

## Biographical Sketch of Jonathan and Susanna Kiehl

Jonathan Kiehl was born on 07 June 1787 in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and baptized at the Rosenthal New Bethel Church in Albany Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.<sup>1</sup> Jonathan's parents were Adam (John Adam) and Margaretta (Anna Maria Margaretha) Kiehl.<sup>1</sup> Jonathan's father Adam (b. 1758, d. 1838) appears in the 1790 and 1800 US Federal Census in Albany Township.<sup>2,3</sup> Adam's occupation in 1800 was a cordwainer, a maker of shoes and other leather goods.<sup>4</sup> It appears that Adam had a brother Frederick who was a marine aboard the American frigate *South Carolina*, under the command of Captain John Joyner.<sup>5,6</sup> The *South Carolina* was captured by the British on 20 December 1782 after attempting to escape the blockade of Philadelphia. Sometime in the early 1800's Adam Kiehl and his family moved from Albany Township in Berks County, and settled in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. There are no church or court records for the name Kiehl (Kiel, Keel, K hl, etc) before the birth of Jonathan's nephew Jacob on 31 December 1803, and his baptism on 05 February 1904. Jonathan, at the age of 16 was a sponsor at the baptism. Jonathan's siblings were: Jacob (b. 26 February 1779), John (b. 16 March 1781), John Adam Jr. (b. 04 October 1783), Daniel (b. ~1790), and twins Margaret Rebecca and Esther (b. 23 August 1794). There are records for various events in the lives of these family members in Westmoreland County in the 1800's. A baptism on 08 October 1815 for a child Sara, daughter of Nicholas and Barbara "Kiehle", appears on the records of the First Lutheran Church in Greensburg, Westmoreland County; the parents were the sponsors. Nothing else is known of this Kiehl Family or their possible relationship with the Adam Kiehl family.

The maiden name of Jonathan's mother is not certain. Samuel Pool Weaver and Harry J. Portzer identify her as Anna Margaretha Braucher, the daughter of Christian and Anna Braucher.<sup>7,8</sup> However, according to other sources, Christian and Anna (Schissler) Braucher did not have a daughter named Anna Margaretha. Their six daughters are given as: Anna Barbara (b. 04 September 1761, m. George Kessler), Catherine (b. ~1762, d. 10 November 1785, leaving an heir Jacob Ditzius), Anna Maria (b. ~1764, m. Michael Albright or Albrecht), Anna Elizabeth (b. 10 August 1772, d. 10 Jan 1858, m. Michael George Schmidt), Anna Mary Magdalena (b. 19 May 1774, m. Jacob Zimmerman), and Christina (b. 30 November 1775).<sup>1,9,10,11</sup>

Another possibility, suggested by Harry Wilson, is that Jonathan's mother was Anna Maria Margaretha Bieber.<sup>12</sup> Jonathan's baptism record lists "Anna Margaret Kiel" as his mother in 1787; Adam and "Maria Margaret Kiel" are named as parents of twins Margaret Rebecca and Esther Kiel in 1794.<sup>1</sup> Anna Maria Margaretha Bieber (b. 21 May 1758) was a daughter of Lorenz Bieber (b. 28 Oct 1717) and Maria Catharina Adam, of Berks County, Pennsylvania.<sup>13</sup> Lorenz Bieber's will suggests that his daughter Margaret was married to Adam Kiehl. The will directed that Lorenz Bieber's estate should be divided in equal shares among his sons and sons-in-law, with the exception that "Christian Braucher and his Heirs are excluded and my Daughter Eva shall have one English Shilling, and Adam Keel and his Heirs has nothing to demand of above mentioned Estate, because he has already five Pounds away, and my Daughter Margaret one English Shilling."<sup>12,14</sup> Other sources indicate that Christian Braucher was Eva's husband; and the parallel wording suggests that Adam Kiehl (Keel, Kiel) was Margaret's husband.<sup>15,16</sup> A transcription from the Old German Cemetery in Greensburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania lists Margaretta Kiehl (b. 1757, d. 8-19-1836, age 79).<sup>17</sup> That birth date fits reasonably closely with the birth date of 1758 reported for Anna Maria Margaretha Bieber. The Kiehl, Braucher, and Bieber families were clearly intertwined; Christian Braucher Jr. married Eva Bieber, and Peter Braucher, another son of Christian Sr. and Anna, was a sponsor at Jonathan Kiehl's baptism.<sup>1</sup>

