

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT, AUGUST 2013

Manuscript Acquisitions:

Certificate awarding the Purple Heart to Pfc. Henry Milton Eisemann of Ephrata for wounds which resulted in his death on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Eisemann was a son of Hugh F. and Ruth M. Eisemann, of Ephrata. He entered the service in July of 1943. (Donation--Eisemann Family)

Day book kept by the Ephrata Review publishing and printing office; lists print jobs and display and classified newspaper advertising orders. Entries date from June 23, 1938 through December 28, 1939. Many local businesses are represented among the advertisers. (Purchase)

Photograph Acquisitions:

Mounted photograph of pupils at the Stony Run School, East Cocalico Township, with teacher George Uibel, March 11, 1908. (Donations—Rowena Clough)

Matted and framed Ferree Studio photograph of the Ephrata High School graduating class of 1918 grouped outside the Washington Avenue School building; frame measures 10 5/8" x 14 5/8". (Donations—Rowena Clough)

Three 8" x 10" photographs, probably taken in the early 1940's, of Shenk's Mill, now demolished. The mill, powered by the Cocalico Creek, stood on Cocalico Road at the intersection of Shenk's Mill Road, near the western border of Cocalico Township and the eastern edge of the current wildlife preserve. Shenk's Mill was built in 1793, reportedly by Nicholas Keesecker. The last operator may have been Elias Shenk, who sold the mill property to his son-in-law, Harry D. Corl, in 1918. It is possible that Shenk ran the mill a few years beyond this date; he died in 1926 in Lebanon County. (Donation—Ruth Frey Mallison)



8" x 10" copy of an early photo of Shenk's Mill, ca. 1880's or 1890's, showing other buildings on the property and piles of lumber processed or about to be processed through the attached saw mill. (Donation—Ruth Frey Mallison)

Mounted photograph of the sandstone house at 56 East Mohler Church Road, Ephrata Twp., ca. 1890. The house, constructed in 1764 by a member of the Mohler family, is notable for the features of early Pennsylvania German architecture it displays: segmental arches over the side windows, door hoods, pent eaves, and a central chimney. (Donation—Dorothy Hilton Warfel)

Hand-tinted photograph of a group of children, members of a Sunday school class at Swamp Reformed Church, Reinholds, ca. 1940's. The names of the subjects are inscribed on the reverse of the print; the group includes Paul Gerhart, Elam Gress, Jim Gress, Paul Hirneisen, teacher Kathryn Gerhart, Mary Kramer, Hazel Sensenig, Fern Kauffman, Helen Kramer, Josephine Hertzog, Helen Kauffman, Gladys Beard, Mary Schanneur or Schannauer, Arlene Wiest, Clarence Hoover, George Steffy, Leroy Fisher, Chris Gress, and Billy Kramer. (Donation—Kathryn Steffy)

Digital copy of an ambrotype portrait of Samuel Zerfass (1802-1872) of Ephrata Twp., a son of Samuel and Magdalena (Eckert) Zerfass. (Lent for scanning by Joseph Meck)

The following photographs were lent for scanning by Nancy Shuman:

50th wedding anniversary portrait of William Keller Mohler and Amanda Sahm (Keller) Mohler, of Ephrata, November, 1934; the picture was taken in the living room of the couple's home at 125 North State Street.

50th wedding anniversary portrait of William K. and Amanda (Keller) Mohler; taken in the living room of the couple's home at 125 North State Street, Ephrata.

John D. Strunk (Reading) carte-de-visite portrait of Amanda Sahm (Keller) Mohler as a young woman, ca. 1882-1885; Amanda was a daughter of John Royer Keller and Mary (Sahm) Keller.

Cummings (Lancaster) carte-de-visite portrait of Amanda Sahm (Keller) Mohler at the age of 22, ca. 1885.

T. Taylor (Reading) cabinet card portrait of William Keller Mohler as a young man, ca. early 1880's.

Cummings (Lancaster) carte-de-visite portrait of William Keller Mohler as a young man, ca. 1885.

Cummings (Lancaster) carte-de-visite portrait of William Keller Mohler as a young man, ca. early 1880's.

New York Gallery (Reading) portrait of Leah Keller and her small cousins Henry K. (1887-1941) and Milton K. (1889-1960) Mohler, ca. 1890. Leah, who married Amos Minnich, was a daughter of George and Leah Widders Keller of the Ephrata area; her father was Amanda (Keller) Mohler's brother.

