

1758

- 2 loose pages      October  
                          Accepted into congregation      Elisabeth Magdalena Willjar  
                          Took communion                                      ? Willjare
- 20 Oct              Br. Wiljaar came
- 26 Oct              a *Plesier* [use of the French for pleasure]
- 27 Oct              in the second session was read the Zeist *Diarium*, Br. Wallis' report  
                          from Switzerland, the report on the Jews Hockers and Pilder's report
- 17 Nov              Br. Gump, son Andreas daughter Barbara
- 8 Dec                visited Caspar Schmidts and the Willjars

1759

- 23 Jan              I began to teach the short passage to the children, *I held my back to them*, etc.
- 27 Feb              Br. Willjar to travel to Yorgtawn [PA] as a messenger
- 4 Mar                Br. Willjar returned from Yorgtawn
- 9 Mar                early this morning some of us Brothers traveled into the mountains  
                          (*in die Berge*) and buried the little body on his land as he desired. We  
                          don't have a cemetery (*God's Acre*) yet next to our church building  
                          (*Gemeinhaus*). We also visited the Herbachs and the Willjars.
- 9 Apr                we accompanied them until Ockels ... where Mister Bell Mrs. Ocle's  
                          current husband has the *Blattern*.

- 15 Apr visited Mr. Bell
- 23 Apr poor old Mrs. Ockel and her husband Mr. Bell
- 11 May Casper Schmidt's family found their lost son, who was taken by the Indians 3 years ago. A great joy ensued.
- 18 May love-feast attended by 9 older boys ... Jacob Willjar and Georg Willjar
- 20 Jun went to Bennie Ockel, our neighbor
- 9 Oct visited Wiljars and Herbachs
- 31 Oct Br. Mattheaus [Hehl?] preached the thanksgiving and harvest sermon (*Ernte Dankfest. This is celebrated as Harvest Home by many congregations and is usually in October. In PA German this is the Aernbreddich*) from the text: If the grain dies, it can bear no fruit, etc. After the sermon all those present were invited to the harvest meal. Everyone stayed. Tables and chairs were set up in the *Saal*. The house fathers and mothers sat altogether with their families. Cider soup and greens and roast meat and a fine *merwen* cake [shortbread?] were carried from a side room and served. Cider was served as a beverage.
- 18 Nov Br. Schems went with Br. Wiljar into the mountains to see the boys who didn't appear today.
- 16 Dec Freude und *Blessier* [again the French for pleasure]
- 25 Dec After that my Regina conducted the ¼ hour with the Older Girls and had the love-feast. Not even half of the children were present since they didn't have the clothing and shoes. The ones who did come were very happy when they came into the *Saal* and saw the *putz*. A banner with the message: *See, I tell you of a great joy for today the Savior is born!* Each of the children were given as a present a verse from the watchword according to their birthdays. They read them

aloud in turn. A warm feeling permeated the event. It was sad they said the others couldn't also be there. The festive day then ended.

### 1760

- 10 Jan I had a morning meditation with the Wiljarr family. Also spoke of a children watchword. Then went to visit the Herbachs and Schmidts, but he wasn't home.
- 15 Jan Benni Ockel came to see me after he cut off a piece of his thumb. He asked my advice on how to heal it.
- 17 Jan read some passage from the *Honey Drops* book [*Honig Tropfen*]
- 22 Jan This morning the children brought the news that last evening in the dark Wolf's little house burned to ashes. The oldest boy was looking for a book with a light and the flax on the floor caught fire. The straw stored above also quickly ignited and soon spread throughout so the whole building was ablaze. Wolf was not at home at the time. Despite the terror they could remove most things of value. Soon other people came and rescued the cows tied in the stall attached to the house. Yes, most things were saved. The only injuries were sustained by the children with burns to their arms.
- 27 Jan Br. Willjarr stayed overnight since he had to arrange something for his house.
- 3 Feb Br. Herbach intends to build a mill "in the mountains". He wanted the Brothers to consider it.
- 25 Feb Br. Herbach came and was depressed his matters cannot be decided properly and it has proven so much trouble for the Brothers.
- 2 Mar Br. Willjahr

- 17 Mar Today 3 children came together to school in the deep snow on a horse
- 19 Mar ... afterward I gave a homily to some blacks. All the Brothers went to Court [?] today.
- 25 Mar Br. Willjahr
- 30 Apr we visited before the baptism with the Herbachs and Wiljahrs ..... with the name Mattheus.
- 2 Sep Br. Wiljarr was very sick with *Kolik*, but he improved in the afternoon.
- 11 Sep Mr. *Tschansens* (Johnson) child very sick. 1 ½ years old.
- 21 Oct Left this evening with some other *Geschwister* (members) to baptize the little Wiljarr daughter tomorrow. She was born on the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 22 Oct In the morning I and Regina visited with the other families in their houses. At noon with other *Geschw.* and blacks[?] present I baptized the little girl with the name Maria Elisabeth.
- 18 Nov Sister Wiljaar sick ...
- 21 Nov It's really painful the children can't come to school regularly. It's difficult for the children and for those whose conduct school for them. What one spends 8 days teaching to them with much effort, and then they are absent 8-14 days after that, is wasted and a new beginning must be made with that topic.
- 28 Nov Tschio [Geo, Joe ?] Ockel was working building a house and loaded his flint with at most half of powder. It misfired 3 times. It then fired and took off all the flesh of his left hand.
- 23 Dec had an intimate conversation (*Bande*) with Br. Willjahr

25 Dec The Wiljarrs stayed overnight with their little daughter

1761

- 3 Jan Mrs. Mosser came with one of her girls in the heavy snow which fell last night. She was looking for her husband who went out last night looking for his pigs and hadn't returned. The poor woman was very upset. He had wanted to go to Protzmann, so I took her horse and rode over there. As I got up there, I found the lost *Schöfge* [lost sheep] with Protzmann's boys. They wanted to bring him home by horse. I was so happy I found him.
- 4 Jan The snow was more than 2 feet deep.
- 9 Jan My Regina was sick again with her erysipelas (*Roth Lauf*)
- 11 Jan *Geschwister* Herbachs and Wiljaars with their little child spent the night with us.
- 13 Jan My Regina was very sick yesterday and today with the *Roße*. Her face is covered with blisters. She doesn't even look human anymore. Her eyes are almost completely swollen shut ...
- 29 Jan *Tschio* Ockel showed me his hand which is almost healed. He says his fingers are still stiff. After all the damage he suffered from it, one can be very glad it's not worse.
- 6 Feb Br. Herbach came this evening. He was at the mill. Because of the weather he stayed with us instead of continuing home.
- 13 Feb ... I went to visit Wottrings. They appeared forlorn when I arrived. His newly-built sawmill isn't running properly yet. It doesn't cut wood as it should.
- 20 Feb I visited the *Geschwister* and their children in the mountains. Two of the Brothers weren't at home. They were still in the city [county

seat?]. All the farmers in the county had to go and swear allegiance to the new king. [George III, October 1760- ]

- 3 Mar The Brothers worked very hard yesterday and today constructing the stall. It's 20 feet long and 16 feet wide. The walls and rafters are already up.
- 16 Mar Early I went to visit Ketschers and Böhringers. They weren't at the sermon the past 2 weeks. They were lacking proper shoes. This is a real problem affecting the whole region. They told me about a disturbing incident last night involving 2 of their drunken neighbors. Böhringer's dogs were making a terrible ruckus, so he went outside to investigate. He was struck over the head with a *Hebel* [wooden handle?] and thrown on the ground. Old Ketscher ran to help and wanted to go for his son-in-law. They also struck him and he ended up on the ground. He's still in bed today. Böhringer wasn't at home because he went to the Justice to report this incident and ask advice.
- 15 Apr At noon the kids had their Singing class. Before we started, I reminded them of their improper deportment on their way to school.
- 23 May ... one of the oldest boys at the house, as he was trying to pound a post into the ground for a fence with an axe, as he was raising it over his head, the tip came directly into his eye. The greatest wonder of it all is how the child was not upset and didn't complain of pain.
- 25 Jun We stopped at Mr. Johnson's a while
- 1 Jul Before dawn we learned through Br. Mosser that the Wolf's little boy of 6 years has been found. He went missing in the woods yesterday as the horse got out of the fence.
- 22 Jul This morning two single men came by. They wanted to dig a grave on our land not far from our fence. They wanted to bury an unmarried person who died at Honig's [?] house. It was his wish to be buried by his brother. We didn't consent to this.

- 22 Aug      Tonight and the whole day today we had such beautiful rain. For 4 weeks now we had been patiently longing for some.
- 5 Sep        Br. Herrbach stayed with us tonight. He wants to join other Brothers on a trip to Annapolis to be naturalized.

### Graceham Diary 1787

- 8 Jan        Monday. I rode to the mountains accompanied by the *Geschwister* Kriegers. At the Herbach house I baptized 2 children born on the 5<sup>th</sup> of this month, Marba Barbara Herbach and Samuel Eiler.
- 12 Jan      Johannes Gump Jr. broke his leg today. His horse slipped and fell on an ice-covered slope close to the house.
- 11 Feb      Sunday. Read the travel-diary of the *Geschw.* Herbsts, who arrived last September with 10 Single Brothers from Altona to Philadelphia.
- 24 Feb      Saturday. In the evening we had a visit from the *Geschwister* Johannes Wellers as well as the Johann Jacob Wellers. The latter told us the sad news how his father-in-law, Georg Herbach Sr. was found dead by his brother Ludwig about 3 miles from his house. This brother was on his way to take care of personal matters when he discovered him lying face down in a *Runn* by the road. (continues ..)
- 26 Feb      Monday. The soulless body of Br. Geo. Herbach ..... memoir follows: He was born 10 Feb 1726 near Kaiserslautern at the Kirschweiler Hof in the Palatinate. His parents were Reformed. He came with them to Pennsylvania in his 12<sup>th</sup> year. They lived first in New Goschenhoppen and next in Crice Creek in York County. He was awoken there by the sermons of Jacob Lischy when he became acquainted with the Brethren. On 4 October 1746 he married the presently widowed Catherine neé Willjahr. .... cont... 1754 moved to Maryland 7 miles from the *Gemein-Hauß* at Graceham in the mountains. They participated in the first official communion in Graceham in 1758.

They served as *Stewards* and *Diener*. .... Children and grandchildren grandchildren. One assumes he fell from his horse, hit his head which lay under water, unconscious where he drowned. ... other possibilities considered. Coroner Jury ruled "*Accidental Death*".  
61 years 13 days.

7 Mar ... Sang the song: *Sey nur tausendmal gegrüßet*. Joh. Jacob Weller and Lorenz Krieger went to the mountains to see their young brother-in-law about the lack of a will for Geo. Herbach Sr. and the division of property.

25 Mar ... spoke lovingly with the children about the verse: *Ach, mein herzliches Jesulein nach dir ein rein sanfft Bettelein*.  
All the kids have come down with *Blaue Husten* (whooping cough).

1 Apr Palm Sunday. We ended with the verse: *O, hilf Christe, Gottes Sohn, durch dein bitter Leiden*. Later read of Heckewelder's travels from Cayahuga to Bethlehem.

2 Apr Monday. Ludwig Protzmann started digging the cellar on his building lot.

6 Apr Good Friday. The children sang: *Heilger :/: :/: Herr Zabaoth*.  
Also: *O, hilf Christe Gottes Sohn*  
And: *Ehre sey dir gebracht - für die Eröffnung deiner Seit*.

8 Apr Easter. .... *Herr Jesu wahrer Siegesfürst,  
wir glauben Glauben daß du schenken wirst;  
uns deinen Frieden den da bracht,  
mit aus dem Grab und aus der Schlacht*.

Afterward we read the *Societæt* news from our small Negro-*Gemeine* in Paramibo and from the small free-Negro-*Gemeine* in Suriname. Also read of William Henry's edifying personal details.



- 17 Apr Tuesday. We found it necessary to speak most seriously with our youth of both genders. This was in regard to the last days during this celebration and their various excessive behaviors.
- 27 Apr Read Br. Pyrlæus' memoir.
- 28 May Monday. Singing of: *Lobe den Herrn, den mächtigen König der Ehren ... hauf, Psalte und Harfe wach auf daßet dir Musicam hören!*
- 2 Jun Saturday. Baptised upon request of the parents Jacob and Anna Williamson, which is a (... *gebanftes?* ) negro couple. They belong to our neighbor Mr. Thomas Ogle. The little girl Anna is very sick and 9 weeks old. We first spoke with these parents explaining this important sacrament, reminding them they should be reminded of their own bond and obligations. They wept and were overtaken by the joy of this pleasant event.
- 3 Jun Sunday. Arbitration of Geo. Herbach estate by selected and qualified
- 23 Jun Saturday. Report of the River Huron Indian Diary. ... Departure of Br. Johannis, Benigna and their group on the 4th of this month. Are to set sail on the ship *Ruby* Capt. Smith from England to Philadelphia on day 8 or 9 of this month.
- 11 Jul We spent about half an hour at the great Canawago Falls on the Susquehanna by Rankin's Ferry. At 4 in the afternoon we arrived in good health at Lititz. The dedication of the new *Kirchen-Saal*.
- 16 Sep The hymn: *Unschuldigs Gottes Lamme*. Memoir of Maria Elis. Krieger? Born 1715 in Alertshausen in Wittgenstein. Father was Johannes Hahn, mother was Peitsel. Came 1737 to PA. She served 3 years at Caspar Wüster's father-in-law, Dirk Johnson.
- 1 Oct Monday. Before noon William Ogle visited me from the "*backwoods*".

- 19 Oct Old Brother Gump back from the water cure at the warm springs in VA, Yorktown.
- 24 Oct William Ogle and his nephew Joseph, son of John Ogle, visited.
- 16 Dec Sunday. Received the news of death of old Br. Matthæus Hehl. 82 years, 7m, 4d. Died the 4<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- 18 Dec Tuesday. I had a very serious and plain discussion with old women Günther. This dealt with the terrible damages from gossip inflicted by their daughters. It would be better to resolve it than to be kicked out.
- 25 Dec Two pieces: *Gelobet seÿst du Jesus Christ*  
*daß Du Mensch geboren bist.*

*Kommt und laßt uns Christum ehren*

Graceham Diary 1798 (incomplete) #8  
12 Oct-31 Dec

- 14 Oct Sunday. Mr. Schmucker and his friend John Protzmann of Hagerstown spent time until midnight in good spirits with the *Geschwister* Schaafs. Part of the time they were found in comfortable and useful conversation, and of the other part, in reading the memoir of Br. Jens Haven and the diary of the 3 Brothers among the Hottentots. After we sang some verses, we went to bed peacefully.
- 14 Nov I went with Br. Lorenz Krieger 16 miles to the *Geschwister* Protzmann and Br. Bronner. It is very sad to see the *Geschwister* living so distant from the *Gemeine*. It is especially unfortunate for their children. We arrived in the mountains late in the evening.
- 15 Visited everyone in the mountains.  
[This next sections describes relationship with Appel's Church]

- 19 We started school with 25 young scholars. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> week the number now stands at 53.
- 9 Dec Sunday. Despite the bad weather some Brothers accompanied me into the mountains to see the newly-built schoolhouse.
- 24 [Beautiful description of Xmas Eve worship, and the children with the wax tapers and their beautiful singing]

1799 *Graceham Diarium.* # 9

Translation

- 9 Jan At the evening gathering we read of the Periodical Accounts. Our neighbor Mr. Bigg's 2 negro children were baptized upon request of Mrs. Biggs while the English preacher couldn't come.
- 3 Mar Sunday. In the afternoon I preached in the mountains to many listeners. Most were English and it goes hard for me, but I do it for their sake since they don't understand German.
- 24 Mar Easter. There were at least 800 in attendance.
- 25 Apr Official day of prayer and thanksgiving proclaimed by the President. Text Jeremiah 5, 8
- 29 Apr made various visitations with Br. Lorenz [Krieger?] in the region called the *Turkey*. We first met with some members and then came to a mill. There we met 3 serious souls, first an 83 year-old mother. She couldn't leave any more, so she was very glad to have someone to come to her with the comforting message of the Gospel. There were 2 other rather old people, her children. They requested a worship service. We sang in German and English and prayed on our knees to the Savior. With loud voice they blessed us that we came and we asked if we could preach there sometimes. Others we saw,

we had to meet in the fields at their work. One such man saw us approaching in the distance and recognized us. He untied his horses from the plow and came quickly. He helped us then across the wide stream. Here we met an older mother and father with their 2 married sons and grandchildren all living together. The old woman is burdened with a terrible growth on her neck. They all share her style of devotion as lovers of the Savior. She is often afraid of and tormented by other unkind people. We spoke with these people together directly and reminded them to try to be like the example of the Savior. They didn't know how to react to such loving admonitions. We next came to a man who complained of his negligent, uncaring heart. We pointed him to the true source of salvation in our Savior and how our goods are less important. One of the former Communion Sisters lived nearby and asked for us, so we went looking for her. She was asked to leave the congregation due to sinfulness. After she became a widow, she remarried and lived comfortably. Nonetheless her heart was unsettled. A dear widow shouted for joy as she saw us coming to visit. She conducts a lovely household with her children and she puts the goal of salvation at the heart of the family. A sick man only thanked God as he prolonged his life for now. We exhorted him to not sin from here on, otherwise he'd have bad results. Take seriously your mortal appointment with death we warned. At some places I was asked by the people to come and hold gatherings. There were many more to visit, but time did not allow it.

- 9 May A company of Quakers came through and said they were on a *Religious Visit* to some Indian nations. They bought a copy of *Indian Missions* [an important book by Br. Loskiel] and observed our *Saal* and organ. We wished them good travels.
- 13 May There was the matter of the misuse of our musical instruments at events to be held by Br. Billig. He was admonished and warned about this.
- 25 Jun ... the burial of an 18 year-old who died of the *Colik*.

- 30 Jun In the afternoon I baptized the negro married couple's daughter *Hanna* in Jesus' death. Another negro who visited us expressed he wanted to be saved. I directed him to the Savior with great concern. Their education and circumstances are so regrettable for these people. Others have approached me too and said they were scared how people didn't want to sit next to them in church. I said I would come every 4 weeks in the afternoon and hold a separate service for the negroes of the surrounding area. I would create a service tailored to their understanding and needs. This was the first suggestion and was well-received.
- 14 Jul Among the audience were some very awakened men from the *Turkey*. They requested we come and visit and preach in their places in that area.
- 28 Jul Lately Mr. Parkenson came to visit me, an English Baptist preacher. He was friendly and asked if I would help him practice his German to be able to preach in it. I answered how he was already quite able at this point. Further, I said if he were preaching a true Christ message, and would risk that, the Savior would stand by him. It would happen on its own if the Savior considered him loyal.
- 30 Jul Br. Lambke and I visited Mr. James Johnson and his #? brothers and sons. I spent more time with the negroes at the Furnace. Their internal and external situation is lamentable. A little group assembled around me at the *Schmelz Loch*. I tried to explain how Christ was crucified and redeemed for their sins on the cross through His suffering and death. I mentioned how many of their fellow people in the West Indies have come to know this story and believe it and are being saved. They complained how hard they work everyday including Sundays to keep the iron liquid. It is all too seldom they are able to hear this word of God, they said. It was about the end of my talk when the sign was given to pour and each had to be at their post. The bosses themselves don't have much to do with or care for the Word of God.

