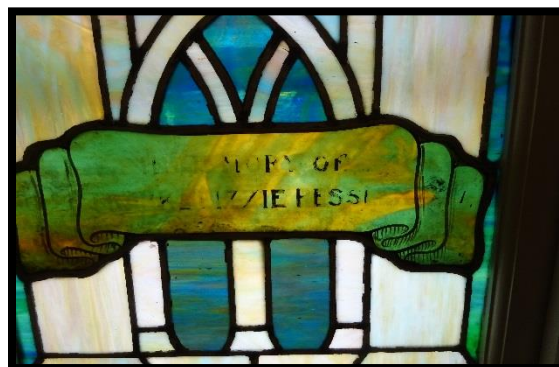


Exploring the Cemetery: Stained Glass Windows – 1: Frank and Lizzie (Mearig) Ressler and Ella (Ressler) Pipgress



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thought it might to fun to learn more about the people mentioned in the windows. If you enter the front door and climb the steps to the right, there is a stained glass window at the landing with the dedication “IN MEMORY OF FRANK & LIZZIE RESSLER.” The inscription is quite worn and barely legible. The facing window states: “PRESENTED BY THE DAUGHTER MRS. ELLA PIPGRESS.”

Frank Ressler, born 1832, was the son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Mearig) Ressler. His obituary from the June 15, 1916 *Lititz Record* is included here, as is the obituary of his wife, Lizzie (Eckert) Ressler, from March 13, 1924. Lizzie’s parents were George and Maria (Biemesdorfer) Eckert.

Death of Frank Ressler

Frank Ressler, one of Rothsville’s oldest and best-known residents, died at his home on Wednesday afternoon, June 7, aged 84 years and 15 days. Death was caused by the infirmities of old age and the effects of a paralytic stroke, which Mr. Ressler sustained about 6 months ago. Deceased became a resident of Warwick township when but 7 years of age, moving to this section with his parents from Strasburg. When a young man he followed the butchering trade in this borough and later took up the carpentering and masonry trade which he pursued for many years, retiring about 15 years ago. His wife, who was Miss Elizabeth Eckert, and the following children survive: J. E. Ressler, R. D. 4, Lititz; Frank Ressler, of Thermopolis, Wyoming; Mrs. Emma Weachter, of Durlach, and Mrs. Ella Pipgrass, of Rothsville. The funeral was held on Sunday morning with services in the Rothsville Lutheran church and interment in the adjoining cemetery. Rev. F. A. Weicksel officiated.

OBITUARY

MRS. ELIZABETH RESSLER

Mrs. Elizabeth Eckert Ressler, age 82, died at 9:30 P. M. Friday at the home of her son-in-law, George Pipgress, at Rothsville. She was the widow of Frank Ressler.

These children survive: Jerome, Millport; Emma, wife of James Wechter, Rothsville; Frank, of Wyoming, and Ella, wife of George Pipgress. Twelve grandchildren; twenty-one great-grand-children and three great great-grand-children; the following brothers and sisters also survive: Peter, Manheim; Lucy, wife of Fred Gantz, Manheim; Annie, wife of John Sanders, Manheim, and Henry, Lititz.

The funeral will be held Thursday afternoon at two o’clock, with services in the Rothsville Church and interment in the adjoining cemetery.



Frank and Lizzie’s daughter Ella was the wife of George Pipgress. George was born in 1867 to German immigrant parents, George and Margaret (Seltzer) Pipgress. Like so many in Rothsville, he was a cigarmaker. He died in 1932. George, Ella, their parents and George’s maternal grandparents (George and Anna Seltzer) are all buried in the cemetery.

Aside from the wonderful name “Pipgress,” there is another item of note in this family group. After George Pipgress’ death, his widow, Ella, became the fourth wife of Franklin Buch. Curiously, the married name of Franklin Buch’s third wife was also Ella Ressler. Third wife Ella (Shaar) Ressler was the daughter of Josiah and Caroline Shaar. Her first husband, John K. Ressler, died in 1902, after which she married Buch. John K. Ressler, Ella Shaar Buch, and Ella’s parents are also all buried in the cemetery. The oft-married Franklin Buch is buried at the Zion Cemetery nearby.