Portrait of William Keller Mohler with his young granddaughters Betty Jeanne and Nancy Anne Ennis, daughters of Robert and Anna Keller (Mohler) Ennis, ca. 1937. The children are dressed in winter coats and hats made by their mother and grandmother, and carry muffs made by their Aunt Sadie Mohler.

Portrait of William K. and Amanda (Keller) Mohler and their children Henry K., Sadie K., Milton K., Martin K., and Anna K., ca. 1907.



Portrait of Martin K. and Anna K. Mohler, children of William K. and Amanda (Keller) Mohler, ca. 1910.

Portrait of Martin K. Mohler (1897-1937) as a young man, ca. mid-1920's.

Portrait of Martin K. Mohler in a Navy uniform, ca. 1918.

Portrait of Anna Keller Mohler, daughter of William K. and Amanda Mohler, ca. 1920-1923.

Portrait of Anna Keller Mohler, ca. 1923-1925.

Portrait of Anna Keller Mohler as a baby, ca. 1903.

Rote (Lancaster) cabinet card portrait of John Royer Keller (1822-1899) and Mary Sahn (1824-1884) Keller, ca. 1880. The couple, married January 18, 1849, lived at Springville. John Keller was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Royer) Keller, of Ephrata Township.

Rote (Lancaster) cabinet card portrait of "Grandpa and Grandma Sahn," presumably the parents of Mary (Sahn) Keller, ca. 1880-1885.

Strunk (Reading) cabinet card portrait of a small child identified as "Aunty," ca. 1895; the subject is thought to be Sadie K. Mohler, daughter of William K. and Amanda Mohler.

Rote (Lancaster) cabinet card portrait of David Mohler, son of David and Susanna (Keller) Mohler, ca. 1880's.

Strunk (Reading) carte-de-visite portrait of David Sahn Keller (1864-1928), son of John Royer Keller and Mary (Sahn) Keller, ca. early-mid 1880's.

Carte-de-visite portrait of a small child identified only as "Henry"; possibly Henry K. Mohler (1887-1941), son of William K. and Amanda Mohler.

Portrait of Harold S. Mohler (1919-1988), son of Milton and Esther (Sheaffer) Mohler of Ephrata and CEO at Hershey Foods.

Portrait of Helen Kilhefner Fegley, a daughter of Samuel and Lizzie (Keller) Kilhafner of Ephrata, ca. 1920's.

Photograph of the Ephrata High School graduating class of 1909 with principal Henry E. Gehman; graduates include Sadie Keller Mohler, Mary Snyder Gehman, Mabel Alberta Weaver, Lilian Meiley Mohler, Hazel Roberta Newcomb, Florence Adelaide Newcomb, Amy Barbara Reemsnyder, Fannie Eshleman, Laura Baker Seldomridge, Elsie Mae Leber, Franklin Kemper Gehman, Samuel Lawrence Hoeffler, Martin Bryson Urich, George Jack Fritz, and Miriam Rebecca King.

Artifact Acquisitions:

Early 19th century (circa 1820) Sheraton Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, closed-front dresser or cupboard, two-piece, walnut with pine secondary wood, mortise and tenon and dovetailed construction. The base of the cupboard has a flat top with applied molding across its front and sides; below the top are double hinged doors, each with simple molded edges and a large single recessed crotch-grained panel in its center. The doors are fitted with pairs of brass hinges and a stamped brass escutcheon surmounted by a small urn motif with a diminutive acorn motif on the escutcheon's bottom. The right door is fitted with an iron lock. The left door is fitted with an iron catch mounted on the inside of the door and cupboard to secure the door in a closed position. Flanking the doors on the face of the cupboard are full length oblong recessed panels, each with a narrow applied band of vertical reeding down its center. The sides of the base are solid. The bottom of the base is surrounded by a simple band of molding; the carcass is supported by four French feet. The interior of the base is unpainted and contains three shelves.

