



## **Bethlehem Area Public Library**

### **Local History Collections**

#### **Finding aid for the Papers and art work of Christian Friedrich Hellener**

**Creator:** Hellener, Christian Friedrich  
**Title:** Papers and art work of Christian Friedrich Hellener.  
**Dates:** 1835-1884  
**Extent:** 2 boxes, 2 linear feet.  
**Location:** The Bethlehem Room  
**Language:** Predominantly German. The processor has attempted to provide accurate transcriptions, with the occasional rough translation. Accuracy is not, however, guaranteed and we welcome suggestions for correction and/or improvement by scholars using the collection who are familiar with German script.

**Abstract:** The papers and art work of Christian Friedrich Hellener include materials relating to the history of the Hellener and Morey families, but perhaps more significantly include a fascinating collection of watercolors done by Mr. Hellener over the years. His art work reflects a man who was probably very well-educated, and had a fascination with the world around him. Favorite subjects included members of the animal kingdom, but he also frequently dealt with historical subjects as well. Bright colors and an active imagination can be seen in his art. In addition to works by Mr. Hellener himself, there are also examples of work, both printed and handmade, by other artists. Perhaps most interesting is a poem written by "Von Louis Storck", a Lehigh County resident who was known as a "tramp poet".

**Access to materials:** This collection is open for research

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**Preferred Citation:** [Item], Papers and Art Work of Christian Friedrich Hellener, 1835-1884. The Bethlehem Area Public Library Collections

**Historical Note:** Christian F. Hellener was a remarkable man in many ways. He was a gifted artist, his watercolor paintings, his coat of arms and genealogy being yet carefully preserved. He was born in Sindelfinger, Wurtemberg Germany September 1, 1797 and died in Upper Saucon township, Lehigh County, in that part of eastern Salisbury, now embraced in the borough of Fountain Hill April 15, 1893 in his ninety sixth year. He was a finely educated man and having decided artistic talent he acquired some prominence as a sculptor, but finally he allowed this to

drop into the background and he devoted himself to the more plebeian but also more profitable work of a marble cutter. In 1817 he, in company with a number of his school friends, visited Amsterdam, intending there to take a ship for the United States. He had ample funds for the voyage, but a rascally agent, Jacob Baird, swindled him out of his money, however he sailed with the ship nonetheless. There were seven hundred passengers on board and from the beginning of the voyage they encountered severe storms. The ship was finally driven far out of her course, the captain died and it was fifty seven weeks before they made a safe port, quarantined at a Portuguese port for one hundred days and while there, Christian Hellener acquired the Portuguese language. In 1819 he made another attempt to cross the Atlantic and reached New York. Soon afterward he crossed by coach to Philadelphia where he learned the bakers trade. He worked several years there then went into Bucks County, having heard that Jacob Baird, his Amsterdam swindler agent, was living there. He found the man but this was not the Jacob Baird he wanted. The country pleased Mr. Hellener and journeying up the Saucon he came to Upper Saucon Township and there settled. He married his employer's daughter, Theresa Morey, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Zeller, the Reformed Pastor of Allentown. In Upper Saucon, Christian F. Hellener wove carpets and bed spreads and later took up stone cutting which he followed until 1852. He then moved to what is now Fountain Hill borough in East Salisbury and bought a farm of thirty two acres which he cultivated in connection with his stone cutting until the weight of years caused him to retire. Theresa Morey Hellener died in 1857 aged fifty two years, both she and her husband being buried in Friedensville Lutheran Church Cemetery. They were the parents of three children: Anna Maria Magdalena died unmarried: Catherine married Louis Waidner and J. Elias married Mary Snyder and lived in Fountain Hill. Louis and Catherine Hellener Waidner were the parents of three children: Dr. Charles John....; Christian F. who moved to Sullivan County, Indiana and Mary who never married." Source: Northampton County History of Pennsylvania, Vol. 2; biographical sketch of Charles John Waidner, V. S.

