



SHIPPENSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Alexander Stewart, M.D. House
52 West King St, P.O. BOX 539, Shippensburg, PA, 17257

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Beidel, Charles W.**

1994.84

Material: Family Papers (1849-1986)

Volume: .25 linear foot (1 Document Box, 24 File Folders); 3 Family Photo Folders

Donation: Gift of Marguerite Beidel, 1994.

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Charles William Beidel was the six of eleven children born to John and Maria (Mary) Barbara Staerger Beidel. The Beidel family immigrated to the United States from Germany in the mid-1880s. The family lived in the Shippensburg area, in both Franklin and Cumberland counties, and had ties to the Civil War, business and industry, as well as community organizations.

Charles' father, John Beidel, Sr. was born on March 14, 1806, son of Elenora Stalga (1784-?), in Weissheim, Baden, Germany. He married Maria (Mary) Barbara Staerger in Germany. Born January 2, 1813 Maria was the daughter of Mathias (1788-1846) and Elenor L. Staerger (1783-1870). The Beidel's had eleven children. Four children were born in Germany: Henry C. (1831-1909); Charles Agustis (1835-1837); John Mathias (1836-1923); Anna Barbara (1838-1917). The other children were born in Pennsylvania: Philip Dietrich (1842-1930); Charles William (1846-1937); Louise Sophia (1849-1853); Mary Elizabeth (1852-ca 1930); Catherine (1854); Amanda Louise (1855-1932); and Susan Emma (1856-1861).

In 1838, after the birth of Anna Barbara, the Beidel family left Germany and immigrated to the United States of America. The family arrived in the United States between 1838 and 1842, as Philip Dietrich was born in Pennsylvania. A manuscript, found in the collection, states that the family left Germany "between the months of April and September of 1839." It also notes that Anna Barbara was "9 mo. old at the time of their arrival in Franklin Co."

After their arrival in the United States the Beidel family name was spelled several ways, as is evident in the different configurations listed on the Federal Census records. According to

the 1840 Census John "Biddle" lived in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The 1850 and 1860 Census listed John "Bidle" as a laborer in Southampton, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Then the 1870 Census listed John "Bitle" as a Carpet Weaver in Chambersburg North Ward, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Over thirty years after his arrival in the United States, John Beidel, Sr. died May 14, 1874 and was buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Chambersburg. Maria (Mary) died January 2, 1881 and was also buried in the Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Charles William Beidel, fifth son to John and Maria (Mary) Beidel, was born on August 29, 1846 in Shippensburg, Franklin County, PA. In 1850 the Beidel family was living in Southampton Township, Franklin County, PA. On November 3, 1862 in Chambersburg, PA, at the age of sixteen, Charles mustered into Company "B" of the 112th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. His brother, Philip Dietrich also served in this unit during his second enlistment.

Charles Beidel's brothers, John Mathias and Philip Dietrich also served in the Civil War. John Mathias, the fourth child of John and Maria (Mary) Beidel, was born in Germany on March 29, 1836. He served with two units in the Civil War, including Company "A" of the 165th Pennsylvania Militia and Company "K" of the 87th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. According to a manuscript in the collection, John was enrolled in Company "A" of the 165th Pennsylvania Militia on October 16, 1862, served for 9 months, and was mustered out on July 28, 1863. He was then enrolled in Company "K" of the 87th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry on February 24, 1865, served for one year, and was mustered out on July 3, 1865. After the war, circa 1880, John married Laura Jane Durff. She was born January 14, 1839. In the 1915 directory John was listed as a shoemaker and was living at 329 East Orange Street. He died October 31, 1923 in Steelton and was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery in Shippensburg. Laura died June 25, 1920 and was also buried in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Philip Dietrich Beidel, the fifth son of John and Maria Beidel, was born August 23, 1842 in Shippensburg, PA. He served in two units in the Civil War, including the 130th Regiment for 9 months in 1861 and the 112th Regiment for 4 years and was mustered out in 1866. Philip then married Eveline (Emma) Barrick on October 11, 1866 in Carlisle, PA. She was born January 1, 1840. They had five children: Charles Henry (1868-1925); John Wingert (1870-1969); Annie Hettie (1872-); George Barrick (1875-1929); Joseph Edward (1879-1920). Eveline (Emma) died on January 23, 1906. Philip later married Mary C. Snyder in Hagerstown, Maryland on February 12, 1912. He died April 17, 1930 and was buried in Steelton.