According to Caldwell's *History of Indiana County* Jonathan Kiehl's wife Susanna was a Fisher from Maryland.<sup>18</sup> Although there is no direct proof of this, a Fisher connection seems likely. In 1814, Elizabeth Fisher was a sponsor at the baptism of Jonathan and Susanna's son Daniel at First Lutheran

Church in Greensburg.<sup>19</sup> Jacob Fisher was appointed guardian of daughter Ann Katharine Kiehl after Jonathan Kiehl's death.<sup>20</sup> In 1844, Jacob Fisher, Elizabeth Fisher, and Adam Kiehl (son of Jonathan and Susanna) were beneficiaries of the will of Lewis Weaver of Sewickley, Westmoreland County.<sup>21</sup> In 1846, Susanna Kiehl and son Adam were beneficiaries of the will of Jacob Fisher of Sewickley.<sup>22</sup> The inscription on Susanna's gravestone gives her birth as 03 July 1786.<sup>23</sup> That date fits with her age of 64 recorded in the 1850 census.<sup>24</sup> Records of the First Lutheran Church of Greensburg, Westmoreland County list Susanna "Fuesher" as a communicant on 29 September 1805, and Susanna "Kuel" as a communicant on 20 September 1812, and 19 September 1814.<sup>25</sup> These entries suggest that Jonathan Kiehl and Susanna Fisher may have been married between September 1805, and the birth of their first son, Jacob, in May 1807.<sup>26</sup>

The US Federal census shows Jonathan "Keel" living in Hempfield Township in 1810.<sup>27</sup> Ages of persons in the household correspond to Jonathan and Susanna in their twenties and their 2 eldest sons less than 10 years old; the household also included a man and woman greater than 45 years old, and a man between 25 and 45 who are not accounted for. Westmoreland County deed records show Jonathan and Susanna Kiehl of Hempfield selling land to John Armbrust in 1813, and Jonathan and Susanna of Unity selling land to Benjamin Geiger in 1815 (Benjamin Geiger's wife was a Catharine Kiehl).<sup>28</sup> Jonathan Kiehl has not been found on the 1820 or 1830 US census records for Westmoreland county. Jonathan and Susanna had 9 children; information about them is summarized in the table below.

### Children of Jonathan and Susanna Kiehl

Child	Birth	Baptism	Marriage		Death		
			Spouse	Date	Date	Place	Age
Jacob	10 May 1807 <sup>19</sup>	07 Jun 1807 <sup>19</sup>	Elizabeth Dewalt <sup>29</sup>	11 May 1826 <sup>29</sup>	21 Feb 1881 <sup>30</sup>	So. Mahoning, PA <sup>30</sup>	73
Jonathan	25 Apr 1809 <sup>26</sup>	21 May 1809 <sup>26</sup>					
Elizabeth	18 Aug 1811 <sup>26</sup>	08 Sep 1811 <sup>26</sup>	Jacob Dewalt <sup>31</sup>	~1828	May 1850 <sup>32</sup>	Elizabeth, PA <sup>32</sup>	38
Susanna	~1812-1815		Isaac Wynn <sup>42</sup>	28 Feb 1833 <sup>42</sup>	Before 1850		<38
Daniel	05 Mar 1814 <sup>26</sup>	02 Apr 1814 <sup>26</sup>	Amelia Michael <sup>33</sup>	~1838	After 1880		>66
Henry	14 Apr 1820 <sup>34</sup>	07 May 1820 <sup>34</sup>	Dianna Daggette <sup>35</sup> Louisa Irwin <sup>36</sup> Susan McCleary <sup>40</sup>	27 Feb 1840 <sup>36</sup> ~1860 <sup>38,39</sup> 03 May 1870 <sup>40</sup>	05 Nov 1888 <sup>37</sup>	Sewickley, PA	68
Adam	06 Jul 1823 <sup>41</sup>		Catharine Kunkle <sup>42</sup>	12 Feb 1846 <sup>42</sup>	30 Mar 1898 <sup>41</sup>	Irwin, PA <sup>41</sup>	74
Ann Katharine	~1818-1824 <sup>20</sup>						
Ann (Susanna) Rebecca	17 Sep 1825 <sup>42</sup>		Never Married	---	03 Jun 1844 <sup>42</sup>	Greensburg, PA <sup>42</sup>	18

