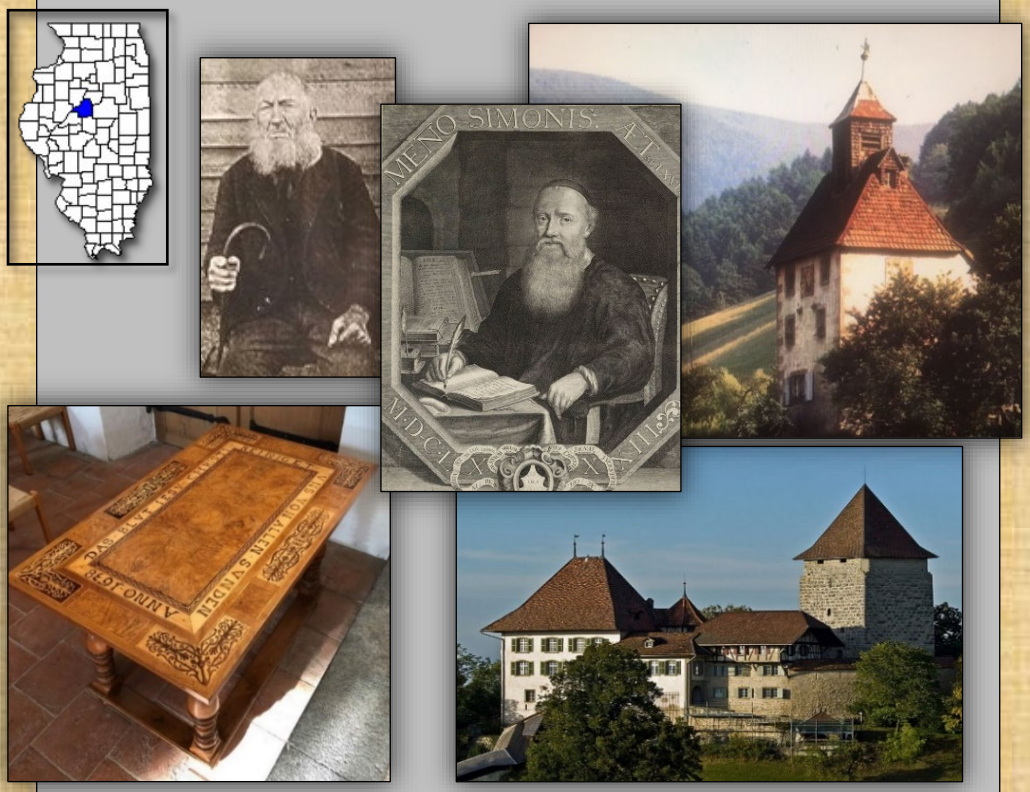
Amish Mennonites

in Tazewell County, Illinois

(INCLUDING WOODFORD COUNTY)



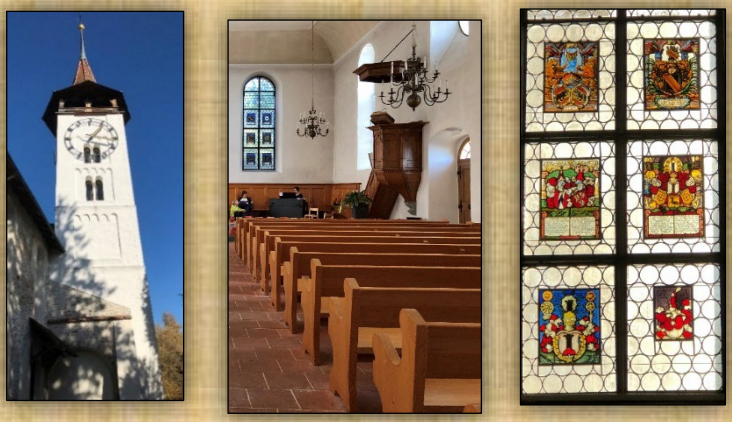
GENEALOGY

Part Three of Five

Compiled by Joseph Peter Staker

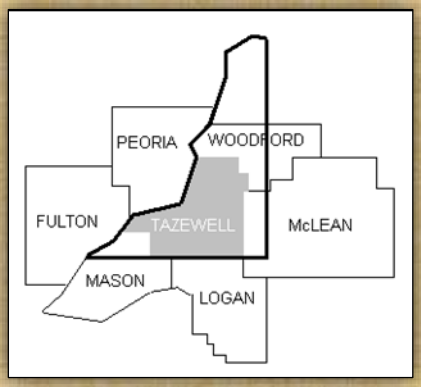
AUGSPURGER - BIRKY/BIRKEY - BRENNEMAN - CENDER - EIGSTI - HAUTER
HEISER - INGOLD - KETTNER - LITWILLER - MAURER - MILLER - RAEUBER - RICH
RISSER/REESER - RITTHALER - ROTH - SCHICK - SOMMER - STALTER
STEINMAN - SUTTER - ULRICH - UNZICKER - ZIMMERMAN

Genealogy and history of 103 families that came to Tazewell and Woodford Counties 1830-1856



The belltower and pulpit at Steffisburg. Photos by Jen Staker, November 2017.

On the cover, clockwise from upper left: Tazewell County, Illinois; Geoge Ritthaler (1818-1908) of Elm Grovel; center, Menno Simons (1496-1561); an undated postcard view of Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace; Trachselwald Castle, photo by WillY on Wikipedia Commons 2011; the Hilterfingen communion table approached each year by Jacob Amman – grudgingly complying with the laws of Canton Bern. He was a resident of adjacent Oberhofen 1655-1680. Photo Jen Staker, November 2017.



TAZEWELL COUNTY IN 1833 (BOLD OUTLINE) AND TODAY (GRAY)

Amish Mennonites in Tazewell County, Illinois

(including Woodford County)

Part Three of Five

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Unzicker of Wörth

In the Bernese dialect a *Hunzinger* is a dog handler. However, the surname 'Unzicker' is thought to stem from the village of Hunzicken in the Aargau region of Switzerland. In the 1600s the region followed all mandates of the city-state of Bern, and persecuted its Anabaptists with equal fervor. In 1720 Bachmanns and Haurys became the last extended families to depart. By 1726 authorities confidently agreed that not one Anabaptist remained in the land.

Emigrants settling in the Alsace region after 1670 either adapted to their new surroundings by muting the 'h' pronunciation, or saw the letter dropped in the records of French-speaking officials. In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth cites Swiss sources when he writes that, "...Two brothers named Hunzicker, as very young men, came to the Palatinate [Pfalz] in the 1670s with their father and grandfather as Anabaptist refugees. One brother then probably became the progenitor of the Mennonite (and later Protestant) Hunzickers/Hunzingers in the Kraichgau and in Mannheim and Krefeld in Germany. At least two Alsatian (and therefore Amish) Unzicker branches are descended from the other brother; the beginning letter was dropped in France, where it was not pronounced."

Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany* is the best source for information on the history of this family in Europe. Guth draws a line down from **Joseph Unzicker** and Maria Stauffer. They were associated with Wörth, in what is now Lower Alsace.

Their son **Peter Unzicker** was born in Alsace May 15, 1740, and died at Gräveneck, Nassau-Weilburg Dec. 15, 1800. He married Katharina Holly, a daughter of Jacob/Jakob Holly and his second wife Maria Kurtz of Mühlhofen. She died on Hof Offenthal at Sankt Goarshausen.

Nassau-Weilburg was a princely domain far north of Alsace. One reached it by traveling north (downstream) on the Rhine River, beyond the Upper and Lower Pfalz on the west bank and Hesse-Darmstadt on the east. It became part of the Duchy of Nassau in 1806.

In 1775 the chancellor for Prince Carl Christian of Nassau-Weilburg visited a royal property, the Münsterhof estate at Dreisen in the Pfalz. It was leased by Amish Mennonites. The chancellor was so impressed by their progressive methods that he commissioned farm manager David Holly to find families willing to come to Nassau-Weilburg. His proposal offered generous 12-year leases on princely estates, on the condition that the leasors cultivate underdeveloped acreage and share their knowledge with neighboring landowners.

Four family heads accepted the arrangement: Peter Unzicker of Wörth, Johannes Nafziger of Alsace, Peter Schantz of Alsace, and Peter Schwarzentruber/Schwarzentraub/Schwartztaub.1 Peter Unzicker brought several brothers who also claimed properties. According to Guth, Holly received a 200 Gulden reward from the chancellor.

The Unzicker family settled on a princely estate at Gräveneck, and remained there until at least 1806. The village is 13 miles northeast of the larger community Limburg an der Lahn, downstream on the Lahn River.

Peter Unzicker

Morton

One of the sons of Peter Unzicker and Katharina Holly was **Jakob Unzicker**. He was born at Gräveneck in 1781.

He married at Trippstadt Dec. 14, 1807. The French-language civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacques Unsicker, 26, living at Greveneckerhof, Nassau-Weilburg; he was a son of Catherine Unsicker born Hollin and Pierre Unsicker, who had died at Greveneckerhof Dec. 15, 1800. The bride was Elisabeth Jorde, 22, born and living on the Wilensteinerhof, a daughter of the deceased Jacob Jorde and Madeleine Imhoff. His father was a cultavator on the Wilensteinerhof who had died there Feb. 12, 1794; his mother had died Sept. 12, 1787. Witnesses included uncle-of-the-groom and cultivator Georg Unsicker, 47, living on the Horterhof estate near Otterberg; uncle-of-the-bride and cultivator Christian Imhof, 50, of Wilenstein; cousin and cultivator Jean Imhof, 46, of Wilenstein; and cultivator Gaspard [Caspar] Schantz, 39, living on the Wachenhof at Idstein.

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[1] Nassau-Weilburg was represented at the Essingen assembly of ministers in 1779 by Peter Schantz and Johannes Nafziger.

Jakob and Elizabeth leased the Hof Offenthal at Sankt Goarshausen in the Duchy of Nassau in 1813. It is still a working farm.

Their son **Peter Unzicker** was born on Hof Offenthal June 1, 1816 (Wiesbaden appears as his birthplace on the 1880 census, but this may have simply been the nearest familiar city; Wiesbaden is about 24 miles southeast of Sankt Goarshausen). He may have been the 24-year-old Peter Unsieger of Nassau found on the passenger list of the *Argo* as it arrived at New York from Le Havre May 24, 1841. (This voyage also brought a group made up of Joders, Liechtys, Zimmermans, and an Aeschliman; see ZIMMERMAN for the way they appeared on the passenger list). He arrived in Butler County, Ohio in October of 1847.

The Spring 2001 issue of *Illinois Mennonite Heritage* has a translation of a letter of recommendation [Ger. *Zeugnis*] Peter received from ministers Johannes Müller/John Miller and Daniel Holly of Butler County dated Oct. 14, 1848.2

According to the *Grantors Index*, Peter paid Silas Willard $1,200 for property at what is now Morton June 5, 1848.

In December of 1848 he married Katharina/Catherine Kennel. She was born at Dreisen Oct. 1, 1822, a daughter of Johannes Kennel and Magdalena Naffziger (Magdalena was a sister to 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger). She had immigrated with her family on the *De Rham* in 1830, appearing on the passenger list as 'Catherine, 5' (see KENNEL for details of the journey; see NAFZIGER for more on the family). The following summer the couple settled at Morton.

The 1850 census of unincorporated Tazewell County shows farmer Peter Hunsucker, 36, Germany; Catherine, 28, Germany; Augustin, 10 months, Illinois; Lana Kendel [Magdalena Kennel], 50, Germany; and John [Kennel], 19, Germany.

Peter was naturalized at Pekin Aug 25, 1856.

The family appears on the 1860 census of Morton as farmer Peter Unsenker, 44, Germany; Catharine, 28, Germany; August, 10, Illinois; Magdelin, 9, Illinois; Anna Eliza, 5; and laborer Louis Greene, 25, Germany. The 1864 plat map shows 'P. Unzicker' living on a Morton farm on the boundary line with Groveland, and holding additional woodland in the northwest corner of Morton above the Staker, Roth, and Roberts farms. The 1870 census of Morton shows farmer Peter Unsicker, 56; Catharine, 45; Augusta [August], 26; Magdalena, 19; Amelia [Emilie], 16; Magdalena Kennel, 79; farm laborer Benedict Hauger, 38; and Julia [Julius] Unsicker, 26 [6]. The 1880 census of Morton shows farmer Peter Unsicker, 64; Catherine, 54; and son Julius, 16 [daughter Julia, 16], born in Illinois to a father from Wiesbaden and a mother from Bavaria.

The family would travel as much as 12 miles by carriage to attend services with various congregations.

Peter Unzicker died Feb. 19, 1881. Katharina/Catherine Kennel died Jan. 11, 1898. They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton. Their children born at Morton include:

1. August K. Unzicker was born Sept. 25, 1849, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Sept. 27, 1939. On Dec. 10, 1870 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Birky.3 She was born Dec. 25, 1847, and died April 13, 1898, a daughter of John Birkey ('Big Birkeys') and Elizabeth Birky ('Little Red Birkys'). They are buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, November 1939: "Unzicker. - August, son of Peter and Katherine Unzicker, was born near Morton, Ill., Sept. 25, 1849; died at the home of his son (S. E. Unzicker), Roanoke, Ill., Sept. 27, 1939, after an illness of seven weeks; aged 90 y. 2 d. On Dec. 20, 1870, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Birkey. To this union were born seven sons and six daughters. He was preceded in death by his wife, three sons (Daniel, John, and August), also two daughters (Emma and Elizabeth). There remain four sons (Oscar and Peter of Low Point, Samuel E. of Roanoke, and Julius of Morocco, Ind.), also four daughters (Mrs. Val Springer of Foosland, Mrs. Frank Welts of Cazenovia, Mrs. Prosper Heppard of Roanoke, and Mrs. Andrew Ulrich of Shelbyville), 64 grandchildren, 116 great-grandchildren, one brother (Julius of Foosland), and a host of other relatives and friends. He received Christ in his youth and for the past eleven years held his membership in the East Bend Mennonite Church of Fisher, Ill. Funeral services were conducted at the Roanoke Mennonite Church with J. A. Heiser of Fisher, Ill., in charge. Text, *Psalm 23*. Burial in the Roanoke Cemetery."
2. Magdalene Unzicker was born Dec. 25, 1850, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Feb. 8, 1914. On Feb. 21, 1871 in Tazewell County she married Andrew Oesch; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Andrew was born at Elm Grove Dec. 16, 1848, and died Jan. 23, 1940. They can be found on the 1880 census of Indiantown, Bureau County as farmer Andrew Oesch, 33, born in Illinois to German parents; Magdalena, 29, born in Illinois to German parents; Ella L., 7; Lena E., 6; and Alma E., 3; all children born in Illinois; and the first minister of Willow Springs Mennonite Church (his deacon was Christian Zehr). They moved to Aurora, Nebraska in 1888, and can be found on the 1910 census of Aurora as Andrew Oesch, 61, born in Illinois to German parents; and Maggie, 59, born

[2] The same issue shows a photo of Peter and his family.

[3] This date is confirmed by the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*.

in Illinois to German parents. After Magdalene's death Andrew lived with daughter Anna and a Hochstetttler son-in-law at Upland, Calif. (1920), then at Long Beach, Calif. (age 81 in 1930). They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton.

3. Amalie/Amelia Unzicker was born May 10, 1854, and died July 22, 1935.4 She married John S. Sommer. He was born Oct. 12, 1849, and died March 24, 1935, a son of John Sommer and Barbara Schertz. They lived at Elm Grove.
4. Julius K. Unzicker was born July 18, 1864, and died March 21, 1961. On May 3, 1887 in Tazewell County he married Maria/Mary Oesch. She was born at Tremont July 16, 1869, and died at Foosland, Champaign County Dec. 21, 1928, a daughter of Christian Oesch and his second wife Mary Abersole. *Gospel Herald*, April 1961: "Unzicker, Julius, son of Peter and Katharina (Kenell) Unzicker, was born July 18, 1864, at Morton, Ill.; died March 21, 1961, at Fisher, Ill.; aged 96 y. 8 m. 3 d. On May 3, 1887, he was married to Mary Oesch, who died Dec. 21, 1928. Surviving are five sons (Otto, Arthur, Walter, Ezra, and Roy, all of Fisher). He was a member of the East Bend Church, where funeral services were held March 23, in charge of J. A. Heiser and J. Alton Horst." *Gospel Herald*, January 1929: "Maria (Oesch) Unzicker, wife of Julius Unzicker and daughter of Christian and Mary Oesch, was born July 16, 1869, near Tremont, Ill.; died Dec. 1928, at her home near Foosland, Ill.; aged 59 y. 5 m. 5 d. On May 21 [3], 1887, she was united in marriage to Julius Unzicker of near Pekin, Ill. This union was blessed with five sons, all living at and near her home. At the age of 17 years she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and united with the East Washington Mennonite Church, and during her last sickness again renewed her covenant with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and united with the East Bend Mennonite Church near Fisher, Ill. She gave every evidence, and her own testimony that she was at peace with God and her fellowman, ready to depart to be with her Christ. She leaves a sorrowing husband, five sons, nine grandchildren, two sisters besides many relatives and friends. Six brothers and four sisters have preceded her in death. Funeral services were held at the East Bend Church Dec. 24, with Bros. Joseph Heiser of Fisher, Ill., and Allen H. Miller of Pekin, Ill. in charge."

Jacob Unzicker

Elm Grove, Cousin to Peter Unzicker of Morton

Another son of Peter Unzicker and Katharina Holly was **Peter Unzicker**. He was born at Gräveneck and became a leaseholder at Heckholzhausen, located eight miles to the east. His wife could not be identified.

Children of Peter Unzicker include:

1. Elizabeth 'Barbara' Unzicker was born in 1800, and died on the Eichelscheiderhof near Waldmohr in the Pfalz April 6, 1873. She married Peter Schantz. He was born on the Rotherhof estate at Idstein, Nassau-Weilburg Feb. 24, 1797; he died on Hofgut Langweisen at Montabaur Feb. 11, 1835, a son of Peter Schantz and Elise Unzicker. On May 16, 1840 she remarried to Christian Heinemann. He was born at Gommerscheid, a neighborhood of Neuwied in 1805, and died on the Krayerhof at Andernach (across from Neuwied, above Koblenz on the Rhine River) in 1863, a son of Georg Heinemann and Christine Schlabach (this couple leased an estate in Gommerscheid at Neuweid on the north side of the Rhine River, then the Krayerhof at Andernach on the opposite side). The Heinemann family from the estate Langenau near Siegen became Mennonite after a marriage in 1771.
2. Johann Unzicker was born in 1805, and died at Stedebach, Hesse (16 miles above Giessen) in 1863.
3. **Jacob Unzicker** was born at Heckolshauzen April 17, 1808.
4. Peter Unzicker was born in 1811, and died on the Krayerhof at Andernach Dec. 25, 1875. He married Hélène Heinemann. She was born at Ründeroth (now in the state of Rhine-Westphalia), and died on the Alkerhof at Brohl (five miles upriver from Andernach) Feb. 14, 1902, a daughter of Jakob Heinemann and Jakobina Detweiler. After Peter's death, Hélène remarried to Christian Siemeister.

Jacob Unzicker was born at Heckholzhausen April 17, 1808. The story of his October 1830-April 1831 journey from Le Havre to Butler County, Ohio is told in the account of the packet ship *De Rham* in KENNEL. The *De Rham* passenger list shows him as a 25-year-old blacksmith bound for the United States.

In 1837 Jacob married Marie Krehbiel in Butler County. She was born at Darmstadt, Hesse Aug. 5, 1814. Within a year or two they resettled in Peoria County, then Tazewell County.

Jacob appears on the 1840 census of Tazewell County, living next door to 'Andrew Rowp' (minister Andrew Ropp, later elder of the Dillon Creek meeting and Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite Church). The census page

[4] Many Amish Mennonites were sympathetic to Maria Amalia/Marie Amalie, the wife of Duke Karl II August von Pfalz-Birkenfeld-Zweibrücken Zweibrücken. The duke was a Wittelsbach, the family that hosted them as tenant farmers and leasors. The ducal family lost considerable property value during the cross-border turmoil of the French Revolution. As a widow she managed to retain some estates, and passed them on to a chancellery director who continued to lease to Anabaptists. See Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany* and STALTER for more on this relationship.

shows a household with one male checked off in the 30-40 age column; one female checked off in the 20-30 age column; and one female checked off in the under 5 age column.

The sale of the property was not recorded until the following year. The *Grantors Index* says that on June 3, 1841 Jacob Unziker paid Joseph Summers [Sommer] and his wife $500 for property in Section 18 of what became Elm Grove.

Jacob was ordained as a minister of the Dillon Creek congregation in 1844. He represented them at assemblies of ministers in 1862, 1864, and 1866.

According to the *Grantors Index*, on Jan. 14, 1850 Jacob Unsicker paid Allen Hodgson $527 for 50 acres in Section 16 of Township 24 (later Elm Grove). This was the same day that Daniel Zimmerman paid Hodgson $227 for 30 acres in the same section.

The household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as blacksmith Jacob Hunsacker, 40, Germany; Mary, 30, Germany; Elizabeth, 12; Jacob, 8; Mary, 6; and Catherine, 3 (all children born in Illinois); and two blacksmiths 18 and 20. The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Jacob Unsiker, 57, Nassau; Mary, 40, Darmstadt; Elisabeth, 19; farmer Jacob, 17; Mary, 14; Catharine, 11; Madalene, 8 (all children born in Illinois); and laborer Stephen Dansner, 26, Bavaria; and Catharine Kraber, 20, of Darmstadt.

Jacob became a minister of the Washington Prairie congregation (later Calvary Mennonite Church) from 1869 until his death. He represented them at assemblies of ministers in 1871 and 1872.

The 1870 census of Elm Grove shows them as farmer Jacob Unsicker, 62, Prussia; Maria, 56, Hesse-Darmstadt; Catharine, 20, Illinois; and Magdalen, 19, Illinois. Their next-door neighbors were son-in-law Christian Hochstettler, 27, Bavaria; their daughter Mary, 25, Illinois; and Louise, 1, Illinois. The 1880 census shows farmer Jacob Unsicker, 72; Mearie, 62; and Catharine, 25, born in Illinois to parents from Germany.

Jacob died at Elm Grove June 16, 1893. *Herald of Truth*, July 1893: “On the 16th of June, 1893, of the infirmities of old age, Pre. Jacob Unzicker, aged 85 years and two months. He came to America in 1832 and for the last 51 years has been a resident of Tazewell Co., Ill. In 1837 he married Mary Kreubill [Krehbiel], with whom he had six children, one of whom preceded him. He was a minister for many years and was faithful in his calling. Buried on the 18th in Elm Grove. Funeral services by Joseph Stuckey, M. Kinsinger, Peter Ropp and Joseph Buerckey.”

Marie Krehbiel died at Elm Grove March 28, 1904. She was buried beside Jacob in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery, where her headstone calls her 'Mary K.' *Herald of Truth*, April 1904: "Sister Mary Unziker, one of the oldest settlers of Tazewell Co., Ill., died March 21, 1904. She was 90 years old and left to mourn her departure 5 children, 20 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was born in Germany in 1814, coming to this country when she was quite young. Her husband preceded her ten years ago to the spirit world. Funeral at the Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite M. H. Services were conducted by Sam. Gerber and Val. Strubar. Text, *2 Tim. 4:7*."

Children of Jacob Unzicker and Marie Krehbiel born at Elm Grove include:

1. Elizabeth Unzicker was born Sept. 28, 1839, and died Aug. 10, 1920. On July 6, 1862 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Hochstettler; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Siebenbrunnenfeld, Bavaria Feb. 3, 1836, and died July 4, 1896, a son of Joseph Hochstettler and Jacobine 'Phoebe' Gingerich. They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton.
2. Jacob Unzicker was born Dec. 27, 1841, and died at Hopedale Jan. 22, 1933. On Nov. 7, 1867 in Woodford County he married Jacobine 'Bena' Engel; the Eureka record calls her 'Jacobena Engle.' She was born at Hanover/Metamora Aug. 22, 1843, and died at Hopedale Nov. 20, 1929, a daughter of John Engel and Barbara Detweiler. They are buried in Orndorff Cemetery at Hopedale. Their household can be found on the 1880 census of Boynton as farmer Jacob J. Unzicker, 38, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; Bena, 33, born in Illinois to parents from France; Edwin, 11; Rudolph, 8; and William, 5 (all children born in Illinois).
3. Mary Unzicker was born Nov. 26, 1844, and died Feb. 24, 1940. She is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery as Mary Hochstettler. On Feb. 9, 1868 at Pekin she married Christian Hochstettler. He was born at Meringerau March 8, 1840, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Jan. 2, 1896, a son of Joseph Hochstettler and Jacobine 'Phoebe' Gingerich. He can be found on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as 19-year-old 'Christian Hostetler,' a Bavarian laborer in the household of 50-year-old farmer 'Andrew Birgy.'
4. Catharine Unzicker was born in 1848 and died in 1927. She is buried beside her parents at Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery as 'Katie.'
5. Magdalena 'Lena' Unzicker was born June 19, 1851. On March 13, 1873 in Tazewell County she married Daniel Albrecht. He was born Feb. 8, 1848, and died at Arispie in 1924, a son of Joseph Albrecht and Barbara Gingery. An extended household is found on the 1880 census of Arispie, Bureau County: farmer Joseph Albrecht, 63, Bavaria; Barbaray [Gingery], 62, Hesse-Darmstadt; Daniel, 33, Illinois; Magdalen, 29, born in Illinois to a father from Nassau and a mother from Hesse-Darmstadt; and Otto, 5, Illinois.

6. An unidentified sixth child died at less than 10 years of age (not appearing on any 10-year census) before 1893, according to Jacob's obituary.

Johannes Unzicker/John Unsicker
Morton, Second Cousin to Peter and Jakob

Peter Unzicker (1740-1800) was the grandfather of the two figures just described, and the older brother of **Josef Unzicker.**

Josef was born at Wörth circa 1746, and moved north with his brother. In 1778 he became leaseholder on the Windhof on the east side of Weilburg, Nassau-Weilburg. He married Katharina Güngerich, a daughter of Christian Güngerich and Verena Schwartzentruber of the Hünighausen dairy farm at Helsen in Waldeck.

Their son, minister **Johannes Unzicker,** was born at Gräveneck Dec. 14, 1778, and died on the Henriettenthalerhof at Wörsdorf above Idstein May 28, 1847. He married Barbara Nafziger, a daughter of Valentin Nafziger and Elisabeth Nafziger of the Ludwigsburgerhof estate at Seelbach (in the Westerwald, in Nassau, 57 miles northwest of Idstein). Guth describes Johannes as "a model farmer and preacher on the estate Henriettental."

According to the late minister-archivist-historian Steve Estes, it seems likely that Johannes and Barbara were the parents of **Johannes Unzicker**, known in Tazewell County as John Unsicker. He was born May 2, 1815, and died at Morton Oct. 23, 1888.

On Oct. 14, 1849 Johannes married Katharina 'Katie' Kennel. She was born on the Herfingerhof estate at Börrstadt April 6, 1824, and died at Washington July 12, 1909, a daughter of Peter Kennel and Magdalena Holly. The couple joined Katharina's cousin Jacob Kennel, visiting from Morton, and sailed from Le Havre on the *Radius*, arriving at New Orleans Dec. 27, 1849. The passenger list described them as 'Johann Unsicker, 33; Catharina, 24; no accompanying children; of German nationality.'5

They wintered in Butler County and presumably traveled to Central Illinois with the arrival of warm weather. They purchased a farm at Morton July 30, 1851.

A *Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa* entry for one of his sons describes John: "John Unsicker was a native of Germany, and became one of the pioneers of Tazewell County, where he located in 1849. He opened up a large farm there and became a prosperous agriculturist and stock-breeder, dealing in pure-blooded shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, and Norman horses. He raised his family upon the old farm and there he spent the greater portion of a useful and well-directed life, passing away in October 1887." Their surname is spelled 'Unzicker' on the 1860 census of Morton, and 'Umsicka' on the 1870 census of Morton.

Johannes/John and Katharina are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton. Details of this family including a portrait photo can be found in *A Kennel Family Outline Part II*, Steven Estes' excellent article in the Spring 2003 issue of *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*.

Children of Johannes Unzicker/John Unsicker and Katharina Kennel born at Morton include:

1. Amalie/Amelia Unsicker was born Oct. 1, 1851, and died at Deer Creek Jan. 17, 1922. On Jan. 28, 1873 at Morton she married John W. Garber. He was born Aug. 5, 1849, and died Nov. 21, 1920, a son of Christian Garber and Catherine Nafziger. They are buried in Buckeye Cemetery.
2. Magdalena 'Lena' 'Helen' Unsicker was born Sept. 19, 1853, and died March 9, 1883 (her headstone in Glendale Cemetery calls her 'Helen Sweitzer'). On April 21, 1881 at Morton she married Peter Schweitzer. He was born Sept. 7, 1849, and died May 22, 1923, a son of Jean/John Schweitzer and Marie/Mary Engel. On July 12, 1888 in Scott County, Iowa Peter remarried to Rachel Engel, with Peter Strubhar as a witness. Rachel was born Jan. 3, 1853, and died at Morton Dec. 6, 1938, a daughter of John Engel and Barbara Dettweiler. Peter, Helen, and Rachel are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
3. Julius Kennel Unsicker was born July 23, 1855, and died in 1859.
4. Daniel Kennel Unsicker was born March 8, 1857, and died at Wright, Iowa July 4, 1943. On Feb. 14, 1886 he married Elizabeth Kinsinger Zimmerman. She was born in Butler County June 21, 1862, and died at Wright Dec. 14, 1920, a daughter of Christian Zimmerman and Barbara Kinsinger. Daniel graduated from Evergreen City Business College at Bloomington. He late farmed in Livingston County and bought 490 acres at Wright. This farm grew to 1,000 acres. His biography can be found in *Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa*.

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[5] On the *Radius* passenger list: Jacob Kennel, 27. He was born at Dreisen Nov. 16, 1821, and died at Morton March 22, 1909, a son of Johannes/Jean Kennel and Magdalena Naffziger. His family had been passengers on the 1830 voyage of the *De Rham* from Le Havre to New York; he was also a nephew to 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger. See KENNEL. Another passenger on the voyage of the *Radius* was listed as Jacob Hautter, 24. Jacob Hauter was born Nov. 9, 1823, and died in Tazewell County April 26, 1905, a son of Christian Hauter and Katharina Gungerich. See HAUTER.

5. Katharina 'Katie' Unsicker was born Feb. 1, 1859, and died Jan. 13, 1941. She is buried in Hirstein Cemetery.
6. John Kennel Unsicker was born Jan. 31, 1866, and died Jan. 6, 1897. He is buried in Hirstein Cemetery.

According to Estes, Cardina 'Carrie' Niederson was adopted into this family. She was born in December 1868 and died in 1956, a daughter of Mitchell Niedercorn and Mary Shoff. On Jan. 17, 1897 she married Arthur F. Hoffman.

Butler County Unzickers
Daniel Unzicker of Milford

Daniel Unzicker [Sr.] was born at Wörth, Lower Alsace Nov. 11, 1773, a son of Johannes Unzicker and Veronika Hechler.

On Aug. 9, 1794 he married Jacobine/Jacobea Holly.6 Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Daniel Unzicker, 21 years and six months, born Nov. 11, 1773, a son of Johannes Unsicker and Faronica Hechlerin [a feminine form of Hechler]; and the bride as Jacobea Holly, 16, born March 10, 1788, a daughter of farmer Johannes Holly and Barbara Eyerin [a feminine form of Eyer]. It was witnessed by Joseph Unsicker, 38; brother-of-the-groom Johann Georg Unsicker of Wörth, 33; and uncle-of-the-bride Georg Holly, 28. Signatures included 'Daniel Unziger' and 'Jacobina Hollin.'

Jacobine/Jacobea died at Nehwiller-près-Woerth Feb. 23, 1795. Her civil death entry was witnessed by Daniel Unsicker, 25; and Johan Georg Holi, 20.

Daniel remarried to Elisabeth Hauter. She was born circa 1775, and died Dec. 17, 1861, a daughter of Nikolaus Hauter and Susanne Oesch of the estate Monbijou near Zweibrücken. She is buried as 'Elisabeth Hauter Unzicker,' aged 86 years, in Darrtown Cemetery, Butler County, Ohio.

According to Hermann Guth in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Daniel became a leaseholder on the Königreicherhof estate at Sankt Wendel (now in Saarland) in 1802. He shared the lease with brother-in-law Christian Hauter. In 1802 or 1803 Unzicker moved farther east into Bavaria. In Bavaria Daniel and Elisabeth leased an estate belonging to the cloister Polling (nine miles west of Lake Starnberg, 40 miles southwest of Munich) above Wellheim in Oberbayern. Later they purchased the dairy farm Abtsried of the Wessobrunn cloister (seven miles west of Wellheim in Oberbayern).

Daniel Unzicker [Jr.] was born March 4, 1798. On Jan. 28, 1821 in Bavaria he married Magdalena Kahn. She was born in Prussia or Galacia (now part of Poland, then considered part of Russia) near the Prussian border Dec. 4, 1801, and died at Madison, Butler County, Ohio July 29, 1880; she is buried in Darrtown Cemetery.7

They lived on the Freudendorf farm at Altenbeuern, Bavaria (now part of Neubeuern), 42 miles southeast of Munich, seven miles above the Austrian border.

According to William H. Grubb in *History of the Mennonites in Butler County, Ohio*, they emigrated to Canada in 1828. But descendant Ruth Unzicker found that they arrived at Baltimore in the third quarter of 1825, and they could be found on a census of Waterloo Township at the end of March, 1826. They would have traveled via Hamilton, Ontario on the western end of Lake Ontario, and then by carriage 40 miles west.

They were still at Waterloo a year later, then resettled at Wilmot. By late 1829 they had built a house and barn, and cleared 18 acres on Lot 19, South Bleam's Street.

They lived on Bleam's Road until 1831-32. Christian Nafziger's agreement with the British government had provided 50 acres of land for each settler at Wilmot, with no down payment. The stakeholder could apply for free ownership rights after seven years, provided a substantial dwelling was constructed and adjacent roads were cleared. Each 50 acres had another 150 acres behind it; many settlers assumed they would later purchase the 150 acres at discounted prices.

Daniel met all requirements and received his deed for 50 acres in November of 1831. He became a citizen of Canada April 18, 1832.

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[6] The date of the ceremony is given in the French Republican form, and appears to say 22 Thermidor 2. However, the day date is written over, and should probably be taken as 'twenty something' in Thermidor of the year 2.

[7] The parents of Magdalena Kahn could not be identified. However, someone looking for clues might start at Riedseltz, a village associated with Unzickers, where there was a large Kahn family. On Feb. 21, 1814 Gabriel Kahn married Elisabeth Schwartz there. Their civil marriage entry said he was born at Riedseltz March 7, 1784, a son of residents Valentin Kahn and Minckle Schantz. When Aron Kahn married Rosine Katz Jan. 20, 1826, his marriage entry said he was born at Busenberg, Bavaria Oct. 20, 1798, a son of resident Abraham Kahn and Hintel Mortel. It was witnessed by uncle-of-the-groom and resident Paul Kahn, 48.

The story of a migration from Waterloo south to Butler County, Ohio in 1831-32 is told in ROPP. Christian Ropp: "...Several of our number decided to move to Ohio, for it was too cold in Canada. These were the following: Joseph Goldschmidt [later Goldsmith], Peter Danner [later Donner], Daniel Unzicker, Peter Nafziger, and several others."

Daniel sold his property to Michael Kurtz in May of 1832. He purchased land in Butler County Sept. 1, 1832.

Grubb says that Daniel and Magdalena arrived in Butler County in 1834. Other sources say they lived briefly in Pennsylvania before resettling in Ohio. However, the birth years and birthplaces of the children (as shown on federal censuses) give a different story. They substantiate the idea that they migrated south in 1832. It is likely that if they lived in Pennsylvania at all, it was briefly, before they lived in Ontario; this would be consistent with the experiences of other settlers in the German Block of Wilmot.

Their first home in Butler County was St. Clair, about four miles north of Hamilton. The location was later called Overpeck when a combination train station and general store was constructed there, with the Overpeck family as storekeepers.[8]

After 1834 they lived on 80 acres in Darrtown, which they bought for $300. 'Danial Hansaker' and his family appear on the 1840 census of Darrtown. Their home site became part of Milford, then Oxford. Their homestead is now described as 2975 Oxford-Middletown Road in Oxford. It is on the National Register of Historic Places, called the Unzicker-Cook House. A photo can be found in the booklet *Damals auf dem Lande, Once Upon a Farm: A Self-Guided Driving Tour of the Historic Amish Mennonite Community of Butler County, Ohio* published by the Friends of Chrisholm.

The web site of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office of the Ohio Historical Society: "When the Unzickers moved to the land, which was a tract of school land in Section 9 of the township, there was a clearing with an old log cabin and stable. Unzicker continued to improve the land with the construction of several stone buildings. He farmed the land and increased his holdings to 160 acres. Daniel Unzicker and his wife were Mennonites. At the time they moved there was an influx of Mennonites into Butler County from Canada and Pennsylvania. Many settled in St. Clair and Madison townships. He was also a preacher and both were active and faithful members of their church. They had 13 children."

Memoirs of the Miami Valley: "For his first eighty acres he paid $300, this being school land upon which there was a small clearing and an old log cabin and stable. He erected a stone house, which is still standing as one of the community's old landmarks, as well as a good barn, and continued to be engaged in farming all his life. He voted the Democratic ticket but was not an office seeker. A member of the Mennonite church, he became a preacher of that faith. . ."

The family appears on the 1850 census of Milford as 52-year-old farmer Daniel Unseker born in German; Magdalena, 47, born in Germany; Folendine [Valentine], 27, born in Germany; Daniel, 21, born in 'G.B. Canada' [Great Britain Canada] ; Joseph, 20, also born in Canada; Barbaray, 18, born in Ohio; John, 16, born in Ohio; Elizabeth, 12, born in Ohio; Jacob, 10 or 16, born in Ohio; Chris., 8, born in Ohio; and David, 4, born in Ohio. The birthplaces and ages are consistent with a move from Canada to Ohio in 1831-32.

They appear on the 1860 census of Milford as 62-year-old farmer Daniel Unsaker born in Germany; Magdalene Unsaker, 58, born in Germany; E. [Elizabeth] Unsaker, 20, born in Ohio; Jacob Unsaker, 19, born in Ohio; Christian Unsaker, 18, born in Ohio; and David Unsaker, 14, born in Ohio. They lived next door to Joseph Augspurger, 74, a younger brother of Christian Augspurger.

According to Grubb, "Having been called to the ministry before he came to America, he [Unzicker] identified himself with the Collinsville congregation [Collinsville and Darrtown are located within Milford] and served as one of its ministers until his death, which occurred Sept. 18, 1863, and he is buried in the Darrtown cemetery." Daniel was killed by lightning as he stood at the open window of his home calling for his sons to come in from a storm.

Magdalena Kahn appears as a widow on the 1870 census of Milford. Her family is identified as Magalene Unzicker, 68, keeping house, born in Prussia; David, 24, born in Ohio; and Ellen [Ella Kessler, David's wife], 20,

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[8] From *A History and Biographical Cyclopaedia of Butler County, Ohio* published in 1882: "About twenty years ago [1862] the Mennonite Church at Overpeck's was organized. An acre of ground, upon part of which the church stands, was given to this denomination by Christian Slonacker, an early member. The membership is composed mainly of Germans. Among those who were instrumental in the organization were Dr. John Borker, the Augspurgers, and Peter Imhof. The Rev. Nicholas Augspurger was an early preacher. The first meetings of this society were held in private houses. In the neighborhood where this society is best known it goes by the name of the 'Hook-and-Eye' Church. . . The Apostles' Church, in this same neighborhood, sprang from the other Mennonite Church, and was composed principally of the younger members. The division was caused on account of some disagreement in discipline. The outside people call the Apostle the 'Button' Church, in order to note the improvement of hooks-and-eyes."

born in Maryland. The household of her son Jacob appears elsewhere on the page. Magdalena Kahn died July 28, 1880 and is buried in Darrtown Cemetery.

Their children include:

1. Peter Unzicker was born on Freudendorf Farm at Altenbeuern, Bavaria Jan. 13, 1822, and died at Collinsville March 21, 1866. On Jan. 13, 1850 at Collinsville he married Catherine 'Katie' Schertz; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. She was born Dec. 22, 1832, and died in Livingston County Dec. 28, 1895, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Elisabeth Hauter. They are found on the 1850 census of Milford as farmer Peter Unseeker, 28; and Keate, 27. Peter was also a stone mason. Catherine remarried to Christian Fuchs and Johannes/John Stalter (see STALTER for her obituary).
2. Valentine Unzicker was born on Freudendorf Farm at Altenbeuern, Bavaria Aug. 15, 1823, and died at Milford, Nebraska Oct. 17, 1881. On March 9, 1851 at Collinsville he married Magdalena Schertz; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. She was born Sept. 15, 1826, and died at Milford, Nebraska Dec. 9, 1898, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Elisabeth Hauter. *Herald of Truth*, January 1882: " Oct. 14th, in Seward Co., Nebr., of dropsy, Valentine Unzicker, aged 58 years, 1 month and 29 days. A bereaved wife and 8 children are left to mourn their loss. Funeral services were held by P. P. Hershberger and Joseph Gascho." *Herald of Truth*, January 1899: "Sister Magdalena Unsicker, nee Schertz, was born Sept. 15th, 1826, died Dec. 9th, 1898, aged 72 years, 2 months and 24 days. Her husband and two daughters preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves three sons, four daughters, and twenty-seven grandchildren to mourn their loss. Services by Joseph Schlegel from *2 Cor. 5:1* and by Jacob Stauffer from *2 Tim.4:7, 8*. Was buried in the Fairview cemetery, near Milford, Seward Co., Neb."
3. Magdalena Unzicker was born on Freudendorf Farm at Altenbeuern, Bavaria Nov. 29, 1824, and died at Collinsville March 24, 1851. In 1845 she married David Augspurger. He was born in 1823, and died in McLean County Jan. 4, 1895, a son of Jacob Augspurger and Maria Schlabach. They had two children. Following her death he remarried to Elizabeth Schertz in Butler County Sept. 11, 1851. She was born in 1826, and died Nov. 3, 1895, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Margaret Mueller. She is buried at Milford. They can be found on the 1860 census of St. Clair, Butler County; her father Christian Schertz was a guest in their household, described as a 65-year-old. They are also found on the 1870 census of Gridley, McLean County, next door to the household of George Zehr and Catherine Gundy. They had seven children. Their son David D. Augspurger was ordained at East Washington Mennonite Church, Tazewell County in 1889.
4. Catherine 'Katie' Unzicker was born at Wilmot, Ontario March 21, 1827, and died at Danvers Nov. 23, 1869, where she is buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery. She appears on the 1850 census of Milford as 22-year-old 'Catharine Unsiker' in the household of Joseph Augspurger, where he birthplace is given as 'Canada G.B.' On May 23, 1852 at Collinsville, Butler County she married Jacob Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Jacob was born at Bourgfelden May 12, 1829, died in Elm Grove July 18, 1899 (also found as Crandall, Ill. July 18, 1898), and is buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Morton. He was a son of Christian Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer. Widower Jacob Zimmerman can be found on the 1870 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as a 41-year-old farmer born in France, with children Magdalina, 17; Barbary, 16; Catherine, 14; Fanny, 9; Henry, 7; Emma, 4; and Daniel, 2; the oldest pair born in Ohio, the others in Illinois. Jacob remarried to Susan Rector Feb. 12, 1872 in Tazewell County.
5. **Daniel Unzicker [Jr.]** was born at Wilmot, Ontario Feb. 11, 1829, and died at Milford, Nebraska July 18, 1914.
6. Joseph Unzicker was born at Wilmot, Ontario Sept. 1, 1830, and died at Covington, Kentucky Oct. 28, 1909. On Aug. 11, 1859 in Butler County he married Magdalena 'Malinda' Schmucker. She was born at Bertambois, Meurthe-et-Moselle Jan. 13, 1822, and died in McLean County July 23,1906, a daughter of Joseph Schemouker and Magdelaine Sommer. They are found on the 1870 census of Gridley, McLean County as farmer Joseph Unzicker, 40, Canada; Magdalena, 40, France; Mary, 8, Illinois; and Marthe, 7, Illinois. On June 20, 1907 Joseph remarried to Celine Geubourg. She was born at Baccarat, Meurthe-et-Moselle Feb. 21,1859, and died at Meadows, McLean County April 10, 1938, a daughter of Joseph Geubourg and Madalena Lehe.
7. Barbara Unzicker was born at Wilmot, Ontario March 28, 1832, and died in McLean County Dec. 29, 1891. On March 19, 1854 in Butler County she married Daniel Schoenbeck. He was born Nov. 28, 1826, and died Sept. 2, 1906. They are buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers. *Herald of Truth*, January 1892: "On Dec. 29, 1891, in Danvers, McLean Co., Ill., of cancer, Barbara, maiden name Unsicker, wife of Daniel Schoenbeck, aged 59 years, 9 months and one day. She was one of a family of 13, and was born in Canada. She accepted Christ in her early youth, uniting with the Mennonite church in Butler Co., Ohio. She was united in matrimony to Daniel Schoenbeck, March 19, 1854. They moved to McLean Co., Ill., where they lived since. Of their seven children two have preceded her in death. Buried on the 31st, followed to the grave by many friends. Funeral services by Christian Guengrich, Joseph Stuckey and Peter E. Stuckey in English and German."
8. John Unzicker was born at Collinsville April 30, 1834, and died there Oct. 27, 1886. On Dec. 15, 1858 at Collinsville he married Mary Slonneger; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. She was born circa 1835, a daughter of John Slonneger [Schlunegger] and Barbara Schlatter. Grubb: "John Unzicker, son of Rev. Daniel and Magdalena Unzicker, was born near Collinsville, Ohio, April 30, 1834. He was married to Mary Slonneger on December 15, 1859. In 1867 he was elected a minister in the Hessian

congregation. The family appears on the 1870 census of Milford as 36-year-old farmer John Unzicker, born in Ohio; Meary, 35, born in Ohio; Emma, 9, born in Ohio; William, 8, born in Ohio; Edward, 6, born in Ohio; Anna, 2, born in Ohio; and Lizzie [John's sister Elizabeth], 32, born in Ohio. His death occurred October 27, 1886, and he is buried in the Union Cemetery, Collinsville." *Herald of Truth*, November 1886: "On the 27th of October, in Butler Co., Ohio, of consumption, Pre. John Unzicker, aged 52 years, 5 months and 27 days. He was sick only three weeks and confined to his bed about 10 days. He remained rational up to his last moments. He was aware that death was near. His last words that could be understood were: "Lord, into thy hands I commend my spirit." "Dear Savior, thou hadst to suffer, I will bear my cross with patience." He was buried on the 31st in the Collinsville graveyard. Services by Joseph Augspurger and Pre. Walker. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn their loss."

9. Maria/Marie Unzicker was born at Milford, Butler County June 24, 1836, and died March 19, 1842.
10. Elisabeth 'Lizzie' Unzicker was born at Collinsville Aug. 21, 1838, and died there Nov. 8, 1925. She appears on the 1870 census of Milford as Lizzie Unzicker, 32, living in the household of her older brother John. She was a school teacher.
11. Jakob/Jacob Unzicker was born at Collinsville Sept. 7, 1840, and died there Feb. 20, 1929. On Jan. 9, 1865 he married Veronica 'Fanny' Slonneger. She was born in Butler County June 4, 1835, and died Jan. 15, 1922, a daughter of John Slonneger and Barbara Schlatter. *Memoirs of the Miami Valley*: "Jacob Unzicker was educated in the home schools and remained on the homestead place up to the time of his marriage, January 9, 1865, to Veronica Slonacker, who was born in Milford township, January 4,1836, a daughter of John and Barbara (Schlatter) Slonacker, natives of Switzerland, the father born May 22, 1809, in the western part, on French soil. . . After his marriage, Jacob Unzicker was engaged in farming in Stony Hollow, Milford township, for two years and then went to the old home place, where he spent fifteen years. He built the home in 1867 and lived therein until 1884, in December of which year he took up his residence on the old Slonacker place, where he remained until 1904. He then moved to Collinsville, where in 1905 he built his present home, and since then has been retired from active pursuits. . . a school director of Milford township for nine years and as assessor for one year. . . He and his wife are faithful members of the Mennonite church at Trenton, while his daughter, Magdalena, belongs to the Presbyterian church at Collinsville." The family appears on the 1870 census of Milford as 29-year-old farmer Jacob Unzicker, born in Ohio; Fanny, 34, born in Ohio; John C., 2, born in Ohio; and Mary L., 9 months, born in Ohio.
12. Christian Unzicker was born at Collinsville April 2, 1842, and died at Oxford, Butler County Feb. 17, 1929. On Feb. 13, 1868 in Butler County he married Mahala M. Williams. She was born near Terre Haute, Ind., and died Dec. 16, 1910. *Memoirs of the Miami Valley*: "Christian Unzicker secured his educational training in the schools of his home county, and was reared to agricultural pursuits on the home farm, where he remained until his marriage, at the age of twenty-six years, to Mahala Williams, who was born near Terre Haute, Ind., and died December 16, 1910. After his marriage, Christian Unzicker lived at Collinsville for one year, and then engaged in farming north of this place for six years, near Seven Mile for three years, at Collinsville for another year and near Darrtown for seventeen years. He then purchased a farm from Christian Goldsmith, which he operated successfully for five years, and in 1902 built his present home at 510 Maple avenue, where he has since lived in comfortable semi-retirement. He also carries on truck farming on five acres of land surrounding his comfortable and attractive residence. . . one term in the position of school director of Milford township. He is a Democrat in his political affiliation, and he and the members of his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church."
13. David Unzicker was born May 3, 1846, and died in Edwards County, Kansas Dec. 29, 1920. He became a farmer in Edwards County, where he could be found as late as the 1920 census. He married Ella Kessler and Christina Donner.

Daniel Unzicker [Jr.] was born at Wilmot, Ontario Feb. 11, 1829, and died at Milford, Nebraska July 18, 1914.

On Nov. 17, 1857 in Tazewell County he married Jacobine 'Phoebe' Birky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Gern (now a neighborhood of Munich) Jan. 15, 1838, and died at Milford, Nebraska Sept. 5, 1914, a daughter of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker (the 'Little Red Birkys'). She may have been his half-cousin.

He may have been the Daniel Unzicker who paid federal taxes at Groveland in 1863 and 1864 as a retail liquor dealer. However, he is remembered as a shoe maker and farmer.

They are found on the 1870 census of Morton as farmer Daniel Unsecker, 40, Canada; Josephine, 32, Bern; with four children born in Illinois.

The 1910 census of Precinct O [Milford}, Seward County, shows Daniel Unzicker, 81, Can Germany, immigrated [presumably from Canada to the United States] in 1833; and Jacobina, 72, Germany, immigrated in 1848. The same census page shows the family of Jacobine's nephew Christian Birky and his first wife Elizabeth Guth/Good. Christian was born in Tazewell County March12, 1851, a son of Johannes/John Birkey of the 'Big Birkeys' and Elizabeth Birky of the 'Little Red Birkeys.'

They are buried in Blue Mound Cemetery at Milford.