- 21 Aug Traveled very early into the mountains and from there farther in the company of Brothers John and Andr. Willjar toward Conococheague where I preached in the beautiful Burnhard's church. .... Although it rained steadily, there were many willing listeners in this spacious church. Some were curious while others seemed empty, dead inside. This is the first time a Brother preached here in this area. [???
- 26 Aug One of our Brothers experienced an unusual act of preservation by the construction of a house. As a person was hoisting up the last *Block* [log?], the rope broke. The Brother fell 2 floors between the rafters and stones. He walked away with minimal injuries.
- 20 Oct ... was the dedication of the new church in our neighborhood
- 3 Nov In the afternoon I baptized 2 negro children belonging to our friend Devilbiss. I spoke of the love of Jesus to those present.
- 22 Nov The *Geschwister* Isaac Harry from Lititz came as future residents. In the ensuing days Br. God. Sies sold his house and nail-smithy to Harry.
- 22 Dec Mr. Doddridge. The Anglican from Charlestown.

Graceham Diary 1800 #10

Translation

- 30 Jan Buried our neighbor Justus Ogel's daughter of almost 16 years. She suffered terribly for nearly 7 weeks through the indecent use of quicksilver/mercury. She ended up dying from it. I was in an area across the Monocasy where things are barren and unfeeling. One is more prone to shed tears over it than express joy.
- 19 Feb William Ogel's 21 year old son buried
- 22 Feb The authorities proclaimed the Day of Prayer and Repentance in America for the famous and now deceased General Washington. My text was Sirach 10, 24 : Those who fear God hold their regents in esteem ... ..
- 3 March The 3<sup>rd</sup> child named James died. He was 18. I buried him across the Monocasy.

- .... ... there was talk of poisonings
- 4 Mar much sickness
- 7 Mar I resumed visiting the sick. One such person was young Peter Buttler who lived at Esq. Ogel's house. He suffered with the same malady. The *Doctores* could not identify or cure it.
- 9 Mar I buried this Peter Buttler. .... .. Mr. Ogel was of the opinion his people were being poisoned. .... He himself would fall seriously ill a few days later
- 14 Mar The 5<sup>th</sup> person died at Mr. Ogel's house, his son Joseph of 23 years.
- 15 Mar The neighbors have become very afraid and believe that 3 fevers were combining into one and that it is now contagious
- 21 Mar Now our neighbor Ogle, Esq. and *Justice of Piece* has died. He is the 6<sup>th</sup> in his household to succumb to the raging pestilence.
- 23 Mar at 3 o'clock was his burial in his garden.
- 28 Mar Turkey .. in the afternoon I conducted a burial of a negro girl/woman who had requested a spiritual (Christian) rite. I took the opportunity to remind those negroes present to turn their hearts to the Savior in their circumstances.
- 1 Apr Went to see Mr. Biggs who was in a serious state of health
- 16 Apr Buried the 2<sup>nd</sup> negro girl/woman of Mr. Biggs who died of this contagion
- 10 May A Jew born in Poland named Isaac David asked about a small watchword book. He said he found the messages in it very useful and instructive. He said he got one once from a Moravian Brother in Friedland in North Carolina. He later gave it to an awakened Christian who wheedled him out of it. I asked him if he believed what the book of watchwords contained and that the Messiah came to forgive and save sinners? He answered: Yes, I certainly do. And Jesus Christ is the sole basis of salvation. My people don't believe that due to a lack of understanding. As we parted I wished him his belief might become alive and real through personal experiences.
- 25 May I returned to the Saal for the first time. I turned my grateful heart to the Savior. Even though the terrible sickness has raged, our *Geschwister* have avoided it and we prayed earnestly together.

- 29, 30 May We traveled to Frederick for a bit of rest. We saw all sorts broadsides, advertisements posted along the way. People in the neighborhood were invited to a meeting in Graceham. There was no notice or explanation given. We could tell the men had their eyes on our schoolhouse. We prepared all sorts of precautions against that. To no avail, on the 30<sup>th</sup> a group of the most prominent gentleman of the *District* came. They protested against all of Br. Wellers pleas and complaints for the schoolhouse. It was authorized by us after all. In their meeting were 50 people who voted for a president. This was the main topic and it proceeded in an orderly way. Some of the gentlemen asked me to take part. I told them it is inappropriate for me to mix in *Politicks*.
- 4 Jun I was at the *Liesland* 5 miles from here. [lease land]
- 9 Jun Schlegel describes his 49th birthday
- 1 Jul and the following day I visited with many reapers in the fields
- 3 Jul a gentleman visited from Charles County 90 miles from here Mr. McPherson in the company of the Deputy Sheriff. He wanted to become acquainted with us as he stated. He was very happy with everything he saw and heard. He especially wanted to send his 2 nieces here to school as he was responsible for their education.
- 21 Jul Upon request I visited a very sick woman named Holtzmann. The epidemic was still raging and I was warned to be careful not to become infected, although I had some small effects of it myself. I made them open all the doors and windows before I would go in ....
- 31 Aug we held a *Gemein Rath*, the congregational council meeting, and discussed many items. Some of the members wanted us to request we be declared the official status as an *Orts-Gemeine* at the next synod.
- 1 Sep ... the days of illness have persisted since last Christmas, especially *Gallen Fieber*. Just lately 30 people hereabouts have succumbed. The oldest residents can't ever remember such a thing. Just in our *Gemeine* the Savior has called home 7 since March.
- a young couple in the vicinity chanced taking their wagon to Baltimore where the fever was known to be. He caught it right away and died as soon as he got home. They buried him immediately and Dr. Tyler suggested the rest of the family take medicine.
- 9 Sep The Doctor advised us to get away, so we travelled to Lititz and Bethlehem. In Taneytown I happened to lose my watch, but through it, a very agreeable



acquaintanceship was formed. A man who gave a lot of effort to find it, and he eventually did. He handed it to me and wanted nothing in return. He told me he was a great sinner and troubled by it. I explained to him the source of sin and also how to find freedom from it. There was a request for a sermon. Dr. Smith invited us to his table and was so gracious in his generosity. His wife is especially good at heart. This incident with the watch also served to acquaint us well with an otherwise unknown village.

- 8 Oct We must also report the painful news that 2 Brothers were recently involved in the ongoing acts of violence associated with the Election and were assaulted. This had a sobering effect on the otherwise uplifting mood of the evening and the *Gemein Fest* celebration.
- 23 Oct Yellow Fever in Baltimore
- 30 Oct The next day as we were about to leave, the bells pealed announcing the unexpected arrival of the President. We Brothers delayed a bit as there were many people gathered. We made contact that we would like to have a personal meeting. He received us warmly after Doctor Thomas had made the appropriate introductions. He had us sit next to him after Br. Cunow made a short speech on behalf of the Brothers, wishing him good fortune and blessing, especially in the upcoming election. The President inquired about his friends in Bethlehem where he visited 25 years ago at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. He wanted us to pass on his well wishes. We took our leave in amity from this esteemed man. We were grateful for the opportunity to speak with him and traveled home.
- We visited some friends, especially the Ogles and MacPhersons. The 2 daughters who attended Bethlehem Boarding School were very happy for our visit.
- 9 Nov I rode to the Furnace to baptize Mr. Harding's child.
- At the evening gathering I implored the communing *Geschwister* to not become involved in any arguments during tomorrow's election of the Electors for President.
- 7 Dec More details about the estate of Mr. Ogle and the role of Mr. Bossart. Br. Schlegel preached today in the area of old Mr. Bossard at the *Klark-Kirche* [Clark church?]

## Translation 1801

- 16 Jan buried Mr. LeFevre 8 miles from here. Died of [*Gelbsucht*] jaundice.
- 3 Feb It was late in the evening when I was sent for to Herbachs in the mountains. In their house I found 3 grown sons lying there, suffering from a type of *Billious Colick*. The one of them already ...
- 12 Feb I buried a 25 year old today. He was of the Baptist faith and suffered from a total depression of his heart, especially from the teachings in his church regarding the election of grace in connection with salvation ...
- 12 Mar Mr. Perken, a former Communion Brother from Philadelphia, came to visit us from Harpers Ferry. She was a Communion Sister. He lives here now as *Inspector* of the (*hier herum angelegten*) Manufactorys of Arms.
- 18 Mar The parents gathered to hold a test of sorts to evaluate the progress of their children. We performed well in all areas to their satisfaction.
- 25 Mar I surely have my own share of burdens to endure. There was a recent election day celebration and at the conclusion a woman was carried about under the name the "Goddess of Freedom".
- 28 Mar The carpenters enlarged the choir loft, authorized by the congregation council. The singers on the female side needed more space so the singing would be more harmonious.
- 29 Mar It was such bad weather, no one could remember any other like it this winter.
- 5 Apr People came from 7, 10, 20 miles. The *Saal* couldn't hold them all. There were at least 1000 in attendance. Even though the throng was large, we can report with pleasure how both Brothers preached from the heart and was well received, stirring the audience. There was a surprising calm and attentiveness both inside and outside. The

windows and doors were open so all could hear. Many of our told us how pleased they were at what they heard and experienced. There was also a considerable number of negroes in the audience.

- 6 Apr Was election day for Members of Congress. In the sermon yesterday we reminded them to protect our hearts, that the enemy can use words to sway them. It must have had an effect since many neighbors said they couldn't remember such a calm, uneventful election.
- 14 Apr Schlegel returned from Hancock, he feels much better after taking medication
- 19 Apr Our Single Brothers had their ¼ hour meditation. Most were present. Since some Sundays there are a good number of willing negroes present for the sermon, I took these 13 together and held a separate gathering. I spoke in a way they could comprehend and emphasized their need to know Jesus. One of them is very relatable person. He sometimes gets them together on a Sunday and sings and prays with them. He assured me how for so long now from the bottom of his heart, he wished to give himself over totally to the Savior. Finally they asked if they could themselves sing a hymn and pray. This was instructive for them and we were pleased to hear this. What they sang and how they prayed, led by the aforementioned man, was so very evangelisch!
- 22 Apr Remarkably, a full foot of snow fell. The week as a whole was the rainiest of the whole winter. All the branches of the trees snapped by the weight of the snow and the trees bent over exposing their roots.
- Godfried Sies and his tannery at the front of the village.
- 1 May The new pastor in Taneytown, John David Young. They hope he can tame the 38 almost wild confirmands.
- 3 May .. Next came the English sermon with the words: *Come, for all is prepared*. The poor negroes requested this sermon since Easter and

gathered in the Stube. Br. Brown spoke with them and told them about our beautiful little congregation of negro slaves in the West Indies. After a short talk on the meaning of baptism and the raising of their children, 2 little black children were baptized in Jesus' death. They sang a song and prayed led by their leader. He thanked God for all of them for what they heard and witnessed. Two adults wanted to be baptized and a couple wanted to be married, but we advised them ....

- 10 Mar last sermon of Br. Nathanael Brown
- 17 Mar A number of negroes at the sermon after which I gave a talk and prayed to the Savior ... .... A *solider* negro a Methodist who often holds gatherings is being transported 150 miles from here. The others were despondent. Some owners require so much work of the slaves, there is no time for them to attend church.
- 7 Jun Gave a sermon to the 30 negroes about the Holy Gospel of the day in a way they could comprehend. They were enlivened by it, to be obedient to the Savior and His Gospel. It's difficult to predict a traditional awakening among them, but it would more likely come from their unusually strong eagerness. The 2 oldest men who are their leaders asked we hold a gathering every 8 days. They gave a closing prayer of thanks in the schoolhouse. We promised to begin with a 14 day schedule instead.
- 21 Jun 22 negroes present. The first time we witnessed tears rolling down their cheeks.
- 30 Jun As I was riding toward the post coach to take letters to Lititz and Bethlehem for us, I met an old, weak, ice-gray man sitting under a shade tree. He asked if I were the schoolmaster. I answered: "Yes, I am."
- 26 Jul After that the 31 negroes had a sermon of Acts 16 30,31. In the following days a free negress came by and asked how she should react when her garden and other things were destroyed through

malice since she's been in our church. Second, she inquired about the material in the sermon on Sunday ...

- 2 Aug This couple was 3 miles from here on their way to KY. Their child was sick and died the next day. I buried it in God's Acre. They were grateful. I preached in English because so many English and Irish were present.
- 4 Aug incident with the woman falling off the loaded wagon and piercing herself with grain fork.
- 9 Aug Col. Johnson returning from Frederick with several woman
- 14 Aug A love-feast for my *Rose!*. The girl singers made it a special occasion as they woke her with a little song in the form of an aria.
- 16 Aug In the meantime 46 negroes gathered. On my return I preached about the words from Jes. 53, 11 He who has labored for his soul shall be rewarded in full. I told how they too can and should be part of His pain. Mr. Johnson owns most of the slaves here in the area at his iron forge. He heard our sermon for Dank tag for the first time in his life. He called them together and announced they could have a sermon every 14 days and could visit us then with the stipulation they come home on time.
- A negress wanted to be baptized, but we said she should first consider her heart and approach the Savior.
- 20 Aug General Hiester elected to Congress again Schlegel asked him about the Muskingam OH mission.
- 22 Aug .... Spoke with our children about their behavior in public here, running around and acting silly. In the evening I also spoke to the parents about it and how they raise these children, gifts of the Savior. Also spoke about keeping with the local statutes.
- 30 Aug 30 negroes. Romans 4 7,8.

- 31 Aug Mr. Ogle recuperated from time spent at Cold Spring, 20 miles from us.
- 10 Sep Our black Br. Peter Oliver stopped on his way from Lititz to Wachovia NC. We received letters we were expecting. It was too late to postpone the celebration. This Br. Peter Oliver. .... The next day he set off.
- 20 Sep Negro gathering. Jes 1. 18. When your sins are blood red, they can become white as snow, etc. .... Two came and repeated their wish to be baptized. .... A mulatto woman said there was something fearful and unfamiliar in her soul. They sang today so fervently despite the devil himself not being musical. One of their leaders said that angry demon cannot bear it when we poor negroes search and long for something good.
- 23 Sep Paul Haak's church 8 miles from here
- 27 Sep ... he preached a nice sermon regarding Acts 10 to a good number of negroes, and he baptized 3 little black children in Jesus' death. The parents were reminded the serious meaning of the occasion and how to raise their children. The presence of the Savior was all about. They were so happy Br. Herbst took such a personal interest in their well-being. The girls and women formed a chain around Sister Herbst and sang some verses from the book in their own melody.
- 4 Oct With the 45 confirmands we sang. But their talent and performance was so lacking I had to act as their *Vorsänger*.
- 18 Oct There weren't so many negroes gathered today. Most were out gathering up chestnuts to sell for a little money. There were 4 I could be especially happy about. Two who wanted to be baptized declared they wanted to turn themselves to Him totally and live only for Him. They said they could feel His grace in their hearts if they weren't so lacking. They wept explaining this. One of the ones baptized in the English church said: I thought I was good, but oh how I'm learning

that I am just a poor sinner. Another old negro who always pays such close attention to what he hears said: Yes, it goes that way for me too, but we want to be with Jesus for He doesn't reject us.

- 25/29 Oct We arrived after many worries in good order in the company of Br. Friedrich Schuman from Europe. He is coming to live with us to practice medicine in the *Gemeine* and neighborhood.
- 1 Dec I buried a child of almost 3 years at Appel's Church. His parents are distraught. In their inattention his clothes caught fire in the kitchen as he was trying to warm himself.
- 15 Dec I visited some sick *Geschwister* and also people at the Furnace. I wanted to visit the negroes too at that place as that was my intention, but it become too late. Mr. Blackfort is the current manager of the forge and a friend of goodness. He often asked me to visit.
- 25 Dec ... After that the children went out into the community and sang songs of praise.
- 31 Dec In the evening around 9:30 the congregation gathered with some of our neighbors. It was the main event we could verbally share with our neighbors and comrades in faith. Our young and old sang various chorales. There was a song of praise at 11:30 regarding today's text. As the organ and brass horns announced the new year, we fell at Jesus' feet and recounted our sins and shortcomings, thanked Him and His dear Father and the Holy Ghost for all we have enjoyed. We beseeched Him for forgiveness, grace and mercy. Everyone present can attest to the closeness of our beloved Friend of poor sinners and the volume of sinners' tears shed at the His holed feet. Oh, my Lord Jesus if your unworthy *Gemeine* in Graceham didn't have You, where should we the poorest among those in misery turn? Abe, in You alone we place our trust.

- 2 Jan Creagerstown, a sinful place
- 4 Jan Mr. Schlegel's health interferes with school opening
- 24 Jan Many negro females cried at the sermon. Negroes came from 9-10 miles away in the surrounding area.  
There are many sick children right now.
- 6 Feb Travels to Creagerstown and visits to all the houses, starting at poor people, negroes and ending with the wealthiest, about 25 families in all.
- 13 Feb a woman with [*fallende Sucht*] epilepsy
- 19 Feb Almost done with Creagerstown visits
- 21 Feb A negro asked for the gatherings [*Versammlung*] every 2 weeks.
- 17 Mar .. the children inoculated by our doctor, of which there are many
- 28 Mar Br. Denke's trip to the Chippewas
- 1 Apr visited the children with [*Blattern*] small pox [?]
- 18 Apr .... of the 20 negroes, 3 were new
- 23, 24 Apr children still very sick
- 2 May The masters did not want their slaves coming to their *Versammlung* due to the *Blattern*. I noticed a feeling of indifference creeping in.
- 6 May Now the *Misels* have arrived so there are many children to visit everywhere.
- 16 May Br. Schlegel preached to 60 negroes.



- 8 Jun Mr. Chr. Bruce wanted me to come visit him and the negroes, some of whom come to my church
- 10 Jun Mr. and Mrs. Bruce welcomed me warmly. We spoke of spiritual and physical things. To my question, whether he would like the negroes to attend church with us now and then, he replied "Oh, certainly" even though they already belonged to various churches. He liked very much the idea we would take his. The negroes were happy for my visit. It was especially pleasing to a totally blind old woman and her sick daughter. I also had a short conversation with the master servant. [*Meister-Knecht* = supervisor, overseer?]
- 13 Jun Rocky Ridge Church. Mr. Perkins came to visit. His 2 daughters at Bethlehem Boarding School.
- 24 Jun I also visited Col. Johnson's plantation to speak with the negroes. I noticed indifference.
- 27 Jun Rocky Ridge Church [*Rakke Hiller Kirche*] 2 miles from Woodbury
- 6 Jul Michaels is raging [disease?]
- 7 Jul My wife and I went to visit the Bruce family as they requested. They were quite pleased and mentioned how they wished it could happen more often. We saw all his negroes sitting on the *Gallerie* eating at a table. They too were glad for our encouragement and support.
- 8 Jul along with some Sisters we visited the Bruces 9 miles from here on the Great Pennsylvania Road. Spoke with the family and the negroes.
- 26 Jul mention of the U.S. factory of Arms and Br. Perkins as the inspector. It's well-situated against attacks. I visited the old and new furnace.
- 5 Aug I buried Ludwig Benger, 23 years old. He had the Gicht [fits, palsy?]and fell into the tanning ditch [ or vat?]

- 28 Aug 53 had *Blattern* and 67 measles .... ... so none were affected too bad and none lost a life.
- 1 Sep Old Lehman was the linen weaver.
- 5 Sep 50 negroes were in attendance.
- 20 Sep A man came looking for books to promote godliness, especially *Starck's* prayer book [very popular at the time]. I showed him some of our *Gemeine* publications. He bought in English and in German a copy of the *Idea fidei fratrum* [by Bishop Spangenberg] and some other items.
- 26 Sep The Bard [Burnhard?] Church 18 miles from here.
- 3 Oct 30 negroes attended
- 8 Oct I buried today a little negro child who had received baptism.
- 6 Nov Mr. Cox' little girl drowned in the millrace. Mr. Blackfort asked me to bury her in God's Acre.
- 26 Nov Br. Schuman [the doctor?] and I went to Hagerstown. We made our route through the *Furnace*.
- 26 Dec The negro James Lok who was sent away to Virginia by his master, came back to visit. He was so happy to see us again. He conducted a *Versammlung* for his people.