**Scope and Content:** The papers and art work of Christian Friedrich Hellener includes an oversized scrapbook of watercolors and family records pertaining to the Hellener family. Contents of the scrapbook include a family crest, fraktur, and what appears to be a family history of the von Helleners in script. The scrapbook also includes fanciful watercolors done by Mr. Hellener. The scrapbook has been disbound due to preservation issues with the binding. The artwork has been divided into two groups, based on overall size. Also included is a history of the Mory (Morey) family, handwritten and with a colorful frontispiece by Mr. Hellener. This item has been bound.

**Index Terms:** The Papers and Art Work of Christian Friedrich Hellener are indexed under the following terms in the Bethlehem Area Public Library catalog:

- Hellener, Christian Friedrich
- Hellener family
- Morey (Mory) family
- Fraktur art - Pennsylvania - Lehigh County
- Folk art - Pennsylvania - Lehigh County
- Printing - Pennsylvania - Pennsylvania Dutch Country - History Broadsides - Pennsylvania Dutch Country - History



3. "Nachruf au Anna Maria Magdalena Hellener sie war geboren den 7 teu July 1827, gestorben den 13 teu August 1862." Poem below, decorated with flowers, vines, and an angel.	16 x 21	Feb 5 1863	1	2
4. Printed taufschein, published by Schafer & Koradi, Philadelphia. Birth of Sarah Catharine, daughter of Ephraim Harlacher and Catharina Hendrich(ks) born 11 March 1863.	13 x 18	1863	1	2
5. "Abschied" (Farewell) Handwritten, 4 sections, possibly relating to the Mory family? In an oval, with flower and wheat decorations surrounding.	12 x 10	April 30 1874	1	2
6. Printed taufschein, Allentown PA, Blumer, Busch und Co., Hannah, daughter of Gotthardt Mory and Magdalena Horlacher, born in Upper Saucon, 5 December 1794. Penciled notation on bottom: Hannah Ziegler died June 25, 1870. There is a tear at the bottom.	14 x 17.5	n.d.	1	2
1. Labeled "Die Schlacht bei Tebashau(?) in czaunien". Battle scene including cannon, soldiers, town and castle. Possibly different artist.	16.5 x 13	n.d.	1	3: Historical, Classical, Biblical
2. Labeled: Der Rodische Genius. Drawn from a philosophical allegory written by Prussian naturalist and explorer Alexander von Humboldt in 1795. The title of the work was Die Lebenskraft, oder der rhodische Genius.) (The Vital Force or the Rhodian Genius). This is Hellener's version of the painting described in the story.	12 x 10	1868	1	3
3. "Johannes der Taufer" (John the Baptist)	11 x 12	1868	1	3
4. Labeled: (loosely translated: Battle at the Teutoburg Forest (Teutoburger Wald) of the Roman leader Varus and the German leader Hermann. Year 9.	13.75 x 19.5	1871	1	3
5. Labeled: Loosely translated: Battle at the Danube, Marcus Aurelius and Claudius Civilus battle the German Markomanni in the year 166. Soldiers with laurel wreaths clubbing lions.	18 x 13.75	1871	1	3
6. Labeled: "Antikes Stiergefecht bei den Romer" (antique bull combat with the Romans). Scene includes soldiers, horses, a bull and an elephant.	9.5 x 12.75	1879	1	3
7. Labeled "eine Dorf Kokette, Deutsches Frauenhleben im Mittelalter" (A village coquette, a German young woman of the Middle Ages.) Woman in bedroom, dressing with a mirror.	10 x 10.75	1879	1	3

