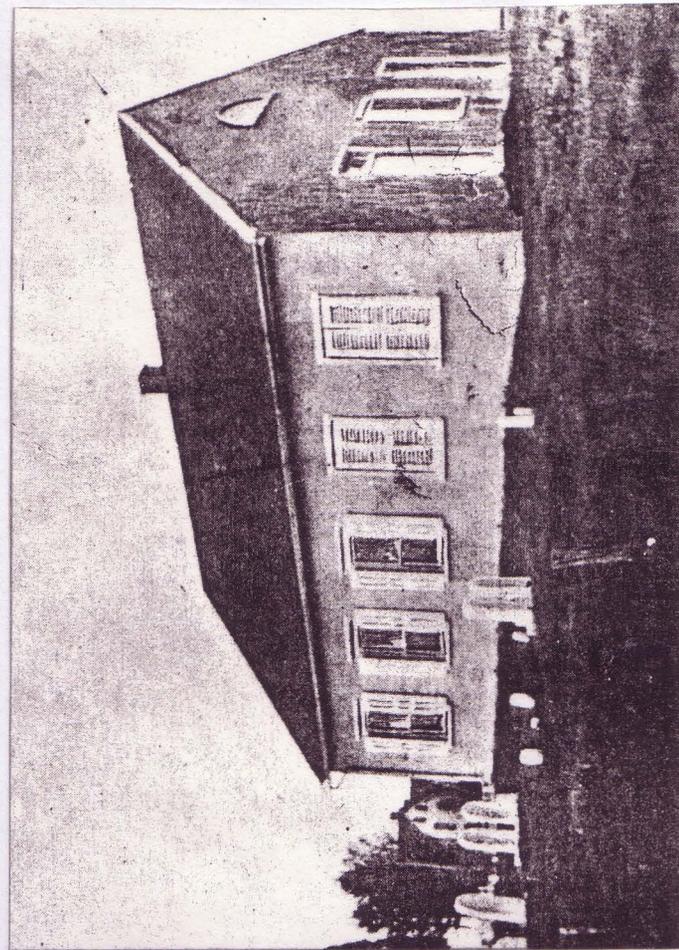


**Tombstone of Doctor Heinrich Zimmerman  
aka Henry Carpenter. Carpenter Church Cemetery**



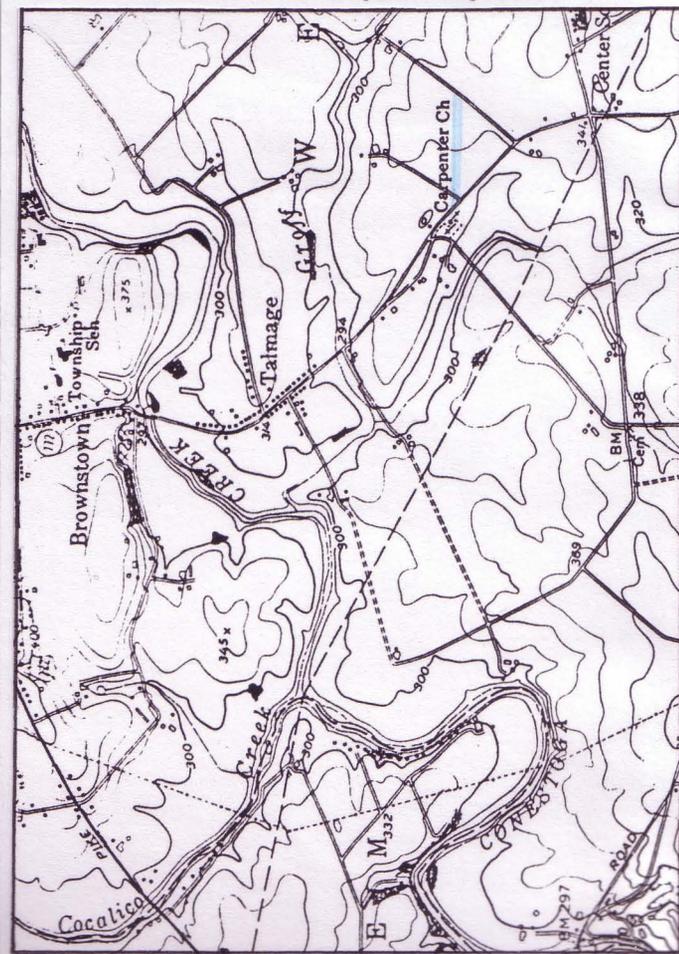
**Carpenter Church  
now Carpenter Mennonite Church**