Hunsicker/Unsicker of the Rohrhof

Tazewell County also became a home to Hunsickers from the area of Mannheim, Baden. These families generally spelled their surname 'Unsicker' in Central Illinois.

Peter Hunsicker and Magdalena Schwartzentruber farmed on the Rohrhof estate at Brühl in the Schwetzingen district southeast of Mannheim.9 Peter was born there Oct. 16, 1760, and died there Oct. 22, 1835. Hermann Guth identified Magdalena Schwartzentruber as someone born circa 1767, who died there March 13, 1830, a daughter of Christian Schwartzentruber and his second wife Katharina Ruby of Freinsheim.

We could identify three of their children born on the Rohrhof estate:

1. **Jacob Hunsicker/Unsicker** was born circa 1800.
2. Katharina Hunsicker/Unzicker was born circa Dec. 26, 1803. On March 3, 1829 on the Rohrhof estate she married Peter Nafziger. He was a son of Valentin Nafziger (described as #2 in NAFZIGER) and his first wife Magdalena Spring. Katharina and Peter emigrated in 1848, and purchased land at Boynton in 1850. Katharina's headstone calls her 'Katharina Unzicker,' and says she died Oct. 16, 1876, aged 72 years, 9 months, and 21 days (yielding a birth date of Dec. 26, 1803). See NAFZIGER for a list of their children.
3. Magdalena Hunsicker married Johannes Müller at Enkenbach. He was born on the Münsterhof estate at Dreisen in 1795, and died on the Froschauerhof estate at Weierhof in 1881, a son of Daniel Müller and Magdalena Jakobina Kennel.

Jacob Hunsicker/Unsicker was born on the Rohrhof estate circa 1800.

On March 13, 1821, Jacob married Barbara Eyer. She was born circa 1800, and died at Mannheim, Baden Dec. 8, 1844.

As a widower Jacob immigrated in 1848 with all but his oldest child. According to descendant Karen Coulter, their ship broke its mast in a storm and drifted into the Caribbean.

They may have gone directly to the home of Jacob's sister Katharina at Boynton. Jacob succumbed to cholera the same year.

Coulter says the family initially lived in a cabin at Pekin (it stood until 2015). They are found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County: Marceline [Magdalena] Hansucker, 24; Catharine [Katharina], 20; Barbara, 18; Peter, 15; Jacob, 13; John, 12; and Christian, 10, all born in Germany. On the same census we find probable employment duplications: Catharine Hunsucker, 24, Germany, in the household of Isaac Leonard; and Peter Hunsaker, 17, Germany, in the household of Martin Myers. Jakobina 'Bena' was living with her new husband, Nicholas Kropp/Grubb [Kropf], who is found on the same census as wagon maker Nicolas Gruff.

The children of Jacob Hunsicker/Unsicker and Barbara Eyer born on the Rohrhof estate at Brühl in the Schwetzingen district near Mannheim had the spelling 'Hunsicker' on their birth entries, but used the spelling 'Unsicker' in Illinois. They include:

1. Daniel Hunsicker was born Feb. 19, 1822. He remained in Baden after the emigration of his father and siblings, and died at Schwetzingen Nov. 20, 1848. His death entry named his parents as Jakob Hunsicker and Barbara Eier.
2. Magdalena Unsicker was born July 26, 1823. She appears on Morton censuses in 1870 and 1880 as sister 'Malinda' in the household of younger brother John.
3. Barbara Unsicker was born Nov. 7, 1824, and died the following day.
4. Katharina Unsicker was born July 28, 1826, baptized Aug. 14, died April 4, 1902, and is buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Tremont as 'Katharina Unsiker.' She is found as 'Catarina Hunsicker' in her birth entry. She appears on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as Catharine Unsiker, 30, Baden, living in the household of Nicholas 'Kroup' and her sister Jakobina.
5. Jakobina 'Bena' Unsicker was born Dec. 2, 1829, and died at Elm Grove Feb. 4, 1905. On Feb. 17, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Nicholas Kropp/Grubb; their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Hartzviller, Moselle May 26, 1813, and died at Elm Grove April 8, 1881, a son of Pierre Kropp and Suzanne Ringenberg. See GRUBB for more on this couple.
6. **Peter Unsicker** was born Aug. 18, 1832 (the 1900 census gives the date May 18, 1831).

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[9] The administration of the Rohrhof merged with adjacent Brühl in 1878. In 1944 part of Rohrhof was also absorbed by Mannheim. It would now be described as Rohrdorf, one of two neighborhoods (the other Brühl) within the municipality of Brühl, in the German state of Baden-Württemberg.

7. Barbara Unsicker was born Sept. 9, 1833, and died at Tremont Dec. 2, 1916. She is buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Tremont. On March 18, 1860 in Tazewell County she married Ludwig/Louis Getz.10 He was born in Württemberg in January of 1829 (his headstone says 1830), and died at Elm Grove Oct. 22, 1898, a son of Ludwig Getz. He may have been a passenger on the *Fairfield*. It departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York Oct. 12, 1857. The passenger list shows Ludwig Göts, 28; Barbara, 60; Barbara, 30; Maria, 24; Elisabeth, 22; Eva, 19; and Barbara, nine months. *History of Illinois and her People*: "Mrs. Getz, whose maiden name was Barbara Unsicker, was born in Bavaria, Germany, where occurred the death of her mother, she having later accompanied her father and other members of the family to the United States and the home having been established in Tazewell County, Illinois, where the death of the father occurred prior to the Civil War." They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer Louis Getz, 50, Württemberg; Barbara, 46, Baden; and nine children born in Illinois.
8. Jacob Unsicker was born June 21, 1835, baptized June 28, and died Aug. 18, 1919. He may be the 25-year-old laborer Jacob Unsicker found on the 1860 census of Dillon. On Nov. 15, 1863 in Peoria County he married Magdalena Nafziger. She was born near Augsburg, Bavaria Jan. 9, 1835, and died in Tazewell County Feb. 12, 1900. They are found on the 1870 census of Morton as farmer Jacob Unsicker, 35, Switzerland; Lena, 36, Switzerland; Elizabeth, 5; John, 3; Lena, 2; and Joseph, 1; all children born in Illinois. The 1880 census of Morton shows the household as farmer Jacob Unsicker, 45. born in Baden with parents from Baden; Malinda, 43, born in Switzerland to Swiss parents; and nine children younger than 16, all born in Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, June 1900: "Widow Magdalena Unzicker, nee Nafziger, was born on the 9th of January, 1835, near Augsburg, Bavaria, died on the 12th of February, 1900, and was buried at Groveland, Ill., on the 14th. Funeral services by Samuel Gerber and Joseph Springer. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church." She is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. On the 1910 census of Metamora Jacob's year of immigration is given as 1848. He is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Roanoke, Woodford County.
9. Johannes/John Unsicker was born Aug. 1, 1837, baptized the same day, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Oct. 11, 1826. He is found on the 1870 census of Morton, on the page following his brother Jacob: John Unsicker, 33, Baden; sister Malinda, 40, Baden; and farm laborer Edward Hearn, 13, Switzerland. In 1880 he appears on the same page as Jacob: farmer John Unsicker, 41, Baden; and sister Malinda, 50, Baden. On Feb. 21, 1892 in Livingston County he married Regula Fehr. She was born circa 1852, and died at Fairbury Jan. 4, 1823, a daughter of Solomon Fehr and Regula Henner. They are found on the 1920 census of Indian Grove, Livingston County as John A. Unsicker, 81; Regula, 69; and Mary Arnsicker, 25.
10. Christian Unsicker was born July 1, 1839, baptized July 20, and died at Hopedale May 6, 1928. On May 20, 1867 in Tazewell County he married Wilhelmina Kahler. She was born at Schloss Hessen, Braunschweig/Brunswick, Germany June 6, 1849, and died at Hopedale Jan. 8, 1926, a daughter of Frederick Kahler and Dorothea Beitz. They are found on the 1910 census of Hopedale, where it states that he immigrated in 1848, and she immigrated in 1855. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.

Peter Unsicker was born on the Rohrhof estate Aug. 18, 1832, and died at Tremont Aug. 29, 1925. His death entry gave this birth date, named his birthplace as 'Rohrhoff, Germany,' and named his parents as Jacob Unsicker and Barbara Aurer [Eyer].

On April 22, 1860 in Tazewell County he married Anna Barbara Blunier; the ceremony was performed by minister Benedicht Weyeneth. She was born at Trub, Canton Bern, Switzerland Nov. 7, 1834, and died at Tremont Feb. 9, 1919, a daughter of Casper Blunier and Elizabeth Schönthal. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.

The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows Peter Unseicker, 27, Baden; Barbara, 24, Switzerland; Christian [Peter's brother], 21, Bavaria; and Madeleine, 30, Baden in the same household. They lived next door to John Schrock. The 1870 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Peter Unsicker, 38, Baden; Anna, 36, Switzerland; Lydia, 9; Persita, 7; Samuel, 6; [illegible], 4; Elizabeth, 2; Priscilla, three months; all children born in Illinois; and farm laborer Samuel Maurer, 21, Switzerland.

In 1880 they appear as P. Unzacker, 47 Germany; Barbara, 45, Switzerland; and seven children born in Illinois with a Swiss servant Hy Hartman.

On the 1900 census of Tremont, Peter Unsicker's birth date is given as May 18, 1831 in Germany; Anna is born Dec. 7, 1833 in Switzerland [both dates disagree with their headstones]; they had one boarder. On the 1910 census of Tremont Peter gives his year of immigration as 1847, Anna Barbara gives hers as 1855.

Their children born at Elm Grove include:

1. Lydia Unsicker was born June 30, 1861, and died Dec. 4, 1901. She is buried in the Old Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont. On Jan. 1, 1884 in Tazewell County she married Philip Gauger. He was born at Bonefeld in the Pfalz Jan. 24, 1859, and died Nov. 4, 1923, a son of John Gauger and Julia Wacker. The family appears on

[10] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists them as Louis Gots and Barbara Unzicker.

the 1910 census of Tremont as farm operator Philip Gauger, 51, born in Germany; and 10 children ages 11-25, all born in Illinois.

2. Persida Unsicker was born March 23, 1863, and died April 21, 1935. She is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.
3. Samuel P. Unsicker was born July 7, 1864, and died Feb. 23, 1942. On June 1, 1890 in Tazewell County he married Lena Zimmerman. She was born in Illinois Dec. 4, 1866, and died Jan. 2, 1957, a daughter of Andrew Zimmerman and Elizabeth Pfister. They appear on the 1900 census of Metamora, Woodford County as farmer Samuel P. Unsicker, born in Illinois in July 1864 to German parents; Lena, born in Illinois in December 1865 to parents from Ohio and Germany; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Roanoke, Woodford County.
4. Peter S. Unsicker was born in February 1866, and died in 1916. On Jan. 1, 1899 in Tazewell County he married Marie/Mary Stuber. She was born at Solothurn, Canton Solothurn, Switzerland in July 1871, and died in 1932, a daughter of Jacob Stuber and his first wife Mary Nussbaum. Her family sailed from Le Havre on the *Labrador*, arriving at New York Nov. 8, 1883. They arrived at Tremont the same year. They are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery at Elm Grove.
5. Elizabeth Unsicker was born March 31, 1868, and died April 16, 1928. She is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.
6. Priscilla Unsicker was born June 30, 1870, and died Sept. 25, 1958. On Feb. 21, 1897 in Tazewell County she married John Knapp. He was born in Germany Dec. 12, 1872, and died April 10, 1937. He immigrated in 1888. They appear on the 1910 census of Tremont as farmer John Knapp, 37, Germany; and Priscilla, 40, Illinois. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.
7. Anna Barbara Unsicker was born Nov. 7, 1871, and died Dec. 11, 1951. On Nov. 16, 1893 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Dreyer. He was born in Illinois March 19, 1869, and died Oct. 12, 1930. Their household appears on the 1900 census of Elm Grove as farmer Joseph Dreyer, born in Illinois in March 1869; Anna, born in Illinois in November 1877; Matilda E., 7, born in Illinois; and Elizabeth M., [age illegible] born in Illinois.

Zimmerman of Steffisburg

We thought this text was all but complete by March of 2018. It was done 'the old-fashioned way,' generally by researching microfilm images of paper records. With the end in sight, we dipped into genetic testing to complete the STAKER portion. At first it seemed simple enough.

Then second cousin Larry Zimmerman sent an extraordinary article: Darvin L. Martin's Before the Paper Trail: Using DNA to Construct the Martin/Yoder/Zimmerman Family Cluster. *It appeared in the January 2013 issue of* Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage. *Martin had blended Anabaptist family history with science to arrive at startling insights.*

He observed that the descendants of Anabaptist Joder/Yoder, Zimmerman, Martin, Ernst, and Jordi/Jordy/Yordy families shared nearly identical Y-DNA (passed from father to son but not from father to daughter, thus only along paternal lines): haplogroup I2a2a3, further identified by subclades or subgroups I2a2a3 (also called Z161+ it first appeared about 2,025 BC, 4,000 years or about 160 generations ago); I2a2a3a (also called L801+); I2a2a3a1 (Z76+); Z78+; L1198+; Z185+; and finally the most definitive subclade or subgroup Z190+.

A shared subgroup this deep implies that the first five families share a common ancestor, born circa 1,000 AD.

Martin also arrived at the conclusion that the common origin was within the Suebi tribes. 'Suebi' was a general catchall name for many tribes of hunter-gatherers from what is now central Germany, including the largest and most organized Alemanni. Between 100 AD and 500 AD many Suebi migrated to what the Romans called Swabia, north and west of Lake Constance in what is now southern Germany.

Recall from STAKER:

> *The Alemanni were also called Alamanni, a sub-tribe among the Suebi/Swabians. They came from both sides of the Upper Rhine River, having migrated from the Elbe and Main river regions vacated centuries earlier by the Helvetii. Their gravesites have turned up DNA evidence of a multi-ethnic population, though the advertisements of some DNA testing companies continue to exploit a 'Germanic' angle citing sources that are out of date. It may be much more realistic to think of them as a composite of many groups that filled the river regions on either side of the Upper Rhine River, after the Helvetii moved south circa 114 BC.*
>
> *The Alemanni and Burgundian tribes had raided settlements throughout the province of Helvetia (the Swiss Plateau) from 260 AD to 443 AD, and eventually occupied them. The Alemanni settled primarily in the northeast corner and center, while the Burgundians settled on the western side. The Franks nominally subjugated the pagan Alemanni in 496 AD, and subjugated the Burgundians in 532 AD. They were permitted to remain there after the Franks had asserted their dominance. But the Frankish kings had complete possession of what is now Switzerland.*
>
> *The Franks permitted the Alemmani to continue to resettle westward along the Swiss Plateau. The Alemanni brought their dialect of the early German language; this became the Old High German language, replacing Vulgar Latin in what is now Canton Bern. But they had to be suppressed twice, by Pepin of Herstal in 709 AD and Charles Martel in 730 AD.*

Understanding the pre-history of the families (before there were surnames) allowed Martin to make reasonable assumptions about the more recent past. In 746 AD the Franks eradicated the Alemannic leadership with mass executions at the Blood Trial of Canstatt (see STAKER for background). Martin proposed that shortly after this the families settled in the valley of the Töss River (18 miles southwest of the Untersee off Lake Constance, and 14 miles northeast of Zürich).

The Alemanni tribe settled on lands north and west of Lake Constance. In the 10th century this region became the Duchy of Swabia. The counts of Kyburg were vassals of the duke of Swabia. In 1180 they founded a village at Winterthur in the valley of the Töss River, where our family or families of interest were living.

The next stage of their migration likely coincided with land accumulation by the counts of Kyburg. The noble Zähringen family had established the cities of Fribourg and Bern, then constructed the castle at Thun in 1199. The last Zähringen duke died in 1218. His sister married a Kyburg count. The Kyburg family then acquired a number of Zähringen properties to the southwest by inheritance or purchase.

A journey from Winterthur southwest to Thun would have been a little more than 100 miles. At the time the family or families had not yet gained surnames.

The Jordis and Joders may have indirectly taken their names from Theodor of Grammont, the first bishop of Octodorum (now Martigny in Canton Valais) (see SWISS LEGENDS in the Appendix). Jordi is a diminutive form of Theodor, equivalent to Teddy. Zimmerman is an occupation surname (a carpenter). The surnames Marti and Martin may have been derived from Saint Martin, who had also been a bishop of Octodorum. Churches in

Kirchberg, Canton Bern have been dedicated to Saint Martin since 908 AD. The Ernst family is associated with Dättlikon village, only six miles west of Winterthur; Martin suggested that Ernst was derived from a noble family called Ernest. Ernst may have been first assumed by a man who was a near-cousin to the first Zimmerman.

A *Zimmerman* is a carpenter. A few *Heimatorte* or places of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights of the surname are Buchholterberg, Eriswil, Fahrni bei Thun, Steffisburg, and Zimmerwald.

Recall from STAKER that Zimmermans lived in the area of Steffisburg, Canton Bern. They shared the five-family Y-chromosome DNA subgroup.

They also had a history of association with other families whose members later accepted adult baptism: "*The Joder Newsletter* cites *Document K-893* of March 9, 1580, which has recently been moved to the State Archives of Canton Bern. The deed describes land on the border of Steffisburg and neighboring Fahrni [now Fahrni bei Thun]. 'The brothers Caspar and Nicolaus Joder, sons of the deceased Caspar Joder, bought, together with the families Stücker, Steinmann, Blank, Roth, and Zimmerman related to them by marriage, a large part of the March [borderland] of Farni and jointly exploited it."

At Steffisburg there were 16 marriages of male Zimmermans before 1600. Of these, six were named Hans, three Christen, three Peter, three Niclaŭs/Niklaŭs, and one Steffan. Thus there were many family lines with insufficient information for us to sort them out. In addition, a number of Anabaptist Zimmermans later resettled at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace. A complete family tree would be beyond the scope of this project.

In the October 2020 issue of *Mennonite Family History* our second cousin Larry Zimmerman detailed the family of **Anthoni Zimmerman** and Anni Kűpfer (also found as Kapfer and Kappfer) in an article called *Hans in der Weid*.[11]

From 1604 Anthoni was a *Weibel* (church usher and bailiff), a *Chorrichter* (judge on the consistory morals court), and an *Ehegäumer* (marriage guardian) at Steffisburg. The district governor relieved him of his duties as *Weibel* in 1616. He was 'too sluggish' in his pursuit of suspected Anabaptists.

A *Weibel* or *Weÿbel* was a church usher. This was an honor accorded to well-to-do members of a Protestant Reformed congregation. The usher decided the seating order; it was especially important to determine who would sit behind the lectern, facing the pews. These were generally town officials, visiting ministers, and distinguished visitors. The *Weibel* was also the court bailiff, and generally accompanied high civil and church officials at ceremonies as a sort of informal bodyguard.

Children of Anthoni Zimmerman and Anni Kűpfer born and baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Zimmerman was baptized July 27, 1590.
2. Peter Zimmerman was baptized July 29, 1593.
3. Adelheit Zimmerman was baptized July 12, 1595.
4. **Christen Zimmerman** was baptized Feb. 13, 1597.
5. Anthoni Zimmerman was baptized Jan. 20, 1600.
6. Stephan Zimmerman was baptized Oct. 17, 1602.
7. Niclaŭs Zimmerman was baptized elsewhere, or baptized at Steffisburg in 1605, a single year when there is a gap in entries owing to the death of the minister. On July 12, 1639 at Diessbach (now Oberdiessbach) he married Elsbeth Künzi. Their children were baptized at Diessbach. Recall from SWISS ANABAPTIST EMIGRANTS, THE UPRISING AT THUN IN 1641 the story of his arrest in his mill on the Rotache River at Buchholterberg and subsequent 'escape' at Thun.

Christen Zimmerman was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 13, 1597.

According to Larry Zimmerman, as a young man he served as a mercenary soldier [Ger. *Reisläufer*].

On Oct. 24, 1631 at Wichtrach (seven miles north of Steffisburg) Christen married Anna Gross. Her surname is barely readable on the entry, but does begin with a legible 'Gr.' She may have been a widow, born as a Wÿss, because that surname is found on the Steffisburg baptism entries of two of her children.

The three-story *Landhaus* (estate main house) was constructed at Steffisburg in 1543. After being used as a simple country home, it became the most important tavern in Steffisburg and the courthouse of its Free Court [Ger. *Freigericht*] .[12] Christen became an innkeeper [Ger. *Wirt*] there and, like his father, a *Weibel* in the nearby church.

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[11] There may have been two Anthoni Zimmermans. Hans Zimmerman was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 23, 1584. His parents were identified as Anthoni Zimmerman and Christina Räber. Anthoni Zimmerman and Christina Reber were also listed as witnesses at the baptism of Froney/Veronica Rűfenacht May 12, 1617.

[12] A reconstruction in 1843 encased the older structure of the *Landhaus* in an outer shell, and a hall was added in 1876 (as a dance hall and theater). It was also used as a meeting place for the Grand Municipal Council. Investigations by the

An official history of the uprising at Thun in 1641 called *Unruhen wegen dem von der Regierung erlassenen Contributions mandat* [Riots over the government-enacted contribution mandate] stated that in March of 1641 Christen spoke against the new tax in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg. There were no details, and this may have been only a casual remark. Minister Johann Jacob Gűder cooperated with the Council of Bern to charge him. On May 24 he was declared 'incapable of honor and office,' relieved of his duties as *Weibel*, and imprisoned for 24 hours. 'Humble and submissive,' he was reinstated June 25.

On Oct. 7, 1641 four residents of Steffisburg went to Thun authorities to request letters stating that they had been imprisoned, but had been released. This also implied – in a time when one was presumed guilty until proven innocent – that there were no further charges against them. When asked if any other residents of Steffisburg needed such letters, they could not recall names, but asked a delay until others could be present as well. The four were Christen Zimmerman the *Weibel*, Christen Wertműller, Jacob Kaŭfmann, and Hans Linder. Christen Zimmerman's six-year-old son Hans would later marry a daughter of Christen Wertműller.

Recall from SWISS ANABAPTIST EMIGRANTS, the account of the aftermath of the Swiss Peasants War of 1653 [Ger. *Bauernkrieg*]: "…A *Thun Rathsmanuele* account from July 14, 1653 said that district governor Hans Berger of Steffisburg had served as a captain in the peasant army and sat on their war council [Ger. *Hauptmann der Bauern Armee und Mitglied des Kriegsrathes*]. He fled the country to avoid prosecution. Innkeeper and bailiff Christen Zimmerman of Steffisburg was also a member of the council. The goods of Berger and Zimmerman were confiscated. Others from Steffisburg were also fined, but later became leading citizens of the village. They include Hans Leeman, 30 crowns [Ger. *Kronen*]; Peter Carli, 30 crowns; Christen Imhof, 15 crowns; Hans Trösch, 100 crowns; and Hans Reüsser of Eriz, 150 crowns."

In May of 1656 his relatives were permitted to appeal on his behalf. His death sentence was commuted, but he was formally exiled. Larry Zimmerman wrote that he reportedly went to a mill at Stuttgart.

As a widow Anna Gross remarried to Christen Blank at Steffisburg Aug. 15, 1679.

Children of Christen Zimmerman and Anna Gross baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. **Hans Zimmerman** was baptized Dec. 7, 1634. Witnesses included Hans Dummermŭth, Peter Leeman, and Margareth, the wife of Hans Joder. His parents were identified as Chisten Zimmerman and Anna Guss (?).
2. Anna Zimmerman was baptized June 19, 1636. Only her father was identified, as *der Weibel* Zimmerman. Witnesses included *Kilchmeyer* Bärger, Margareth Joder, and Anna Rübi. She died young.
3. Anna Zimmerman was baptized Nov. 21, 1641. Her parents were identified as Christen Zimmerman *der Weÿbel* and Anna Wÿss. Witnesses included Michel Im Hoff, Christina Walthart, and Anna Jüchli, wife of Niclaŭs Fiess of Wichtrach.[13] On Oct. 2, 1665 at Steffisburg she married Michel Farni. They had a daughter Anna Farni baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 14, 1666. An entry in the *Chorgerichtsmanual* from Dec. 1, 1682 says that Anna was now a widow, and was visiting Steffisburg from Heidelberg. She wanted to receive money from her mother's estate to educate a daughter Anna, baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 14, 1666. A 1699 entry says that the mother and daughter had not been heard from since 1693.
4. Niclaŭs Zimmerman was baptized Aug. 27, 1643. The entry identifies his parents as Christen Zimmerman *der Weÿbel* and Anna Wÿss. Witnesses included *Schultheiss* Bachman [ex-mayor of Thun Niclaŭs Bachman], *Staathalter* [district administrator or governor] Hans Staŭffer, and Barbli Flühman, the wife of Hans Linder. The interesting point here is that Bachman had been mayor of Thun during the 1641 uprising, and was likely the official who gave the order to capture of Niclaŭs.
5. Madle Zimmerman was baptized Aug. 3, 1645. The entry clearly identifies his parents as Christen Zimmerman and Anna Gross. Witnesses included Steffan Farni, Madlen Rüfenacht, and Barbli Farni.
6. Christen Zimmerman was baptized March 31, 1650. The entry clearly identifies his parents as Christen Zimmerman and Anna Gross. Witnesses included Hans Gerber, Christen Müller, and Verena Fÿg. He may have been the Christen Zimmerman who married Anna Berger at Steffisburg Aug. 15, 1679, on the same day that his mother remarried to Christen Blank.

Hans Zimmerman (later called Hans *in der Weid* – in the pasture, describing his residence) was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 7, 1634, and died after May of 1695.

On Sept. 26, 1656 at Steffisburg he married Lucia Wertmüller (found on the entry as Lŭcia Werdtmüller). She was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 8, 1632, a daughter of Christen Wertmüller and Madlen Rŭfiner.

Achaeological Service of Canton Bern in 2017 found that the original floor plan, the timber supporting structure, and the roof truss from the original house are still in place. The house is now being restored.

[13] The online village history of Wichtrach says that 'Nicklaus Fiess' became *Amman* – an administrator representing the interests of the Council of Bern – but was fined 900 crowns for his participation in the Swiss Peasants War of 1653.

According to descendant Larry Zimmerman, "On Nov. 15, 1691, the Steffisburg *Chorgericht* [church morals court] declared several of the children of Hans Zimmerman *in der Weid* to be Anabaptists. In September of that year an unnamed daughter was cited as *Täufer Sect zugethan,* a fully devoted Anabaptist. Then in November, the court again cited this daughter as *eine bekannte Wiedertäuferin.* But they also cited, by name, four of Hans *in der Weid*'s sons whose birth order was specified, at least in part. That birth order began with Christen, who was, we are told, 'the oldest brother…the miller who is presently married and living at Ättenbühl.' Also named were Peter, the youngest son [as he was identified in that text]; Hans, his brother; and Claŭs, the table maker."

The latest documentation of Hans Zimmerman *in der Weid* that we found was the baptism entry of Anna Eÿer, created at Steffisburg May 26, 1695. She was a daughter of Melchior Eÿer and Barbara Zimmerman (Barbara was not his daughter Babi, baptized in 1670; Barbara and Melchior were married in 1685).

Children of Hans Zimmerman *in der Weid* and Lucia Wertmüller baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. **Christen Zimmerman** was baptized Feb. 1, 1657. Witnesses included Andres Maurer, Hans Freÿ, and Anna Joder.
2. Hans Zimmerman was baptized Dec. 19, 1658. Witnesses included Ŭli Stäli *von Thun*, Christen Reüsser, and Madleni Hilffinger. Recall from ROGGY, a Steffisburg *Chorgericht* note created Jan. 7, 1694: "…In the sacred time [near the annual communion] I went from house to house, and was in his [Hans Zimmerman's] father's house [that of Hans Zimmerman and Lucia Wertmüller], and I asked him in the presence of Christen Ruchti, *Kilchmeier* Moser, and his mother for some reason for his actions, and wanted to instruct. He countered with complete venom, which I now held up to him." "Suspected Anabaptists: Hans, the son of Hans Zimmerman *in der Weid*, Hans Rogi, Bäbi and Vereni Roth, because they were previously admonished for failure to attend evening services and because they stayed away [from the church], have brought suspicion upon themselves as Anabaptists. They have all given Anabaptist arguments as explanations. . . Since they and Hans Rogi refused to assure compliance in the future, we have arranged to send them to the council chairman and place them under the care of an officer of the court."
3. Anni Zimmerman was baptized March 24, 1661. Witnesses included Hans Braun, Anni Joder, and Madlena Freÿ.
4. Madle Zimmerman was baptized Sept. 6, 1663. Witnesses included Peter Root, Freni Meÿer, and Anna Künzi. She may have been the Magdalena Zimmerman who married Ŭlrich Staŭffer of Eggiwil at Steffisburg Oct. 14, 1687.
5. Niclaŭs/Claŭs Zimmerman was baptized March 17, 1667. Witnesses included Christen Farni, Hans Freÿ, and Catri Gerber. He was described as a table maker in 1691.
6. Babi Zimmerman was baptized May 29, 1670. Witnesses included Hans Äbersol, Catri Reüsser, and Babi Büchler.
7. Peter Zimmerman was baptized March 9, 1673. Witnesses included Steffan Reüsser, David Moser, and Anna Trachsel. A 1691 *Chorgerichtsmanual* note said that, "…Youngest son Peter has been infected with it [Anabaptism], known not from his presence [testimony], but from the resistance of his brother Hans, which does not give us hope that he will present himself."

Christen Zimmerman was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 1, 1657.

On Nov. 11, 1681 at Steffisburg he married Barbara Bachman. Their entry has a note that the ceremony was approved by authorities; this may have meant a number of things, perhaps a near-cousin relationship.

On the same day at Steffisburg Adam Bürcki married Barbara's older sister Anna Bachman.

The baptism entries of both brides could be found at Oberdiessbach. Barbara Bachman was baptized Aug. 16, 1657, a daughter of Jacob Bachman and Catharina Rŭbi, residents of Brenzikofen. Witnesses included Jacob Hŭber, Anna Rŭbi, and Barbara Anthoni. Anna Bachman was baptized May 22, 1653, a daughter of Jacob Bachmann and Catri Rŭbi; witnesses included Benedikt Tschantz, Anna Freÿ, and Catri Stŭcki.

Adam Bürcki and Anna Bachman had a son Hans baptized at Steffisburg Aug. 9, 1691. A note on the entry next to Adam's name says he was a suspected Anabaptist, and they were living at Wallis [the German equivalent for Canton Valais] where Adam was mowing. He may have been scything tall grass for hay. The child was brought in for christening by Christ Haltiman acting for Anna Bachman.[14]

In 1691 Christen and Barbara were living in a mill on the Rotache River, in a hamlet called Ättenbühl, in the Zulg River valley, on the western slope of Honegg Mountain in the northern part of Oberlangenegg, seven miles

[14] Adam Bürcki was one of a pair of twins (the other Eva) baptized at Steffisburg May 23, 1658. Their parents were Christen Bürcki and Barbara Bachman. He died at Baldenheim, Lower Alsace April 25, 1696. Children of Adam Bürcki and Anna Bachmann baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Barbara Bürcki was baptized Nov. 19, 1682. Witnesses included Christen Zimmerman, Barbara Schindler, and Cathrina Bähler.
2. Anna Bürcki was baptized Sept. 28, 1684. Witnesses included Hans Gerber, Anna Stagman, and Adelheit Stŭcki.
3. Christen Bürcki was baptized May 8, 1687. Witnesses included Christen Haltiman, Issac Hirsig, and Barbara Ösch.
4. Magdalena Bürcki was baptized Jan. 27, 1689. Witnesses included Jacob Bürcki, Magdalena Waber, and Barbara Reüsser.
5. Hans Bürcki was baptized Aug. 9, 1691. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Haltiman, Peter Meier, and Cathrina Pieri.

northeast of the church at Steffisburg. This part of the valley is still sparsely populated and heavily wooded. Present day maps call it Aettenbühl. They must have lived very near the present site of an inn called Ferienheim Honegg. Its website with images of the area can be easily found online.

On April 4, 1695 Christen Zimmerman and Barbara Bachman paid an emigration property tax. They had a son Johannes baptized in the new Protestant Reformed Church at Schwarzenegg three days later. This new church was about three miles to the southwest of their home, just over the boundary in Unterlangenegg.

Soon after this the family departed from the area. A notation *Taŭffer* in the margin of the baptism entry of Johannes was likely added after they were gone – Schwarzenegg had an especially tolerant minister, and the rural church was established to draw in congregants who might otherwise be attracted to Anabaptism.

A *Chorgericht* report created at Steffisburg May 26, 1695 noted the payment of the tax, listing "…Deductions paid on April 4, 1695 by Anabaptists as a tax on property being taken out of the land, a twentieth penny [five percent]: Hans Rŭpp, Ulrich Catrey and Barbara Schwarz, Christen Farni's wife and children, Hans Rŭpp and Catryn Joder, Mathÿs Ŭlli, Christen Zimmerman and Babi Bachmann, Michel Schwaar, Andreas Kropf and Anna Haldiman, Christen Joder, Hans Küng with his wife and children, and Peter Farni from Langenegg."

Steffisburg did not keep records of deaths until 1700; thus it is difficult to know how many children from this marriage survived infancy. We suspect few. But the May 26 report that suggests 'none' is not a reliable source. One contradiction: it is certain that Hans Rŭpp *der Jŭng* and Cathryn Joder emigrated with two children.

Their son Johannes Zimmerman may or may not have been an exception. Since he was baptized three days after the tax payment, it is understandable that he was not mentioned on the May 26 summary.

Their whereabouts are unknown between their departure from Steffisburg in 1695 and his father's employment as a farm laborer on the Hochburg estate between Emmendingen and Sexau, Baden-Durlach in 1712. There the lease was held by Christen/Christian Rŭpp.

Rŭpp was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 27, 1672, and died after Aug. 31, 1745, a son of Hans Rŭpp and Babi/Barbara Joder. One baptism witness was Melcher Wertmŭller of Thun. Rŭpp was living at Kunheim, Upper Alsace, before he crossed the Rhine River into Baden in 1712. On Nov. 29, 1712 he signed a lease for grounds surrounding the ruined Hochburg Castle, paying the margrave's representative 650 guilders.15 Michael Mŭller of the Weier castle estate stood surety for him.

THE HOCHBURG ESTATE

The Hochburg [high castle] is an extensive castle ruin between the city of Emmendigen and the village of Sexau. Between 1551 and 1771 these communities were part of Baden-Durlach; from 1771 to 1806 part of Baden; and from 1806 to 1830 part of the Grand Duchy of Baden.

The castle was documented as early as 1127 AD, though it may have been older. Its first known tenant was Dietrich von Emmendingen, who later called himself von Hachberg. When his sons divided properties among themselves in 1212 AD, it became the seat of the margraves (military commanders) of Baden-Hachberg.

The castle withstood the war of the *Oberrheinischer Städtebund* in 1424, a siege during the German Peasants War of 1525, and sieges over two years during the Thirty Years War of 1618-48 before being surrendered. In 1660 its outer walls were reconstructed to repair damage from artillery.

Some Swiss Anabaptists had arrived in the area soon after the persecutions of 1670. As early as 1687 the administrative records of Windenreute mentioned a Hodel family of Anabaptists that had come from Steffisburg;.

In 1681 French troops occupied the area under the Treaty of the Peace of Nijmegen. They decided to end the castle's potential use as a fortress by mining it from the inside. In 1684 accidental fires caused by peasant occupants destroyed the remaining living quarters. Then in 1688 the French returned and reduced it to a ruin.

Discussions of Hochburg or a Hochburg estate related to Amish Mennonites generally refer to the tenant farmers who occupied the stepped terraces surrounding the castle ruins, and fields below. These were the property of the margrave.

Early Anabaptist leaseholders include:

1713	Christen/Christian Rŭpp, with son-in-law Michel Müller as guarantor
1745	Nine-year lease signed Aug. 31. Christen/Christian Rŭpp, Michel Müller, and Michel Isen/Eissen
1746	Michel Müller and Michel Isen/Eissen/Iseli, following the death of Christen/Christian Rŭpp
1754	Nine-year lease signed Sept. 7. Michel Müller, his son Christian Müller, and Michel Isen
1772	Jacob Zimmerman, Christian Müller and his brother Jacob Müller
1785	Jacob Zimmerman and Jacob Müller

[15] In 1714 Christen/Christian Rŭpp's cousin (once removed) Christen Joder (a son of Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel) and his wife Barbara Gerber, both baptized at Steffisburg, came from Fertrupt (adjacent to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) to live at Emmendingen. They remained there for 10 years. In 1724 Joder applied to Christian III's administrators from Baden, asking for permission to return to Alsace and live at Jebsheim, stating that he had previously lived at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines for 18 years. See YODER for background.

Children of Christen Zimmerman and Barbara Bachman born at Oberlangenegg but baptized elsewhere include:

1. Anna Zimmerman was baptized at Steffisburg July 29, 1683. Witnesses included Hans Stagman, Anna Tschimmer, and Cathrina Bähler.
2. Hans Zimmerman was baptized at Steffisburg April 19, 1685. Witnesses included Hans Ochsenbein, Adam Bürcki, and Madlena Zimmerman. As noted by descendant Larry Zimmerman, it is likely that Hans died as an infant, permitting his mother to stop nursing and become fertile again within three months – her next child was born only one year later. But it is also possible that he had a wet nurse.
3. Christen Zimmerman was baptized at Steffisburg April 25, 1686, and died before a brother Christian was born. Witnesses included Abraham Reüsser, Peter Farni, and Verena Shenck. Once again, as noted by descendant Larry Zimmerman, it is possible that Christen died as an infant, permitting his mother to stop nursing and become fertile again – she gave birth to twins only one year later. According to the website *www.womenshealth.gov/pregnancy/*, a new pregnancy within a year of childbirth increases the odds that the next child will be born prematurely. But it is also possible that he had a wet nurse.
4. Barbara Zimmerman (twin) was baptized at Steffisburg April 29, 1687. Witnesses included Daniel Gerber, Barbara am Stŭtz, and Barbara Waber. Her baptism entry notes that it took place at night, became the child was weak.
5. Verena Zimmerman (twin) was baptized at Steffisburg May 1, 1687. Witnesses included Hans Zimmerman, Verena Schenck, and Verena Waber.
6. Johannes Zimmerman was baptized at Schwarzenegg April 7, 1695. Witnesses included Melchior Werthmüller and Dorothea Werthmüller.
7. **Christian Zimmerman** was born in Baden-Durlach between 1796 and 1707.

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Christian Zimmerman was born in Baden-Durlach between 1696 and 1707 (estimated by the year he signed a legal contract minus 21 years).

The year 1715 is generally accepted as the beginning of the Age of Enlightenment in Europe. On Sept. 15, 1715, Margrave Karl Wilhelm reversed earlier policy by decreeing religious freedom for anyone who wanted to live within the protection of his forest castle Karlsruhe. After this, unless they were Catholics, most foreign nationals in Baden-Durlach attempted to register family events at Lutheran churches. This would be necessary for future generations to claim inheritance and citizenship rights. These incentives were considered sufficient - failure to register Anabaptist family events was not actually punishable in the courts until it became a formal legal requirement April 15, 1809. On April 9, 1722, the margrave followed this up by ordering Lutheran clergy to resist the persecution of other creeds.

On Nov. 11, 1728 Christian signed a 10-year lease on Dölters family properties at Sexau. An accounting sheet in the *Generallandesarchiv Karlsruhe* says, "The estate of the surviving children [all minors] of the late Martin Dölters of Sexau was conferred by lease to the Anabaptist Christian Zimmermann until St. Martin's Day [Nov. 11], 1738, who also was assessed the protection fee of 25 florins, which he would have had to solely observe, but because of princely grace it was reduced by half with no consequences. However, the complete amount of 25 florins has been entered here." An Anabaptist leasor would have been welcomed because in this instance he would have had other Anabaptists as guarantors. And the late Dölters had been described as an 'arch-drunkard and curser.' The lease ran through Nov. 11, 1738.

Sexau, Denzlingen, and Emmendingen are clustered together where the Black Forest [Ger. *Schwarzwald*] meets the Upper Rhine Plain (actually a range of low hills). They sit above the city limits of Freiburg im Breisgau, a university town since medieval times. The area between them is now filled in by the suburban communities Gundelfingen and Vörstetten.

On April 23 (the feast day of St. George), 1739, Christian took a lease on the Zehnthof estate at Denzlingen. Denzlingen was also known as Langendenzlingen, or 'long Denzlingen,' because it was formed over time by filling in the stretch between two medieval settlements.

In *Eighteenth Century Anabaptists in the Margravate of Baden and Neighboring Territories*, Mark Häberlein and Michaela Schmolz-Häberlein wrote that, "In March of 1739, Christian Zimmermann leased for nine years the Widdumsgut [Zehnthof] in Denzlingen, a hereditary fief of the collegiate chapter of St. Margarethen in Waldkirch administered by the community. Zimmermann had to deliver 60 *Malter* (9000 liters) of rye – 30 to the collegiate chapter, 20 to the margrave's *Burgvogtei*, and 10 to the community – and pay 135 *gulden* (silver coins) annually." 16

[16] An invaluable article published in the October 2001 issue of Goshen College's *Mennonite Quarterly Review*.

Larry Zimmerman pointed out that *Widdumsgut* is a description, not a proper place name; it is a medieval Latin term for an immovable church asset.

On Aug. 1, 1739 the town fathers of Denzlingen petitioned the margrave on his behalf. They asked for exemption from a religious protection fee, saying he was born 'in the land and previously had a farm at Sexau' [Baden-Durlach]: *"…Welcher im Land gebohren und bisher einen Hof zu Sexau in Bestand gehabt."* Christian was granted an exemption.

The late genealogist John Alma Hüppi indirectly confirmed that Christian Zimmerman married one of the daughters of Christen/Christian Rŭpp.17 Recall from ROPP, RŬPP OF HOCHBURG that Hüppi discovered an accounting of the Hochburg estate created in 1785. It said that Christian Rŭpp, the first Anabaptist leaseholder there, was a maternal grandfather to the current Anabaptist leaseholders [Jacob Zimmerman and Jacob Müller]. This unidentified Rŭpp bride was born no later than 1711.

The War of the Austrian Succession (1740-48) had a direct impact on Denzlingen. In August of 1740 alone, it residents had to billet 400 Austrian recruits. By 1742 communal funds were running low, but the village helped to pay the cost of boarding its residents elsewhere until they could send income home. In 1744 and 1745 at least 15,000 soldiers camped in the surrounding fields while their horses grazed.

During the worst hardships of 1745, soldiers looted homes, stables, and barns. Several times when residents tried to hide their foodstuffs, officers threated to burn down the community.

In 1756 a census of Denzlingen showed only 710 inhabitants.

When son Christian renewed Denzlingen lease in June 1757, he was provided surety by his brother-in-law Jacob Rŭpp, Anabaptist tenant of the Steckenhof estate at Denzlingen.

Christian died circa 1771; Anabaptist deaths were not recorded in church registers at Denzlingen. He would have been buried in a small side-plot next to the Lutheran cemetery. On Sept. 26, 1776 his widow and son Andreas took over the lease contract. (Had his widow not been sick in bed that day, we might have had a sample of her signature telling us her first name).

Protestant Baden-Durlach had been divided from Catholic Baden-Baden since 1551, though they were ruled by different lines of the same family. They were reunited under Margrave Karl Friedrich in 1771.18 His diverse domain consisted of an upper Catholic region (Baden-Baden), a lower Lutheran region (Baden-Durlach), and a

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[17] Someone looking for the marriage of Christian Zimmerman and a Rŭpp might check the records of the Evangelische Kirche Sexau on FHL International Film 1189800 (DGS 102061009); someone looking for a death entry might check FHL International Film 1189801 (DGS 102060781). *Ortsippenbuch Sexau, Landkreis Emmendingen* (Family Book Sexau, Emmendingen District) is on FHL 1440786 (DGS 8128423). Owing to the COVID pandemic, none of these has been digitized though they have digital system numbers.

A near-miss 'distraction' points downriver from Steffisburg. Belp is on the west side of the Aare River, 13 miles northwest of Steffisburg, and six miles southeast of the city of Bern. Many of the same surnames found at Steffisburg are also found in Belp church records. Its Protestant Reformed Church was established in 1549. A Zimmerman baptism was recorded there in the first year. **Hans Zimmerman**'s marriage to Elsbeth Schlecter was recorded at Belp Nov. 28, 1664. The exact spelling of her surname is uncertain from this entry and others, but appears to be derived from Schlücter, now standardized as Schlecter. In the Bernese dialect a *Schlücter* was someone who lived near a gorge. The entries of their children baptized at Belp said the family lived in Belpberg (now part of Belp). For that reason alone we could probably characterize them as dairy farmers. Their children baptized at Belp include:

1. Catrina Zimmerman was baptized Oct. 16, 1666. Witnesses included Christen Wÿrich, Barbara Gŭrtner, and Catrin [illegible].
2. Christen Zimmerman was baptized Dec. 26, 1669. Witnesses included Christian Schlucter, Hans Bachman, and Elsbeth Schmid.

Christen Zimmerman was baptized at Belp Dec. 26, 1669, a son of Hans Zimmerman and Elsbeth Schlecter. On July 30, 1693 the marriage of 'Christe' Zimmerman was recorded in the Lutheran church register at Auggen, Baden-Durlach. Recall that unless they were Catholics, foreign nationals in Baden-Durlach were obligated by law to register family events at Lutheran churches. The groom was described as "*ein lediger Dienstknecht, aŭs dem Berner geburth gebürtig"* – an unmarried farm laborer/servant, born in Canton Bern. A margin note said, "*Hanns Zimmerman seligen welcher Sohn im Belpp Calvinischen Religione*" – this son of Hans Zimmerman was blessed [baptized] at Belp in the Protestant Reformed religion. The bride was Ursula Breitenstein, a daughter of Jerg or Jörg Breitenstein of Zeglingen *im Basler*. Auggen is located inland on the eastern (Baden) side of the Rhine River, less than a mile from a crossing at Neuenberg am Rhein. It is 19 miles north of Basel, and approximately 30 miles southwest of Freiburg im Breisgau and Denzlingen.

The couple had the births of children Hans, Maria, and **Christian Zimmerman** registered at Auggen. Christian was born Feb. 5, 1697, and his place as the third child was noted on the entry created Feb. 9. There is no known Anabaptist association.

[18] Margrave Karl Friedrich (1728-1811) abolished the legal use of torture in 1767, and serfdom in 1783. His second wife Louise Geyer of Geyersberg was made Baroness of Hochberg with their marriage in 1787, then Countess of Hochberg in 1796. Karl Friedrich became a Grand Duke of the Holy Roman Empire in 1806. Although his children from this second marriage were initially ineligible to succeed him, laws were changed in 1817. The House of Hochberg became princes and princesses. They ruled the Grand Duchy of Baden until 1918.

patchwork of properties owned by the Austrian Hapsburgs, the prince-bishop of Basel, and knights of the Holy Roman Empire. In that year Baden-Durlach was further divided into (north-to-south) an upper margravate, the district of Hochburg, and a lower margravate. The district of Hochburg was composed of villages on the west and north sides of the city of Freiburg im Breisgau.

FREIBURG IM BREISGAU

'*im Breisgau*' distinguishes this location from Freiburg an der Elbe in Lower Saxony, and the city and canton of Fribourg in Switzerland (bordering the west side of Canton Bern).

From 1648 to 1805 Freiburg im Breisgau was a free market city at the juncture of important trade routes. It also served as the administrative center of the scattered Hapsburg territories called Further or Outer Austria [Ger. *Vorder Österreich*], less a few periods when it was occupied by the French.

The unincorporated entity was technically never a part of Baden-Durlach, and became part of the Grand Duchy of Baden in 1805.

Another village that was home to Anabaptists was Opfingen, on the west side of Freiburg im Breisgau. It was administratively absorbed into the city in 1971.

The area is one of the warmest in Germany, known for its grape harvests and dairy products. The economy is also supplemented by mining for lead and silver. Thus its 18th-century economy resembled Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, where Swiss emigrants had prospered providing food and drink for miners.

The national restructuring necessitated several years of higher taxes to offset debts incurred earlier by Baden-Baden.

UNREST

The French Revolution began with the storming of the Bastille July 14, 1789. The Bastille was a medieval fortress, armory, and prison in Paris.

Over the next few weeks peasants and citizens also rebelled against authorities along the Alsatian left side of the Rhine River. In August prisons at Strasbourg were abandoned by rebellious garrisons, and prisoners were released.

Then scattered food riots and attacks on monasteries began on the Baden side of the river. At first only one small political riot took place in Denzlingen.

Then on August 29 a court decision was announced that was the culmination of a legal dispute begun in 1760. Forest privileges in the nearby *Nonnenhölzle* were taken from Denzlingen, depriving its inhabitants of their main source of firewood. And in 1790 wealthy farmers tried to deny use of grazing areas to poorer livestock handlers and day laborers. These local events led to an open revolt in the village and may account for the westward migrations of some Zimmerman descendants.