Graceham 1803 Diary #12

- 16 Jan The number of pupils at our school has grown to 60.
- At a township meeting today there was much discussion about building a bridge across the Mononacy.
- 30 Jan baptism of Maria, Petty's daughter

- 3 Feb I buried 8 miles from here on the Hagerstown Road an old single man named *Rudolph Warol*. He succumbed to a tree striking his head attempting to cut it down. His 21 year- old brother-in-law suffered the same fate. I preached to many attendees from the passage: Let the tree stand so it can continue to bear fruit through the indescribable love, patience and exemption of God against men. The deceased was spared so many dangers and wars in his life. He participated in almost all the battles of the American Revolution. ..
- 11 Feb I visited the sick and healthy at the *Furnace*, where I'm often invited.
- 1 Mar I buried our old friend Mr. Le-Fabour [LeFevre] at Fishing Creek.  
Mr. Harding at the *Furnace*, where some Brothers are employed ..
- 25, 26 Mar By request I went to Frederick on account of a negro sentenced to death ..  
The whole time I was well taken care of by Col. Baker Johnson along with my travel companion. He took me to the city prison for the first time.
- 10 Apr Easter. ... they pressed to be part of it and a very exact number would count them at 1206.
- 11 Apr As we were about to begin our evening gathering [*Abendversammlung*] Mr. John Biggs came with his brother. He's our closest friend and neighbor. They pleaded we go the 6 miles to their father, who was taking his last breaths. I couldn't deny the request. Upon arrival I found their 78 year-old father William Biggs in a very weak state.  
I also spoke with Justice Ben Biggs and his family
- 20 Apr I visited often with the family of Mr. Kee and also Mr. Bruce after several requests. .... where we were able to see the negroes face to face and spoke in a friendly way with them, to turn their hearts to the Savior. My wife visited in the company of Mrs. Ogle who suffered much loss in her family in the last years. Her husband and 4 grown children all died as she herself lay on her death bed.
- 30 Apr We traveled to Washington city and viewed the President's house and also saw where the Senate and Congress are seated. I was allowed to share a few words with the President. I wished him God's protection and blessing. He asked where our Brothers missions were located among the Indians and what fruits have been realized. The former printer Chr. Melchior Steiner and Mr. Reinhart, a truly awakened man, were very pleased we came to visit and spoke with them. In addition, Capt. Caston, the Inspector of the Navy, welcomed us onto his war frigate, as well as his Lady and daughter.

- 4 May a late frost damaged the stone fruit trees in the orchards and vegetables in the gardens
- 13 May I visited Mr. Kees and Mr. Bruce across the Monocasy for the sake of the negroes and to bring the word of God. Sadly, it is very far and difficult to come for these poor folk even though they would gladly come. There is a young negro who was especially attentive at our sermons, who died last night.
- 20 May ... also Br. Jos. Perkin came to visit with his son John from Harpers Ferry
- 29 May At 2 o'clock in the afternoon 40 of the blacks assembled to hear Br. Herbst ..  
.. then Br. Loskiel spoke to each one individually ...
- 30 May ... 3 black women also came quickly with their children (from 8-10 miles away) since they hadn't known of the visit ahead of time, to hear calming words for their hearts and to baptize 2 of the children ...
- 5 Jun At a schoolhouse (called Mr. Bigg's schoolhouse) there since the burial of Mr. Biggs
- 7 Jun .. the report of the shipwreck of Br. Fried. v. Schweinitz and the adolescent Saml. Reichl.
- 26 Jun at Mr. Frölich. 4 children [negroes?] baptized.
- 2 Aug Before noon a Brother came and reported a separate small band of Indians were camping in the woods 3 miles from here. They were encountered in their attempt to continue their journey. I immediately took to the Emmitsburg Road and came upon them, 15 in all with women and children. We saw there were 2 chiefs of the Tuscarora nation in their number, including a Mr. Green, their interpreter. We invited them to a midday meal and to take time to rest. They accepted our offer all the more once they heard we were Moravians. As soon as we reached the schoolhouse and sat down, the chief showed his pleasure that he could meet with Christians. He wished us good will from the Great Spirit. They told of us of an acquaintance in New York named Father Elkanah Holmes who has instructed their children, etc. After the meal, as many of our *Geschwister* and children joined in, we removed to the *Saal*. After the singing of a musical piece and the children's performing their verses, two little boys read an address to the chiefs and as they desired presented it to them. The head chief responded beautifully with a long speech in 3 *Sätzen* [sentences, parts?]. He called them his own grandchildren now and praised their efforts. The Brothers later said, they said were not prepared themselves to hold such a fine speech as they had just

heard. But I did offer some words of welcome on behalf of all Brethren congregations. I told how we are united in our wish the Tuscaroras would accept the sweet message of Gospel preached by Father Holmes. He thanked the gathered congregation for our love. The Chief said he could feel how this what Christianity is like, made up of practical experience and knowing a loving God. We ended with a heartfelt prayer for the salvation of all heathens and nations. Nothing stirred the Indians more than the singing of our children, so that the Chief was almost at a loss to speak. As they took their leave, they said this day will remain one of their most enjoyable, never to be forgotten. They said they will tell their nation everything they experienced and what kind of people they found here. A Brother and I accompanied them for about 4 miles. We recommended *Mr. Juhs[?], Esq.* to them in Emmitsburg. He knows us well and loves us. I buried one of his children.

14 Jun          Sister Schlegel's 43<sup>rd</sup> birthday

I preached at the Lease-Land.

6 Aug          I preached at Mr. Gies' house. I baptized their 21<sup>st</sup> son with the name Elias ...

15 Aug        I visited our friend Mr. Blackford who was deadly sick. Many people, rich and poor, expressed their emotions as he was everyone's helper in need. He said: "*I have nothing in the World in which I can trust as only in the Mercy of the Lord my Redeemer*".

7 Sep         At present there are many stricken by the putrid fever [*Faul-Fieber, typhus?*]

25 Sep        At our congregational gathering [*Gemein Versammlung*] we discussed the many upcoming *Berbecues*. These are meals organized for the sake of *Politiks*. Some Brothers have attended, so we reiterated our position on such things ..

2 Oct         [*Elias Kirche in Emmitsburg?*]

13 Oct        In Creagerstown Hanna Free died after a painful illness. She is one of those negroes who heard the Gospel without reservation, ... it caused us great pain to know she was taken far outside of town and left there because her disease was contagious. She had to endure her last hours alone and helpless. It was too late when we heard about her sickness and death.

17 Oct        ... It is depressing to see how the parents of such children, since the *Furnace* is running day and night, Sundays and workdays, have no time to hear the Word of God. They have to live almost like heathen.

Br. Perkins has about ... 50 young men working at the U.S. Arms Factory. None of them were unaffected by the fever this year. It is attributed to the extremely low Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers and the resultant smell.

Mr. Annen and his family. He is a very religious man and is the bookkeeper at the Arsenal and Manufacture. He took us up a high mountain. From there we could view the Jefferson Rock. They are so named after Jefferson's copious notes describing Virginia ...

28 Oct Creagerstown .... That's the way it is in this town. People live for pleasure and hang in the inns. When someone dies, then they are suddenly in need and miserable.

6 Nov Today was a true rain day. We thank our heavenly Father from our hearts. We haven't had any soaking rain to speak of in 5 months. There is a shortage of vegetables and the mills stand idle.

25 Nov My wife and I visited Mr. Kees and his lovely family, and as many negroes as we were able.

10 Dec My wife and I went to the *Furnace*. She stayed with Mrs. Blackford. I went to visit the negroes who were in the fields and woods. They were enlivened to hear of the salvation of their souls through Christ's blood. It is wearisome to find them all when scattered about. Their masters are not helpful in this task. In the meantime, I definitely must go to them to make a formal visit. But I didn't have the opportunity to meet with them and discuss the conversion of their slaves [*Sclaven*] this time. Otherwise, they were quite friendly. Baker Johnson had to be at his plantation in Frederick and invited me to join him. It was also pleasant with Col. Johnson. But from the negroes at the plantations, I heard they are directed by the Methodists every evening to pray and sing and hear sermonettes. And they are exposed to diversions and amusements.

They complained a lot about the masters, that they themselves don't believe in God. They don't care about their own salvation or that of the negroes.

17 Dec Sad story of Mr. Eustus in Emmitsburg. 3 year-old son has a terrible inflammation in the throat. His other son died a couple years ago in the tanner's race [*Grube*]. His little daughter died from a kettle of boiling water 14 days ago.

- 13 Jan ... the weather around this time was so severe that little was able to be accomplished. Many people suffered from frost and cold in their limbs. All the mills were frozen still. Since the necessary precautions weren't undertaken to deal with such a serious winter, many lacked the flour to bake bread. Finally, 15 neighbors gathered and through their toil were able to get dear Br. Weller's mill functioning well enough to grind a bit of grain, so long as the sun shone. There was barely any traffic across the creeks. For those who had grain on the other side of Owens Creek in the mill, they were not able to retrieve it. Horses and sleds were stalled at the small creeks. The rain had piled the ice blocks together and the freezing temperatures solidified the whole thing again. Remarkably, no one lost a life in this danger. Beyond Hagerstown it was necessary to call upon 50 men to open the road. This task took them 4 days to complete.
- 5 Mar One of our former female Church-negroes visited. She was so happy to see us again. We were pleased her heart was still full of the Savior and she endeavored to live a Christian and connected life.
- 19 Mar Held the funeral of a deceased child at Wilheidt's schoolhouse.
- 25 Mar Our Brothers made a new fence around the God's Acre. They cleaned up in the cemetery and expanded it on both sides.
- 2 Apr I was fetched to bury the 19 year-old Elisabeth Devilbit. She succumbed to a type of yellow fever. That was 10 miles from here. But when I arrived, I found the English Methodist minister Mr. Martin ...
- 7 Apr ... the Single Brother Br. Johann Jacob Williar and the Single Sister Getraut Williar (Children of Members) entered into a nearer connection with the Savior through the blessing of their confirmation and partaking in their first holy communion. .... I then had to hurry off to the burial of poor Georg Devilbit. I preached in English and German. His death was sudden as he fell beneath the wheels of a wagon which ran over his shoulders. ...
- 8 Apr Received an urgent message from the *Geschwister* Perkins in Harpers Ferry. They were on their way to see their sick daughter who appeared to be close to death. (continued)
- 15 Apr ... the married woman Maria Reinauer and the adolescent Andreas Williar were accepted into the congregation.
- 23 We received an express message from a courier that Joseph Perkin's daughter had died this morning. Her name was Sister Mary Humes. (continued)
- 30 May Lengthy description of Pastor Schlegel's death.
- 2 Jun ... The following days Br. Herbst was occupied with bringing the papers of the Brothers and the *Gemein* archive in order, among others things.

- 8 Jun ... Toward evening another negro came by. We are familiar with him and he requested a baptism of his twin children. It is regrettable these have been left in the lurch by the Methodists where they were church children. They also attended our negro gatherings from time to time.  
... During a pastoral vacancy of 4 months, not much noteworthy happened. There was, however, the sad drowning of our *Geschwister* Henry Fahs' little daughter. She succumbed in a barrel filled with water. The Mennonite preacher Christian Huber buried her on our God's Acre.
- 7 Oct The *Geschwister* Blech arrived, accompanied by the *Geschwister* Herbst. They will be serving as *Arbeiter* in our Graceham *Gemeine*.
- 1 Dec The text for the sermon on the first Advent Sunday is taken from Matthew 21, 1-9. After the reading, the men's and women's choirs sang *Hosianna* with organ and violins.  
... After the sermon there could be no gathering (*Versammlung*), since Br. Blech was called away to bury a negro child and to baptize a negro child.

### Graceham Diary 1809

- 1 Jan ... Afterwards the adults had a pleasant love-feast. We used 90 cakes.
- 29 ... In the afternoon I visited this sick person. As he noticed me among the many others who were visiting, he reached out his hand to me. He said: *Oh, Mr. Blech, pray for me!* I asked him if he thought he would soon die. His answer: *Yes.* Question: *Do you recognize yourself as a poor sinner? Oh, yes!* Question: *Do you believe Jesus Christ shed His blood for your sins and died on the cross for you, and in so doing, through grace one might receive the gift of eternal salvation?* Answer: *Yes.* At this point I said to him, we would intercede on his behalf due to his weak state. He immediately folded his hands and I prayed. Many of those present shed tears ...
- 3 Feb Toward evening I was called to our inn and baptized a child who had been brought there.



- 16 Mar I was brought 4 miles to a man whose unbaptized child was sick. I proceeded to baptize not only this child, but also 2 others in this house, one of whom was a negro child.
- Apr In these days the Brothers of the Committee, with permission of the Council, came to a rental agreement with Gotthelf Siess for a lot (*AusLot*) of the congregation land. This piece had lain dormant for several years. The term was for 6 years, with the condition he bring it back into a good condition.
- 2 On Easter Day ... .. I had a visit from a preacher named Paulus. This was his first time at our Easter service. He belongs to a group commonly known as the *Strabler*.
- 8 There were school exams in 2 parts. Everything they had been learning was covered in these tests. Parents were allowed to watch and afterward they got to share in a love-feast with their children.
- 15 A Brother from the mountains visited. I had the chance to open my heart to him about his too infrequent appearance at church and the indifference of his family toward communion. He accepted my criticism favorably and promised to do better.
- 16 I made a thorough visitation in the mountains with 2 families. I discussed with them the same topic as described above. I expressed my view of their inactivity toward those things meaningful and their inclination toward abundance and intemperance. It's unfortunate so few young people are present when I stop to speak at a household. I mostly meet with them either in the woods or in the fields.
- 22 May It was a rainy day. For that reason, only a few came to the sermon at Appel's Church, but more so due to the "battalion" or militia exercises being held not far from here (*Pattalie*).
- 30 I traveled to Woodsborough to catch the Post coach to Lititz tomorrow on 31 May. Sadly, I was given the wrong information, as

the coach only goes there on Mondays and Saturdays. I had to return home.

4 Jun I considered going to Woodsborough again to meet the Post coach to Lititz tomorrow. The Brothers saw how weak I was and wouldn't let me go.

11 ... my trip to Lititz

16 ... returned home successfully.

4 Jul We were very worried about our married Br. Abraham Fahs. In his melancholy state he had twice attempted to take his life. He ran away today. We didn't know where he went nor could we even guess. Brothers and neighbors went out searching for him. Fortunately, they found him alive on a mountain. They brought him home. This our Brother said he went there planning to starve to death.

9 This week I visited the married Br. Abraham Fahs. The *Geschwister* Georg Siess took him in and joined with me in serious conversation with him regarding his confused state.

16 Visited our poor Fahs whose condition is worse than better.

20 Visited Fahs again, but he is still very confused in his mind.

21 I had a thorough conversation with Dr. Wels of Emmittsburg. ... Spoke also about Br. Fahs and his condition. The Doctor gave me some good advice which we will undertake.

5, 6 Oct ... In the evening Andreas Willjar received instruction regarding his confirmation ...

8 ... Andreas Willjar was confirmed, fulfilling the bond made at his baptism. He knelt and prayed at this holy event. ... 200 cakes were required.

15 After the sermon at the *Gemeine* gathering, I gave an address and baptized the son of our Brother Abraham Fahs and his wife. He received the name Arnold Richard.

#### Graceham 1810

19 Feb Due to heavy rain and the thawing of so much deep snow, the water level everywhere was very high. It's caused much damage around here. A teamster, his horse and wagon were rescued trying to cross a creek nearby. They barely escaped with their lives. We hear the Monocasy has also produced much damage.

10 Jun ... In the evening was our congregation hour. We read from the daily watchword and the text. I baptized a negro child.

29 Sep Our Br. Johannes Willjar passed away.

30 We buried him in our God's Acre.

14 Oct Afterward was the betrothal of Single Br. Daniel Krieger with the single Polly Eiler. Their past conduct can be considered displeasing in God's sight.

21 In the afternoon I was invited 2 ½ miles from here to hear a so-called *Strabler* preach. He didn't preach much, rather had plenty of other questionable things to say. At the end I was asked to offer a word of admonishment. I considered it superfluous. I then had a discussion with this preacher.

5 Nov A little daughter was born to the Blechs.

11 ... After the Congregation *Versammlung* was the baptism of this child and she was given the name Carolina Sophia.

## Graceham 1811

- 1 Jan After the sermon a portion of the diary of the Hottentots was read.
- 7 Mr. Blohr began the English school. I didn't start the German side for lack of young scholars.
- 11 I began instruction with the students.
- 17 I conducted a funeral in the neighborhood. The parents are Mennonite. They had to endure the pain of their child of 5 ½ years being struck by a horse.
- 17 Feb After the sermon we read from the diary of the Indians at *Hoob* [Suriname ?].
- 1 Mar ... In the afternoon at 5 o'clock I read a Moravian travel diary from Europe to here. Some of our *Geschwister* had made such a request. They also wanted to see the poem Br. Gregor had written during the voyage for his son's birthday.
- 6 I traveled 2 ½ miles from here to visit Br. Gump. He has been bedridden for some time now.
- 2 Apr I rode 12 miles from here and married Single Br. Georg Eiler with the single Anna Kauffmann. On the way there and back I visited the *Geschwister* Jonas Eilers.
- 14 Easter. ... It was unfortunate over half the people couldn't get to church. Some live 30 miles away.
- 12 May ... In the afternoon was the wedding of the widowed Br. Ludwig Protzmann and the widow Schuler, maiden name Krämer.
- 19 ... So then I hurried to Creagerstown and did a funeral. ... It was a very large procession. For this town that is quite unusual. There was a reverent and quiet air about it.

- 3 Jun We had our Congregation Day. We read the interesting news from these 3 Gemeine: Ebersdorf, Barby and Gnadau. We heard what they experienced as the French marched through that area. We were sad to hear about t, but also had to give thanks and praise to the Savior.
- 7 My son carl Adolph was accompanied by the Ludwig Protzmans to Lititz. From there he will be traveling to Nazareth to continue his education.
- 9 ... We read news from the memoir of Countess of Einsiedel.
- 11 ... Last week our Brother Abraham Fahs experienced the confirmation of God's oversight. He had turpentine at the fire and it ignited. The whole house could have been destroyed, but it never caught on fire. He suffered some bad burns of his arm and hand. He couldn't work after that.
- 29 Sep ... In the afternoon the Blechs went 2 miles from here and baptized our Br. Heinrich Krieger's daughter with the name Elisabeth.
- 27 Oct ... our horns, musicians and singers went over the mountains to the so-called *Barth's* [Beard's ?] Church to make music with their organ. More listeners came than expected. We were invited there.
- 24 Dec I had to do a funeral 4 miles from here. It was exceptionally cold and there was a raw wind. ... Because of this severe cold and stormwind, we thought we'd have few neighbors and visitors for our Christmas Eve celebration. To our amazement our sanctuary couldn't hold all the worshippers. ... We alternated with vocal and instrumental music. The children received their little wax tapers. On the table was a multi-tiered candle display (*Pyramide*). There were 50 candles on it, which produced quite the sight. We ended with the sounds of trombone and song.
- ? I had to go 3 miles from here to baptize Jacob Gump's son, Jeremias.