Jonathan Kiehl died at the age of 44 on 22 December 1830 in Salem Township, Westmoreland County; his burial place is unknown.<sup>29,42</sup> On 10 January 1831 the Westmoreland County Orphan's court appointed guardians for 5 of the Kiehl's minor children.<sup>20</sup> Jonathan's brother Daniel Kiehl was appointed guardian for his son Daniel; the elder Daniel's neighbor Reuben Zimmerman was appointed guardian for Henry Kiehl; John Miller was appointed guardian for Adam Kiehl; and Jacob Fisher, possibly Susanna's brother, was appointed guardian for Ann Katharine Kiehl. A guardian was also appointed for daughter Susanna. The court records indicate that Henry, Adam, and Ann Katharine were under 14 years old, and Daniel and Susanna were older.

The Kiehl's eldest son Jacob, who spelled his surname "Keel", married Elizabeth DeWalt. They moved

to Indiana County, Pennsylvania and had 9 children. Jacob was a farmer and Baptist minister.<sup>18</sup> He died in 1881 and is buried in the Old Mahoning Baptist Cemetery.<sup>30</sup> Nothing more is known of son Jonathan Kiehl beyond his birth and baptism. Daughter Elisabeth married Jacob DeWalt; they lived in Elizabeth Township, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and had 11 children. Elizabeth died in May 1850 at the age of 38, after a brief illness.<sup>32</sup> Daughter Susanna married Isaac Wynn; Susanna died sometime before 1850 as Isaac is a widower in the 1850 census; they had no known children. Son Daniel, his wife Amelia Michael, and their 4 children also lived in Elizabeth Township, Allegheny County, where Daniel was a constable.<sup>43,44</sup> Daniel died sometime after 1880, the last census in which he is identified.<sup>45</sup> Henry Kiehl married Dianna (Dinah) Dagett; they also lived in Elizabeth, and had 8 children.<sup>35,36</sup> Their family moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania, where Dinah died in Finleyville in 1859.<sup>46,47</sup> Henry married Louisa Irwin in 1860; they moved to Ohio, and Louisa, who died in 1869, is buried in Barlow, Washington County, Ohio.<sup>36,47,48</sup> Henry returned to Sewickley Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, and married Susan McCleary; they had one son.<sup>40</sup> Henry died in 1888.<sup>37</sup> Adam Kiehl married Catharine Kunkle, they lived in North Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County, and had 8 children.<sup>42</sup> Adam was a veteran of the Civil War; he died in 1898.<sup>41,49</sup> Nothing more is known of daughter Ann Katherine. The Kiehl's youngest daughter Ann Rebecca died on 03 Jun 1844 at the house of Benjamin Simpson of Greensburg, Westmoreland County at the age of 18.<sup>42</sup> Based on census records, this appears to have been a boarding house.

After Jonathan's death, his wife Susanna married Conrad Krock on 15 November 1832.<sup>42</sup> They lived in Hempfield Township, Westmoreland County. Conrad Krock died less than 3 years later 03 September 1835.<sup>50</sup> Susanna Kiehl Krock, at age 64, was living in Elizabeth Borough, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania with her widowed son-in-law Jacob DeWalt in the 1850 census.<sup>24</sup> Susanna attended communion at Brush Creek Lutheran Church near Irwin in North Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County in 1831, 1834, 1845, and 1848.<sup>51</sup> Susanna Kiehl Krock died 25 Aug 1857, and is buried with her second husband Conrad Krock in Brush Creek Cemetery.<sup>23</sup>

- 1 Church Record of the Rosenthal New Bethel or Corner Church In Albany Township Berks County Pennsylvania 1761-1853. Translated by Dr. William J.Hinke; Transcribed by Rev. A. S. Leiby. ©Thomas' Birds of a Feather 2003 Wayne R. Thomas March 2003. <[http://www.birdsofafeather1.com/documents/documents/Church%20Records/Rosenthal%20New%20Bethel%20Church%20\(need%20reviewing%20for%20errors\).pdf](http://www.birdsofafeather1.com/documents/documents/Church%20Records/Rosenthal%20New%20Bethel%20Church%20(need%20reviewing%20for%20errors).pdf)>
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