For a timeline of events in Baden from 1800 to 1830, see ROTH.
Children of Christian Zimmerman and a Rŭpp include:

1. Catharina Zimmerman was born at Sexau circa 1730, and died at Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace Dec. 2, 1803. She married Heinrich Boshart. He was born circa 1727 and died at Staffelfelden Aug. 27, 1794. His civil death entry described him as a 67-year-old miller and named his wife as Catherine Zimmerman. It was witnessed by Christian Zimmerman, 60, a resident of Ungersheim [her younger brother]; and Johannes Ringenberger, 28, a miller at Staffelfelden. Catharina's civil death entry said she was 73 years of age. It described her as Heinrich Boshart's widow, a miller from the *Department Oberrhein* [Baden]. It was witnessed by plowman [Ger. *Ackermann*] Christian Zimmerman, 69 [her younger brother], and plowman Joseph Jotter, 41. For background on their North American descendants see BOSHART in the Appendix.
2. **Johannes Zimmerman** was born at Sexau circa 1732, and died in the area of Strasbourg, Lower Alsace before 1797.
3. **Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman** was born at Sexau circa 1734, and died at Froeningen, Upper Alsace April 24, 1804.
4. **Jacob Zimmerman** was born at Sexau Dec. 16, 1735. He died after April 5, 1805, but before Nov. 12, 1807.
5. Anna Maria Zimmerman was born at Sexau or Denzlingen circa 1738, and died there Oct. 21, 1755.
6. Michael Zimmerman died as a small child at Denzlingen Feb. 20, 1741. The death entry described his father as Christian Zimmerman, a *Wiedertäufer*.
7. Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman was born at Denzlingen circa 1752, and died at Kingersheim, Upper Alsace Nov. 26, 1819. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Zimmerman, 67, *natif de Langen Denzlingen en l'autre coté du rhin*. She married Abraham Lauber. He was born circa 1760, and died at Denzlingen April 10, 1810. They had children born at Jungholtz, Upper Alsace circa 1775 and in 1781.19 Jungholtz is six miles west of Ungersheim, the

[19] Jungholtz is less than two square miles. It did not keep its own civil records until 1880.

home of Barbara/Barbe's older brother Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman, and six miles northwest of Staffelfelden. By 1793 they had relocated to Denzlingen, Baden-Durlach. Their children include:

a. Christian Lauber was born at Jungholtz, Upper Alsace circa 1775, and died at Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace Feb. 10, 1793. His civil death entry said he was 18 years old, born at Jungholtz as a son of Abraham Lauber. A left margin description labeled him 'Christian Lauber *ein witer täüffer*' [*Wiedertäufer* or Anabaptist]. One witness was miller Heinrich Boshart, 67 [he was married to Catharina Zimmerman, Barbara/Barbe's older sister].

b. Michel Lauber was born at Jungholtz in March of 1781, and died age 70 years and nine months (per his civil death entry) at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace Dec. 28, 1851. He married his cousin Barbara Zimmerman. She was born at Denzlingen circa 1793, and died age 62 (per her civil death entry) at Bourgfelden Dec. 12, 1855, a daughter of Jacob Zimmerman and Elisabetha König.

c. Christian Lauber was born at Denzlingen Oct. 20, 1795 (civil birth entry, despite Oct. 29, 1796 on his headstone), and died in Fulton County Aug. 14, 1875. On March 25, 1823 at Bourgfelden he married his cousin (once removed) Magdalena Zimmerman, a granddaughter of minister Jacob Zimmerman (ZIMMERMAN). She was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau Dec. 29, 1797, and died at German, Fulton County, Ohio in 1860. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Lauber, born at Langen Denzlingen, Grand Duché de Baden, Oct. 20, 1795, a son of the deceased Abraham Lauber, who had died at Denzlingen April 10, 1810, and the deceased Barbe Zimmerman, who had died at Kingersheim, Upper Alsace Nov. 6, 1819. The bride was described as Madeleine Zimmerman, born at Hochburg, Grand Duché de Baden Dec. 29, 1797, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabethe König, who was present and consenting. Witnesses included cultivator Michel Lauber, 41, brother of the groom. They signed Christian Laŭber and Magdalena Zimmerman. With two other family they departed from Mulhouse, Upper Alsace in the spring of 1834. Fellow traveler Christian Rupp was a son of Johannes Rŭpp and Magdalena Wagler. For the story of their immigration journey see ROPP, RUPP OF FULTON COUNTY. From New York they went up the Hudson River to the Erie Canal. At Stark County, Ohio (centered around Canton) they were met by Peter Schrock from Wayne County. They stopped briefly at what is now Marshallville, Wayne County, Ohio, where the Rupps remained for five years. Christian Lauber went ahead with others to scout land at what is now Germantown, Fulton County, about 160 miles to the west. They were led by Peter Wyse, an earlier arrival. They returned to Wayne County after warranting 1,800 acres. The Laubers arrived at the Black Swamp area (what is now German) in August. Magdalena's cousin Nikolaus König/Nicholas King accompanied them from Wayne County. Christian and Magdalena built the first log cabin there shortly after arriving. They filed claim to the land Oct. 7, 1835. The cabin was still standing in 1875. In 2004 it was the focus of an archaeological dig by Heidelberg College. Christian is buried in Lauber Hill Cemetery in Fulton County, also known as New Mennonite Cemetery. His headstone says Christian Lauber, Oct. 29, 1796-Aug. 14, 1875, settled on Lauber Hill 1834." The story of their family can be found in Thomas R. Lauber's *The Laubers, A Journey of Faith* (2008).

8. **Andreas Zimmerman** was born at Denzlingen before 1756, and died in 1793.

■ Heinrich Zimmerman was born at Denzlingen circa 1759, and died there Oct. 30, 1761. He is only known to us from the death entry, where he is described as a two-year-old son of Christian Zimmerman. The father was not identified as senior [Ger. *alt*] or junior [Ger. *jung*], but as a *gemein Maÿer* [tenant]. Was Heinrich a son of Christian Zimmerman and a Rŭpp, or their son Christian/Chrétien?

Descendants of Johannes Zimmerman

Johannes Zimmerman was born at Sexau circa 1732, and died in the area of Strasbourg, Lower Alsace before 1797.

He married Anna Müller. They were at Kollmarsreute (three miles north of Denzlingen) in 1764, and near Sankt Martin church at Freibourg im Breisgau (seven miles south of Denzlingen) in 1766. By 1770 they had leased the estate of Johann Michael Knoderer at Niederemmendingen (now absorbed by Emmendingen, which is on the northwest side of Kollmarsreute).

A list of Anabaptists who paid the religious protection tax in 1796/97 included the widow of Johannes Zimmerman of Niederemmendingen, who tilled the farm of Joh. Michael Knoderer.

Their son Christian took over their lease, and other children moved to the area of Strasbourg. Those looking for deeper information on this family are encouraged to read Neil Ann Stuckey Levine's very thorough article *The Zimmerman Family at Strasbourg, France* in the January 2005 issue of *Mennonite Family History*.

Children of Johannes Zimmerman and Anna Müller include:

1. Johannes/Jean Zimmerman was born at Niederemmendingen circa 1759, and died at Strasbourg Dec. 18, 1828. He married Barbara Stŭcki/Stucky. She was born on Schoppenwihr farm at Ostheim, Lower Alsace circa 1764, and died

at Strasbourg April 16, 1828, a daughter of Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. Her father was the minister who represented the Colmar congregation with Hans Rŭpp/Jean Ropp at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759. They were living at Dambach-la-Ville, Lower Alsace in 1785; in 1790 at Durrenentzen, Upper Alsace; at Illkirch, Lower Alsace (now Illkirch-Graffenstaden) in 1792, and at Strasbourg in 1793. At Strasbourg they lived on Schulmeister's Canardière estate and at La Robertsau. His civil death entry described him as cultivator Jean Zimmerman, 69, born at Niederemmendingen, *Grand Duché de Bade*. He was a son of deceased cultivator Jean Zimmerman and his deceased unknown wife, and the widower of Barbe Stucki. It was witnessed by his son cultivator Jean Zimmerman, 39. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Stucki, 63, born at Ostheim, a daughter of deceased cultivator Benoit Stucki and his deceased unknown wife. She was married to cultivator Jean Zimmerman. She had died in Maison No. 66 at *la Ménagerie* near *la porte Dauphin*, Strasbourg. It was witnessed by her son cultivator Jean Zimmerman, 38.

a. Marie Zimmerman was born at Dambach-la-Ville in October of 1785, and died at Illzach April 2, 1860. On March 1, 1806 at Bollwiller she married Pierre Tschantz. He was born circa 1780, and died at Illzach Oct. 23, 1819, a son of Benedict Tschantz and Barbara Roth. Their civil marriage entry said Marie was aged 21 years and five months. She was a daughter of cultivator Jean Zimmerman and Barbe Stuki, residents of La Robertsau. Witnesses at their ceremony included cultivator Jacques Hirschy; cultivator Chrétien Roth, 40, a second cousin and resident of Pulversheim; cultivator Benoit Tschantz, 46; and cultivator Jacques Tschantz, 66. On Nov. 20, 1826 at Illzach (above Mulhouse) Marie remarried to Henry Steinbach. Their unique civil marriage entry described the groom as Henry Steinbach, born at Illzach March 7, 1793 and a resident there. His parents were the deceased Adam Steinbach, who had died at Illzach April 16, 1780, and Elisabeth Landschann, who had diecd there Aug. 1, 1781. The bride was Marie Zimmerman, the widow of Pierre Tschantz, who had died at Illzach Oct. 23, 1819. She was born at Dambach, a daughter of farmer Jean Zimmerman and Barbe Stucky, who were residents of la Menagerie at Strasbourg. Marie's parents had declined to give their consent for the second marriage of their 41-year-old daughter, citing religious grounds. They had submitted a document composed with a notary in their home March 8, 1826. Henry was illiterate, and signed with an 'x.'

b. Jean Zimmerman was born at Durrenentzen, Upper Alsace June 14, 1789.

c. Barbe Zimmerman was born at Graffenstaden (now Illkirch-Graffenstaden on the southwest corner of Strasbourg) March 31, 1792. On Jan. 28, 1825 at Pfastatt she married Christian/Chrétien Ummel. He was born at Grandvillars, Territoire de Belfort in February of 1772, and died at Illzach April 6, 1856, a son of Christian/Chrétien Ummel and Barbe Stŭckÿ. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Umel, 52, a resident of Mulhouse. He was born at Grandvillars in February of 1772, a son of the deceased Chrétien Umel, who had died *en Pologne*, and the deceased Barbe Stocky, who had died at Pfastatt June 24, 1819. He was the widower of Barbe Stucky, who had died at Mulhouse [May 17, 1824, see STUCKY for background]. The bride was decribed as Barbe Zimmerman, 32, a resident of Pfastatt. She was born at Graffenstaden March 31, 1792. She was a daughter of cultivator Jean Zimmerman and Barbe Stocky, residents of Strasbourg. One witness was cultivator Jacques Gerig, 38, a brother-in-law of the bride. Christian/Chrétien signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate; the bride signed Barbara Zimmerman. This was a granddaughter of Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser, and a grandson of Christian Stŭckÿ and his first wife Anne Roth. With the marriage Christian/Chrétien Ummel, whose mother Barbe Stŭckÿ had died in 1819, and whose first wife Barbe Stŭckÿ had died in 1824, gained a mother-in-law named Barbara Stucky/Barbe Stocky.

d. Magdalena (as she signed her name)/Madeleine Zimmerman was born at Strasbourg Jan. 31, 1794. On Dec. 29, 1831 at Strasbourg she became the second wife of widower Chretién Stucki. Recall his first wife Barbara Rŭpp from ROPP, ROPP OF HOCHBURG. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Stucki, a resident of Lingolsheim and the widower of Barbe Rupp. He was born at Sparsbach, Lower Alsace in 1776, and died at Strasbourg Feb. 23, 1836, a son of the deceased cultivator Chrétien Stucki and the deceased Barbara Laetry. The bride was born at Strasbourg Jan. 31, 1794. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Zimmerman, who had died at Strasbourg Dec. 18, 1828; and the deceased Barbe Stuck, who had died there April 15, 1828. Witnesses included Joseph Gerig, 28; Joseph Schwartz, 40; and brothers of the bride Michel Zimmerman, 26, and Jean Zimmerman, 42. Chretién Stucki's civil death entry said he died in Maison No. 66 near the Austerlitz gate. Witnesses included cultivators Michel Zimmerman, 30, and Pierre Zimmerman, 27, his brothers-in-law. On Dec. 14, 1841 at Strasbourg Magdalena/Madeleine remarried to Jacques Schwartz. Their civil marriage entry described him as Jacques Schwartz, who was born at Wintzenheim in 1784; he was the widower of Catherine Riss, who had died at Strasbourg May 25, 1825. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Jacques Schwartz, who had died at Wihr-au-Val Jan. 4, 1808, and the deceased Elisabeth Schlader [Schlatter]. The bride was Madeleine Zimmerman, born at Strasbourg Jan. 31, 1792; she was the widow of Chrétien Stucki, who had died at Strasbourg Feb. 23, 183[runs off the page]. Her parents were identified. Witnesses included cultivator Joseph Schwartz, 48, brother of the groom; cultivator Jean Hunzinger, 58, brother-in-law of the groom; and cultivator Jean Egli, 60, a friend of the groom.

e. Elisabeth Zimmerman was born at Strasbourg July 18, 1798, and died at Pfastatt, Upper Alsace Feb. 14, 1848. On Aug. 22, 1816 at Pfastatt she married Jacob/Jacques Gerig. He was born at Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace in 1788, and died at Illzach, Upper Alsace Sept. 1, 1851, a son of Christian/Chrétien Gerig and Catherine Goldschmidt.

f. Catherine Zimmerman was born at Strasbourg Nov. 8, 1800, and died there July 5, 1870. On Oct. 17, 1829 at Strasbourg she married widower Jacob/Jacques Ulrich. He was born at Ribeauvillé June 16, 1802, and died at Strasbourg Jan. 3, 1867. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacques Ulrich, a resident of Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace who was born at Ribeauvillé June 16, 1802. He was a son of cultivator Jean Ulrich, who had died at Eckbolsheim May 7, 1828; and the deceased Anne Eymann, who had died at Illhaeusern, Upper Alsace March 11, 1825. The bride was born at Strasbourg Nov. 8, 1800. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Zimmerman, who had died at Strasbourg Dec. 18, 1828; and the deceased Barbe Stocky, who had died at Strasbourg April 16, 1828. Witnesses included cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 24, brother of the bride; cultivator Jean Ulrich 32, brother of the bride; and cultivator Chrétien Lauber, 57.

g. Michel Zimmerman was born at Strasbourg Sept. 20, 1805. On March 19, 1829 at Strasbourg he married Magdalena Müller. She was born at Strasbourg Aug. 17, 1793, a daughter of Michel Müller and Anna Zimmerman.

h. Pierre Zimmerman was born at Strasbourg May 25, 1809. On Jan. 7, 1832 at Strasbourg he married Barbara Müller. She was born at Strasbourg Nov. 6, 1802, a daughter of Michel Müller and Anna Zimmerman.

2. **Jacob Zimmerman** was born circa 1761, and died before Feb. 18, 1822.

3. Anna Maria/Anne Zimmerman was born at Emmendingen in December of 1764, and died at La Robertsau, Strasbourg April 12, 1814. Her civil death entry said she was age 50 years and four months, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Zimmerman and the deceased Anne Müller. She was the wife of cultivator Michel Mŭller, 51 [he was a son of Jacob Müller and Anna Litwiller], and died in their home Maison No. 318 at La Robertsau.

4. Michael Zimmerman was born near Sankt Martin church at Freiburg im Breisgau May 12, 1766, and died at Kandern, Baden Nov. 21, 1842. On July 18, 1801 at St. Stail, Vosges he married Elisabeth Hung. She was born at St. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Sept. 14, 1783, and died at Kandern Feb. 5, 1838, a daughter of Sebastian Hung and Susanna Schürch. Their civil marriage entry describe the groom as cultivator Michel Charpentier, 27, born at St. Martin, *terre d'ampire* [meant to be *terre d'empire*, land in the empire, thus outside the boundaries of France] May 12, 1766. He was a son of the deceased Jean Charpentier and Anne Miller. The bride was described as Elisabeth Hone, 19, born at St. Croix, a daughter of cultivator Sebastian Hone and Susanne Cherick [Schürch] of St. Stail. Witnesses included cultivator Christianne Charpentier, 32, from Quiersad, *terre d'ampire* ['Quiersad' must somehow be associated with Niederemmendingen, where Christian was still leaseholder at the time of the wedding]; cultivator of Jacob Charpentier, 39, of Quiersad [?], *terre d'ampire*, brother of the groom; and maternal uncle of the bride Christanne Vagner, 29, from 'ybrin *terre d'ampire*' [Levine suggests Ebringen below Freiburg im Breisgau, Baden). The list of marriages immediately below this entry gave the name of the bride as Elisabet Hongue. Signatures looked like Michel Zimmerman, Jacob Zimmerman, Christian Zimmerman, and Christian Wagler. The bride signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate. In 1803 Michel and Elisabeth leased the Platzhof farm at Kandern, Baden, 14 miles north of Basel.

5. Christian Zimmerman was born circa 1768, and died at Basel, Switzerland May 27, 1829. He followed his father as leaseholder at Niederemmendingen. He married Barbara Stucky (not the widow of his brother; this Barbara died at Riehen, Switzerland Sept. 20, 1813).

6. Magdalena Zimmerman was born at Niederemmendingen circa 1770, and died in Maison No. 19 on Rue de l'Abreuvoir, Strasbourg Jan. 10, 1836. She married Christian Wagler. He was born at Salm circa 1770, and died at La Robertsau Feb. 4, 1814, a son of Sebastian Wagler and Elisabeth Rupp.

7. Maria Zimmerman was born at Niederemmendingen circa 1771, and died before 1840. She married Christian König. He was born circa 1765, and died at Bamlach, Baden between 1825 and 1834, a son of Christian König and Elisabetha Stŭcki. See KING, KÖNIG OF NIMBURG for background on this couple.

Jacob Zimmerman was born circa 1761, and died before Feb. 18, 1822.

Jacob married his cousin (once removed) Anna Maria König. She was born circa 1772, and died before Feb. 18, 1822, a daughter of Christian Zimmerman and Elisabetha König.

They became co-leaseholders on the Baldenwegerhof above Zarten (15 miles south of Sexau) with her brother Christian König. Jacob was a minister, and performed the marriage ceremony of his own son in 1822.

Children of Jacob Zimmerman and Anna Maria König include:

1. Magdalena Zimmerman was born on the Baldenwegerhof Feb. 27, 1790. She had four illegitimate children. She applied for a German *Heimatrecht* (home rights) certificate for herself Oct. 2, 1828. Documents in the Landesarchiv Karlsruhe derived from the lengthy process provide a wealth of information. In the end she was denied, because at

the time she was born her parents were only considered temporary tenants, one of her two sons had died, and her two daughters were born at Müllheim. The surviving son was awarded a certificate in 1836.

2. **Johannes/Jean/John Zimmerman** was born on the Baldenwegerhof Feb. 21, 1797, and died at Ross Township, Clinton County, Indiana before the 1870 census.

The information in this portion of text has been developed with Ardelle and Larry Koperski, who have done considerable research on this family. They worked from a fragment of the Joseph Zimmerman Family Bible *held by the late Pearl Dietz Beatty, a granddaughter of Joseph. The whereabouts of the* Bible *is no longer known.*

Johannes/Jean/John Zimmerman was born on the Baldenwegerhof estate above Zarten, Baden Feb. 21, 1797, and died at Ross Township, Clinton County, Indiana after the 1870 census.

Johannes/Jean/John and Anna 'Emma' Schneider traveled to Hegenheim, Upper Alsace for the birth of their first child Feb. 5, 1822. The civil birth entry described the mother as Anne Schneider, 21, a daughter of Jacques Schneider and Elisabeth Stauffer of Durmenach; and the father as Jean Zimmerman, 25, son of the deceased Jacques Zimmerman and the deceased Anne König. Jean was living at Riethzen, canton de Bale [Riehen between Basel and Lörrach]. The child was named Jean Schneider. The father signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate.

They were married at Munzingen, Baden later that year; the ceremony was performed by the groom's father.Anna Schneider was born circa 1802, and died in the decade before the 1870 census, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Schneider and Elisabeth Stauffer.

Johannes/Jean's cousin Christian Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer of Bourgfelden also traveled to Hegenheim for the delivery of their first child before marriage Oct. 19, 1823. Like Johannes/Jean and Anna Maria a year earlier, they had a Kaufmann listed as a witness on the birth entries. Pierre Kaufmann, a farmer-cultivator born circa 1793, was married to Anne Zimmerman, born circa 1798. It is possible that both couples were employed by the Baron Barbier, *seigneur* or landowner of Bourgfelden-Hebenheim and politician, who owned estates at Bourgfelden and Hegenheim (recall that Michel Lauber was employed by him).

On Sept. 28, 1842 Johannes/Jean applied for German citizenship rights. His citizenship file in the *Generallandesarchiv* of Baden says he was 46; was born on the Baldenwegerhof estate but resided at Lörrach [seven miles northeast of Basel]; that he had married Anna Maria Schneider, born at Durmenach [no civil entry is found there], a daughter of Jakob Schneider; and that their ceremony was performed at Munzingen by Jacob Zimmerman.

Family records say Johannes/Jean and Anna sailed to America in 1849. Their children stated their year of immigration as 1851 on the 1900 census.

Papers from Mrs. John A. Zimmerman said that they settled "near what is now Berne, Indiana" (in Adams County, north of Delaware County). This is true in a general sense. It is likely that the precise location was Delaware County, where Christian Reeser could have visited Barbara Zimmermann's home. This agrees with Cosco's account. Reeser's home at the time of their meeting, Liberty, is now Liberty Corners, a suburb of Muncie in Delaware County.

A Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County (1889) says they "…located on a farm in Delaware County, Indiana, where they resided until released from earth's trials at a good old age. They were good, industrious, intelligent, and religious people, being worthy members of the old school Mennonite Church." Despite this, 75-year-old John Zimmerman of Baden is found on the 1870 census of Ross Township, Clinton County, Indiana. There he was living next door to his son Christian and daughter-in-law Christina Schlatter. Johannes/John may be buried in Peters Cemetery in Ross Township.

Children of Johannes/John Zimmerman and Anna Schneider include:

1. Jean/Johannes/John A. Zimmerman was born at Hegenheim, Upper Alsace Feb. 5, 1822, and died Feb. 18, 1886. On May 25, 1851 he married Magdalena Roth at what is now Berne, Indiana. She was born in Maison No. 23 at Aspach, Upper Alsace Oct. 5, 1829, and died at Nebraska Township, Livingston County May 30, 1909, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Roth and Madeleine Schmucklÿ. They are found on the 1860 census of French, Adams County, Indiana next door to John's younger brother Christian as: farmer John Zimmerman, 38, Bavaria; Margaret, 31, France; and five children born in Indiana, the oldest 8 years of age. The family can also be found on the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Pike, Livingston County. They are buried in Pike Township Cemetery.
2. Christian Zimmerman was born at Lörrach, Baden March 29, 1825, and died at Ross, Indiana Dec. 12, 1899. On Aug. 12, 1851 in Wells County, Indiana he married Christina Schlatter. She was born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace March 24, 1828, and died April 3 or 8, 1897, a daughter of Nicolas Schlatter and Barbe Stucki/Stocky. She immigrated in 1846. They are found on the 1860 census of French, Adams County as farmer C. Zimmerman, 35, Baden; Christina, 32, France; and Barbara Slaughter, 60, France. Within five years they bought a farm at Ross, Clinton County, where Christian became a minister. The 1880 census of Ross Township: farmer Christian Zimmerman, 55, born in Baden to German parents; and Christina, 52, born in France to French parents. On Dec. 16, 1897 in Clinton County he remarried to Christina's niece Katharina Schindler. She was born at Voujeaucourt, Doubs,

Franche Comté June 11, 1849, a daughter of Daniel Schindler and Catherine Schlatter. Following Christian's death she lived with a brother in Reno County, Kansas, then at Anderson, Madison County, Indiana where she died Nov. 23, 1911. Christian, Christina, and Katharina are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Edna Mills, Ross Township.

3. Jacob Zimmerman was born at Lörrach March 18, 1827, and died at Milford, Nebraska July 1, 1885. He was a minister in Indiana and Nebraska. On Sept. 22, 1853 in Butler County, Ohio he married third cousin Barbara Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. She was born at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace March 17, 1833, and died at Milford, Nebraska Sept. 2, 1896, a daughter of Christian Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer. They can be found on the 1880 census of Pike, Livingston County as farmer Jacob Zimmerman, 53, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Barbara, 47, born in France to French parents; and four children born in Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, August 1885: "On the 1st of July, at Milford, Seward county, Neb., of consumption, Jacob Zimmerman, aged 58 years, 3 months and 14 days. On the 2d he was buried at the Amish graveyard. He was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church. Services by Joseph Gasho and Joseph Retiger. Text, *John 5 : 20--30*." He is buried in the Amish Cemetery at Milford. *Herald of Truth*, February 1897: "Barbara Zimmerman was born on the 18th of March, 1833 in Alsace, Germany, was married to Jacob Zimmerman on the 22d of September, 1853 in Butler Co., Ohio. She lived in matrimony 32 years and died on the 2d of September, 1896, aged 63 years, 5 months and 15 days. She leaves one brother, one sister, five children, and twenty-si grandchildren to mourn her death. A son and daughter preceded her. Her remains were laid to rest on the 4th of Sept. in the Fairview Cemetery, Seward Co., Neb. Funeral text, *1 Cor. 15:53*." She is buried in Fairview Mennonite Cemetery at Milford.
4. Barbara Zimmerman was born at Lörrach April 4, 1830, and died at Eureka, Woodford County March 26, 1903. On April 15, 1852 at Muncie, Indiana she married Christian Risser/Reeser. He was born at Guebenhouse, Moselle Sept. 19, 1819, and died at Eureka, Woodford County Jan. 14, 1923, a son of Jean Risser and Françoise Bergmann. See RISSER/REESER for more on this couple.
5. Joseph Zimmerman was born at Lörrach Feb. 2, 1833, and died at Sterling, Reno County, Kansas Feb. 25, 1917. On Jan. 15, 1863 in Adams County, Indiana he married Christine/Christina Stucky. She was born at Bourbach-le-Haut April 2, 1840, and died at Sterling, Kansas in 1910, a daughter of Nicolas/Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ or Nicholas Stucky and Barbara Barbe Frutiger (see STUCKY for background on her family). They were living in Nebraska Township, Livingston County in 1870, but moved to Hayes, Reno County, Kansas in 1877. They appear on the 1880 census of Hayes as farmer Jos. Zimmerman, 47, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Christina, 40, born in France to French parents; Annie, 16, Illinois; Sarah, 5, Illinois; and Mary, 1, Kansas. They appear in the home of a son on the 1900 census of Walnut, Reno County, Kansas: farmer Joseph Zimmerman, 31, born in Illinois in February of 1869 to German parents; Annie, 35, born in Germany in March of 1865, immigrated in 1874; Mary, 9, born in Kansas in October of 1890; Alvin, 4, born in Kansas in May of 1896; Ella, 1, born in Kansas in December of 1898; father and milk hauler Joseph, 67, born in Germany in February of 1833, immigrated in 1851; mother Christina, 60, born in Germany in April of 1840, immigrated in 1845; and brother and farm laborer Bernard, 14, born in Kansas in June of 1885. They are buried in Sterling Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery.
6. Isaac Zimmerman was born at Grenzach, Lörrach, Baden Jan. 17, 1838; the registration of his birth in an *Evangelisch* church named Izaak Zimmerman and parents Johannes Zimmermann and Anna Schneider. He died at Sterling, Kansas Dec. 30, 1903. On Dec. 24, 1861 at Eureka, Woodford County he married Mary Sommer. She was born at Montgomery Township circa 1839, and died in 1867, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Marie Sommer. On Feb. 6, 1868 he remarried to Mary Stuckey. She was born in Baden Aug. 30, 1847, and died April 19, 1901. The family can be found on the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Pike, Livingston County. The 1900 census of Walnut, Reno County, Kanas has farmer Isaac Zimmerman, 63, born in Germany in January of 1837, immigrated in 1851; Mary, 47, born in France to German parents in September of 1852, immigrated in 1862; and four children born in Illinois. Isaac and Mary are buried in Sterling Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Sterling, Kansas, which was established on land they donated.
7. An unnamed child was born at Grenzach, Lörrach, Baden March 5, 1840, and died there two days later.

Descendants of Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman

This portion of text leads to Catherine Zimmerman of Morton, who married Jacob/Jacques Rich; and to Stuckys who came to Tazewell County in the 1880s.

Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman was born at Sexau circa 1734, and died at Froeningen, Upper Alsace April 24, 1804, a son of Christian Zimmerman and a Rŭpp.

Christian/Chrétien married Susanna Goldschmitt. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace in 1745, and died at Froeningen Dec. 23, 1812, age 67, a daughter of Hans Heinrich Goldschmid and Anne Neuhauser (see GOLDSMITH for background on her family).

They initially lived together at Sexau or adjacent Denzlingen in Baden, but circa 1787 they relocated to Ungersheim, Upper Alsace, and later 16 miles south to Froeningen.

His civil death entry described him as "*Chrétien Zimmerman un Encienne Baptiste Cultivateur et Vassal*" – meant to be *une ancienne Anabaptiste*, an elderly Anabaptist - and gave his age as 70.

A *seigneurial* feudal system existed in France in the 1700s. Most large properties were gained through feudal tenure, then occupied and worked by tenants who paid dues to the *seignieur* or lord in the form of a share of produce. The *seignieurs* were not necessary nobles, but could be clergy or upper *bourgeoisie*. This system was largely reduced but not completely eliminated after the French Revolution of 1789. Perhaps the description 'vassal' simply meant that Christian/Chrétien was a tenant farmer on the grounds of an abandoned castle at Froeningen. It had been destroyed by fire in 1739.[20]

Note below the decade lapse in births. This suggests more unidentified births, but evidence is lacking. Children of Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman and Susanna Goldschmitt include:

1. Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman was born at Sexau or adjacent Denzlingen in Baden circa 1765. He married Elisabeth Röschli (found as Röschlin, Reschly, Reschley, Roschlé, Reshlé, and Roschler). She was born at Saulxures, Lower Alsace Nov. 11, 1764. They first farmed at Ungersheim and then on Weckenthal farm at Berrwiller (four miles south), both in Upper Alsace. Weckenthal farm was on the grounds of a ruined castle that had last been rebuilt in 1650; Weckenthal is now a district of the large community of Berrwiller. Christian/Chrétien died on Weckenthal farm March 4, 1809. His civil death entry described him as Chrétien Zimmerman, the 44-year-old husband of Elisabeth Raschler. On June 4, 1810 at Berrwiller Elisabeth remarried to widower laborer Christian Brechbühl, a resident of Hombourg, Upper Alsace (across the Rhine River from Schliengen and Auggen, Baden) who was born at Bellfosse, Lower Alsace May 28, 1759. He was likely a son of Martin Brechbühl and Anne Bachmann of Bénaville; he was also a brother to Magdalena Brechbühl (often found as 'Madeline Prachpiller' or 'Prachpil'), the wife of Christian Rŭp (uncle to Andreas Ropp). Christian Brechbühl's first wife had been Elizabeth Roup (aunt to Andreas Ropp). They had lived at Bénaville, on a rise between Plaine and Saulxures in Lower Alsace, then at Soultz and Hombourg. Elizabeth died at Hombourg Feb. 12, 1810. Her civil death entry described her as Elisabeth Ropp, 47; one witness was her laborer husband, 51; he signed Christian Brächbill. Children of Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabeth Röschli include:
    a. Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman was born at Ungersheim March 6, 1792. On Nov. 17, 1814 at Berrwiller she married Peter/Pierre Roth. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Nov. 23, 1790, and died at Uffholtz, Upper Alsace Oct. 5, 1828, a son of Nicolas Roth and his second wife Anne Müller. See ROTH for background on this couple and her second husband.
    b. Magdalena Zimmerman was born at Ungersheim April 25, 1794, and died before Aug. 20, 1795. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Christian Zimmerman *der Jŭng*, a *Wiedertäufer* [Anabaptist] plowman, and Elisabet Röschlin.
    c. Magdalena/Madeleine Zimmerman was born at Ungersheim Aug. 20, 1795. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Christian Zimmerman and Elisabeth Röschlin. It was witnessed by Hans Roth and Johannes Volf. On March 23, 1818 at Pulversheim she married François Joseph Roth. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a 30-year-old cultivator, a son of Anabaptist cultivator Chrétien Roth, 50, and Barbe Sherk [Schirch], 40, who had died Oct. 6, 1808. The bride was Marris Magdeleine Zimerman, a 25-year-old daughter of deceased *annabaptiste* Chrétien Zimmerman who had died March 10, 1809, and Elisabeth Reschelin, 56, a farmer at Weckenthal. Witnesses included Jacobe Rotty, an *Annabattiste* cultivator at Ensisheim; and cultivator Joseph Rübre [Rŭpp or Raber?], 56.
    d. Catherine Zimmerman was born at Ungersheim April 2, 1797, and died in Tazewell County before 1870. On April 28, 1819 at Berrwiller she married Jacob/Jacques Rich. He was born at Ruederbach Jan. 12, 1789. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as 30-year-old Jacques Rich, born at Ruederbach Jan. 12, 1789, a son of the deceased Peter Rich (who had died July 15, 1814) and Barbe Linder (who had died Jan. 15, 1809) from 'Burgenhoff,' Ruederbach. The bride was identified as Catharine Zimmerman, 22, born at Ungersheim April 2, 1797, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabeth Röschlé [Röschli], a resident of Weckenthal, Berrwiller, who was present and consenting. Catherine died in Tazewell County before 1870, and was buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington. Jacob appears as an 83-year-old in the household of his son Joseph Rich on the 1870 federal census of Morton. For the story of their immigration and background on their family see RICH.
    e. Jean Zimmerman was born circa 1801, and died at Berrwiller April 5, 1806. His civil death entry said he was five years old.
    f. Anne Marie Zimmerman was born at Berrwiller March 7, 1802.
    g. Marie Anne/Maria Anna Zimmerman was born at Berrwiller March 30, 1803. On Feb. 25, 1822 at Pulversheim she married Johannes/Jean Roth. He was born at Pulversheim Feb. 23, 1794. The marriage entry described the groom as a son of *annabaptiste* laborer Christian Roth and the deceased Barbe Schirch, who had died at Pulversheim Oct. 6, 1808. The bride was described as 18 years, nine months old, born at Berrwiller, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabethe Reschly of Weckenthal. It was witnessed by Nicolas Roth, 27, of Billzheim, Ensisheim, a brother of the groom; Joseph Roth, 30, of Bollwiller, a brother of the groom; and Christian Rupp, 31, an *Anabaptiste*

[20] Château de Froeningen was rebuilt in the 1800s, but destroyed again during World War I.

shopkeeper at Pulversheim who was a brother-in-law of the groom [see ROPP, FULTON COUNTY RUPPS].

a. Christian Roth was born at Bollwiller Aug. 2, 1833, and died in Tazewell County in 1897. On March 8, 1868 at Morton he married Frances 'Fanny' Staker. See STAKER for the details of his Civil War service and his marriage.

h. Anne Zimmerman was born at Berrwiller Dec. 13, 1804, and died there April 6, 1806.

i. Elisabethe Zimmerman was born at Berrwiller March 31, 1806, and died there March 24, 1807.

j. Anne Zimmerman was born at Berrwiller June 12, 1808. On May 4, 1827 at Berrwiller she married Jean Ulrich Amstutz. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as 37-year-old Jean Ulrich Amstutz, born at Roches [in the district of Münster in the Jura Mountains of Canton Bern] Sept. 19, 1790, a son of the deceased Jean Ulrich Amstutz who had died in Maison Rouge, Normanvillars, Florimont in the *Territoire de Belfort* May 7, 1824, and Barbe Wenger of Florimont. The bride was described as 19-year-old Anne Zimmerman, born on Weckenthal farm at Berrwiller June 12, 1808, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman who had died March 4, 1809, and Elisabeth Reschler, living on Weckenthal farm.

2. Elisabeth Zimmerman was born at Sexau or adjacent Denzlingen circa 1767, and died at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace June 25, 1823. Her civil death entry said she was 56; it was witnessed by her brother cultivator Jacques Zimmerman of Froeningen, 38; and her son cultivator Chrétien Tschantz, 31. She married Benoit Tschantz. He was born circa 1760, and died at Bollwiller Aug. 6, 1820. His civil death entry described him as a 60-year-old cultivator; it was witnessed by his son cultivator Chrétien Tschantz, 30, and cultivator Daniel Schlatter, 30. They were cultivators on a farm owned by departmental deputy Marc-René de Voyer de Paulmy d'Argenson, the Marquis d'Argenson. The entry said that Benoit died in his own home, an apartment in d'Argenson's home.[21]

3. Magdalena Zimmerman was born at Sexau or adjacent Denzlingen circa 1777, and died at Froeningen May 6, 1805. When she died in her home at age 28, her civil death entry was witnessed by her husband weaver Ignace Burger, 28. A second witness was farm hand and cultivator Jacques Zimmerman, 21 (presumably her brother).

4. Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman was born at Sexau or adjacent Denzlingen circa 1783, and died at Mulhouse Nov. 6, 1852. His pre-marriage announcement gave his age as 22, and said he was born at *Wihr* (in German this means 'hamlet'). On Dec. 9, 1805 at Froeningen he married Catharina/Catherine Ropp, a daughter of Hans Roup/Jean Ropp and Barbara Hochstettler (and a sister to Andreas Ropp, the partriarch of the Central Illinois family. She may have been born at Falkwiller, Upper Alsace circa 1785, and died at Dornach (now a neighborhood district on the west side of Mulhouse) Jan. 31, 1840. The *ban* notice published one and two weeks before the wedding, and inserted in civil records Nov. 28, describes the bride as Catharina Ruphin, 20, living at Jettingen, a daughter of Andreas Ruphin and an unknown mother - information almost certainly provided by Zimmerman. The marriage entry holds a number of clerical and factual errors. It describes a ceremony for 22-year-old farmhand and cultivator Jacques Zimmerman (he signed 'Jacob Zimmermann') and 20-year-old Catharine 'Ruphin'.[22] She is described as a daughter of the deceased 'André Ruphin' and Barbara 'Hosetter ' [Hochstettler] of 'Falckelsheim' [Falkwiller]. Presumably the name of her older brother Andreas Ropp was carried over from the *ban*. Or, it may have been purposely substituted for her father's (Hans/Jean). Under French law Andreas was her legal guardian, and civil requirements would have required a death certificate from the home community of the deceased Hans/Jean, but none was available (in 1788, Sigolsheim Catholic records did not include the deaths of Anabaptist residents). Marriage witnesses included her 24-year-old younger brother cultivator Joseph 'Ruphin' of Jettingen; 23-year-old farmer and musician Joseph Hostetter; 30-year-old day laborer Johannes/Jean König the younger; and 31-year-old Georg Bachler.

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[21] Marc-René de Voyer de Paulmy d'Argenson (1771-1842) was a consumate political survivor. He became Marquis d'Argenson at age 13. At age 18 he assumed a fortune and a number of estates, and also became a lieutenant of dragoons. In 1792 he became aide-de-camp to General Gilbert du Motier, the Marquis de Lafayette, the hero of the American Revolutionary War who became commander-in-chief of France's National Guard and general of the Army of the North. On Aug. 10, 1792 the Tuileres Palace was stormed by the National Guard of the Paris Commune, and the royal family was put to flight. The revolutionary Committee of Public Safey was formed in January of 1793. The Marquis de Lafayette immediately fell under suspicion, and fled to the Austrian Netherlands, where he was imprisoned for five years. D'Argenson made a trip to England to accompany a sister and purchase farm equipment. By the time he returned suspicion had fallen on him as well, and he quietly retired to his ancestral estate in Touraine. There he married the widow of Prince Victor de Broglie and adopted her children, ensuring their safety. He introduced new agricultural methods on his farms, and new English mechanical innovations based around the steam engine in his ironworks in Upper Alsace. Napoleon Bonaparte offered him a position as chamberlain, but instead he chose to serve as the prefect of Antwerp 1809-13. During the 100 Days restoration of Napoleon's rule, he became a deputy for the Territoire de Belfort. While a deputy he was one of the founders of the newspaper *Le Censeur Européen* and the *Club de la liberté de la presse*. He served as a departmental deputy for Belfort or Upper Alsace until 1824, then was recalled in 1828. In 1830 he was elected as a deputy for Châtellerault in western France. He was not re-elected there the following year, but instead became a deputy for more liberal Strasbourg. He retired from public life in 1834.

[22] A one-page German-language *'publication de mariage*' that was posted on the front door of the Froeningen town hall has also been preserved on FHL microfilm 734150. It is clear that 'Ruphin' on the marriage entry was a poor transcription of the announcement's 'Ruppin,' a dialect form of Rupp. Catharina's parents were described on the announcement as "the deceased Andreas Ruppin and his wife unknown" (as explained in the text, Andreas Ropp was actually her brother and legal guardian, since both parents and oldest brother Jacob were deceased).

Catharine Ropp signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. We were initially misled as to Jacob/Jacques' age by a document he signed in 1807. At the marriage of Joseph Ropp (brother of Andreas) and Barbe Roth at Ungersheim, he was described as laborer Jacques Zimmerman, 21, brother-in-law of the groom, a resident of Froeningen. He signed Jacob Zimmerman. He would have been closer to 24 years of age. Jacob is described in a number of later entries as '*Anabaptiste*.' A footnote in Christian Ropp's 1892 autobiographical notes gives only a few thin threads on this forgotten sister of Andreas Ropp (we have added pertinent dates and locations in brackets): "One of her sons, a Zimmerman, lived near Meadows, Illinois. Two daughters [Barbara and Catharine] came to Washington, Tazewell County. One [Barbara] married a Rich [Daniel] - no children; the other [Catharine] was the second wife of Joseph Rich with two sons, Christian [March 8, 1865-Nov. 20, 1839 Glendale Cemetery] and Joe Rich [1861-Dec. 10, 1913 Glendale Cemetery]. Son Joe married Louisa Roth [April 29, 1866-Jan. 7, 1940 Glendale Cemetery, a daughter of Daniel Roth and Catherine Ropp, married in Tazewell County April 26, 1887]." Despite poor handwriting and a number of errors, the civil death entry of Catherine Ropp is also a significant document linking the Ropp family. It was originally created at Dornach Jan. 31, 1840 as an entry for 'Catherine Roth.' The name Roth was later inked out, and 'Ropp' inserted; notes in the left margin acknowledging the correction were signed by the original witnesses, widower Jacob Zimmerman and Christian Schlatter. In its corrected form, it states that Catherine Ropp had died that day in Dornach at the age of 55; that she was born in 'falqelsheim,' but lived in Dornach; and that her parents were Jean Ropp and Barbe Hochstätler. The witnesses were described as 55-year-old farmer Jacques Zimmerman and 44-year-old cultivator Jacob/Jacques Schlatter (the older brother of Jacques' daughter-in-law Anne Marie Schlatter). His civil death entry describes him as cultivator Jacques Zimmerman, 66, the widower of Caherine Rupp who had died at Dornach. He was born on *la ferme dit Gigisburg* near Kolenan [?], Upper Alsace, a son of cultivator Jacques Zimmerman and Susanna Goldschmidt. One witness was his son cultivator Jacques Zimmerman, 40. Children of Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman and Catharina/Catherine Ropp born at Froeningen include:

a. Catharina Zimmerman was born Jan. 18, 1807, and died at Froeningen April 2, 1815. On the birth entry her father was described as a 23-year-old *'Baptiste vasal et cultivateure*' living at Froeningen, and her mother as 'Catharina Ropp,' 22.

b. Magdeleine Zimmerman was born July 7, 1808. Witnesses included school teacher Jean Conrad Hostetter, 54, and Georg Bachler, 31.

c. Anna Maria/Anne Marie Zimmerman was born May 27, 1810. On June 7, 1845 at Dornach, Upper Alsace she married widower Jacob/Jacques Goldschmidt. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 17, 1808 (his birth entry called him Jacques Goldschmith), a son of cultivator Jacques Goldschmitt and Barbe Kauffmann. On March 7, 1836 at Hegenheim he had married Barbe Stucky. She was born at Michelbach-le-Haut March 1, 1808, a daughter of Mathias Stŭckÿ and his second wife Anna Maria Boshart (see STUCKY for background on this couple and their children). Barbe died at Allschwil (on the Swiss side of the border with Hegenheim) Dec. 2, 1842. At the time of his second marriage Jacob/Jacques was a 37-year-old cultivator living at Allschwil with his father; his mother had died Oct. 30, 1833. Witnesses on their civil marriage entry included Anne Marie's younger brothers Jacob/Jacques and Christian/Chrétien. Their children born at Allschwil include:

   1) Catherine Goldschmidt was born May 10, 1849. On Jan. 12, 1873 at Hégenheim she became the second wife of Benoit Stucky. He was born at Hégenheim, Upper Alsace March 8, 1835, and died at Gridley, McLean County Jan. 19, 1896. Background on his first wife and family, their immigration in 1882, and their children can be found in STUCKY.
   2) Lisette Goldschmidt/Goldsmith was born Oct. 27, 1854, and died at Morton Sept. 11, 1823. She immigrated with her sister Catherine and brother-in-law Benoit Stucky in 1882, and became the second wife of minister Daniel Roth in Tazewell County Sept. 15, 1887; see ROTH for background including her obituary, or STUCKY.

d. Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman was born Sept. 15, 1812. On Feb. 7, 1839 at Mulhouse he married Anna Marie Schlatter. She was born April 11, 1810 at Richwiller, Upper Alsace (a suburb of Mulhouse). Their civil marriage entry states that he was 26 and she was 28, a daughter of cultivator Chrétien Schlatter and the deceased Anne Marie Roth (she died at Richwiller July 30, 1832), and that the bride had been living at Pfastatt (between Richwiller and Mulhouse). The parents of the groom, cultivator Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman and Catherine Ropp, were residents of Mulhouse. Witnesses included brothers-of-the-bride Chrétien Schlatter of Dornach, 41, and Benedict/Benoit Schlatter of Pfastatt, 28, both cultivators.

e. Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman was born March 9, 1815; one birth witness was François Joseph Riche, a 48-year-old tailor. On March 12, 1848 at Dornach she married Daniel Rich. He was born at Riespach (nine miles below Altkirch) July 14, 1819, a son of cultivator Daniel Rich, who had died at Walheim (near Altkirch) Jan. 6, 1845, and his widow Eve Rich, who attended the wedding. Witnesses included Barbe's younger brothers Jacob/Jacques and Christian/Chrétien. Daniel appears as a resident of Washington on the 1852 Illinois state census. He died at Washington, Johnson County, Iowa July 6, 1855 (minister Joseph Goldsmith established an Amish Mennonite congregation in Johnson County in 1855). As a widow, Barbara was probably the 44-year-old born in France found on the 1860 federal census of Morton in the household of Joseph Rich and her younger sister Catharine; in 1870 she appears as a 55-year-old born in France and living in Iowa City, Iowa. She died Jan. 24, 1899. Barbara/Barbe and Daniel are buried in Peter Miller Cemetery at Kalona, Johnson County, Iowa.

f. Jean Zimmerman was born June 19, 1818, and died at Froeningen Sept. 6, 1818.

g. Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman was born Aug. 2, 1819. On Feb. 12, 1850 at Dornach he married Elisabeth 'Barbara' Joder. She was born at Morvillars, Belfort April 12, 1821, a daughter of cultivator Joseph Joder and Anne Marie Stucky of Montebéliard. Witnesses included Christian's brother-in-law Daniel Rich of Froeningen, 30; Elisabeth's brother-in-law cultivator Jean Roth of Montbéliard, 40; brother of the bride and cultivator Jean Joder of Dizier [probably Saint Dizier l'Évêque, Belfort], 30; and uncle of the bride cultivator Michel Joder of Morvillars, 44. We could not determine whether this couple immigrated. However, they had a son Chrétien who was born at Mulhouse Oct. 30, 1853, died May 24, 1929, and is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. He immigrated in 1873, according to his report on the 1900 census of Waldo. As Christian R. Zimmerman he married Anna Sommer on Feb. 4, 1879. She was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County March 15, 1850, and died March 13, 1929, a daughter of George Sommer and Anna Gasser. They farmed at Meadows.

h. Catharine Zimmerman was born May 22, 1824, died in Tazewell County April 12, 1891, and is buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington. She was the second wife of Joseph Rich of Morton (a son of Jacob/Jacques Rich and Catherine Zimmerman; see RICH for background on this couple).

5. Anna Maria/Anne Marie Zimmerman was born at Denzlingen circa 1786, and died at Kintzheim, Lower Alsace July 18, 1809, presumably from complications of childbirth. Before 1809 she married Christian/Chrétien Roth, becoming the first of his three wives. He was born at Berrwiller, Upper Alsace July 19, 1783 (per their civil marriage entry), and died at St. Maur, Indre Nov. 19, 1838. See ROTH for background on this couple.

6. Andreas/André Zimmerman was born on the farm of his parents at Ungersheim, Upper Alsace June 1, 1788, and died Dec. 1, 1823. On April 7, 1819 at Blotzheim, Upper Alsace he married Catherine Schneider. She was born at Durmenach Sept. 22, 1791, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Schneider and Elisabeth Stauffer, who became residents of Brinckheim [adjacent to Blotzheim]. Catherine Schneider was the sister of Anna Schneider, born circa 1802, who married his cousin (once removed) Johannes/Jean/John Zimmerman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as André Zimmerman, born at Ungersheim June 1, 1788, a son of Chrétien Zimmerman and Susanne Goldschmitt. The bride was described as Cathrine Schneider, born at Dürmenach in the autumn of 1791. She was a daughter of Jacques Schneider and Elisabeth Stauffer, cultivators at Brinckheim. Witnesses included farmer Jean Freÿenberger (no age given). Signatures looked like Andreas Zimmerman; an 'x' for Catherine, indicating she was illiterate; and Johannes Freÿenberg. On Oct. 17, 1824 a wedding announcement was placed in the Blotzheim register. Catherine would remarry to Jean Freÿenberger. He was described as farmer Jean Freÿenberger, 44 [and thus born circa 1780], residing at present at Schopfen, Grand Ducheé de Bade, though he had been a resident of Blotzheim for 10 years. The location was likely meant to be Schopfheim, 10 miles east of Lorrach and Basel, in the Grand Duchy of Baden. He was a son of Chrétien Freÿenberger and Magdalena Freÿ. Though the announcement was published, an actual marriage entry is not found at Blotzheim. See FREYENBERGER in the Appendix for background on this couple.

7. Johannes/Jean Zimmerman was born at Ungersheim June 26, 1794, and died at adjacent Pulversheim Sept. 14, 1846. His civil birth entry described his parents as Christian Zimmerman *der alte* [senior] and Susana Goldschmidt. The birth year seems unrealistically late in her child-bearing span (perhaps she was not the true mother?). Johannes/Jean married Magdalena/Madeleine Roth. She was born circa 1788, and died at Pulversheim July 28, 1847, age 59. His civil death entry described him as cultivator Jean Zimmerman, 51, husband of Madeleine Roth, 58. Her entry described her as Madeleine Roth, 59, the widow of Jean Zimmerman.

Descendants of Jacob Zimmerman

This portion of text will include Fulton County, Ohio; Butler County, Ohio; and the background of Christian Zimmerman (1827-1879), who is buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove, and Jacob Zimmerman (1829-1898), who is buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Morton. Their sister Catherine 'Katie' Zimmerman (1831-1902) may have lived at Morton, and may also be buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery there.

Jacob Zimmerman was born at Sexau Dec. 16, 1735, a son of Christian Zimmerman and a Rŭpp.

He married Barbara Schneider. She was born on the Wangen estate at Tiengen bei Freiburg (16 miles southwest of Sexau) Oct. 2, 1742, and died before 1820.

In 1772 Michael Müller died, and his lease on the Hochburg estate at Sexau was assumed by Jacob Zimmerman, Michael's son Christian Müller, and Michael's son minister Jacob/Jakob Müller. It would remain an Amish Mennonite meeting place under the custodianship of the two families until it became a government agricultural school in 1846.

In 1789 Jacob Zimmerman and Jacob Müller also leased the grounds of Falkenbühl Castle above Zarten and the Baldenwegerhof above Zarten (five miles east of Freiburg im Breisgau).[23]

[23] Baldenwegerhof is still a thriving estate inviting tourists, with its own website. The community around Baldenwegerhof seceded from Zarten to become Wittental in 1970; all are within the Freiburg district.

Jacob Zimmerman became a minister of the congregation on the Hochburg estate, and elder after the death of Jacob/Jakob Müller.

On April 5, 1805 he informed the district administrators that Benedict König (see KING for background) would take his place as elder. He died before Nov. 12, 1807.