## Graceham 1812

- 5 Jan ... After the sermon some news reports were read, notably one from Br. Cunow in Königsberg describing the war hardships
- 11 ... The Committee heard the desire of the musicians for a new and larger church. It was noted how at our festival celebrations there is not enough room for all the worshippers. For the time being there is no such possibility ...
- 12 Since our friend John Krieger is the Justice here, he was looking forward to hearing the report about Br. Heckewelder's accomplishments in Chillicote.
- 18 The body of John Willjar from the mountains was buried in God's Acre.
- 30 Mar On Second Easter was the Congregation Day. There were reports read in 2 parts. These recounted the sad effects of the war on Gnadenfrey and Gnadenberg from 1807.
- 31 May ... In the evening was the general devotion. The announcement was made of the upcoming marriage of Single Br. Peter Willjar and single Betze Müller. [the bands?]
- 11 Jun Br. Peter Willjar was betrothed with Beze Müller. They both are from the mountains. They came to Jacob Weller's house where they were united.
- 12 ... on a visit one of them (boy) was suffering from the *Gicht* (palsy, gout, convulsions). It was clear his end was near.
- 1 Oct My wife and I visited a *Wächnerin*, 2 miles from here.
- 4 Peter Jan's house, 3 miles from here.

22 Dec I was in the mountains and baptized the children of 2 Brothers, Elias and Peter Willjar.

### Graceham 1813

21 Jan I was fetched 9 miles into the mountains upon the urgent request of the parents and baptized 2 children who were sick. That same evening, I went 2 miles further and stayed overnight with our members Andreas Willjar and his wife.

28 I visited 2 sick Brothers, one single and one married. In almost all the houses in that place the children had come down with *Röttele* (German measles, rubella)

12 Feb ... as I reached home, I was fetched with a horse and visited a sick child, suffering from *Gicht* (palsy, fits, convulsions). Others in that house were also ill.

25 Mar I was brought to the mountains and married there Single Brother Lorenz Willjar, son of deceased John Willjar, and Catharina Müller.

1 Apr Out visiting again, this time with 8 families outside the village. These included our members and also our non-member friends. Old Br. Gump was sick and has been plagued by *Rummidies* (rheumatism) for 10 years now. He has been severely crippled by it.

2 May In the evening the village Brothers gathered for a Police meeting.

14 I had to comfort some Members outside the village. Their sons had received marching orders.

23 ... In the evening the Brothers were gathered at a Police meeting to regulate various matters.

- 18 Jun I heard how a distant Brother had come under a wagonload of hay pulled by horses. He was badly injured, so I hurried off to him on the 19<sup>th</sup>. When I arrived he was not doing well at all. His son had fallen between the horses. It's a testament to God's care or them, that neither one lost his life. Neither suffered so much as a broken arm or leg despite being run over by the wagon.
- 30 Returned to the Brother who was run over by the wagon. He had shown much improvement.
- 4 Jul A member of the Assembly was a very attentive listener [at the sermon].
- 5 I was out in the neighborhood. In the afternoon the man who I spoke of yesterday came to visit. He was very friendly. He invited me to join him at a local gathering. They would be celebrating the freedom of this country with the Memorial Day holiday. I couldn't turn him down. I found *reputirliche* (reputable) people there. They had a little cannon, which they fired. They also shared food and drink. This man also invited me to come and visit at his *Plantage* (farm, plantation) very soon. He and his wife will delay the harvest there. (They live otherwise in Frederick). I was forced to promise him I would.
- 7 I visited this man. He and his wife were very friendly.
- 18 ... the Blechs with the birth of a baby daughter.
- 25 ... the Blech's daughter was baptized the name *Phebon Anna*.
- 17 Sep I conducted a burial at the *Furnace*. I preached in the woods using a text from Matthew 13, v. 41-43. The crowd was very attentive.
- 18 I had another burial at the *Furnace*, this time of a child. I preached in a *Scheune* (barn) to an attentive crowd.
- 21 I was called 5 miles away from here to baptize a sick child. It had *Blaue Husten* (whooping cough). I found the child very weak. The parents said they had just moved here this Spring. Where they had



lived before, no preachers came around that area to baptize their children. Hence, they pleaded I baptize all 5 of their children. The oldest was in its 7<sup>th</sup> year. Since I had been called to serve other respectable neighbors nearby, I couldn't refuse their wish and desire. Also, I considered the children still to be within the age of innocence. I baptized all of them in Jesus' death.

16 Nov Br. John Harbaugh's house was framed up with log. They were busy with that the whole day.

28 ... After the sermon I began the reading of report of the progress of the *G. C. F.* in Bethlehem. I also started the supplement of No. 10 of the monthly reports. This one describes the terrible state of our Church congregations this year in the Upper Lusatia and Silesia due to the war.

#### Graceham 1814

19 May ... We visited in the neighborhood in the afternoon. The Blechs realized the Savior's intervention with one of their children. This child just received an axe and wanted to make a hole in the ground to plant something. Another child bent over to look into the hole and was struck on the head. Fortunately, the axe was very dull. There was a large amount of blood, but it could have been much worse and split its head wide open without the Lord's oversight. Without hesitation we praised our loving Savior.

Aug Of late there has been much wailing and weeping as 5 of our local Brothers have been called up to the military. Also, some living distant from here.

25, 26 Aug I visited some distant locations and had to provide comfort to many souls. Again, many men received their marching orders. There were many uncomfortable rumors floating about regarding their soldiering experiences. We were also threatened by the blacks of late. Guards had to be posted at night for security.

8 Oct Ours senses were more prone to weeping than to feelings of joy due to the War situation.

- 9 Oct In the afternoon I visited a distant sick Brother. When I got home, I met 4 negro children. They were brought here by their parents to be baptized. I baptized them all in Jesus' death.
- 30 Oct After the sermon the Brothers gathered to hear about the winter school semester. We also spoke of the Brothers *Petition* to the Assembly regarding our *Gemeine* land.
- 17 Nov ... I experienced another heavenly and Godly intervention myself. I was some distance away and received a horse to ride. It was a shy animal. And as I was dismounting, a dog suddenly appeared running toward us. The horse jumped to the side and I fell off. My foot remained in the stirrup.
- 31 Dec At 12 midnight the words were interrupted by the sound of trombones, accompanying *Nun danket alle Gott*. We fell on our knees and offered our prayer our thanks.

#### Graceham Diary 1816

- 1 Jan Many listeners attended the sermon. It was opened with music and song. It was a New Year's song no. 101.
- 11 Jan ... I was with Mr. Schäffer at the prison. Among the prisoners we visited, there were 4 blacks. They are to be hung for murder. Rev. Schäffer encouraged me to say some words of admonition to them. He wanted to explain this in English to them. I said he should use the image of the thief on the cross next to the Savior. This robber said to the other one, it is only fair we have reached this place because of what we have done. He then turned to Jesus with his well-known request. In response our Lord assured this poor sinner of His grace.
- 25 Mar Rev. Rahausser gave his farewell sermon at Appel's church. [Reformed minister]
- 28 Apr I heard Rev. Helffenstein at Appel's church.
- 13 May During the night of the 13th, we were awakened and in fear by a fire at Br. Protzmann's house. The wind was very strong and dangerous.

Although the losses at their house were considerable, we had to thank the Savior the wind kept the fire away from the village. Much effort was needed to save the adjoining residence of the *Geschwister* Herbachs. The glowing ashes showered down around the volunteers.

- 6 Jun I was in the mountains and officiated the marriage of Br. Jacob Reidnauer and Single Sister Getraut Willjar.
- 22 Sep ... following that, I baptized the daughter of John Schmidt with name *Juliana Anna* in Jesus' death. They brought her 4 miles from here for this.
- 25 Dec ... on Holy Christmas day I had to go fetch the corpse of Br. Johannes Gump 3 miles from here. He will be buried on our God's Acre.  
... toward evening we were disrupted by drunken people. They were threatening to do great harm to each other by (*Fächten*) fencing/fighting. This event caused me great sadness at this otherwise happy occasion.  
... At 11:30 we gathered again. After we sang *Herr !: Gott barherzig* etc. The pealing of our trombones announced the New Year as we sang: *Now thank we all our God.*

#### Graceham 1817 Diary

- 17 Jan Our Br. Samuel Krieger's child was buried in God's Acre. My sermon came from the Gospel of Matthew 18, 3 concerning the Kingdom of Heaven and the need to convert our ways in order to enter it. The Lutheran minister Hase attended and expressed his great pleasure with our ceremony. He said he wished this solemn event would be as moving in their own practice. He said he was so touched by the singing and the trombones, he could hardly sing along at all.
- 19 Jan I traveled 3 miles from here to baptize Jacob Gump's daughter, Sarah Anna.
- 2 Feb ... then spoke with 2 Brothers about my preaching in the mountains once every 4 weeks. The local Gemeinedid not object to this.
- 22 Feb I went to the mountains on the 23rd and preached in the schoolhouse. My text was about the words of the Savior from the Gospel of John Chapter 17, 3 regarding the recognition of God and Jesus Christ. There were so many attending, the spacious

schoolhouse couldn't accommodate them all. ... In the evening I made it home on foot despite the heavy snow and poor roads. I'm glad I wasn't persuaded to stay overnight in the mountains. The next day was a blowing snowstorm with drifts and I wouldn't have been able to get home at all.

- 4 Apr On Good Friday were 2 Elections. After the words "he dropped his head and died", the congregation fell to its knees, thanked Him for His death and prayed for comfort.
- 16 Apr Polizey Conference (a Moravian committee dealing with adherence to local regulations)
- 29 Apr Upon request I went 12 miles into the mountains to fetch body of the above-mentioned man [Christian Herbach?]. He was buried at the property of his father, Jacob Herbach, 4 miles away. I preached to a large crowd in the open air in his courtyard.
- 27 May I was fetched 9 miles away into the mountains to visit a sick woman. It appeared her end was near. Her first request was to take communion. She assured her loved ones she would not die peacefully until that occurred. After the appropriate, thorough and sincere discussion, and following her joyful responses in the affirmative, she was confirmed through the bond of her baptism. I shared the Lord's Supper in the atmosphere of God's peace. I then baptized their child in the death of Jesus. There was considerable weeping at these observances, especially by the mother and those close to her. It would be a terrible for George Eiler to lose this wife and mother of 5 unerzogene(unguided, minor) children. The oldest child is in its 6th year.
- 20 Aug ... we then met for a Gemein Rath (congregation council). I related the news from Bethlehem dealing with our land affairs.
- 31 Aug The sermon was from Genesis 45, 1-5. Before my preaching was over, a frightening thunderstorm and hail interrupted us.
- 14 Sep I gave the harvest sermon from the Paul's letter to the Galatians 6, 7-10. First was the annual sowing and harvest report, and, praise God, it was encouraging. Second, we are reminded how our whole life and actions are dependent on a sowing of seeds. We can then expect a great harvest in eternity after a careful sowing.
- 23 Sep This week the Lutheran pastor Hase visited. He asked me to preach the preparation sermon at the consecration service of the new Creagerstown church.
- 28 Sep ... I participated at the consecration service along with our musicians. ... In the afternoon ... I introduced the musical pieces by the Choir and was the fore-singer of the songs. After the sermon Rev. Hase came to us, to the musicians and the choir, and thanked us for our loving contribution to them in the name of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations.

31 Dec At 11:30 we returned to the Saal. Then after the musical presentation, *Herr, Herr, Gott barmherzig, etc...*

### Graceham Dairy 1818

- 11 Jan ... I next hurried 3 miles from here and conducted the wedding of Single Brother John Gernannt with the Single Sister Rosina Gump.
- 17 Jan I went into the mountains and had a contentious discussion with one of our communing Sisters who is struggling with mental issues.
- 18 Jan I then preached in the schoolhouse.
- 23, 24 A child was brought to be baptized in the death of Jesus. It was a year since I had preached there. A small collection was taken up for my service. I was not only asked to continue coming there to preach, but to do so in an alternating basis with another group at a schoolhouse 3 miles further away.
- 23 I did a funeral 11 miles from here and did the sermon at the schoolhouse in the mountains.
- 12 Feb ... for the official day of thanks and prayer announced by the Governor. .... The Lutheran minister Haas requested I baptize his child. After he responded affirmatively to my question if he wanted his child baptized according to our tradition, I performed this sacrament. Afterward he expressed his great pleasure and was appreciative.
- 1 Mar ... After the sermon was the *Gemein Rath* (congregational council). It was able to announce the good news how our petition to the Assembly regarding the matter of our land was passed.

- 5 Apr ... I hurried to *Geschwister* Gumps. Three families will be leaving for the Miami area on the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- 25 Apr I went to the mountains and preached the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> in a schoolhouse for the first time as requested by the people. In the afternoon I preached in the other schoolhouse which I had been serving for a year. Both places were full of people.
- 30 Apr ... I hurried to the mountains and buried Jacob Herbach, Senior.
- 11 Apr Early in the day, Br. Benade and Br. Träger left here and were accompanied by Br. Blech into the mountains to meet some of our *Geschwister*. This visit was a pleasure on all sides. The travelers made their way on to Hagerstown as Br. Blech returned to Graceham.
- 30 Jul ... I was asked by Pastor Haas to lead the singing at Appel's Church as *Vorsänger*. I agreed and performed this task before and after the sermon.
- 13 Aug ... then followed the confirmation of Elias and Anna Willjar from the mountains. They weren't able to come for this last Sunday due to the heavy rain.
- 25 Aug I did a funeral in the mountains. The road was difficult over the rocky mountains. I had to preach behind a barn.
- 29 Nov ... in the afternoon I visited a sick communing Brother. He had gravely injured himself with an axe.
- 16 Dec I visited that Brother who had hacked into his leg.

#### Graceham 1819 Diary

- 5 Jan I visited a communing Sister who had suffered terribly from dropsy and was drained. To my amazement she was cheerful and fresh when I met her.

- 8 Jan I visited a Single Brother who had stuck a chisel in his eye. He was in danger of losing it. He was in great pain and I comforted him as best I could.
- 18 Jan ... We had a scare this afternoon while baking bread. When we were sweeping up at the fire from the bake oven, evidently a hot ash ignited the pile of starter wood sitting nearby. Large flames soon ensued, but praise God, it was soon extinguished.
- 24 Jan ... In the afternoon I went to Mechanicstown and baptized Br. and Sister Reidnauer's little son with the name Willhem.
- 30 Jan ... I told them that I'm preaching for the last time to them since my year of service has come to an end. [??]
- 22 Mar I visited a married Sister who was giving birth.
- 25 Mar I went to the mountains and married Jacob Gernannt and Elisabeth Willjar.
- 1 Apr ... In the afternoon I was called to Jacob and Elisabeth Gernannt who recently moved here. I wished them God's blessing for their future.
- 17 Apr ... in the mountains to the upper and lower schoolhouse
- 24 Apr ... In the morning about 4 o'clock the Blechs were greeted with the birth of a little son. Since he was especially weak, he was baptized in Jesus' death that morning with the name Edward Julius. He died that same evening.
- 25 Apr At God's Acre we buried our married Sister Margaretha Willjar and Blech's baby boy.
- 4 May The Blechs to depart and Kluges begin their service. The Schaafs are on their way to Salem.

20 May ... In the evening gathering the liturgy for Ascension Day was sung, No. 41.

Blech's Diary entries end here.

23 May Blech final sermon

27 May Blech leaves for assignment in Bethel

30 May Pentecost Liturgy No. 20 sung

13 Jun After the sermon I rode to the mountains and preached at a schoolhouse, then on to another 3 miles away. ... I then visited the married Brothers Haber and Willjard who were very sick ...

14 Jun Jacob Huber dies

15 Jun buried here Br. Jacob Huber, who was born 2 March 1762 in Conococheague, Washington County. His parents were Mennonites, so he was deprived of an infant baptism. [From this point on the text continues his memoir]

29 Jun ... This month we endured a heat wave and drought. It's lasted 5 weeks without rain. This is especially noticed in the sweet corn and garden vegetables. Everything is withering and dying. Even the grass ... [continues]

8 Jul The wheat and rye harvest is especially good and blessed. On the other hand the summer grain (*Sommerfrucht*) is very poor due to the heat and drought.

10, 11 Jul Rode to the mountains and preached in the morning to a large crowd in a schoolhouse in Pennsylvania. .... An epidemic where people are vomiting and have diarrhea.

5 Aug I conducted the wedding of widowed Andreas Willjard with Rebecca Protzmann. This was very uncomfortable for me, because this



marriage was so controversial among the locals. His wife had died just 4 months ago.

- 13 Aug Charles Willjar, Renatus Willjar took communion
- 29 Aug 4 year-old Priscilla Eigenbrod died of whooping cough
- 2 Sep The wedding 9 miles from here of Wm. Krieger and Elisabeth Holtz. She isn't a member.
- 26 Sep The song: *Danket dem Herrn denn Er ist freundlich. Ernte Pred. Psalm 50.* Harvest sermon from Psalm 50.
- Oct Lutheran minister Haas invited Kluge to the dedication of the new church in Woodsborough.
- 3 Nov Kluge invited to Frederick and participated with the Lutherans and Reformeds at a special conference. This was very successful and they accepted the Moravians.
- 14 Nov In the *Berg-Thal* (mountain valley). Preached at both schoolhouses.
- 28 Nov Went to Mechanicstown to see recently widowed Sister Gump. She was drained more than 10 times.
- 30 Nov I visited her again and found her in a so regrettable condition. She couldn't stand the pain any longer and asked the doctor be fetched again. This 10<sup>th</sup> time he again extracted 16 quarts of water. To the amazement of those present she endured this painful operation. It provided her some relief. No matter, she still expressed her desire to be rid of the pain for good and to go be with her Lord.
- 11 Dec I gave widow Gump communion in Mechanicstown.
- 15 Dec Widow Gump dies and is buried the next day.

30 Dec Was a terrible blizzard and extreme cold. The following day in the schoolhouse and church we shoveled a few hundred bushels of snow.

Memorabilia for the year 1819. Facts and figures.  
294 total.

Graceham 1820 Diary

- 5 Jan I spoke with the married Sister Nanu Moser regarding the importance of her upcoming baptism.
- 14 Jan I held instruction with some 40 children using the new book  
16 Jan... in the evening at the Singstundewe sang hymns in German and English
- 24 Jan ... This was a very sad time for me, and unsettling, for my dear wife has been troubled by consumption for many years and has now become so weak. She needs a caretaker day and night. Without one she could barely move. She lies there in great pain. She has to be cared for like a child.
- 3 Feb This is a description of the death and burial of the widower George Weller. Born 5 ug 1783 in the neighborhood. Married Catharina Huber 5 Jul 1807. She died 1817. Moved in with his brother Elias. He was 36 years, 6 months, 3 days.<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Feb In the afternoon it was apparent the hour of my dear wife's release from all her suffering was nigh. For some time, she had longed for her Savior's help in this her hour of need. Obviously, He now appeared to her. With hearts full of grief and emotion I extended to her the blessing of the Lord on her journey home in the presence of several Geschwister. .... (continued) ... My tears spoke more clearly than my words.
- 15 Feb Br. Miller arrived early from Yorktown. I had requested he perform the burial service of my beloved wife. In the afternoon at 1 o'clock it took place. An unusually large number came from far and wide. No burial had ever drawn so many people. Our sanctuary couldn't hold even half of them. ... (continued) ...
- 29 Feb I was fetched to go do a funeral 5 miles from here by request of Rev. Haas. I spoke in the Lutheran Church to a large crowd, using the passage from the Gospel of Luke 19, 10. After the service the Vorsteher(warden) implored me to come back and preach whenever possible.

