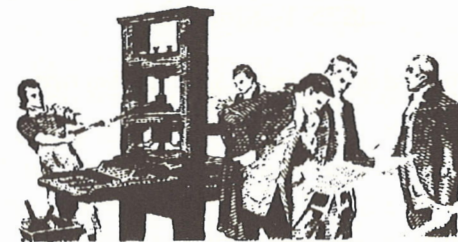


**PENNSYLVANIA BIRTHS**  
**Lebanon County**  
**1714-1800**

John T. Humphrey



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**Pennsylvania Births, Lebanon County, 1714–1800**  
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## PREFACE

Lebanon County, Pennsylvania was officially established in 1813, almost one hundred years after settlement in the region began. Evidence suggests the earliest congregation that organized in the county was Presbyterian but nothing in the way of a building or church record has endured. Surviving Lebanon County Church registers reveal that the early population of the county was predominately German. The initial group of German settlers were Palatines who came into the area in 1723 from the Schoharie region of New York and they established a settlement in the eastern part of the county at Tulpehocken. In the ensuing decades more Germans followed—the majority being immigrants who had arrived at the port of Philadelphia.

This volume, ninth in a series of *Pennsylvania Births*, has been prepared as an aid for genealogical research in pre-1800 church records for Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. Virtually all of the records used for this compilation came from Lutheran, German Reformed, and Moravian Church registers. A variety of sources were used, including one published work, manuscripts both handwritten and typed, and microfilmed copies of original records. The lone published work used was the personal register of Rev. John Casper Stoever, Jr., a pioneer resident of the county, and one of the earliest ministers to serve in Pennsylvania. Rev. Stoever's personal record is contained here in its entirety, meaning, this volume includes the fifty-two baptisms omitted from the published version of his list. As Rev. Stoever during the early years of his ministry baptized children throughout the entire region, it also means this compilation has information on families who did not live in the immediate area or in the state of Pennsylvania.

Names and dates for all records have been copied verbatim. No attempt was made to correct variant spellings of surnames.

In several church records the information recorded in the original church record is the day of a child's baptism, along with the child's age

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in lieu of a date of birth. In those instances, a calculated date of birth is provided here based on the age of the child. A calculated date is entered, for example, as "ca Jul 1776."

The format used for each birth record should be fairly obvious. Following the boldface surname, the first name listed is the child's given name. A notation "bp" following the child's name signifies that the date following is the date of baptism. Names following the date of birth or baptism are those of the infant's father and mother. The number in the extreme right column identifies the church record where that birth record can be found—as numbered at the conclusion of this Preface. A name in parentheses following the mother's maiden name is her unmarried surname. A sample entry including the above listed possibilities might read:

Infant	Date of Birth or baptism	Father	Mother	Record
<b>Blessing</b>				
Michael	3 Jul 1767	Anthony	Salome	2
John	ca Apr 1748	George	Anna (Loesch)	7
Christina	bp 4 Dec 1750	Peter	Margretha	5

Several question marks and other notations appear in the text. Most of the bracketed question marks indicate illegible text. In some instances the question marks and other notations appear in the typed or handwritten translations or in copies of the original document, placed there by the transcriber or translator to indicate a questionable transcription of difficult-to-read entries. Other bracketed references designate a record copied as found, though seemingly incorrect.

Other notations and abbreviations found in the original records include the designation for twin, shortened here to "tw," "ill" for illegitimate, and "dec'd" for deceased. Although researchers may find evidence for the birth of twins in some of these records beyond those identified by "tw," the twin designation appears throughout this text only when found as such in the source record.

A separate section following the main text lists several married women, but it must be remembered that the lineage for women listed in this section is to the husband, not the parents. If the maiden surname for any of these women was recorded in the meeting record, then that

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surname also appears in the list presented here. Another section of this book, labeled "miscellaneous," contains birth records for persons whose surname was unknown.

Three additional elements of critical concern to genealogical researchers must be considered:

First, this book is not offered under the pretense of being a "complete" Lebanon County birth record; it is complete only to the extent that records were available for research in 1996. For example, the list used for the Quitopahilla or Hill Reformed Church in Cleona is a partial listing only that begins with baptisms performed in 1745 and ends with baptisms that were performed in 1766. Rev. William John Hinke in the introductory notes to his transcription of this register reported eighty-seven additional baptisms that were recorded by a succession of ministers, including: John Conrad Bucher, John William Runkel, Andrew Loretz, and Lewis Lupp. Unfortunately, a detailed list of those eighty-seven baptisms has not survived.

Second, researchers must remember that the church registers used for this compilation are those records found within Lebanon County boundaries as they exist in 1996. All of the boundaries for the counties in this area of Pennsylvania changed considerably prior to the 1813 erection of Lebanon County. In 1729, for example, some of the early families in the region were living in the newly formed Lancaster County while others were living in Philadelphia County. In 1784, families living in the western townships of present Lebanon County came under the jurisdiction of newly formed Dauphin County, and families in the Tulpehocken area of Lebanon County had close ties with churches in what is now Berks County. Therefore, historians looking for information on early families living in this county, *must* search for secular data and other church related information in the records of surrounding counties.

Finally, it is important to keep in mind this book is not intended as a substitute source for Lebanon County church and pastoral records; rather, it is intended to facilitate access to those records. Family historians who are able to determine that one or several of their ancestors were born in Lebanon County should consult the original record or a transcription of that record to verify information obtained from this text and to gather any additional information.

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### Church Records

The given date is the year either a church register was opened or the first baptismal entry was found. In many instances the church or congregation was organized or established earlier.

1. Records of Rev. John Casper Stoever, Jr.  
baptismal records begin in 1729.
2. Records of Quitopahilla or Hill Lutheran Church in North Annville Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1745.
3. Records of Tulpehocken Reformed Church in Jackson Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1748.
4. Records of Bindnagel's Lutheran Church in North Londonderry Township.  
baptismal records begin in 1757.
5. Records of Tabor Reformed Church in Lebanon.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1764.
6. Records of Swatara Reformed Church in Bethel Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1751.
7. Records of Bethel Moravian Church.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1745.
8. Records of Salem Lutheran Church in Lebanon.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1773.
9. Records of Millbach Reformed Church in Millcreek Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1753.
10. Records of Klopp's Reformed Church in Bethel Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1755.
11. Records of Heidelberg Reformed Church in Schaefferstown.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1765.
12. Records of Heidelberg Lutheran Church in Schaefferstown.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1763.
13. Records of Ziegel Lutheran Church in Bethel Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1794.
14. Records of St. John's Lutheran Church in Fredericksburg.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1774.
15. Records of Kimmerling's Reformed Church in Lebanon Township.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1754.

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16. Records of Campbelltown Lutheran Church in Campbelltown.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1794.
17. Records of Quitopahilla Reformed Church in Cleona.  
baptismal records begin in 1745.
18. Records of Zion Lutheran Church in Jonestown.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1779.
19. Records of Trinity Lutheran Church in Colebrook.  
the baptismal register was begun in 1774.