While in the military Charles W. Beidel met two Musgrave brothers, William Thomas and James H. The Musgrave brothers served in the 3rd Maryland Regiment. This proved to be a significant meeting as three Beidel family members later married into the Musgrave family, including Charles, Anna Barbara, and Mary Elizabeth.

After the Civil War, circa 1870, Charles married Josephine Musgrave. The daughter of Charles and Mary Ann Leslie Musgrave, Josephine was born in Baltimore, MD on July 12, 1846. Charles and Josephine had two children: George Edgar (1869-1923) and James Albert (1872-1939). In 1880 Charles and Josephine resided in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, PA. On August 6, 1881 Josephine passed away and was buried at Spring Hill Cemetery.

Shortly after the death of his first wife, circa 1881, Charles married Catherine (Katea) Beecher. Born Aug. 12, 1859, Catherine (Katea) was the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth Beecher. In the mid-1880's Charles and Catherine (Katea) moved to Hays Grove, Penn Township, Cumberland County. They had 5 children: Clarence Jessie (1883-1955); Emma Elizabeth (1885-1964); Charles Henry (1887-1955); John Anderson (1892-1967); and Harry

Faust (1896-1969). Each child was born in Hay Grove, except for Clarence who was born in Grove City, Cameron County, PA.

Into the early 20th century Charles and Catherine (Katea) lived in Penn Township, Cumberland County, PA. Then on 1910 Federal Census they were listed as living at 103 North Penn Street in Shippensburg Middle Ward, Cumberland County. In the 1920 Census they were living at 18 South Penn Street. In 1927 the family moved again. Per Catherine's (Katea) obituary, the Beidel's "moved Saturday from the Cleversburg road to Walnut Bottom." Catherine (Katea) died February 26, 1927 and was buried at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Chambersburg, PA.

After Catherine's (Katea) death, according to the 1929 Directory, Charles was living on North Penn Street with Miss Emma and Mrs. George Beidel (presumably his two daughter-in-laws). Charles died May 14, 1937 in Shippensburg, Franklin County, PA and was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery. His obituary lists Charles as one of the last remaining Civil War veterans from the Corporeal McLean Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR).

At his funeral Charles' casket was draped by American flag and he was honored with a military salute by a firing squad from the American Legion. He was involved in the GAR, Corporal McLean Post 423 for 30 years and served several terms as commander. He was a member of the Messiah United Brethren Church in Shippensburg and Hays Grove United Brethren Church. Charles was also a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

Per his obituary, in the decades following the Civil War, Charles learned the occupation of carpet weaving and was associated with Morris Hinkle (whose father opened a carpet weaving operation in Shippensburg in 1837). Charles was listed as a "carpenter," "carpet weaver," and "weaver at carpet mill" in the 1880, 1900, and 1910 Federal Census. It is believed that by 1917 Charles had retired, and was listed in the 1929 Directory as such.

The influence of the Beidel family is evident in Shippensburg, through the continued operation of a local business – the Beidel Printing House. The company was formed in 1917 by George Edgar Beidel, the firstborn son of Charles W. and Josephine Beidel. The Beidel Printing House Inc continues to operate in Shippensburg at 63 West Burd Street.

George E. Beidel was born December 12, 1869. He lived in Shippensburg all his life and was a barber for 35 years. On May 27, 1890 George married Emma Geneva Hancock. Emma was born in Mainsville, Franklin County, PA on February 2, 1870 to David Goodyear Handcock (1851-1919) and Rebecca J. Neff (1844-1919). Emma and George had 7 children: Violet Geneva (1890-1938); Josephine Rebecca (1892-1933); Nelle Mildred (1894-1958); Harold Edgar (1895-1950); David Walter (1897-1900); Florence E. Dougherty (1898-1972); Ann Margaret (1899-1982).

In 1917 George opened a print shop on North Earl Street. Only six years after forming the business, on November 24, 1923, George died. He suffered a heart attack while riding a train from Chambersburg to Shippensburg. He is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery. Emma passed away on March 19, 1931 and was laid to rest in Spring Hill Cemetery.

After George's death the printing business was continued by his son, Harold E. Beidel, and changed location over the years. Harold moved the printing company from North Earl Street to 35 South Earl Street, circa 1930, where it stayed for several decades. In 1973 the company moved from 35 South Earl St to 67 West Burd Street. It was incorporated in 1974 as the Beidel Printing House. In 1978 moved to 63 West Burd Street. Beidel Printing House Inc continues to operate at 63 West Burd Street in 2010.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Beidel Family Papers are housed in one document box and range in date from 1849-1986. Three major periods of time are represented in the collection, including the Civil War period (1862-1865), post Civil War (1868-1937), and reunions (1963-1986). Many of the materials, including the obituary and reunion items, relate to the direct family line of Charles W. Beidel. The materials are divided into seven main categories: Charles W. Beidel, John Beidel, Civil War, Correspondence, Genealogy, Scrapbook Materials, and Miscellaneous.