**Tombstone of Elizabeth (Carpenter) Weidler  
Carpenter Church Cemetery**



**Partial map of West Earl Township  
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania**



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**Date stone from Carpenter Church**

This Edifice was erected  
for the purpose of  
Public Worship therein  
By Christians of every denomination.  
1821

**Translation**

HERE LIES  
DOCTOR HEINRICH  
ZIMMERMANN  
DIED APRIL 17  
1773 AGED  
59 YEARS 8M 8D

The remainder of the  
inscription is illegible.

Carpenter Church and Cemetery  
are located at the junction of  
Route 772 and Forest Hill Road,  
West Earl Township,  
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

**Transcription**

In memory of  
ELIZABETH  
wife of  
JACOB WEIDLER  
and daughter of  
ABRAHAM AND ESTHER CARPENTER  
Born May 5, 1777  
died Dec. 16, 1821  
aged 44 years, 5 months and  
15 days.

-----  
She is not here, but risen.

# GENEALOGICAL NOTES

OF THE

# CARPENTER FAMILY

INCLUDING THE

AUTOBIOGRAPHY, AND PERSONAL REMINISCENCES

OF

DR SEYMOUR D. CARPENTER,

LIEUTENANT COLONEL, IN THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

WITH GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL APPENDIX.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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EDITED BY

EDWIN SAWYER WALKER, A. M.

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SPRINGFIELD, ILL.:  
ILLINOIS STATE JOURNAL CO., PRINTERS  
MCMVII.

## PREFACE.

FROM my earliest youth, I was interested in our family history. I was brought up in the house of my paternal Grandfather, who was born in 1768. In our neighborhood were several men older than himself, notably my maternal Great-grandfather, Jacob Van Metre, born in 1735. Our home was a kind of resort for those old pioneers, and I listened with the keenest interest to their reminiscences of the Revolution, and of the Indian wars. As I grew older, I became more curious about our own family, as to where they came from, why they came, and what had been their trials, and fortunes. In 1847, I made my first visit to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and met the members of the family, who still remained on the land, of the first settlements. Among them was Mr. William Carpenter, a prominent lawyer of Lancaster, who also was interested in family history, and from him I obtained a copy of the family tree, extending to the fourth generation from Henry Carpenter, the immigrant, and through him, and others, I heard of all the family traditions. For several years thereafter, I was so engaged in the struggles incident to an active life, that I thought little about our family history.

Upon retiring from business in 1893, and having ample leisure, I returned to the subject which had so interested me in earlier life. I made annual visits to Lancaster, Ohio, and to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and took occasion to examine the public records in both places, as also the records in Westmoreland, Huntingdon, and Dauphin Counties, Pennsylvania; as well as those in Philadelphia. These examinations were not very exhaustive, and doubtless a more thorough search would afford much additional information.

About the year 1898 I visited Europe, and during my four years residence there, made two trips to Switzerland, and remained in that interesting country altogether, about eight months. I was several times at the village of Wattenville, in the commune of the same name, which is about sixteen miles southeast of the City of Berne. That was the birth place of our common ancestor, HEINRICH ZIMMERMAN, alias HENRY CAR-

Although *Genealogical Notes of the Carpenter Family* contains errors and omissions, it is still one of the best sources for early information on the immigrant Heinrich Zimmerman alias Henry Carpenter and his descendants.