- 5 Mar On this day was the baptism of married Sister Moser. ... I baptized her in the name of the Holy Trinity with the name Lydia.
- 24 Mar Among others confirmed, were married Br. Charles Williar and Single Br. Renatus Williar.
- 2 Apr On the first day of Easter we couldn't meet at the God's Acre due to a heavy snow storm.
- 3 Apr Since Good Friday I have been called every evening to go visit the sick. I often didn't return home until after midnight.
- 11 May The painful death of 9 year-old Elisabeth Reidnauer.
- 13 May ... I had to endure much rheumatic discomfort in my arm.
- 21 May Baptism of Leonhard and Lydia Moser's son with the name of Daniel. We sang No. 20.
- 23 May I rode 16 miles into the mountains with Br. Protzmann to visit the sick old Brothers Protzmann and Brunner. ...
- 24 May I took my leave from them and assured them of Jesus' loving oversight. I continued on 8 more miles through the rocky mountain terrain and visited others of our Geschwisterthere. It was such a pleasure for me and for them. Exhausted and hurting from the convulsing in my arm, I was happy to make it home late that same night.
- 29 May I traveled to Lititz with my little daughter Emilie in the company of the Geschwister Willheits.
- 15 Jun Death of the old widow Maria Barbara Weller. Born 10 Mar 1747 not far from Graceham. Her parents were Lorenz and Maria Elisabeth Krieger. 19 Apr 1768 she married Johannes Weller. 34 years of marriage, 5 children. 3 sons, 2 daughters. 3 children died before her. 13 grandchildren, 6 gr-grandchildren. Her husband died 18 Aug 1802. She served the congregation and was known as Crænnny [Granny]. Long description of her life and illness. 73 years, 1 month, 5 days.
- 16 Jul Of late a terrible wave of cholera is raging in the area. Several of our members have been affected.
- 31 Jul Burial of Barbara Woodring. She was born in Northampton County in Pennsylvania. Her parents Jacob and Barbara Woodring were Reformed, but they became Graceham members after moving here. Long description follows. 16 years -5m -14d from Gallen Ruhr (cholera).Also, Ephrahim Krieger died this day of cholera.

- 1 Aug Born 23 Dec 1803 in Frederick Co. He contracted this disease 20 Jul. He was 16-7-8. Burial of another child in Creagerstown who died of same cause.
- 16 Aug Little boy Horatio Willheid died of cholera. Born 25 Dec 1814. Contracted cholera 6 Aug. Was 5-6-21.
- 20 Aug Was in the mountains and buried little Charles Henry Ricksecker. He died yesterday of cholera. He was 1-4-12.
- 22 Aug Stones were brought to wall up the schoolhouse spring.
- 27 Sep I was asked to do two burials in the neighborhood. One of these was a woman who died giving birth. The child survived. The other death was a child who drowned [vertrinken?].
- 6 Nov The following days this week I spent much time visiting the sick. So many people have come down with a horrible illness called influenza. My wife and I also had to contend with this too.
- 13 Nov Burial of Lorenz Krieger. A long description follows. Born 25 May 1754 near Graceham.
- 15 Nov I also had to stay home in bed from the bad influenza around here. I suffered through several days of fever, chest troubles and coughing.
- 3 Dec ... Advent ... Choir sang the Hosianna!
- 24 Dec ... There was never such a large assembly of worshippers here. The Saal couldn't hold even half of them. The atmosphere was one of and obvious reverence and powerful devotion. Many of the strangers came from 16-20, yes, even 100 miles away. ... Some said they only come here to attend such a holiday service and nowhere else. 120 candles were distributed to the children.
- 31 Dec In the evening at the first gathering we enjoyed the choir's rendition of: *Wie sollen wir dem Herrn vergelten, aller der Barmherzigkeit und Treue.*

### Graceham 1821 Diary

- 1 Jan ... choral piece "*Groß ist der HErr, etc.*"
- 7 Jan ... read a report about the *Kallmucken*

- 12 Jan went to Frederick to take care of some business and visited with Lutheran pastor Schaefer and Reformed pastor Helfenstein. A close relationship begun with Schaefer.
- 14 Jan baptized 3 children in the 2 schoolhouses in the mountains
- 30 Jan I was called to a very sick married Brother 15 miles into the mountains. He asked for me to come. The route over the mountains at that time was very dangerous for a rider due to the amount of ice and the overflowing creeks. I decided to undertake it anyway with the help of God. I rushed off to this Brother who was overjoyed at my sudden appearance. He was weakened terribly by a high nerve-fever, but fully aware and present. I had a meaningful and pleasant discussion with him about his needs. He asked we pray together. After we knelt, I commended him to the merciful heart of Jesus. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock I left this sick Brother ...
- 6 Feb I was summoned to the mountains 10 miles from here. I married Single Br. Johannes Schmidt and Single Sister Margaretha Born.
- 4 Mar ... for the opening of this festive season an anthem was sung: *Für wahr Er trug unsere Krankheit, und lud auf sich unsere Schmerzen, etc.*  
[composition by Buxtehude]
- 21 Mar Rode into the mountains 14 miles to bury old Peter Brunner who died on the 19<sup>th</sup> from a sudden bout of *catarrh*. Brunner was the oldest member of the *Gemeine*, born 12 Jan 1740 in Rothberg, Alsace. He was a servant for many years at Lorenz Krieger. ... (memoir continues) ... married Dorothea Lochmann, 11 children. Second wife was widow Elisabeth Schmidt, born Haber, 1796. 81 y, 2 m, 7 days.
- 23 Mar My wife and I visited several sick neighbors. This was meaningful for everyone. This has been a period of ongoing sickness, especially this winter. So many have suffered with *Gallen Ruhr*.

- 31 Mar Went to comfort a non-member who injured himself terribly at his leg while felling a tree.
- 11 Apr Burial of Joseph Gernand who died on the 10<sup>th</sup>. ... his memoir ... born here 15 Nov 1799. 21-4-25
- 15 Apr Choir sang: "*O, Du zu unserm Trost geborner, etc.*"
- 20 Apr We sang together the litany of the wounds, *No. 24*.
- 22 Apr In the evening we sang for this celebration the appropriate liturgy *No. 39*. .... And then they sang: "*Halt es im Gedächtniß Jesum Christum, der auferstanden ist von den Todten, etc.*" Sister Kluge played organ and directed the choir at all these gatherings, much appreciated by our members and outsiders present. She had much preparation for this.
- 13 May Here included are the names of those selected for the Building Committee.
- 14 May Buried a Methodist at Appel's Church
- 29 May ... in the evening at 10 we had another hailstorm. It caused much damage in the local area, especially in Emmitsburg and Waynesbury. Seven miles from here in Emmitsburg over 4000 window panes were shattered. In the latter town even more damage was caused to buildings and to farms.
- 31 May Sang *No. 40*.
- 1 Jul I preached at 2 schoolhouses, the farthest located 2 miles into Pennsylvania. They asked me to come back every 4 weeks. I promised I would.
- 23 Jul Terrible flooding and damage in Frederick. Torrents descended from the mountains and almost covered the whole place. The residents' cellars and gardens and well as the tannery were under water. Two

horses were lost. They were harnessed to a stage to rescue people. And the mills were damaged from the swift-rushing waters. Hay and grain were washed away in the fields. The old people couldn't recall any such catastrophe ever in this area.

- 13 Aug Many local people suffered from fever and diarrhea.
- 9 Sep Preached at that Pennsylvania schoolhouse. Waynesbury is another new location.
- 8 Oct ... musical piece: *"Kommt herzu, laßet uns uns dem HErrn frohlocken, etc."*
- 14 Nov I held another funeral in English. It was at the Furnace 4 miles from here. The deceased woman had just last summer come here from England. The master of the furnace respectfully attended the service with all his people. ...
- 2 Dec ... musical piece by the choir: *"Siehe ich komme, im Buch ist von mir geschrieben, Machet die Thore weit und die Thüren in der Welt hoch, daß der König der Ehren einziehe."*  
Another: *"Dir, o Jesu, nach zu wandeln, ist uns beydes Gnade und Pflicht, etc."*
- 17 Dec I visited with the sick daily. One of these was the oldest brother of our recently deceased Br. Lorenz Krieger. His name was John Krieger, 77 years old. He was an odd character and grave sinner. He lived in common-law with 2 woman who were sisters. He was married to neither one. He spent his life in a near heathen-like fashion and without God in his world. His main goal in life was earthly pleasure. He was a rich man. One noticed clearly how God's blessing was not present with him. In his older days he found himself with severe indebtedness. His fortune in land has now almost totally disappeared. He is now ill and sees his end nearing amidst many dark shadows. His feelings were overcome with a guilty conscience, fear and unsettledness. It plagued him day and night. In this condition I was called to him and found him thus. He complained he couldn't

escape these earthly impulses. He knew it time to affect a change for his soul's sake. ....

- 24 Dec ... and the schoolchildren sang: "*Im Geiste wollen wir Kinder auch nach Bethlehem gehn, etc.*"
- 29 Dec Burial of John Krieger at his property
- 31 Dec ... *HErr, HErr Gott! Barmherzig, gnädig und geduldig, und von großer Güte und Treue, etc.*

### *Memorabilia 1821*

*HErr! HErr! Gott! Barmherzig, gnädig und geduldig, denn du bewahrest Gnade in tausend Glied, und vergiebest Missethat, Übertretung und Sünde,*  
und von welchem niemand unschuldig ist. Wie sollen wir die vergelten all Deine Wohlthat, die Du an uns thust? Wir sind viel zu geringe, aller der Barmherzigkeit und Treue. Dir ist nichts gleich.

....  
*Groß ist Dein Erbarmen,  
wir sinds nicht werth,  
was uns Deinen Armen,  
guts wiederfährt.*

School: Henry Ricksecker seeks another schoolmaster position. Peter Ricksecker from the Nazareth *Pædagogium* replaced him. We earnestly hope more consideration be given to the education of our dear children. More effort and concern than before must be demonstrated. We want them to grow and prosper so as to glorify God and be of use to their fellow man. ....

Household: Wheat and grain yields are better than anticipated. So it was with the summer fields and garden crops. The fruit harvest was bountiful.



During this past summer and autumn many of our own members were not immune to the suffering of a dangerous fever having spread widely throughout the area.

### Graceham 1822 Diary

- 1 Jan ... "*Singet dem HErrn, alle Lande, und verkündiget täglich sein Heil, etc.*"  
[1 Chronicles 16, 23-34]
- 6 Jan ... "*Lobet den HErrn alle Heiden, und preiset ihn alle Völker, etc.*" [Bach Motette]
- 17 Jan In the evening the bricks for the new construction were all delivered by our Brothers. This labor-intensive task was carried out by our Brothers and neighbors in a cheerful and cooperative spirit of love and unity. In 8 days, 170000 bricks were brought 2 miles to our building site.
- 17 Feb ... "*Gott war in Christi und versöhnte die Welt mit Ihm selber, etc.*"
- 18 Feb There was a remarkable snowstorm. We weren't able to go out, despite many sick people in need of our visitation. Some suffer from *Gallencolic*, two have consumption and most are afflicted with a malevolent *catarrh*..
- 22 Feb In the afternoon was the burial of the little son of Andreas and Rebecca Willjahr. The child died soon after its birth before being baptized.
- 26 Feb Held the burial of an old Methodist at Appel's Church. My text was from Job 19, 25-26. *I know that my Redeemer liveth.* [Handel Messiah aria]
- 5 Mar Brothers busy cutting wood for the church.
- 9 Apr I was called back to sick John Willjahr, 12 miles from here.
- 12 Apr He was buried in the friends' row of our God's Acre. As a young person he belonged to the *Gemeine*. Since his marriage he has made very poor choices for his life. He withdrew totally from the *Gemeine* and this life he had chosen was terribly affected by his uncontrolled use of strong drink. .... cont.
- 13 Apr The burial of Elisabeth Gernand neé Willjahr. She died on the 11<sup>th</sup>. .... [her memoir follows ... ]. Elisabeth was born 14 Oct 1787 in Frederick Co. to Andreas and Margaretha Willjahr in the mountains. .... Gave birth to a son and had a

difficult birth. She survived it 10 March. On the 24<sup>th</sup> she got a high fever, throwing up, coughing blood and cough. 34 y-5m-28d

- 17 Mar I was called to the Furnace 3 miles from here to baptize a very ill child.
- 28 Mar “Nun, HErr Gott! Beschäftige Dein Wort, das Du über Dein Volk geredet hast, etc.”
- 1 May Our Brothers and several neighbors assembled to carry out the directive of the Building Committee to tear down the old church. 64 workers arrived with all sorts of equipment for the job. There were nearly as many onlookers. ... cont.  
... amazing it stood and held together for 50 years. 4-inch wooden planks on the walls, rotting on the northside.

[Page or two missing!!]

- 13 Jul We weren't expecting the new church building to already be under roof.
- 2 Aug Burial of one of our carpenters. *David Irwin* came from Lancaster. Was 22 years old and buried in the friends' row at God's Acre.
- 15 Sep Baptized the child of Elisabeth Willjahr.
- 29 Sep Practiced musical pieces for the dedication.
- 4 Oct Went to Frederick with Ricksecker to invite the Presbyterian, Lutheran and Reformed ministers to our dedication ceremonies.
- 27 Oct Church dedication
- 2 Dec Snowed for the first time this winter.
- 13 Dec Sister Kluge bore a daughter.
- 23 Dec Burial of Single Br. George Siess. He had the grave misfortune to fall into a boiling vat on the 18<sup>th</sup>. He was burned horribly and endured unimaginable pain until he ended his own life. .... continued .... He was prone to excessive drink. This contributed to this mishap.
- 25 Dec Baptism of Selma Angelica Kluge!  
This afternoon a very sad event took place at the local inn. One of two drunkards struck and killed the other one *unvorsetzlich* in his inebriated state. This dampened the festive spirit of our village. This is a sad reminder what a terrible burden drunkenness can be and what effects are the result.

## Memorabilia

The wheat was not so good due to weather and vermin and insects. The winter grain was not good either. The summer grain was only partially successful, as was the garden produce and fruit. The drought surely played a role ...

### Graceham Diary 1823

- 26 Jan After several requests from Pastor H. Winters and from his congregation I preached in German at the Lutheran Church in Kriegerstown. And Lutheran pastor Winters from Frederick preached at our church in English. He's a very evangelistic preacher and our friend. He was quite pleased with this arrangement, with our friendship and the unity we share. Both churches were fully attended. This cooperation makes a good impression on our Lutheran neighbors. They would come all the same to our church since they only have a service once every 4 weeks.
- 9 Feb After the evening *Versammlung* I went to baptize a new-born son of John Bollers. He unexpectedly came down with *Gichter*.
- 23 Feb Baptized Cecilia Anna Willjar daughter Charles and Elisabeth Willjar in the mountains.
- 25 Feb At three in the morning I returned to *Geschwister* Schmidts 3 miles from here. Sister Schmidt had terrible *Gichter* and lost a 7-month old fetus born during the convulsions. The baby died the following night. That same hour the little boy William Henry Wilheid died of convulsions. He was the son of John Wilheid Jr. Both of these infants were buried on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Memoir* of Margaretha Schmit, maiden name Born:  
She was born 9 Aug 1791 near Graceham. She lost her own mother in childhood. Went to Lititz. Married 1821. 31y 6m 16d

William Henry Wilheid was born 31 Oct 1820 and died of fever in  
1821. 2y 4m 12d

- 11 Mar called to Br. Jans the elder 4 miles from here
- 18 Mar burial of Peter Jans  
*Memoir of Peter Jans:*  
 Born 23 Jan 1746 near Philadelphia at Skippack. Married Catharine Angst 25 April 1769. Their marriage had 6 sons, 5 daughters. They moved here soon after their marriage.
- 29 Mar I consented to bury William Ricksecker who was found dead in the woods. The cause was his unordered life and excessive use of strong drink. He wasn't buried in the God's Acre, but in the neighborhood. His demise should serve as an example.
- 30 Mar unusual snowstorm all day - 14" deep
- 1 Apr Called to the mountains in deep snow to see sick Sabina Schultz. She lay there and had strong convulsions, crying out for the Savior's help. It was so painful to watch this as she was in the late stages of her pregnancy. Finally, the Savior relieved her of her suffering at 3:30 in the morning on the 4<sup>th</sup> and led her to eternal rest.  
*Memoir of Sabina Schultz born Krieger.*  
 She was born 30 Mar 1803 the daughter of John Krieger, Jr. and Eva. Married Martin Schultz 26 Mar 1822. 20y 4d
- 13 Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee resolution: non-members no longer can be buried in the God's Acre.
- 15 Apr I visited with Lutheran minister Winters who also serves congregations at Kriegerstown and Woodsbury.
- 20 Apr Rode with Winters 12 miles into the mountain valley (*Bergthal*)
- 27 Apr Baptzed 3 children

- 7 May In the evening a heavy snowstorm, terrible rain descending on the village from 3 sides. Much tree damage but church and houses spared.
- 9 May Old Br. George Siess fell off his horse 2 miles from here. He's injured, hopefully not seriously.
- 21 May I held a burial at the *Furnace* 4 miles from here.
- 26 May Went to Emmitsburg after repeated invitations to a Reformed Church conference. There were 14 ministers attending. I was chosen as a *Rathgebender* advisory member.
- 28 May Participated in the laying of cornerstone at Reformed church 7 miles from here. Seven ministers were there. All of them invited me to preach at their churches. For 4 years now I've been preaching every 4 Sundays at the schoolhouse.
- 29 May Our 2 oldest children came to visit. Carl and Henrietta attend school in Nazareth and Lititz.
- 11 June Went with the 2 kids to Woodbury to get the post stage back to Nazareth and Lititz.
- 18 Jul Lots of fever, whooping cough in the children
- 25 Jul The whole Wilheid family, the 2 of them and 3 children, have *Gallen Ruhr*. Even the maid was sick and couldn't care for them.
- 17 Aug Whopping cough, mumps and fever abound in adults and children in the region
- 19 Aug Over 150 in the area have a terrible bilious fever *Gallenfieber*. Some *Geschwister* are affected. In some families everyone is so ill, they can't even fetch each other a drink of water.
- 1 Sep Burial of older girl Lydia Wilheid, daughter of Conrad Wilheid.

*Memoir of Lydia Wilheid:*

She was born 20 May 1808. 15y 3m 10 d

- 7 Sep        The most difficult thing about these recent burials is these corpses must be picked up at the house of the deceased, regardless the distance. This corpse I had to bring back 3 miles. This type of spreading fever leads the body to immediately putrefying after death. The stench that accompanies the delivering of the body is most unpleasant. There is also a danger one can contract the illness. This happened to me this time.
- 11 Oct        Went with wife and musicians to the Lutheran church in Smithsburg 14 miles from here.
- 12 Oct        First sermon in the new church at 10 AM at the request of Pastor Kurtz. New church dedication at Smithburg.
- 14 Oct        Arrived back in Graceham.
- 9 Dec        The Kluges lose their daughter Selma Angelica. She was sick 4 weeks.
- 24 Dec        The musical piece: "*Erwachtet und singet heute Dank, etc.*" And also, "*Willkommen ihr Christenleute beym Kriplein Unsers HErrn, etc.*"

*Graceham Diary 1824*

- 1 Jan        ... read in the circulated record of the Provincial Conference of the great fire and loss of our *Geschwister* at Sarepta. A collection was taken to aid them.
- 12 Jan        I went to visit the *Geschwister* outside the village to discuss their children's deportment, especially their obvious temptations and indifference to the Savior. I laid it at the feet of these parents and their method of child-rearing.

