

**THE HISTORY OF THE
WAGENSELLER
FAMILY IN AMERICA:
WITH KINDRED BRANCHES**

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The History of the Wagenseller Family in America: With Kindred Branches by Geo. W. Wagenseller

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GEO. W. WAGENSELLER

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THE HISTORY

OF THE

WAGENSELLER FAMILY IN AMERICA,

With Kindred Branches.

Edited and Compiled by
GEO. W. WAGENSELLER, A. M.,
Middleburgh, Pa.

"Those who do not look upon themselves as a link connecting the past with the future do not perform their duty to the world."—DANIEL WEBSTER.

MIDDLEBURGH, PENNA.:
WAGENSELLER PUBLISHING COMPANY,

1898.

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PREFACE.

In presenting this volume of family history to the public and especially to those most interested in its contents, the author feels a great pleasure, but mingled with this he finds a strong under current of regret. The data long ere this should have been collected and preserved. Now, alas! we know not how much has been lost. The information now obtainable concerning the revered founder of our family in America is very meagre, but we still hope that time and research will yet reveal some important information so much coveted. The argument was used by some of our good friends that the publication of this volume should be delayed in order to secure more time and hence additional opportunity to make further research. This idea is a good one, but in order to get the book published, it was necessary not only for the author to contribute his services, but to select a time and opportunity to publish the book at a minimum cost in order to avoid the unfortunate condition of a losing venture, which, even with the strictest economy, is not yet assured. With all this the author was compelled to rob his business of much valuable time in order to accomplish this result. Hence, any additional delay would militate too much upon time that requires a more substantial reward. It is a pleasure, then, that so much has been accomplished, but a regret that so much must be left unearthed.

The appearance of this volume, at this time, must not be misconstrued to mean that no additional research

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shall be made, but on the other hand, putting the information already collected into the hands of those most interested, all will be in a better position to make research and notes upon all connecting lines, jot them down upon the blank pages in the back part of the book in order to preserve them. The time will come sooner or later when such information can be used. If any errors have occurred, and we know there have, for it is an impossibility to handle so many dates without errors, also note these upon the blank pages and report them at once to the undersigned.

In our work we have had the co-operation of a great many different persons who faithfully did their share of the work and to all of them we acknowledge our sincere gratitude for their devotion and loyalty to the preservation of the family records. We desire especially to acknowledge in grateful remembrance the invaluable services of Mrs. M. H. Hazzard of West Chester, Pa.; Hon. A. B. Longaker, Norristown, Pa.; Mr. William Summers, Conshohocken, Pa. and to Mr. Henry S. Dotterer, 1305 North Thirteenth Street, Philadelphia, who is the author of the "Perkiomen Region," a bound volume treating largely of the original Wagenseller locality, from whose pages we drew a great deal of data. There are many others who deserve special mention here, but space forbids. There is another class, and one entirely too large, who have neglected to answer even a single letter. It is this class who have erected barriers to the speedy and effectual disposition of a labor of love.

In the compilation of this work, after examining a number of different systems, we have adopted the one in use as the most popular and the one most easily followed. Every character is numbered and whenever one of them is to be taken up later for a more complete consideration, a plus (+) mark is prefixed to the number. The exponents are used to designate the generations to which a character belongs, thus, WILLIAM³, (*John*², *Christopher*¹), p. 37, indicates that William belongs to the third generation; John, his father, to the second, and Christopher, his grand-

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father to the first generation. The frontispiece represents the headstones at the graves of John and Margaret Wagenseller in the Old Trappe burying-ground in Montgomery County, Pa. Those who are not familiar with the German, will find a free translation of the inscriptions on page 19. In the back part of the book, page 209, will be found a picture of the POST PRINTING OFFICE, where this history was published.

With this introduction we submit this volume to the interested reader asking for lenient criticism for errors and that censure for deficiencies be placed where they properly belong.

Respectfully submitted,

Geo. W. Wagenseller

Middleburgh, Pa.,
August, 1898.

Wagenseller Chart for Four Generations.

