



Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

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April 12, 2016

Michelle McElroy
2905 W. Cinnamon Circle
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Dear Michelle,

You presented us with a research request to see what was in our library Genealogical Card File on the Stahly or Staley name. You stated that there was an Anna Staehle who married Abraham Day. Anna's father was Christian Stahly and his father was Ulrich Stahly/Staley/Stealey/or Staehle.

I searched the Genealogical Card File for the Stahly and Stahley names. Most of these names on our card file were descendants of either Christian Stahley born in Germany who immigrated to the USA in 1835 and settled in the Nappanee, Indiana area or the Christian Stahly who emigrated from Switzerland in 1864 and settled in McClean Co. Illinois. Both of these families appeared to be Mennonite. Your Stahley family came earlier to the USA.

On Ancestry.com there was a Family Tree with an Ulrich Stehley, who was born about 1700 in Canton Bern, Switzerland and immigrated to Pennsylvania about 1730. He settled in northern Lancaster County which later became Lebanon County. According to the Family Tree he died in 1766 in Bethel Twp. in northern Lebanon County. There are eleven children recorded in this Family Tree. The one son was Christian Stahley (1730-1809). We have printed out the Family Tree of this Stahley family, from Ulrich Stehley to Anna Staley.

We found a will of Christian Stahley Book K Vol 1 page 62 that substantiates the link between Christian and Anna. This Christian Stahley was living in Elizabeth Twp. which is in northern Lancaster County and borders Lebanon County. The will was probated on May 30, 1809. Five sons are named: Christian, Jacob, John, Benjamin and Abraham. Two daughters are named: Anna, wife of Abraham Day and Catherine, the wife of John Illey. We have printed this will for you. We could not find a will for Ulrich Stahley.

We also found an Ulrich Staley, Stealey, and Steely as an early landowner in Clay Twp. which was originally part of Warwick Twp. in northern Lancaster. Co. which bordered Lebanon Co. We have copied the warrantee maps for you. This Ulrich Staley is very likely the father of Christian.

We trust that this research has been helpful for you. You may already have the enclosures, but we are sending them for your records.

Sincerely,

Ivan B. Leaman, volunteer researcher
Steve Ness, Librarian and Archivist
Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society