

Henry Smearman (b.1802)

Henry Smearmund (Smearman¹) was born 1802 in Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. He married Catherine about 1830. Catherine was born in Hessen-Darmstadt Germany about 1810. We know about two of their children.²

There isn't much we can say about this family. We know the family immigrated to America in 1847 or 1849.³ Henry was a farmer in the Black Township of Somerset County.

- i. John Smearmount was born November 1831 in Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany.⁴ In the 1900 federal censuses he indicated he immigrated to America in 1847.⁵
- ii. Mary Smearmund was born January 31st 1837⁶ in Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. She was 12 years old when the family immigrated in 1849.⁷ Mary married Christian Mankamyer about 1853, when she was 17 years old. Together they had had six sons and 4 daughters. All of the children were born in the Sand Patch area of Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania.⁸

On July 1st 1863, John enlisted in the Civil War. He was single, age 27, and lived in Milford, Milford Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania.⁹

In 1870 Henry, Catherine, and their son John lived in the post office area of Somerset, Milford Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

We have no record on when Henry and Catherine died. We believe it was prior to 1880, and they were laid to rest in the Smearman Burying Ground. There is one reference by our great grandfather, Joseph Mankamyer, where he referred to two un-inscribed graves at the Smearman Cemetery located at the site of Poister's Mill in Black Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

- "...Two un-inscribed graves Mr. and Mrs. Smearman; parents of Mrs. Rev. Christian Mankamyer who are buried in Temple Cemetery, Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania. ..."¹⁰

Also known as Smearman Burying Ground, which at one time situated on a farm, owned by Roy Snyder, and in 2011 the land is owned by Sarah Pyle. The cemetery is located Northwest of old buildings about 50 rods from an old road. There is a total of 20 graves; probably some members of the Poister family who owned the mill.

Old maps verify that there was a mill owned by the Poister family at the bottom of the hill, in Isler's Run. There were remnants of the mill (foundations) near the stream in 1999, when the cemetery was positively identified by Reuben Knopsnyder. The cemetery is difficult to find. It is a small country cemetery misnamed as Polysus by the WPA. The WPA records indicate 16 adults and 4 children, all with native stone markers. The stones were in rows, and remnants of a wire fence were there.

In 1880 John Smearmund, age 48 (b.1832) was living with Christian and Mary Mankamyer. The census indicated John was a brother in-law. John was born in Hesse Germany in 1832. In 1900 John was living with Richard Mankamyer in Sand Patch, Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

In 1900 John is living with his Nephew, Richard Mankamyer, and his family in Sand Patch Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania. We lost track of John, and do not know anything more on his whereabouts after 1900.

He may have died prior to 1910, and laid to rest where many of the Mankamyer families are laid to rest; the White Oak Evangelical Church, which is also known as the Temple Cemetery. In 2013 the church is known as St. Johns United Methodist Church, which is on Temple Road, situated in Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania.

Mary died September 29th 11 1926 in Sand Patch, Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania. Mary was laid to rest next to her husband in the White Oak Evangelical Cemetery in the White Oak Evangelical Cemetery, Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

- “...Pennsylvania, died 89 years old, 7 months and 29 days; member Temple Evangelical Church at White Oak, 50 plus years; age 12 to America in 1849 to Somerset County, Pennsylvania, where she married and had 6 sons, 4 daughters; 8 children remain; funeral in church they helped build; grandson, Rev. E. I. of Cherry Tree, PA attended...”¹²

Bibliography

1. John Smearmund Naturalization Record: Filby, P. William, ed. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s*. Farmington Hills, MI, USA: Gale Research, 2010.
2. 1870 Henry Smearmund Census: Milford, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: M593_1452; Page: 390A; Image: 361; Family History Library Film: 552951. 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132, 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
3. John Smearmont Civil War Registration: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA); Washington, D.C.; Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registration Records (Provost Marshal General's Bureau; Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865); Record Group: 110, Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War); Collection Name: Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865 (Civil War Union Draft Records); ARC Identifier: 4213514; Archive Volume Number: 2 of 4.
4. 1880 Christ Mankaymyer Census: Larimer, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1195; Family History Film: 1255195; Page: 334D; Enumeration District: 012; Image: 0274; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
5. 1900 John Smearmont Census: Larimer, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1487; Page: 1B; Enumeration District: 0185; FHL microfilm: 1241487; United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

End Notes

-
- ¹ Other spellings of the family name: the most common is Smearman, then Smearmund,
- ² The 1870 federal census record has John living with Henry and Catherine Smearmund.
- ³ In the 1900 federal census record, John Smearmont was living with Richard Mankamyer. John indicated he immigrated in 1847. However, Mary in her obituary indicated she immigrated when she was 12 years old; using her birth date this would be 1849.
- ⁴ The relationship of John to Mary is through the 1880 federal census record where John is identified as a brother-in-law of Christian Mankamyer, and the 1900 federal census where John is identified as an Uncle to Richard Mankamyer, the son of Christian and Mary.
- ⁵ Another John Smearmund was naturalized in 1845 in Cumberland, Allegany County Maryland. An annotation on the record includes; Eleanor L. Albright and Mary A. Dye, who are most likely the sponsors for naturalization, or their passage from Germany to America; John Smearmund Naturalization Record; Publication Code: 91.12, Naturalized in Cumberland Maryland. Cumberland, MD: Mayor and City Council of Cumberland, 1987, page 44, page 109.
- ⁶ Mary's birth date came from the inscription on her headstone at the Temple Cemetery, Meyersdale, Somerset County Pennsylvania.
- ⁷ Mary's arrival to America came from her obituary: The Evangelical Messenger Obituary, October 23rd 1926, page 27, Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Center Free Databases, indexed, organized and compiled by Anne Dallas Budd, Rita Bone Kopp and Sally Zody Spreng, <http://www.genealogycenter.info>. The Evangelical Messenger was the English-language, weekly denominational publication associated with The Evangelical Church. This index covers January 1848 through December 1930.
- ⁸ The number of children came from Christian's and Mary's Obituaries, The Evangelical Messenger Obituary, October 23rd 1926, page 27, Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Center Free Databases, indexed, organized and compiled by Anne Dallas Budd, Rita Bone Kopp and Sally Zody Spreng, <http://www.genealogycenter.info>. The Evangelical Messenger was the English-language, weekly denominational publication associated with The Evangelical Church. This index covers January 1848 through December 1930.
- ⁹ John's residence in 1863 came from his Civil War Draft record. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA); Washington, D.C.; Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registration Records (Provost Marshal General's Bureau; Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865); Record Group: 110, Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War); Collection Name: Consolidated Enrollment Lists, 1863-1865 (Civil War Union Draft Records); ARC Identifier: 4213514; Archive Volume Number: 2 of 4.
- ¹⁰ This information came from my great grandfather, Joseph Mankamyer.

¹¹ Mary's date of death came from the inscription on her headstone at the Temple Cemetery, Meyersdale Somerset County Pennsylvania.

¹² This reference came from the Evangelical Messenger Obituary, October 23rd 1926, page 27, Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Center Free Databases, indexed, organized and, compiled by Anne Dallas Budd, Rita Bone Kopp and Sally Zody Spreng, <http://www.genealogycenter.info>. The Evangelical Messenger was the English-language, weekly denominational publication associated with The Evangelical Church. This index covers January 1848 through December 1930.