

*J. Harold Sherck  
6190 Road 131  
RR 2 Milverton  
Ontario N0K 1M0  
Jharold@porchlight.ca  
519-595-8083*

Five Items of Interest Preserved in the

Joseph Witmer Family Bible

(born July 11, 1812, married Susannah Groh Dec. 22, 1835)

(Died Nov. 5, 1896. Second wife was Catherine Sherck H4617)

1. The "Tunker Meeting Calendar for 1888" and "for 1889" for Waterloo.
2. An advertising leaflet for Revival Services at Zion (Evangelical) Church, beginning Sun, October 21, 1888.
3. A Birthday Poem, to his mother, by J. W. Hilborn January 29, 1902, from Strathcona, Alberta. His mother was Caroline Witmer, eldest child of Joseph Witmer. In 1895 he was studying for the ministry at Westerville, Ohio.
4. "A Poem on the Life and Death of Elizabeth Shoop" [Shupe], pioneer of Waterloo Twp (in 1801) and mother of Bishop Benjamin Shupe (Tunker). The poem was written by Rev. John A. Cornell, who preached her funeral sermon.

This is highly significant in witness of the fellowship and ministry of John A. Cornell among the Tunkers of Waterloo Twp from 1812 (the year of his conversion) to 1825 (the year of Elizabeth Shupe's death.)

5. A Poem "All is Well"

Although the poet is not identified, it is probably the product of John A. Cornell. Both poems were probably printed in Lewiston NY by O. Grace at the same time that his "Confession of Faith by the Beverly Reformed Christians, Called Dunkerts" was published in 1825.

Note that the Tunker son of Abraham Witmer (Tunker minister) valued items 4 and 5, by John A. Cornell, enough to preserve them in his family Bible. Joseph Witmer's was one of the homes for meeting on the Tunker calendar.