Children of Jacob Zimmerman and Barbara Schneider include:

1. **Christian Zimmerman** was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau circa 1768, and died at Bourgfelden Nov. 9, 1805 (his civil death entry calls him 'Christian Zimer').
2. Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate circa 1777, and died at St. Louis, Upper Alsace Sept. 27, 1804. On June 3, 1798 at Walbach he married Anne Marie Stŭcky. She was born at Walbach, Upper Alsace in 1776, and died at St. Louis Sept. 26, 1851, a daughter of Mathias Stŭckÿ and his first wife Elisabeth Schwartz. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as plowman Jacob Zimmerman, 22, a son of plowman Jacob Zimmerman, 61, and Barbara Sneitter, 54, residents of Hochburg im Breisgau. The bride was Anne Marie Stŭcky, 22, a daughter of plowman Mathias Stŭckÿ, 54, and Elisabeth Swartz, 53, residents of Walbach. Witnesses included plowmn Christian Zimmerman, 29, of Emmendingen; plowman Benedict Stŭcky, 37, from Heyden [Heiteren, Upper Alsace]; and Johannes Roth, 24, of Richwiller. They had children at St. Louis in 1802 and 1803. His civil death entry said Jacques Zimmerman was 27, and described his parents as Jacques Zimmerman and Barbe Schneider of Hochbourg. It described him as married [Fr. *marié*], but did not name his widow. On Dec. 16, 1806 at St. Louis widow Anne Marie Stŭcky remarried to Christian/Chrétien Eicher. For details of their civil marriage entry see STUCKY.
3. Michael Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate circa 1780. On Aug. 20, 1802 at Riedseltz he married Veronica Roggi. She was 17, a daughter of Johannes Roggi and Elisabetha Eÿer of the Diefenbacherhof at Riedseltz.
4. Johannes Zimmerman was born circa 1784. On Nov. 12, 1807 at Riedseltz he married Elisabetha Roggi. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Johannes Zimmerman of Hochburg, 22; his parents were Jacob Zimmerman and Catharina Schneider. The bride was Elisabetha Roggi, 19, a daughter of Johannes Roggi and Elisabetha Eÿer of the Diefenbacherhof. They lived in the adjacent villages Blansingen and Tannenkirch, on the east (Baden) side of the Rhine River, 10 miles north of St. Louis.

Christian Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau circa 1768, and died at Bourgfelden Nov. 9, 1805 (his civil death entry calls him Christian Zimer).

In 1789 he married Elisabetha König. She was born on the Obernimburg monastery estate at Nimburg (seven miles west of Sexau) in 1769, and died at Bourgfelden Dec. 13, 1833, a daughter of Christian König and Elisabetha Stucki. They farmed with Christian's brother Jacob on the Michelfelderhof at St. Louis, Upper Alsace (just above Basel).

On Feb. 16, 1803 they leased a farm at Bourgfelden. Bourgfelden is west of Basel, adjacent to Saint-Louis at the three-way border point where France and Switzerland meet below Baden-Württemberg. Someone in French Bourgfelden could simply walk across the town boundary into the Swiss city of Basel (where there was an Amish Mennonite congregation called Basel-Binningen), or cross a bridge over the Rhine and walk four miles to German Weil am Rhein.

Children of Christian Zimmerman and Elisabetha König include:

1. **Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman** was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau March 10, 1790.
2. Johannes/Jean/John Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau Oct. 17, 1791, and died at Pettisville, Fulton County, Ohio Jan. 25, 1873. His marriage to Magdalena Reidiger was entered in records at Auenheim, Baden (adjacent to Kehl on its north side) and at Ichenheim Nov. 19, 1815. She was born circa 1795, and died at Hegenheim, Upper Alsace July 8, 1834, a daughter of Jakob Reŭtiger and his first wife Jakobea/Jakobina Güngerich. Her civil death entry described her as Madelaine Rodinger, 39, the wife of cultivator Jean Zimmerman, 43. On Dec. 17, 1834 (the 10-year index says Jan. 13, 1835) at Hegenheim he remarried to Barbara Nafziger. Their very abbreviated civil marriage entry said he was cultivator Jean Zimerman of Bourgfelden, a son of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisbethe König. The bride was described as Barbe Nafzger, 23, a resident of Allschwiller, Suisse [Allschwil, Switzerland, on the Swiss side of the border with Hegenheim], daughter of cultivator Pierre Nafzger and the deceased Barbara Liechty. Barbara Nafziger was born March 24, 1811, and died in Fulton County Jan. 25, 1873, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Nafziger and Barbara Liechti/Liechty. Johannes/Jean/John and Barbara sailed from Le Havre on the *Argo*, and arrived at New York May 24, 1841. The entire traveling party appeared on the passenger list as: Jacob Joder, 62, France; Barbara [wife Barbe Liechti], 48; Anne, 18; Verena, 15; Barbara, 12; Barbara, 57; Ch.n Liechty, 46, France; Joseph, 17; Jacob, 13; Jacob, 38; Jacob, 8; Pierre Eschlyman, 23, France; Jean Zimmerman, 50, France; Barbara, 32; Catharina, 5; Joseph, 4; Barbara, 1; Christian, 20; John, 15; and Daniel, 7.[24]

[24] 'Jacob Joder, 62, France', otherwise known as Jacques Joder, was born at Grandvillars in the Territoire de Belfort July 11, 1779. He was a son of Joseph Joder and Anne Marie Stucky. On Oct. 9, 1821 at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace he married Barbe Liechti. See YODER, DESCENDANTS OF BROTHER CASPAR.

The Zimmermans are found next door to Christian Rupp and Christine Stuckey (traveling companions of sister Magdalena in 1834) on the 1850 census of German Township, Fulton County. The 1860 census of German Township shows them as farmer John Zimmerman, 69, Germany; Barbara, 49, Germany; Elzbeth, 16; Jacob, 16; Franey, 13; Jonathan, 12; Peter, 10; Benj., 8; and Ann, 5; all children born in Ohio. They were living next door to Nicholas King, 45, Germany; Elizabeth, 52, Switzerland; and five children born in Ohio. Barbara died Nov. 9, 1873. They are buried in Lauber Hill Cemetery in Fulton County, Ohio

3. Barbara Zimmerman was born at Denzlingen circa 1793, and died at Bourgfelden Dec. 12, 1855. She married her cousin Michel Lauber. He was born at Jungholtz, Upper Alsace in March of 1781, and died at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace Dec. 28, 1851, a son of Abraham Lauber and Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman.
4. Magdalena Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau Dec. 29, 1797, and died at German, Fulton County, Ohio in 1860. On March 25, 1823 at Bourgfelden she married her cousin (once removed) Christian Lauber. He was born at Denzlingen Oct. 20, 1795 (civil birth entry, despite Oct. 29, 1796 on his headstone), and died in Fulton County Aug. 14, 1875, a son of Abraham Lauber and Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman. See the earlier note on this couple and their emigration from Europe in 1834.
5. Joseph Zimmerman was born in the Michelfelden quarter of St. Louis, Upper Alsace Oct. 14, 1799, and died at Bourgfelden Aug. 2, 1814. His civil birth entry said his parents were cultivators living at Michelfelden. His civil death entry was witnessed by farmer Michel Lauber, 34, an employee of Baron Barbier.[25] Joseph was 13.
6. Anne Marie Zimmerman was born at St. Louis June 14, 1802. Her civil birth entry was witnessed by uncle Jacques Zimmerman. On April 8, 1823 at Bourgfelden she married Daniel Eyer. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Daniel Eyer, born Nov. 16, 1797, a son of the deceased Jean Eyer and the deceased Barbe Brennemann of Wülfendingen, Grand Duché de Baden. His father had died at Wilferdingen Feb. 26, 1816, and his mother Jan. 28, 1814. Daniel had been living at Waeglisberg, Grand Duché de Baden. The bride was Anne Marie Zimmerman, born at St. Louis June 14, 1802, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabeth Koenig. One witness was cultivator Michel Lauber, 41, brother-in-law of the bride. They signed Daniel Eÿer and Maria Zimmerman.

Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau March 10, 1790, and died in Butler County, Ohio before March 23, 1852.

On Nov. 17, 1824 his marriage to Catherine Sommer was entered into Bourgfelden civil records.[26] She was born at Sélestat, Lower Alsace March 11, 1802, and died in Butler County between March 23, 1852 and the 1870 census, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Sommer and Barbe Stŭckÿ.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Zimmerman, a resient of Bourgfelden. He was born at Hochbourg, Grand Duché de Baden March 10, 1790, a son of the deceased cultivator Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabetha Koenig. The bride was Catherine Sommer, born at Sélestat March 11, 1802, a daughter of deceased cultivator Jean Sommer [a note added afterward said that he had died at Ribeauvillé Aug. 17, 1814] and Barbe Stocky, who had died at Eckbolsheim Aug. 12, 1817. Catherine signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate.

The couple lived at Bourgfelden until their emigration from Europe. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Hebrew* and arrived at New York June 23, 1836. The passenger list shows Christian Zimmerman, 46; Catharina, 34; Christian, 9; Jacob, 7; Catharina, 5; and Barbe, 3.

Christian was naturalized at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio March 10, 1840. His household appears on the 1840 census of Wayne, Butler County: one male in the 50-59 year age range; one male 10-14; one female 40-49; and two females 5-9. They lived next door to Christian's cousin Christian König, a son of minister Benedict 'Benz' König/King and Maria Magdalena Rediger; 'Benz' likely lived there as well. When Christian died circa 1845, the Wayne farm was assumed by Catherine's brother David Sommer, and the orphaned Zimmerman children relocated

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'Pierre Eschlyman, 23, France' was Peter Aeschliman. He was born at Sainens, Dung, Doubs Feb. 6, 1824, and died at Pettisville, Fulton County Nov. 27, 1890. His parents were Peter Aeschlimann and Catherine Gearig or Guerick [Göerig], who had immigrated without him in 1834. He married Barbara Rupp. She was born at Orschweier, Baden Dec. 18, 1828, and died in Fulton County June 11, 1872, a daughter of Jacob Rupp and Magdalena König. They are buried in Aeschliman Cemetery at Pettisville. The misstatement of his age may have been intentional if he left Europe to avoid military training. Background on his family can be found online in *Aeschliman* by Mona Mann at *https://archboldlibrary.org*.

[25] Antoine de Barbier Schroffenberg was born at Hegenheim in 1774, and died there Jan. 2, 1841. He was born to a father who was a *seigneur* or hereditary landowner of Bourgfelden and Hegenheim. These privileges were reduced, but not completely withdrawn, with the French Revolution of 1789. He become a deputy in the district assembly. He became a baron by marrying Françoise Albertini d'Ichratzheim, the daughter of the baron Albertini d'Ichratzheim, at Porrentruy, Canton Jura July 2, 1810.

[26] An entry at Hegenheim, Upper Alsace dated Oct. 19, 1823 stated that a child had been born there to Christian Zimmerman of Bourgfelden, 33, and Barbe Sommer. When that child died at Bourgfelden Oct 20, 1824, age 1, the parents were named as Christian Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer. The name 'Barbe Sommer' also appears in an Illinois historical reference.

to Collinsville in Milford Township.[27] The 1850 census of Collinsville shows cooper Christian Zimmerman, 23, France; Barbaray [Kinsinger], 26, Germany; Barbaray, 54, Germany [the widowed Catherine Sommer]; Jac., 21, France; and Catharine, 19, France.[28]

After Christian/Chrétien's death, Catherine Sommer remarried to Jean Buré/John Bower. The ceremony at Milford, Butler County March 23, 1852 was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Part of Augspurger's journal was published by W.H. Grubb in *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio*. He lists 'Boor and Barbara Cimmerman.' (Catherine was called Barbara at various points in her life, including the birth entries of some children). The 1860 census of Milford shows John Bower, 57, France; Barbaray Bower [Catherine Sommer], 65, France; and Catherine Zimmerman, 29, France [her daughter]. John was a widower by the 1870 census.

Children of Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer include:

1. Catharina Zimmerman was born at Hegenheim, Upper Alsace Oct. 19, 1823, and died at Bourgfelden Oct. 20, 1824.[29] The mother is named on the birth entry as 'Barbe Sommer.' However, Catharina's death entry one year later states that her mother was Catherine Sommer.
2. Christian Zimmerman was born at Bourgfelden March 27, 1827, and died of Bright's Disease and asthma in Tazewell County June 23, 1879. He is buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove, where his grave is marked by a small white obelisk along the right-of-way fenceline. His birth entry names his mother as Madeleine Rediger. Magdalena Rediger was actually his aunt, the wife of father Christian Zimmerman's younger brother Johannes/Jean. According to *The History of Tazewell County, Illinois* (Chapman) his mother was named Barbara Sommer. On Sept. 8, 1850 in Butler County he married Barbara Kinsinger; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. She was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig, Bavaria Jan. 1, 1820, and died at Washington Nov. 17, 1896, a daughter of Johannes Kinsinger and Christina Schrag. She is buried as 'Barbara Zimmerman, grandma' in the Slonneger grouping at Glendale Cemetery at Washington. The 1850 census of Milford, Butler County shows cooper Christian Zimmerman, 23, France; Barbary, 26, Germany; Barbaray, 54, Germany; Jac., 21, France; and Catharina, 19, France. The family can be found on the 1860 census of Oxford, Butler County as 'C. Simmerman,' 33, a farmer from France; Barbra, 37, France; Fanny, 8; Barbra, 6; Bena, 4; Cristena, 3; and Christian, one month; all children born in Ohio; and others including laborer Joseph Sumers [Sommer], 66, France; housekeeper C. Kinsinger, 64; and servant Barbara Slenicker [Slonneger], 16, Ohio.[30] The 1870 census of Milford, Butler County has farmer Christian Zimmerman, 42, France; Barbara, 57, Bierne [Bayern or Bavaria] Germany; Christian, 12, Ohio; Phoeba, 13, Ohio; Lizzi, 7, Ohio; and Christiana, 10, Ohio; in Wayne Township the household of Samuel Smith has domestic servant Barbara Zimmerman, 16, Ohio. Widow Barbara can be found as 'Barbara Kensenger, 50' on the 1880 census of Morton. She was a boarder in the home of John Frank; Alsace is given as her birthplace and the birthplace of her parents. Children of Christian Zimmerman and Barbara Kinsinger born in Butler County, Ohio include:
    a. Fannie Zimmerman was born in 1852. She is found as domestic servant Frany Zimmerman, 18, Ohio, in the James Hardin household on the 1870 census of Milford, Butler County (farther down the page from her family); then as servant Fany Zimmerman, 28, Ohio, in the household of Jacob A. Augspurger, 33, and Magdalena [Kennel], 28, on the 1880 census of Madison, Butler County.
    b. Barbara Zimmerman was born Dec. 19, 1853, and died at Washington, Tazewell County March 30, 1926. On March 30, 1880 in Butler County she became the third wife of John Slonneger. He was born at Trenton, Butler County Dec. 12, 1839, and died at Washington April 6, 1921, a son of Jacob Schlunegger and Elizabeth König/King. He had come from McLean County from Butle County, Ohio in 1869, and resettled at Morton in 1877. On Jan. 29, 1864 he married Magdalena Sommer, who was born in June 1839, and died March 28, 1867. On Aug. 29, 1871 he remarried to Mary Belsley. She was born in Woodford County Nov. 16, 1848, and died April 18, 1878, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Belsley and Catherine Springer. The 1880 census of Morton shows farmer John Slonneger, 40, born in Ohio to

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[27] David Sommer married Barbara Schlunegger, a daughter of JohannesSchlunegger and Veronica/Freni 'Fanny' Lichty. They can be found on the 1850 census of Wayne Township as David Sommer, 49, Germany; Barbaray, 47; John, 21; Christian, 20; Peter, 18; Fanny, 17; Jacob, 15; Mary, 14; David, 12; Joseph, 10; Daniel, 8; and Hanna, 6; all children born in Ohio. Their next-door neighbors were Elizabeth Ire [Eyer] the widow of Christian König, and her daughter Mary Konig.

[28] Milford Township holds Collinsville, Darrtown, and Somerville. It is located adjacent to Wayne Township. Wayne Township holds Jacksonburg and Seven Mile. The congregation at Collinsville under Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith and Benedict König/King had taken a neutral stance in the 1835 division between 'hook and eye' conservative and 'button' progressive churchgoers.

[29] Johannes/Jean Zimmerman and Anna Schneider – the 'Indiana Zimmermans' – traveled from Zarten, Baden to Hegenheim for the delivery of their first child (before their civil ceremony) on Feb. 5, 1822. Christian Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer – the 'Collinsville Zimmermans' – also traveled from Bourgfelden to Hegenheim for the delivery of their first child (before their civil ceremony) on Oct. 19, 1823. Both couples had a Kaufmann listed as a witness on the birth entries. Pierre Kaufmann, a farmer-cultivator born circa 1793, was married to Anne Zimmerman, born circa 1798. The link between Bourgfelden and Hegenheim was the Comte de Barbier, who employed family members on estates in both locations.

[30] Barbara Slonneger was born at Collinsville in September 1844, a daughter of Jacob Schlunegger and Elizabeth King.

parents from Switzerland and Baden; Barbara, 26, born in Ohio to parents from Alsace; Albert, 16, Ohio; Magdalena, 4, Illinois; Bertha, 2, Illinois; boarder and farm laborer Fred Weiytich, 28, Switzerland; boarder and farm laborer Ulrich Wieytich, 25, Switzerland; and sister-in-law Christine Zimmerman, 20, born in Ohio to parents from Alsace and Bavaria. Barbara and John Slonneger are buried in Glendale Cemetery.

c. Jacobine/Bina/Phoebe Zimmerman was born Feb. 3, 1856, and died at Cincinnati, Ohio April 28, 1928. She married Joseph F. Augspurger. He was born at Madison, Butler County in January 1856, and died in 1930, a son of Moses Augspurger and his first wife Veronica Frey. They can be found on the 1900 census of Madison, Butler County, where her birth date is given as February 1856.

d. Christian Zimmerman was born in February 1858. On Jan. 27, 1881 in Tazewell County he married Rose Ann Hoffman. She is found on the 1880 census of Groveland as Rosa Hoffman, 19, born in Illinois to parents from Darmstadt; her parents appear as farmer Philip Hoffman, 48, Darmstadt; and Joanna, 49, Darmstadt. The 1900 census of Deer Creek shows them as farmer Cris Zimmerman, born in Ohio in February 1858 to German parents; Rosana, born in Illinois in June 1861 to German parents; and nine children born in Illinois.

e. Christina Zimmerman was born May 30, 1860, and died in Tazewell County Aug. 5, 1888. On March 31, 1881 in Tazewell County she married Johannes/John Schunk. He was born in Webenheim, Germany Feb. 16, 1851, and died in Polk County, Iowa Aug. 26, 1907. He can be found on the 1880 census of Morton as day laborer John Shunk, 29, Germany; he was living as a boarder in the home of Carl Ueberrhein. They are buried in Roberts Cemetery at Morton.

f. Elizabeth K. Zimmerman was born June 21, 1862, and died at Wright, Iowa Dec. 14, 1920. On Feb. 4, 1886 she married Daniel Unsicker. He was born at Morton March 8, 1857, and died at Wright July 4, 1943, a son of Johannes Unzicker/John Unsicker and Katharina Kennel. Daniel graduated from Evergreen City Business College at Bloomington. He later farmed in Livingston County and bought 490 acres at Wright. This farm grew to 1,000 acres. On the 1900 census of Spring Creek, Mahaska County, Iowa he is listed as a grain dealer; on the 1920 census of the same location he is a bank president. His biography can be found in *Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa*.

3. Jacob Zimmerman was born at Bourgfelden May 11, 1829. His headstone in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton says he was born May 12, 1830, and died July 18, 1899. On March 23, 1852 at Collinsville, Butler County Jacob married Catherine 'Katie' Unzicker; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. She was born at Wilmot, Ontario March 21, 1827 (though some of her children believed she was born in Ohio), and died at Danvers Nov. 23, 1869, a daughter of Daniel Unzicker and Magdalena Kahn. She is buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers. She can be found on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County, as 'Catherine Unziker, 22, Canada' in the household of Joseph Augspurger and Barbara König/King. Jacob and Catherine can be found on the 1860 census of Danvers as farmer Jacob Zimmerman, 31, France; Catharine, 33, Canada; Magdalena, 7, Ohio; Barbara, 5, Ohio; Catherine, 3, Illinois; Fanny, 2, Illinois; and Mary, 1, Illinois. Widower Jacob Zimmerman can be found on the 1870 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as a 41-year-old farmer born in France, with children Magdaline, 17; Barbary, 16; Catherine, 14; Fanny, 12; Liddy, 9; Henry, 7; Emma, 4; and Daniel, 2; the oldest pair born in Ohio, the others in Illinois. On Feb. 12, 1872 in Tazewell County Jacob remarried to Susanna Tunis Rector, the widow of Ezra Rector. Tunis and Rector had married at Muskingum, Ohio Nov. 15, 1840 and settled in Dillon. Jacob and Susanna are found on the 1880 census of Nemaha, Kansas as farmer Jacob Zimmerman, 49, born in Prussia to parents from Prussia; Susan, 57, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio; and stepson and schoolteacher Ava [Alvie] Rector, 26, born in Ohio to a father from Virginia and a mother from Ohio. Fannie, Henry, and Daniel Zimmerman lived next door in the Wymer household. Children of Jacob Zimmerman and his first wife Catherine 'Katie' Unzicker include:

a. Magdalena Zimmerman was born at Collinsville, Butler County Feb. 23, 1853, and died at Stanford, McLean County Dec. 7, 1885. On Sept. 1, 1870 in McLean County she married Heinrich Christian Wick. He was born at Marburg, Hesse Sept. 16, 1836, and died in McLean County Nov. 20, 1904, a son of Justus Wick and Dorothea Itzel. In America he was known as Conrad Henry Wick. The 1880 census of Stanford shows them as harness maker C.H. Wick, 43, Hesse-Cassel; Magdalanie, 27, born in Ohio to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio; and two children born in Illinois.

b. Barbara Zimmerman was born at Collinsville, Butler County July 29, 1854. On Jan. 7, 1875 she married Christian Ayersman in McLean County. They are found on the 1880 census of Danvers: laborer Christian Ayersman, 27, born in Ohio to a father from Hesse-Darmstadt and a mother from Prussia; Barbara, 24, born in Ohio to a father from Hesse-Darmstadt and a mother from Canada; and three children born in Illinois to parents from Ohio.

c. Katharina/Catherine Zimmerman was born in Illinois Nov. 9, 1856. She is found as recently as the 1870 census.

d. Fannie Zimmerman was born in Illinois Feb. 26, 1858. On Aug. 2, 1877 in McLean County she married Jacob Wimer. He was born in Ohio circa 1844. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Nemaha, Kansas as farmer Jacob Wymer, 36, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio; Fannie, 22, born in Illinois to a father from Prussia and a mother from Ohio; Otto, 1, born in Illinois to a father from Ohio

and a mother from Illinois; brother-in-law (of Jacob Wymer) laborer Henry Zimmerman, 17, born in Illinois to a father from Prussia and a mother from Ohio; and brother-in-law Daniel Zimmerman, 12, born in Illinois to a father from Prussia and a mother from Ohio.

e. Mary Zimmerman was born in McLean County March 28, 1860. She died before the 1870 census.

f. Lydia 'Liddie' Zimmerman was born in McLean County July 1, 1861, and died Dec. 2, 1947. On Dec. 18, 1892 in McLean County she married James M. Davis. He was born in Illinois March 2, 1852, and died July 28, 1928 (headstone dates). The 1900 census of Deer Creek shows them as lumber dealer James M. Davis, born in Illinois in March 1850 to parents from New York; milliner Lydia, born in Illinois in July 1861 to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio; and Mary, born in Illinois in October 1884. They are buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers.

g. Henry Zimmerman was born in McLean County May 28, 1863. He is shown on the 1880 census of Nemaha. He married Minnie Burger. She was born in Jefferson County, Illinois in February 1868, a daughter of M.M. Burger and Mary Emily Scoville. The 1900 census of Seneca, Nemaha County, Kansas shows his household as Henry Zimmerman, born in Illinois in May 1863 to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio; Minnie, born in Illinois in February 1868 to a father from New York and a mother from Vermont; and three children born in Kansas.

h. Emma Zimmerman was born in McLean County Aug. 26, 1865. The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists only one Emma Zimmerman married in McLean County, to Peter Auschicks Sept. 1, 1882 – just after Emma's 17th birthday. We could find no further record of the groom.

i. Daniel Zimmerman was born in McLean County circa 1868.31 He is found on the 1880 census of Nemaha, Kansas living with his sister Fannie and brother Henry, next door to his parents.

4. Catharine 'Katie' Zimmerman was born at Bourgfelden July 10, 1831. Her birth entry gives her mother's name as Barbe Sommer. As noted earlier she is found on the 1860 census of Milford as a 29-year-old from France, living with her widowed mother and stepfather. The 1880 census of Morton shows a Catherine Zimmerman, 49, widowed, Germany; and the 1900 census of Morton has Katie Zimerman, 68, born in Germany in June 1831 to German parents, immigration 1837. *Tazewell County Register of Deaths Book 3* shows that this individual was buried in the Apostolic Christian Ground at Morton (the Old Apostolic Cemetery), though she is not found in the newer county cemetery book transcriptions from headstones 32 The record has Katie Zimmerman, born in Baden, lived in Illinois 25 years (from 1877), died at Morton Jan. 22, 1902 at age 70 years, 4 months, 27 days. This would equate to a birth date circa Aug. 25, 1831.

5. Barbara Zimmerman was born at Bourgfelden March 17, 1833, and died at Milford, Nebraska Sept. 2, 1896. She is buried in Fairview Mennonite Cemetery at Milford. On Sept. 22, 1853 in Butler County she married third cousin Jakob Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Jacob was born at Lörrach, Baden March 18, 1827, and died at Milford, Nebraska July 1, 1885, a son of Johannes/Jean/John Zimmerman and Anna 'Emma' Schneider. See his note for background on this couple.

Descendants of Andreas Zimmerman

The information in this portion of text will lead to families in Butler County, Ohio; and in Tazewell and Woodford Counties.

Andreas Zimmerman was born at Denzlingen before 1756 (based on a lease renewal), and died in 1793, a son of Christian Zimmerman and a Rŭpp.

On Sept. 26, 1776 he signed a lease renewal on the Zehnthof estate on behalf of himself and his widowed mother, who was sick in bed. Anabaptist Christian Leutweiler of Schupfholz, who was working on the Mauracher Hof at Denzlingen, and Andreas's brother Jacob Zimmermann of the Hochburg estate acted as guarantors for a 315-guilder commitment as surety.

Within a year he married Anna Maria. Her surname may have been Isen/Eissen/Iseli. She was likely a daughter of Michel Isen/Eissen/Iseli, who co-signed as a leaseholder on the Hochburg estate at Sexau in 1745 and 1754. Handwritten documents that refer to her appear to say Eisen or Islé; their son Michael's second civil marriage entry described his parents as André Zimmerman and the deceased Marie Islé. Her mother may have been the widow of Hans Rŭpp (a son of Christen/Christian Rŭpp) who remarried to Michel.

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[31] We found Daniel's birthdate as Jan. 7, 1868 in one source; however, this may be confused with Daniel D. Zimmerman born at Mason City, Mason County, adjacent to Tazewell County. He was married to Flora E. Ide in Mason County in 1893.

[32] The first Apostolic Christian Church of Morton was constructed at the corner of Jefferson and Third Streets in 1867. It was rebuilt to accommodate more members in 1891. The building was destroyed by arson Dec. 12, 1912. The present building was constructed on Jefferson Street in 1913. The Old Apostolic Cemetery at the corner of Queenwood Road and Robin Avenue was established in 1876. The Apostolic Christian Cemetery at the corner of Fourth Street and Birchwood Road was established in 1910.

In 1780 Andreas became sole leaseholder on the Zehnthof estate with the death of his mother. In 1782 he loaned 600 guilders to the community of Denzlingen; this was returned as a 100-guilder deduction from each of six annual lease payments. In 1790 officials praised him for his expertise in animal husbandry, improving the bloodlines of community steers and hogs.

The lease was renewed again in 1792, and this time Andreas loaned out another 200 guilders. He died at Denzlingen in 1793.

His widow continued to farm the Zehnthof estate. A list of Anabaptists who paid the religious protection tax in 1796/97 included the widow of Andres Zimmerman, who was described as a tenant on the community farm at Denzlingen. On March 27, 1797 at Emmendingen she remarried to Johannes Müller, 33, a native of Barr, Lower Alsace, and the Zehnthof lease passed into the Müller family.

Children of Andreas Zimmerman and Anna Maria Isen/Eissen/Iseli include:

1. **Michael Zimmerman** was born at Denzlingen in 1778, and died at Elm Grove in 1860.
2. Barbara Zimmerman was born circa 1782 (presumably at Denzlingen), and died on the Schlatthof at Tiengen bei Freiburg Oct. 19, 1812.33
- **Jacob Zimmerman** likely belongs in this family. He was born circa 1782 (presumably at Denzlingen), and died at South Easthope, Ontario Sept. 1, 1855.
3. Catharina Zimmerman was born circa 1787, and died at Denzlingen Feb. 7, 1806. Her death entry described her parents as Andreas Zimmerman, *Wiedertäufer*, and Anna Maria. Her age was 19.
4. Verena Zimmerman was born Dec. 31, 1789, and died at Morton April 10, 1878. She married Niclaŭs Roth, and became the matriarch of the Roth family in Tazewell County (see ROTH for more on this couple).
5. **Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman** was born at Denzlingen in 1793, and died in Butler County, Ohio Jan. 13, 1841.

Michael Zimmerman

Minister and farmer **Michael Zimmerman** was born at Denzlingen in 1778.

On Aug. 18, 1801 at Riedseltz, Lower Alsace, he married Barbara Rogi. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Michael Zimmerman, 23, born at Langen Dentzlingen in the *Margraf Badishen* in 1778. He was a son of the deceased Michel Zimmerman and the living Anna Maria Zimmermann. The bride was described as a 19-year-old born on the Dieffenbacher Hoff at Riedseltz in 1782, a daughter of Johannes Rogi and Elisabetha Rogi.

Barbara died at Domgermain, Meurthe-et-Moselle June 19, 1832, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Roggy and Elisabethe Eyer (she was born at Remchingen, Baden, a child of Benedikt 'Benz' Eyer).

The marriage was the first of three Zimmerman-Rogi/Roggy connections that drew the Zimmermans into a circle of Illinois-bound families. Two of Michael's cousins from the Hochburg estate also married at Riedseltz, where civil records were kept in German until 1812. The two cousins, Michael and Johannes, were sons of Michael's uncle, minister Jacob Zimmerman: 1) Michael Zimmerman, born in 1780, married Barbara's sister Fronica/Veronica at Riedseltz Aug. 20, 1802; and 2) Johannes Zimmerman married Barbara's sister Elisabetha at Riedseltz Nov. 12, 1807. The marriages have a greater significance because the Roggi sisters had a brother, Jean, who married Catherine Guingerich and relocated to the Weidesheim estate at Kalhausen. Weidesheim was the site of a number of family events involving Roggys, Engels, Ringenbergs, Guingeriches, and Nafzigers. Thus Riedseltz served as a link between Amish Mennonite families in Baden and Moselle

Michael and Barbara may have lived at Wildtal (four miles north of Freiburg im Breisgau, now part of Gundelfingen im Breisgau) and perhaps Waltershofen (seven miles northwest of Freiburg im Breisgau, adjacent to Umkirch) from their marriage until 1810. They leased the Schlatthof estate at Tiengen bei Freiburg (seven miles west of the center of Freiburg im Breisgau) 1811-1817. 34

They then farmed 129 miles to the west at Vannes-le-Châtel, Meurthe-et-Moselle, and nine miles to the north of Vannes-le-Châtel at Bois-le-Comté, Domgermain, Meurthe-et-Moselle. These communities are southwest of the city of Nancy.

At Vannes-le-Châtel Michael was described as a farmer on the grounds of the castle. The Château de Vannes was constructed circa 1600 by the noble Ligniville family. A glassworks was constructed adjacent to it in 1765. During the time Michael was there it was occupied by Louis Nicolas Griveau (1743-1823). He served in the

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[33] A number of sources say this Barbara Zimmerman married Matthias Kaltenbach. Matthias Kaltenbacher was born at Tennenbronn (34 miles northeast of Denzlingen) March 20, 1784, a son of Christoph Kaltenbacher and Barbara Aberle. Matthias and a Barbara Zimmerman had a son Matthias born there Sept. 21, 1810. The son was christened in the *Evangelisch* church at Tennenbronn Sept. 26. The couple married at Tennenbronn Jan. 30, 1811. That entry names her parents as Michael Zimmerman and Barbara Müller. It also says that she was born at Muelheim Nov. 10, 1785.

[34] The Schlatthof, now called the Schlatthöfe, is still a functioning farm at the end of the Schlatthofstrasse in Tiengen.

legislature of the Consulate and First Empire 1811-1814, then as deputy of Meurthe in the Chamber of Deputies June 4, 1814-March 20, 1815. After 1826 the château was sold off in parts and eventually demolished. The fine crystal decorative products of the glassworks became extremely popular 1900-1950. At adjacent Bois-le-Comté Michael farmed on the grounds of an abandoned glazed ceramics pottery factory.

Children of Michael Zimmerman and his first wife Barbara Rogi/Roggi include:

1. Jean Zimmerman was born at Wildtal June 2, 1802. On Feb. 28, 1824 at Haboudange, Moselle he married Madeleine Guingerich. She was born at Lagarde Feb. 26, 1808, and died at Wuisse, Moselle Dec. 9, 1854, a daughter of Jean Guingerich and Anna Schertz of the farm Malgré Xousse at Lagarde, and a niece of Bistroff minister Christian Guingerich who petitioned the French government with minister Christian Engel. Madeleine's sister Catherine Guingerich was married to Christian Engel (born 1798), a nephew of the minister Christian Engel.
2. Magdalena/Madeleine Zimmerman was born in the district of Freiburg Dec. 20, 1803. She died at Naives-en-Blois, Meuse Nov. 9 or Sept. 11, 1879. On March 21, 1832 at Bois-le-Comté, Domgermain, Meurthe-et-Moselle, she married David Schmitte. He was described as David Schmitt, 25, a merchant living in the Bois le Comte, born at Keskastel Jan. 20, 1807, a son of David Schmitte and Anne Eve Schmitte who were present and consenting.
3. Marie Zimmerman was born in the district of Freiburg, Baden April 4, 1806, and died at Bar-le-Duc, Meuse Nov. 16, 1831.[35] On Oct. 26, 1828 at Domgermain, Meurthe-et-Meuse she married miller Joseph Dettweiler. He was born at Zweibrücken Dec. 8, 1805, and died at Sarreguemines June 7, 1853, a son of Joseph Dettweiler and Madeleine Hauter. Witnesses included cultivator Christian Gerber of Saulxures-les-Nancy, 70, friend of the groom; Jean Gerber of Nancy, 37, friend of the groom; shopkeeper Nicolas Gingerich of Sarralbe, 55, uncle of the bride; and Jean Zimmerman of Haboudange, 26, brother of the bride. Following her death Joseph remarried to Jacobine Roggy of Weidesheim farm at Kalhausen. Jacobine was born Dec. 7, 1817, and died at Kalhausen March 1, 1885.
4. André/Andrew/Andreas (headstone) Zimmerman was born in the district of Freiburg Aug. 29, 1807, and died at Chenoa, McLean County Feb. 23, 1889.[36] On Feb. 6, 1832 at Domgermain, Meurthe-et-Moselle, he married Jacobine 'Phebe' Guingerich. She was born at Rhodes Sept. 25, 1814, and died in Livingston County June 9, 1880, a daughter of Jean Guingerich and Anne Marie Müller. Their civil marriage entry described her as Jacobine Ginriche, 17, a resident of Brandelfing, Gros-Réderching, Moselle who was born at Rhodes Sept. 25, 1814; she was a daughter of the deceased Jean Gingerich, who had died at Fribourg Sept. 8, 1824, and the deceased Marie Miller, who had died at Gros-Réderching April 21, 1831. Witnesses included cultivator and brother-of-the-groom Jean Zimmerman, a resident of Mont-le-Vignoble [below Domgermain]; miller Jean Detveiler, 23, of Mont-le-Vignoble; uncle-of-the-bride Nicolas Gingrich, 58; and miller Joseph Detveiler, 55. They came to Tazewell County in 1853. Andrew was ordained as a minister of the Dillon Creek congregation circa 1855. His household is shown on the 1860 census of Elm Grove, which mistakenly calls him by his neighboring younger brother Christian's name: Christ Zimmerman, 53, France; Phebe, 46, France; Madaline, 26, France; Andrew, 24, France; Joseph, 14, France; Joseph Springer, 30, France; and laborer John Gangloof, 40, France. In the second half of that year they moved to Bureau County, where he gave sermons every three weeks for the Bureau Creek congregation until 1877. The 1870 census of Dover shows farmer Anrdew Zimmerman, 62, Germany; Phebe, 57, Germany; and Joseph, 24, France. From 1877 until his death he ministered for the Gridley Prairie congregation. In 1880 they were living at Pike, Livingston County. *Herald of Truth*, July 1880: "On the 9th of June, in Livingston Co., Ill., of general debility and consumption, Sister Jacobine Zimmerman, wife of Andrew Zimmerman, aged 66 years. Buried the 11th. Funeral services by Chr. Schlegel and J. P. Schmitt, from *I Cor. 15*." *Herald of Truth*, March 15, 1889: "On the 23d of February, at 11 o'clock, P.M., Pre. Andrew Zimmerman, of McLean County, Ill., calmly fell asleep in Jesus, aged 81 years and 6 months. On the 26th his mortal remains were consigned to mother earth, on which occasion many relatives and friends assembled to pay our departed brother and fellow-worker their last tribute of respect. Funeral services were conducted by Joseph Yoder, of Indiana, Daniel Steinman and John P. Smith. The deceased brother was born in the district of Freiburg, Baden, Germany in 1807. His companion preceded him several years. He leaves three children, two sons and a daughter and a number of grandchildren to mourn his death. He was a devoted member and faithful minister in the Amish Mennonite church. Peace to his ashes."
5. Michael Zimmerman [Jr.] was born in the district of Freiburg circa 1810, and remained in Europe. We found no evidence of a birth in local records. However, Annette Surrault found him as a 26-year-old on the 1836 census of Lagny, St. Valentin, Indre. He is found as a witness to a marriage ceremony at Meurthe-et-Moselle in 1837. Surrault also writes that Michael was a wheat and wine merchant at Issoudun (near St. Valentin) in 1844. There he ended up in court for neglecting to pay special duties on red wine.

Earlier children may have been born at Tiengen bei Freiburg, but authorities there were not obligated to keep records of Anabaptists before 1811. The Schlatthof entries noted here were found in Protestant Reformed records.

6. Elisabeth Zimmerman (twin) was born on the Schlatthof at Tiengen bei Freiburg May 9, 1811, and died there July 11, 1811.

[35] No Anabaptist birth records were kept at Freiburg before 1810.

[36] His French marriage entry said he was born at Bourgematt, Freibourg. This was likely Burgmatt.

7. Jacob Zimmerman (twin) was born on the Schlatthof May 9, 1811, and died there Aug. 7, 1811. Witnesses listed on the death entry include Michael Zimmerman of Hochburg and Jacob Zimmerman (his location is illegible), both described as *Wiedertäufer*.
8. Heinrich Zimmerman was born on the Schlatthof April 30, 1812, and died the following day.
9. Daniel Zimmerman was born on the Schlatthof March 20, 1813, and died in Tazewell County Oct. 19, 1888. No birth entry has been identified, but Larry Zimmerman identified his marriage entry from St. Valentin dated Oct. 8, 1834. It describes the groom as Daniel Zimmerman, 21, born at 'chlatoff' March 20, 1813, a cultivator on Nile des Lagny farm at St. Valentin, a son of cultivator Michel Zimmerman and the deceased Barbe Roggin, who had died at Domergermain June 19, 1832. The bride was described as Madelaine Miller, 27, born at Hochburg March 13, 1807, a daughter of Jean Miller [he signed Johan Müller] and Madelaine Aier [Eyer] who were present and consenting. It was witnessed by Joseph Risser, 54; Pierre Zer [Zehr], 24; André Roth, 22; and Pierre Zimmerman, 23. A copy of their passport was found at Châteauroux by Annette Surrault: Passport No. 38, Department l'Indre, issued at Châteauroux Feb. 6, 1837. Cultivator Daniel Zimmerman accompanied by his wife Madelaine Miller and Daniel their 17-month-old son. Native of Fribourg living at Lagny, St. Valentin. Destination Ohio. Age 23. Hair brown, eyes gray. Height 1.6 meters (5 foot- 4). Larry Zimmerman found the passenger list of the Vaillant as it arrived at New Orleans from Le Havre April 14, 1837. It lists "Zimmmerman, wife and one child, two trunks" (Daniel Zimmerman and Magdalena Müller) and "Rohodes and wife, also two trunks" (Andreas/André/Andrew Roth and Barbe Müller). According to the Grantors Index, on Jan. 14, 1850 Daniel Zimmerman paid Allen Hodgson $227 for 30 acres in Section 16 of Township 24 (later Elm Grove). This was the same day that Jacob Unzicker paid Hodgson $527 for 50 acres in the same section. Their household appears on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as Daniel Zimmerman, Baden; Madaline, 50, Baden; Andrew, 22, Ohio; Christian, 12, Illinois; and Daniel [David], 11, Illinois. The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows widower Daniel Zinnerman, 66, Germany, living in the household of his son C. Zinnerman, 34. Their children include:
    a. Daniel Zimmerman was born circa September 1835, according to his parents' passport copy.
    b. Andrew Zimmerman was born in Hamilton County, Ohio Nov. 26, 1837, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Sept. 30, 1924.[37] On Feb. 8, 1863 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Pfister; the ceremony was performed by minister Benedict Weyeneth. She was born July 7, 1844,and died Nov. 11, 1934. They can be found on the 1880 census of Roanoke as farmer Andrew Zimmerman, 41, born in Ohio to a father from Alsace and a mother from Baden; Elizabeth, 34, Switzerland; and seven children born in Illinois. They farmed Section 30 of Roanoke. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Roanoke, Woodford County.
    c. Christian Zimmerman was born in Illinois July 5, 1847, and died Sept. 10, 1932. On Sept. 24, 1876 in Tazewell County he married Marie Anne Maurer. She was born in Switzerland Feb. 6, 1846, and died Feb. 12, 1931. They are buried in Milford Cemetery at Milford, Indiana.
    d. David Zimmerman was born in Illinois March 1, 1850, and died July 14, 1901. On Oct. 3, 1874 in McLean County he married Barbara Katharina Rosina Franz. She was born at Döttingen, Württemberg Nov. 3, 1851, a daughter of Friederich Franz and Barbara Katharina Ackermann. They can be found on the 1880 census of Roanoke as druggist David Zimmerman, 30, born in Illinois to a father from Alsace and a mother from Baden; and Barbara, 28, Baden.
10. Barbara Zimmerman was born on the Schlatthof Aug. 27, 1814, and died there Oct. 11, 1816.
11. Verena Zimmerman was born on the Schlatthof Dec. 26, 1815, and died there Jan. 25, 1816.
12. Christian Zimmerman was born on the Schlatthof Feb. 3, 1817, and died at Pekin March 7, 1887. He departed from Le Havre on the *Burgundy*, and arrived at New York Jan. 12, 1841. The passenger list shows a group of four: blacksmith Jean Gingerich, 20, France; shoemaker Nich. Riebenacht, 17, France; coachmaker Christ Zimmerman, 33, France; and miller Joseph Gingerich, 23, France. His age was exaggerated; he would also have been 23. On June 13, 1847 in Peoria County he married Elizabeth Stalter. She was born circa 1812. She may have been a daughter of John Stalter of Peoria (see STALTER); if so, she immigrated in 1831. Christian may be the Christian Zimmerman noted in the *Grantors Index* as someone who paid Peter Van Bergen $250 for property in Section 16 of Elm Grove July 2, 1847. They are found on the 1850 census of unincorporated parts of Tazewell County living next to his father Michael Zimmerman. Christian swore to a *Declaration of Intent* for naturalization at Pekin May 12, 1853; his application stated that he was born in Austria, was 36, had departed Le Havre Dec. 25, 1840, and arrived at New York Jan. 15, 1841. His household is shown on the 1860 census of Elm Grove, where Christian's household appears on the same page as that of older brother Andrew. The census report erroneously gave him Andrew's name: Andy Zimmerman, 43, France; Elizabeth, 48, Bavaria; and Jacob Shedler, 14, Bavaria.[38] The 1870 census of the Third Ward, Pekin shows miller Christian Zimmerman, 54, France; and Elizabeth, 57, Bavaria. Christian is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
13. Jacob Zimmerman (also known as Jacob J. Zimmerman) was born at Vannes-le-Châtel, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 19, 1818, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Oct. 15, 1849. He is buried in Center Cemetery at Flanagan. On Oct.

[37] Elias Zimmerman wrote that Andrew was born in Hamilton County, Ohio (the location of Cincinnati). Descendant Larry Zimmerman believes that he was actually born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio.

[38] Jacob Shedler may have been Jacob Zeitler; see BECHLER/BECKLER.

15, 1844 in Tazewell County he married Mary Ringenberger; their ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born on Hingsange farm at Linstroff Oct. 1, 1823, and died at Flanagan Aug. 24, 1905, a daughter of Pierre Ringenberg/Peter Rinkenberger and Anna Schrag/Schrock. She is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Flanagan.

14. Catherine Zimmerman was born at Vannes-le-Châtel April 17, 1820, and died at Morton Oct. 1, 1864. Her birth entry described her father as a 40-year-old cultivator and farmer at Château-le-Vannes, and gave the age of her mother Barbara as 39; one witness was farm equipment operator Christian Roth, 36. She is buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington as "Catharina Riser, wife of John." On Feb. 27, 1838 at St. Valentin she married Jean Risser/John Reeser, a son of Jean Risser and Françoise Bergmann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Jean Risser, 20, born at Gros-Réderching, Moselle Oct. 9, 1817 [his headstone at Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery erroneously says Oct. 15, 1811], a son of the deceased Jean Risser who had died there July 21, 1828, and Reine Radimere [Françoise Bergmann], a day laborer on the Boug farm there. The bride was described as Catherine Zimmerman, 18, born at Vannes, Meurthe, a daughter of cultivator Michel Zimmerman and the deceased Barbe Roggine [Roggy]. Witnesses included Jean Buré, 34, day laborer at St. Valentin and stepfather of the groom; Jean Ponroy, 50, friend; Michel Zimmerman, 59, father of the bride; and Jean Miller [Johannes Müller], 53. See RISSER/REESER for more on this couple.
15. An unnamed male child died in childbirth at Vannes-le-Châtel Sept. 2, 1822.
16. Joseph Zimmerman was born at Vannes-le-Châtel Feb. 16, 1826. According to Elias Zimmerman's family genealogy, Joseph married Anna Schnert (1838-1917) in Tazewell County and became a Methodist preacher; however, no listing for such a marriage is found in the county marriage register or *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*, transcribed from register certificates. He is supposed to have died from sunstroke after speaking at St. Louis circa 1855.

In 1830 Michael accepted employment from Comte Henri Gatien Bertrand, the former aide-de-camp to Napoleon, on Petit Lagny farm, St. Valentin in the department of Indre, 16 miles northeast of Châteauroux, and approximately 170 miles south of Paris (see ROTH for background on Bertrand).

Michael remarried to Magdalena Erb at St. Valentin April 20, 1835. She was born at Breitenbach, Lower Alsace July 7, 1805, a daughter of weaver Daniel Erb and Marie Stöcky [Stŭcki]. Their civil marriage entry described cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 55, born at Denzlingen, and described his parents as André Zimmerman and the deceased Marie Islé. Witnesses included André Roth, 23; Pierre Zer [Zehr], 24; and Pierre Zimmerman, 23; all described as Anabaptist cultivators at Lagny. Michael and Magdalena farmed at Lagny (now Les Lagnys), St. Valentin.

When Bertrand's wife Fanny died in 1836, the name 'Michel Zimmerman' is mentioned with Müller and Riser [Risser] as someone who could not sign an inventory document owing to the restrictions of his religion. But his signature does appear at the bottom of the page.

Annette Surrault found the 1836 census of Lagny, St. Valentin:

89	*Michel Elzimmerman*	*[Zimmerman]*	*Cultivator*	*57*
90	*Madeleine Herbe*	*[Erb]*		*30*
91	*Jacob Elzimmerman*		*Cultivator*	*17*
92	*Daniel*		*Cultivator*	*22*
	[Daniel's wife Magdalena/Madeleine Müller and son Daniel were listed with the Müller family]			
93	*Michel*		*Cultivator*	*26*
94	*Joseph*			*10*
95	*Catherine*			*17*

In 1839 the last Amish Mennonite families departed. The Zimmermans are found on the passenger list of the packet ship *Poland* as it arrived at New York from Le Havre May 3, 1839: Michel Zimmerman, 58, France; Magdalena, 33; Joseph, 13; Maria, 3; and Jacobina, six months. The Müller family from St. Valentin and Springers accompanied them.

They can also be found on the 1840 census of Liberty, Butler County, Ohio on the same page as Michael's younger brother, Andrew. The entry lists one male in the age range 60-70 (Michael, who would have been 62), one female 30-40 (Magdalena), one male child 10-15, and two female children under five years of age. They moved west in a covered wagon in 1843. At first they lived at Tremont, then at Washington with a daughter. The *Zimmerman Genealogy* notes that they saw more than one home destroyed by hearth fire accidents.

An 1850 census of unincorporated portions of Tazewell County lists Michael Zimmerman, 70, a farmer from Germany; Magdalena, 46, Germany; Mary [Maria], 14, Germany; Phoebe [Jacobine], 12, Germany; and Peter, 8, Ohio. He lived next door to his 35-year-old son Christian and his wife Elizabeth Stalter.

An 82-year-old Michael Zimmerman is listed on the 1860 census in the Elm Grove household of son-in-law Christian Schrock. He died later that year. He is thought to have been buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove, though there is no headstone for him.

