

## HENRY FUNK I

great-grandfather to Abraham Funk  
Person #20 on chart #2

As the Funk family were Mennonites, and that group kept no records, such as births, marriages and burials, it is very difficult to locate materials. The Mennonites did not practice infant baptism (which records give birth and baptismal date), nor were the early Mennonite Ministers permitted to marry persons. So we turn to the other churches for possible data. I searched all reformed church records available here of Lancaster and Montgomery counties, the Lutheran records also, the many cemeteries, especially in Manor Township were searched and few Funk graves found. I fear that many were buried in private field cemeteries which are now obliterated.

Marie M. Barton

Most of Henry I's children no doubt were born in Germany, and the only way to get such records or dates would be a family Bible--if one existed. (We have a family bible records of Martin Funk, b. Aug. 4, 1716 (doubtless a son of Henry II).

Henry and John Funk were in Lancaster Co., Pa. in 1717, 550 acres of land was issued to them in the Township of Strasburg in Chester Co. (later Lancaster), Pa. This land was in the S.E. part of the city of Lancaster. (Which is now and was called New Strasburg.) Henry Funk I, was a Swiss Mennonite. Henry Funk I received 250 acres and John 200. In the patent or deed given to Henry and John by William Penn; author says they were late of the Palatinate of the Rhine in Germany. John or Hans Funk was one of the first ones of the first colonist of what is now Lancaster county. He came with a party of other Swiss Mennonites, who on 10 Oct. 1710 had surveyed to them ten thousand acres about Pequea Creek. It is believed that the Colonist of 1710 were of the Canton of Zurich in Switzerland. That they had gone hence to the Emmenthol near Berne; and from Switzerland they had gone to London to make arrangements with William Penn to come to America.

In History of Lancaster county, by Ellias and Evans, Henry Funk I is called a Swiss Mennonite. Patent Record to Henry Funk: Granted by the dept. of Internal Affairs of Penn. Dated: 27th day of Sept. last, and surveyed and laid out 12th of Oct. 1717. ---Then next ensuing unto Henry Funk, late of the Palatinate of the Rhine in Germany, but now of Strasburg in the said Province---. (note: Henry Funk's land and that of John Funk joined and were along side also that of Jacob Myer, probably the father of Henry Funk's son-in-law, Michael Myer.)

Henry Funk I, died before 8 Oct., 1735 as on this date his children waive their rights to his lands in favor of their brother, John Funk.

Historical Background:

Bern is of interest to the people of Lancaster Pa. because Bern is the place from which the first settlers of this country came over Two Hundred years ago. Also our ancestors came from Zurich. In Bern in 1525 the author speaks of Ulrich Funk. 1528 first migration of the Mennonites into Germany.

Thus we see in this early period there were living in the Canton of Zurich, both in the low lands north of the city of Zurich and in the mountains to the south, ancestral families of the county of Lancaster and Eastern Pa. (See Zur. pp. 87 & 88)

1530 there were people who moved toward Bern from the Zurich tortures. Then Bern and other places did everything to do away with these people that did not believe in infant baptisms etc. In Bern Executions we find names of Pa. people. This shows that many of our ancestors lived in the mountains of Switzerland, before their later generations moved down the Rhine into Palatinate.

On page 48 many names in book (Kulp) is mentioned shows where our ancestors of 400 years ago lived. 1538-40 Mennonites were drifting into the Emmenthol. They were very successful farmers. 1557, first Mennonites gathering in the Palatinate from Holland and Switzerland, that is the Rhine, then persecution starts in the Palatinate. At one time the Prince of Orange said the Mennonites should not be interfered with and that their "Yes" should be accepted as an oath. This shows how truthful they were.

Switzerland confiscation of Mennonite property: (in 1635 new persecution in Zurich) Look on page 84 for Henry Funk. Page 99 Eggwyl about 155 mi. southeast of Bern in the Emmenthol about 5 miles south of Langnau-center of Mennonites of Western Switzerland.

1660 Holland formed a Swiss Mennonite Relief Committee. This committee did as much towards settling Lancaster Co. and Eastern Pa. as any one of the three or four factors producing that result. Committee lived about 75 years, and during the time of the edicts of 1671 and 1690 and later and the dark days of the expulsion down the Rhine into the Palatinate as late as 1700 and the days of Embarkation to America. From 1707 to 1735 and later the Amsterdam Mennonite Charity and Emigration committee gave encouragement, made provisions with monarchs and rulers, furnished much of the money by which the German and Swiss Mennonites found relief in the new world.

While Holland was more thickly settled than Switzerland and Germany, few of the Holland Mennonites came to America, because they were treated better there. (p. 104 A congregation of Swiss Mennonites in Alasce, among them a Funk.)

In 1671 the condition of nonresident Mennonite became unbearable in Bern. In this year begins the last act of the body Swiss and Palatinate Ancestors to come to Pa. in 1710 and later. 100 migrated to the Rhine Country-a region of wide extent. A few had gone 1527. This was the beginning of the Reformation, when Luther had set the world on fire, also Zwighn and Menno Simons. The Swiss who had settled about the year 1671 in the Palatinate and in Alsace were in the following years of all those who either volunteered or by force left Switzerland.

