

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT, June 2014

Manuscript Acquisitions:

Letter (with envelope) from James Rhoads Wilson, a son of John and Lydia (Rhoads) Wilson of Reamstown, to his youngest sister Isabella, then living at Lincoln, April, 1862. The letter, composed while James Wilson was serving in the Union Army, was sent from Pittsburg [South Pittsburg], Tennessee. (Donation—Dale E. Leber)

Manuscript mathematics exercise book, in marbled boards, of John Smith of Adamstown or near Adamstown, thought to have been the John Smith, d. 1892, who was later a merchant at Swartzville. The book is inscribed inside the front cover "John Smith March 5th(?) 1840 / This is the Property [sic] of John Smith"; inscribed at the top of the opening page "Arithmetic / By John Smith / Adamstown February 25th 1839." There are 16 completed leaves, primarily filled with exercises involving multiplication and division: "Calculate the amount of 1475 bushels of Indian Corn at 87 1/2 Cents a bushel," etc.

(Donation—Cynthia Marquet)

Hand-stitched copy book containing penmanship exercises, signed and dated "John Smith 1837." 24 leaves, all completed, 6 3/4" x 8 1/8". The John Smith to whom the book belonged is thought later to have been a merchant at Swartzville, husband of Sarah (Flickinger) Smith. (Donation—Cynthia Marquet)

Photograph Acquisitions:

"M.S. Hagaman" (Philadelphia) carte-de-visite portrait of Jacob Brubaker of Ephrata Township, ca. 1864-1866; a penned inscription on the reverse of the mount reads Jacob Brubaker / Lanny's father." The subject is believed to be Jacob H. Brubaker, 1832-1873; after his death his widow, Esther, married Isaac Weaver of New Holland. Jacob Brubaker is buried in the Hammer Creek Mennonite Cemetery with his first wife Anna, a daughter of (another) Jacob Brubaker of Clay Township, and three of the couple's small children. (Purchase)

Artifact Acquisitions:

Printed broadside advertising the printing office and other services of Peter Martin Heitler (1828-1871), of Ephrata; besides being a printer Heitler was a conveyancer and a justice of the peace. The 15" x 21 1/2" broadside is prominently printed with a large eagle bearing a banner reading "Printing Office," a trotting horse, and a large pig. Thumbnail-sized cuts, including a chair, two covered wagons, a plow, a sheep, a boot and a shoe, a dog, and a barrel appear in a band beneath the pig. A German description of Heitler's services runs beneath the band, and beneath that English text reading "Heitler's Printing Office at Ephrata is supplied with from 20 to 30 cuts or pictures of various sizes & descriptions, for illustrating Handbills for sales, meetings, &c. Handbills, Posters, Horsebills, &c., printed cheaply and on short notice, in either English or German. / Scrivening & Surveying attended to. / The undersigned is also a justice of the Peace. / P. Martin Heitler."

Peter Martin Heitler was a son of Richard R. and Hannah (Martin) Heitler of Ephrata. Richard Heitler was also a printer, surveyor, and justice of the peace, and owned a printing press formerly in the possession of

(in turn) Ephrata's John Bauman, John's son Samuel, and Joseph Bauman. The press, acquired P. Martin Heitler upon his father's death and used to produce this broadside, was willed in 1871 to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. It is currently on loan to the Ephrata Cloister. (Purchased in memory of Jean Brodt)

Bell-shaped, expanding paper fan with a patriotic lithographic print ("Let Freedom Ring"); the reverse is printed with the advertising of M.G. Mentzer's Sons Coal and Lumber, Ephrata, and Old Company's Lehigh Anthracite coal. (Donation—Janice Fitch)

Miscellaneous Print and Print Artifact Acquisitions:

Unpublished genealogical compilation: "Johannes (1706-1787) & Catharine Flickinger of Cocalico and Their Descendants." Prepared and distributed by Milton S. Haldeman, 2014. (Donation—Milton Haldeman)

Correspondence and research notes pertaining to the family of Matthias and Peter (d. 1813) Holtry/Holdery of Cocalico and/or Brecknock Townships; the documents were assembled on behalf of the donor, Georgia Collins, as she attempted to complete an application to the DAR. (Donation—Georgia Collins)

Christmas greeting printed by Harry F. Stauffer on the restored press of the Ephrata Brotherhood: "Math: 1. 21. / Und sie wird einen Sohn gebähren, des Nahmen / wird JESUS heissen . . . 9 3/8" x 16." A similar example was printed in 1965. (Donation—Dale E. Leber)

Play script: "Ephrata: Play in Two Parts," by Frank Neusbaum and Kathryn N. Popp. NY: Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 1943. (Donation—The Historical Society of Dauphin County)

Schoeneck Relief Association card notifying members of the death of Benjamin Griffe, "of near Cocalico"; postmarked October 15, 1937. (Donation—Fred N. Buch)

Envelope addressed to the Miners National Bank, Pottsville, Pa., with the printed return address of Alger H. Shirk; Schoeneck postmark, September 18, 1940. (Donation—Fred N. Buch)

Partial photocopy (through page 25) of a 139-page unpublished genealogical publication titled "Twelve Generations of Hans Greider Born Circa 1640 . . . & Agnes Jefert Born Circa 1645, Ruenberg, Switzerland," by Marian Edwards Bowers. (Donation—Joanne Hess Colon)

Family chart listing parents and grandparents of Alice S. (Stief) Holsinger (1874-1951), daughter of Levi C. and Catharine (Fisher) Stief, with some supporting notes; compiled by Glenn E. Hertzler. (Donation—Glenn Hertzler)