8. Labeled top right (small) Hollandischer Captain Cornellius de Jong-Reise, 1777"; bottom label "Rhede der Vorgebirges der guten Hofnung" Sea battle, town in background, natives in foreground.	13 x 19	1879 ?	1	3
9. Labeled "Aus der Beit der Pfahlbauten " (lake dwellings). Primitive peoples, bringing deer home in a boat, families, animals, people swimming.	14 x 17.25	1881	1	3
10. Labeled "Friedrich der Erste, Barbarossa, aus dem hause der Hohenstaufen" (Frederick I)	10.25 x 11.5	1883	1	3
1. Unfinished crest or memorial.	15.5 x 13	n.d.	1	4: Monuments
2. Monument, (in English), sheep and cows in the background.	10.5 x 15	1852	1	4
3. Angels at top, with roses. Labeled within picture: "das Geheimnisz der Rose ", or Secret of the Rose.	11.5 x 14.75	1878	1	4
1: Birds fighting over a dead rabbit.	10.25 x 12.5	n.d.	1	5: Zoology, Anthropology and World Cultures
2: Ostrich	11 1/8 x 11	n.d.	1	5
3. Volcano eruption, foreground town with ships in harbor and people.	22 x 17.5	n.d.	1	5
4. Elephant with soldiers and horses.	10 X 13	n.d.	1	5
5. A buffalo attacking a hunter and his dog in the woods.	12.24 X 15.75	n.d.	1	5
6. Unlabeled. Several deer in the woods.	17.5 X 12	n.d.	1	5
7. Elephant on lion and tiger hunt.	12 X 17	1872	1	5
8. Labeled: Afrikanische Glanzstaaten. Europasche Bachstelzen mit Jungen, Auerhahn auf Balze. (Colorful African birds, European white wagtails with young and grouse.	17.5 X 15	1873	1	5
9. Labeled "Antilopen jagel in den steppen von Africa" (Antelope hunting on the steppes of Africa) natives on camels and a horse hunt a variety of animals.	22 X 17.5	1873	1	5
10. Labeled "Der Jager auf der Buffel Jagd" (The hunter on the buffalo hunt). Hunter has fallen to the attack of a buffalo. Dog, bear, elk, birds, and fox.	23 X 17	1877	1	5

1. "Die Hirsche im Walde der Winters" (Deer in the woods in winter) Two antlered deer in winter scene.	10.25 x 13.75	1877	1	6: Zoology, etc. (continued)
2. Labeled "Nez Perress Indianer in der Gefangenschaft in Forth Daufenport." Nez Perce imprisoned at Fort Davenport. Includes encampment, native dress, soldiers, prisoners playing cards.	13 x 19	1878	1	6
3. Labeled "Paradiesvogeln ihr Vatterland Singapore Neu-Guienei, Der Papua..." (Bird of Paradise)	9.5 x 12	1879	1	6
4. Moose herd.	10 x 15.5	1879	1	6
5. Labeled "Mohammedamiche pilger auf dem Mege nach Mekka". Pilgrimage to Mecca, with native peoples and camel.	13 x 19	1880	1	6
6. Labeled "Grislibar von einer Biofan herde agegriffen" Grizzly bear has attacked a herd of buffalo, and defends one carcass from the rest of the herd.	13 x 9	1880	1	6
7. Labeled "Eine Barrnhatz in Harin, Kampfende Kiesen Kanguruhs", a hunter and dogs have a bear cornered; kangaroos are included in the scene.	20 x 15	1880	1	6
8. Labeled "Der Tieger" Tiger snarling.	19 x 13	1880	1	6
9. Labeled "Urgalischeafe im Ultai Wien" "Aufbruch einer afriennischen Their Expedition." Ostriches, giraffes, natives, explorer on camel.	12 x 19	1882	1	6
10. Labeled "Mallfishfang in Gronland, Kampf der Sagefirshe"; whale hunting in Greenland, ship in background, 1 spouting whale, 2 sawfish.	12 x 19	1882	1	6
11. Flock of birds in flight.	19 x 12.34	1884	1	6
1. Commercially printed marriage certificate, blank. Published by Schafer & Koradi, Philadelphia.	13.5 x 17.5	n.d.	1	7: Other Artists & Artistic Influences
2. Labeled "W. S. Ship Delaware" Daniel Kleiss fecet. (Daniel Kleiss made it.)	14.75 x 12	n.d.	1	7
3. Labeled in German and in English, United States Ship Pennsylvania. Daniel Kleiss.	15.25 x 12.5	n.d.	1	7
4. Commercially printed. "The way of Good and	14 x 17	C	1	7

