



Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

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May 12, 2017

Rodney A. Farrell
12 Liberty Ln
Reedsville, PA 17084

Dear Rodney,

You presented a very challenging research request to find who are the parents of Elizabeth Myers/Meyer (1751-1827) who married George Rothrock (1747-1826). They lived in Mifflin County, PA after marriage. You did not indicate what research you had done yourself. Hopefully what we are sending does not duplicate a lot of your own information.

In our library there is a *Rothrock Genealogy* written by Henry Shirley Rothrock in 1984. This has good information on the George Rothrock family. The immigrant Johann Georg Rothrock (1721-1806) came with his father Johannes about the year 1736. He acquired land in Bucks County in 1742, 1744, and 1748. In 1779 he was taxed for 300 acres in Springfield Twp. which is on the northern border of Bucks County adjacent to Lower Saucon Twp. of Northampton County. It appears that he later moved to Lower Saucon Twp. The immigrant Georg Rothrock had an eldest son George b 1747. He was the one who married Elizabeth Myers and they moved to Mifflin County. George and Elizabeth are both buried in Derry Twp. in a small family cemetery. I have copied the pertinent pages from the *Rothrock Genealogy*.

Ancestry.com has a picture of the gravestones of both George Rothrock and his wife Elizabeth. Ancestry.com calls the burial place Rothrock-Hoyt Cemetery. In Ancestry.com someone has attached a painting of Spring Row Church of the Brethren to George Rothrock

Now the question is: how do we determine who are the parents of Elizabeth Myers/Meyer? I did research on the Meyer family and discovered that there were Meyer brothers who settled in Springfield Twp., Bucks Co. after immigration to PA in 1741. This information was in the book *A Genealogical Record of the Descendants of Christian and Hans Meyer and other Pioneers*. written by Rev. A. J. Fretz in 1896. Four Meyer brothers came with their widowed mother. The oldest son was Peter and he was served as a minister in the Springfield Mennonite Church. Two of his brothers, William and Henry also settled in Springfield Twp. while another brother Jacob settled in Saucon Twp. in Lehigh County. It would seem very likely that Elizabeth was a daughter of one of the Meyer brothers who settled in Springfield Twp. Fretz's genealogy book gives the names of the children of the Rev. Peter Meyer but Elizabeth is not named. So we can surmise that she may have been the daughter of either William or Henry. The children of these two brothers are not listed in the Fretz genealogy book. I copied the pertinent pages from this book.

There are many Meyer or Moyer burials in the Springfield Mennonite Cemetery. Meyer and Moyer appear to be the same family name. I copied those names from the cemetery records whose dates are from the mid-1750s. I note that there is a Henry Meyer and his wife Maria who have death dated of 1809 and 1803 but no birth days are given. Perhaps these are the parents of Elizabeth who

married George Rothrock. If one could find a will for this Henry Meyer who died in 1803, that might be helpful in finding the name of Elizabeth. You would need to check wills of Bucks County for either Henry or William to see if you can find a daughter Elizabeth married to George Rothrock.

I copied a few pages from the histories of the Mennonites in Bucks County. I note that there was a Rothrock Mennonite congregation in Northampton County just across the border from Bucks County. This would be where George Rothrock Sr. moved to.

Since the geographic scope of this research is outside of our primary focus you may want to continue research in Bucks County Historical Society. Also, there is a Mennonite Heritage Center, 565 Yoder Rd., Harleysville, PA 18438, Tel. 215-256-3020. Perhaps they could help with your research question as to who are the parents of Elizabeth Meyer who married George Rothrock. The Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, Pa. might be another avenue for research.

I hope this has been helpful for you. I spent quite a few hours on this research as a volunteer. If you desire to do so, you could make an additional contribution to the LMHS. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ivan B. Leaman, Volunteer researcher for LMHS
Steve Ness, Librarian and archivist for LMHS