



Figure 19. The wedding certificate of the author's wife's great grandparents. The couple was married by John Stamm.

After his full and active career, John Stamm died on 1 June 1877, at the age of 69 and was buried in the Mount Joy cemetery. His wife, Hannah, daughter, Elizabeth, son, John Spera, and daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Brady Stamm, also have found a resting place in the family lot.

John left no recorded will and no record of his estate was found in the intestate books at the county court house. This is unfortunate, for very much could be learned from these sources about the inventory and tools of the craftsman.

Because preachers were not paid a salary in those early days and had to earn their own support, it is assumed that it was necessary for John Stamm to make his livelihood by engaging in many diverse occupations. Because toolmaking was not his full-time occupation, John Stamm's tools are not abundant, but show the same quality and workmanship of his contemporaries such

as E. W. Carpenter and Samuel Auxer of Lancaster.

John Stamm, the circuit-riding preacher, showed great ingenuity in being able to balance his active career as a minister, toolmaker, and businessman. It is evident that John Stamm, the skilled and talented man, should be recognized for making a very important contribution to the toolmaking industry of his day in Pennsylvania.

Notes

1. John Frederick Stamm, *The History of the Stamm Family*, Privately published. The author is the grandson of John Stamm. Thank you to Leon Kashishian, Hatfield, Pennsylvania, for securing this information from Peg Bamford, Telford, Pennsylvania, who is the great-great, granddaughter of John Stamm, toolmaker.
2. Microfilm Library of Cocalico, Rapho and Earl Townships and Mount Joy Borough, Lancaster County Historical Society, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Hereafter Microfilm Library.
3. Microfilm Library.
4. History of the Stamm Family.
5. History of the Stamm Family.
6. Archives, *The Church Advocate*, Church of God, General Conference, Findley, Ohio. Special thanks to Ralph Snyder, Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, for his research into the Church of God archives and for graciously sharing this important information. An interesting note is found in a letter written in *The Church Advocate*, the Church of God paper. In 1848, at the time of the dedication of the new church at Hinkletown, the writer states, "There was one remarkable and novel scene at this meeting. It was this! The gathering and spreading out of Huckster tables on Sabbath morning, quite near to the Bethel [church]. This was something new to us on such occasions: but we were told it is an old custom in that dark region of the country." So, we can see from this event that Sunday morning flea markets are nothing new!
7. Microfilm Library.
8. Lancaster County Deed Book L, Vol. 10, pp. 40-42.
9. History of the Stamm Family.
10. Microfilm Library.
11. *The Church Advocate*.
12. *The History of the Stamm Family*.
13. *The Church Advocate*.

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