

## Christian S. Mankamyer (1833-1914)

Christian S. Mankamyer was born September 15<sup>th</sup> 1833<sup>1</sup> in Hanover, Lower Saxony County, Germany. Christian was known as Reverend Christian S. Mankamyer. Christian immigrated to America in 1852, and became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1857.<sup>2</sup>

There was also an indentured servant, Arminta Harr, who was indentured to Christian and Mary Mankamyer, and made the trip from Germany with them.<sup>3</sup> Arminta's father was named George Harr.<sup>4</sup> It is believed that the Mankamyer and Hare family emigrated from Germany together.

Christian was a cabinet maker, farmer, and minister at the White Oak Evangelical Church,<sup>5</sup> in Meyersdale Somerset County Pennsylvania.

Christian married Mary Smearmount<sup>6</sup> about 1853 in Somerset County Pennsylvania. Mary was born January 31<sup>st</sup> 1837<sup>7</sup> to Henry and Catherine Smearmount in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany.<sup>8</sup> Mary was 12 years old when the family immigrated in 1849.

According to the 1880 census Mary's older brother, John Smearmond, was living with the family in Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania. Christian and Mary Mankamyer had six sons and 4 daughters. All of the children were born in the Sand Patch area of Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania. Two died before 1924.<sup>9</sup>

- i. Richard Mankamyer was born June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1855, near Garrett, Somerset County Pennsylvania. He married Ida Belle Witt who was born April 5<sup>th</sup> 1859. Richard died February 29<sup>th</sup> 1941.<sup>10</sup>
- ii. Henrietta Mankamyer was born in 1857. She married John E. Fair, who died prior to 1939. Together they had seven children, and in 1939, one son and one daughter had died.<sup>11</sup>
  - a. Charles L. Fair, who in 1939 lived in Connellsville, Fayette County Pennsylvania.
  - b. Irvin E. Fair, who in 1939 lived in Akron, Ohio
  - c. Mrs. Frank R. Murray, who in 1939 lived in of Deal, Pa.,
  - d. Mahlon Fair, who in 1939 lived with his mother on Sand Patch Rural Rout #1 in Somerset County Pennsylvania.
  - e. Albert A. Fair, who in 1939 lived in Ellerslie, Allegany County Maryland.

Henrietta died at age 82, on March 12<sup>th</sup> 1939, after a lingering illness, in Sand Patch Rural Rout #1 Somerset County Pennsylvania. Funeral services were held March 16<sup>th</sup> 1939 at the Temple Evangelical Chinch at White Oak. Interment will be in the church cemetery.<sup>12</sup>

- iii. Laura Belle Mankamyer was born January 1<sup>st</sup> 1858 in Summit Township Somerset County. She married Albert Wilson Bittner on November 7<sup>th</sup> 1886. Albert was born 1860 to Jacob S. Bittner and Laura Kreger in Centerville, Somerset County.<sup>13</sup> Albert and Laura had two sons.<sup>14</sup>
  - a. Luis Bittner lived in Summit Township
  - b. William Bittner lived in Summit Township.

Albert and Laura lived most of their lives in the vicinity of Meyersdale Somerset County. Albert was a conductor for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Albert W. Bittner died June 13<sup>th</sup> 1939, and his brother Milton Bittner and Mrs John Robertson of Meyersdale, and Mrs. Sylvina Meyers of Dayton Ohio were all were still living. Laura died May 22<sup>nd</sup> 1940. They were both laid to rest in the Union Cemetery in Meyersdale Somerset County Pennsylvania.

- iv. Sarah (Sallie) Mankamyer was born in 1862. She lived with the family in 1880, but by 1900 she was not with the family. She died sometime after 1914 when her father died, and before 1924 when her mother died. <sup>15</sup>
- v. Lewis M. Mankamyer was born in 1863. He 1<sup>st</sup> married Sarah Frances who was born in 1867, and died 1889 while living in Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania. Sarah was laid to rest in the White Oak Evangelical Cemetery, in Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania. Lewis then married Nora who was born in 1873, and died in 1931 in Larimer Township, Somerset County Pennsylvania. Lewis would die in 1938.
- vi. Josiah Christian Mankamyer was born August 6<sup>th</sup> 1865. He 1<sup>st</sup> married Ida Bell Bittner, and 2<sup>nd</sup> to Margaret Grooms-McQuain. Joseph died in April 16<sup>th</sup> 1957. <sup>16</sup>
- vii. John Thomas Mankamyer was born 1 March 6<sup>th</sup> 1867. John lived in Meyersdale Somerset County when he died at age 85 on June 18<sup>th</sup> 1951. <sup>17</sup>
- viii. Henry Mankamyer was born in 1871. He married Viola who was born about 1876. Henry died May 15<sup>th</sup> 1930. <sup>18</sup>
- ix. Christian S. Mankamyer was born May 7<sup>th</sup> 1873. Christian married Martha Murray on January 20<sup>th</sup> 1896. He died March 7<sup>th</sup> 1950 in Somerset County Pennsylvania.
- x. Anna Mankamyer was born December 28<sup>th</sup> 1875, <sup>19</sup> and died December 1<sup>st</sup> 1878, at 2 years, 11 months and 3 days. She was laid to rest in the White Oak Evangelical Church cemetery.

