

A History of the Juniata Valley and its People under the Editorial Supervision of John W. Jordan, M.D. Librarian of Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., Volume II, Illustrated, New York, Lewis Historical- Publishing Company, 1913

In 1796 **Christian Spangler** was listed among the "taxables" of Quemahoning Township, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. He married and had issue, including a son **Abraham**.

(II) **Abraham**, son of **Christian Spangler**, was a wealthy farmer of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, owning between three and four hundred acres of land, much of it in timber. He spent his life in lumbering and farming on his own land. He married **Margaret**, daughter of **Captain Daniel Stoy**, who came from Ireland to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, thence to Somerset County, with the earlier settlers of the northern part of Somerset County. He became the owner of a large amount of land, his first settlement being the present site of Stoystown, of which he is considered the founder. While he devoted some time to the primitive agriculture of pioneer days, he was at first more of a hunter than farmer. Tradition has it that during Indian troubles he was compelled more than once to leave his mountain home and take refuge at Fort Bedford; also that he killed an Indian from the door of his cabin, which was afterward burned by the savages. It is quite certain that he was a man of good standing and in 1783 was assessor for Quemahoning Township. At a much later period he served several terms in the Pennsylvania legislature. He served in the revolutionary war and held the rank of captain, his company being known as "Stoy's Riflemen." His wife, a **Miss Higgins**, was born in county Down, Ireland, as was their daughter **Margaret**, but she was married to **Abraham Spangler** in Somerset. They were the parents of fourteen children, all of whom grew to mature years, the last survivor, **Franklin**, dying in Somerset County, at Shanksville, in 1912, aged ninety-three years.

(III) **Daniel**, son of **Abraham** and **Margaret (Stoy) Spangler**, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, about 1818. He grew up a farmer, but later became a contractor, a business he followed all his life. He also owned and operated a farm in Somerset County, and there died February 14, 1898. Both he and his wife were reared in the Lutheran Church, but after marriage, there being no church of that denomination near their home, they became members of the United Brethren Church. In political faith, **Mr. Spangler** was a Democrat and filled many township offices. He married **Sophia Myers**, born in Somerset County, October 6, 1821, who survives him, now residing in Shanksville, Somerset County, aged ninety-two years. She is a daughter of **Conrad** and **Margaret (Lowrie-Harris) Myers**, the latter a daughter of **Captain Francis Lowrie**, an officer of the revolutionary war. **Captain Lowrie** was born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish parents, as was **Margaret Lowrie**, his daughter. They came to America together, settling in Somerset County, where she married (first) a **Mr. Harris** and (second) **Conrad Myers**. She had issue by both, but none are living, except **Mrs. Sophia (Myers) Spangler**, of previous mention. Children of **Daniel** and **Sophia (Myers) Spangler**:

1. Died **unnamed**.
2. **Catherine**, unmarried, and lives in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.
3. **John**, died in 1906, a veteran of the civil war. He never applied for a pension, although serving under two enlistments: First, in Company D, 133d Regiment; second, in Company H, 187th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.
4. **Wilson B.**, enlisted at the age of fourteen years in the Ninety-first Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, served throughout the war, then enlisted in the regular United States Army, served with General Crook in his Indian campaign, and there contracted a disease which proved fatal in 1873.

5. **Rev. Alexander Hamilton**, of whom further.
6. **Conrad**, died about 1905, a merchant of Shanksville, Pennsylvania.
7. **Nelson**, died in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.
8. **Rev. Wesley H.**, a minister of the United Brethren church at Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania.
9. **Margaret**, resides in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

(IV) **Rev. Alexander Hamilton Spangler**, son of **Daniel** and **Sophia (Myers) Spangler** was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, February 16, 1852. He was educated in the public schools and at Wooster University, Wooster, Ohio, whence he was graduated, class of 1873. He then began the study of law at New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pennsylvania, and was admitted to the bar. In 1885 he began the study of Divinity, entered Union Theological Seminary, and was there graduated, class of 1888, and was ordained a minister of the Lutheran Church. He began ministerial work as pastor of the church at New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pennsylvania, remaining there four years. He was pastor at Middleburg, Snyder County, two years, thence to Port Royal, Juniata County, eleven years and in 1893 was called to the Lutheran Church at Yeagertown, where he has been located ever since that date. He is an educated Christian gentleman, and preaches by his daily life and example as eloquently of the beauties of the Christian life as from his pulpit, at regular services. He is beloved by his people and has exerted an influence for great good in his community. He is also interested in the development and material welfare of Yeagertown as well as in the spiritual uplift. He is vice-president of the Saxton Coal Company; a director of Saxton Vitriified Brick Company and has accumulated property consisting of town lots and houses. He is a life member of Mifflintown Lodge, No. 324, Free and Accepted Masons and a life member of the Patriotic Order, Sons of America, Philadelphia Lodge, No. 734. In political faith he is a Democrat, is active in public affairs and often presides over party conventions and meetings. In 1906 **Rev. Spangler** toured continental Europe and the Holy Land, visiting the principal points of historical interest and many of the more inaccessible localities, using the form of locomotion most available in the desert places, the donkey.

He married (first) April 20, 1874, **Cynthia Penrod**, born in Somerset County, died January 23, 1905, daughter of **John** and **Lydia (Bell) Penrod**. Children:

1. **Marion**, died in infancy.
2. **Herschel K.**, educated at Port Royal Academy, now a journalist of Pittsburgh; he married **Margaret Johnston**.
3. **Wilson P.**, graduate of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, died aged twenty-one years.
4. **Thaddeus S.**, educated at Susquehanna University, now pattern clerk of the Standard Steel Works Company; married **Gertrude Craig**.
5. **Luther Stoy**, graduate of the Theological School of Susquehanna University, class of June, 1913, now pastor of the Lutheran Church at Pine Grove Mills, Center County, Pennsylvania.

Rev. Spangler married (second) January 28, 1906, **Gertrude M. Shannon**, who was born in Middleburg, Pennsylvania, and who died without issue, April 2, 1912, daughter of **Joseph** and **Mary Shannon**.