The family papers include correspondence, genealogy records, clippings, and certificates. The collection contains illuminating details about Beidel family relationships and the Civil War experiences of John Mathias, Philip Dietrich, and Charles William Beidel. Unfortunately there are several gaps in the collection, including limited information about the family's life before and directly after the Civil War.

The papers related to Charles W. Beidel are separated into four categories: Employment, Knights of the Golden Eagle, Property, and Receipts. The materials in the folders are arranged chronologically and reflect his life and interests in the years after the Civil War until the outbreak of World War I. The first folder contains a postal carrier contract between Beidel and the Hay's Grove Post Office. Another folder contains materials from the Knights of the Golden Eagle (K.G.E.) organization. Founded in 1873 by John Emory Burbage, the K.G.E. was formed as a fraternal organization that founded its beliefs on Christianity and its ceremonies on the history and pageantry of the crusaders. The materials in this folder reflect Beidel's interest and participation in Shippensburg's Aurum Castle, No. 452, K.G.E. The Property folder contains a partially completed 1904 tax assessment and a 1914 certificate for land in St. Cloud, Florida from the Seminole Land and Investment Company. Another folder houses two receipts from the late 1880's, for items purchased at W.T.S Jamison (Shippensburg store) and the Hays Grove Post Office.

The records concerning John Beidel include an 1849 Citizenship certificate granted to "John Bittle" by the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Unfortunately it is unclear if this certificate refers to John, Sr. or John Mathias Beidel. Also included in this category are four receipts received by John Beidel, Sr. from the Adams Express Company in 1864 and 1865. It is likely that all of the receipts were sent to John, Sr., but only three identify him as the intended recipient. Three of the receipts were sent from Virginia by Philip Dietrich and might have included the salary from him and Charles, as they are from the period of time that the brothers were serving in the same unit (112th Regiment PA Volunteers).

The Civil War category contains information about the military service of Charles W., John M., and Philip D. Beidel. The materials are separated alphabetically by first name into folders and are then arranged chronologically. The items include Charles W.'s enlistment certificate and letter of furlough as well as handwritten descriptions of John M. and Philip D.'s service record. The records in these folders are useful for those interested in the military records of the Beidel family members, but are also valuable as original documents.

The Correspondence section is composed of a dozen letters authored by several Beidel family members. Many were written in the Civil War (1861-1865) period. The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by author's last name and then chronologically. Each individual letter has been listed in the collection inventory. Some were written in German and are placed in a

Miscellaneous folder, which contains two letters from 1854 and an envelope addressed to "Johanes Beutel." Each letter captures a distinct period of time in the lives of the Beidel family.

The individuals who authored the letters include Charles W. Beidel, Philip D. Beidel, Emma Beidel/Bidel, Anna Barbara Beidel Musgrave, William Thomas Musgrave, Anna Barbara Beidel Suter, Mary Elizabeth Beidel, and Benjamin F. Suter. The letters contain general updates about home and life, but also illuminate family relationships. For example, Charles' older sister, Anna Barbara Beidel (1838-19147) married Benjamin Suter, circa 1860. Benjamin Suter (1836-1865) served in Company "D" of the 210th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. After Benjamin's death Anna Barbara remarried William Thomas Musgrave (1842-circa 1900). Another Beidel sister married a member of the Musgrave family, Mary Elizabeth (1852-?). She married James H. Musgrave (1844-1911) in 1870.

The Genealogy records are separated into three folders, which include birth and death records, funeral cards, and a manuscript. The first folder contains two handwritten records of the children born to John and Maria Beidel. The records were transcribed by Henry C. Beidel in 1885 and 1904. Henry Beidel (1831-1909) was the firstborn son of John and Maria (Mary) Beidel. Also included in the folder is a record of the birth and death of Amanda Lydia (Louise) and Susan Emma Beidel, children of John and Maria Beidel. Also in the folder is a document, "Birth and Death of Grandfather, Grandmother, Father, Mother and Children," printed by Beidel Printing House. An additional folder contains 5 funeral cards for members of the Beidel family, including John Anderson Beidel, John W. Beidel, Harry F. Beidel, Margaret Elizabeth Beidel, and Anna Margaret Glass. The third folder contains a typed manuscript "Chronology of the Beidel Family," which describes the immigration from Germany and the Civil War experiences of John M., Philip D., and Charles W. Beidel. The genealogy records are useful in connecting the lineage of Beidel family members.