PENTER; and the neighboring village of Bloomenstein, two miles distant, was the birthplace of SALOME RUFENER, his wife. The communal records show that the Zimmermans had been Burghers of the Commune, for several centuries; in fact, as far back as the records extend. The family is still numerous, and prominent, Frederick Zimmerman in 1899, being President of the Commune.

Several years ago, at the request of my cousin, Mrs. Stella V. Kellerman, the wife of Professor Wm. Kellerman, of the University of Ohio, I embodied all my memoranda, and information concerning the family, in a series of letters, which are embraced in the following publication.

In order that the reader may understand certain allusions to persons and places, I may, in explanation say, that Mrs. Kellerman is the grand-daughter of Salome Carpenter Koontz, the youngest daughter of Judge Emanuel Carpenter, who with his Cousin, Captain John Carpenter, were the heads of the two families, that emigrated from Pennsylvania, to Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1798. Her mother, Angeline Koontz, was born in the first brick house built by John Carpenter, in Fairfield County, in 1806, a cut of which is given in the text.

I am fully conscious that I have fallen far short of giving a complete history of the family. The various branches, scattered throughout several states, indeed extending to those bordering on the Pacific, were beyond my search, and the prominence given to these who settled in Ohio, is simply because they were those, of whom I knew the most. I can only hope that my labors will serve as a foundation, for some future member of the family, who with better opportunities, and more literary ability will be able to fill the gaps, and amplify the whole subject.

I will add in conclusion, that neither the family memoirs nor the personal reminiscences, would probably have ever been put into print, had it not been for the great interest manifested in our common ancestry, by my friend and relative, Dr. George Noble Kreider, of Springfield, Illinois. He like myself, is greatly interested in our family history, and several inter-marriages more than a century ago, covering three generations, made the Kreiders, and Carpenters very closely related.

SEYMOUR DAVID CARPENTER.

Chicago, June 23d, 1907.

## CHAPTER I.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, January 25, 1897.

MY DEAR COUSIN:—

I am in receipt of your very interesting letter, for which please accept my sincere thanks. If I were able to write with such facility as did your father, in his day, many of whose productions, written before you were born, I have read, I should the more readily comply with your request to prepare, as best I might be able, from such sources as have been accessible to me, a sketch of the origin, in Switzerland, of the Carpenter family, and note, in brief, the lives of the numerous members, who to this day reflect honor upon the name "Carpenter" in America. Had you consulted your mother regarding my peculiar characteristics, she would have told you that one of them is the habit of procrastination; deferring until to-morrow what should be done to-day. I have read a great deal, but in a desultory way, having no special object in view beyond self-entertainment.

I will, however, give you the results of my investigations, extending through many years, in regard to our family history, from the days of Louis XIV. in Switzerland down to our own time in America.

In these days, when the influence of heredity upon the character of our people is so much discussed, we do well to trace our ancestral lines, looking back to the sources from which we have sprung, and place upon record the estimate of our indebtedness to our honored progenitors, such as is due to their lives of toil and self-sacrifice.

Long ago, in one of the little quiet villages of the Bernese Oberland, lived a man named HEINRICH ZIMMERMAN and his wife, ANNA MOGERT. They were simple, hard-working, well-to-do burghers, their ancestors having lived in the valley for many successive generations.

Wattenwyl was a flourishing village, for some time under the

leadership of the famous Bernese family, Count Von Graffenried. Christopher von Graffenried was the founder of New Bern, in North Carolina, in 1710. The castle of the Count looked down from its lordly heights upon the picturesque chalets and farms clustering below.

Wattenwyl (Watinwiler, 1261; Wattenwile, 1294; Wattville, 1300) is a small parish in the district of Seftigen, Canton Bern, pleasantly situated at the foot of Buergistein and Gurmigelsberg, in a small plain watered by the Guerbe. The country is meadow land and orchards. Its location is twenty-six kilometers from Bern.