In 1671 Jacob Everling of Obersultzen writes that these Swiss Mennonites are coming by the hundreds to the Palatinate and Rhine--much suffering among them. In 1671 Swiss prohibits Galley punishment. 1671 the Palatinate overrun with Mennonites. Here many names like those found in Pa. 1672, 428 Mennonites east of the Rhine. About 100 in Alsace. At this time, among them Henry Funk teacher of the faith (p. 120). (I am quite sure that he was one of our ancestors, perhaps the first Henry Funk who came to America. Marie M. Barton.) (Still he seems a little too old to fit in as our 1st Henry Funk who came to Pa.) Many other names mentioned here are the same as the ones who settled Lancaster Pa. A Buckholder married one of our ancestors. M. Barton)

Mennonites pay heavy duties for war.

In 1674 William Penn wrote a letter to Magistrates of Emden. He was kind to the Mennonites and wanted them to come to America. Abt. 1678 thirteen families came and founded Germantown--First Mennonite settlement in the New World.

1684- Some German Palatinates arrive in Philadelphia.

1684- Germans landed on Shippack.

1691- Throughout Switzerland the Mennonites were declared against the Government.

1703- Swiss suffer and many parish crossing the ocean. Children under 7 rarely lived.

1703- Swiss Mennonite property confiscated-farms sold at auction.

1703- Stephen Funk preaches before King Charles XII of Sweden. He was from Maravia.

1705- Swiss prepare to settle in Lancaster Co.

1708- Mennonites granted permission to leave the Palatinate. They wished to go to Pa. but went to New York; but their religious customs not being approved they went to Pa.

1709- Mennonites prepare to come to Pequea Valley, Lancaster Co.

We must remember that the Germantown and Shippack pioneers always lived separate from the Pequea. Our ancestors (Funks) came to Pequea, and were Swiss (M. Barton) 1710 is when Hans (John) Hendrich Funk led 12 exiled Mennonites out of Switzerland.

On page 147 it says that the majority wanted to live in the Palatinate but were to poor and had no religious liberty. They were subjected to the humors of the electors and officers. (Now we come to our people, Henry Funk and family. M. Barton) The author says they waited 7 years (p.17) often supported by the Netherland brethren - hoping for better times. At last at a meeting held in the project of going to Pa. and which at last came to maturity. And the very land to which in 1710 they were to be forcibly exiled, they adopted in 1717 in Pa. -- particularly the Pequea and Conestoga Valleys.

As was told before the first settlement on the Pequea was a group of which Hans (John) Funk came and settled in 1710. Miller says that among the Emigrant Palatinates to Pa. were a large number of exiled Bernese, Bernese emigrated not only out of the Palatinate (where many had previously settled in 1710 to America but directly out of Emmenthol.

The six pioneers families, led by Hans (John) Funk came from London in the ship Mary Hope. Fro the warrant given these people who settled in Pequea Creek look on p. 149 call no pa. 66. On p.154 it says: Holland helped all it could and gave 50,000 quilden to send to America.

1717 first ship load of Mennonites to Susquehanna Valley. On page 202 it tells of Henry joined his son John Funk (who was already in Pequea) who came in 1710 with others and as has been told they took up land in Pequea.

1718- First assessment list Henry and John Funk. Among other names listed at Pequea and: Kulp, Landes, Stoner, Mary Funk.

M. Luther Heisey, an authority on the Mennonites says in one account that he recently sent to my researcher: "The Funks of Montgomery County are well written up(he

means the Bishop Henry Funk from Germany) and should not be confused with the Lancaster Funks." (Which we know are Daniel B. Funk's People.)

We will have to pick out Daniel B. Funk's people from Bishop Henry Funk's people because I have know and seen in our family records that my Grandfather Daniel Buckley Funk was born in Montgomery Co., Pa. in the year 1820. Also my son-in-law Calvin H. Bartholomew a few years ago found the two small graves of Daniel Buckley Funk's oldest sister and brother at Evansburg outside a few miles from Norristown which is in Montgomery County. Also he found that Daniel's father and mother, Abraham and Susanna Stoner Funk had deeded the land for a Mennonite Church at Evansburg and I think it was used mostly be the German and Swiss Mennonites. Anyway a group at this time broke away from the Mennonites and were called Funkites and I think they were also of Bp. Henry Funk's people.

Marie M. Barton

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Letter

Dear Mr. Kurr:

Your inquiry regarding Henry Funk is at hand. The little opportunity at my disposal so far has given me but the will of this forefather. Henry Funk's will was probated May 23, 1800. He then lived on King street in the Borough of Lancaster. His widow Magdalen has a life right to the home on King Street and 200 pounds. His son Christian who had more than his share already gets but 5 shillings as his inheritance. Jacob gets 50 pounds and an equal share with the other nine. The ten aside from Christian include John, Abraham, Henry, Jacob, Daniel, Barbara, wife of John Eberly, Mary wife of Peter Gander, Elizabeth wife of Christian Miller, Magdalen wife of Jacob Stahl and Catherine wife of James Philip. This is in Will book G. 1 p. 616, Lancaster county court house.

At this time, this is all I can give you. There were three other Henry Funks with wills in the early days in Lancaster County. They died in 1788, 1816, and 1825, but this is the one you wanted.

I regret that I cannot five you more at this writing. If this is of any value to you, use it. If I find more time I shall search further.

Thanks for your inquiry.

Very Sincerely,

Irah Landis

The Journal of Am. Gen. Call no. (Am. Pub. A.Q. Vol. 1 and 2.)  
Compendium of Am. Gen. Vol. VII  
Swiss and German Settler of S.E. Pa. Call no. Pa. 66