Magdalena Erb outlived every member of her husband's first family, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Feb. 23, 1892. *Herald of Truth*, March 15, 1892: "On the 23rd of Feb. 1892, in Livingston Co., Ill., of the infirmities of age, widow Magdalena Zimmerman, aged 82 years. She was found dead in her bed in the morning, having retired as usual the evening before. Before midnight her daughter had gone to her room, and found her quietly sleeping. For several years her mental vigor had wandered, but her trust in God remained steadfast. She was a faithful mother in Zion and had been a widow for many years. Buried on the 25th. Funeral services by John P. Schmitt from *Sir. 41*: last seven verses, Joseph Buercky of Bureau Co., and Daniel Orendroff, from *2 Cor. 5*. The deceased sister leaves one son and two daughters, 23 grandchildren, and 15 great grand children." She was buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

Children of Michael Zimmerman and his second wife Magdalena Erb include:

16. Marie/Mary Zimmerman was born at St. Valentin, Indre Oct. 5, 1835, and died Dec. 20, 1920. Her civil birth entry identified her parents as Michel Zimmerman, 55, and Madeleine Herr, 29. It was witnessed by Daniel Zimmerman, 23; André Rhodes [Roth], 25; and Jean Miller, 25; all cultivators at Lagny. On March 14, 1852 in Tazewell County she married Christian Schrag/Schrock; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born on the Grathof estate at Kösching, a suburb of Ingolstadt April 24, 1826, and died Oct. 29, 1917, a son of Christian Schrag and Elizabeth Bürki. See SCHROCK, THE SCHRAGS OF KÖSCHING for more on this couple.
17. Marie Jacobine Zimmerman was born at St. Valentin, Indre June 18, 1838, and died at Peru, Bureau County June 1, 1900. On Feb. 25, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Burcky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born in Illinois May 29, 1836, and died at Peru Aug. 1, 1920, a son of Andrew Burcky and Barbara Oyer. He served as a minister and elder at Willow Springs Mennonite Church of Tiskilwa, Bureau County. He apparently spelled his own name 'Buercky'; it appears that way on many obituaries included in this text (his obituary is given in a footnote to BIRKY/BIRKEY).
18. Peter Zimmerman was born in Ohio Dec. 15, 1842, and died at Garden City, Missouri May 5, 1931. On Feb. 26, 1865 at Gridley City he married Magdalena Schlegel. She was born in Tazewell County May 3, 1846, and died July 3, 1921, a daughter of Christian Schlegel and his wife Salomé 'Sarah' Sommer. She is buried in the Metamora Township Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, July 31, 1931: "Peter Zimmerman was born in Ohio, Dec. 15, 1842; died at the home of his son Edward in Garden City, Mo., May 5, 1931; aged 88 y. 4 m. 20 d. On Feb. 26, 1865, he was married to Magdalena Slagle of Tazewell Co., Ill., who preceded him in death July 3, 1921. They spent over 56 years in wedded companionship. This union was blessed with six children, two of whom died in infancy. Those surviving him are William and wife Leah, who have four children, 12 grandchildren and one great-grandson; Edward and wife Martha, who have five children and two grandchildren; Lydia and husband with six children and two grandchildren; Jonathan and wife Elizabeth have three children and one grandchild. These with a host of relatives and friends are left to mourn their loss. He was laid to rest beside his helpmate in the Harmony Cemetery. Services were held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Joseph D. Helmuth, and at the Roanoke, Ill., Church Thursday afternoon, May 27, 1931. He united with the A. M. Church in his young manhood and was a member of the same at the time of his death. He was ordained to the ministry in 1878 at the Roanoke Church, in which capacity he served for over fifty-one years - including the congregations at Larned, Kans.; Garden City, Mo.; Delaplaine, Ark.; and later returning to Roanoke, Ill., where he remained until the last six years which were spent with his children in their different homes." For Magdalena's obituary see SCHLEGEL.

Jacob Zimmerman

Jacob Zimmerman was born circa 1782 (presumably at Denzlingen), and died at South Easthope, Ontario Sept. 1, 1855.

He married Elisabeth Becher/Becker. According to their passenger list, she was 47 in 1831, thus born circa 1784. This may have been an accurate estimation (at least unlikely to fall much later), because their first child was born in the spring of 1801.

Jacob appears as a witness on a number of civil entries at Robert-Espagne, Meuse in 1827 and 1828. All of the entries give ages that result in an approximate birth year of 1782.

Their daughter Marie Zimmerman married Pierre Serach/Peter Schrock at Robert-Espagne Aug. 25, 1827. Marie was described as a 26-year-old day laborer, born at Emmendingen in the Grand Duchy of Baden [Baden was still a margraviate at the time she was born] April 17, 1801. Her parents were farm equipment operator Jacob Zimmerman and Elisabeth Becher, residents of Robert-Espagne who were present and consenting.

THE *MASSASOIT* VOYAGE OF 1831 in the Appendix tells the story of a voyage from Le Havre that arrived at Baltimore May 21, 1831, after 44 days at sea.

The passenger list shows farmer Jacob Simmerman, 52; Christopher [son Christian], 12; John, 4 [who may have been a Johannes or Jean, possibly a twin to Catherine]; Betsey [Elisabeth Becher/Becker], 47; Madaline [Magdalena], 18; Catherine, 4 [possibly a twin to John]; and Anna, 2. We assume Jacob's age was overestimated by three years, because it is the only description that yields a birth year of 1779.

It is difficult to discern the route that Jacob and Elisabeth took from New York to Ontario. However, a possible clue is found in an Illinois publication.

Johannes/Jean/John Shrock and Catherine Salzman were also passengers on the 1831 voyage. John is found on the passenger list as passenger number 147, 'Jno. Gerral', a 30-year-old farmer. Catherine appears later as passenger number 152, 'Catherine Gerrard', 26. Their two children were passengers number 156 and 157, one-year-old Catherine and three-year-old Joseph. John was an older brother to Peter Schrock, the husband of Jacob and Elisabeth's daughter Marie Zimmerman.

According to *Portrait and Biographical Record of Woodford County* (1889), John and Catherine stayed one year in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, then continued on to Ohio in 1832. It is probable that Peter and Marie traveled with them; they later lived on the same road in Lemon Township, Butler County (John and Catherine departed for Illinois after the 1850 census).39

Recall from ROPP that Lancaster County ministers actively sought to divert new arrivals from settling there. They made arrangements for land in what became the German Block of Wilmot Township, Ontario. Thus Jacob and Elisabeth may have received assistance with travel and settlement by going from Lancaster County directly there.

Wilmot was originally a place where one could sign up for a 50-acre parcel of land, live on it while making improvements, then claim it and an adjoining 100 acres with no payments or very small ones. However, in 1828 the Canadian government had given all of the 150-acre lots to King's College (now the University of Toronto). The school offered to sell the adjoining parcels of land, but only at a price that was roughly double what the settlers had expected. Many settlers who had spent years developing their lots felt betrayed.

Despite any relationships in Wilmot, the bitterness of Ontario winters and the dispute over remaining community land convinced some families to move to Butler County in 1831-32. They saw no future in paying steep prices for further acreage in a cold climate with a short growing season.

The name Jacob Zimmerman appears on a land assessment document created at Wilmot in 1833. But by the following year they had moved on.40

The publication *Daniel S. Iutzi, Jacob R. Bender, Servants of God and the Church* (1984) by Hugh Laurence and Lorraine Roth can be found online. It contains plat maps of South Easthope Township and East Zorra Township in 1835-50, 1850-60, and 1870-1880. Both communities are just west of Wilmot Township; but South Easthope is in Perth County, while East Zorra is in Oxford County. The 1835-50 map shows Jacob Zimmerman on Lot III-8 in South Easthope, with his son Christian Zimmerman on the catty-cornered Lot II-9. In 1850-60 Jacob is absent (he may have been living with children); Lot II-9 is now occupied by Christian Bier (and Jacob's youngest daughter Anna); and Christian has moved over a few lots into East Zorra. Neither Zimmermans nor Biers are found on the 1851 census. In 1870-80 only Christian remained, on his East Zorra farm.

Jacob Zimmerman died at South Easthope Sept. 1, 1855. Elisabeth died there April 1, 1856. It likely that they were residents of and died in the home of their youngest daughter Anna and Christian Bier.

After their deaths the Zimmerman and Bier families joined the Reformed Mennonites. By doing this, they were severing ties with the Amish Mennonite community that surrounded them (see background in ROTH).

Several of their children are buried in the New Hamburg Reformed Mennonite Cemetery, also known as Hostettler's Cemetery. It is located at the south end of Lot 20, North Snyder's Road, Wilmot. This cemetery may have had many early burials with wooden markers that no longer exist.

Children or Jacob Zimmerman and Elisabeth Becher/Becker are thought to include:

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[39] The 1840 census of Lemon Township, Butler County, Ohio shows the household of Marie Zimmerman and son-in-law Peter Schrock: Peter Schrack, one male in the 30-39 year age range; two males 10-14; one female 30-39; one female 15-19; and two females under 5. It may be significant that the property next door had the name Elizabeth Bacher. That household has one female in the 30-39 year age range – too young to be his mother-in-law Elisabeth Becher/Becker – one female 10-14, and one female 5-9; one male 10-14, and one male 5-9. Did Peter and Marie place a house on or adjacent to their property in the name of Elisabeth Becher/Becker? If so, it is no longer apparent on the 1850 census.

[40] Did Elisabeth Becher/Becker have a relative at Wilmot? According to the late Ontario historian Lorraine Roth, Joseph Becker married Catharina Schrag at Wilmot June 24, 1838. She was born circa 1802, and died before 1851. The 1851 census of Wilmot has widower and farmer Joseph Becker, 54, Mennonite, Germany. The 1861 census of Wilmot has widower and farmer Joseph Becker, 69, Mennonite, Germany; servant Magdalena Schrag, 64, Mennonite, Germany; and labourer Henry Kotha, 19, [illegible], Germany.

1. Marie/Maria Zimmerman was born at Emmendingen, Baden April 17, 1801, and died at Trenton, Butler County, Ohio Dec. 31, 1862. On Aug. 25, 1827 at Robert-Espagne, Meuse she married 'Pierre Serach' - Peter/Pierre Schrock. He was born at Gondrexange, Moselle June 15, 1802, and died at Trenton, Sept. 17, 1887, a son of Joseph Schrag and his second wife Marie Neuhauser. See SCHROCK for background on this couple who also immigrated on the 1831 voyage.
2. Elisabeth/Eliza Zimmerman was born circa 1805 (per the passenger list). Circa 1826 she married Christian Bächler/Bechler. He was born at Imling, Moselle Jan. 18, 1801, a son of Michel Bächler and his second wife Marie Bertschi. They immigrated on the disastrous voyage of the *Marcia Cleaves* via New Orleans in 1840 (see GINGERICH for the story of the sinking off Baton Rouge). See BECHLER/BECKLER for more on this couple.
3. Magdalena/Madeleine Zimmerman was born circa October of 1811 (per her headstone, which says she died April 9, 1888, aged 76 years and six months). Circa 1833 she married John Schultz. He was born July 10, 1810, and died at Wilmot April 23, 1883. They are found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as farmer John Schultz, 42, Mennonite, Baden; Magdalena, 42, Mennonite, Alsace; Joseph, 17, Canada; John, 14, Canada; Christian, 10, Canada; Barbara, 7, Canada; and Magdalena, 4, Canada. They are buried in the New Hamburg Reformed Mennonite Cemetery.
4. André Zimmerman was born circa 1814, and died at age 14 in Robert-Espagne April 4, 1828. His civil death entry said he was a son of Jacob Zimmerman, 46 and Elisabeth Becker. One witness was friend-of-the-family Joseph Engel, 48.
5. Christian/Christopher Zimmerman was born circa 1819, and died in Ontario in 1891. He married Anna Meister, who was born circa May of 1820. They lived at South Easthope from 1833 until 1853 (though they are not found there on the 1851 census), and then moved a few lots over into East Zorra, Oxford County. The North Easthope Reformed Mennonite congregation was formed in 1844, and a church structure built in 1850; the families of Christian Zimmerman and John Honderich were the first to join. Hostetler's Reformed Mennonite Church of Baden was established in 1844; Christian Zimmerman and John Honderich are named as early ministers. Sermons at both locations were given in the German language until the 1920s. Anna is buried in the New Hamburg Reformed Mennonite Cemetery, where her headstone says she died Aug. 16, 1872, aged 52 years, three months.
6. Catherine Zimmerman (twin) was born circa Oct. 12, 1826, and died at Shipshewana, LaGrange County, Indiana Dec. 28, 1894. Circa 1847 she married Joseph Roth. He was born at Dornach, Upper Alsace May 23, 1822, and died at Shipshewana Jan. 25, 1889, a son of Nicolas Roth and Anna Tschantz. They are found on the 1870 census of Newbury, Lagrange County as farmer Joseph Roth, 48, France; Catherine, 44, France; Jacob, 20, Canada; Leah, 18, Canada; Joseph, 14, Canada; Benedict, 13, Iowa; Catherine, 9, Iowa; Anna, 7, Iowa; Barbara, 5, Canada; and Susan, six months, Indiana. The 1880 census of Elkhart, Indiana has laborer Joseph Roth, 56, France; Catherine, 54, France; Catherine, 19, Iowa; Anna, 17, Iowa; Barbara, 15, Canada; and Suscina [Susanna], 10, Ind. *Herald of Truth*, February 1889: "On the 25th of January, in LaGrange Co., Ind., of dropsy of the heart, Bro. Joseph Roth, aged 66 years, 8 months and 10 days. He was born in France, was married to Catherine Zimmerman with whom he lived in matrimony about 42 years. He was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church and leaves a wife, nine children and twenty-nine grand-children to mourn his death. Buried on the 28th in Pre. C. Miller's burying ground. Funeral services by J. Gascho and Joseph Schlegel, both of Milford, Seward Co., Neb., *1 Cor. 15:19-24*." *Herald of Truth*, February 1895: "On the 28th of Dec. 1894, at Shipshewana, Ind., Catharina Roth (maiden name Zimmerman) of typhoid fever. Buried Dec. 30th. Services at Pleasant Valley (Forks) meeting house by Eli Miller in German and D. D. Miller in English. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite church." They are buried in Miller Cemetery at Shipshewana.
7. John Zimmerman (twin) was born circa Oct. 12, 1826, and died at Bosanquet, Ontario Dec. 12, 1894; his headstone says he was "John Zimmerman, died Dec. 12, 1894, aged 68 Yrs. 2 Mos." His entry in the death register there says he was a Mennonite born in France. He was married to Mary, whose headstone says she was "Mary Zimmerman, wife of John Zimmerman, died Oct. 24, 1895, aged 70 Yrs. 6 Mos. 8 Ds." They are buried in Arkona Reformed Mennonite Cemetery at Arkona, Lambton County, Ontario. They lived at Bosanquet, which no longer exists; part of it became Arkona, 54 miles west of South Easthope on the shores of Lake Huron. The 1891 census of Ontario, District No. 81 East Lambton, Bosanquet Township has farmer Amos Zimmerman, 28, Ontario, French father, German mother; farmer John Zimmerman, 66, France, French parents; Mary, 64, Germany, German parents; Hester, 35, Ontario, French father, German mother; and Annie, 24, Ontario, French father, German mother. All Mennonite.
8. Anna Zimmerman was born circa 1829, and died in Ontario in 1876. She married Christian Bier. He was born in 1830, and died in 1900. After living in South Easthope, they are found on the 1871 census of Wilmot as farmer Christian Bier, 39, Mennonite, Germany; Anna, 42, Mennonite, Germany; Christian, 16, Ontario; Peter, 10, Ontario; Lydia, 1, Ontario; and Barbara [Beier], 70, Mennonite, Germany. Christian married twice more, to Catherine Alion and Margaret Moerschfelder. He is buried in the New Hamburg Reformed Mennonite Cemetery.

Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman

Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman was born at Denzlingen in 1793, and died in Butler County, Ohio Jan. 13, 1841.

On May 14, 1815 at Auggen he married Anna Müller. She was born at Auggen Aug. 7, 1797, and died at Congervillle, Woodford County Jan. 2, 1850, a daughter of Jacob Müller and Anna Rŭpp.

Witnesses at the wedding included older brother Michael Müller and brother-in-law Niklaŭs Roth, who was identified as a leaseholder at Buggingen. All participants were described as *Wiedertäufer*. An *Evangelisch* entry was created the following day.

The event was recorded at Sexau Aug. 7, 1815. The *Evangelisch* entry described the groom as Andreas Zimmerman, *Wiedertäufer* on Martin Koger's Hof at Auggen. Witnesses included Niklaus Roth, *Wiedertäufer* farm leaseholder [Ger. *Guthbeständer*] at Buggingen; and Michael Zimmerman, *Wiedertäufer* farm leaseholder at Hochburg.

In 1821, Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman was a leaseholder on the farm of Martin Koger at Auggen. Koger was a village administrator [Ger. *Vogt*] and blacksmith who had been involved in a poaching dispute in 1798.41

A civil record of Anabaptists in the district of Emmendingen [Ger. *Heimatverhältnisse der Wiedertäufer*, or 'home relationships of Anabaptists'] states that he petitioned authorities for a certificate of family origin [Ger. *Heimatschein*] Dec. 10, 1830. This petition may have indicated that he was already planning to emigrate.

The Zimmerman family sailed from Le Havre aboard the packet ship *Rhone*, arriving at New York June 17, 1839. Ship's list #38 was located by Alana Bauman on National Archives microfilm roll 38. The family is listed as: Andreas Zimmerman, 45, farmer, Baden; Anna, 40; Anna, 20; Michael, 16; Johannes, 13; Christian, 11; and Jacob, 8. The names of Jacob Imhof, 24; and Peter Imhof, 23 immediately follow them. Peter Imhof or Imhoff later became elder of the conservative Augspurger congregation in Butler County. Three lines below, the passenger list also shows Christ Zear [Zehr], 26, Bavaria.

Andrew's family is listed on the same page as older brother Michael on the 1840 census of Liberty, Butler County, Ohio. The household includes one male in the 40-50 year age range [Andreas/Andrew]; one female 40-50 [Anna]; and one male between 5-10 years of age [Jacob].

Andrew died in Butler County Jan. 13, 1841. He is buried in Augspurger Cemetery at Trenton, Madison Township.

Anna settled with the family of her son Michael at Congerville. She died there Jan. 2, 1850, and is buried as Anna Miller Zimmerman in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County. This cemetery was established after her burial on her son's farm.

Children of Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman and Anna Müller include:

1. Andreas Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate Nov. 10, 1816. He accidentally drowned at Kollmarsreute Sept. 22, 1821. On the Sexau death record the parent is described as *Wiedertäufer*.
2. Anna/Anne Zimmerman was born at Auggen June 21, 1818, and died June 9, 1884. She married her cousin Andreas/Andrew Roth in Butler County April 24, 1842.
3. **Michael Zimmerman** was born at Auggen Sept. 27, 1820, and died at Congerville Feb. 7, 1913.
4. Andreas Zimmerman was born at Auggen Nov. 21, 1821, and died Feb. 18, 1822.
5. Jacob Zimmerman was born at Auggen Jan. 23, 1824, and died Oct. 22, 1825.
6. Johannes/John Zimmerman was born at Auggen Oct. 16, 1825, and died at Fairbury, Ill. Jan. 7, 1910. On Oct. 22, 1850 in Butler County he married Sara Capp. She was born Oct. 6, 1823, and died March 2, 1909. He is buried in the Southside Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Fairbury.
7. Christian Zimmerman was born at Auggen Jan. 21, 1827. Although he appears on the 1839 ship passenger list, he has not been identified on American census lists.
8. A stillborn girl was born at Auggen Aug. 24, 1828.
9. Magdalena Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate Nov. 2, 1829, and died Feb. 24, 1830.
10. Jacob Zimmerman was born on the Hochburg estate Jan. 7, 1831, and died Jan. 11, 1914. On July 6, 1852 at St. Louis, Missouri he married Katharina/Catherine Leiter. She was born in 1837, and died in 1894. They are found on the 1880 census of Olio, Woodford County as Jacob Zimmerman, 50, Baden; Cathrine, 45, Holland; and seven children born in Illinois. Jacob is found on the 1900 census of Eureka. The 1910 census of Roanoke shows him as widowed father-in-law and farm laborer Jacob Zimmerman, 79, born in Germany to German parents; immigrated in 1839; in the household of Daniel Grenfer, 39, and Barbara, 45.

Michael Zimmerman was born at Auggen Sept. 27, 1820, and died at Congerville Feb. 7, 1913.

On April 20, 1845 at Montgomery Township, Woodford County he married Katharina/Catherine Naffziger. She was born aboard the *Nimrod* July 9, 1826, and died at Congerville March 9, 1919, a daughter of minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger and Barbara Beck.

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[41] After two residents of Auggen were arrested for poaching and given sentences in a Lörrach prison, Koger led a group of protesting farmers on a march to Badenweiler. The group broke up after a minister blocked their path. As a result the margrave issued an edict relieving Koger and his village council of authority. Koger died Jan. 12, 1827. His house still stands behind the Hotel Rebstock.

They settled in Tazewell County in 1848, then moved to Montgomery Township and resettled at what is now Congerville the following year.

Michael became a minister of the German Apostolic Church and a prosperous farmer.

The household is found on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township as farmer Michael Zimmerman, 59, born in Baden; Catherine, 53, born on the ocean to parents from Germany; Lydia, 23; Christian, 21; Hannah, 18; Joshua, 16; Cobb [Caleb], 13; and Lillie, 10; all children born in Illinois.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County (1889): "Rev. Michael Zimmerman, one of the most prosperous and best known German farmers of Montgomery Township, has been a citizen of this county since January, 1849. His present estate consists of 490 acres of land, which is divided into three different farms..."

The 1900 census of Montgomery shows Michael Zimmerman, 79, born in Germany in September 1820, immigration 1839; and Katharine, 73, born at sea in July 1826, immigration 1826.

Michael and Catherine are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County, which was established on Michael's land with the burial of his mother there in 1850. At his death Michael left 70 grandchildren, and 36 great-grandchildren.

Their children include:

1. Anna Zimmerman was born in Butler County, Ohio April 25, 1846, and died at Montgomery May 9, 1935. On Oct. 6, 1872 in Woodford County she married John Witzig. He was born in Switzerland Nov. 15, 1837, and died at Goodfield March 29, 1915. John was a minister at the German Apostolic Church at Mackinaw Dells. They can be found on the 1900 census of Montgomery Township as John Witzig, 62, born in Switzerland in November 1837; Anna, 53, born in Ohio in April 1847 to a father born in Germany and a mother born at sea; and three children born in Illinois. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.
2. Catherine 'Katie' Zimmerman and all later children were born at Montgomery, Woodford County. She was born Oct. 14, 1847, and died Sept. 12, 1852.
3. Barbara Zimmerman was born May 23, 1849, and died Jan. 29, 1934. On Oct. 19, 1873 in Woodford County she married John Ramseyer. He was born Nov. 1, 1847, and died April 17, 1919, a son of Nicholas Ramseyer and Barbara Sommer.
4. Elizabeth Zimmerman was born May 29, 1851, and died July 20, 1853.
5. John Zimmerman was born March 13, 1853, and died Jan. 6, 1934. On Dec. 17, 1876 in Woodford County he married Catherine Schrock. She was born Feb. 27, 1853, and died May 14, 1944, a daughter of Joseph Schrock and Magdalena Guingrich. They are found on the 1880 census of Montgomery next door to his parents as farmer John Zimmerman, 27, born in Illinois to a father from Baden and a mother from Germany; Catherine, 27, born in Illinois to a father born on the ocean and a mother born in Germany; and Emma, 2, born in Illinois. An interesting coincidence that highlights the inaccuracies on this census report: both mothers-in-law - Katharina/Catherine Naffziger and Magdalena Guingrich - were born at sea on their immigration voyages, in 1826 and 1929 respectively. The 1900 census of Kansas Township, Woodford County shows John Zimmerman, 47, born in Illinois in March 1853 to a father from Germany and a mother born at sea; Catherine, 47, born in Illinois in February 1853 to French parents; and eight children born in Illinois. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.
6. Jacob Zimmerman was born Jan. 25, 1855, and died at Montgomery Oct. 11, 1867.
7. Lydia Zimmerman was born Feb. 22, 1857, and died at Morton. June 2, 1951. In 1877 she married Abraham Rinkenberger. He was born July 19, 1857, and died at Gridley, McLean County April 3, 1940, a son of Peter Rinkenberger and Catherine 'Katie' Garber. They lived at Montgomery; at Hancock, Minnesota; and finally at Gridley. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
8. Christian Zimmerman was born Feb. 12, 1859, and died March 26, 1940. He married Martha Minkosiwitz. They can be found on the 1900 census of Forest Township, Livingston County as farmer Christian Zimmerman, 41, born in Illinois in February 1859 to German parents; Marthe, 35, born in Illinois in September 1864 to a Hungarian father and a mother from Illinois; and eight children born in Illinois.
9. Hannah Zimmerman was born Aug. 15, 1861, and died May 3, 1949. She married John Hohulin. He was born in April 1867, and died in 1946, a son of minister Gottlieb Hohulin and Augustine Wenger. The Hohoulin family immigated in 1858. John and Hannah appear on the 1900 census of Montgomery Township as John Hohulin, 33, born in Illinois in April 1867 to German parents; and Hanna, 38, born in Illinois in August 1861 to a father born in Germany and a mother born at sea. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.
10. Joshua Zimmerman was born April 13, 1864, and died Feb. 25, 1926. On Feb. 25, 1890 he married Maria/Mary Wuethrich. She was born at Metamora June 7, 1871, and died June 18, 1960, a daughter of Johann Ulrich Wuethrich and Elizabeth Aeschliman. Her family had immigrated from Trub, Canton Bern circa 1870. In 1906 Joshua and Marie/Mary settled at Milford, Indiana. They are buried in Milford Cemetery.
11. Caleb Zimmerman was born April 26, 1867, and died at Congerville Oct. 28, 1957. He married Lena Wuethrich. She was born at Metamora April 4, 1873, and died July 1, 1955, a daughter of Johann Ulrich Wuethrich and Elizabeth Aeschliman. They farmed Section 23 of Montgomery. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.

12. Lillie Zimmerman was born Feb. 7, 1870, and died Oct. 13, 1960; she is buried as 'Lillie Holliger' in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville. Her father's obituary names her husband 'Louis Holliger,' but we suspect he was Fred Holliger, who was born in 1873, died in 1928, and is buried in the same cemetery.

Roth of Steffisburg

Mention of the Roth family can be found in Hilterfingen and Steffisburg church records since 1560, when the surname was also spelled Rott, Roht, Root, or Rodt - all derived from the color red. Like the Stückers, their records could be found at Schwarzenegg after 1693. Recall from STAKER, *The Joder Newsletter* cites *Document K-893* of March 9, 1580, which has recently been moved to the State Archives of Canton Bern. The deed describes land on the border of Steffisburg and neighboring Fahrni [now Fahrni bei Thun]. "The brothers Caspar and Nicolaus Joder, sons of the deceased Caspar Joder, bought, together with the families Stücker, Steinmann, Blank, Roth, and Zimmerman related to them by marriage, a large part of the March [borderland] of Farni and jointly exploited it."

The Roths have always had a general idea of their past. Descendants of Roths at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines knew that their forebearers had come from a large family at Steffisburg that emigrated from Canton Bern at the time of the Amish division. (It was also generally known that twins ran in their family, as they do today).

Hans Rot and Catarina Schenk were residents of Buchholterberg.

BUCHOLTERBERG

During the 1600s Buchholterberg was sparsely populated except for warmer months, when it was a place of seasonal herding. It may be recalled as the location of a mill on the Rotache River where Niclaŭs Zimmerman was arrested after the uprising at Thun in 1641.

To the northwest Buchholterberg ran into Diessbach; to the south it ran into Steffisburg (they are now separated by the village of Fahrni). It was located in the Protestant Reformed parish of Diessbach, but for practical purposes was also served by the churches at Steffisburg and after 1694 Schwarzenegg.

Buchholterberg did not become a municipality until 1805, when a part was merged with part of Wachseldorn-Gützenschwendi to form a municipality and a parish. Then in 1823 the parts separated into Buchholterberg and Wachseldorn. It did not become an independent parish until 1860.

Their son **Hans Rot** was baptized at Diessbach May 10, 1646. Witnesses included Jacob im Hoff, Hans Wänger, and Margret Rott.

He married Margret Hodel. She was baptized at Steffisburg March 8, 1640, a daughter of Niggli Hodel and Anna Schöni. Witnesses at her baptism had included Hans Späni *der jŭng*, Anna Ummel the wife of Jaggi Meÿers, and Cathrin Gÿger.

There is a gap in marriage records for Diessbach from 1656 to 1684. Their ceremony likely took place there between Hans's 21st birthday on May 10, 1667 and the birth of their first child Nov. 17, 1667.

Their son Michel Roth was baptized at Diessbach in 1667, and **Peter Roth** was baptized at Steffisburg in 1670.

A point about the text that follows: with little else to go by, we occasionally use censuses (or more precisely tax lists) of Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to guesstimate their arrival years. But the names on these censuses were male heads of households who leased or owned a property. They did not necessarily have to be married, though they generally were. But it was possible to have a single male head of household, and a married couple living with him - and they would not be named.

MICHEL ROTH

Michel Roht (later recorded as a Roth) was baptized at Diessbach Nov. 17, 1667. His parents were described as Hans Roht and Margreth Hodel. Witnesses included Michel Roht, Claus Rŭp, and Babi Roht.

He migrated from Canton Bern to Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines or adjacent Ribeauvillé [Ger. *Rappoltsweyler*]. Perhaps he accompanied his married brother Peter, who is not found on censuses of Anabaptist taxpayers at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines until 1708.

BURIALS AT FERTRUPT

Over the next few pages we will mention several burials at Fertrupt (also found as Fertrux and Fertru, and in German *Fortelbach*), Ste. Marie-aux-Mines between 1737 and 1761.[42] This was a burial ground for Anabaptists and their families (obviously children had not accepted adult baptism) from Échery, Ste. Blaise, La Petite Liépvre, and Ribeauvillé.

There are no headstones to examine; the old site of the cemetery is now covered by housing. But there is a list found in the archives of Upper Alsace. It may have been transcribed from a cemetery book. The author is unknown, and may

[42] Not to be confused with Fenarupt, another neighborhood of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

have been someone who was not familiar with the families, or the many variations of surname spellings. Thus it cannot be considered comprehensive.

The cemetery list for Fertrupt shows Michel Roth of Stephansburg [older form of Steffisburg]. He was buried April 24, 1744. His age was incorrectly recorded as 72; he was 76. (We found no Michel Roth baptized at Steffisburg 1671-73). The deceased had been a miller at *Hofrat* Kroeber's mill in Ribeauvillé [Ger. *Rappoltsweiler*].

Hofrat was an honorary title for civil servants or teachers. In this case it described Jean Casimir Kroeber (1686-1753), a district representative and intendant of mines. His son Jean Frédéric Kroeber (1718-1765) also became administrator of the mines in the Markirch Valley. The son once defended the presence of Anabaptists to the intendant of Alsace, writing that, "The Anabaptists are naturally very hard-working people and clear uncultivated lands with great care…They are skilled – more so than others in Alsace – in the art of maintaining, breeding, and trading livestock, as well as keeping them for remedies."

PETER ROTH

Peter Roth was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 2, 1670, and may have died at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before a census of Anabaptists there in 1732. On his baptism entry his parents were described as Hans Rood of Buchholterberg and Margr. Hodel. Witnesses included Michel Bieri of Buchholterberg, Peter Blatter, and Barbli Blank.

On Sept. 15, 1693 at Steffisburg a marriage entry was created for Peter Roth and Verena Roth. Coincidence or not, the ceremony took place about one month after the contentious meeting that spurred the Amish division.

Verena had been baptized at Steffisburg March 14, 1675, a daughter of Michel Rott [Roth] and Babÿ/Barbara Reüsser. Witnesses included Heinrich Rŭchti, Barbara Farni, and Verena Reüsser.

We suspect that the 'large family at Steffisburg' described by descendants was not Peter's, but Verena's. Over the years a number of efforts have been misdirected in the misbelief that Verena's brother Hans was the forebearer of the Central Illinois family.

THE MATERNAL SIDE Verena's siblings

Verena's paternal grandparents were Michel Rott and Anna Farni, who were married at Steffisburg March 14, 1623.

Her father was Michel Rott (Roth), who was baptized at Steffisburg Aug. 6, 1626. His baptism witnesses included Michel Rott, Hans Bürcki, and Catharina Glücki.

On June 17, 1659 at Steffisburg Michel married Babÿ/Barbara Reüsser. Although much of the wording on their marriage entry is illegible, we can make out Michel Root and Babÿ Reüsser, "*...gross swangen, pfuÿ!"* – "...very pregnant, shameful!" Given the time and place, it is likely that this was meant in good humor; premarital dalliances were excused as long as there was a promise of marriage. Their first child was baptized Sept. 4.

The baptism entry of one of their children described Michel as an *Obmann*, the chairman of the village council. However, Michel died before 1690. In that year his widow Babÿ/Barbara and her grown offspring Anna, Barbli, and Michel were summoned to appear before the *Chorgericht* consistory council (a church morals court). Babÿ/Barbara was accused of encouraging Anabaptist beliefs. According to a note in the *Chorgerichtsmanual*, her son Michel stated that reading a book inspired by God was equally as valuable as participation in communion.

The 16 children of Michel Roth and Babÿ/Barbara Reüsser baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Anna Roth was baptized Sept. 4, 1659. Witnesses included Hans Meÿer, Anna Kŭntzi, and Madlena Reüst.
2. Barbli Roth was baptized Oct. 27, 1661. Witnesses included Andres Mŭrer, Elsi Roth, Freni Ŭli, and Bentz Bürki.
3. Michel Roth was baptized Jan. 25, 1663. Witnesses included minister Uriel Freudenberger, Hans Büchler, and Anni Koler. On April 23, 1697 at Steffisburg he married Barbara Hagi of Münsingen. The Steffisburg *Totenrodel* says he died there Dec. 12, 1744, *"im dorf, seines alters bÿ 82 Jahren,"* and she died there March 1, 1748, age 78. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Hans Roth was baptized March 13, 1698. Witnesses included Hans Güngerich, Jost Joder, and Christina Linder. He may have been the 'Hans Roth, Michel Roth's son, about 30' who died at Steffisburg Oct. 1, 1734.
    b. Michel Roth was baptized Oct. 1, 1699. Witnesses included Daniel Blanck, Peter Reüsser, and Barbara Sägisman.
    b. Anna Roth was baptized Nov. 27, 1701. Witnesses included Christen Hagi, Barbara Roth, and Anna Wÿttenbach.
    d. Christen Roth was baptized Jan. 13, 1704. Witnesses included Wilhelm Bürcki, Hans Spring *Spendvogt* [an almoner, a church officer who distributes alms to the poor], and Barbara Hagi.
    e. Peter Roth was baptized May 16, 1706. Witnesses included Peter Rügsegger, Ŭlrich Röthlisperger, and Barbara Joder.

4. Christen Roth (twin) was baptized Feb. 26, 1665. Witnesses included Hans Rŭpp, Hans Spring, and Catri Knöri. He married Anna Wÿttenbach. She was born circa 1669, and died at Lütschental (28 miles southeast of Steffisburg) May 24, 1739, age 70 (as reported at Steffisburg). Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Hans Roth was baptized Dec. 17, 1693. The baptism entry described his father as Hans Roth of Brenzikofen in the parish of Diessbach; the next two entries also used this description. Witnesses included Michel Roth, Abraham Spring, and Maria --.
    b. Cathrina Roth was baptized Feb. 20, 1698. Witnesses included Ŭlrich Rötlisperger, Cathrin Linder, and Barbara Gnägi.
    c. Magdalena Roth was baptized June 11, 1699. Witnesses included Christen Bähler, Magdalena Zŭm Wald, and Anna Christner.
    d. Christen Roth was baptized May 15, 1701. Witnesses included Johannes Karman, Peter Farni, and Anna Hŭber.
    e. Jacob Roth was baptized June 15, 1704. Witnesses included Christen Leman, Jacob Roch of Thun, and Barbara Ösch.
    f. Peter Roth was baptized Feb. 13, 1707. The entry is almost illegible because of ink bleed-through.
    g. Maria Roth was baptized June 9, 1709. The entry is partially illegible; witnesses include Phillip Kuruns (?), Rosina Mŭrri, and Anna Vogel.
5. Peter Roth (twin) was baptized Feb. 26, 1665. Witnesses included Stoffel Kolb, Christen Reüst, and Anni Meier. He may have been the Peter Roth who married Magdalena Wenger of Diessbach at Steffisburg Feb. 12, 1692. A note beneath the entry says *'Consistorÿ Bern*.'
6. Freni Roth was baptized Feb. 3, 1667, and died before Oct. 17, 1669. Witnesses included Michel Rot, Peter Blanck, Madle Steiner, and Freni Joder.
7. Madle Roth (twin) was baptized April 26, 1668. Witnesses included Peter Roth of Farni, Babi Reüsser, and Anni [illegible].
8. Catri Roth (twin) was also baptized April 26, 1668. Witnesses included Hans Reüsser, Margret Riest, and Anni [illegible].
9 Verena Roth was baptized Oct. 17, 1669, and died before March 14, 1675. Witnesses included Hans Bacher, Margreth Carli, and Anna Siber. She died young.
10. Hans Roth was baptized Jan. 15, 1671.[43] Witnesses included Niclaŭs Moser, Adam Joder, and Magdalena Leeman. Researcher Erwin Hochstättler wrote that, "In the notarial records of Markirch in 1697 the Anabaptist Jacob Hochstetler signed as a witness to a record of the Anabaptist Hans Roth, who came from Steffisburg..." Hans may have appeared as Hans Rothe and Hans Roth on Anabaptist taxpayer lists of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1697 and 1703, not in 1704, and then as Hans Rott in 1708 (when Peter Rott is also found on the list). On July 12, 1699 at Jebsheim, Upper Alsace (25 miles southeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) he married Marie Kleiner, who was described as an 18-year-old daughter of Anabaptist teacher Jacob Kleiner.[44] The groom was described as "farm laborer Hans Roth, 26, from Steffisburg." Their ceremony took place in the Kleiner home. According to Jean François Lorentz she was born at Couthenans (now in the department of Haut-Saône) circa 1668, and died at Montbéliard in 1724, a daughter of Hans Jacob Kleiner and Elsbeth Rusterholz. In 1715 they left Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Jebsheim and went to Étupes (on the east side of Montbéliard) at the same time Steffisburg native and Échery resident Christ Linder went there. At the time Montbéliard [Ger. *Mömpelgard*] was Protestant and part of the Holy Roman Empire; it would not fall under French administration until 1793. Hans is thought to have died at Étupes. Children of Hans Roth and Marie Kleiner include:
    a. Jacob/Jacques Roth was born at Jebsheim Sept. 2, 1702, and died on Les Gouttes farm between Exincourt (three miles southeast of Montbéliard) and Montbéliard March 19, 1766.[45] In 1724 he married Anna/Anneli Frey. She was born at Montbéliard March 10, 1709, and died on Les Gouttes farm June 26, 1779, a daughter of Ŭlrich Frey and Anna Schürch. He became a minister and elder of the Montbéliard congregation.

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[43] Numerous sources misidentify Hans Roth (born in 1671) as a Hans Roth born at Steffisburg in 1665, a son of Hans Roth and Anna Schwartz. However, there were no Hans Roths baptized at Steffisburg in 1665 or 1666, though it was a common name. A Hans Roth baptized Jan. 31, 1664 was a son of Peter Roth and Verena Gerber.

[44] On Nov. 22, 1693 Jacob Amman wrote a letter to the Pfalz discussing religious points. Signatures included his brother Ŭli Amman, Jakob Kleiner, Jakob Kaŭffman, Hans Moyer, Peter Zimmermann, Hans Bachman, Hans Neuhaŭser, Felix Hager, Nigli Ausperger, Heinrich Gerei, Christle Steiner, and Ŭlly Oswalt.

[45] Les Gouttes is also found as Aux Gouttes, and in modern day as Ferme des Gouttes. A *goutte* is the shape of a drop of liquid. It may have originally described tears, the dew on the meadows, the spray from a waterfall, or the shape of property boundaries.

1) Anna/Anneli Roth was born on Les Gouttes farm circa 1734, and died at Montbéliard Feb. 23, 1789. She married an Ŭlrich. As a widow she resettled with her brother Christian in the east at Urszulin (now in Poland) in 1791 at the invitation of Polish Prince Adam Czartoryski.
2) Barbara Roth was born on Les Gouttes farm circa 1738.
3) Johannes/Hans/Jean Roth was born on Les Gouttes farm Nov. 18, 1740, and died at Dornach, Upper Alsace Jan. 28, 1802. He accepted adult baptism Nov. 18, 1758. On Nov. 9, 1762 at Leyman, Upper Alsace he married Verena/Freni Kaŭffman. She was born in Maison Rouge [Ger. *Rothaus*], Normanvillars, Territoire de Belfort March 16, 1745, and died on Les Gouttes farm Nov. 26, 1776, a daughter of Jacob Kaŭffman of Steffisburg and Maria Amstutz of Sigriswil. Her death was recorded by Montbéliard ministers. Johannes/Hans/Jean and his cousin Daniel Richen/Riche/Rich attended the assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in December of 1779 as ministers representing the Montbéliard [Ger. *Mümpelgart*] congregation. As a widower with four children living on Les Gouttes farm, he remarried to Freni/Véronique Stŭckÿ at Grandvillars, Territoire de Belfort July 12, 1788. She was a daughter of Christian Stŭckÿ and his second wife Barbara/Barbe Schlatter (see STUCKY for background on her family). They had eight children. Her Dornach civil death entry created Jan. 22, 1802 described her as Ferena Stokÿ, 56. It was witnessed by Claŭs Stokÿ and Christian Roth. The first witness was her stepbrother Niclaŭs/Claŭs Stŭckÿ, married to Elisabeth Hochstettler; the second witness was their son. Johannes/Hans/Jean's civil death entry is found immediately after hers on the same page. It described him as Johannes Roth, 60, and has the same witnesses.
4) Maria Roth was born circa 1747, and died at Edwardsdorf, Russia Feb. 28, 1824. On Jan. 2, 1766 on Schwabenhof farm at Montbéliard (also called Souaberie) she married Christian Graber.[46] He was born on Schwabenhof farm circa 1746, and died at Urszulin (now in Poland) March 20, 1808, a son of Peter Graber and Cathrin Krayenbühl. They resettled in the east in 1791 at the invitation of Polish Prince Adam Czartoryski.
5) Jacob Roth was born circa 1749, and died at Les Gouttes farm Jan. 11, 1802. On Jan. 31, 1769 on Schwabenhof farm he married Catherine Kraibuhl [Krayenbühl]. She was born in 1750, and died at Exincourt Feb. 20, 1813, a daughter of Hans Kraibuhl and Elisabeth Graber.
6) Christian/Christ Roth was born on Les Gouttes farm Sept. 25, 1753, and died at Sevenans, Territoire de Belfort (nine miles northeast of Montbéliard) Dec. 29, 1834. On April 25, 1779 he married Maria Gerig. She was born circa 1755, and died at Sevenans June 25, 1799. On Nov. 29, 1801 at Sevenans he remarried to Elisabeth Schad. She was born at Brebotte, Territoire de Belfort March 10, 1773, and died at Dasle (12 miles southwest of Montbéliard) Feb. 27, 1838, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Schad and Elisabeth Joder.

b. Ŭlrich Roth was born at Jebsheim or Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1703, and died at Allenjoie June 12, 1758. He married Catherine Schmucker. In 1739 they were at La Petite Hollande, Montbéliard, now marked by Rue de la Petite Hollande.
c. Maria Roth was born at Jebsheim in September of 1705.
d. Anneli/Anne Roth was born at Couthenans circa 1707, and died at Voujeaucourt (four miles southwest of Montbéliard) Jan. 2 or 3, 1758. On May 30, 1730 she married Daniel Rychen/Rich. He was born at Frutigen, Canton Bern March 25, 1703, and died at Voujeaucourt April 11, 1751, a son of Peter Rychen and Margreth Brügger. Their children include:
    1) Françoise Richen/Riche/Rich was born at Voujeaucourt in 1728, and died at Couthenans June 27, 1768. On Nov. 6, 1759 at Voujeaucourt she married Jean Graber. He was born in 1732, and died at Couthenans May 2, 1810, a son of Jean Graber and Catherine Farni.

[46] The Schwabenhof/Souaberie was established by Friedrich von Württemberg in 1592, and took its name from his Swabian farmers. It was a typical *hof* comprised of a main building, barn, and stables around a courtyard. In 1733, some of the structures began to be used for Latin and general education classes at the end of the workday. After the French Revolution of 1789 it became a college. Some of the acreage was repurposed in the 1870s, and in 1989 the main building was declared a historic monument on the Rue de Souaberie at Montbéliard.

2) Jean Richen/Riche/Rich was born May 30, 1730, and died at Voujeaucourt Feb. 20, 1798. On Oct. 28, 1760 at Montbéliard he married Barbara Kaŭffman. She was born at Leymen (eight miles southwest of Basel) Jan. 26, 1741, and died at Bermont (nine miles northeast of Montbéliard) Aug. 7, 1818, a daughter of Jacob Kauffman and Marie Amstutz.
3) Daniel Richen/Riche/Rich was born Aug. 18, 1731, and died on Baumerthof farm at Riespach, Upper Alsace Jan. 29, 1781. He married Barbara Graber. She was born in 1731, a daughter of Jean Graber and Catherine Farni. He and his cousin Johannes/Hans Roth attended the assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in December of 1779 as ministers representing the Montbéliard congregation.
4) Marie Richen/Riche/Rich was born in 1745, and died in 1811. On Jan. 4, 1763 at Couthenans she married Pierre Graber. He was born at Frédéric-Fontaine (17 miles northwest of Montbéliard) in 1745, and died at Montprévois (now Dampjoux, 16 miles south of Montbéliard) Feb. 4, 1805.

e. Hans Roth was born at Jebsheim Jan. 27, 1708, and may have died young.

11. Ŭlrich Roth was baptized Feb. 16, 1673. Witnesses included Christen Spring, Peter Büchler, and Catharina DeLosea. He may be the Ŭlrich Roth who married Verena Stettler. She was born circa 1687, and died at Steffisburg Jan. 1, 1747, age 60; the *Totenrodel* described her as the wife of Ulrich Roth *von Farni*. Ŭlrich died at Steffisburg Nov. 7, 1752. He was described in the *Totenrodel* as Ŭlli Roht, 80.
    a. Peter Roth was baptized at Steffisburg March 27, 1711. Witnesses included Franz Ludwig von Marth *Schultheiss* [mayor], Daniel de Losea *Halfter zŭ Bern*, and Rosina von Graffenried.
12. Verena Roth was baptized March 14, 1675. Witnesses included Heinrich Rŭchti, Barbara Farni, and Verena Reüsser. She married Peter Roth.
13. Adam Roth (twin) was baptized Aug. 11, 1676. Witnesses included Frantz Zwei of Thun, Hans Blanck of Riederen (in Steffisburg), and Christina Reüsser.
14. Eva Roth (twin) was baptized Aug. 11, 1676. Witnesses included Hans Waber, Anna Wÿttenbach, and Anna Spring.
15. Abraham Roth was baptized March 30, 1679. Witnesses included Johannes Stäli of Thun, Michel Reüsser, and Cathrina Müller. Abraham Roth of Steffisburg, 26, died as an unmarried Anabaptist farm worker on the Kleiner farm at Jebsheim June 5, 1706.
16. Cathrin Roth was baptized Aug. 15, 1681. Witnesses included Peter Meier, Anna Schneider, and Margreth Gerber.

Verena's older brother Hans migrated to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines no later than 1697. It is not until 1708 that we find a list there with both Peter Rott and Hans Rott. Peter would have been about 43; Verena would have been about 33. The list named Anabaptist taxpayers, and nine of the names seem to be grouped by location. They represent the households of Peter Roth and Verena Roth; a bachelor Christen Linder; Caspar Linder and Cathrin Roth; Matthÿs Ŭli and Barbara Stägman; Hans Zimmerman [there were at least three Hans Zimmermans at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines; Larry Zimmerman cautions that no identified document specifies which one lived at Échery]; Jacob Hochstettler and Christini/Stini Kŭntzi; Hans Wolff [nephew of Jacob Amman] and Anna Breitt; Jacob Amman and Verena Stüdler; and Hans Roth and Maria Kleiner. This agrees with accounts in other documents that say they were neighbors at Échery, a hamlet within Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. For background on the Linders, see LINDER OF STEFFISBURG in the Appendix.

This makes four Roth arrivals: Hans no later than 1697, Hans's sister Verena and her husband Peter no later than 1708, and Peter's brother Michel around the same time.

Recall from PLANK that on Aug. 13, 1712 King Louis XIV of France issued an order expelling Anabaptists from Alsace. Only a handful of families that Christian III directly employed were permitted to remain at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Supposedly only six heads of households remained during the period 1713-18. That number more than doubled by 1721, as older sons started their own families.

Since 1699 Hans had resided in both Échery and on the farm of his wife Marie Kleiner's family at Jebsheim, 25 miles to the southeast. In 1715 Hans and Marie departed to live at Étupes, Montbéliard, 67 miles south of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. There is nothing to indicate that either they or their children ever returned to the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Peter was not mentioned in the notarial accounts of Anabaptists preparing to depart in 1712 and 1713. While other Anabaptist heads of households who remained were employees of the Ribeaupierre family, Peter's older brother Michel was employed by the district representative and intendant of mines. Michel may even have lived as a non-Anabaptist head of household with Peter at Échery.

Peter followed the advice of the counts to 'live quietly in the land.' He may have died before a census of Anabaptists in 1732 (on that list Échery was called Ekkirch). No Roth male heads of households were named. Of five households in Échery, two were maintained by widows.

His brother Michel is not known to have been married, and his brother-in-law Hans departed from the area and Jebsheim taking his family to Étupes, Montbéliard in 1715. Thus we assume Peter to be the forebearer of all Amish Mennonite Roths at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in the decades after the 1712 expulsion order.

Children of Peter Roth and Verena Roth include:

1. Barbara Roth was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 11, 1694. Witnesses included Heinrich Ritschard, *Kilchori von Gsteig*; Johanna Reüsser; and Barbara Rŭbi. On March 4, 1727 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married Daniel Moser. A Protestant church entry described them as Daniel Moser, a son of Bendicht from Röthenbach, Canton Bern; and Barbara Rothin, a daughter of Peter from the community forest [Ger. *Gemeindeswald*].
2. Peter Roth was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 8, 1695. Witnesses included Vincentz Staŭffer, Isaac Brendli, and Barbara Ritschart.
3. Anna Roth was baptized at Steffisburg July 22, 1698. Witnesses included Daniel Blanck *der Mauhrer* [stone mason], Barbara Neŭnlist, and Maria Asper. There is an entry in the *Totenrodel* saying that Peter Roth's Anlitz, 2½ *Jahrig* had died March 10, 1700.
4. Verena Roth was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 7, 1700. Witnesses included Hans Güngerich, Barbara Wäglin, and Barbara Reüsser.

Three more sons were not baptized at Steffisburg, Diessbach, or Schwarzenegg. Presumably they were born to Peter and Verena enroute to, near, or at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before 1715.[47] Of course, it is also possible that they were born to a second wife, or brought into the family. They include:

5. **Johannes/Jean Roth** was the forebearer of the Central Illinois family.
6. **Christian Roth** had one descendant who became a minister and elder, then changed denominations and became a bishop in Waterloo County, Ontario.
7. **Nicolaŭs Roth.**

Branch One JOHANNES/JEAN ROTH

Johannes/Jean Roth was born enroute to, near, or at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before 1715, and died before 1780.[48]

He married Anna Blank, a daughter of Niclaŭs/Nicolas 'Nigi' Blank (he signed his own name Nigi Blanc) and Anna Goldschmidt.[49]

From 1842 to 1744 Johannes/Jean joined his father-in-law as co-leaseholder on a sheep farm at Heiteren (32 miles southeast of Échery). It was the property of the noble Ribeaupierre/Rappoltstein family.

Children of Johannes/Jean Roth and his first wife Anna Blank include:

1. Johannes Roth was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 16, 1740. He married Anna Maria Stŭckÿ.[50] She was born on the farm of the Schoppenwihr estate at Bennwihr, Upper Alsace July 20, 1746, and died at Pulversheim, Upper

[47] Verena Roth was born in 1675. Today's nutrition and medicine has lengthened the childbearing span from 12 to 51. However, in Europe in the early 1700s, age 40 was generally assumed as the upper limit for a safe delivery. With shorter life spans, this also meant that the grandmother would be around to help care for the infant. The prime year to begin having children was thought to be 18, though now 30½ is considered to offer the healthiest outcome for all concerned.