Evil". Drawn and published by John Hailer, Bath, Northampton County.		1862		
5. "William Penn's Vertrag mit den Indianern" (William Penn's Treaty with the Indians.) Lithograph of Schnabel & Finkeldey, No. 218 Walnut St., Philadelphia.	14 x 11	n.d.	1	7
4 issues of Puck, No. 516, 517, 518, 521	10.75 x 14	1887	1	8: Cont.
Hellener, Christian F. Stambuch des geschlechts Mory.		1879	2	Bound volume
1. "Weltblics" Handwritten poem (?) 4 stanzas, unsigned.	7.5 x 6	n.d.	2	1: Family & Genealogy
2. "Nach ruff au Jonas Christoph Hellener" (beloved brother) 8 lines of text in heart, unsigned.	10.25 x 6.5	n.d.	2	1
3. Handwritten book, crest on first page. Waffen der Geschichts Hellener. Family history, Hellener family.	7.75 x 12.5		2	1
4. "Geschrieben 1852 Christian V. Hellener", Lebenswesheit (worldly wisdom) followed by 12 lines of handwritten text	8.75 x 7.75	1852	2	1
5. Story book. Cover: "Johann Elias". First two pages possibly appended at a later date. Fables from Aesop with German and Latin. Includes two pages of illustrations. The fables follow, presented in different script styles. 12 pages.	8.5 x 13.5	1835, 1841	2	1
1. Adam and Eve? Or perhaps figure drawings?	5.75 x 8	n.d.	2	2: Historical & Classical
2. Labeled, Professor Louis Agassiz	8.5 x 11	n.d.	2	2
3. Unsigned, labeled "Heinrich Tschokke", 1 black and white, 1 colored.	7.75 x 9	n.d.	2	2
4. Woman. Unlabeled, unsigned, undated, colored and cut out possibly from a pre-printed item?	4.5 x 5.5	n.d.	2	2
5. Unsigned, labeled "Frontispiece", allegorical in nature, England crowned by a winged victory, another angel sitting on cannon with "Waterloo" around the muzzle.	8.25 x 10.75	n.d.	2	2

6. Unsigned, unlabeled, unfinished, rose bush in foreground, colored, sketch of ship and castle, black and white.	12.5 x 7	n.d.	2	2
7. Unsigned, unlabeled, castle.	7.5 x 11.5	n.d.	2	2
8. Labeled Lady Godiva. Includes horse with trappings, castle in background.	8.5 x 10.75	1874	2	2
9. Labeled Werner Stauffacher, Arnold von Melchthal, Walter Attinghausen". 3 soldiers. Figures from Swiss history, and Schiller's William Tell.	8.5 x 11.5	1876	2	2
1. Soldier on horseback: unlabeled, unsigned.	8.5 x 10	n.d.	2	3: Historical & Classical
2. Soldier on horseback: unlabeled, unsigned.	8.5 x 11	n.d.	2	3
3. Soldier on horseback, same as above, but background scenery added.	8 x 11.25	n.d.	2	3
4. Soldier on horseback, unlabeled, unsigned.	8.25 x 11.25	n.d.	2	3
5. Soldier on horseback, unsigned. Labeled "General Andras Fakson, Anno 1839".	8.25 x 11.5	n.d.	2	3
6. Soldier on horseback, unsigned, Labeled "Napoleon I.	8.25 x 10.75	n.d.	2	3
7. Soldier on horseback, unsigned, Labeled "Wien General Lord Lindock".	10.75 x 8.25	n.d.	2	3
8. Soldier on horseback, unsigned, Labeled "Ein Preuischer Schwager Hussar".	8.25 x 12	n.d.	2	3
9. Soldier on horseback, unsigned, labeled "Hetman of the Cossack" 10. Soldier on horseback: unlabeled, unsigned.	8.25 x 10.75	n.d.	2	3
10. Soldier on horseback, unlabeled, unsigned.	8.5 x 10	n.d.	2	3
1. Unfinished, flowers in urn.	8 x 12.5	n.d.		4: Monuments
2. Unsigned, labeled "Ein Tempel in Cario".	8.25 x 12	n.d.	2	4
3. Unsigned, unlabeled, unfinished sketch containing elements for completed work "Der Rodische Genius" in oversized folder 3.	11 x 8.75	n.d.	2	4
4. Unsigned, labeled, "Monument Marckt Play Hull in England".	8.25 x 11.75	n.d.	2	4