The top section of the cupboard is stepped back from the bottom section, forming a narrow shelf across the cupboard's front. The base of the top section is surrounded by a band of applied molding. The top of the upper section is flat and features a boldly molded cornice with projecting breaks on its front corners. The front of the cupboard top is fitted with a pair of arched hinged doors; there is a wide arched molded surround with a center keystone above the top of the doors. The keystone is faced with an applied circular medallion in its center. Between the door surround and the molded cornice the front of the cupboard is faced with crotch-grained wood. The doors are fitted with ten glass lights, pairs of brass hinges and stamped brass escutcheons which match those found on the cupboard's base. The right door is fitted with an iron lock (key accompanies). The left door is fitted with an iron catch mounted on the inside of the door and cupboard which secures the door in a closed position. The doors are flanked by full-length 2 ¾" wide reeded pilasters with molded capitals and bases. The mid-sections of the pilasters are fitted with a block faced with an applied circular medallion in its center. The interior of the cupboard

contains four full-depth shelves with a half shelf above. The bottom four shelves are grooved for plates; three of the shelves are notched for spoons. The interior of the cupboard is painted white. The piece was refinished in the 1887 and retains its 1887 finish, which shows some wear and significant alligating. Overall dimensions - 58" wide, 19 ½" deep, 98" high.

The cupboard initially belonged by Maria (Long) Keller, daughter of Isaac Long of Manheim Township and his second wife, Christina Sheffer. Maria died in 1821, approximately one year after marrying George Keller of Ephrata Township. George Keller remarried and had children with his second wife, and the cupboard remained in his family for several generations. (Donation—The Hershey Story)

"Davis Vertical Feed" treadle sewing machine, short arm model, on a 17 1/2" x 35 1/2" x 28 5/8" high stand with one drop leaf and a single drawer. A plaque on the top surface of the stand (which has loss to the veneer and early repairs and refinishing) is engraved with a series of seven patent dates, the most recent of them being May 12, 1885. The sewing machine belonged to Ephrata tailor William Keller Mohler (1858-1949), who retired from his trade in 1938. (Donation—The Hershey Story)

Wooden scale model of the Farmers National Bank street clock mounted, following restorations, in the lawn of the Historical Society of the Cocalico Valley in 2006. The model, constructed by the donor and completed in 2013, stands approximately 26 3/4" high. It has four hinged, glass-paned doors which open over the four painted dials, and it is capped with a copper dome, with a painted wooden ball finial, which lifts to reveal the battery chamber. It is a working model; each of the dials is powered by a double-A battery. Painted dark green, to resemble the copper verdigris of the original; the painting, including that of the dials, was executed by Amanda Hoover. The model stands on a wooden base, 6 1/8" x 6 1/8", with a brass plaque engraved with the name of the builder, Carl I. Musser. (Donation—Carl Musser)

Stainless steel seal of the Soroptimist Club of Ephrata ("Soroptimist International of Ephrata"). The seal bears the date 1988, but as the local club was in existence prior to this time the date may refer to a reorganization. (Donation—Evelyn Steffy)

Small circular Soroptimist International Association pin, 3/4" in diameter, with blue enamel accents and the Association's seal in relief. (Donation—Evelyn Steffy)

Ephrata High School appliqued blue and gold felt cap, 1936, embroidered with the name "Viola" (Viola Renninger); appliqued Ephrata High School 1936 jacket patch. Viola, later married to Alvin White, was a daughter of Walter and Mamie (Kershner) Renninger of Ephrata. (Donation—Fae Renninger Reber)

Miscellaneous Print Acquisitions:

"The Ephrata Almanac," 1956; the Almanac was printed and circulated by Milton H. Jacoby. (Donation—Rowena Clough)

15 printed postcard-sized "reward cards" featuring pictures and biographies of prominent musicians; the cards were distributed ca. 1948 through 1954 by Ephrata music teacher Theodore R. Sprecher to his pupil, Rowena Lausch. (Donation—Rowena Clough)

Ephrata High School football programs: Palmyra vs. Ephrata, September 13, 1958; Columbia vs. Ephrata, September 18, 1958; Manheim Central vs. Ephrata, October 3, 1958. (Donation—Rowena Clough)

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church (Lincoln) pictorial directories, 1975, 1983, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2012. (Donation—Mary Jane Wechter)

Copy of a typescript (single sheet) autobiography of tailor William Keller Mohler of Ephrata, succinctly recounting the details of his early life, apprenticeship and working years. (Lent for copying by Nancy Shuman)

Photocopy of a receipt written to William K. Mohler by furniture dealers Mohler & Herchelroth, April 1, 1885; the furnishings listed were purchased for William and Amanda (Keller) Mohler's first home following their marriage. (Lent for copying by Nancy Shuman)

Photocopy of a list of the expenses involved in the construction of William and Amanda Mohler's house at 125-127 North State Street, Ephrata, ca. early 1880's. (Lent for copying by Nancy Shuman)

Photocopy of a letter of recommendation written for William K. Mohler by J. Madison of the American Tailor School, March 25, 1882. (Lent for copying by Nancy Shuman)