[48] This Johannes/Jean Roth is easily confused with another who was born at Langnau bei Reiden, Canton Lucerne circa 1720 (Langnau bei Reiden merged with Richenthal in 2006 to become Reiden), and died at Chatenôis [Ger. *Kestenholtz]*, Lower Alsace (only nine miles east of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) Dec. 17, 1809. He became a miller at Chatenôis. He married Catherine Faller. She was born at Chatenôis circa 1730, and died at Tieffenbach, Lower Alsace before 1784. Three of their children can be identified: Martin (1761), Joseph (1770), and Barbe (1773). He then remarried to Anne Fritz. She was born circa 1736, and died at Chatenôis May 23, 1800. Their son Jean Jacques Roth was born at Thanvillé [Ger. *Thanweiler*], Lower Alsace circa 1777. On Dec. 9, 1804 at Ostheim he married Madeleine Rogi, a daughter of Chrétien Rogi and Sara Dettwiller of Strasbourg. The entry said that miller Jean Roth and Anne Fritz were living at Chatenoix.

[49] Nigi was born at Riederin in Steffisburg, and baptized at Steffisburg April 24, 1692, a son of Hans Blank and Catharina/Cathrin Rŭpp. Before 1742 he had worked with his parents in a mill at Ribeauvillé owned by the Ribeaupierres. Nigi married Anna Goldschmidt; she was born circa 1693, and died Sept. 6, 1755. Nigi died Aug. 3, 1753. Both were buried at Fertrupt.

Alsace Dec. 17, 1803, a daughter of Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser (for background see STUCKY). He died at Pulversheim, Upper Alsace March 10, 1794. His civil death entry described him as plowman Johans Roth, 53, a son of Johannes Roth and Anna Blanckhin, and husband of Anna Maria Stocky. It was witnessed by Christian Roth, 27, and Christian Schantz, 30, both plowmen. On Jan. 28, 1798 at Pulversheim Anna Maria remarried to widower Christian Schlatter. He was born at Richwiller June 15, 1743, and died there Feb. 6, 1829. He had first married Barbara Juncker, in 1767; she died in 1787. He remarried to Christina Frey in 1788; she died in 1797. Their German-language civil marriage entry described them as Christian Slatter, 56, and Anna Maria Stŭckÿ, 55, but gave the same birth dates as those above. Witnesses included Christian Schlatter, 31; Christian Roth, 32; Christian Stŭckÿ, 40; and Niklaŭs Stŭckÿ. All four were described as plowmen. Her German-language civil death entry described her as Anna Maria Stŭckÿ, 57, the wife of Christian Zlatter, and a daughter of Benedict Stucky and Anna Maria Neÿhŭsserin, born at Bennwihr in the mill. It was witnessed by her son plowman Christian Roth, and stepson plowman Christian Schlatter. His civil death entry described him as Chrétien Schlatter *le vieux* [the elder], 88, the widower of Anne Marie Stucky. It was witnessed by his son farmer Chrétien Schlatter, 59, and farmer Nicolas Stuckÿ, 38, both residents of Richwiller. Children of Johannes Roth and Anna Maria Stŭckÿ include:

a. Christian/Chrétien Roth was born circa 1768. Circa 1788 at Ollweiller he married Barbara Schürch (also found as Schirch, Scherk, and Sherkin), who was born at Schweighouse circa 1772. When she died at Pulversheim in 1808, her civil death entry described her as Barbe Schircher, wife of Chrétien Roth. The text gave the date as Nov. 15, but the section end table gave it as Nov. 5. Ollweiller is a *château* southwest of Soultz, in what is now the village of Wuenheim. It was occupied by the wealthy Waldner family that produced a number of high military officers until the French Revolution of 1789. They held dual citizenships, and served in Swiss regiments. During the time the Roths lived these is was probably the property of the community. In 1825 it would be purchase by a private buyer and turned into a model farm and winery. The castle was destroyed by artillery during World War I, and rebuilt in 1925.
    1) François Joseph Roth was born circa 1788. On March 23, 1810 at Pulversheim he married Marie Magdeleine Zimmerman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as François Joseph Roth, 30 [note the exaggeration], a son of *anabaptiste* cultivator Chrétien Roth, 50, a resident of Pulversheim, and the deceased Barbe Sherkin, 40, who had died there Oct. 6, 1808. The bride was Marie Magdeleine Zimmerman, 25, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman, who died March 10, 1809, and Elisabeth Reschelier, 56, a resident of Weckenthal farm at Barviller [Berrwiller]. Witnesses included the groom'a father Chrétien Roth and *anabaptiste* cultivator Jacobe Rothe, 56.
    2) Nicolas Roth was born at Soultz Dec. 9, 1794. His civil birth entry described his parents as farmer Chrétien Roth, a resident of Ollweiller, Soultz, and Barbe Schirch. They were accompanied by Christian Roth, 50, of Olsweiller. Both males signed Chritian Roth.
    3) Madeleine Roth was born at Soultz 29 brumaire 4. The same Christian Roth accompanied his parents for the entry signing, but this time his age was given as 53.
    4) Anne Marie Roth was born at Soultz June 21, 1797. Her civil birth entry described her parents a farmer Chrétien Roth of Ollveiller, Soultz, and Barbe Schirch. Witnesses included farmer Chrétien Schlatter, 27, of Staffelfelden; and Anne Marie Stuckie, 50, the widow of the deceased Jean Roth, who in life had been a farmer at bulfersheim [Pulversheim] [the child's grandmother]. Signatures looked like Christian Roth, Christian Slatter, and Maria Stŭcki. On Jan. 5, 1818 at Pulversheim Anne Marie married Cristiane Stokÿ. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Cristian Stoky, 30, a resident of Bollwiller. He was a son of Mathieu Stoky, 63, and the deceased Elisabeth Schwarz, 65, who had died May 6, 1814. The bride was Anna Maria Roth, 29 [note the exaggeration]. She was a daughter of *annabaptiste* cultivator Cristiane Rothe, 50, a resident of Pulversheim, and the deceased Barbara Scherk, 40, who had died there Oct. 6, 1808. Witnesses included cultivator Jacob Roth, 52, a resident of Ensisheim; and cultivator Joseph Riber, 56, a resident of Pulversheim.[51]
    5) Chrétien Roth was born at Soultz July 10, 1799.
    6) Barbe Roth was born at Soultz July 3, 1800.

b. Anna Maria Roth was born May 28, 1775, and died in 1832. On Jan. 17, 1796 at Pulversheim she married Christian Schlatter. He was born July 23, 1767. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as plowman Christian Slatter, 29, a daughter of Christian Slatter, 50, and Barbara Stucker, 52. The bride was Anna Marie Roth, 20, a daughter of plowman Johannes Roth, 54, and Anna Maria Stucky, 49.

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[50] Some sources say they married at Belfort in 1778 or 1788. This reflects confusion with his second cousin of the same name, born in the same year, who married Verena/Freni Kaŭffman and then remarried to Freni/Véronique Stŭckÿ at Grandvillars, Territoire de Belfort in 1788.

[51] Jacob/Jacques Roth was born at Montbéliard June 29, 1765, and died at Ensisheim April 18, 1822. He was a son of Jean Roth (1740-1802, recall the 'maternal side') and his first wife Verena/Freni Kaŭffman. His civil death entry described him as *anabaptiste* Jacques Roth, 56, a son of Jean Roth and Francoise Kauffmann, and the husband of Anne Liechti.

Witnesses included plowman Benedict Stucky, 34; plowman Christian Slatter, 52, of Lauterbach; plowman Christian Stucky, 30, of Bollwiller; and plowman Christian Roth, 50, of Soultz.

c. Nicolas/Nicholas Roth was born at Wittelsheim, Upper Alsace June 14, 1784, and died at South Easthope, Ontario in 1866. On Jan. 11, 1804 at Richwiller he married Anna Schantz. She was born at Bollwiller Feb. 22, 1794, and died at South Easthope in 1862. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as plowman Niclaŭs Roth, 20, born at Witelsheim June 14, 1784, and a resident of Richwiller. He was a son of Johannes Roth and Anna Maria Stŭcky. The bride was Anna Schantz, 20, born at Bollwiller Feb. 22, 1784. She was a daughter of Benetic Schantz and Verena Salsmann, residents of Bollwiller. Witnesses included plowman Johannes Roth of Pulversheim, 36; Christian Schlatter the younger of Richwiller, 35; and Joseph Jotter of Staffelfelden, 52. Signatures looked like Nicolaŭs Roth, Anna Schantz, Christian Roth, Johannes Roth, Christian Schlatter, and Joder. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Normandie*, and arrived at New York April 9, 1835. The passenger list has the traveling party as Christian Wenger, 35, Switzerland; Anna, 30; Anna, 1; John, 3; Christian, 2; Nicolas Roth, 50; Anna, 48; Anna, 24; Nicolas, 20; Benoit, 15; and Joseph, 13. Oldest son Christian, his wife, and son sailed from Le Havre on the *Franconia*, and arrived at New York Sept. 8, 1837. The passenger list shows them as Christian Roth, 36, France; Catherine, 26; and Christian, 1. At South Easthope, Ontario Nicolas became Nicholas, a deacon in the South Easthope-East Zorra Amish Mennonite congregation. An 1842 tax assessment of South Easthope lists the households of Niklaŭs Roth [Lot 10, III), Niklaŭs Roth [next door on Lot 9, III], Christian Roth, and Joseph Roth [Lot 8, II] on one page and another Christian Roth on the next (next door to Peter Zehr). The next page after that has Niklaŭs Schlagel. Six Roth families had households at South Easthope 1840-50. Nicolas/Nicholas and Anna are thought to be buried at the corner of the former No. 2 School in South Easthope.

1) Barbara Roth was born at Richwiller Nov. 7, 1804, and died at East Zorra Dec. 5, 1877. On Dec. 27, 1827 at Schweighouse-Thann [Ger. *Schweighausen*], Upper Alsace she married Nicolas Schlegel. He was born at Froeningen, Upper Alsace Jan. 17, 1808, and died at East Zorra June 10, 1877, a son of Nicolas Schlegel and Magdalena Ummel. They sailed in 1839 and also settled at South Easthope. See SCHLEGEL for background on this couple.
2) Christian/Chrétien Roth was born at Dornach Feb. 12, 1806, and died at South Easthope in 1854. On Dec. 10, 1832 at Schweighouse-Thann he married Catherine Freyenberger. She was born at Blotzheim Feb. 22, 1811, and died in Perth County, Ontario Aug. 21, 1844, a daughter of Jean Freyenberg and Anne Stuckÿ. Witnesses at their civil marriage included cultivator Nicolas Schlegel, 25, brother-in-law of the groom; cultivator Chrétien Wenger, 30, brother-in-law of the groom; cultivator Chrétien Niehuser, 31; and cultivator Jean Freyenberger, 40, cousin of the bride.
3) Anne Roth was born at Dornach Nov. 15, 1807, and died in Washington County, Iowa Nov. 111, 1867. On Sept. 7, 1830 she married Christian Wenger. He was born Dec. 2, 1799 (obituary age count) or 1800 (headstone), and died at Wayland, Henry County, Iowa April 9, 1882. *Herald of Truth*, May 1882: "April 9th, in Wayland, Henry Co., Iowa, in the house of his son-in-law, of the infirmities of age, Christian Wenger, aged 82 years and 6 months. He was on a visit to his children, and was not able to return to his home. He was buried on the 11th in Joseph Sommers burying ground. Funeral services by S. T. Miller and Sebastian Geri\g, from *1 Cor. 5*. His wife died 10 years ago. Brother Wenger was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church for 68 years. He came from Basle,(sic) Switzerland, to Canada in the year 1835, where he lived 17 years. From there he went to Iowa, and lived 30 years one half mile from where the body now rests. He furnished the evidence to all that he with Paul has fought the good fight and finished his course, and that there is crown of righteousness laid up for him." Their joint headstone in Sommers Cemetery, Washington County, Iowa says "Christ Wenger, 1800-1882, Mary his wife, 1807-1867."
4) Elisabeth Roth was born at Dornach Dec. 2, 1809, and died there April 2, 1814.
5) Anne/Anna Roth was born at Dornach Oct. 6, 1811.
6) Catherine Roth was born at Dornach Aug. 28, 1813, and died there March 2, 1815.
7) Nicolas Roth was born at Dornach Dec. 2, 1815.
8) Benoit Roth was born at Dornach Feb. 19, 1820.
9) Joseph Roth was born at Dornach May 23, 1822.1

2. Christian Roth was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1751 (per his civil death entry), and died at Xouaxange, Moselle Feb. 13, 1845 (recorded under the name 'Christian Rhodes'). He became a weaver. In 1779 he married Anne Mosiman. She was born in 1761, and died circa 1789, a daughter of Christian/Christianne Mosimann and Marguerite Liechti. This means that minister Nicholas Roth and minister Michael Mosiman, who jointly initiated the Defenseless Mennonite congregation at Groveland, were cousins − sharing Christian Roth and Anne Mosimann as uncle and aunt. In 1792 Christian is found as Christopher Rouge, 36, a *Suisse* weaver on the farm Bas Fareu, witnessing the birth of Joseph Vassre to *calviniste* parents at Bréménil, Meurthe-et-Moselle. He signed Christÿan

Roth. Christian became a minister and elder at Herbéviller; he is found as a witness on a number of entries in this text. Children of Christian Roth and his first wife Anne Mosimann include:

a. Christian Roth was born at Chazelles-sur-Albe, Meurthe-et-Moselle in 1779. The Oct. 14, 1805 record of his marriage to Anne Lehman at Hattigny identifies them as 'Christiane Rode' and 'Anne Laiman.' At the time of the marriage Christian was living at Domèvre-sur-Vezouse. Anne was a daughter of Christian Lehman and Catherine Garber (she signed her name 'Kätrinna Garbarin'). Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Cristianne Rode [Roth], 50, Chazelles; Jean Rode [Roth], 36; father-of-the-bride Christianne Laimann [Lehman], 46, of Risholz farm at Hattigny; and Pierre Suis [Suisse], 50, a friend of the bride from Blamont. Christian and Anne lived on Risholz farm at Hattigny, where they are found in some civil entries as 'Rodh.'

b. Johannes/Hans/Jean Roth was born at St. Quirin circa 1783, and died at Charmes-la-Côte, Meurthe-et-Moselle June 20, 1855. On Oct. 26, 1811 at Chazelles-sur-Albe he married Marie Sommer. The marriage entry described the groom as "age 28, born at St. Quirin, servant at Gage in the village of Hattigny [12 miles east of Chazelles], son of Christian Roth, laborer from Chazelles, who is present and consents." Michel Mosimann was a witness. Marie Sommer was born March 25, 1790 at Haraucourt-sur-Seille, and died Nov. 29, 1873 at Toule, Meurthe-et-Moselle. She was a daughter of Jean Sommer and Barbe Brechbühl. Their only child died as an infant.

c. Joseph Roth was born at St. Quirin Feb. 2, 1784. On March 26, 1808 at Domèvre-sur-Vezouse he married Elisabeth Martinne/Martin. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Joseph Rouge, born at St. Quirin Feb. 2, 1794, a son of Christianne Rouge of Chazelles who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Mozimann. The bride was described as Barbe Martinne, born at Rindin [Rinting?] April 15, 1788, a daughter of the deceased Jean Martinne and the deceased Anne Litviller. She was accompanied by Christiane Zer, who was present and consenting. Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Christiane Rouge, 52, a laborer at Chazelles; and cultivator Christian Zer, 46, of Domevre [he signed 'Christian Zehr']. In 1811 Joseph was living at Chazelles-sur-Albe, where he served as a witness to the marriage of his older brother Jean. Their children include:

1) Christophe Roth was born at Chazelles-sur-Albe Dec. 24, 1808, and died there Dec. 29, 1808. Michel Mosimann was a witness on the birth entry.

2) Catherine Roth was born at Chazelles-sur-Albe Jan. 2, 1810. Michel Mosimann was again a witness on the entry.

Christian remarried to Elisabeth Vordemwald, who was born circa 1752, and died at Métaires-St. Quirin June 1, 1814. The 10-year civil index listing her death describes her as Elisabeth Fortamval, 62. A child of Christian Roth and his second wife Elisabeth Vordemwald was:

d. Elisabeth Roth was born at Bréménil, Meurthe-et-Moselle (10 miles southwest of Métaires-St. Quirin) Nov. 11, 1793, and died at Chazelles-sur-Albe (10 miles northwest of Bréménil) Feb. 13, 1808, described as age 14 years and three months. Her civil birth entry described her parents as *anabaptiste* cultivator Christophe Rote and Elisabeth Faronvalfe.

A listing in the 10-year civil index says that on Sept. 7, 1819 at Xouaxange, Moselle (five miles northwest of Métaires-St. Quirin) Christian Rode married Anne Kopferschmitt [Kűpferschmid]. She was born circa 1764, a daughter of Jean Kopferschmitt and Barbe Wagler. This would have been his third marriage.

3. 'The young daughter of Johannes Roth' was buried in the Anabaptist family cemetery at Fertrupt in 1752 or 1753.

Before 1759 Johannes/Jean remarried to Marie Zender. She was born circa 1721 (per her civil death entry).

A list of Anabaptist male heads of households living at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1763 was found in a Montbéliard congregation record. It did not name even one Roth. This might be taken as a sign that Johannes/Jean had died, but the list was certainly not inclusive. The names may even have originated from one of Johannes/Jean's letters; the family of his uncle Hans made up a large part of the Montbéliard congregation.

A census published Jan. 30, 1780 described Marie Zender as the widow of Jean Roth of Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Marie died at Aubure (adjacent below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) May 16, 1793. Her civil death entry described her as widow Marie Zander, 72, and was witnessed by her son *Anabaptiste* Nicolas Roth, 34. He signed Nigklaŭs Roth. We suspect but cannot prove that her age was exaggerated, assuming she had a daughter who was born circa 1769; however, there is no birth or baptism entry to show that the daughter's age is correct or that she was not taken in to the family.

Children of Johannes/Jean Roth and his second wife Marie Zender include:

3. **Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth** was born at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1759, and died at Burtzweiller, an annex of Illzach, Upper Alsace Aug. 19, 1840.

4. Barbara Roth was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1769, and died at Umkirch, Baden Jan. 4, 1821, age 52. She married Johannes König, who was likely born on the Obernimburg monastery grounds at Nimburg, Baden circa

1768, and died on the Mundenhof estate at Umkirch (seven miles south of Nimburg) Dec. 18, 1804. Their children are listed in KING, THE KÖNIGS OF NIMBURG. On July 9, 1805 at Umkirch Barbara remarried to Jacob Sommer (1765-1838) of Le Ban de la Roche [Ger. *Steintal*], Lower Alsace. He was likely a son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerber (see SOMMER), who farmed on the Struthof at Natzwiller. Her older brother was a witness to the 1805 wedding, and the marriage entry describes him as, *"Niklaŭs Roth, brŭder, der hof Zweinrin von Maria Kirch."* Jacob and Barbara renewed the lease on the Mundenhof estate. On May 7, 1721 at Sélestat, Lower Alsace Jacob remarried to Elisabeth Sommer, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Maria Kropf.

Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Ste. Croix-aux-Mines are adjacent west-to-east. The village center of Aubure [Ger. Altwihr] is six miles below theirs. Berrwiller is 30 miles south of Aubure. All four are in Upper Alsace. La Croix-aux-Mines is 12 miles west of Aubure, in the department of Vosges. (The departments only came into existence in 1794, but are given here to help clarify locations found in old records; we also ignore their 2014 consolidation under the administrative region of Grand-Est).

Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth was born at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines (per his third marriage entry) circa 1759 (though his less reliable death entry says Altwihr/Aubure), and died at Burtzweiller, an annex of Illzach, Upper Alsace Aug. 19, 1840. He was described as a farm equipment operator, lumberjack, and weaver.

He married three times.

On Jan. 25, 1780 at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges he married Elisabeth Berse (also known as Wagler). She was born circa 1761, and died at La Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 9, 1786, a daughter of Abraham Berze or Berse and Catherine Küpferschmidt (also found as 'Cofechemette'). See WAGLER for background on her family.

Children of Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth and his first wife Elisabeth Berse (also called Wagler) include:

1. Jean Roth was born at La Croix-aux-Mines Jan. 17, 1782, and died at Échery July 6, 1857. On June 6, 1811 at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace he married Elisabeth Redelsperger. She was born at Fertrupt May 2, 1787, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 20, 1870, a daughter of Jean Henri Redelsperger [Röthlisberger] and Marie Madeleine Krieger.[52] Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farm equipment operator Jean Roth, 29, a resident of Ste. Croix-aux-Mines who was born at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges Jan. 17, 1672. He was a son of weaver Nicolas Roth, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Elisabeth Berse. The bride was Marie Elisabeth Redelsperger, 24, a resident of La Croix-aux-Mines who was born at Fertru, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 2, 1787, a daughter of Jean Henry Redelsperger and Magdeleine Krieger, residents of Ste. Croix-aux-Mines who were present and consenting. One witness was Jacques Redelsperger, 28, a bother of the bride. Signatures looked like Johannes Roth, Nicolas Roth, Elisabeth Rothlisperger, and Heinrich Redelsperger. Jean's civil death entry filed at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines described him as farm equipment operator Jean Roth, 75, born at La Croix-aux-Mines, a son of the deceased weaver Nicolas Roth and the deceased Elisabeth Wagler. He was the husband of Elisabeth Redelsperger, 72, and a resident of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. One witness was weaver Jean Roth, 42.
2. Christian/Chrétien Roth was born at Berrwiller, Upper Alsace (37 miles south of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) July 19, 1783 according to the civil entry for his third marriage, which may not be reliable, and died at St. Maur, Indre Nov. 19, 1838. Annette Surrault, who has access to material that is directly relevant, wrote that he was a brother to Nicolas Roth. He married three times. His first wife was Anna Maria/Anne Marie Zimmerman. She was born at Denzlingen, Baden circa 1786, and died at Kintzheim, Lower Alsace July 18, 1809, a daughter of Christian Zimmerman and Susanna Goldschmitt. In 1805 at Froeningen, Upper Alsace her older brother Jacob Zimmerman, born circa 1783, had married Catherine Ropp, the sister of future Illinois patriarch Andreas Ropp. Anna Maria's civil death entry described her as Anne Marie Zimmerman, 23, born at *langen Dentzlingen en Breisgau* ['long Denzlingen'], the wife of farmer Chrétien Roth residing on Abtissin [the farm Abtissin-Hurst] at Kintzheim.[53] It was witnessed by miller Joseph Roth, 33, described as a cousin of the deceased residing in Mittel Mühl at Ban de Chatenois, Lower Alsace [adjacent to Kintzheim]. Their daughter Jacobé Roth was born at Kintzheim July 9, 1809, and died the following day. Her birth entry described her parents as farmer Chrétien Roth, on abtissin, and Anne Marie Zimmerman; Joseph Roth was the witness. This suggests that Anna Maria had died of complications of childbirth. His second wife Barbe Brun was born at Bischheim, Lower Alsace (above Strasbourg) circa 1789, and died on the farm Abtissin-Hurst at Kintzheim Jan. 16, 1812, a daughter of cultivator Jean Brun and Anne Marie Meÿer of Bischheim. He married for a third time at Kintzheim June 25, 1812. Barbe Goldschmitt was born at Thanvillé, Lower Alsace (six miles north of Kintzheim) Dec. 19, 1785, a daughter of Conrad Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt and Katharina/Catherine König (see GOLDSMITH for background), and an older sister to the well-known minister/elder Joseph Goldschmidt/ Goldsmith. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Chrétien Roth, born at Barrweiller, Upper Alsace [Barrwiller is the German name for the French village Berrwiller] July 19, 1783, and a resident of Kintzheim. He was the widower of Barbe Brun, a daughter of Bischheim cultivator Jean Brun and Anne Marie Meÿer, who had died there Jan. 16, 1812, age 22. His parents were not

[52] A Rothlisberger is someone who lives on or quarries a red (sandstone) hill.

[53] In German an *Äbtissin* is an abbess or mother superior.

identified, as was customary in a second or third marriage. The bride was described as Catherine Goldschmitt, born Dec. 19, 1785, and her parents were described as miller Conrad Goldschmitt of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Catherine Koenig. [This was Barbe]. The groom signed Christian Roth. Bischheim had a Catholic baptism entry for Barbe's twin sister Catherine, who died two months later; perhaps the entry was an afterthought to justify burial in the town's Catholic graveyard. But there was no mention of Barbe. The 'deception' by the municipal clerk would have met the pre-marriage documentation requirements of the *état civil* system of administrative record-keeping. For whatever reason, the Chrétien Roth-Barbe Goldschmitt ceremony was later entered in the 10-year civil index as Catherine Roth-Catherine Goldschmitt. The first two children of Christian/Chrétien Roth and his third wife Barbe Goldschmitt were born on the farm Abtissin-Hurst at Kintzheim in 1813 and 1815. In 1820 Christian/Chrétien and Barbe were farming at Vannes-le-Châtel, Meurthe-et-Moselle in 1820 (see ZIMMERMAN for background on this location). When a child was born there, Michael Zimmerman served as a witness on the civil birth entry. Their daughters Magdalena and Barbara emigrated in 1830, traveling directly to Butler County, Ohio. Like Niclaŭs and Michael, in 1828 or 1829 Christian/Chrétien and Barbe became employees of Comte Bertrand. Our first indication of the presence of Niclaŭs in the department of Indre was also the first indication of Christian: the Mers-sur-Indre civil birth entry of Niclaŭs's son Peter created Jan. 12, 1830. One witness was Christophe Rodes, 45, a cultivator on Chanteloube farm at Mers-sur-Indre, who told the clerk he did not know how to sign. Christian and Barbe could later be found on the dairy farm Genévrier at St. Maur (17 miles southwest of St. Valentin, and adjacent to Bertrand's home Châteauroux and Mers-sur-Indre). Day laborer 'Chisthof Rot, 48' was a witness to the marriage of Niclaŭs's daughter at Lagny in 1832. Annette Surrault made a great find in the civil records of St. Maur: the death of laborer 'Christain Roch,' 56, on Nov. 19, 1838. He was the husband of 'Barbe Colchimite,' and died on the dairy farm Genévrier. Children of Christian/Chrétien Roth and his third wife Barbe Goldschmitt include:

a. Catherine Roth was born at Kintzheim, Lower Alsace Aug. 25, 1813. Her parents were described as farmer Chrétien Roth, 30, and Barbe Goldschmitt, residents on Abttissin hurst at Kintzheim.
b. Chretién Roth was born at Kintzheim Feb. 4, 1815. His parents were described as *labourer* Chrétien Roth, 32, and Barbe Goldschmitt, residents of Abtissin at Kintzheim.
c. Magdalena Roth was born at Vannes-le-Châtel, Meurthe-et-Moselle Feb. 5, 1820 (her civil birth entry was witnessed by cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 40), and died at Danvers May 17, 1904. She married John Habecker (see HABECKER), then became the second wife of widower Joseph Stuckey. Thus minister Nicholas Roth, a son of Niclaŭs Roth, was a cousin to the two wives of minister Joseph Stuckey, who was prominent in the establishment of the Central Conference of Mennonites. (See ULRICH for the first part of his life, THE MENNONITE TRANSITION for the second).
d. Barbara Roth was born at Paris March 1, 1821, and died at Danvers, McLean County April 27, 1881. According to *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County*, daughters Barbara and Magdalena sailed from Le Havre to New Orleans in 1830, then traveled directly to Butler County, Ohio. Perhaps the parents assumed that they would follow after accumulating savings, and sent their daughters ahead with a relative. In 1844 Barbara became the first wife of minister/elder Joseph Stuckey.

3. **Niclaŭs** (as he signed his name)**/Nicolas Roth** was born circa 1784, and died in his home on Petit Lagny farm, St. Valentin, France Jan. 6, 1834. A son reported his age at death to be 50. Because of this, there is at least a possibility that he was a twin to Christian/Chrétien born in 1783.
4. Joseph Roth was born at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges Feb. 8, 1786, and died at Plainfaing, Vosges Feb. 8, 1862. On Feb. 9, 1824 at La Croix-aux-Mines he married Barbe Schlatter. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Joseph Roth, 38, born at La Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 8, 1786, a son of cultivator Nicolas Roth, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Elisabeth Vaquelaire, who had died at La Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 9, 1786. The bride was Barbe Schlater, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 20, 1795, a daughter of day laborer Christian Schlater who was present and consenting, and the deceased Marie Voisely, who had died at La Grande Fosse. Barbe died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 12, 1832. Joseph's civil death entry described him as Joseph Roth, 77, born at La Croix-aux-Mines, a son of Nicolas Roth, and the widower of Barbe Schlatter. It was witnessed by son-in-law Jean Müller, 56, a weaver at Labruche. It was signed Hans Müller. Of their children, only one came to America.
    a. Madeleine/Magdalena Roth was born at La Croix-aux-Mines April 7, 1828, and died in Buchanan County, Iowa in 1916. On April 16, 1852 at Plainfaing, Vosges she married widower Jean Müller/Miller. He was born at La Grand Fosse, Vosges Aug. 28, 1805, and died at Plainfaing Sept. 19, 1882, a son of Jean Müller/Miller and Elisabeth Erb. One of her sons, Chrétien/Christian Miller, was born at Plainfaing Oct. 5, 1852, and died at Pekin May 24, 1948. He is buried as Christian Miller in Park Hill Cemetery and Mausoleum at Bloomington, McLean County.

Circa 1789 Nicolas remarried to Anne Müller. She was born in 1758, and died at Aubure March 13, 1794. Her civil death entry gave her age as 36, and described her husband as *Anabaptiste bucheron* [lumberjack] Nicolas Roth, 35.

On Oct. 25, 1793 at Ribeauvillé Nicolas and Johannes Eymann were witnesses on the civil death entry of Johannes Wagner/Jean Wagler. He was the first identified leaseholder on the Wagler family home at Muesbach (see WAGLER, WAGLER OF MUESBACH). Nicolas was described as a 35-year-old resident of Altweyer [Aubure],

and signed Nigklaŭs Roth.

Children of Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth and his second wife Anne Müller include:

5. Marie Roth (twin) was born at Altwihr [Aubure] Nov. 21, 1790 (according to her marriage entry). On Nov. 8, 1824 at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace she married Joseph Boshart. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer Joseph Boshart, aged 29 years and nine months, born at Strasbourg Jan. 21, 1795. He was a son of the deceased Chrétien Boshart, who had died at Seppois-le-Haut Jan. 1, 1824, and the deceased Judith Rupp, who had died at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace Dec. 9, 1808. The bride was day laborer Marie Roth, 34, who was born at Altwihr Nov. 21, 1790. She was a daughter of weaver Nicolas Roth, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Müller, who had died at Aubure March 13, 1794. The bride signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate. Joseph died at Bollwiller July 2, 1831; his civil death entry described him as Joseph Bashart, 38, born at Neuhof near Strasbourg, the husband of Anne Marie Roth, who had died in the home of Benôit Tschantz. It was witnessed by day laborers Chrétien Moser, 35, and Chrétien Jausy, 40.
6. Peter/Pierre Roth (twin) was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 23, 1790 (according to his marriage entry), and died at Uffholtz, Upper Alsace Oct. 5, 1828. On Nov. 17, 1814 at Berrwiller, Upper Alsace he married Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as servant Pierre Roth, 24, a resident of Weckenthal farm at Berrwiller. His birth information was given, and his parents were identified as Nicolas Roth and Anne Müller, residents of La Croix-aux-Mines. The bride was Barbe Zimmerman, aged 22 years and eight months, born at Ungersheim, Upper Alsace March 6, 1792, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabeth Reschlin [Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabeth Röschli, see ZIMMERMAN for background]. As a resident of Weckenthal farm Elisbeth was present and consenting. They signed Peter Roth and Barbara Zimmerman. Peter/Pierre's civil death entry described him as Pierre Roth, 44, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, the husband of Barbe Zimmerman, and a resident of Uffholtz. Witnesses on his civil death entry included brother-in-law Joseph Roth, a 36-year-old cultivator at Weckenthal (also known as François Joseph Zimmerman, he had married Barbara/Barbe's sister Magdalena/Madeleine Zimmerman); and 27-year-old neighbor and day laborer Jean Wintenberger. On April 17, 1829 at Uffholtz Barbara/Barbe remarried to Johann/Jean Wintenberger. Their civil marriage entry described him as the 52-year-old widower of Jean Marie Rauch. He was born at Uffholtz Dec. 7, 1777, and died there Aug. 11, 1855, a son of the deceased Joseph Wintenberger and Anne Marie Berger. The bride was described as the 37-year-old widow of *Anabaptiste* cultivator Pierre Roth of Weckenthal, Berrwiller, and a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and farmer Elisabeth Reschly of Weckenthal, who was present and consenting. The child of Peter/Pierre Roth and Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman was:
    a. Pierre Roth was born at Berrwiller Jan. 9, 1817, and died at Uffholtz March 17, 1890. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Pierre Roth, 27, and Barbe Zimmerman, 24. On Sept. 11, 1838 at Uffholtz he married Marie Anne Thérèse Weber. One witness was his stepfather Johann Wintenberger.
7. André Roth was born at Aubure Dec. 2, 1793. His first civil death entry was created at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines March 31, 1795. It said that he had died a day earlier in the Roth residence at la Goutte de Sommer, Ste. Croix-aux-Mines. He was aged one year and four months, and was born at Aubure, a son of Nicolas Roht and the deceased Anne Müller. He was buried in *le cimetiere ordinaire*. Witnesses included Anne's brother Samuel Müller, 34, and Jean Vagler, 26. One signature says Johannes Wagler. Perhaps because the first death entry was misspelled, a second was created at La Croix-aux-Mines Jan. 27, 1800. It described him as André Roth, aged six years and 11 months, a son of Nicolas Roth and Anne Miller.

On Aug. 21, 1799 at La Croix-aux-Mines Nicolas married a third time to another Anne Müller (also found as Meunier or Munier; the German *müller* – a grain miller - is a *meunier* in French). Their civil marriage entry described him as Nicolas Roth, 36, *annabatiste* born at Échery; he was the widower of Elisabet Berze and Anne Müller, both *annabatiste*. The bride was Anne Munier, 33, born on the farm Dorveize in the Val de Villé of Lower Alsace, a daughter of the deceased Christianne Munier [Christian Müller] and Marie Adam. One source says she was his servant, and accepted adult baptism at Chatenôis in 1781.

Nicolas continued to act as a witness on several Berse civil entries.

Anne died at La Croix-aux-Mines June 25, 1824. Her civil death entry described her as Anne Muller, 50, wife of weaver Nicolas Rhote, 57, and daughter of the deceased Christian Müller and Marie Adam, a cultivator at Urbeis. It was signed Nicolaz Roth.

When Niclaŭs/Nicolas died at Illzach Aug. 19, 1840, his civil death entry described him as widower Nicolas Roth, 80, who was born at Altwihr, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. His third wife had been the deceased Anne Müller, but his parents could not be identified. He died in his residence at Burtzwiller, an annex of Illzach. This would now be called Bourtzwiller, a district between Pfastatt on the west and Illzach on the east, above the city of Mulhouse. It was witnessed by son-in-law and cultivator Chrétien Ummel, 49.

Children of Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth and his third wife Anne Müller (also found as Meunier or Munier) born at La Croix-aux-Mines include:

8. Andreas/André Roth was born April 11, 1800. The civil birth entry described his parents as weaver Nicolas Roth and Anne Miller. On Jan. 31, 1824 at Pfastatt he married Catherine Kaŭffman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer André Roth, 23, born at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges, and a resident of Richwiller, Upper Alsace. He was a son of weaver Nicolas Roth of La Croix-aux-Mines, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Miller, who had died there June 24, 1814. The bride was Catherine Kauffmann, 26. She was born at Levoncourt, Upper Alsace in 1797, a daughter of the deceased farmer Nicolas Kauffmann, who had died there Feb. 25, 1818, and the deceased Barbe Kauffmann, who had died there Jan. 12, 1818. Witnesses included day laborer Jacques Kauffmann, 23, brother of the bride; farmer Jean Roth, 37; and cultivator Jean Schlatter, 23, of Richwiller. Signatures looked like Anrdeas Roth, Nicolaz Roth, Johannes Roth, Jakob Kaŭfman, and Johannes Schlatter. The bride signed with an 'x,' suggesting she was illiterate. Catherine died at Mulhouse Nov. 23, 1840. One of their children was:
    a. Barbe/Barbara Roth was born at Pfastatt Aug. 19, 1824, and died in Canadian County, Oklahoma Nov. 28, 1902. On Sept. 8, 1849 at Soultz, Upper Alsace she married Peter Eimen (as his name appeared on the civil entry). For background on this couple who came to Tazewell County, see EIMAN.
9. Anne Roth was born April 11, 1802. On Dec. 30, 1829 at Pulversheim she married Chrétien Ummel. He was born at Grandvillars in February of 1772 (per his second marriage entry), and died at Illzach, Upper Alsace April 6, 1856, a son of Chrétien Ummel and Barbe Stücki. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as *Anabaptiste* shopkeeper Chrétien Umel, 55, born at Grandvillars but a resident of Mulhouse. He was the widower of Barbe Zimmerman, who had died July 15, 1828, and a son of the deceased Chrétien Umel and Barbe Stoky. The bride was Anne Marie Roth, 27, born at La Croix-aux-Mines, and a resident there. Her parents were weaver Nicolas Roth, a resident of Pulversheim who was present and consenting, and Anne Meunier. Witnesses included Jean Eicher, 46, a shopkeeper at Pulversheim; Nicolas Rote, 26, of Pulversheim; and day laborer Chrétien Kaufman, 21, a day laborer at Pulversheim. Chrétien had actually been married twice before. Before 1809 he married Barbe Stücki/Stocki. She was born at Wittenheim, Upper Alsace circa 1778, and died at Mulhouse May 17, 1824, a daughter of Nicolas Stücki/Stocki and Marie Zimmerman. One of their daughters, Barbe Ummel born at Pfastatt Aug. 11, 1811, would marry Anne Roth's younger brother Jacob Roth (born 1813) at Illzach April 2, 1842. Chrétien Ummel then remarried to Barbe Zimmerman at Pfastatt Jan. 28, 1825. She was born at Graffenstatten, Lower Alsace March 31, 1792, and died at Mulhouse June 15, 1828, a daughter of Jean Zimmerman and Barbe Stocky of Strasbourg, Lower Alsace.
10. Marie Madeleine Roth was born Feb. 16, 1804, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 22, 1886. Her civil birth entry described her parents as weaver Nicolas Roth and Anne Meunier. She may have been married after a religious service, but if so did not follow up with a civil ceremony. She gave birth to three children who under the law were illegitimate [Fr. *enfants naturel*]. All were born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines; two sons came to Tazewell County. When the presumed father Joseph Reinhardt died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 30, 1848, age 46, his civil death entry did not mention a widow. However, Marie Madeleine's civil death entry described her as Magdalena Roth, 80, *menonitischen religion;* born at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges; the widow of cultivator Joseph Reinhart. Joseph was born as Joseph Reinhard at Urbeis, Lower Alsace Dec. 5, 1803, a son of Joseph Reinhard and Anne Marie Frédérich [Friedrich]; his brother Jean George Reinhard was born there May 3, 1807.
    a. Joseph Reinhardt was born June 3, 1840, and died at Peoria Aug. 19, 1916. His civil birth entry said that farm equipment operator Joseph Reinhardt, 37, a resident of Fertrux [Fertrupt], Ste. Marie-aux-Mines had presented a male child born in the home of Joseph Haury of Fertrux. The mother was Madeleine Roth, 35, a resident of Fertrux. He desired to give the child the name Joseph. The father was not identified, and a note in the margin said the child was an *enfant naturel*. He may have sailed from Le Havre on the clipper ship *Edw. O'Brien*, and arrived at New York Sept. 3, 1857. That passenger list shows Joseph Reinard, 17, France. If so, he may also have been the Joseph Reinhart, 21, France, who file a *Declaration of Intent* for naturalization at Peoria Oct. 31, 1860. On Jan. 12, 1868 in Tazewell County Joseph Reinhardt married widow Katie Eimen (as their names were listed in the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*, a surname derived from Eymann or Eiman). According to her civil birth entry she was born as Catherine Eymen at Niederhergheim, Upper Alsace April 13, 1836, a daughter of Pierre Eymen, 38, and Magdelaine Fritiger, 30 [Pierre Eymann/Eiman and Magdelena Frŭtiger]. On Jan. 11, 1855 at Illzach she married Joseph Reck. He was born at Dornach Aug. 1, 1826, a son of Henri Reck and Catherine Wenger, and was the widower of Marie Conrad. Their civil marriage entry described the bride as Catherine Eymen, 18, born at Niederhergheim but a resident of Chatenôis. She was a daughter of miller Pierre Eyman and Madeleine Frédiger, who were present and consenting. One witness was servant André Roth, 54. Catherine's parents and siblings sailed from Le Havre on the *New York*, and arrived at New York Aug. 20, 1855. Presumably Catherine and Joseph Reck sailed at about the same time. They may have gone to South Easthope, Ontario, where her parents resettled. They would have one child in Ontario, a son Joseph Reck born March 9, 1856. The 1870 census of Elm Grove has teamster Joseph Reinhardt, 30, France; Catharine, 32, France; and Joseph, 14, Canada. They appear on the 1900 census of Tremont as hostler Joseph Reinhardt, 59, born in Germany June 3, 1840, immigrated in 1860; and

Katerine, 63, born in Germany in March 1837, immigrated in 1860.[54] He is found on the 1910 census of Tremont at Joseph Rehinhart, 70, France, immigrated in 1863. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove. Their headstones say they were, "Catharine, wife of Joseph Reinhardt, born April 1837, died Oct. 12, 1903" and "Joseph Rinehart, born 1840, died 1916." According to the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*, son Joseph Reck married Martha J. Nieukirk in Tazewell County June 10, 1875. They are found on the 1910 census f Marion, Daviess County, Missouri, where Joseph gave his immigration year as 1868 (the year of his mother's second marriage, and presumably the year he came to Illinois from Ontario). He died in Daviess County March 17, 1931.

b. Madeleine Reinhardt was born Oct. 24, 1841, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 25, 1879. Once again an *enfant naturel* was presented by Joseph Reinhardt, a 38-year-old farm equipment operator from Fertrux [Fertrupt] who desired to name the child Madeleine. She had been born in the Fertrux home of Nicolas Mathias Koch. Signers included weaver Joseph Roth, 30, and Jean Roth, 52. With Joseph Reinhardt they were described as the father and two witnesses. Her civil death entry described her as Magdalena Reinhardt, 32, born here, an illegitimate daughter [Ger. *uneheliche Tochter*] of Joseph Reinhardt and Magdalena Roth.

c. On the civil birth entry of an *enfant naturel* dated Sept. 18, 1843, farm equipment operator Joseph Reinhardt, 38, reported that the child was born in his house, and the mother was Madeleine Roth, 27. There is nothing describing him as the father, but the child was given the name George Reinhardt. One witness was farm equipment operator George Reinhardt, 36. Her parents were workman [Ger. *Arbeiter*] Nicolas Roth, and Anne Müllerin. Before emigrating young George decided to become Johannes, perhaps because it was the first name of his uncle. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Prince Imperial*, and arrived at New York June 28, 1863. The passenger list shows Jo. Reinhardt, 19, France; Zimmerman Cath.ine, 19, France; Georges Muller, 32, Switzerland; Christina Ulrich, 35, Switzerland; Christian Zimmerman, 30, Switzerland; and Anna, 23, Switzerland. In America he became John. As John Reinhardt he enlisted at Chicago Feb. 8, 1865, and served in Company A of the 11th Illinois Cavalry, a volunteer unit that was originally organized at Peoria. It held mainly men from Peoria and Cook Counties. His service record described him as a farmer from France, 20 years of age, 5-foot 1½-inches, dark hair, brown eyes, and dark complexion. During most of the time he served the company guarded the Memphis & Charleston Railroad between Memphis and Grand Junction, Tennessee. There was a brief expedition from Memphis to Brownsville, Mississippi April 23-26. Over the course of the entire war the company lost only 34 men to combat, but 245 to disease. He mustered out as a private when the unit was decommissioned at Memphis Sept. 30, 1865. On Dec. 12, 1868 in Tazewell County he married Katharine/Katie Egli. She was born at East Zorra, Ontario Nov. 19, 1850 (her obituary says Zurich, where she grew up), and died at Minier June 17, 1932, a daughter of Johannes/Jean/John Egli and Magdalena Gascho who came to Tazewell County in 1867 (see EGLI). The 1900 census of Little Mackinaw has them as farmer John Reinhardt, 55, born in Germany in September of 1844, immigrated in 1864; Catharine, 48, born in Canada in November of 1851 to a French father and a German mother; and seven children (six born in Illinois, one in Kansas). The 1910 census of Minier says he immigrated in 1863, she in 1867. The 1920 census of Minier has slight changes in the household of 'John Rinehart,' indicating he immigrated in 1863 and was naturalized in 1865; Kathrine immigrated in 1865 and was naturalized in 1868. John Reinhardt died in Tazewell County June 18, 1927. They are buried in Minier Cemetery, where his headstone says only, "John Reinhardt, Co. A, 11 Ill. Cav." *Gospel Herald*, July 1927: "John Reinhardt was born in France, Sept. 18, 1844; died June 18, 1927, at his home in Minier, Ill.; aged 82 y. 9 m. He immigrated to America when 19 years old and came to Illinois having lived in the vicinity of Minier the greater part of his life. He was married to Kathryn Egli Dec. 12, 1868 near Pekin, Ill., who survives him. Fourteen children were born to this union, four having preceded him. Besides the widow there remain to mourn the death of a loving father and grandfather 10 children, 43 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren. The family lived in Kansas nearly three years, about 40 years ago. Deceased was a member of the Mennonite Church for many years, but was a member of the Methodist Church at time of death. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Hartley of the Methodist Church. Burial in Minier Cemetery." Her plaque calls her Katie Reinhardt. *Gospel Herald*, July 1932: "Reinhardt. Katherine (Egli) Reinhardt, daughter of Pre. John Egli and Magdalene (Gasho) Egli, was born Nov. 19, 1850, at Zurich, Ont. Departed this life June 17, 1932, at her home in Minier, Ill.; aged 81 y. 6 m. 29 d. When a young girl she came with her parents to Tremont, Ill. Dec. 12, 1868, she was united in marriage to John Reinhardt who departed this life five years ago. They shared life's joys and sorrows together for 59 years. Fourteen children were born to her, four having preceded her in death. The following survive: Mrs. Herman Peplow, Mrs. John Baughman, Mrs. Leo Lowe, Jake, Ben, Mrs. C. T. Middleton, Mrs. Wm. Fenton, William, John, and Mrs. Louis Lampe. She is also survived by five brothers and three sisters. In her youth she united with the Amish Mennonite Church, but later transferred her membership to the Methodist Church at Minier, Ill., that being their home for the last

[54] A hostler maintained the horses of guests at an inn.

thirty years. Funeral services were held at the Methodist Church in Minier, conducted by their minister on June 19, 1932. Text, *Psalm 23*. Forty-two grandchildren and 46 great-grandchildren also survive."

11. Elisabeth Roth was born Feb. 12, 1806. Her civil birth entry described her father as a 46-year-old farm equipment operator. On May 27, 1826 at Bollwiller she married Benôit Moser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Benois Mosser, aged 27 years and five months, born at Bollwiller Dec. 12, 1798. He was a son of the deceased day laborer Jean Mosser, who had died at Bollwiller March 30, 1826, and the deceased Barbe Grieser, who had died at Schweighausen May 9, 1805. The bride was Elisabeth Roth, aged 20 years and three months, born at la Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 12, 1806. She was a daughter of farm equipment operator Nicolas Roth and the deceased Anne Miller, who had died at La Croix-aux-Mines. One witness was cultivator Jean Roth, 32. Signatures included Roth, Roth, and Nicolaz Roth.
12. Marie Barbe Roth was born Dec. 7, 1810.
13. Jacob Roth was born March 8, 1813. On April 2, 1842 at Illzach he married Barbara Ummel. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as servant Jacob Roth, born at La Croix-aux-Mines March 8, 1813, a son of the deceased Nicolas Roth who had died at Burtzwiller Aug. 19, 1840, and the deceased Anne Muller who had died at La Croix-aux-Mines June 25, 1840. He was a resident of Burtwiller, Illzach. The bride was Barbe Umel, born at Pfastatt Aug. 11, 1811, a daughter of cultivator Chrétien Umel, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Barbe Stocki [Stŭcki]. They signed Jacques Roth and Barbara Ummel. They had at least four children at Illzach.

Niclaŭs (as he signed his name)/**Nicolas Roth** was born circa 1783, and died in his home on Lagny farm (now Les Lagny), St. Valentin, France Jan. 6, 1834. On his civil death entry a son reported his age to be 50. Because of this, there is at least a possibility that he was a twin to Christian/Chrétien born in 1783.

In 1807 or 1808 Niclaŭs married Verena Zimmerman. Verena is equivalent to Veronica or Veronika. She was called 'Reine Zimmerman' on French documents; she would be known as 'Fanny' in America.

She was born circa Dec. 31, 1789, a daughter of Andreas Zimmerman and Anna Maria Isen/Eissen/Iseli. She was probably born at Denzlingen, the birthplace of her older brother, but it is also possible that she was born on the Hochburg estate (see ZIMMERMAN for more on her background and brothers who also came to Tazewell County). She died at Morton April 10, 1878, and is buried near her son-in-law Joseph Stecker/Staker in Roberts Cemetery. Her gravestone gives her name as Veronika Roth, with the inscription *gest. D. 10 Apr. 1878, 88 Jahre, 3 Mon., 10 Tage alt* (died on April 10, 1878, 88 years, 3 months and 10 days old).

On a hand-drawn genealogy chart, Verena's grandson Daniel K. Roth used the title *Groshertzogthum [Grand Duchy of] Baden-America 1837* to describe his grandmother's origin. Daniel K. wrote that, "I am not certain as to the village where my father and grandmother came from in Germany, but I heard them talk a great deal about Stuttgart and Baden…From what I remember them say, this country had very good land …Grandmother Roth [Verena Zimmerman Roth] could speak French as well as she could talk German" (*Roth-Zimmerman Genealogy*).

The birth records of their first seven children and the wedding entry of brother-in-law Andreas Zimmerman identify 'Nikolaus Roth' as a Mennonite tenant farmer on an estate of the steward Roggenburger at Buggingen until 1817. The Roggenburgers were a Catholic family, and their records can be found dating back to 1740 in the Buggingen *Kirchenbuch*. We found the surnames Rieser/Riesser, Schad, and Stucki in Buggingen church records 1770-82. The village of Buggingen is 16 miles southwest of Freiburg im Breisgau, in a wine-growing area called the Markgräflerland.

'Buggingen' is written on the back cover of the *Roth Family Bible*, now held by the library of the Mennonite Historical Society at Metamora. The volume is an original Christoffel Froschauer *Bible* published in 1536, and was brought to America by the family in 1837.

On Dec. 14, 1817 on the Mundenhof at Umkirch, Baden farm hand Johannes von Gunde (later called John Gundy in America) married Anna König. Von Gunde was a son of Ulrich von Gunde and Elisabeth Neuhauser of La Broque, Salm. Johannes had been working for Jacob Sommer, who was Anna's stepfather. The minister who performed the ceremony was Benedict König (later of Collinsville, Butler County, Ohio). Witnesses included Jacob Zimmerman of Munzingen and Nikolaŭs Roth, a leaseholder at Mengen. Mengen is a village only four miles southwest of Freiburg im Breisgau. The 1817 and 1818 birth entries of children were found in records of the Protestant Reformed Church at Mengen.

