Arthur and Emma Shelly Kingsbury

1. Arthur Mack Kingsbury b. September 19, 1925
m. Christine Thomas b. October 24, 1925
 1. Mark
 2. David
2. Robert Coburn Kingsbury b. November 5, 1926 (a graduate of the University of Maryland Medical School and is now practicing in Seaford, Delaware) m. Mildred Thomas b. March 20, 1928
 1. Robert, Jr.
 2. William
 3. Barry
5. Roy Addison Kingsbury b. March 28, 1909, d. October 9, 1924

Ida Blanche Shaffer, daughter of William and Barbara Shaffer, married George W. Seylar, b. October 13, 1870. They lived at Cove Gap, Pa. Blanche, as she was known, died June 9, 1952; he died October 10, 1928. Both are buried in Fairview Cemetery, Mercersburg. They were members of Charlestown Methodist Church.

Children of George and Blanche (Shaffer) Seylar:

1. Gladys V. Seylar b. April 8? 1896 m. John M. Stevens, a Methodist Minister, Milton, Delaware b. July 4, 1890
 1. John M. Stevens, Jr. b. September 29, 1921 m. Marjorie Jones; M.D., University of Pennsylvania Medical School, 1946. Associate in Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania.
 1. Suzanna
 2. John
 3. Sally
 4. Constance
 2. Jean Ann Stevens b. November 7, 1925 m. Richard F. Meyers b. March 21, 1926
 1. Karen
 2. Reba
 3. Amy
 4. Steven
2. Constance Irene Seylar b. July 25, 1898 m. Thurman Nesbitt, McConnellsburg, Pa., b. May 28, 1896
 1. Marion Ella Nesbitt b. June 27, 1925 m. William F. C. Frey b. September 25, 1921
 1. William

2. Charles William Nesbitt b. February 5, 1931 m.
Arlene Paylor b. November 29, 1930
 1. Sue Ellen
3. Thurman E. Nesbitt, Jr. b. March 8, 1936
3. George W. Seylar, Jr. b. August 11, 1908 m. Florence Ruby Brown b. June 15, 1908
 1. William McDowell Seylar b. September 26, 1936 d.
September 26, 1936
 2. George Russell Seylar b. March 15, 1940

Michael Cromer Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg, March 3, 1873, and lived his life there. He was a merchant tailor and had his own establishment. "Mike" as he was known to everyone was named for Michael Cromer, who married Daniel Shaffer's half-sister, Jane Metcalfe. (See page 17.) On April 10, 1902, Michael married Mary Emma Ernst of Mercersburg, born March 28, 1877, daughter of Frederick and Catherine (Roeder) Ernst. He died June 15, 1941. She died November 27, 1957. Both are buried in Fairview Cemetery, Mercersburg. They were lifelong members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Children of Michael and Emma (Ernst) Shaffer:

1. William Frederick Shaffer b. February 11, 1903
2. Catherine Prudence Shaffer b. September 24, 1908
3. Mary Matilda Shaffer b. October 9, 1913

William Frederick Shaffer, son of Michael and Emma Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg and received his early education there, graduating from Mercersburg High School 1920, valedictorian; Mercersburg Academy 1922, valedictorian. In 1926 he received his A.B. from Princeton University, with a graduate scholarship and highest honors in classics; A.M., Princeton 1927; Ph.D., Princeton, 1946. He has been Professor of Greek at Gettysburg College since 1931, acting head of the department 1931-1946; Franklin Professor of Greek, 1946-. In 1956 he was chairman of the committee for U.N. Day observance at Gettysburg, Pa.; he is a director of the Community Concert Association for Gettysburg, and a member of: American Philological Association, Classical Association of the Atlantic States, Phi Beta Kappa, Eta Sigma Phi, Kappa Phi Kappa, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Christ Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, Pa.



WILLIAM
OLIVER
SHAFFER
(1848-1926)



BARBARA
REITZEL
SHAFFER
(1850-1909)

Thomas Oscar Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg, married Ann Elizabeth Wagner of Greencastle, Pa., and made his home in Baltimore, Maryland. He was a male nurse for some time, later changing to straw hat manufacturing. Thomas Oscar and Ann were nicknamed Os and Lizzie. He died March 19, 1939. She died December 28, 1922, and both are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Baltimore. Shortly after his wife's death he married Matilda Detering.

Children of Thomas Oscar and Ann Shaffer:

1. William Alfred Shaffer b. 1899, d. _____
2. Florine Levy Shaffer b. June 1, 1900, d. December 29, 1954
m. Herbert Shatzer n.c.
3. Julius Wagner Shaffer b. January 19, 1902 died August 6, 1922 s.
4. Charlotte L. Shaffer b. April 28, 1911 m. Richard Smith
b. May 17, 1908
 1. Richard Smith b. July 24, 1932
 2. Herbert Smith b. October 17, 1934
 3. Charlotte Smith b. September 7, 1938
5. Irene Elizabeth Shaffer b. August 9, 1917 m. J. Edward Moore
b. July 29, 1915
 1. Sandra E. Moore b. February 18, 1939
 2. Nancy Lee Moore b. December 11, 1942

Wade Hampton Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg and lived his entire life there, a member of the Methodist Church and a graduate of Mercersburg High

School. For 30 years he was employed at the Cumberland Valley Railroad station at Mercersburg. On January 25, 1906, he married Ida May Curley of Mercersburg. He died March 25, 1936. Wife died June 26, 1931. Both are buried in Fairview Cemetery, Mercersburg.