We hear of the village first in 1261, belonging to the estates of the two Counts, Hartmann and Eberhard Von Kyburg. About 1320 it came into the possession of the von Buergistein family. In 1516 it belonged to the celebrated soldier family, May. In 1639 it was bought by Albrecht Graffenried, who sold the feudal rights later on, to the village itself. It was then passed over to the government at Bern.

Wattenwyl became an independent parish in 1659. In 1683 the church and steeple were rebuilt; there is no stained glass in the windows. One of the bells bears the date of 1404, another of 1509. The foundation walls of the Vicarage are from five to thirteen feet thick, probably the remains of some old Castle, and there was a drawbridge until quite recently.

Daniel Rohr, from Bern, was vicar in Wattenwyl from 1662 to 1686. John Jacob Rubin, from Thun, a learned man, was Vicar from 1686 to 1730.\*

The commune contained in 1880, 321 inhabited houses, 465 families, with 2,185 souls. Families native to the place are Baehler, Berger, Engeloeh, Jaussi, Kappeler, Kisling, Krebs, Kuenzi, Mogert, Messerli, von Niederhausen, Nussbaum, Partner, Pulver, Schober, Stubi, Trachsel, Wasern, Wenger, Weren and Zimmerman.

In 1757 there was a great landslide; a part of the fir forest sank to such an extent that no trace was left of the largest trees. The "Bear Inn" was long splendidly conducted by Frau Baehler. The noble family of von Wattenwyl now living in Bern, probably originated from the village.

\* Note—Ritterburgen der Schweiz III., pp. 99-112.

The forest in the district of Seftigen is called Zimmerwald, formerly Cimerwalt, 1297, or Cimberwalt, Cymberwalt, Zymerwalt, whence I conclude that Zimmerman is a man of the "Cimbri."

Heinrich Zimmerman had four sons and five daughters. Elsbeth, who probably died young, born 1672; Heinrich, born September 7, 1673; Hans, born 1675; Benedict, born 1677; Anna, born 1679; Elsbeth, born 1680; Barbara, born 1683; Catherine, born 1686, and David, born 1690.

The children were sent to the village school, for public instruction had been instituted in Switzerland some short time before 1676. The eldest son was the unruly one of the family; black haired and black eyed, with beetling eyebrows, which earned him the soubriquet of "der Schwarze Heinrich," the black Henry. He was in constant trouble at school for his misconduct and his love of adventure. Nothing pleased the boy more than climbing the hills and mountains near his home to see what was on the other side; exploring all the recesses of the dark fir forests, which clothed the hillsides, walking up the torrent beds, full of boulders, and climbing the rocks, in vain hopes of finding vultures' or lammergeiers' nests.

He grew up tall and strong, and arrived at an age where he could wield a pike, and use a sword. He gave his father no peace, until he consented to his enrolling as a mercenary soldier, under the flag of France.

Louis XIV. wanted troops badly; Switzerland was willing to furnish them, as he protected them against the Empire and against Savoy. This alliance was formed in 1658; from 6,000 to 15,000 men were enrolled in the French army. The Protestant cantons were rather unwilling to try to please a king who did not always pay his debts; who persecuted the Huguenots, and who would not guarantee the neutrality of Burgundy. After the Diet of Soleure in 1663 a delegation was sent to swear to the alliance with the king, Louis XIV. The two Bernese delegates took their sons with them, Count Von Graffenried and Bucher, and, accompanied by some members of the Grand Council of Bern, arrived in Paris and were lodged in the Faubourg S. Germain. They were presented to the King and Queen at the Louvre, where great festivities were held in their honor and the alliance was solemnly ratified in the Cathedral of

"Notre Dame." The envoys returned to Bern loaded with presents.