- 8 Feb Read a report of the mission at *Wittercous* [?] on Cape of Good Hope.
- 29 Feb I concentrated on the last 7 words on the cross.
- 6 Mar Burial at Appel's Church of old family friend, Philip Mathes
- 13 Mar Burial at God's Acre of Catharina Boller, maiden name Lanius. She was born 10 Feb 1767 in York Co. Her parents were *Geschwister*. Her *memoir* follows. Married the more than once widowed Philip William Boller 9 Apr 1794. 57y and 1 m.

*Memoir* of John Herbach, who was born 1777 and died 23 Mar 1824. Parents were Johannes and Maria Catharina Herbach who lived in the valley. He learned the carpentry trade at Middleburg and became a master. Married the more than once widowed Elisabeth Koch. 46y 9m 5d.

- 1 Apr Burial of our neighbor's (Mr. Kollyflower) son at Appel's.
- 6 Apr I visited a Brother in Mechanicstown, sick and spitting blood.
- 11 Apr Palm Sunday. Baptized 63 year-old mother Busch with the name Anna Elisabeth.
- 1 May Burial of Br. John Willheid, Sr. *Memoir* follows. Born 30 Sep 1762 in Frederick County to Conrad and Elisabeth. Married Maria Barbara Weller. 61y 7m 2d.
- 9 May In the afternoon we began the long desired *SingSchule* for our young people. The object is to prepare them and have them practice their vocal skills in choral and other forms. Sunday afternoon is very practical for this and it has the advantage of keeping them from swarming about in an idle manner. Sister Kluge has taken charge of this with my help and that of some other Sisters. At this point the young people seem to be satisfied with the arrangement and direction of it.

- 28 May The *Geschwister* Fahs in Mechanicstown had a terrible scare. Their little girl of 2 years was attacked by a hungry sow running loose on the street. She was dragged away by the arm. Fortunately, her mother saw the unfortunate scene through the window. She screamed and yelled since she couldn't offer any bodily assistance. (She had just given birth a few days before to a baby girl) The father rushed to the scene and with much effort struggled to free his daughter from the angry animal. Everyone considered it a miracle of God the child wasn't injured more severely. She had been pulled about over stones and had scrapes to her face. The parents and their neighbors thanked the Lord from their hearts.
- 20 Jun Baptized Margaretha Anna Willjar, daughter of Andreas Willjar, Jr.
- 22 Jun Rode 10 miles over the mountains to visit the Eylers and Hammets.
- 28 Aug Was called to the house of *Geschwister* Conrad Willheid to baptize their weak twin sons, Friedrich and George.
- 29 Aug We all thanked the Lord for the soaking rain, since we haven't had any for 6 weeks.
- 16 Sep *Memoir* of Maria Elisabeth Herbach, maiden name Willjar. She was born 18 Sep 1760 in Frederick County, the daughter of Peter and Elisabeth Willjar. She married widower Christian Herbach 1780. She was buried 17 September.
- 21 Sep Death of twin George Willheid. 1 month and 2 days old.
- 26 Sep Rode through the dark night into the mountains, arriving at 11 o'clock at Christian Herbach, Jr. His old wife was dying.
- 28 Sep She died this day and was buried on 29 September.
- 31 Oct "*Danket dem HErrn, denn Er ist Freundlich, etc*"  
[Thank the Lord, for He is friendly]



- 7 Nov We read about *Enon* in South Africa.
- 19 Nov ... In the evening *Versammlung* a passion liturgy was sung by the newly formed choir, consisting of Single Sisters, Older Girls and a few Brothers. They were brought to this point through the diligent efforts of Sister Kluge. Their heartfelt and harmonious performance was an edification to our *Gemeine*.
- 24 Nov I rode 16 miles into the mountains to visit some our friends. I also saw Br. John Eyler and baptized his daughter, Rahel. His wife is Lutheran. They persuaded me to stay overnight, but I couldn't sleep due to the constant noise made by the rats.
- 26 Nov Express messenger came and reported Br. Elias Willjar was struck by a horse 8 miles from here. I hurried to him in the darkness with the messenger. .... In Him alone he placed his trust. For all those present this was edifying and moving to hear and witness. He cried out with his hands raised, in great pain, "Here I lie dear Savior, your poor and wretched sinner! Have mercy on me for the sake of Your bloody sacrifice". He asked we pray together and then I sang a few verses. As I sang, he would repeat almost every word and join in.
- 28 Nov We sang "*Lift up your hearts*".
- 30 Nov Burial of Elias Willjar. *Memoir* follows. He was born 6 Nov 1780 and died 29 Nov 1824. He was the son of Johan and Margaretha Willjar. He learned the tailor trade and he also farmed. He married the widow Anna Eyler with whom he had 9 children. 44y and 23d.
- 13 Dec ... a horrible Cartar (also called a *Kalt*)
- 24 Dec "*Erwacht und singet heute Dank, etc.*"  
"*das Ehre sey Gott in der Höhe, etc.*"  
The children: "*Hosanna to the Royal Son*"  
The choir: "*O, du zu meinem Trost geborner, etc.*"

The *Gemeine*: "O, wie beugt uns das zur Erde, etc."

25 Dec We sang the No. 15 Liturgy

31 Dec. "Wie soll'n wir dem HErrn vergelten alle seine Wohlthat,  
die Er an uns thut, etc."

Graceham Diary 1825

4 Jan ... many of the Geschwistersuffering from a nasty Carthar.

9 Jan Read a report about the Calmucken.

13 Jan ... I was called to the members John Boller 6 miles from here. Their very young child was sick and unbaptized. Baptized her as Maria Emilia.

19 Jan ... Went to Mechanicstown to baptize son of members William Gernand. They wanted to do it in church, but the father was very ill from Auszehrung. Baby's name Joseph Allfried.

10 Feb memoir of Single Brother Johannes Stauffer. He was born 1802 in Frederick County, son of Christian and Barbara Stauffer. Learned the weaving trade from his father. 23 years, 4 days. Buried next day.

17 Feb Two marriages. One was a Single Sister Mathilde Willheid with the outsider John Colliflower. In the afternoon we had terrible hail. After it stopped there was a strong roar in the air, followed by an earthquake.

21 Feb Went to visit Manesse Krieger who had a high fever (Nervenfieber).

24 Feb Went to the mountains and baptized the children of our Geschwister, Peter and Lorenz Williar. The first was Susanna, the second Joel Peter. 13 Mar Son of Charles and Elisabeth Williar baptized.

21 Mar At this time there is another terrible malady going about. It affects both young and old and is called the Kaltor Chartarfieber or a cold. So many of our members have contracted it and one hears of nothing else except for this topic. Even Sister Kluge and I have not been able to avoid it its grip. Brother K. has terrible pain in his chest and side, and a cough spitting blood. Since he is not able to find comfort and stay quiet, his condition worsens. I was in pain day and night. ... It was Holy Week, so I couldn't find time to recuperate.

21 Apr Burial of Br. Jonas Eyler. Memoir included. Born 1752 in PA. Married the widow Anna Regina Herbach 1781. Influenza. Bloodletting. 72y 4m 28d.... the weather these last days was raw and cold, so the night frosts froze almost all the fruit.

4 May Two choirs celebrated their annual festival, about 40 participated in all. ... Five Older Girls joined the Single Sisters and six Young Girls joined the Older Girls choir. They were so innocent and pious. They joined Sister Kluge up in the tower after the services and sang songs of praise to the delight of the villagers.

- 4 Jun had a terrible storm lasting all day, damaging trees, fences and crops.
- 12 Jun Singstunde in German and English. We prayed on our knees at the end.
- 17 Jul After the service I rode 8 miles to a sick Sister with the Nervenkrankheit. She lay there with convulsive twitching ... after this Paroxysm was past, ...
- 19 Jul At 3:30 in the morning we awoke to cries of fire. The roof of the bake oven was fully in flame. It stood next to a large woodshed. It could have been a catastrophe due to the drought and the proximity of the houses to one another.
- 10 Aug Rode to Middleburg 12 miles from here to one of our families, old father Koch and his 3 daughters.
- 14 Aug Haven't had any soaking rain since Pentecost. Everything's drying up and the mills aren't operating for lack of water. Some of our neighbors have no drinking water. Memoir of Jacob Reitnauer who died 11 Aug. He was born in Frederick County about 1779. Married C. Schmidt in 1801. He later married Getraut Williar. On 24 July visiting his father-in-law in the mountains, Andreas Williar Sr. he got sick. Sang the verse: So will ich wenn ich zu dir komm, nicht denken mehr an Gut noch fromm Sondern kommt ein Sünder her, Der gern um's Lösegeld selig wär. 47 years.
- 17 Aug Gentle rain that lasted until 21 August.
- 3 Oct Burial of Br. William Gernand. See memoir. Born 1792 near Graceham. Married widow Anna Elisabeth Johnson in 1816. 32y.10m.5d.
- 9 Oct Sang the liturgy No. 9, "O, Gemeine freue dich."
- 11 Oct Very cold in the mountains. Three inches of snow fell there, which we could view from our windows. Water is still in short supply for man and beast. Mills are not grinding.
- 18 Oct Another illness is called "friesel".
- 23 Oct On this harvest Sunday we sang "Gott, man lobet dich in der Stille".
- 28 Oct Was an unusually stormy day with heavy rain, so that not far from here the oldest trees were uprooted. In the aftermath some places in the forest looked like cleared land.
- 7 Nov Baptized 6 children in the mountains.
- 14 Nov Johann Adam Gernand died. See memoir. Born Jul 1755. Went to Salem NC 1780. His trade was tanner. Came to live in Mechanicstown in 1788. 70y4m1d.
- 16 Dec description of ongoing drought, worse than anyone can recall
- 24 Dec About 1000 people at Christmas Eve service.
- 25 Dec Heavy rain!
- 26 Dec Sang Liturgy No. 15

#### Graceham Diary 1826

- 10 Jan I visited a young Single Brother suffering from a lung inflammation and spitting blood.

- 25 Jan Took the sleigh to visit *Geschwister* John Colliflower from here.
- Feb Much influenza this month!
- Feb 20 memoir of Elisabeth Busch neé Stauffer. She was born 1760 at Skippack. She died today. 65y 10m 13d.
- 19 Mar "*O, süße Seelen*"
- 24 Mar At about 1 in the afternoon a storm and wind appeared, bringing unusually heavy rain and like a cloudburst. Suddenly, all the gardens and streets were under water. The low-lying spots were turned into streams and rivers.
- 13 Apr I was invited to the laying of the cornerstone ceremony at the new Appel's Union Church. Pastors Grub and Bosler.
- 18 Apr On this day a forest fire broke out, helped along by a terrible wind. It started at a nearby coal pile on the mountain. It raged the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>, causing horrible damage, even though the Brothers and our neighbors rushed to extinguish it. Their efforts were not successful in the end. Most of the chopped wood, 3000 cords of fire wood belonging to the Furnace, several thousand fence rails and bark for the tanner fell victim to the inferno. A loss of \$4000. to \$500. was estimated. [also found in Oerter p. 95]
- 1 May I buried a mother of twins at Appel's.
- 5 Jun Time for cutting hay. Drought affecting garden crops.
- 16 Jun Received some rain reviving the wilted crops.
- 21 Jun Two feet of water covered the garden, streams, rivulets tore out the plants. Much damage.
- 28 Jun Had a friendly visit from the Catholic professor at St. Mary's. He looked about in the church. We regretted we couldn't find more common ground in our religious tenets and be able to come up with a common *Verfassung* (official agreement).
- 4 Jul In the evening was a special service for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the *Declaration of Independence*. After the choir sang an anthem and the congregation sang songs of praise, I gave a fitting address, ending with praying on our knees. After the people left the church, they were greeted by a pyramid with 50 lit candles on the lawn. In front of it were the trombones and horns playing tunes. From the church tower Sister Kluge and her choir then sang more

songs of praise and hymns. These were very well received by the audience in atmosphere of quiet reflection. [in Oerter p. 95]

- 9 Aug I was called upon at a doctor named Johnson who lives nearby. He recently has become quite ill. This person is the son of a very wealthy and respected family in the vicinity of Frederick. His uncle was a governor of Maryland. This doctor is himself very talented and experienced. Sadly, he led a poor life in his healthy days, one without any religious connection. As he became deathly ill, he was served by the true shepherd of souls, not wanting any of his flock to go missing. This provided an opportunity for a possible rescue of his soul. The Lord's spirit led him to realize his ruinous and dangerous condition. In such a sad and fearful condition and state of mind, the doctor called for me to come. He had already spoken with the Catholic priest and Methodist preacher, who had sought to calm his unease and worryment. They were unable to do so. As soon as I entered where he lay, he reached out his hand to me ... [story continues ...]
- 11 Aug Dr. Johnson died and was buried in the family plot near Frederick. This family belongs to the English *Bischöflichen* Church.
- 30 Aug Br. Kluge very sick.
- 19 Oct Sam. Reincke's youngest (not yet 2 years) comes to Graceham to be cared for. Motherless.
- 28 Oct We traveled 18 miles from here with our trombones and choir for the dedication of a new union church (Luth. And Ref.)
- 29 Oct I gave the first sermon. Unusually large crowd at this pretty brick church, more than it could hold.
- 20 John Eyler rode to get me, to go back and baptize his child, 14 miles from here.
- 3 Dec "*Siehe ich komme, im Buch stehet von mir geschrieben, Machet die Thore weit, etc.*"
- 13 Dec Sad story of Timotheus Krieger, found praying outside the village, on a walk, spitting blood. He died.
- 15 Dec Burial of Tim. Krieger

## Graceham Diary 1827

- 3 Jan I was requested to travel to the *Furnace* 5 miles from here to perform a burial of a girl. The weather was very cold.
- 20 Feb I was asked to officiate at a ceremony at the house of the Williards in the mountains. It was the wedding of their granddaughter.
- 10 Mar I crossed the mountain with a Brother into the so-called *Herbach's Valley* (or *Thal*). I visited with the *Geschwister* there and
- 11 Mar preached a sermon on this Sunday.
- 27 Mar I visited the Presbyterian minister of Emmitsburg and Taneytown, Mr. Grier, and his wife. They desire their daughter attend our school. He related how it is the sincere wish of many *Gentel* citizens that we establish a boarding school here for young *Ladis*. He said we could expect many such young scholars in a short time. We promised to accept his daughter. He was pleased to hear this.
- 29 Mar We were roused from sleep at 4 in the morning by the sound of a dangerous fire very near our village. The ringing of the bell stirred everyone into motion. With the help of God and strenuous human effort, the ravaging *Eliment* was contained and extinguished. Only Br. Benjamin Weiss' blacksmith shop was lost. All other buildings were saved. The loss was estimated at \$200.

[pages for April and most of June are missing!]

- 1 Jul The Kluges departed after almost 8 years of loyal service.
- The arrival of the Reinkes.
- 15 Jul ... In the afternoon Br. Reinke officiated at the burial of an infant girl 2 miles from here. He held this in English to a very attentive audience using Job 22, 21. There were several black sheep in attendance.
- 24 Jul Late in the evening Br. Reinke was called to the Furnace to visit with a deathly sick woman. She pleaded for a preacher's visit in this grave

state of health. Because the road passed through a thick woods and was very rocky, and it was pitch dark, I was especially thankful when I finally reached the home of the patient and was able find overnight lodging.

- 29 Jul In the afternoon I rode with Br. Protzman 5 miles and gave a memorial sermon for a man who had died 14 days before. He had died as an unrepentant sinner. I spoke of the verses in Amos 4, 12. There were many whites and blacks attending, especially from the Catoctin Iron Works where they very seldom have a worship service. They were quiet and attentive listeners. I stayed and spoke for a while with some of the ice-gray negroes. I reminded one of them the path that led to the eternal fatherland. He was carrying a large *Priegel (Prügel)* thrashing cane [or cudgel] in his hand which he used as a walking stick. I suggested he fix his heart firmly on the Savior from this point forward. It has been used long enough now in service of sins. He promised he would do so. Another negro said he has known the grace of God for 40 years already and that he seemed a harsh master. He mentioned he endured many a sorrow, but each time he overcame them. This provided him the most wonderful *Materie* in his life. His anointed glance, .... (continued)
- 6 Aug The burial of the body of old Br. Andreas Williar. I last visited him on Saturday morning 17 miles from here at his home. *Memoir* included. Born 1758 in Frederick County. Was 69years 4months 15days.
- 10 Aug *Gallen Ruhr* is widespread in the area.
- 26 Aug Funeral sermon for Br. David Krieger. *Memoir* included. Born 1788 in Frederick County. 38y 9m 8d
- 16 Sep Br. Abraham gave the German sermon from 1 John 1, 16. In the afternoon I rode with the Brothers to the Catoctin Iron Works and preached for the first time in the little schoolhouse. There was an attentive audience of both the upper and lower classes. I used the

text from the Gospel of Luke 17, 12-20 about the 10 lepers. I promised to return every fourth week.

- 3 Oct Father Abraham and I rode to the Catholic Seminary in Emmitsburg. We were welcomed cordially and courteously by a priest, who then showed us their chapel, cemetery and garden.
- 14 Oct This Sunday I rode to Catoctin Furnace in the rain. I spoke to about 30 people and baptized Henrietta and Angelica Christ.
- 18 Oct Our dear Father Abraham left us. His time here was not only a true blessing for us, his children and the *Geschwister*, but also for many of our neighbors. He visited diligently among them. He spent much time speaking with individual souls about that most important matter of all [their salvation and heart's condition]. Counted among them were many negroes, to whom Br. Abraham felt and expressed a special love.
- 28 Oct I preached at the Furnace.
- 11 Nov After the sermon at Catoctin Furnace ...
- 18 Nov Free Sunday School begins
- 21 Nov Br. Daniel Weller sent us several shade trees from his land through his son David. These were planted by Brothers J. Gernand, Buchmeier and Christ in front of the church and schoolhouse.
- 25 Nov Preached at the Furnace.
- 9 Dec Sunday was the funeral of a 92 year old man. Many attended from the Furnace. [Story follows how he died.]
- 11 Dec The burial of an old drunkard in the mountains. I preached to an attentive crowd in a large barn. On my ride home I encountered a heavily-loaded freight wagon, along a narrow road. It had turned over and the load was strewn about. My path was blocked. I had to



dismount and led my horse along a steep knoll. About a mile further along I met some men living in that area. I was able to help the unlucky teamsters by having these men come to their aid. One of the horses of the wagon in front landed on a narrow, steep ledge. It was very skittish and the whole scene was one of confusion. I rode on into the valley below and lodged at Capt. Smith's, a Lutheran. I conducted a *Versammlung* (gathering) at his house. About 20 people attended. Most of them were Methodists. Three of these were children of my host. After the singing and prayer, the Methodists broke out in their own singing among themselves. They hadn't given me any signal of their intentions. By the end it devolved into screaming. Almost any semblance of sight or sound was absent and I was glad when they left.

I have to mention yet how thankful we are to J. [Johnson?] for opening a new door to the Gospel at the Catoctin Furnace. We are now going to preach every 14 days. They had lacked almost any means of hearing the message of grace until now. The Word of Life is now being disseminated in the English language.

### Graceham Diaries 1828, 1829

#### **1828 Diary**

- 1 Jan           sang Litany No. 50
- 4 Jan           My horse almost threw me from my saddle.
- 6 Jan           Sunday. I preached German in the AM and English at the *Furnace* in the PM. Despite the rainy weather about 50 people attended. One of the workers there named Miller was a regular attender and brings his large family. After the service he invited me back to his house about a mile away. That evening in his spacious sitting room a large number gathered, especially many young people. I baptized 3 children. I read a moving *memoir* of a 12 year old girl. Some were moved to tears.