Between 1800 and 1830 a number of historical events affected the area:

- In 1803 the Russian czar used his influence to elevate the margrave into a prince-elector of the Holy Roman Empire. The move was intended to strengthen Baden-Durlach as a buffer between the Holy Roman Empire and France.
- The story of Baden smuggler Karl Ludwig Schulmeister, and his part in von Mack's surrender of 25,000 troops to Napoleon at the Battle of Ulm in 1805, is told in EIGSTI. Following the event the new prince-elector of Baden-Durlach allied with France.

- In 1806 the Holy Roman Empire was abolished, and Napoleon made Karl Friedrich a grand duke and leader of the Confederation of the Rhine. His domain became a grand duchy [Ger. *Grossherzogtum Baden*], and was now seen as a buffer protecting France from its enemies.
- In 1811 Grand Duke Karl Friedrich died. The former margrave had played both sides to increase his political influence and enrich his family. His grandson Karl Ludwig Friedrich became grand duke.
- In 1812, Napoleon's Grand Army retreated from its humiliating losses in the Russian Campaign. Very few of the 7,000 troops from Baden returned home. Those who had deserted had their homes confiscated and sold at auction.
- In 1813 losses from the Russian Campaign caused the grand duke to rethink his alliances. Between the first and third days of the Battle of Leipzig (also called the Battle of Nations) he did a complete turnaround, and shifted his allegiance to the winning allied side in a 'War of Liberation.'
- In 1814 typhus spread from town to town, carried by the dried feces of fleas, lice, mites, and ticks in the uniforms and blankets of billeted soldiers. Traveling troops often slept on straw in stables. Boiling might clean uniforms and blankets, but the lower ranks did not always have spare uniforms, or the time for clothing to dry in the sun. In later years, even when itching made the hazard apparent, they still stuffed their uniforms immediately before going into battle. This gave them a stronger appearance, and might provide insulation if they were left on the field of battle. In the village of Auggen alone 1,500 people died. From 1814 to 1818 the citizens of the Hochburg district 'lived to quarter troops' – housing and feeding Austrians, Hungarians, Prussians, and Russians.
- In 1815 Baden became part of the German Confederation under the Treaty of Vienna. It remained a sovereign country until it joined the German Empire in 1871. (It is now part of the German state of Baden-Württemberg).
- The Little Ice Age of 1814-16, created by volcanic eruptions in the Pacific Ocean, affected all of Europe and caused widespread starvation over the 1816-17 winter.
- On April 15, 1809 Grand Duke Karl Ludwig Friedrich decreed that *Mennoniten* should keep their own records of family events. Their children had to attend morals classes in public schools, but would be released from religious instruction if their parents requested it. They could be excused from attending public schools altogether if they had an approved tutor. Even children of Anabaptists who were born in Baden could not become full citizens, because they would not serve in the military, but they would be given protection.
- Grand Duke Karl Ludwig Friedrich signed a relatively liberal constitution shortly before his death in 1818. However, his successor reversed most of his concessions by 1830.

Niclaŭs and Verena would make a significant move west. In 1827 Aimé Jacques Marie Constant de Moreton de Chabrillan (1780-1847), a former chamberlain and aide to Napoleon Bonaparte, began to employ Amish Mennonite Rissers on the farm l'Age at Jeu-lès-Bois and the farm Poctet (now Poquetets) at St. Août in the department of Indre, 170 miles south of Paris.[55]

DE CHABRILLAN

Comte [Count] Aimé Jacques Marie Constant de Moreton de Chabrillan was born July 4, 1780, and died July 17, 1847. In 1802 he inherited the castle estate Le Magnet at Mers-sur-Indre.

He was appointed chamberlain and then aide to Napoleon, and became a Count of the Empire in 1811. He accompanied Napoleon on the Russian Campaign in 1812, often leading units at the front lines. He was taken prisoner at Dresden in 1813. The allies kept him in captivity in Hungary until the emperor's abdication.

De Chabrillan returned to France to resign his commission on May 3, 1816. In 1826 he was politically rehabilitated when Charles X appointed him an 'honorary gentleman of the chamber.'

When de Chabrillan died in 1847, his son Lionel inherited Le Magnet. Lionel was best known for a troublesome relationship with the remarkable Parisian dancer Céleste Mogador. Lionel took up with her in the 1840s. At the time they met she was a theatrical horse rider and dancer, and was said to have invented the can can. She was his mistress while he wasted his fortune at the race track. He was forced to sell Le Magnet in 1851.

The three-story Château du Magnet is still a private residence.

It is not difficult to imagine Joseph Risser corresponding with Michael Zimmerman, who he had known at Vannes-le-Châtel, Meurthe-et-Moselle. In turn Michael would have corresponded with his relatives, the Roths and Müllers in his native Baden. Perhaps the families joined the Rissers in 1828 or 1829 intending from the outset to create a nest egg for emigration from Europe.

Annette Surrault is the author of an article on Comte Bertrand's Amish Mennonite employees *in Souvenance Anabaptiste* (2012) and the book *De la campagne d'Egypte au Berry, le général Bertrand et le savant Hervé Faye*, Alice Lyner éditions. [48]

[55] Annette Surrault writes that she found a civil death entry at Jeu-lès-Bois for the death of servant Joseph Spring, 18, of the farm L'Age. It was witnessed by Joseph Riser [Risser], 50, of the same farm.

Annette Surrault writes that she found a civil death entry at Jeu-lès-Bois for the death of servant Joseph Spring, 18, of the farm L'Age. It was witnessed by Joseph Riser [Risser], 50, of the same farm. She described an incident that reflects the attitude of local residents toward the nobleman de Chabrillan and his Amish Mennonite employees.

THE ST. AOÛT DISPUTE

Most European villages had nearby fields that were owned by the church or noble families. They were considered common-use area in the warmer months. Even merchant families owned at least an interest in a cow for milk and a horse for transportation. By necessity they used these uncultivated fields to graze their livestock, which were allowed to roam with minimal supervision.

Comte de Chabrillan was interested in progressive farming methods. On May 28, 1828 he ordered his employees to plow part of the fields around St. Août. This brought an immediate reaction from the alarmed residents of the village.

The rioters demanded a document stating that the lands belonged not to one family, but to the municipality. Several plows were broken before the farm manager arrived. Eventually 17 residents were arrested. Four were sentenced to one-year terms in prison.

In 1830 the Rissers and Roths moved about 10 miles north onto the St. Valentin-area properties of Comte Henri Gatien Bertrand, the former aide-de-camp to Napoleon Bonaparte. Bertrand was one of an association of patrons from Châteauroux who had planned to start a student farm to test new agricultural methods. When the funds for the project proved insufficient, he employed the farmers that had been recruited on his own properties.

BERTRAND

Recall Comte Henri Gatien Bertrand (1773-1844) from AUGSPURGER. He was a military engineer who advanced to become a general and Napoleon Bonaparte's aide-de-camp, earning the title Marshal of the Court.

On Sept. 16, 1808 Bertrand married Elisabeth Françoise 'Fanny' Dillon (1785-1836), whose mother Marie de Girardin was a cousin of the Empress Joséphine de la Pagerie Beauharnais. When Napoleon suggested she marry his aide Bertrand, she is said to have replied, "What, sire! Bertrand, Bertrand? Why not the pope's monkey?"

Bertrand and Fanny accompanied Napoleon into exile on Elba and St. Helena, even though Napoleon's second wife Marie Louise did not accompany him after Elba. Fanny actually tried to throw herself overboard from the *Bellepheron* on their surrender voyage from Rochefort to England.

On St. Helena they lived in a villa called Hutt's Gate, about a mile from Napoleon's residence at Longwood. They arrived with three children, and a fourth was born in 1817. On his death bed Napoleon openly expressed regret that he had not had Fanny as a mistress despite many rumors to the contrary. The Bertrands and their children surrounded Napoleon when he died May 5, 1821.

In November 1830 Bertrand was appointed commandant of *l'École Polytechnique*, and won election as a deputy from the department of Indre. In 1834 he failed to win re-election, and retired from public life to his castle estate Chateau La Leuf at St. Maur (adjacent to Châteauroux).[56]

In 1840 the English government released Napoleon's will and allowed the return of his body from St. Helena to France for enshrinement in *Les Invalides* in Paris. Bertrand was named executor of the will, and received a bequest of 500,000 francs.

Perhaps the last significant event of Bertrand's life was a visit to the United States via Martinique in 1843. He entered the country at New Orleans, and visited a dozen cities where he was received by ex-presidents Jackson, Adams, and Van Buren, and ex-senators Henry Clay and Daniel Webster. He departed from New York Harbor Nov. 24.

On his return voyage he met and befriended second lieutenant of Army engineers Henry Wager Halleck, who would serve as a major general and general-in-chief of all federal armies during the Civil War.[57]

Bertrand died at Châteauroux Jan. 31, 1844. He was entombed in *Les Invalides near* Napoleon. His name was carved into the east pillar of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. His Châteauroux townhouse has been preserved as a state museum called the Musée-Hôtel Bertrand.

His death may have inspired Alexandre Dumas to include him as a minor character in *The Count of Monte Cristo*, published later that year. In the novel merchant-sailor Edmund Dantès delivers a packet to Comte Bertrand on Elba, then returns to Paris with a sealed letter. Because of the letter he is accused of being a pro-Bonapartist enemy of the new Bourbon regime, and is imprisoned in the Château d'If.

How had Bertrand first met Amish Mennonites? In his role as aide-de-camp, he likely heard about young men who had been inducted into military service but resisted carrying arms.

In the Canton Bern of the 1500s, adherents of the beliefs of Menno Simons endorsed non-violence, refusing to swear oaths that might obligate them to future military conscription. The refusal to swear a loyalty oath was more objectionable to governing officials than other religious differences. Throughout the Swiss Confederation it would be seen as open treason.

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[56] Cosco called the farms *Bursch*, but this is simply a German word for 'student.'

[57] Halleck was considered a better administrator than a fighter. In 1864 he was promoted to chief of staff to make way for his aggressive former subordinate Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant.

Yet for hundreds of years emigrant Amish Mennonites actively sought employment from high military officers beyond the borders of their native country.

A high military officer and an Amish Mennonite farmer. At first glance this seems like an odd juxtaposition.

The symbiotic relationship between the two first jumped to our attention with a snippet from LaBaron's *The History of McLean County, Illinois* (1879). A biography of Peter D. Springer describes his father Christian Springer: "From 1812 to 1815, he was in the service of, and member of the body guard of Napoleon the First." *The Sesquicentennial History of Washington* says, "The Springers came from France, where a brother, Christian, served as a personal bodyguard to Napoleon Bonaparte and was in the memorable battle at Waterloo." *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* says: "Christian Springer was a miller by trade, and with four other brothers, served under Napoleon in the War of 1812, in his native country, for a period of four years and then deserted, for the third time, finally coming to the United States."

We could perhaps assume that Christian came from a predominantly Amish Mennonite family, but had not yet accepted adult baptism. But in fact, in the 18th and early 19th centuries Amish Mennonites were frequently retained by French military officers as camp servants.

The military officer's idea was to live and travel within an immediate circle of politically-neutral, non-violent people. Their communal practices and common religion made each one intimately familiar with the group - and more likely to recognize a stranger in their midst. The lessons of history suggested that the most common means of assassination of an influential person would be poisoning. No doubt the arrangement gave an officer a certain amount of confidence when food was prepared in camp.

It is not necessary to paint a mental image of Christian Springer armed in full battle regalia. He may have served in a noncombatant role setting up tents, unpacking and arranging personal items, and watering, feeding, and grooming horses – all the while keeping an eye on those who came and went.

One of the lasting monuments to employers of Amish Mennonite farmers can be found in an unexpected location: the *Place Charles de Gaulle* in Paris. The *Arc de Triomphe de l'Étoile* is inscribed with the names of generals from the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. They include Custine, Bonaparte, Grandjean, and Bertrand.

Annette Surrault found the first indication of the Roths in the department of Indre. On Feb. 12, 1830 a civil birth entry was created at Mers-sur-Indre for the birth of son Peter a day earlier. It indicated that his parents were living on Chanteloube farm. Chanteloube farm was a property of de Chabrillan (now the village of Chanteloube, three miles north of Mers-sur-Indre).

After 1830 the Rissers and Roths worked alongside other future settlers of Tazewell, Woodford, and McLean Counties including the Müllers, Springers, and Zimmermans. They lived at Lagny (now Les Lagnys), three miles northwest of St. Valentin, 10 miles northeast of Châteauroux.

The earliest documentation showing the Roths at St. Valentin is a civil marriage entry for the marriage of their oldest daughter Barbara Roth and Pierre Zehr (Joseph Stecker/Staker's cousin) dated April 25, 1832. It described the groom as cultivator Pierre Zehr [Zehr], 22, born at Gros-Réderching, Moselle Aug. 20, 1809, a son of the deceased Michel Zehr of Gros-Réderching who had died June 30, 1813, and Madeleine Farny, who was present and consenting. He signed Pntnr Znhr in the old Swiss style of 'n' for 'e.' The bride was described as Barbe Roth, 17, born at Buggingen in the Grand Duchy of Baden Dec. 28, 1813, a house girl at Lagny. It was witnessed by cultivator Joseph Riser, 52, of Lagny [Pierre's stepfather, who earlier had been living at Jeu-lès-Bois, and signed Joseph Rissnr]; day laborer Chisthof Rot, 48, of St. Valentin [he signed Christian Roth]; day laborer Jean Bure, 27, day laborer at St. Valentin [later known as John Bower, the stepfather of Christian Risser/Reeser]; and rural guard or game warden [Fr. *garde champetre*] Jean Ponroi, 45.

Annette Surrault has gleaned details of the Bertrand properties from old documents. She described the layout of Bertrand's 900 hectares (2,223 acres) of land surrounding what is now Lagny. The names of some of the properties were derived from incidents or locations in the Egyptian campaign.

- Grand Lagny, the central property. 142 hectares (350 acres) farmed by Charles Delaveau. 700 sheep, 40 baskets of honey bees.
- Petit Lagny. 142 hectares (350 acres) farmed by Michael Zimmerman and Magdalena Erb. 480 sheep. Christoph Ehrisman, Christian Reeser, and Nicolas Maurer were servants or farmhands there.
- Lesbé. 76 hectares (187 acres) farmed by Johannes/Jean Müller.
- Sédiman. 91 hectares (224 acres) farmed by Niclaŭs Roth and Verena Zimmerman, then by their son Andreas/ Andrew Roth (found there as André Rhodes).
- In addition, footpaths led to Bertrand's farms at St. Valentin called Les Pyramides, Le Nil [Nile], and Le Caire [Cairo]. Michael Zimmerman's son Daniel worked on Le Nil des Lagny farm.

Wheat, oats, and barley were grown as crops, but seeding was rotated each year to prevent the depletion of specific trace elements. Land was reclaimed by the planting of nitrogen-fixating seed clover and alfalfa to restore nutrients to the soil; at the end of the season this growth was plowed under. Altogether the farms contained 804

sheep and 1,319 other animals. The experimental breeding of local sheep with Merino rams was deemed a failure in 1832.

Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth died at St. Valentin Jan. 6, 1834. His civil death entry created Jan. 7 described him as cultivator Nicolas Roth, 50, living at Lagny, the husband of Reine Zimmerman. It was witnessed by his son and cultivator André [later Andrew] Roth, 22, of Lagny; and son-in-law and cultivator Pierre Zer [Zehr], 23, of Lagny.

According to Surrault, a meeting of the town council of St. Valentin Feb. 1, 1835 considered burials in their cemetery. It was proposed that a line separate Catholics from non-Catholics, and the non-Catholics enter by a new second gate, but this was declined because "...on the other hand the dissidents are very small in number in the community, perhaps 40; they have no place of worship; their presence may be only temporary because none of them own land; and several have already emigrated." In the end a hedge was planted. Niclaŭs Roth is thought to be buried in this cemetery.

Why has it taken so long to identify the parents of Niclaŭs/Nicolas?

Fraud.

By 1810 the boundaries of France were stretched to their farthest extent. French troops occupied the Swiss Confederation, the Confederation of the Rhine, and the Duchy of Warsaw. But the British continued to blockade seaports. When goods passed to England through Spain and Russia, Napoleon Bonaparte made plans to attack them as well. Every man who was single was being inducted to occupy the vast land holdings. This resulted in many hastily-arranged marriages, whether or not the documents required by the French *état civil* administrative system were available.

Richwiller is 41 miles below La Croix-aux-Mines, on the northwest corner of the city of Mulhouse. On Feb. 26, 1810 a civil ceremony took place there for Nicolas Roth and Anne Marie Schmitt.

Their marriage entry described the groom as farm equipment operator Nicolas Roth, 20, born at La Croix-aux-Mines, a son of Nicolas Roth and the deceased Elisabeth Berse. The bride was Anne Marie Schmitt, 33, a daughter of Jean George Schmitt and Barbe Conrath of Richwiller. Witnesses included Chrétien Schlatter the older, Chrétien Schlatter the younger, and Pierre Schlatter, all three described as friends of the bride. The groom was illiterate, and signed with an 'x.'

But this was not Niclaŭs/Nicolas, the son of Niclaŭs/Nicolas Roth and his first wife Elisabeth Berse. We have already shown that he was born circa 1783, and married Verena Zimmerman in Baden circa 1808. Their first three children were born there in 1808, 1809, and 1811.

His mother was Elisabeth Berse, but she died in 1786. Someone supposedly born circa 1790, like the 1810 groom, should have known that.

So who was the illiterate 20-year-old who was married at Richwiller in 1810? Someone with access to names found at La Croix-aux-Mines. We looked for more specific information about what documents were provided from the pre-marriage postings. Unfortunately, they are missing at Richwiller for the period 1803-1816.

The Nicolas married in 1810 does not appear again in Richwiller records.

There is a further curious aspect to this. There were Roths living at Richwiller, descendants of Johannes Roth and Anna Maria Stŭckÿ. Some appear to have been Anabaptists. We could not determine their relationships to the family at La Croix-aux-Mines. And yet, recall the later associations between La Croix-aux-Mines and Bourtzwiller, an annex of Illzach – which is adjacent on the east side of Richwiller. Were both families, at Richwiller and La Croix-aux-Mines, helping a young man in a deception to evade military service?

But the more significant point is that a misleading marriage entry for a counterfeit Nicolas Roth, supposedly born circa 1790, has become a distraction over the years. Perhaps without it, we and others would have arrived much sooner at the accurate family placement of Nicolaŭs/Nicolas, born circa 1784.

With benefit of hindsight, we can see that there were clues that were not generally shared. His nephew Joseph Reinhard/Reinhardt/Reinhart was an illegitimate son of his younger half-sister Marie Madeleine Roth. Joseph lived in Elm Grove or Tremont for over 40 years, and is buried as Joseph Rinehart in the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove. His niece Barbe/Barbara Roth was a daughter of his younger half-brother André Roth. She is found as Barbara Eimen on the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Elm Grove.

Daughter Barbara Roth and her husband Peter Zehr sailed from Le Havre to New York in 1835. They accompanied the family of Joseph Risser and Magdalena Farny on the packet ship *Formosa.* See RISSER/REESER for more on the passenger list. The move may point to yet another connection between Amish Mennonites and French military officers: the Zehrs and possibly the Rissers first settled in Lewis County, New York, where Napoleon Bonaparte's older brother Joseph had owned substantial property from 1816 to 1835. See the Appendix, THE LEWIS COUNTY SETTLEMENT more on Lewis County.

Annette Surrault writes that when Fanny Dillon Bertrand died at St. Valentin March 6, 1836, an inventory of her possessions was taken and a census was created. A surviving document says that "...Müller, Zimmerman, and Riser [Risser] said they did not sign in consideration of the restrictions of their religion." Michel Zimmerman was named in this document.

Les Lagnys farms, St. Valentin:

110	*André Roch [Andreas/Andrew Roth] [actually 25]*		*39*
111	*Reine Bibymilaire, wife [Andreas's wife Barbe Müller]*		*21*
112	*Raine Bibymilaire [Frena Roth]*		*17*
113	*Raine Roch, widow of Zimmerman [Verena Zimmerman Roth, actually 46]*		*40*
114	*Pierre Roch [Peter Roth]*		*7*
115	*Anne Roch [Anna Roth]*		*9*
116	*Daniel Roch [Daniel Roth]*		*2*
118	*Nicolas Roch [Nicholas Roth]*	*Servant*	*23*

As a widow Verena Zimmerman also chose to emigrate. The packet ship François I sailed from Le Havre with only 17 passengers Jan. 26, 1837. It arrived at New York City March 10. Verena is noted on the passenger list as 'Ferenica Roth,' age 47, from Bavaria. Her five accompanying children were Nicolas [Nicholas], 23, farmer; Ferenica [Frena], 16; Anna, 10; Pierre [Peter], 8; and Daniel, 4.58 Her son Andreas/Andrew would immigrate via New Orleans only a month later.

Verena and her children traveled from New York City directly to Butler County, Ohio, where she had family connections. Two of her daughters had arrived there in 1830. KING, THE KÖNIGS OF NIMBURG shows how the Roth children and the Goldschmidt/Goldsmiths were cousins, sharing Johannes König and Barbara Roth as aunt and uncle. The Roth children's relationship to minister Benedict King of Collinsville, Butler County was less direct – his older brother Johannes had married Barbara Roth, their aunt – but they must have known him as a minister and the former leading elder in the Breisgau region.

According to the *Grantors Index*, sons Andrew and Nicholas paid $500 to Robert Bamber for property in what is now Section 20 of Washington Sept. 17, 1845. Verena may have accompanied them there, because she is known to have resettled in the Roberts settlement at Morton between 1844 and 1850.

VERENA AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

The Underground Railroad in Illinois was a loose association of people with a strong belief in the abolition of slavery. It originally existed to conceal fugitive slaves as they fled from the south to urban areas in the north.

In 1841 Queen Victoria issued a policy statement, "That every fugitive from United States slavery be recognized and protected as a British subject the moment his or her foot touched the soil of her domain." After this, the ultimate goal for escaped slaves became the Canadian border.

The *Revised Statutes of the State of Illinois Sections 3* and *9* stated that, "It shall be the duty of all coroners, sheriffs, judges and justices of the peace, who shall see or know of, or be informed of any such assemblage of slaves or servants, immediately to commit such slaves or servants to the jail of the county, and on view or proof thereof to order each and every such slave or servant to be whipped not exceeding thirty-nine stripes on his or her bare back." "If any slave or servant shall be found at a distance of ten miles from the tenement of his or her master, or person with whom he or she lives, without a pass or some letter of token whereby it may appear that he or she is proceeding by authority from his or her master, employer or overseer, it shall and may be lawful for any person to apprehend and carry him or her before a justice of the peace to be by his order punished with stripes, not exceeding thirty-five at his discretion."

According to Charles Chapman's *History of Morton*, "The Underground Railroad which began late in 1830 and ceased early in 1850 was operating in the Morton vicinity. This railroad originated in some of those causes which culminated in the Civil War... The Roberts settlement, one and one-half miles northwest of town, was one of the main stations."

The *Roth-Zimmernan Genealogy* states that Verena (Zimmerman) Roth, "When first arriving in the Morton area, lived several miles north of Morton [center], likely in this Roberts settlement." There is still a great deal of racial prejudice in the area today; the author can attest to some extremely awkward conversations on visits with family members. The genealogy was written 'discretely.' It is unlikely that Verena was unaware of her circumstances.

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[58] One source says that Nicholas and his wife Katharina/Catherine sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship Poland, arriving at New York June 12, 1839. It is implied that they were married in Europe after Nicholas had returned there from Butler County. However, the Poland passenger list shows Nicholas Roth, 25; and Catharine, 27. Katharina/Catherine Habecker was actually eight or nine years younger than Nicholas, and would have been only 16 at the time of the Poland voyage.

Chapman's *History of Tazewell County*: "Pro-slavery men complained bitterly of the violation of the law by their abolition neighbors, and persecuted them as much as they dared; and this was not a little. But the friends of the slaves were not to be deterred by persecution. 'The blood of martyrs is the seed of the church,' and persecution only made them more determined than ever to carry out their just convictions of right and duty. No class of people ever made better neighbors than the Abolitionists, or better conductors on a railroad."

The four adjacent farms of the Roberts settlement belonged to brothers (west to east) John Montgomery Roberts, Darius Phelps Roberts, Walter Basset Roberts, and Ambrose Bryant Roberts. The Roberts family had come from New York State, and first claimed their "improvement bordering on the Illinois timber land" in 1831. John M. Roberts purchased public land in the county five times between Aug. 27, 1831 and Feb. 29, 1836, totaling 288.23 acres at $1.25 per acre, less than $361 in all; in addition, the *Grantors Index* shows that he paid John E. Miller $157.16 for additional land Aug. 9, 1845, then again $410 Dec. 4, 1847.

Oldest brother John was known to be an ardent abolitionist, and it was later acknowledged that all four brothers were conductors. John's sister-in-law Eliza Wood Burhans published her recollections of living in his home and later at Tremont; see LIFE IN PRAIRIE LAND in the Appendix.

The homes of Josiah Matthews of Elm Grove and lawyer John Albert Jones of Tremont were often the first stations for fugitive slaves crossing Tazewell County. *History of Tazewell County* describes how federal marshals captured a mother and children as they rode in a wagon from the Matthews home north toward the farm of Uriah Crosby of Morton. The father and son on foot were picked up by John Roberts. He arranged for them to be taken to Peoria Lake to escape their pursuers. They eventually reached Canada. But the mother and her three children were taken to St. Louis and sold, "as the slave hunters could realize more by selling them than by returning them to the owner and receiving the reward."

Another time a fugitive slave arrived in Tazewell County alone. "A company [of fugitives] had passed on northward when a young man hastily came up. He had invented a cotton gin, and was in haste to overtake the others of the party as they had the model of his invention. He was separated from them by fright. J. M. Roberts found this young man in the morning hid away in the hay-stack, fed him, and sent his son, Junius, with him to hasten Mr. [Uriah] Crosby. On his arrival Conductor Crosby put him in his wagon, covered him with a buffalo robe, and drove through Washington and delivered him to Mr. Kern, who took him in an open buggy to the Quaker settlement. He overtook his companions."

Early History of Washington, Ill. and Vicinity tells a story about one Roberts home, Prairie Lodge: "John M. Roberts was quite an artist, and on the walls of his living room he painted scenes. There was a blind door at the side of the fireplace and back of that was a space in which he secreted Negroes. A master came searching for his slaves. Mr. Roberts' mother, an elderly lady, sat in a rocking chair in front of this door knitting. He [the master] said, 'I will not ask grandmother to get up.' He went away without finding his slaves, but later swore he could smell them, but not find them."

The Underground Railroad became more of a risk to the conductors in 1850. In that year the *Fugitive Slave Act* made the federal government responsible for apprehending fugitives. A conductor faced the possibility of a $1,000 fine and six months in prison. Escaped slaves could no longer blend into northern urban areas, and were forced to take more direct paths to the Canadian border. This made evasion much more difficult.

On May 30, 1854, Joseph Stecker/Staker and Verena's daughter Frena Roth purchased an improved farm in Section 17 of Morton from Joseph N.H. Campbell. On Sept. 12, 1854 son Nicholas Roth purchased the adjacent property from James Palmer. 'N. Roth' can be found in the northwest quarter of Section 17 on the 1864 plat map of Morton. The two farms were on the east side of the four farms that made up the Roberts Settlement, and one mile southwest of the home of Uriah Crosby.

The 1860 census of Morton shows Verena living nearby in the household of her youngest child Daniel Roth and his wife Catherine Ropp: Daniel Roth, 27, Germany; Catharine, 25, Illinois; Francis, 4, Illinois; Phoebe, 4, Illinois; Joseph, 2, Illinois; laborer Simon Deanig, 20, Germany; and Francis Roth, 70, Germany. On the 1864 plat map of Morton the property of 'D. Roth' is shown near the N. Roth and Staker properties, in Section 9. Their neighbors included Thomas Roberts, Christian Ackerman, John Oswald, and Uriah Crosby.

Niclaŭs Roth and Verena Zimmerman had at least 13 children from 1808 to 1833. Six died before 1837. The *Roth Family Bible* only provides a date of death for one (many of the entries were blurred by water damage).

1. Christian Roth was born in Baden May 14, 1808. He is known to us only as a crossed out note in the *Roth Family Bible*. He likely died young.
2. Nicolas Roth was born in Baden July 31, 1809. He is also found in the *Roth Family Bible* as a crossed-out name. He died before April 1815.
3. Andreas/André/Andrew Roth was born in Baden Dec. 9, 1811, and died Feb. 23, 1886. He is buried at the S. Apostolic Church Cemetery at Fairbury, Livingston County. On July 23, 1834 at St. Valentin he married Barbe Müller. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator André Roth, 22, born at Buggingen, Baden Dec. 19, 1811, living at Lagney with his mother, a son of the deceased Nicolas Roth, who in life had been a cultivator in this community and died here Jan. 7, 1834, and Reine [Verena] Zimmerman, who was present and consenng. The bride was described as Barbe Miller, 20, born at Buggingen Dec. 28, 1813, and a daughter of Jean Miller and Madelaine Aier [Eyer], who were present and consenting. Witnesses included cultivator Joseph Risser, 54; Pierre Zer [Zehr], 24; cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 52; and cultivator Christian Roth, 50. The groom signed 'André

Rhodes.' A copy of their passport was found at Châteauroux by Annette Surrault: Passport No. 37, Department l'Indre, issued at Châteauroux April 6, 1837. Cultivator André Rhodes accompanied by Barbara Miller his wife and Daniel Miller, 24 [Barbara's brother]. Native of Fribourg living at Lagny, St. Valentin. Destination Ohio. Age 25. Hair brown, eyes gray. Height 1.6 meters (5 foot-4 inches). Signed 'André Rhodes.' Larry Zimmerman found the passenger list of the Vaillant as it arrived at New Orleans from Le Havre April 14, 1837. It lists "Zimmmerman, wife and one child, two trunks" (Daniel Zimmerman and Magdalena Müller) and "Rohodes and wife, also two trunks" (Andreas/André/Andrew Roth and Barbe Müller). We could not determine the date of Barbe's death. On April 24, 1842 in Butler County he remarried to his cousin Ann/Anna Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Peter Naffziger. She was born at Auggen June 21, 1818, and died June 9, 1884, a daughter of Andrew F. Zimmerman and Anna Müller. He became the first of his family to move west from Ohio, resettling at Washington, Tazewell County in 1844. He may have been accompanied by his cousin Benjamin Goldschmidt/Goldsmith, who also resettled at Washington about that time. The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows the household of farmer Andrew Rhodes, 39, Germany; Anne, 30, Germany; Nicolas, 7, Ohio; Anne, 6, Ohio; Barbara, 3, Illinois; and Peter, 10 months, Illinois. 'Andreas' Roth can be found in Public Domain Land Tract Sales records of Tazewell County, as the claimant of 40 free acres at Washington Sept. 9, 1852. 'Andrew' Roth can be found on the same lists, gaining 40 more free acres there Aug. 6, 1853. On Aug. 7, 1854, he purchased another 40 acres from John Wilson for $1,200. Andrew and Ann had eight children (according to a hand drawing by Daniel Roth in the *Roth-Zimmerman Genealogy*). On May 24, 1856 Andrew submitted a Declaration of Intent for Naturalization at Pekin. He described himself as a 44-year-old who had owed his allegiance to the Duke of Baden. As an Apostolic Christian (also called 'New Amish') he "...was reported to have remained in the house-yard at the funeral of his mother, Veronica [Verena], who had remained a member of the Amish Mennonite church" (*Roth-Zimmerman Genealogy*). One son, Daniel Roth, became an Apostolic Christian minister.

4. Magdleine Roth (as her name is found) was born at Buggingen Dec. 12, 1812, and died 12 days later. She is listed in the Buggingen *Kirchenbuch*. Her entry in the family Bible has been obliterated by water damage.
5. Barbara Roth was born at Buggingen Dec. 28, 1813, and died Sept. 21, 1888. Her birth is recorded in the Buggingen *Kirchenbuch*. It notes that Verena Zimmerman was the mother of Barbara and Nikolaus [Jr.], mentioning that there was "yet another older child [Andreas/Andrew] who was not registered because Mennonite." The details of her marriage were given earlier. Peter Zehr attended medical classes in Paris. They sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York on the packet ship Formosa Dec. 28, 1835. Their first child Andreas/Andrew was born Dec. 16, 1835 on the transatlantic voyage; other children include Barbara 1837 (who married Daniel Eymann/Eiman), Peter birth date unknown, Magdalena 1846, Joseph 1848, Christian 1852, and Anna 1854. They were accompanied by Peter's mother Magdalena/Madeleine Farny and her second husband Joseph Risser; and 11-year-old John Forney and 7-year-old Magdalena Farni, the illegitimate children of Peter's cousin Marie Farny of Singling (the biological father is thought to be Joseph Risser; see RISSER/REESER). Peter and Barbara first settled at Croghan in Lewis County, N.Y. One of the earlier settlers who might have eased their transition was Peter's older stepbrother Michael Zehr, who had become a minister there. Michael and his wife, Anne Jantzi of Belgrade farm, had arrived in America in 1833. Peter continued to study medicine and was ordained as a minister by minister/elder Joseph Farny. According to Lorraine Roth, Peter and Hans/Jean/John Jantzi made a trip from Lewis County to Canada in June 1837. She also writes that Peter, Barbara and their children may have visited Butler County, Ohio in 1838 or 1839, before they moved to Wilmot, Ontario in 1839. Kennels, Jantzis, and Gerbers from Lewis County also resettled at Wilmot. Peter became the first minister of a congregation at South Easthope, Perth County; this later became the East Zorra Mennonite Church (East Zorra is adjacent but over the line in Oxford County). Peter Zehr and Barbara Roth traveled to Illinois in 1871, where he attended the *Diener Versammlung* assembly of ministers, and visited their daughter Barbara living at Elm Grove. Barbara died in 1888, and Peter died in 1898. For more information about the Zehrs, see the article Dr. Peter Zehr's European Ancestry in the April 1994 issue of *Mennonite Family History*. *Herald of Truth*, Feb.15, 1898: "Dr. Peter Zehr – The township of South Easthope lost one of its very oldest and most highly respected residents on Sunday morning, January 2, 1898, by the death of Brother Peter Zehr at his home, lot 11, con. 2, aged 89 years and 8 months. He was widely known throughout this entire section, and while the sorrow of his death is general yet it is mitigated by the knowledge that after a long, useful and happy life, a good man has gone home. Deceased was born in the then French province of Lorraine in 1808, and was therefore about seven years old at the time of the battle of Waterloo. He chose medicine as a profession and underwent a thorough study in his youth. In 1831 he was married to Barbara Roth. He emigrated with his family, landing in Lewis Co., New York, 62 years ago. After remaining there for three years he came to South Easthope, Perth Co., Ontario, in 1836, settling on the farm upon which he died. The township was then a wilderness and he had to make his way through the woods to Goderich to get the title to his land. Being a prudent, hard-working man he accumulated a competency besides placing each of his four sons upon farms and providing for his daughters. His family consisted of four sons and three daughters of whom one son and two daughters preceded him to the grave; four children, 41 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren survive. A year ago the old minister's' rugged health gave way before the encroachments of old age and since that time he has gradually failed until the end came. He was a strong Christian character and for about 67 years he was a preacher in the Amish Mennonite church. His funeral drew out an immense gathering at the East Zorra Amish Mennonite M. H. from far and near who came to pay their last tribute of respect to the departed friend

whose kindness and skill and generosity had brightened the lives of so many in this section. Funeral services by Chr. Litwiller from Mark 12:26, 27 and by Jacob M. Bender from John 17:3."

6. Nikolaus/Nicholas Roth was born at Buggingen April 25, 1815, and died at Washington Feb. 3, 1894.
7. Anna Roth was born at Mengen Jan. 18, 1817, and died Nov. 2, 1821. Her birth entry was witnessed by Johannes von Condé [von Gunden] and Ulrich von Condé of Alsace.
8. Johannes Roth was born June 8, 1818, and died Aug. 7, 1818. His birth entry with a death notation was also found in the records of the Protestant Reformed Church at Mengen. (An entry in the family Bible may have been obliterated by water damage). Witnesses were Ulrich von Condé of Alsace and Johannes Müller of Ginzling, born at Mangau.
9. Frena Roth was born July 3, 1819. She married Joseph Stecker/Staker. The Froschauer *Bible* handwritten entry of her birth: "*die Frena Rothin ist gebohren den 3ten Heimonath im Jahr Christy 1819*" ("Frena Roth was born the 3rd of July in the year of Christ 1819"). Like Verena, Frena is equivalent to Veronica or Veronika. See STAKER for background on this couple.
10. Joseph Roth was born Jan. 20, 1822. He is only known from the *Roth Family Bible*; he likely died young.
11. Anna Roth was born May 24, 1826, and died Sept. 14, 1887. She married Christian Gerber (1819-1907) on Oct. 25, 1844. They had 10 children. They are buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove. See GERBER for background on this couple.
12. Peter Roth was born at Mers-sur-Indre, Indre Jan. 11, 1830, and died Aug. 9, 1901. His civil birth entry created Jan. 12 identified him as Pierre Rhodes, and his parents as Nicolas Rhodes and Renette Cinasmonne [Verena Zimmerman]. Nicolas was described as a cultivator living on Chanteloube farm. Witnesses included Joseph Ris [Risser], 48, and Christophe Rodes [Christian Roth], 45, both cultivators living on Chanteloube farm. Both witnesses said they did not know how to sign their names. On Feb. 8, 1857 in Tazewell County Peter married Jakobina 'Phoebe' or 'Bena' Naffziger; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born in Butler County Jan. 9, 1836, and died at Panola Jan. 17, 1928, a daughter of minister Jacob Naffziger (brother of 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger) and Barbara Krehbiel. They had nine children. His family can be found on the 1860 census of Morton: Peter, 31; Jacobina, 24; Sam, 6; Lydia, 2. *El Paso Journal*, Aug. 17, 1901: "Last Friday night at 10:30 o'clock occurred the death of a well known and highly respected citizen of Panola township in the person of Mr. Peter Roth. Mr. Roth was born in Alsace, Germany Feb. 12, 1829. His father died when Peter was four years of age, and three years later Mrs. Roth brought her children, Peter being third in order of birth to America. They were forty two days on the ocean landing at New York City, and locating in Butler County, O. Peter was early compelled to earn most of his own living. At the age of 16 he commenced to make his own way, first as a farm laborer for a period of twelve years. In 1856 he came to Tazewell county, this state, and soon after married Miss Bena Naffziger, which event occurred Feb. 8, 1857. To them nine children were born, six of whom with their mother are living. The three who preceded their father to the great beyond were Peter, Jr.: Lydia, wife of John Krug and William. The six living children are Daniel, John, Jacob, Mrs. S.E. Schertz, Mrs. Jas. Holt and Ella, the latter living at home. The family moved to this county in 1874 and have lived in Panola Township ever since. The funeral services were held in Shiloh Church last Monday morning at 10 o'clock, Revs. Lackland, of Gridley: Schantz, of Hudson, and Egle, of Waldo officiating. A large number followed the remains to the Baughman Cemetery, where the interment took place." *El Paso Journal*, Jan. 26, 1928: "Mrs. Peter Roth Sr. An Aged and Respected Lady Passes to Her Final Reward Last Week. Mrs. Peter Roth Sr. died at her home in Panola township January 17, aged 92 years and nine days. On December 20, 1927, she was stricken with apoplexy and had since been confined to her bed. Jacobena Naffsiger was born in Butler county, Ohio, January 6, 1836. In her early youth she came with her parents to Partridge Township, Woodford County and was married to Peter Roth February 8, 1857. The new home was made near Morton, Tazewell County, where they resided until 1874 when they moved to the present home near Panola, where the deceased had since resided. Mr. Roth died August 9, 1901. Nine children were born to this union, three of whom preceded the parents in death..."
13. Daniel Roth was born on Petit Lagny farm at St. Valentin, Indre Feb. 5, 1833, and died at Morton Feb. 10, 1922. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Nicolas Roth of Petit Lagny, St. Valentin, and Reine Zimmerman; it was witnessed by older brother and cultivator André (later Andrew) Roth, 21, Lagny; and cultivator Pierre Zer [Zehr], 23, Lagny. Daniel became a well-known minister of the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Church. From the *Roth-Zimmerman Genealogy*: "Mr. Roth was a man about five foot, nine inches tall, of fair weight, with a long Amish style beard. Both it and his hair inclined to be red. Red in German is 'Roth,' and this is an inherited trait." The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows laborer Daniel Rhodes, 17, Germany. On Feb. 27, 1855 in Tazewell County he married Catherine 'Katie' Ropp; the ceremony was performed by her father. She was born at Pekin Dec. 27, 1835, had nine children including a set of twins, and died at Dillon March 25, 1885, a daughter of Andrew Ropp and Jacobena Vercler. On Sept. 15, 1887 he remarried to Lisette Goldschmidt/Goldsmith. She was born at Allschwil (on the Swiss side of the border with Hegenheim) Oct. 27, 1854, and died at Morton Sept. 11, 1923, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Goldschmitt and his second wife Maria Zimmerman. She had immigrated with her sister Catherine and brother-in-law Benoit Stucky in 1882; see STUCKY or ZIMMERMAN for background. Their two children were Amelia, born at Morton May 5, 1889, died at Morton in 1955; and Samuel Raymond, born July 7, 1891, died at Morton in 1963. The 1860 census of Morton shows Daniel Roth, 27; Catherine, 25; Frances, 4; Phoebe, 4; and Joseph, 2. The value of their farm was appraised at $2,700, and personal possessions at $200. Their daughter Jakobina, also known as 'Bena' ('Phoeba' is found on the county marriage record) married Nicholas Staker, a son of

Nicholas Staker on March 7, 1880.59 Their grandson Roy Daniel Roth was a pastor of the Pleasant Hill Church at East Peoria, and later became president of Hesston College. *Gospel Herald*, March 2, 1922: "Roth. - Daniel Roth was born in France Feb. 5, 1833; died at his home in Morton, Ill., Feb. 10, 1922; aged 89 y. 5 d. Brother Roth came to America with his widowed mother when but four years of age. For a few years they lived in Ohio but later moved to Tazewell Co., Ill., where he lived the rest of his life. He was one of the pioneer settlers of this country, experiencing many of the privations and hardships of those early days, having been enabled to see the changes in the community in the course of its development from raw prairie to the thickly settled, modernized farms and towns of today. This can be better understood when we remember how he often related the fact that he helped to cut wheat with the cradle on the ground where the town of Morton now stands. He accepted Jesus as his personal Savior when a young man, uniting with the Mennonite Church. His Christian character won the respect of his fellow Christians, being called to the ministry by his church in which capacity he served them until the infirmities of old age settled upon him, having been a faithful shepherd of the flock and remaining loyal to his Master until called by death. In the year 1855 he was married to Catherine Ropp, who preceded him in death in 1885. This union was blest with nine children. In 1887 he was married the second time to Lisette Goldsmith. Two children were born to this union. He leaves his loving wife, eleven children, 43 grandchildren, and 25 great-grandchildren, and a large concourse of neighbors and friends. The children were all in attendance at the funeral. They are Mrs. Fannie Hieser, Mrs. Phoebe Staker, Joseph, Amos, Jacob, Mrs. Louisa Rich, Mrs. Katie Rediger, Daniel, Mrs. Mary Teuscher, Amelia, and Samuel. The funeral was largely attended, conducted by Bro. C. F. Derstine at the home, and at the church by Bro. Derstine and Bro. Simon Gingerich. Texts, *Eccl. 12:5*; *Psa. 90*; *Phil.1:21*." From the *Roth-Zimmerman Genealogy*: "He was chosen minister by the Dillon Creek congregation and served till the close of his life. His preaching was all in German and in his lifetime he saw the church make the complete change from the old ways to the modern; from all German to English; from the assembly in the home to the church houses; from our hook and eye days to buttons everywhere; from everything so plain and simple, so just like old Germany, until today, when the show begins in a sort of immaculate polish on the car as it rolls up to the door and lasts till most of the benediction is forgotten." *Gospel Herald*, October 1923: "Sister Lisetta Goldsmith Roth was born in Switzerland, Oct. 27, 1854; died at her home at Morton, Ill., Sept. 11, 1923; aged 68 y., 10 m., 14 d. In 1882 she with he sister came to America and made her home in Gridley, Ill., later coming to Washington of the same state, where she was united in marriage with Daniel Roth. To this union two children were born: Miss Amelia, who remained at home with her mother and Samuel R., who also resides in this immediate community. Besides the above named children she leaves one sister, nine step-children, one grandchild, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her death. Early in life she united with the Amish Mennonite Church and remained faithful to her profession till death. In life she always manifested deep interest in spiritual things, and during her final illness expressed an earnest desire to leave the world and be at rest. Her husband preceded her in death by nearly one and a half years, and after his departure she took consolation in her children and found comfort in the hope of salvation through her Savior in Whom she had trusted during her Christian life. Funeral services were held at the home, Sept. 14, by Bro. S.C. Yoder of Kalona, Ia., and at the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Church by Bros. Sam Gerber and S.C. Yoder." Daniel and his two wives are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.

Nikolaus/Nicholas Roth was born at Buggingen April 25, 1815, and died at Washington. Feb. 3, 1894. His birth record was found in the Buggingen *Kirchenbuch*.

He is described as a 23-year-old servant on the 1836 census of Lagny, St. Valentin.

His marriage to Katharina/Catherine Habecker is thought to have taken place in Butler County circa 1843, though no civil entry is found there. She was born at Trippstadt Dec. 27, 1823, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Dec. 2, 1888, a daughter of Johannes/John Habecker and Barbara Stalter. She had immigrated with her parents in 1831 (see HABECKER).

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows farmer Nicolas Rhodes, 35, Germany; Catherine, 26, Germany; Andrew, 6, Ohio; Barbara, 3, Illinois; Fanny, 3, Illinois; Caleline [Caroline], one month, Illinois; and laborer Daniel Rhodes [Nicholas's younger brother], 17, Germany. They lived next to brother Andrew Roth and Anna

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[59] Several of the participants at the 2003 Staker reunion in Morton were descendants. *Gospel Herald*, Jan. 8, 1925: "Sister Jacobina Staker, daughter of the late Daniel Roth, was born near Morton, Ill., Feb. 14, 1856; fell asleep in Jesus Dec. 24, 1924; aged 68 y. 10 m. 10 d. She accepted Jesus as her personal Savior in her youth and united with the Mennonite Church remaining a loyal and faithful member to the end. In the year 1880 she was united in matrimony to Nickolas Staker. To this union were born nine children, four of whom preceded her to the Great Beyond. She leaves to mourn her departure her husband, five children, 15 grandchildren, five brothers, five sisters, and many other relatives and friends. The children surviving her are: Mrs. Ed. Backman, Tiskilwa, Ill.; Mrs. Chris Yoder, Morton, Ill.; Daniel, Mrs. Joseph Kurtz, and Mrs. Otto Gerber, all of Tremont, Ill. Our beloved sister lived a devoted Christian life and was a kind and sympathetic mother. The church and community are bereft of a devoted sister and loving friend. Our loss is her gain. May we all meet her in heaven. Funeral services were held Dec. 26 at the home and at Pleasant Grove Mennonite Church, by Bros. Samuel Gerber and Jonas Litwiller. Text, *II Cor. 5:1-10*. Interment at Pleasant Grove Cemetery."

Zimmerman, and are found on the same census page as Peter Good, Benjamin Redger [Rediger], and Jacob Ower [Oyer], indicating that the community was Washington.

The Tazewell County *Grantor's Index of Deeds* lists land purchases by Nicholas Roth from brother Daniel Roth ($235 on May 24, 1852); Daniel Stauffer ($850 on Sept. 21, 1853); J.B. and J.J. Reidiger ($1,050 on Feb. 25, 1854); Michael Mosiman ($1,050 on Feb. 25, 1854); and James Palmer ($590 on Sept. 12, 1854).

The 1860 census of Washington has farmer Nicholas Roth, 44, Germany; Catharine, 37, Germany; Andrew, 14, Ohio; Barbara, 13, Ohio; FHenry Luce, 13, Ohio [this was a garbled entry - an 'F' is written over the 'H' - for Barbara's twin Fanny, and the word 'twin' is bracketed around them]; and labourer John Luce, 21, Germany.

Nicholas attended the assembly of ministers at Danvers in 1866, as a representative of the Dillon Creek congregation. As a minister, he fellowshipped with minister Henry Egly (1824-1890), who founded the Defenseless Mennonite Church of Berne, Indiana in 1865-66. Influenced by Egly, Nicholas may have withdrawn from the Dillon Creek congregation as early as 1868. He collaborated with minister Michael Mosiman to establish a congregation bridging Mosiman's Busche Gemeinde with families in Groveland and Morton.

A building for the Egly Amish Church in Groveland was constructed in 1879 (later called the Defenseless Mennonite Church, and the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Groveland, presently inactive as its congregation has merged with the First Mennonite Church of Morton; see STAKER).

The 1870 census of Washington shows farmer Nicholas Roth, 55, Baden; Catharine, 47, Germany; and Fanny, 23, Illinois. The family before them on the census page was that of brother Andrew Roth; the family following them was son Andrew Roth, 26, Illinois; and Barbaray [Staker], 27, Ohio. Late in life Nicholas and Catherine lived with their oldest son Andrew and his wife Barbara Staker, a daughter of Joseph Stecker/Staker and Frena Roth. The 1880 census of Washington listing the household of Andrew Roth includes retired farmer Nicholas Roth, 65, and Catherine, 57, born in Bavaria.

They are buried together in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Children of Nicholas Roth and Katharina/Catherine Habecker include:

1. Andrew Roth was born in Butler County, Ohio Feb. 8, 1844, and died April 27, 1911. On March 12, 1865 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Staker; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. Since Nicholas was Frena Roth's older brother, this was a marriage of cousins as well as next-door neighbors. She was born at Hamilton, Butler County Jan. 26, 1841, and died Jan. 26, 1918, a daughter of Joseph Stecker/Staker and Frena Roth. The couple lived in Groveland Center, just north of the farm of Barbara's brother Christian. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
2. Veronika 'Fanny' Roth (twin) was born at Washington April 26, 1847, and died there April 8, 1922. On Jan. 2, 1877 in Tazewell County she married Ernst/Ernest Schmalenberger. He was born at Brooklyn, N.Y. Dec. 7, 1852, and died at Morton in August 1889 (headstone date), a son of Heinrich Schmalenberger and Elizabeth Stalter. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. Fanny shares a joint headstone with her daughter Katie, who died three days later.
3. Barbara Roth (twin) was born at Washington April 26, 1847, and died at Harper, Kansas Sept. 1, 1920. On Dec. 18, 1863 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Smith; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was born at what is now Congerville May 23, 1843, and died at Harper Jan. 3, 1889, a son of Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith and Magdalena Schrag/Schrock. They are found on the 1880 census of Morton as Joseph Smith, 37, born in Illinois to German parents; Barbara, 32, born in Illinois to parents from Alsace and Bavaria; and seven children born in Illinois. They lived next door to Barbara's aunt Frena Roth Stecker/Staker (now 1000 W. Jefferson Avenue), and Peter Oyer and Anna Garber. Joseph and Barbara are buried in the Christian Apostolic Cemetery at Harper.
4. Caroline Roth was born at Washington in 1850, and died young. 'Caleline' appears as a one-month-old on the 1850 census of Tazewell County. She may be buried in Roberts Cemetery.