In 1679 the Swiss troops in the service of Louis XIV. were as follows:

One Company, 100 Swiss, body-guard of the King.

One Regiment of Swiss guards.

One Regiment of Bawn d'Erlach.

In 1690 there were as many as 30,000 Swiss in service under the French flag. All the young Patricians—members of the old aristocratic families are still called Patricians in Bern—sought fortune in the foreign wars. The national character was depreciated, and the Swiss became known as fierce and brave mercenaries, and to such an extent did it grow that the very name of "Swiss" was an epithet.

On one occasion when a battle was pending the leader of the Swiss contingent in the French army refused to fight unless they were paid in advance. "No money, no Swiss." Another time a Frenchman was taunting a Swiss about his mercenary ideas. "Well," said the Swiss, "what do you fight for?" "For honor," said the Frenchman. "Well," replied the other, "and I fight for money; each one fights for what he has not got."

Young Heinrich Zimmerman returned to his native land, probably after the peace of Ryswick in 1696, Louis XIV. being in some cases in a great hurry to disband the regiments raised for him by Bern and Zurich. It was probably at this time that he was apprenticed to a doctor. He had grown up to be a man of fine physical proportions, fully six feet tall, with black hair and black eyes, and a very dark complexion. I have often heard my grandfather describe him, he having received the information directly from his father, who had known old "Heinrich." He must have taken an active interest in politics, for tradition says he was engaged in some rising against the ruling classes. It must have been about this time that he fell in love with the pretty girl from the neighboring village of Blumenstein, Salome Rufener. The record of her baptism reads as follows: "1675—Dec. 28th, was christened Salome Rufener. Witnesses: Peter Kuenzi, Magdalene Schwendinnen and Barbli Zherr." Blumenstein is a village smaller than Watenwyl, situated a little farther up the valley, just under the noble peak of "The Stockholm."

Heinrich now begins to make serious plans for the future.

There was much talk in Berne at this time about the New World and the Colonies, where freedom of conscience was guaranteed under the mild reign of Queen Anne. Many were now turning their eyes in that direction. Some wanted to escape war; some wanted to be freed from religious persecutions; some wanted to go where no other religion but theirs would be tolerated; some went to make money, and others went because they had to.

William Penn in several respects was a very great man. He had talent enough to found a great state, piety enough to found a great religion, tact enough to become a great courtier, and business' qualifications that enabled him to become a great land speculator. Years before this time he had thriftily combined religion and business by making journeys to the continent, where, upon the upper Rhine, he preached his doctrine and exploited his province in the New World, where eternal salvation, political and religious freedom, and worldly prosperity were free to all. Young Heinrich heard of all this, and saw his opportunity. With the consent of his family, who, possibly, were glad to get rid of him, he determined to make a trip of exploration to this new land of promise. He was not able to marry, and I leave to your imagination the tearful scene of his parting with his fiance, Salome, to undertake a journey, to which a trip around the world to-day would not be a circumstance. This was in 1698. He went down the Rhine to Rotterdam, and thence to London. Penn had an office in London, similar to a Kansas land agency, where information, printed and oral, was furnished to land seekers, and it is to be hoped that it was more truthful than that given out by modern land sharks.

The vessels plying between London and Philadelphia were small, from two to three hundred tons burden, and were generally crowded with people. The passage occupied from six weeks to three months, and was attended with what we would consider intolerable hardships; but no complaint has come down from Heinrich. When once landed, he found many Swiss people located in Germantown, which was then some distance from Philadelphia. There he made his headquarters and explored the country all about, going down to the head of the Chesapeake Bay and up the Susquehanna, near to where Harrisburg now

Examination of the Blumenstein, Bern, Switzerland, parish register of 28 Dec 1675 refutes it as the source for Salome (Rufener) Carpenter's baptismal record. Possibly Salome's baptism was the one recorded on 3 July 1675 for Maria Rufener. Swiss pastors of this era frequently entered only one given name.