Among the 3 baptized was the son of a poor schoolmaster. My female servant out of mercy took care of the sick mother for a time. The father had to stay home often to care for the mother. The oldest sister of about 10 years gave me info regarding the name of the parents of the child in such a lucid and mature manner. She then asked me for a copy of that (*Lebenslauf*) memoir. I said she could borrow it until I return and then I'll give her a present of a similar tract or pamphlet. This girl has 4 younger sisters and is her mother's only support in the daily absence of her father at school a mile and a half distant. I visited the ill mother with 3 other neighbor women on Monday AM 7 January in her ramshackle cabin. When we arrived, the afore-mentioned girl was reading the memoir I had lent her to her sick mother. The woman was cheerful at the sight of us despite suffering much pain. In prayer I commended her body to the doctor's care and her soul to the Savior's grace. She asked I return to visit. Toward noon with beautiful and warm weather I headed toward home and heard the bluebirds singing and even the frogs peeping.

- 8 Jan ... had to ride to other side of Mechanicstown to baptize a deathly sick child suffering from *Gichter*. .... Buried a child at Appel's.
- 10 Jan Buried a child mentioned above at the Appel church. Afterwards at lunch I met with a 81 year old Lutheran and had a lengthy discussion re original sin.
- 26 Jan Saturday. I rode to the mountains with Christian Herbach, Jr. We stayed overnight with his uncle Jost Herbach. They adhere to the German Methodists or Otterbein group. Many came to hear me preach and I passed out little pamphlets in German and English. The young folk sat by the fireplace in the kitchen, reading and singing until 11 PM. They did the same Sunday AM as the weather was poor. The regular Sunday sermon at the schoolhouse was cancelled 1 ½ miles away. There were some Catholics at the evening *Versammlung*, also a 13 year old girl who is in service to my *Hausleuten*. She attends the Catholic church in Emmitsburg only to be obedient to her mother. I told her to obey her mother in all matters except that of one's soul. She should only obey God in that matter. Her conscience

should not be fettered by another human. Description of local man's discussion with a neighbor re certainty of an afterlife or not. Rode on to Christian Herbach, Sr. He asked I hold a *Versammlung*. 25 people came, including 3 *Neger*.

- 17 Feb Sunday. I preached for the first time at Mr. Brin's newly-built stone gathering hall. About 100 attended. I gave out 50 pamphlets from Br. Wolle in Philadelphia.
- 25 Feb Monday. Buried a 99 year old Catharine Kreis on the farm of Herman Kaft. She was born 5 October 1728. Her body was brought 8 miles to Appel's for burial. I was lucky to make it home, riding through mile long forests as the strong wind was blowing the trees across the road.
- 2 Mar Sunday. Not many attended at Catoctin for they didn't expect me to come due to the weather. I was asked to visit the expelled John Krieger as he was very sick. I spoke earnestly with him, but he showed little remorse re his wasted life and poor decisions. I met his brother later at Jacob Weller's house (a Methodist).
- 7 Mar Had a wedding in Mechanicstown so I had an opportunity to see John Krieger. This time he repented! I talked for an hour about his sins and told the story of Philip and his jailor. .... "My soul is dark, I'm scared." etc. To make it right with Br. Protzmann whom he betrayed shamefully. Long description of John Krieger's explanation of getting right.
- 9 Mar Schoolmaster Gist has a ¼ year trial period. Received letter from John Krieger asking forgiveness from the *Gemeine*.
- 15 Mar Story of the infamous drunkard at the last house in Mechanicstown. How he abused his wife and injuries.
- 17 Mar Monday. Relations with the Reformed Rev. Bosler who lives among Catholics, many in Emmitsburg. Story of a pamphlet telling story of

an Irish Catholic turning to Protestantism. Is it being used at St. Joseph's and the nun's cloister, etc?

- 22 Mar Sunday. The sermon in the mountains is cancelled due to John Krieger's burial yesterday. Reinke admitted he wept as J. Krieger found peace on his deathbed. He was born 6 Aug 1777 in Frederick County and married Eva Eyler. They had 12 children, 4 sons and 8 daughters. About 6 years ago he began wasting away/consumption due to strong drink and opium. He was 50 years, 7 m and 17 days.
- 23 Mar Monday. At Catoctin I buried an Irishman. He lived alone in a pitiful little cabin. He had left behind \$6000. through his ambition and frugal lifestyle. .... It's regrettable the Catholics who live there, most from the same country, didn't go to the church. Even at the graveside they appeared to avoid participating in the liturgy like the plague.
- 16 Apr Crossed the Monocasy to visit sick Mary Fleck. Has an inflammation of the liver. Baptized her 9 month old.
- 20 Apr Sunday. Couldn't get to the mountain valley due to the high water. I took a dangerous detour. Had a burial at Brown's tavern. Took a wagon driven by Mr. Herman.
- 28 Mar Monday. Rode over to Catoctin to see a drunkard in dire need of grace. .... As I arrived at Catoctin, the owner of the iron works said he feared his worker has gone mad. .... On Friday Buchanan was thrown from his horse and broke his leg. .... And as I was called to join Mr. Brin for lunch, I stopped my reading. He asked the people to leave. After lunch and some pleasant, personal conversation about salvation with the owner, I took the opportunity to visit several living quarters at Catoctin, even a negro hut. In this one was a woman with a little girl. The former seemed to be not far from the kingdom of God. She said she attended all the gatherings available to her even religious meetings of her people conducted by a negro preacher. ... As I returned to Rodeneiser I saw his father sitting on a stump by a brook. He said he came here during the Revolution serving a German prince. ... I visited a neighbor who was familiar with 5 of our

preachers since Seydrich's time. I made a drawing of a lovely view of Catoctin from his attic.

- 11 May Sunday. I preached at Catoctin, attended by a good number of people. I preached about the parable of the lost son especially in relation to the recent event at this place.
- 9 Jun Monday. The visit of Friederike Hüffel, *Pflegerin* of the Single Sister Choir in Lititz. I rode into the mountains and the *Buchs* were in bloom. It reminded me of a decorated *putz* (a typical Moravian advent diorama).
- 14 Jun Stayed overnight in Harbaugh Valley with a young Reformed friend named Zollinger. Baptized a baby girl the next morning. Held a sermon in the schoolhouse in the shadow of a great forest.
- 20 Jun Had a visit from Mr. McAiry, Vice-President of the Catholic Seminary. He was joined by the Music Director who is also a very talented singer. They invited me to a recital of 30 of their students on the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 22 Jun When I returned from Catoctin I saw the music teacher from Nazareth, Br. Brückenstein.
- 5 Jul Had a burial at Catoctin. Sudden epidemic of *cholera morbus*. The maidservant of Mr. Brien. She seemed a God-fearing widow in her manner. She was well-loved and admired. On the 6<sup>th</sup> I returned to Catoctin and in the audience unknown to me was my old friend, the independent preacher Hurley.
- 11 Jul Sister Reinke gave birth to a daughter with great difficulty. The baby died. Mother barely survived.

[rest of 1828?]

## 1829 Diary

- 4 Jan I rode in the extreme cold to Herbach Valley and preached in English in Sevilleville at the new roomy schoolhouse ... Rode 3 miles further and stayed over at Sister Eiler. Rode with her son John to his family residence and baptized his baby boy. Tuesday, I went 4 more miles to Rev. Grier who has had *Gallenfieber* for 7 weeks.
- 18 Jan Sunday. I hesitated going to Mechanicstown, but our friend Jacob Weller came and got me by sled in the heavy snowstorm. English sermon. I stayed over there.
- 1 Mar Sunday. Since the rode was covered in heavy ice, riding was most dangerous. At the steepest section of the road my horse lost its footing and went down on its knees. I survived it with only a slight sprain of my left leg, only through God's protection.
- 24 Mar Tuesday. I held a burial of a 90 year old woman at Catocin.
- 28 Mar Saturday. Rode to Harbaugh Valley and stayed over at my Reformed friend Zollinger.
- 19 Apr Mr. Keil a *studiosus* from Gettysburg gave the sermon.
- 26 Apr Baptized 3 children in Sevilleville.
- 3 May In the past week was a large forest fire (*Feuer Brunst*) in our nearby mountains. With a very strong southwest wind it caused much damage to a 4-5 mile wide stretch of woodland. Four farms of our neighbors were in greatest danger from the flying embers (*Flugfeuer*) and were spared. Hundreds of locals blessed by God poured in to stave off further damages to life and property. Everyone came away uninjured from the dangerous work of extinguishing it.
- 15 Jun Rode to PA to see Br. Jno. Eiler. The trip in all to see others came to 37 miles.

- 20 Jun I rode to Harbaugh Valley and stayed at the house of our *Geschwister* Christian Williar.
- 11 Jul Sunday. Upon request of a family I visited with an old man in the mountains suffering from *Wassersucht*. He suffered with terrible pain in his leg. As I entered the house, he was sleeping. I took that opportunity to read a devotional story to his family and visitors of the sick man. When he awoke, I tried to have a conversation with him. It was practically impossible to understand him. What I was able to ascertain was, sadly how in this old woodsman, (*Waldmann*) man of the forest, having become gray with sin, stuck this certain sense *Eigengerechtigkeit*. He was satisfied he had done nothing evil or wrong in his life.
- 15 Jul Baptized the baby Horatio Nelson Weller in Mechanicstown.
- 16 Jul Story of the Post coach accident on the return trip of Father Abraham to Lititz. Ran into a post on the far side of Emmittsburg, shattering a wheel. Another came off and the coach hung on its side until the 2-horse team broke loose. The wagon broke, the driver thrown off. He wasn't badly injured and later continued with the mail with a *chaise* to Gettysburg. Father Abraham stayed in the wagon, knocked unconscious a bit and had bruising and cuts on his head. There was much blood. He was brought back here and survived without life-threatening injuries.
- 19 Jul I preached in Harbaugh Valley and proceeded 3 miles to Jacob's church in PA to preach in English.
- 23 Jul The burial of Anna Maria Krieger, age 15 years and 9 months. She was born 24 Oct 1813. She was deaf and dumb. Since her hearing and speech was absent .... Her parents were made aware of her *Vorrecht* for many years and were able to have her enrolled at the Institute of the Deaf in Philadelphia at the expense of the state of Maryland. She told her sister with whom she communicated the

best, she thought she might not ever see her again. The fitting burial text was Jes. 35, 5-6.

- 3 Aug Burial of 19 year old. His uncle was Br. John Colliflower. He died of heat stroke at the harvesting task at Catoctin. Both suffered from it, but John didn't die.
- 9 Aug Sunday. On the way back from Catoctin a big storm, as I was passing through the forest. Found shelter at John Colliflower's house.
- 25 Aug Involved with the *Leichenbegängniß* of the man mentioned 11 July, Michael Waldmann. 80 + years old at the Appel church. Last 4 weeks devoured by worms. Was not conscious the last days.
- 13 Sep People in Millerstwon want me to come once a month. I stayed at Congressman Wilson's.
- 20 Sep Sunday. Went to Catoctin for my PM sermon, but only 30 people attended. The reason for this was most people went to the 4-day bush meeting (*Buschversammlung*) in Mechanicstown held by the so-called United Brethren in Christ. Baptism of baby daughter Reinke.
- 27 Sep Baptism of Lorenz Williar's daughter Anna Rebecca.
- 23 Oct Burial of John Heinrich Weller who died with complications from *Saufgichtern* and *Schlagfluß*.
- 25 Oct Married a negro couple.
- 15 Nov Sunday. For the harvest sermon at Catoctin I read Psalm 34.
- 22 Nov Sunday. For the harvest sermon at Graceham we sang: "*Gott, man lobet Dich in der Stille etc.*"
- 6 Dec I preached in Sevilleville after I stayed with my Reformed friend. On the road to Millerstown I met a poor woman with her daughter. She



had been walking several miles through the *Dreck* from Paxton's iron works in order to attend one of the Brothers' meetings, so she said. She was so pleased to see me and be able to speak to me. She cried out her blessing in a loud voice as she ran next to me in the forest. To my surprise I asked how she knew me so well, since I didn't remember ever seeing her. She said she heard me preaching at Catoctin, which was a blessing for her heart. She was now so glad she would be able to hear me every 4 weeks in Millerstown. Such an unsolicited expression of sincerity, as well as the deep conversation we shared along the way, gave me even more conviction to continue in my work of spreading the Gospel among the poor. I have sometimes failed to see any fruit of this labor at all. This situation has caused me real sadness and worry.

#### Graceham 1830 Diary

- Jan 11 Lengthy description of visits to the ill Daniel Huber in PA, his death and burial at Graceham. Also 27 Jan and 4 Feb. Born 3 May 1792. 37y 9m.
- 6 Feb ... so cold I traveled home in a covered *carriage*. Got a bad cold so I couldn't preach on the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 10 Mar Buried an outsider 2 year old Anna Margaret Robison, granddaughter of our old Mother Williar.
- 27 Mar Our friend and widower died yesterday at Catoctin, Henry Frölich. 74 years old.
- 29 Mar Many people heard what they thought was thunder, like a slow-rolling thunder, but the sky was bright and clear. It was thought to be an earthquake. It occurred at about 8 AM.
- 6 Apr Buried a child at Hunting Creek who died of *Masern*.  
 Brial of the so-called *Haußmutter* of the *Gemeine*, Anna Theodora Gernand. In the last 6 weeks she is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Housemother and the 5<sup>th</sup> corpse in all to be buried. Born in 1803 in Salem NC. She died from an inflammation giving birth to a daughter on the 31<sup>st</sup>. She was just 27y 3m.  
 Sad story of a man whose wife died 8 weeks ago. He was a drunkard. He died in the presence of another drunk who was kicked out of our church. This can serve

as a stark reminder of the terrible effects of excessive strong drink. He was buried a mile from here. A *Jury* was called.

- 1 May            Luckily made it to *Geschwister* Christian Williar before the storm and baptized their little boy Comenius Frederic Williar.
- 9 May            Rode to the Berge, first to Eilers, then to Mother Williar. On the 11<sup>th</sup> I rode with Jacob Williar to Jacob Herbach where I ate. I then met 3 men who had climbed the *Rabenfelsen* (raven rock/cliffs) at *Mount Misery*. From here one has the most striking of views. In the afternoon I rode 6 miles further to Schmittstown [Smithsburg MD?] where I visited Henry Ricksecker.
- 12 May            Went with Ricksecker to the well-known *Höle* (cave) at Cavetown.    Went to Emmitsburg to come to terms with a man who wanted to swap horses with certain conditions. The man didn't like my terms and was a cheat according to others. This serves as a warning. As Jesus said: "*So jemand mit dir rechten will und deinen Rock nehmen, dem laß auch den Mantel.*" Matthew 5, 40 = *and if anyone would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well.*

MISSING SECTION IN DIARY                      May to September

- 3 Oct            A woman came to my *Stube*. She and her husband arrived from Wales a few weeks ago. She heard me preach twice at Catoctin. She wanted to become a member as soon as possible since there are so few people of her *Verfassung* (frame of mind, outlook). She had a letter of recommendation from a Welsh pastor, but I said there would need to be discussions first. I recommended she continue attending services at Catoctin [Sunday afternoons in English]. I gave her a copy of *Ratio Discipl.* to study. [Could she be a Congregationalist?]
- 8 Oct            Church anniversary celebration
- 31 Oct            Sunday. Two musical compositions mentioned: "*Kommt, danket alle Gott*" and also one from Dr. Martin Luther "*O Herre Gott dein göttlich Wort ist lang verborgen blieben etc.*"            Baptized 4 children, last two were twin sons of William Krieger. They both died 5 and 6 days after their birth.
- 16 Nov            Burial of Sister Rosina Wedel neè Born. Her rheumatism was so severe she was made to *contract*. Also suffered from *Auszehrung* and *Wassersucht*.  
Born 9 Dec 1798. 31y 11m 5d.
- 19 Dec            Sunday. The annual love-feast for the Committee members, *Saal Diener* and *Musici*.

## Graceham Diary 1831

- 8 Jan Saturday. ... I will add something else, a tragic event which took place near Sabillasville on the 28<sup>th</sup> December. A family of 6 persons, consisting of a man and his wife, an old step-father, 2 children and a 15 year-old boy, had just finished slaughtering their pigs and had gone to bed later than normal that night. They were murdered in cold blood apparently and their house was set ablaze. A Catholic neighbor not living far from there discovered the deed after midnight. He rushed toward the scene, but was unable to save any of the property of the victims except for letting the animals out of the stall. After this man rushed to bring other neighbors, they were able to quell the fire with great effort by tearing down the rafters, etc. The body of the poor mother, who was in a blessed condition (with child), was found in a rather undisturbed state. After repeated, legal examination it was found she had traces of several deadly stab wounds in her side. Despite an initial strong suspicion pointing to some poor kinfolk of the murdered father, that they had committed the attack, no reliable facts are yet known. (cont.)
- 12 Feb There was an almost total eclipse of the sun. Almost 11 inches (*Zoll*) of the solar face was darkened.
- 8 May Attended the dedication of the new Mt. Moriah church.
- 26 Jun Sunday. I gave an address in English in Sabillasville concerning the hanging of the murderer John Merkly Friday last. I described this on my January 8 entry. I used the text Jeremiah 26, v. 11.
- 24 Jul Sunday. I bought a new horse.
- 19 Sep I traveled to Pennsylvania to visit our Br. John Eiler at Rock Creek. ... After meeting some ministers I also met with the Methodist preacher Crooks. We had a pleasant time conversing for an hour and a half. We spoke most about the many awakenings taking place at several places, at the so-called *Revivals*. We both expressed regret there is

little evidence or positive results of these awakening/conversions in our region.

- 30 Oct Sunday. Utica Mills .... I stayed at the home of a Lutheran named Bauersachs. I arrived at home before noon the next day, but soon after I was contacted to quickly ride to Catoctin to attend to an old Negro slave suffering from consumption. I found him in a very weak state and struggling for any comfort. When asked what his heart's true desire might be at this time, he stated "I don't know how to pray about my sins!" He meant he wanted to pray for the forgiveness of these his sins. I shared with him the proper wording of this type of prayer in the presence of his wife.
- 6 Nov Sunday. ... After riding to Catoctin in the afternoon I found this forementioned negro in a restful and peaceful state, longing to prepare his heart for the approaching end to his mortal life. Quietly and attentively, he listened as I told what our loving and forgiving Friend of sinners teaches us about sinfulness. He realized now that the fear of death has been removed from his heart. A negress present spoke of her behavior toward him, and how she encouraged him to turn to the Savior in his troubles, and not to avoid any lingering doubts in his heart. At the end of our visit, I knelt in prayer with the negro women present and prayed for the stricken man.
- 11, 12 Dec Sunday. We and several of our neighbors attended the dedication of the new Weller's church in Mechanicstown. It was built by the *Ver. Brr. in Christo* (United Brethren in Christ). It is to be open to us and to other preachers of the Gospel for occasional sermons.

#### Graceham Diary 1832

- 22 Jan Sunday. In the afternoon at Mechanicstown I married our Single Br. John Jacob Williar with our Single Sister Elisabeth Krieger.
- 26 Feb Sunday. In the afternoon I buried a small child not far from Catoctin.