The Scrapbook Materials are separated into folders by the topic(s) addressed on the photocopied pages. The photocopies are from an unknown Beidel scrapbook. The pages include clippings about the lives of Charles W. and Philip D. Beidel. The first folder contains an obituary article about the death of Charles W. Beidel. Other topics on the pages include the obituary for James T. Musgrave and Catherine Beidel. Also in this folder is a 1963 article by Bill Burkhart about the discovery of a bag that contained information about Shippensburg's Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Post No. 423, of which Charles W. Beidel was a member. Another folder contains a 1917 newspaper article about Philip D. Beidel's relationship with President Abraham Lincoln in the years before the outbreak of the Civil War. Also included on the page is a clipping about Philip's marriage to Mary C. Snyder in 1912. In the third folder on contains the obituary and funeral card for Anna Margaret Glass, the daughter of George E. and Emma Beidel. Anna Margaret Beidel Glass was the granddaughter of Charles W. Beidel. Also included are obituaries and memorial cards for Courtney Hollar, Jr., Samuel D. Alleman, Earl B. Jones, Harry F. Beidel, Margaret Elizabeth Beidel, John Anderson Beidel, Miriam L. Beidel, John M. Beidel, and John W. Beidel. Also included are clippings about a mission school in Chambersburg and Sylvia R. Beidel's engagement to Roy A. Snyder. The fourth folder contains several pages of newspaper clippings about the Charles W. Beidel family reunions. The Scrapbook materials feature an array of information about the life of Beidel family members, most of which cannot found elsewhere in the collection.

The items housed in the Miscellaneous folder include a certificate from 1871 and a handbill for a 1912 real estate sale in Hay's Grove. The language on the certificate is German and lists a number of dates and names. Unfortunately the certificate cannot be directly connected

to an individual in the Beidel family. The handbill or flyer lists Mrs. Kate A. Beidel and R.D. (Rudolph Dubbs) Sheaffer as heirs to the estate of Eliza Beecher, who owned property in Hay's Grove. Mrs. R.D. (Leah Jane) and Kate Beecher Beidel were the surviving daughters of Eliza Beecher, who passed away on December 19, 1903. Leah Jane Sheaffer passed away on January 1, 1912 so the rights passed to her husband, which is why he is listed on the handbill.

The Photograph series includes images of several Beidel family members. Different photographic mediums can be found in the collection including mourning cards, postcards, tin-types, carte de visite, matted prints, and prints. The images are separated into four different folders by last name: Beidel, Beidel/Staeger, and Biedel. The Beidel folder contains a mourning card for George E. Beidel, who died in 1923. A mourning card served as a reminder of the departed and contained the name and age of the deceased as well as a verse from a hymn or poem. There are three Beidel/Staeger folders, which house images of the Charles W. Beidel family, additional Beidel family members, and unidentified members. These folders contain images of Charles W. Beidel, Josephine Musgrave Beidel, Catherine (Katie) Beecher Beidel, John and Maria (Mary) Barbara Staerger Beidel, John M. Beidel, Henry C. Beidel, Philip D. Beidel, Harry F. Beidel, Harry H. Beidel, Emma M. Buffington, and Delmar K. Buffington. The unidentified family members in the third Beidel/Staeger folder include six tintype images and several unidentified prints of people and a building. A carte de visite of H.C. Biedel is placed in a separate folder because of the different spelling of the last name, which is written in cursive on the back.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 – 1994.84

CHARLES W. BEIDEL

- Folder 01) Employment
 - Postal Carrier in Hay's Grove, PA – Dec. 14, 1910
- Folder 02) Knights of the Golden Eagle
 - "Past Chief" Certificate – Jul. 4, 1904
 - "Alternate Representative's Credentials" Certificate – Dec. 6, 1915
 - Envelope, Aurum Castle, No. 452, K.G.E, Shippensburg – Sep. 29
- Folder 03) Property
 - Tax assessment – Jan. 14, 1904
 - Certificate, Seminole Land and Investment Co. – Feb. 19, 1914
- Folder 04) Receipts
 - W.T.S Jamison – Feb. 6, 1886
 - Hays Grove Post Office – Apr. 1, 1899