5. Unsigned, unlabeled, unfinished. Asian/Buddhist flavor?	8.25 x 11.5	n.d.	2	4
6. Unsigned, labeled "Monument Pompejus Pillar in Alexandrier Egypten".	8 x 12	n.d.	2	4
7. Monument of General Richard Montgomery, St. Paul's Church, New York.	7.75 x 5.5	1852	2	4
8. Labeled "Der Venus Tempel" includes landscape, man with horse cart, people strolling.	10.75 x 8.5	1875	2	4
9. Labeled "Der Venus Tempel", smaller version of above.	5.25 x 10	1876	2	4
10. Labeled "Das Hermann Denhmal auf dem Teutberge nach Leiner Vollendung".	10.75 x 8.25	1876	2	4
11. Labeled "Der faun mit der Zeusmaske". Stone monument.	8.5 x 10.75	1877	2	4
1. Unsigned, unlabeled, sketches of birds and one flower on lined paper.	4.25 x 7	n.d.	2	5: Zoology, Anthropology and World Cultures
2. Unsigned, unlabeled, Boars fighting over a deer carcass.	11 x 7.5	n.d.	2	5
3. Unsigned, birds on tree limb.	8.75 x 4	n.d.	2	5
4. Unsigned flower sketches.	8 x 7	n.d.	2	5
5. Unlabeled, exotic horned animals .	9.25 x 6	n.d.	2	5
6. Unlabeled, lined paper, horse on hill.	5 x 4.75	n.d.	2	5
7. Unlabeled, unfinished, Tapir?	8 x 11	n.d.	2	5
8. Unsigned, labeled "North Amerikanischer Bison Ochs".	8 x 10.5	n.d.	2	5
9. Unlabeled, small dog with purple bow sitting up and begging.	8.5 x 10.75	1874	2	5
10. Unlabeled, young girl feeding a dog and a cat from a rather large bologna. Birds with nest and eggs.	8.5 x 11	1874	2	5
1. Labeled "Paradeiesvogeln".	10.75 x 8.5	1875	2	6: Zoology, Anthropology and World Cultures (Continued)

2. Labeled "Der Glocten Vogel in Brazilien South America".	10.75 x 8.5	1875	2	6
3. Swans.	6.5 x 12.5	C 1876	2	6
4. Labeled "Der schwan und Jungen" 10.75 x 8.5 (Swan and its young).	10.75 x 8.5	1876	2	6
5. "Danischen doggen..." two dogs	10.75 x 8.5	1876	2	6
6. Farmer feeding a deer herd	8.5 x 10.75	1876	2	6
7. Man being attacked by large bird, alpen scene in background	8.5 x 10.75	1876	2	6
8. Labeled "Friedensthalin St. Croix..." Moravian mission?	8.5 x 11	1876	2	6
9. Labeled "Die Fjeld Lappen... (Lapps with reindeer) .	8.5 x 10.75	1876	2	6
10. Labeled "Emegrenten zug aus den Pherieri's" (immigrant wagon train featuring Conestoga wagons, oxen, cattle, etc.)	8.25 x 10.75	1876	2	6