

TRANSLATION

So far as the descent, birth, education, marriage and conduct of our beloved companion and outstanding burgess of name Johann Martin Truckenmuller is concerned, above mentioned was born in legal marriage in the year of our Lord 1706 on the 10th day of November in a little village of Adelmansfelden belonging to a castle-district situated in the property of the noble family of the Knight and Baronet of Rockentin (sp).

His beloved parents were of German parentage of name Johann Ernst Truckenmuller well-to-do game-keeper to the right honorable master of the house of Hohenstein, and mother Ursula, nee Herottin, who according to Christain duty and under patronage of Johann Schurlen, Johann Adam Cronmuller and Martin Fortauber, citizens of Adelmansfelden, had their son christened in God's grace the following day, November 11th, 1706 as Johann Martin, as can be seen from the birth certificate of the Reverend Dr. Jacob Ludwig Horner. After his birth and baptism his parents henceforth gave him the utmost care and at the age of 6 sent him to school for the benefit of his education, until he was 12½ years old. Then, in order that he might recognize his Lord Jesus Christ and build his house on the right rock, his religious education was left to the care of Parson Reinhard who prepared him for his confirmation and admitted him for the first time to the Lord's Supper. After having passed confirmation and thus becoming a member of the Christian (Lutheran) Church, his parents put forth effort to make him a useful member of human society and to take care of himself, - they caused him to learn the profession of a tailor. In his three years of apprenticeship he thoroughly learned this profession and was always honest. After three years, as the reles of his craftsmanship prescribed, he was sent out on his tour through the country to acquaint himself with persons and places. After having spent several years as a journeyman and feeling the inclination to study and judge the vices and virtues of the nobility of the world, and keeping the good part, he by devine predestination, met on his journeys the lady von Wessim in the princely capital of Stuttgait (now capital of Wurtemberg, southwestern country of considerable size in Germany) where she gave him a post as a servant. While in her service, and after considerable thought, he followed his heart to marry Maria Catharina Sperlin, daughter of the gardner Johann Adam Spere from Ottingen and his wife employed as a cook by Lady von Wessim. He became engaged to her and with permission of the brother of Frau von Wessim, The Baronet von Schertzin at Geission, the were married.

As can be seen from a certificate from Johann Siegmund Mercklin the pastor, he was publicly married in church on August 7th, 1731. For the following 4½ years he was in good and Christian standing as head servant to Baron von Holtz, Imperial Councillor. After this time, having been honorably discharged, he returned to his birth place for seventeen years to execute his original trade until he found the desire to exchange his home for the New World. Under the Lord's protection he and his wife and nine children undertook the voyage on May 11, 1753 and landed safely in Philadelphia. However, he found that in the New as well as the Old World, there is misery and sadness and one has to fight through life, seeking faith and our real Fatherland in our Lord Jesus Christ. In Germany as well as here, he experienced that only through Christ's guidance one gets to the reconciliation.

He lived by the following slogan, finding that Jesus Christ alone was maker and protector of all human life.

The ground on which I prosper,
Is Jesus Christ and his blood,
There is nothing of me and my life on earth alone,
That Christ gave me is worth the price of love.

In the 32 year (1731-63) of his marriage the following children were born to live and grew to him by the Lord's foresight and properly baptized. (The number of children is Illegible).

One of the following, namely Johann Wilhelm, died in Philadelphia Sept 1763 at the age of 13 years and nine months. He had been born in Adelmansfelden January 1st, 1749. He was baptized January 2nd, godfather being Baron Ludwig Wilhelm von Brunnerdin; also godfathers were Frantz Bauderle, paper maker, and Jacob Vogt.

Still living are, according to baptismal certificate by Jacob M. Beck in Alsdorf and Eberhard Vollrath Muller in Adelmansfelden

1. Catharina, born May 1732, baptized in Adelmansfelden.
2. Juliana Philippina Maria, " Mar. 26, 1733 in Alsdorf.
3. Johann Philipp, " Jan. 10, 1735 in Alsfeld.
4. Maria Catharina, " Mar. 21, 1736 in Adelmansfeld.
5. Johanna Charlotta Christiana, " Oct. 25, 1738 "
6. Wilhelm Ludwig, " Sept. 6, 1745 "
7. Carl Frantz, " June 7, 1746 "
8. Johann Jacob, " May 24, 1750 "