JOHN BEIDEL

- Folder 05) Personal Records
 - Court of Common Pleas granting John "Bitte" citizenship – Aug.14, 1849
- Folder 06) Receipts
 - Adams Express Company, Washington, DC – May 10, 1864

Adams Express Company, City Point, VA – Aug. 8, 1864
Adams Express Company, City Point, VA – Oct. 22, 1864
Adams Express Company, Petersburg, VA – Aug. 23, 1865

CIVIL WAR

- Folder 07) Charles W. Beidel
Enlistment certificate, Battery “B”, 2nd Artillery, Pennsylvania
Volunteers – Feb. 25, 1864
Letter of Furlough – Apr. 10, 1864
- Folder 08) John M. Beidel
Handwritten service record – Undated
- Folder 09) Philip D. Beidel
Handwritten service record – Undated

CORRESPONDENCE

- Folder 10) Beidel, Charles W. and Philip D.
Letter to “Our Dear Parents” – Jul. 28, 1864
- Folder 11) Biedel/Bidel, Emma and Philip D.
Letter to “Father and Mother” – Dec. 12, 1869
- Folder 12) Beidel, Philip D.
Letter to “Father” – Feb. 3, 1864
Letter to “Father, Mother, and Sisters” – Jan.13, 1865
Letter to “Sister” – Dec. 19, 1872
Letter to “Friends” – Undated
- Folder 13) Musgrave, Anna Barbara Beidel and William Thomas
Letter to “Mother and Father” – Jun. 1, 1868
- Folder 14) Suter, Anna Barbara Beidel and Mary Elizabeth Beidel
Letter to “My Dear Brother” – 1865
- Folder 15) Suter, Benjamin F.
Letter to Charles W. Beidel – Oct. 29, 1864
- Folder 16) Miscellaneous
Letter in German – 1854
Letter in German – 1854
Envelope addressed to Johanes Beutel – Jun. 11

GENEALOGY

- Folder 17) Birth & Death Records
Beidel Family, 1783-1923 – 1885
Beidel Family, 1783-1923 – 1901
Amanda L. & Susan E. Beidel, 1855-1932 – Undated
Birth and Death of Grandfather, Grandmother, Father, Mother and
Children – Undated
- Folder 18) Funeral Cards
John Anderson Beidel – Mar. 16, 1967
John W. Beidel – Jun. 24, 1969
Harry F. Beidel – Feb. 1969

- Margaret Elizabeth Beidel – Mar. 1969
Anna Margaret Glass – Mar. 6, 1982
Folder 19) Manuscript
“Chronology of the Beidel Family” – Undated

SCRAPBOOK MATERIALS (Photocopies)

- Folder 20) Charles W. Beidel
Newspaper clippings – 1936-1937
Newspaper clippings – 1963
Folder 21) Philip D. Beidel
Newspaper clipping about Abraham Lincoln – Feb.12, 1917
Folder 22) Obituaries
John Anderson Beidel – 1967
Anna Margaret Glass – 1982
Miriam L. Beidel/John M. Beidel – Undated/1923
Folder 23) Reunions
Newspaper clippings – 1963-1966
Newspaper clippings – 1986

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 24) Certificate, “Gedenkblatt” – Mar.5, 1871
Handbill, Real Estate Sale in Hay’s Grove, PA – Sep. 19, 1912

PHOTOGRAPHS **Family Photo Folders, A-C**

Beidel Folder

Mourning Card, George E. Beidel – Nov. 24, 1923

Beidel/Staeger Folder 1

Charles William Beidel – Undated
Charles William Beidel – Undated
Josephine Musgrave Beidel – Undated
Charles W. and Catherine Beecher Beidel – Undated
Charles W. and Catherine Beecher Beidel – Undated
Home in Leesburg, PA, Charles W. and Catherine Beecher Beidel – Undated
Sunday School Class, Hays Grove – Undated
“Grandpa” Charles W. Beidel, Aunt Emma Jones, Ethel Linkle [?], Rayella – Undated

Beidel/Staeger Folder 2

John and Maria (Mary) Barbara Staerger Beidel – Undated
John Mathias, Henry C., Philip Dietrich, and Charles William Beidel – Undated
Harry F. Beidel and wife – Undated
Postcard, John M. Beidel, Harry H. Beidel, Emma M. Buffington, and Delmar K. Buffington – circa 1911

Beidel/Staeger Folder 3

Unidentified Tintypes (6) – Undated

Unidentified building – Undated

Unidentified man – Undated

Unidentified woman – Undated

Unidentified couple – Undated

H.C. Biedel Folder

H.C. Biedel – Undated

Architectural