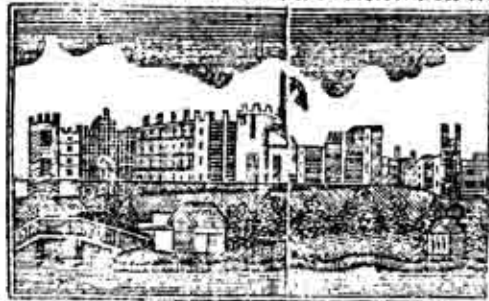


Fraktur

Fraktur are hand-drawn or printed documents decorated with ink and watercolors. German immigrants brought this tradition to America, with certificates for birth and baptism being the most common. Fraktur was also used for marriages, house blessings and even rewards for doing well in school. Today, most are regarded as works of art, but frakturs were traditionally used to record family events and histories.

This example is copied from a fraktur printed in Carlisle, PA, in 1813, by a German printer named Friedrich Sanno. The only change is a short English sentence that replaces the original German text.

Original gift of Milton E. Flower, 1966.018



Birth Certificate

was born into this world

on the _____ day of

in the year _____

Carlisle: Gedrukt bij J. E. van der Linde, 1878.