Children of Wade and May (Curley) Shaffer:

1. Dorothy May Shaffer b. December 13, 1906 m. John McMillen n.c.
2. Donald Wade Shaffer b. July 5, 1909 m. Dorothy Gove b. May 5, 1908 Ohio n.c. Chairman, English Department, Norristown High School, Norristown, Pa.
3. Ethel Virginia Shaffer b. August 27, 1921 s.

William Edward Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg, where he lived and had an electrical contracting business for many years. He married Vera Francis Bryson, born June 4, 1888. He died June 5, 1944; she died June 15, 1941. They were members of the Church of the Brethren, Welsh Run. Both are buried in Fairview Cemetery, Mercersburg. He was known as "Ned."

Children of William Edward and Vera (Bryson) Shaffer:

1. Sarah Prudence Shaffer b. January 6, 1910, m. George W. Sellers b. December 5, 1910, d. March 30, 1957
 1. Barbara Sellers b. August 11, 1928, m. Albert Barkdoll b. September 1, 1926
 1. Michael Barkdoll
 2. George W. Sellers, Jr. b. November 8, 1931, m.
 1. David Sellers
2. Mary Jane Shaffer b. March 3, 1911, m. Merle Shindel b. August 1, 1907
 1. Edward Franklin Shindel b. September 4, 1928, m. Carman Sanchez b. November 7, 1927
 1. Edward
 2. Alexander
 3. Dianna
 2. Joyce Louise Shindel b. February 12, 1930, m. Anthony Gaberlayage b. April 28, 1926
 1. Judith Ann

3. Dorothy Lorraine Shindel b. September 13, 1936, m. Russell Chambers
 1. Laura
 2. Russell Leroy, Jr.
4. Gerald Lester Shindel b. May 9, 1939
3. William Edward Shaffer, Jr. b. February 21, 1921, m. Nellie Chestnut b. October 23, 1917
 1. William Edward Shaffer, III b. July 22, 1941
 2. James Mack Shaffer b. November 15, 1942

Ruth May Shaffer, daughter of William and Barbara Shaffer was born in Mercersburg and made her home in Baltimore. She married Charles August Roeder born October 4, 1883, of Baltimore.

Children of Charles and Ruth (Shaffer) Roeder:

1. John William Roeder b. August 23, 1907, m. Agnes Magruder in 1928
 1. One daughter Patricia Joan Roeder b. July 23, 1929.
Patricia m. James Edward Snyder b. March 5, 1924
 1. James Snyder, Jr.
- m. Ann Brousseau
 1. John William Roeder b. December 28, 1954
2. Emily Ruth Roeder b. July 2, 1909, m. Edward Martin
 1. Ethel Mary Martin b. September 5, 1927, m. William H. Reynolds b. December 16, 1923
 1. Bruce Reynolds
- m. William Edward Murphy b. April 18, 1911 n.c.

Russell Reitzel Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg and owned and operated a grocery business there for many years. He was active in the civic affairs of the town, a member of the school board and an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church. In 1913 he married Edith Rosina Steiger, born February 5, 1888, daughter of George and Laura Virginia (Friese) Steiger, of Mercersburg. She died November 15, 1955, and is buried in Fairview Cemetery, Mercersburg.

Children of Russell and Edith (Steiger) Shaffer:

1. Mary Louise Shaffer b. April 4, 1915, m. John Byrne Cooper b. August 5, 1913
 1. John Cooper, Jr. b. May 13, 1942
 2. Carol Susanna Cooper b. 1945
 4. Nancy Lou Cooper b. 1956

2. Mildred Ruth Shaffer b. August 2, 1917, m. Ray Hiscock b. August 27, 1905
 1. Robert Russell b. 1938
3. Janet Virginia Shaffer b. March 23, 1925, m. Robert McLaughlin b. September 17, 1923
 1. Nancy Diane b. 1950
 2. Gary Douglas b. 1952

Walton Jones Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, was born in Mercersburg and worked at the newspaper business, having been with *The Public Opinion*, Chambersburg, for over forty years. In 1912 he married Clara May Moorhead of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. They reside in Chambersburg.

Children of Walton and Clara (Moorhead) Shaffer:

1. John William Shaffer b. October 9, 1913, d. August 23, 1914
2. Muriel Elizabeth Shaffer b. February 16, 1915, m. John Luther Kindall b. April 27, 1913
 1. John Walton Kindall b. January 16, 1939
3. Winifred Eleanor Shaffer b. November 24, 1918, m. George Elder Young b. September 27, 1917
 1. George Michael Young b. December 15, 1941

Arthur Nello Shaffer, son of William and Barbara Shaffer, born September 20, 1891, as shown in baptismal record by the Rev. J. P. Anthony, United Brethren Church, Mercersburg, and confirmation record of March 31, 1907, St. John's Lutheran Church, Mercersburg. Nello, as he is known, went to Baltimore to make his home with his eldest sister after the death of his mother in 1909. He was employed by the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company in 1911 and was retired by them in 1957. He married in 1914 Edith Elizabeth Martin, born June 5, 1893, daughter of Andrew and Cora Elizabeth (Gootee) Martin of Baltimore, Maryland. They are members of Christ Lutheran Church, Baltimore, Maryland.

Child of Nello and Edith (Martin) Shaffer:

1. Thelma Elizabeth Shaffer b. August 15, 1915 unnm.