In 1880 the entire family is living in Larimer, Somerset, Pennsylvania and by 1900 only their son John is living with Christian and Mary Mankamyer. By 1910 Christian and Mary are living with their son and his wife: Christian and Martha on Sand Patch Road in Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

Christian died May 1<sup>st</sup> 1914 <sup>20</sup> while living in Sand Patch, Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania. Christina was laid to rest in the White Oak Evangelical Cemetery in the White Oak Evangelical Cemetery, Larimer Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

- “...Pennsylvania, died in the Sand Patch area; to America age 19 to Somerset County Pennsylvania; cabinet maker 10 years; married age 21, married for 59 years; member Pittsburgh Conference, pastorates listed; buried in White Oak Cemetery; 9 children remain; 1 child dead...”<sup>21</sup>

Mary died September 29<sup>th</sup> <sup>22</sup> 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...” <sup>23</sup>

## Bibliography

1. Ludwig and Christian Menkamyer 1857 Immigration: Publication Code 8864.10, Somerset County Pennsylvania Naturalization Records, "In Somerset Past (Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, Laughlintown, PA). Vol. 3:2 (July 1983), p. 13 (1857-1858). Somerset Co., Pennsylvania; Year: 1857; Page Number: 13. Filby, P. William, ed. Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s. Farmington Hills, MI, USA: Gale Research, 2010.
2. 1860 Christian Mankamyer Census: Summit, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: M653\_1183; Page: 605; Image: 613; Family History Library Film: 805183, 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
3. 1870 Christian Minkemeyer Census: Larimer, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: M593\_1452; Page: 355A; Image: 291; 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.
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 Christian Mankamyen Census: Larimer, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1487; Page: 4B; 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.
6. 1910 C Mankamyer Census: Larimer, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624\_1420; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 0143; ; FHL microfilm: 1375433; Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.
7. 1920 Mary and her son Christian Maukamyer Census: Laniner, Somerset, Pennsylvania; Roll: T625\_1654; Page: 6B; Enumeration District: 180; Image: 381; Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920; (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29.; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> Christian's birth date came from the inscription on his headstone at the Temple Cemetery, Meyersdale, Somerset County Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> Christian's arrival to America came from his obituary, cited in End Note #21, and his naturalization in becoming a citizen of the United States came from Bibliography #1.

<sup>3</sup> George Hare 1857 Immigration: Publication Code: 8864.10, Somerset County Pennsylvania Naturalization Records, "In Somerset Past (Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, Laughlintown, PA). Vol. 3:2 (July 1983), p. 13 (1857-1858). Somerset Co., Pennsylvania; Year 1857; Page Number: 13. Filby, P. William, ed. Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s. Farmington Hills, MI, USA: Gale Research, 2010: Iscrupe, William L., compiler. Naturalization Records 1802-1854, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Laughlintown, PA: Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, 1979. 16p. Page: 6

<sup>4</sup> This George Harr may be the same, and that Armintha may have been a daughter from a first marriage of George, and the family he has in Meyersdale are a second family.

<sup>5</sup> Many of the Mankamyer families are laid to rest in the White Oak Evangelical Church, which is sometimes 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.

<sup>6</sup> Mary's last name may also be spelled Smearmund: Smearmunt, Smearmont, Schmiermund, Schmermund, or Smearmunt.

<sup>7</sup> Mary's birth date came from the inscription on her headstone at the Temple Cemetery, Meyersdale, Somerset County Pennsylvania.

<sup>8</sup> Information on Mary's parents comes from the 1870 census record, where her brother John, was living with his parents in Milford Township Somerset County Pennsylvania.

<sup>9</sup> The number of children came from Christian's and Mary's Obituaries, The Evangelical Messenger, May 20<sup>th</sup> 1914, page 24, and October 23<sup>rd</sup> 1926, page 27; index, organized and compiled by Anne Dallas Budd, Rita Bone Kopp and Sally Zody Spreng, <http://www.genealogycenter.info>. When the two children died came from the 900 and 1910 Federal Census record.

<sup>10</sup> Richard Mankamyer Obituary: Using the obituary information using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, Meyersdale Republican, March 13, 1941

<sup>11</sup> Henrietta's death date came from a 1930 calendar, using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, The Daily Courier, Connellsville, March 16, 1939.

<sup>12</sup> Henrietta Fair's Obituary: using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, The Daily Courier, Connellsville, March 16, 1939.

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<sup>13</sup> Lura Belle Mankamyer Marriage Application: Lenora Mankamyer Marriage Application: Reference Number: Vol Number 1 R 246; Film Number 55829; Digital Folder Number: 004838668; Image Number: 00315; "Pennsylvania, County Marriages, 1885 - 1950," index and images, Family Search (<https://familysearch.org>)

<sup>14</sup> Laura Mankamyer –Bittner Obituary: using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, The Daily Courier, Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, May 25, 1940; and Albert W. Bittner Obituary, Meyersdale Library, The Daily Courier, Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, June 15, 1939

<sup>15</sup> We still can't locate Sallie, other than in Christian's and Mary's obituary where they cite the remaining children still living.

<sup>16</sup> Joseph Mankamyer Obituary: using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, The Cumberland Evening Times, April 17, 1957

<sup>17</sup> John Mankamyer Obituary: using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, The Daily Courier, Connellsville, June 25, 1951, and the White Oak Evangelical Cemetery records.

<sup>18</sup> Henry's death date came from a 1930 calendar, using the obituary information from the Meyersdale Library, Meyersdale Republican May 22, 1930.

<sup>19</sup> Anna Mankamyer's birth date came from her death date and age, using a birth date calculator from ProGenealogists, Inc., PO Box 900188, Sandy, UT 84090-0188.

<sup>20</sup> Christian's birth date came from the inscription on his headstone at the Temple Cemetery, Meyersdale Somerset County Pennsylvania.

<sup>21</sup> This reference came from the Evangelical Messenger Obituary, May 20<sup>th</sup> 1914, page 24, 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.

<sup>22</sup> Mary's birth date came from the inscription on her headstone at the Temple Cemetery, Meyersdale Somerset County Pennsylvania.

<sup>23</sup> This reference came from the Evangelical Messenger Obituary, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.