- 25 Mar Sunday. I read the *National Circulare* of the *N. York Staat Mäßigungs Gesellschaft* (New York State Temperance Society). It was sent to me by a former student named Harris Butler. I was in contact with him when I taught at Nazareth Hall. In this statement it was encouraged each and every member of the Union be in agreement and sign a pledge to do whatever necessary to stop the scourge of drunkenness in our society. ...
- 28 Apr The story of a man who walked 500 miles from Ohio to see a Sister and bring news of her children and grandchildren. He himself was cleaning a gun when it discharged last year. He badly injured his left hand. Eventually most of the forearm was amputated. .... that many Methodist preachers attempt to scare their members with news of an approaching comet this year. They suggest, if the world is not coming to an end, we can expect terrible consequences from it at the very least. The result of this talk has made some people stop working altogether.
- 23 Jun Saturday. Sold copies of the new songbook, in English and German.
- 8 Jul National Day of Prayer and Repentance. We prayed for forgiveness of the high national debts and a way to eradicate the worldwide plague (*Weltpest*) of *cholera morbus*.
- 30 Jul ... I invited them then to our 4-day worship at Catoctin Furnace. The regular [Sunday afternoon services] worship has been poorly attended and will be of benefit.
5. Aug Sunday. Camp meeting 6 miles from here. Later, a disruptive old drunk appeared at the German *Versammlung* (gathering).
- 7 Oct Sunday. ... and after that was the Holy Communion. In the evening I preached at Catoctin and stayed overnight with Mr. Brien.
- 15 Nov A proclamation by the governor that the cholera epidemic is mostly over. *Cholera Danktag*.

31 Dec A three-year old dies of *Scharlachfieber* (scarlet fever)

#### Graceham Diary 1833

13 Jan Sunday. Preached in Sabillasville to a full house of attentive listeners. In the afternoon I rode 3 miles further to our friends the Eilers. There at their spacious new schoolhouse with song and prayer and a sermon ...

22 Jan Tuesday. A burial of 2 brothers, William and Martin Herbach, ages 7 and 4 years. They died 9 hours apart of scarlet fever at Millerstown in Pennsylvania.

This whole year scarlet fever killed many children, not all mentioned here!

9 Feb On Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> in the morning I preached in German at Sabillasville and in the afternoon at Eiler's schoolhouse in English using 1 Peter 2. 21-25. Many people had assembled there from far and wide. Even Catholics and negroes were at my service.

21 Feb Thursday. Burial of Martha Matilda Weller who died of scarlet fever. She was just 2 years and 3 months old. She was the 3<sup>rd</sup> child of this family to die from this illness.

5 Mar Tuesday. Burial of Single Brother Joseph Willheid on the distant/outside God's Acre, not far from our church. Here follows a very lengthy and vivid, gruesome description of his suicide, including attempts at intervention by the family and Rev. Reinke. This is much more detailed than what Reinke wrote in the PHC letter dated 28 Mar 1833. It mentions a marriage proposal and rejection and reasons, etc.

9 Mar Burial at Appel's church of the Fieser child. Scarlet fever has robbed these parents of all their children.

- 10 Mar Sunday. I preached in the morning at Sabillasville, in the afternoon again at Eiler's schoolhouse. I mentioned the terribly sad event of the previous week back in our area. I especially encouraged the youth to make a total commitment to Jesus in their hearts. Of the 4 negroes present, there was one who reminded me of some of our negro members in their missionary assignments through his attentiveness and happy, childlike expression, when they eagerly anticipate each new word.
- 11 Mar Monday. Burial at Appel's of 38 year-old neighbor Johann Georg Althous. He leaves behind a widow, 6 children (3 lie ill with the scarlet fever). The oldest child is nearly 7 years-old.
- 17 Mar Sunday. In the afternoon was the English sermon of Rev. 1 6,7. In the evening we read the reports about the negro rebellion in Jamaica in the *Missionary Intelligencer*.
- 10 Apr Wednesday. I left with my 8 year-old son, Edwin, to enroll him at Nazareth Hall. Returned 9 May with Bishop Anders to Graceham.
- 12 Jul Visited the youngest sister baptized Sister, Sarah Eckert, at her parents the Ledermanns, who took her in. She is living comfortably there. We spent a pleasant day together with these respectable old folk. They are adherents of the Dunker denomination. We went together to visit their next-door neighbor, the widower Mr. Curran. He's a native Irishman. In his later years he switched to Protestantism. .... (story continues)
- 9 Aug Saturday. Mr.[William?] Curran died last evening. I gave a discourse at his home.
- 17 Aug with a few members in the vicinity of our village, we took a walk in the afternoon in the small wood nearby. This was a time to have a personal, intimate discussion (*Herzensbande*) about their soul's condition and their path of service (*Dienergang*).

- 2 Sep Visited the members Alex. Herbachs 15 miles from here and baptized their little son, Felix Victor. I baptized 2 other children who were brought there to that house by strangers. The father of one of them was a devout Reformed. His name is Schneider. I had rewarding discussions with him.
- 3 Sep Tuesday. Brother Herbach accompanied me on my way to the *Rock* (Creek) in PA. Here I met the Br. Eiler and his family and relatives. In the evening I went out to their newly-built schoolhouse 1 ½ miles away.
- 23 Sep Monday. An unexpected visit from Professor Dr. E. L. Hazelius on his way from Gettysburg Lutheran Sem. to South Carolina. Here Reinke also mentions the neighborhood robberies as described at length in the PHC letter dated 3 Oct 1833.
- 13 Oct. Sunday. 25 Oct Thursday. I was asked to attend the dedication of Mr. Brien's new church at the iron works where I had already been preaching 4 years. Bishop Stone consecrated it the Harriet chapel with 2 Chr. 15.2. reinke led the singing was invited to the lunch with the others.
- 3 Nov Sunday. On my return my family and I survived a accident. The rear wheel of our wagon came off and we sank into the ground. Fortunately, the horse stood quietly. With the help of an old negro and his 2 daughters we soon were on our way again. ...
- 13 Nov Received a message from Hunting Creek saying a young man named Jacob Zimmermann was gravely ill from scarlet fever. .... Report of the natural phenomenon – thousands of shooting stars (*Sternschnuppen*) as if from *Zenith*. In all directions onto the horizon as if they were illuminated snowflakes descending. ... At midnight before the shooting stars began falling, the upper firmament glowed as a fiery carpet. Some later saw what appeared to be a fiery snake. This then transformed into a ball. .... On the way back he visits 2 communing Sisters who are ill. One has her friends there, presumably Methodists. Reinke describes a loud, wild, chaotic scene with jumping, singing, praying, dancing, chanting.



- 11 Dec Wednesday. On the way home from members D. Wilheid and the regular *Bibellektion*, I was met by the Court messenger Frederick and handed a note to appear tomorrow as witnesses regarding the recent robberies. We went, but were released Friday until next week when the trial begins.
- 21 Dec Saturday. Came back from Frederick. The trial of the 4 thieves. Only the ringleader (*Rädelsführer*) was found guilty. He received a 2 year sentence of incarceration.

### Graceham Diary 1834, 1835

#### 1834

#### Missing diary pages 1 Jan – 27 Mar 1834

- 12 May Monday. I buried the lifeless body of the little 9 year-old, Christian Huber. He was the son of our neighbor of the same name. .... He was such a cheerful, awakened boy. He was an excellent, always attentive learner at our school. He was especially fond of singing verses. His pious Mennonite parents were very calm and contemplative during this trying time.
- 21 May I officiated the burial of a 33 year-old father 6 miles from here. He was frequently in a drunken state. Yesterday evening in such a condition, he jumped across a *Fallthor* portcullis on his young filly. He was thrown forcefully to the ground. He suffered a severe head injury, and within a few hours he died. In the shadow of the soon to be dedicated Methodist church, I preached the Word .. (cont.)
- 24 May Saturday. I was invited to attend the baptism of 5 young persons at our neighbors, the Christian Huber family. Three of these young persons were their children, the other two being relatives. It began with the singing of a hymn led by their grandfather, the preacher Weldy. Everyone then kneeled and prayed in the silence. After that,

preacher Eschelmann gave a short talk, followed by the talented and esteemed preacher Roth. He spoke for about an hour in an evangelistic and powerful tone. At that point I was asked to read the lyrics of a fitting hymn in English and lead the singing for all those assembled in the barn. After preacher Roth questioned the five to be baptized regarding their confession of faith, and having received their promise of devotion to Jesus in the future until death, he and Hostetter baptized them in the name of the triune God with the pouring of water upon their heads. He then gave an emotional prayer on his knees. He extended his hand as in a pledge and gave each boy the kiss of peace. The girls were kissed by the Sisters. Roth lay his left hand on their right shoulder and encouraged their courage and trust in the Savior until the end. After that, Brothers Weldy, Hostetter and Reinke also spoke a few words of encouragement to them, followed by a song and the blessing. This marked the end of this patriarchal gathering. Inside the Huber house 4 or 5 tables were set end to end to accommodate the many attendees for a meal. – The preachers treated me in such a warm and brotherly manner. None of them were allowed to come and preach for me tomorrow, however. Before we were about to depart, a very fitting hymn was sung and a glass of beer was drunk. The kiss of peace was imparted in sequence as the people left for home.

- 10 Jul I visited some of the Williar families in Harbaugh Valley. Mother Elizabeth Williar, Charles' wife, was suffering from rheumatic pain in her hands and feet since her last delivery.
- 5 Sep Burial at Appel's church of Sophia neé Rausser Werenfels. She suffered from dropsy for 3 years. Her left leg was all black from *kalten Brand* (gangrene). Her other leg was covered in black blisters. She was 37 years old.

### 1835

- 7 Jan Wednesday. The new Center School was dedicated amid a festive gathering 1½ miles from here.

- 7 Mar These touching last days and hours of Raphael Rudolph Reinke. Died of a severe case of measles. 3 years, 10 months. There are several quotations here of the discussion he had with his parents.
- 26 Mar Thursday. I held the burial at Catoctin Furnace of 7 month-old Thomas Lammerson.
- 9 Aug Sunday. Dedication of new "union" church in Kriegerstown.
- 23 Aug English sermon in Sabillasville on Psalm 116, 1-16. I baptized 2 children. In the afternoon I had the German service on *Jes. 49, 13-17*. More attended than normal, probably because I had mentioned in the morning my next visit here would likely be my last, as I accepted a call to the Lancaster congregation. Brother Samuel Ren. Hübener would be taking my place.
- 17 Nov Hübeners arrive after a 14-day trip.
- 22 Nov Sunday. Farewell sermon of Reinke.
- 23 Nov Monday. Reinkes leave for Lancaster.

#### Graceham Diary 1836

- 6 Jan English sermon in the evening at Center Schoolhouse
- 10 Jan Due to the storm and snowy weather few came. In Sabillasville there was only the *Versammlungin* which both English and German were spoken.
- 25 Mar In Graceham was the funeral of widowed Br. Christian Herbach. He was born 14 Jan 1753 and married single Maria Elisabeth Wiljar on 16 Nov 178\_. They were blessed with 7 sons and 5 daughters. One of the daughters passed on before her father. He was a widower since September 1823. He died suddenly at the age of 83 years, 2 months and 9 days.
- 30 Mar Wednesday. I officiated the burial of the negro slave, Henry Cook, in Kriegerstown. He was 21 years and 9 months.

- 4 Sep Sunday. Our gatherings in Graceham were cancelled due to the funeral today of our friend and neighbor, Christian Huber. He died on the 2nd of this month. To Mennonite preachers were witnesses of truth in German. I gave a short sermon in English on Matthew 24, 44.
- 18 Dec Sunday. In Graceham I preached on John 1, 11-13. In the afternoon was the love-feast for the *Diener* and musicians.

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### Graceham Diary 1837

- 8 Jan Sunday. ... After the midday meal I rode to Ezra Eilers to comfort them regarding their child's accident. Its clothing caught fire and was buried at Appels Church.
- 25 Jan Wednesday. German sermon at Center schoolhouse from Matthew 22 , 37-39. On my return home there appeared a brilliant, reddish glow in the northern sky to light my way. It lasted until 10 at night.
- 11 Feb Saturday. I buried a child of Fran... Bauersachs at Utica Mills. Age 3.
- 2 Mar Thursday. The soulless body of Br. Gottfried Siess' tanner apprentice was found in the stall. This man named Wilkinson had not been to work the last few days, appearing only at the drinking establishments. Since then, he wasn't sober. Last night he came home and complained about not feeling well. He went to bed. At 11 o'clock he got up and slipped out of the house in his stocking feet. He went to the tannery and started a fire. Apparently, he stayed a few hours. Early this morning he was found in the feed area of the stall with 3 wounds to the neck. The knife with which he committed such an outrage was found firmly clutched in his right hand. Toward evening Br. Siess buried him in one of his fields.
- 23 Sep Saturday. Anna Maria Krieger died. She was nee Herbach. Born 26 Feb 1754. Married Lorenz Krieger 30 Aug 1774 and they had 8 sons and 4 daughters, 73 grandchildren, 55 gr-great grandchildren. Age 83 years +.

#### Graceham 1838

- 18 Feb Sunday. .... There was a 3-day meeting at Appel's.
- 15 Mar Easter Sunday. .... A large crowd attended, but quite a number behaved quite poorly from visiting the tavern.

16 Nov Friday. I buried at a family graveyard the 84 year-old widower Friedrich Wilheit. He was a Rev. War soldier, present at the battles of its first three years after the Declaration of the Independence. A Frey=Compagnie led the funeral procession. Any other such military display was forbidden by the family.

#### Graceham Diary 1839

15 Apr Monday. I buried a child at Utica Mills.

22 May Ambrose Rondthaler welcomed to Graceham.

24 Jun Preached a funeral sermon for Jost Herbach who died suddenly n one of his fields. Mr. Adams, a Weinbrennerian, preached a wild and fanatical sermon in English. The family is Methodist except for a son who is a fanciful Weinbrenner.

1 Aug Funeral of a child not belonging to our congregation. Had baptized her 26 July. The mother lives in the village and requests her daughters' remains be buried in God's Acre. We agreed to it. Her name was Angelina Platt, the illegitimate daughter of William Weller and Peggy Platt.

6 Aug Buried Elisabeth Handly at Zimmermann's graveyard. She was the daughter of catholic parents.

11 Aug ... in the afternoon spoke in German at old Mother Williar's in a room above the springhouse.

8 Oct In the evening I read a short account of the commencement of the Brn's Church in this neighborhood.

13 Oct Reverend Pence, a Presbyterian clergyman, preached in our church.

26 Dec Married a couple near the Furnace.

## Graceham Diary 1840

- 2 Feb I was called to visit Mr. Brien at the Furnace 5 miles from here. Having led a dissolute life, the Lord has graciously given him time to think of the things pertaining to his peace, on a bed of sickness and languishing. I spoke with him of Jesus, the only HElp of sinners and prayed for him as also on the 5<sup>th</sup> on which day early in the morning I returned to Graceham.
- 7 Feb Funeral at the Furnace of an illegitimate child of Rebecca Wilhite.
- 8 Jun I rode to the Furnace to baptize 2 children and also married a couple.
- 5 Jul ... Rev. Mr. Weiser, Lutheran clergyman, concluded the meeting with some strong language in his remarks, expressing his wish we might establish a Temperance Society in our congregation.
- 24 Jul During the night I was called to baptize 2 colored children of slaves belonging to Mr. G. Harmon.
- 18 Oct Br. Reinke returned to visit.

Graceham Diary 1849, 1850, 1859

No. I.

- 1 Sep 1849 ... He again has brought me back to the home of my childhood. Thoughts of the past, present, future excited a tumult of emotions as we drew near the town, I again beheld the familiar parsonage & church, with its steeple very much out of perpendicular, the Spring House, garden, etc.
- 23 Sep 1849 Sunday. ... The choir generally sings a choral as the minster enters & toward the close of service, when the collection is taken.

- 30 Sep 1849 Mr. Walter was a storekeeper in the town & a well-known & moreover a Catholic. Buried at the mountain church near the catholic Seminary.
- 7 Oct 1849 ... Received notice of mother Eyer's death
- 8 Oct 1849 Left early in the carriage for the mountains. Found a large number of people already assembled at the house of the deceased. Sang & kept a short address before the house, around the coffin, after which the procession a very large one – of carriages & riders on horseback was

No.II.

formed for Graceham, the whole time occupied being about 3 hours. A very large concourse of people assembled at the grave & in the church.

- 17 Oct 1849 Wednesday. To Harbaugh's Valley with mt wife & Sister Lovina Harbaugh. After a drive of a few miles, you enter this most romantic valley, the road at one time winding along the creek – at another beneath piles of overhanging rock. Stopped at Mr. Jno. Harbaugh's members of the German Reformed Church & relatives of Sister Lovina Harbaugh's. .... Next morning visited Br. Jac. Williar's. His wife, sister have left our church & are making very effort to induce bR. Williar to be "immersed" according to the practice of the "River Brethren". ... (cont.) ... The story of Rev. Aug. Siess, gifted preacher. He had to study elsewhere and was not supported by the local *Gemeine*.

- 4 Nov 1849 English preaching Galatians 6.17. Endeavored by this sermon to counteract in some measure, the evil influence which the Baptist excitement seems to exercise in certain quarters.

- 10 Nov 1849 Saturday. .. practiced singing with the children. Slow work!

No. III.



- 10 Dec 1849      Monday ... Purchased raisins & candy for distribution among our Sunday School children at Christmas.
- 17 Dec 1849      Monday ... Butchered our meagre pig.
- 24 Dec 1849      Monday ... To a full house – Strangers in general behaved well, in general. After meeting, a good deal of noise & firing of crackers by Mechanicstown lads. Brother James Creager's horse took fright & almost ran off as he was driving home with his family. One of the crackers having been thrown into the carriage. One of my candidates William Boller behaved very badly, became intoxicated & ran away from home. – The rowdies on their return tore up a part of Mr. Snyder's fence. There is not so much noise as in former years, the people not being permitted to assemble at the tavern & stores.
- 26 Dec 1849      ... Meeting closed with singing of doxology: "*From all that dwell below the skies, etc.*" .... In the afternoon a visit from Mr. William Biggs, a Methodist, who appears to have been well-acquainted with my parents.
- No. IV.
- 31 Dec 1849      ... Choir sang Gregor's piece: "*Lord Lord God*".

#### 1850 Graceham Diary

- 3 Jan 1850      Thurs. Drove out to Br. Joseph Wilhides past Mechanicstown. ... He and I made an excursion to the top of the mountain and visited the so-called "chimney rocks".
- 8 Jan 1850      Tuesday. ... At 5 PM kept a wedding of 2 colored people at old George Luby's hut near Owen's Creek – Alfred .?. dricks (slave of G. P. Zimmerman – furnished with a license by his master) to Mary Stanton, both mulattos. Afterwards baptized 2 children of Mrs. Stanton's. Then up the creek to Br. Jno. Siess.

10 Jan 1850 To Harbaugh's Valley to keep a wedding. Time appointed was 10 o'clock. Noon came & no bridegroom – one, two, and three o'clock & no Mr. Herbert made his appearance. Finally, he came a greater "*harum scarum*" I have seldom seen. (He was obliged to marry, having seduced the daughter of Benjamin Wilhide. His wife Josephine Aurelia has hitherto been a member of the congregation. Glad to escape home.

No. V.

16 Feb 1850 Saturday. Funeral of Mrs. cath. Gisbert at Creagerstown. Thus far very few "thank yous" for the funeral addresses & still less cash remuneration.

19 Feb 1850 Tuesday. A wedding couple suddenly appeared. A great object with the people is to keep their marriage a profound secret. If discovered on the first day the party is sure to be serenaded by a "kettle band" and subjected to other annoyances. Parties were Mr. E. .?.riner to Miss Jane Parrish.

1 Mar 1850 Dradful wind storm. ... The country preented a sad sight. ? fences, running North and South completely protrate and rails scattered in every direction. Several barns and sheds unroofed. – The new wooden covered bridge at Owen's Creek lifted up and precipitated into the water.

Graceham Diary 1859  
(7 July to 31 December)

24 Dec 1859 It was observed by strangers and our own people, among whom the oldest here living that they never had seen such a quiet Christmas Eve as this as long as they know anything of Gaceham.