Nicholas Roth purchased the property between the Roberts brothers and his brother-in-law Joseph Stecker/Staker. The 1830-1886 diaries of John Roberts (1807-1886) are being edited by his great-great-great grandniece Marilyn Gottwald of Peoria.

John's journeys began at Blenheim, N.Y. Aug. 21, 1830. He traveled through Illinois to St. Louis and New Orleans, then back to New York, and finally to Illinois where he picked out the land that became the family farms. On the second trip he brought his parents, wife, three brothers, and a sister. In his diary he commented on Indian mounds, prices, weather, the Black Hawk War of 1832, and the abolitionist movement.

A few excerpts:

Sept. 11, 1830 at Olean, N.Y.: "I proceeded on my journey, and passed through Newtown, which is quite a pretty village. One sidewalk is paved... I met a man who was returning from Illinois. He talked quite discouragingly. He said I would curse the day in which I started. I then felt rather dejected, but still determined to see the country."

Nov. 7, 1830: "At length arrived at Cincinnati, which is 65 miles from Maysville, Kentucky, and 110 miles from Kentucky line. One thing is a little remarkable here. We started from Olean [N.Y.] on Sunday, the next Sunday arrived at Franklin [N.Y.] half-way to Pittsburgh, next Sunday arrived at Pittsburgh, next Sunday at Wheeling, next Sunday at Marietta [Ohio], next Sunday at Burlington [Ohio] at the Kentucky line, and finally at Cincinnati on the 6th Sunday. I am now over 1,100 miles from home."

Dec. 10, 1830 in Illinois: "Snow falls plentious this morning. At last turns into hail. There are many curiousities in Illinois. Remains of fortifications, walls, human bones, etc. In one place on the side of a hill, some hunters discovered a stone standing outside of a mound. They took it down and entered a room 20 ft. square where they judge were five or six cartloads of human bones...."

Dec. 11, 1830 on the Illinois prairie: "The prospect is sublime beyond description. There are two kinds of wild plum, crab apple, pawpaw, persimmon, black and white walnut, black and white oak acorn, pecan for wild turkeys, etc., geese, prairie hens, wolves, foxes; black, moccasin, and adder snakes, etc. abound. The streams are full of fish – cat, buffalo, pike, pickerel, bass, etc."

Dec. 29, 1830 in Illinois during the Great Snow of 1830: "Snow falls from abundance coming from the south. Yesterday clear...Flannel worn next to the skin both summer and winter are the antidote to the endemics of the climate. Winter generally sets in about the 10th of November and lasts till the last of February, though hard frosts and even snows are common from October to March... Northern people, after living here two years, generally enjoy a good degree of health. Those living on the borders of great waters are seized with diseases generally of the intermittent kind. Those from the southern and middle states are subject to those disorders, especially the first settlers after their arrival. The settlers of all descriptions who settle themselves in the interim at a distance from any large body of water are seldom attacked by endemics."

Dec. 31, 1830 at St. Louis during the Great Snow of 1830: "A severe cold morning. A heavy snow squall last evening. The Missourians say this is far the hardest winter for upwards of 25 years."

March 26, 1831 on the Mississippi River: "The planters' houses are elegant and the slave houses are arranged in rows, all of them the same size. Some of them are all framed and painted white. In the rear of the two rows of slave houses is the planter's mansion – in front the overseer, in the center a beautiful park the width of the plantation. There now are one mile and more large droves of slaves plowing and hoeing the cane and cotton. The river here is much narrower than at St. Louis. It is not more than a half-mile, in some places less, very narrow. From Natchez down, no islands. Water even with the banks within 30 miles. Every now and then, we see sloops, schooners, and barges trading on the shore for cotton and sugar. Met seven or eight steamboats today. On every plantation we see 50 or 60 negroes, women and men at work hoeing cane, etc."

March 27, 1831 at New Orleans: "Have walked over a good part of the city. Words alone will not admit of a correct detail of this place. Stores and shops all open, music sounding, fiddling and dancing in the streets, no attention to the holy day. All noise and confusion in the markets. More than two-thirds of the inhabitants colored – negroes, mulattoes, Indians. Indian in all kinds of costumes, some almost naked. The city is below the surface of a river, defended in front by a wide levee. Buildings similar to those of New York, though in some places the French and Spanish style still exist..."

March 31, 1831: "Walked about some and went through the markets, etc. I saw yams, bananas, pineapples, oranges, lemons, figs, besides a number of other fruits and nuts which I do not know the names of. This evening a schooner came up and lashed alongside of us loaded with slaves for the market. I looked on them with pity. I saw several of them sold. Too sad!!"

Aug. 23, 1831 in what became McLean County: "My father and I started for the Fox River country, passing through Dry Grove and Staat's Grove [Stout's Grove, later Danvers] and Mackinaw town, and crossed the Mackinaw. The river was quite high – up midside to our horses and a very rapid current. I feared trouble. Pursued onto the Illinois timber toward Fort Clark [Peoria]. Put up for the night."

Aug. 24, 1831 in what became Morton: "Examined some land and at last bargained for an improvement bordering on the Illinois timber. The flies are being very troublesome. We returned to our family. Thirty miles in the evening, came to the Mackinaw River and found it had risen about one foot. After much deliberation, we ventured to cross it. Nearly swam our

horses – it was four feet deep and a powerful current. Came to the house where we had left our family, and found them gone. We at last found them in another house three-quarters of a mile distant."

The following day Roberts stopped by the Illinois River to make a sketch of Peoria. Though Roberts died in 1886, his sketch was used as the basis for a mural painted in Peoria City Hall during its construction in 1898. No doubt Roberts would have been astonished at the $50,000 commission paid to the artists.

April 22, 1832 on his farm, hearing news of what became the Black Hawk War: "Yesterday received a letter from N.P. Tyler. News comes from disturbance at Rock Island with the Indians. Men are rendezvousing at Fort Clark, and from Beardstown to Naples."

May 14, 1832: "Our troops had a battle with the Indians; ten killed, one missing. Captain Adams of our company killed. Pleasant weather about these days."

May 24, 1832: "Again called up to go against the Indians on Fox River. Nearly every family above here is moving away from the Indians, even from Black Partridge. Last Monday, there were 16 persons massacred on Indian Creek, about 13 miles from the mouth of the Fox River."

June 1, 1832: "Our neighbors began to build a fort for their mutual defense against the Indians. There is great alarm throughout this country. The Menominees, together with the whites, are going to drive the Sioux out of Illinois."

Dec. 25, 1839: "Christmas. Attended church. After sermon by Rev. E.S. Huntington, Dr. Davidson delivered a lecture on temperance. In the evening I was appointed vice president of the [temperance] society. Went to Father Waters. Took supper. In the evening, visited Mr. Morst. Came home and got lost on the prairie, it being foggy and no road. Wandered around for about two hours or upwards, the horse was nearly tired out. Finally, the moon arose, which enabled me to tell where east was. I then, after a long while, came on a road which had a house, at nearly one o'clock."

May 20, 1842: "Mr. M took possession of the Presbyterian Church. Speeches by Elihu Chase and Moffat, Darins, Burton, etc. with swearing ruffians with clubs at the door to keep out all the abolitionists. We left Washington and went to Pleasant Grove. Had a discourse with Mr. Lovejoy and Dicky – 15 or 20 joined the society." *History of Tazewell County* (1879) retells this incident: “In those exciting days of the Underground Railroad, old Father Dickey and Owen Lovejoy, strong anti-slavery men, made an appointment to speak at Washington. On the notice of the meeting being announced, the pro-slavery men took forcible and armed possession of the church to be occupied by these speakers, and determined, at all hazards, to prevent the meeting from being held there. A prominent man of conservative views on the slavery question advised the anti-slavery men not to attempt to hold the meeting as they were determined to do, as the mob, he said, was frenzied with liquor, and he feared the consequences. So they concluded to go to Pleasant Grove Church, Groveland [the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, constructed on the south side of Allentown Road at Elm Grove in 1833] where they addressed one of the most enthusiastic anti-slavery meetings ever held in this part of the state. Owen Lovejoy was the operator of the day. The mob was determined to follow and break up that meeting also, but was deterred by being told that as the antislavery men were on their own ground they would fight, and doubtless blood would be shed.” James Henry Dickey (1780-1856) was a well-known minister from Delavan. He was the father of Theophilus Lyle Dickey (1811-1885), a prominent supporter of Stephen A. Douglas. For background on Owen Lovejoy, see OWEN LOVEJOY AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN in the Appendix.

Feb. 7, 1843: "22 degrees below zero. Some say 30 below."

Nov. 7, 1843: "Two colored men from St. Louis on their way to Canada came here – at night, sent them on. Received a letter from Eliza Farnham." Eliza Woodson Burhans Farnham, author of Life in Priarie Land (1846), was the sister of John’s first wife Mary Woodson Burhans Roberts.

March 18, 1844: "4 degrees above zero – it snowed 2 inches last night. Cold winter's day. The Erysipelas – or black tongue – grows worse in Pekin. Hardly a day without hearing of more or less death – truly the judgments of God are abroad in the land."

Oct. 20, 1844: "Three negroes came from St. Louis. Wind turned south – warmer. Snow not all gone yet."

Aug. 9, 1845: "Bought 80 acres of land. Attended an anti-slavery meeting at Dillon settlement. Rev. Mr. Skinner addressed this meeting." This may have been Universalist minister and reformer Otis Ainsworth Skinner of the Warren Street Church in Boston. In 1857 he became president of Lombard University at Galesburg.

Nov. 1, 1845: "Antislavery meeting at Morton school house. Lecture by Rev. Mr. Spencer. Dry, dry." This may have been abolitionist Levi Spencer, a Congregationalist minister at Bloomington and Peoria.

March 18, 1846: "Scott came after shrubbery. G. Parker taking the census. [Parker] Served a petition on R. Scott for harboring negroes. I count security for his appearance at court – bond of 400 dollars. Warm, with thunder showers."

May 6, 1846: "Another rain storm. Attended a mass meeting of the Abolitionists at Peoria – heard Mr. Codding and Mr. Blanchard lecture in the evening. A mob drove them out." Ichabod Codding was a lecturer for the American Anti-Slavery Society. He was one of the original publishers of the American Freeman, an abolitionist circular distributed from Milwaukee. Minister Jonathan Blanchard was a nationally-known abolitionist speaker who became president of Knox College at Galesburg in 1845.

June 1, 1846: "Every able-bodied man notified to appear at Tremont to raise volunteers for the Mexican war. War with all its horrors I feel is our doom."

Oct. 7, 1848: "Anti-slavery meeting at Morton Schoolhouse. Lecture by Mr. McCoy of Woodford County. Began gathering apples yesterday."

Nov. 14, 1848: "Four colored ladies from St. Louis came and Boggs and Oakley followed them to my house."

May 16, 1849: "Went to Peoria - cholera there pretty bad. Dreadful news from Cincinnati, St. Louis, and the canal of the fatality of the cholera - fearful times. Mary had a chill today – poor little girl. Commenced planting in the big field." See STEIDER for more on the cholera epidemic of 1848-49.

July 4, 1849: "Celebrated the day at Mr. Crandall's [Charles Crandall of Morton, an underground railroad operator]. Anti-slavery address – no temperance speeches. Fine dinner – good time."

June 6, 1854: "Anti-slavery meeting at Morton. I am to write to Frederick Douglass to get him to lecture to us." Douglass visited Illinois from Rochester, N.Y. later that year, as noted below. He spoke at Peoria in 1859, 1864, and 1870. In his autobiography he wrote that on one of the first two visits to Peoria he was forced to walk the streets all night to keep from freezing, after failing to find receptive accommodations. Discussing the first visits he wrote, "Perhaps there were Christian ministers and Christian families in Peoria at that time... In charity I am bound to say there probably were such ministers and such families, but I am equally bound to say that in my former visits to this place I had failed to find them."

June 26, 1854: "Anti-slavery meeting at Morton. Extremely hot weather – 102 degrees in the shade."

Oct. 17, 1854: "Mass anti-slavery meeting at Morton. Mr. Cooper addressed the meeting." Thomas Cooper was later elected town supervisor of Morton, with John Montgomery Roberts as town clerk. Roberts does not mention speeches by Abraham Lincoln and Senator Stephen A. Douglas at Peoria the previous day. The most widely reprinted quotation from Lincoln's speech was, "Although volume upon volume is written to prove that slavery is a very good thing, we never hear of the man who wishes to take the good of it, by being a slave himself." Lincoln spent Oct. 17 in a carriage traveling north to Lacon, where he expected to speak again with Sen. Douglas (the senator pleaded poor health and told Lincoln he could not appear; when Lincoln went on to other business, Douglas went immediately to Princeton, Bureau County where his speaking adversary was the bombastic abolitionist Owen Lovejoy). On Oct. 20, Frederick Douglass was scheduled to speak with Sen. Stephen A. Douglas in the First Congregational Church at Aurora, a reprise of the Lincoln-Douglas debate at Peoria. Apparently both were taken ill, and made only brief remarks.

Oct. 9, 1856: "Attended a Republican mass meeting in Peoria. Heard Lincoln and Senator Trumbull – Morton obtained the silk banner." Senator Lyman Trumbull's abolitionist views would be considered contradictory today. He supported the Illinois black codes restricting the movement of former slaves. He may be best remembered for the statement, "There is a great aversion in the West – I know it to be so in my state – against having free Negroes come among us. Our people want nothing to do with the Negro." However, he felt that the slave indenture system was immoral ("A crime against nature"), and held that both slave holders and slaves were morally damaged by their experiences. This had strong appeal to voters whose ancestors had worked off indenture contracts to pay for the immigration voyage. In 1864 Trumbull co-sponsored the bill that created the Freedman's Bureau to help former slaves find housing and later education. In 1865 he wrote the final draft of the Thirteenth Amendment declaring slavery and servitude illegal.

Nov. 1, 1856: "[Senator Stephen A.] Douglas spoke in Peoria – cannon firing all day."

Nov. 4, 1856: "Election day – great excitement. Fremont, Buchanan, and Fillmore."

Jan. 4, 1857 at Galesburg: "Heard Mr. Tyler preach and Dr. Beecher. Heard Mr. Bacon play church music." Minister Henry Ward Beecher used his position at the Plymouth Congregationalist Church in Brooklyn, New York to press for social reforms. He was an ardent abolitionist who supported the Free Soil Party, and later the Republican Party. In October of 1858 the Republican Party in New York was searching for a viable presidential candidate; Beecher acted as their representative when he invited Lincoln to speak at his church. The venue was changed to the Great Hall at Cooper Union at the last minute to allow a larger audience. During the Civil War, Beecher raised funds to equip an infantry regiment, lectured in England on abolitionism, and urged Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. His sister Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin.

June 15, 1858: "Went to Pekin for an Old Settlers meeting. Saw the oldest and first settlers in Tazewell County. Mr. Eades 78, and Mr. Dillon, Jacob Tharp aged 85. Had a good time." William Eads and Willam Davis constructed a grist mill at what is now Elm Grove in 1825. Tazewell County was incorporated in 1827. The headstone of Nathan Dillon at Dillon Cemetery says he was the "first white settler of Tazewell County, died June 17, 1868, aged 69 yrs. 11 mo. 23 d." (born June 24, 1798). He built the first cabin in Tazewell County on Dillon Creek in what is now Dillon in 1823. The headstone of Phoebe Crawford (1750-1827) in Weyhrich Cemetery at Elm Grove is the oldest in Tazewell County. She came to the area in 1824 after the death of her husband Jacob W. Tharp (1744-1793), with her son Jacob F. Tharp. Jacob was born at New Providence, N.J. Oct. 10, 1773, and died at Pekin Nov. 28, 1871.

Aug. 14, 1858: "Republican mass meeting at Tremont."

Aug. 30, 1858: "Republican Convention at Tremont. Lincoln and Kellogg spoke. Cool weather." This was only a local meeting. Lincoln had been nominated as a candidate for the Senate in the Republican State Convention at the Springfield Statehouse June 16, 1858, the same day he gave the extreme 'House Divided' speech that may have doomed his campaign. He debated Stephen A. Douglas at Freeport (near the Wisconsin border) Aug. 27. According to the brass plaque at the site, Aug. 30 was the last time he spoke at the Tremont Courthouse, where he had participated in many 8th Circuit trials. The second speaker was minister Hiram Kellogg, the first president of Knox College at Galesburg. In 1843 Kellogg served as one of nine U.S. delegates to the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London.

Diary pages for the period 1859-1871 have not been located.

April 2, 1872: "Joseph Staker died today." His next-door neighbor and brother-in-law, the son of Joseph Stecker (#1) and Barbe Farny, and husband of Frena Roth.

Sept. 10, 1872: "Went to Forpaugh Menagerie. John Ali sick." Adam Forpaugh (1831-1890) competed with P.T. Barnum. He was the first promoter to combine circus with wild west show. John Ali was the youngest of Roberts's children, born Dec. 11, 1853.

April 1, 1873: "Town meeting. Thomas Cooper Supervisor, J.M. Roberts Town Clerk. The 14th time we voted to build a town house."

March 21, 1874: "Joseph Staker died this morning." Joseph, the oldest son of Joseph Stecker/Staker and Frena Roth, was kicked by a horse during shoeing and suffered grave internal injuries. He and his father are buried in Roberts Cemetery.

Dec. 9, 1876. "Birthday – 70 years old. 14 below freezing. Last night saw an eclipse of Venus by the Moon – a curious spectacle. Shall never see again." Venus was next eclipsed by the moon June 8, 2004.

July 17, 1882: "Mrs. Abraham Lincoln died in Springfield last Saturday of apoplexy."

April 10, 1883: "Peter Cooper of New York died a few days ago. Called on Thomas Roberts, John Ali, and Crosby." Peter Cooper was an abolitionist, industrialist, inventor, and philanthropist who established the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City in 1858. He was also a supervisor at the laying of the first transatlantic telegraph cable, invented the first steam engine for a train built in America, and ran for president in 1876 on the Greenback Party ticket. Abraham Lincoln's address at Cooper Union Feb. 27, 1860 has been called 'the speech that made Lincoln president.' Lincoln spoke after Frank Blair and Cassius Clay. The 90-minute audition for New York Republicans convincingly demonstrated that he could hold an audience as well as the two well-known orators. They also noticed that his lean, well-reasoned style of speech made easily-readable newspaper copy. The following day the *New York Tribune* said, "No man has ever made such an impression on his first appeal to a New York audience." Frederick Douglass also spoke at Cooper Union, at a celebration following the issue of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

Oct. 22, 1886: "Frosty and clear."

John Montgomery Roberts died the following day. He is buried in Roberts Cemetery near his brothers Darius Phelps Roberts and Walter Basset Roberts. Brother Ambrose Bryant Roberts is buried at New Market, Iowa.

Branch Two CHRISTIAN ROTH

Christian Roth was born enroute to, near, or at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before 1715, and died in Alsace Sept. 25, 1762.

When we first laid out a schema of the Roth family, it had a wild card. There was someone we could not explain or place in the greater family. Yet there were too many coincidences to ignore: an association with Les Quelles, La Broque; marriages with the Mosiman family at Chazelles-sur-Albe; marriages with the Lehman family at Hattigny; and settlers Amish Mennonite meeting at South Easthope, Perth County, Ontario.

All that we know about Christian is that he has been identified by French genealogists in the appropriate time frame. They write that he married Maria Haushiger – or so the goose-quill handwriting on old documents appears.

We suspect but cannot prove that her surname was Hunzinger. In the Bernese dialect a *Hunzinger* is a dog handler. It was the stem that the more common Unzicker devolved from. When the council of Montbéliard wanted a census of Anabaptists families in 1723, they tasked Anabaptist miller Simon Huntziger, who held a lease in the city. Could a Hunzinger or Huntziger have gone to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines? The answer is an adamant 'yes' – at least one would have been very well known to the Roth family. The cemetery book for Fertrupt/Fortelbach says that on March 9, 1755 Anna Maria Huntzinger, who was born in the district of Montbéliard, died in childbirth. She was born circa 1725, the wife of Conrad Goldschmidt the knife smith (see GOLDSMITH).

Maria died in the vicinity of La Broque Dec. 22, 1778.

Their son **Hans/Jean Roth** was born circa 1739, and died at Hattigny, Moselle June 22, 1799.

Recall from ULRICH that Matthias Ulrich, born at Échery circa 1725, found work at a sawmill in the Boersh forest between the foundry town Klingenthal and Boersch, Lower Alsace. This location is adjacent to the Struthof at Natzwiller, a home to the Sommer family, but is also only 10 miles east of Les Quelles (then called aux Grevelles, now a part of La Broque). Peter/Pierre Ulrich, who was born circa 1741, found work at Les Quelles and Plaine in saw mills in the forest opening called Bambois de Plaine. This location was also a home to the Rŭpp/Ropp and Lehman/Lehmann fmailies.

On Nov. 3, 1772 at La Broque he married Marie Lehman. She was born at La Broque circa 1750, and died in a mill on the land adjoining Zufall castle (also called Hazard) at Lorquin (three miles northeast of Hattigny) July 9, 1811, a daughter of Rŭdi Leman and Barbe Joder.[60]

They apparently lived at Les Quelles until the French Revolution of 1789, when the Principality of Salm was occupied by French soldiers. Then they migrated 20 miles northwest to Hattigny, a vineyard community on the southern boundary of Moselle with Meurthe-et-Moselle. It is adjacent to Niderhoff, Métaires-St. Quirin, and St. Quirin.

We have not been able to view the text of Hans/Jean's civil death entry created at Hattigny, but the listing in their 10-year civil index of death entries on June 22, 1799 described him as cultivator Jean Rhod, 60.

Children of Hans/Jean Roth and Marie Lehman include:

1. Hans/Jean Roth was born Oct. 10, 1773 (likely at Les Quelles), and died at Landser, Upper Alsace Oct. 16, 1826. On July 5, 1793 at Hattigny he married Freni/Véronique Mosimann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmhand Jean Roth, 21, a son of cultivator-farmer Jean Rothe and Marie Laymann of the farm Boulieu at Hattigny. The bride was Freni Mosimann, 21, a daughter of Christianne Mosiman and Créte Litchi of the farm La Charmille at St. Quirin. The ceremony took place in their homes, and they were accompanied to the civil offices by Christian Layemann of the farm Boulieu, 32, and Joseph Leyman of Quevelle [now Les Quelles, La Broque], 22, both uncles of the groom; and Christian Mosimann, 30, and Michael Mosimann, 28, brothers of the bride and farmers at La Charmille. Signatures looked like Hans Roth and Hans Roth; Freny Mosiman signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate; Christan Leman, Michael Mosiman, Christan Lahman, and Joseph Lahman. Freni/Véronique was born on La Charmille farm at St. Quirin circa 1772, and died at Landser, Upper Alsace (two miles southeast of Mulhouse) March 16, 1839, a daughter of Christian/Christianne Mosimann and Marguerite Liechti. They lived on Risholz farm at Hattigny. Ferme Boulieu is still a valid address in Hattigny; Ferme de Risholtz is the name of a road and restaurant. His civil death entry described him as Jean Roth, a 54-year-old farmer, named his wife, and said he died in Maison No. 1, the home of the widow Müller. It also said he was born at Germain, Épinal, Vosges (adjacent to Golbey), but this ssems like an anachronism. In 1826 Épinal was the prefecture of the department of Vosges.

[60] Constructed circa 1500, Zufall Castle on the road to Abreschviller was destroyed during the Thirty Years War (1618-38), then rebuilt in 1785. It burned down in 1946.

Perhaps this reflected the sense of humor of the witness, his son Jean Roth, 38, as a step up for an Amish Mennonite sawyer and cultivator.

2. Christian Roth was born at La Broque Aug. 30, 1777, and died there in 1778.
3. Barbe Roth was born at La Broque July 30, 1778, and died there in the same year.
4. Christian Roth was born at La Broque Aug. 20, 1779. On Oct. 12, 1802 at Hattigny he married Elisabeth Barbe Maurer. She was born at the Boersch forest sawmill by the foundry town Klingenthal, Lower Alsace in 1778, and died at Métaires-St. Quirin May 25, 1846, a daughter of Jean Maurer and Madeleine Marie Condi [Conde, derived from von Gunten — both spellings and other variations found particularly in Salm]. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Christian Rote, 25, a son of the deceased Jean Rote and Marie Laiman. He was a resident of Hattigny. The bride was Elisabeth Mourne, 23, a daughter of Jean Mourne and Madeleine Conté, residents of Claine [Klingenthal]. Witnesses included cultivator brother of the groom Jean Rote, 30; maternal uncle of the groom and cultivator Christiane Laiman, 40, brother-ion-law; cultivator Jacquob Lhidvuleur, 40, brother-in-law; and Niclaus Mosiman, 36, a friend of the bride. Signatures looked like Christan Lehman, Jacob Litwiler, Michel Mosiman, Jacob Rote, and Barbara Maŭrerin. The residence of the bride's parents was described as 'Clainedal, Haut-Fain.' This may have been Klingenthal. If so, 'Jean Mourne' may have been the Johannes/Jean Maurer who is mentioned by J. Virgil Miller in *Both Sides of the Ocean*, born circa 1750, and found in 1780 on a leased farm "...at Rosheim, on the road to Strasbourg...He may have been the son of Johannes Maurer and Christina Fahrni, who were married at Bärbelstein [another name for Bewartstein Castle near Erlenbach in the Pfalz near the border of Lower Alsace] in 1720." The older Johannes was in turn the son of Michael Maurer (also found as 'Michel Murer'), who was born circa 1690 and was at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1763.
5. Rodolphe Roth was born at La Broque circa 1781, and died at Hattigny Feb. 4, 1794.
6. Marie Roth was born at Les Quelles, La Broque March 3, 1786, and died there April 29, 1837. On Oct. 15, 1805 at Lorquin she married Joseph Sommer. He was born at Les Quelles circa 1773, and died there Feb. 29, 1812, a son of Jean Sommer and Barbe Hisler. On Sept. 10, 1816 at La Broque Marie remarried to Joseph Scherique [Schürch]. He was born there April 5, 1795, and died at Cernay, Upper Alsace July 13, 1853, a son of André Scherich and Marie Prachpiller [Brechbühl]. Their marriage entry said she was born as Aux Guevelles. Her civil death entry described her as Marie Rode, 51, who had died at *aux Guevelles*, a daughter of the deceased Jean Rode and Marie Leiman, who had died at Lorquin. It was witnessed by farmer Joseph Schoerique, 41, of *aux Guevelles.*
7. Anne Roth was born at Hattigny Feb. 1, 1793, and died there Sept. 1, 1793. Her civil death entry was witnessed by brother Jean Roth, 21, and Christain Layemann, 32, both described as *anabaptiste* farmers.
8. Joseph Roth was born at Hattigny Aug. 8, 1794, and died there May 4, 1799.
9. Simon Roth was born at Hattigny Oct. 25, 1796, and died there April 26, 1799. His civil death entry described him as Simon Roth, aged two years and six months, a son of Jean Roth and Marie Laimann. It was witessed by Jean Rothe, 60, farmer at Risholz, and his son Jean 30, also at Risholz. Both signatures looked like Hans Roth.
10. **Rudolphe/Rudolph/Rŭdolf Roth** was born at Hattigny Jan. 23, 1799, and died at Wilmot, Ontario June 1, 1853.

Rudolphe/Rudolph/Rŭdolf Roth was born at Hattigny Jan. 23, 1799, and died at Wilmot, Ontario June 1, 1853.

His civil birth entry was witnessed by his father cultivator Jean Rothe, 51, and his mother was identified as Marie Laimanne.

On April 2, 1823 at Seppois-le-Haut, Upper Alsace he married Marie/Maria Litwiller. She was born at La Petite Pierre Oct. 29, 1797, and died at Wilmot Sept. 4, 1863, a daughter of Jacob Litwiller and Anne Marie Maurer.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Rudolph Roth, a resident of Landser who was born on the farm Risholz at Hattigny Jan. 23, 1799. His parents were the deceased Jean Roth, who died at Risholz June 22, 1799, and the deceased Marie Lehmann, who had died on Zufvald farm [the land adjoining Zufall castle] at Lorquin. The bride was Marie Litteviller, who was born at Petite Pierre Oct. 28, 1797. She was the daughter of the deceased Jacques Litteviller, who died at Tagsdorf Feb. 20, 1814, and Marie Murer, who was present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Chrétien Boshart, 36, a brother-in-law of the bride.

They resided at Largitzen, Upper Alsace until their emigration. Other Amish Mennonite couples at Largitzen were Christian Liechti and Madeleine Litwiller (Marie/Maria's sister), Jean Joder and Anne Marie Conrad, and Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eiman.

Their children born at Largitzen include:

1. Jean Roth was born July 20, 1824, and died at Largitzen May 25, 1826.
2. Anne Marie Roth was born Aug. 16, 1826, and died in Ontairo in 1891. On Feb. 2, 1851 she married Christian S, Miller. He was born at Wilmot Feb. 22, 1830, and died there Feb. 25, 1916. They are buried in Steinmann Mennonite Cemetery at Wilmot.

The father signed both birth entries as Rŭdolf Roth.

ROPP tells the story of how Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eiman journeyed from Largitzen to the German Block of Wilmot, Ontario in 1826. In 1827 the Roths sailed from Le Havre with an extended family on the brig *Abby Jones,* and arrived at New York July 12. They are found on the passenger list as Rudolf Rhodes, 28, farmer, destination Canada; Mary, 29; and Mary, 1. A list

They made their way to Wilmot, where they arrived in August. A census of Wilmot created by assessor John Hamacher 1830-34 (with spellings as found) has Rudolph Roth on Lot 9, Erb's Road South.

Rudolph was ordained a minister in 1835 and an elder in 1843. In 1850 he and his family left their congregation, and he became a bishop for the Reformed Mennonites.

REFORMED MENNONITES

The Reformed Mennonite Church was established in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania by John Herr in 1812. Herr was an extreme pacifist, and put almost as much emphasis on the writings of Menno Simons as on the *Bible.* The movement reached a peak membership of only 3,000 by the time Herr in 1850.

They have been called 'contrarian Amish' – a haven for those expelled from the Amish Mennonite community. Founder John Herr's own father was among those excommunicated from a mainline congregation.

Waterloo County and the surrounding area held a number of small Reformed Mennonite congregations. The Amish Mennonite custom had been to attend services in a home every second Sunday, leaving the odd Sunday to visit relatives. The smaller Reformed Mennonites groups met once every week, traveling more widely to meet in a variety of homes and later churches. By crossing counties they made new acquaintances and possibly found marriage partners.

Today the movement is numerically insignificant. Men do not wear beards, and concessions to modernity such as cell phones, computers, and automobiles are permitted. Attendance at public schools and universities is encouraged.

They are found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as Rudolf Roth, 54, France, yeoman, married; and Maria Roth, 54, France, married.

Last Will and Testament of Rudolph Roth of Wilmot Township, April 19, 1853.

...I the undersigned Rudolph Roth, dwelling in the Township of Wilmot, though being sick and weak in body, yet possessed of my good understanding, and also powers of recollection, memory and judgement... Whereas I am a mortal man, and I know not how soon I must leave this world, I hereby make and declare these presents as my last will and testament as follows.

First that my children which I do leave behind do walk at all times in the fear of God, in peace, love, humanity and in the right Christian and brotherly union, and first of all strive after the Kingdom of God and after his righteousness, and when the Giver of all good gifts will give as much unto you at all times, as you shall stand in need of… ...Secondly shall my wife Maria Litwiller have the privilege to take out of the household whatever she will for her use and benefit as long as she lives...

...Sixthly, he [the oldest son] shall keep for the mother one cow in pasture, to go with his own, also to keep her through the winter and feed her with hay, also for her own maintenance to give her every year twenty five bushels of good fall wheat, ten bushels of oats, three hundred pounds of pork with lard, twenty five dozen of eggs, the third part of the fruitage, to plant two bushels of potatoes and them to plough, to dig out and put into the cellar, the fourth part of the kitchen garden and also to manure it. He also must give her sixteen pounds of good wool, also to sow one peg of flax seed, likewise, has the mother the right as long as she lives to have her firewood cut down on the land as much as she wants, and he must haul it for her and put it into the woodshed...

...Minor children, namely Joseph and Magdalene stand under the oversight of the Executors, until they be on age, and my daughter Magdalene shall nurse the mother and remain with her until she be on age. As my Executors I nominate Nicolas Lichty and John Hundrich.

They are buried in Saint Agatha Mennonite Cemetery in Waterloo County.
Children born at Wilmot include:

3. Veronica Roth was born at Wilmot July 3, 1828, and died there May 6, 1916. In 1850 she married minister John G. Honderich. He was born in Ontario Dec. 22, 1825, and died Feb. 20, 1907, a son of Christian Honderich and Margretha Gingerich. They are buried in New Hamburg Reformed Mennonite Cemetery in Waterloo County.
4. Christian L. Roth was born at Wilmot May 10, 1830, and died there Oct. 4, 1906. On Dec. 19, 1852 he married Magdalena Lichti. She was born July 11, 1833, and died Nov. 15, 1893, a daughter of Nicolas Liechti/Nicholas Lichti and Anna Ernst. They are buried in Saint Agatha Mennonite Church Cemetery.
5. Catharina Roth was born in 1831.
6. Joseph Roth was born in 1838, and died after 1853.
7. Magdalena Roth was born June 9, 1842, and died in 1903. On Oct. 5, 1858 she married John Schultz. He was born at Wilmot in 1834, a son of John Schultz and Magdalena. On Sept. 3, 1883 widow Magdalena remarried to widower

Christian Hostetler. He was born at Wilmot March 16, 1845, and died there May 18, 1916, a son of Moses Hostetler and Margaret Latschaw [Lörtscher]. He had earlier been married to Elizabeth Goetz and Elisabeth Zimmerman.

Branch Three NICLAŬS ROTH

Niclaŭs Roth was born enroute to, near, or at Échery, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before 1715.

He married a daughter of Ŭlrich Sommer. According to a translation from Helmut Gingerich, Nicolaŭs Roth received the lease on *Herrschaftlich Landhausgut auf der Matte* [the estate main house on the meadow] from Ŭlrich Feb. 18, 1766. Auf der Matte was the area also called sur le Pré between Échery and Fertrupt. The contract described Nicolaŭs as Ŭlrich's *Tochtermann* (son-inlaw). Ŭlrich "keeps a room on the upper floor, does book repairs, and when necessary helps out his son-on-law."[61]

Their son **Johannes/Jean Roth** was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1750, and died circa 1786.

Researcher Erwin Hochstättler found a note in Colmar archives that said Johannes Roth, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, had married the daughter of an Anabaptist at Weinberg [also called Winterberg or Climont] Feb. 4, 1774.

The bride was Barbara/Barbe Hodler. She was born circa 1749, and died at Bionville, Meurthe-et-Moselle Nov. 24, 1826, a daughter of Christian Hodler and Elisabeth Gerber (see SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF BISTROFF for background on the Hodler family in McLean County).

Children of Johannes/Jean Roth and Barbara/Barbe Hodler include:

1. Anne Roth was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1774, and died at Brû, Vosges May 12, 1848. On Jan. 25, 1804 at Celles-sur-Plaine, Vosges she married Jean Dolder. He was born at Brû June 20, 1779, and died there Sept. 27, 1845. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Tolder, age 24 years and seven months, born at Climont and a resident of Colroy-la-Roche. He was the widower of the deceased Anne Pecheur. His parents were cultivator Valentin Dolter of Climont and Elizabeth Raber. The bride was age 29 years and six months, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Miens. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Roth and Barbe Hodler, a resident of Celles. Witnesses included Barbe's mother, 52, and her second husband Michel Schlagre, 35, a resident of Celles; as well as cultivator Pierre Sommaire, 29, of Celles. Signatures looked like Johannes Dolder, Anne Roth, Barbe Hodler, Michel Schlgel, and Pntnr Sŭmer.
2. Christophe Roth was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 4, 1783, and died at Pierre-Percée, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 13, 1858. On July 27, 1822 at Rhodes, Moselle he married Madeleine Kempf. She was born at Diane-Capelle, Moselle Aug. 15, 1793, and died at Pierre-Percée April 12, 1862, a daughter of Ulrich Kempf and Elisabeth Gascho. His civil death entry described him as farm equipment operator Christophe Roth, 75, born at Kirch, Upper Alsace. He was the husband of Madeleine Kanfre, 65, and a son of the deceased Jean Rhote and Barbe Houdler. Her civil death entry described her as Madelaine Camphe, 74, born at Dianne Capelle, the widow of the deceased Christophe Rothe, who had also died there.

Circa 1786 Barbe remarried to Michel Schlagre [derived from Schlegel]. He was born at Grandfontaine in 1764, and died at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 28, 1819, a son of Chlagre and Marie Chepach [Schüpbach].

His civil death entry described him as farm equipment operator Michel Schlagre, 50, born at Grandfontaine and a resident of Badonviller. He was a son of Chlagre and Marie Chepach. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Hodelaire, 77, wife of beggar [Fr. *mandiante*] Michel Schlagre, a resident of Angomont. It was witnessed by Joseph Schladre, 29, who signed Joseph Schlagre.

Barbara/Barbe's civil death entry described her as Barbe Hodelaire, 77, the widow of Michel Schlagre, and a resident of Angomont. It was witnessed by her son Joseph Schlagre, 29, who signed J. Chlagre.

The child of Barbara/Barbe Hodler and her second husband Michel Schlagre was:

3. Joseph Schlagre was born at Bionville Jan. 27, 1796, and died at Badonviller Feb. 10, 1838. On Jan. 5, 1822 at Badonviller he married Barbe Salzmann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farm equipment operator Joseph Schlagre, born at Bionville Jan. 27, 1796. His parents were the deceased Michel Schlagre, who had died at

[61] An Ŭlrich Sommer is found on the 1697 list of Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. He was presumably the father of this one, who was described in several documents as 'the bookbinder in the estate main house' [Ger. Landhaus]. His age is generally guesstimated as 1710 from the birth year of his first wife Barbara Ammin. She may have been a daughter of Jacob Amman's much-younger brother Ŭli. Their one-day-old son died Dec. 16, 1741. Barbara died in childbirth July 2, 1743. Before 1847 Ulrich remarried to Elisabeth Kropf. She was born circa 1718, and died April 20, 1751. Their son Hans Peter Sommer died May 10, 1747, aged 14 weeks. Ulrich Sommer is found on a list of Anabaptist at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1763. Both wives and two of their children were buried at Fertrupt.

Badonviller April 28, 1819, and Barbe Hodler, 69, who was present and consenting. The bride was Barbe Salzmann, born at Still, Lower Alsace Aug. 20, 1802, a resident of La Broque. Her parents were the deceased Jacques Salzmann, who had died at Still April 27, 1806, and Barbe Roth, 43, a resident of La Broque who was present and consenting. Witnesses included farmer Christian Litwiller, 30, a friend of the groom; and weaver Christian Roth, 30. Signatures looked like C. Chlagre, Barbara Roth, C. Rote, and Christian Lidtwiller.

Miller: Müller of Steffisburg

As with the Zimmermans, in almost every instance while the family was in what is now Germany 'Jacob' was interchangeable with 'Jakob,' and we have made no attempt to sort out preferences except when citing a form used in documentation.

A *Müller* is a miller of grain.

The Müller or Miller family completes the circle of Amish Mennonites from the Hochburg congregation of Baden that had strong ministerial traditions. Others we have already mentioned include König, Leutweiler/Litwiller, Roth, Rŭpp, and Zimmerman.

Michel Müller and Madlen Kropf were the parents of **Christen Müller**, who was baptized at Steffisburg May 30, 1647. Witnesses included Hans Schlaitbach, Hans Ösch, and Barbli [illegible].

Christen was a resident of Langenegg and Anna Tschabold of Eriz when they married at Steffisburg Dec. 2, 1670.

In the spring of 1692 Christen and Anna departed from Steffisburg. Though they were described as residents of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1694, they are not found there on any list of Anabaptist taxpayers (1697, 1703, 1704, and 1708). Perhaps they had not chosen adult baptism.

Anna died at Horbourg-Wihr (on the east side of Colmar) in 1712.

Children of Christen Müller and Anna Tschabold include:

1. **Michel Müller** was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 31, 1671. Witnesses included Matthÿs Finger, Christen Glücki, and Verena Kulzŭuner.
2. Hans Müller was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 30, 1673. Witnesses included Hans Stägman, Peter Tschabold, and Cathrin Rügsegger.
3. Elsbeth Müller was baptized at Steffisburg June 18, 1676. Witnesses included Steffan Reüsser, Christina Bürki, and Verena Gerber.
4. Christen Müller was baptized at Steffisburg March 23, 1679, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Antoni Kropf, Hans Haltiman, and Christina Räber.
5. Maria Müller was baptized at Steffisburg April 11, 1680. Witnesses included Hans Finger, Christina Wäber, and Elsbeth Bühler.
6. Christen Müller was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 25, 1683. Witnesses included Johannes Stähli *der jŭng*, Peter Schertz, and Anna Bürki.
7. Heinrich Müller was baptized at Mundingen, Baden Dec. 9, 1686. An entry in the Steffisburg *Taufrodel* added onto the bottom of the last page for 1686 gave his name and the date, describing the location as *'Mŭndingen in der Marggraffschaft Baden Dŭrlach.'* Witnesses included Johannes Farni, Johannes Müller, and Kunigŭnde [off the bottom of the online image of the state archives]. Mundingen is above Emmendingen.

Michel Müller was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 31, 1671.

On April 25, 1694 at Jebsheim (20 miles southeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) Michel married widow Maria Schneider. Her first husband had been Ŭlrich Bältzli, whose father minister Niclaŭs Bältzli was an outspoken critic of Jacob Amman. Ŭlrich had died at Baldenheim (10 miles to the north) Aug. 30, 1693, on the morning of the day his second son was born there.

Their marriage entry described the groom as Michel Müller, 23, a son of Christian Müller and Anna Schabold of Steffisburg, who were living at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. The bride was Maria Schneider, a daughter of Rudolph Schneider and widow of Ŭlrich Bältzli. Both bride and groom were Anabaptists. See BELSLEY for background on the two stepsons Maria brought to her second marriage: Rudolph Bältzli born at Jebsheim Oct. 26, 1690, and Jakob/Jacob Bältzli/Baltzley born at Baldenheim Aug. 30, 1693. The elder son leads to the Central Illinois Belsley family; the younger became a Pennsylvania immigrant Baltzley.

In 1713 Michel held the lease on the fields of the Weier castle estate [Ger. *Weierschlossgut*] at Schupfholz. He also acted as guarantor for Christen/Christian Rŭpp's lease on the Hochburg estate. He assumed the lease after Rŭpp's death in 1746. In 1755 the names of Michel Isen/Eissen/Iseli and Michel Müller's son Christian were added as co-leaseholders.

In 1772 a second son who had been farming at Rohrburg bei Altenheim, Baden-Durlach (12 miles below Strasbourg on the opposite side of the Rhine River) returned to the Hochburg estate to share the lease with his brother Christian Müller and Jacob Zimmerman.

Jacob Müller would represent the Hochburg congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779.

He married Verena Isen/Eissen/Iseli. She was born circa 1745, and died at Sexau Oct. 25, 1822. Her *Evangelisch* death entry described her as the 77-year-old wife of Jacob Müller, farm leaseholder at Hochburg, and a daughter of Michel Isin and Katharina Gŭrlin. It was witnessed by Hochburg farm leaseholder Michael Zimmerman and Christina Rŭpp. The entry added that those mentioned were all *Wiedertäufer*.

We will follow the descendants of two of Jacob and Verena's sons.

Deacon Michel Müller/Michael Miller

Jacob Müller and Verena Isin/Eissen/Iseli had a son **Jacob Müller** born at Hochburg in 1776, who died at Sexau March 18, 1837.

Circa 1794 he married Anna Rŭpp. She was born circa 1775, a daughter of Christian/Chretién Rŭpp and Barbara/Barbe Litwiller; a granddaughter to Jacob Rŭpp who had represented their congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759; and a great-granddaughter to Christen/Christian Rŭpp of Steffisburg.

They took a nine-year lease on the Baldenwegerhof estate above Zarten, Baden in 1798. They were noted as residents of Rohrburg (Rohburg bei Altenheim, roughly 40 miles to the north of Zarten) on the 1832 civil marriage entry of a daughter.

Jacob's death was registered at Sexau May 20, 1837 as Jacob Müller, aged 60 years, five months, and six days. It names his widow as *Anna geb. Raŭpp* [Anna born Rŭpp]. Witnesses included Michel Zimmerman, leaseholder at Hochburg, and Johann König, leaseholder at Hegenheim.

Anna's death was registered at Emmendingen Feb. 12, 1855. The entry described her as Anna Rupp, the 80-year-old wife of deceased Hochbŭrg tenant Jacob Müller.

Children of Jacob Müller and Anna Rŭpp include:

1. **Michel Müller/Michael Miller** was born July 28, 1795, died Aug. 23, 1873, and is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.
2. Anna Müller was born at Auggen Aug. 7, 1797, and died at Congerville Jan. 2, 1850. On May 14, 1815 she married Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman (he was a brother of Verena Zimmerman, the matriarch of the Tazewell County Roth family). The event was recorded at Sexau Aug. 7, 1815. See ZIMMERMAN for background on this family.
3. Jacob Müller was born on the Hochburg estate Aug. 28, 1801. On Aug. 10, 1832 at Strasbourg he married Maria Eymann, a daughter of Joseph Eymann and Katharina Roess or Rees. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacques Müller, born at Hochburg, Sexau Aug. 26, 1801, a son of farmer Jacques Müller and Anne Rupp who were residents of Rohrburg [Rohburg bei Altenheim]. The bride was Marie Eymann, born at Strasbourg Aug. 16, 1807. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Joseph Eymann, who had died at Strasbourg Feb. 1, 1811, and the deceased Catherine Roes, who had died at Strasbourg May 25, 1824 (in a second marriage to cultivator Jacques Schwartz). Witnesses included cultivators Chrétien Stucki, 56; Joseph König, 29; and Jean Schlatter, 31. The marriage was also registered in the *Evangelisch* church at Sexau. Jacob and Maria became leaseholders on the Sohn estate at Heiligenzell near Lahr, then at Munzingen.
4. Johann Müller was a miller at Kollmarsreuth, and then on the Hasenhof estate at Tiengen bei Freiburg.
5. Magdalena Müller. On May 12, 1846 at Sexau she married Michael Griesser of Öhningen. The *Evangelisch* entry named the groom's parents as Jacob Müller and Anna Maria Rupp, and the bride's parents as Heinrich Griesser and Barbara Bart.
6. Christian Müller was born circa March of 1807, and died unmarried at Sexau July 21, 1840, age 33 years and four months. His *Evangelisch* death entry created July 23 described him as *ein Mennonit*. It named his parents as Jakob Müller and Anna Maria Rupp. Witnesses included Jakob Zimmerman and Michael Zimmerman, *Mennonit* tenants on the *Schlossgut* [castle farm].
7. Verena Müller lived unmarried at Hochburg.
8. Catharina Müller. On May 19, 1843 at Sexau she married Christian Lauber. He was born as Chrétien Lauber at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace Dec. 15, 1815, a son of cultivator Michel Lauber *le declarant Anabaptiste de Secte* and Barbe Zimmerman. The marriage ceremony was performed by *Mennonit* Jakob Zimmerman of Munzingen. Their *Evangelisch* marriage entry described the groom as Christian Lauber of *Burgfelden im Elsass*. The bride's parents were Jakob Müller, *Mennonit* tenant on the *Hochbŭrger Schlossgut*, and Anna Maria Rŭpp. Witnesses included the younger Jakob Zimmerman, *Mennonit* leaseholder [Ger. *Beständer*] at Hochbŭrg; and Jakob Rediger, *Mennonit* leaseholder on the Ottenweier Hof.

Michel Müller/Michael Miller was born July 28, 1795, died at Danvers Aug. 23, 1873, and is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

On July 24, 1825 at Sexau he married Magdalena König. She was born Sept. 6, 1800, and died in McLean County Nov. 22, 1882, a daughter of Christian König and Maria Zimmerman. Her parents were leaseholders at Bamlach, an estate about 30 miles southwest of Hochburg on the Rhine River.[62]

The *Evangelisch* entry at Sexau named the parents of the groom as Jacob Müller and Anna Rupp, and the parents of the bride as Christian König and Maria Zimmerman.

They sailed from Le Havre on the *Salem*, and arrived at New Orleans Nov. 13, 1835. The passenger list shows Muller Michel, 40, Baden; Madelena, 35; Christian, 9; Madelena, 7; Jacob, 5; Michel, 4; Johann, 3; and Frena, 6 months.

The family rented a farm at Oxford, Butler County, Ohio, where they remained until 1851. They appear on the 1850 census of Oxford as farmer Michael Miller, 54, Germany; Magdalina, 45, Germany; Christian, 24, Germany; Jacob, 19, Germany; Michael, 16, Germany; John, 15, Germany; Elizabeth, 9, Ohio; Joseph, 6, Ohio; and Magdalena, 18, Germany.

In 1851 they resettled on 50 acres at Dry Grove, and soon purchased 120 more. Michael became a deacon of the Rock Creek Amish Church with his younger cousin Jacob Müller.

The 1860 census of Dry Grove shows the household as farmer Michael Miller, 59, Baden; Mather, 60, Baden; farm laborer Crist Bergamer [Christian Birckelbaw], 25, Hesse; domestic Elizabet B Miller, 18, Ohio [daughter Elizabeth later married farm hand Christian Birckelbaw]; and farmer [son] Joseph, 15, Ohio. In 1870 they appear as retired farmer Michael Miller, 75, Baden; Magdalena, 70, Baden; farmer Joseph, 22, Ohio; and servant Liddia Gaber, 16, France. The 1880 census of Dry Grove has widow Magdal. Miller, 79, born in Baden to parents from Baden; and son and farm hand John Miller, 35 [should have been 45 or older], born in Baden to parents from Baden. They lived next door to the household of youngest son Joseph.

Their children include:

1. Christian K. Miller was born in Baden May 29, 1826, and died Feb. 18, 1904. He married Elizabeth Birckelbaw. She was born Nov. 3, 1833, and died Nov. 3, 1913, a daughter of Christian Birckelbach and Marie/Mary Schwartzentruber.63 They are found on the 1880 census of Hudson, McLean County as farmer Christian Miller, 54, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Elizabeth, 47, born in Ohio to parents from Hesse-Darmstadt; and seven children born in Illinois. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
2. Magdalena Miller was born in Baden Sept. 18, 1827, and died at Danvers Aug. 25, 1911. On Oct. 27, 1850 in Butler County she married Christian Stuckey. He was born in Butler County June 17, 1831, died at Eureka Springs, Arkansas Aug. 30 or Sept. 3, 1885, and is buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers, a son of Peter Stuckey and Elizabeth Sommer. He was a younger brother to minister Joseph Stuckey. They are found on the 1880 census of Danvers as farmer Christian Stuckey, 48, born in Ohio to parents from Switzerland and France; Magdalena, 52, born in Baden to parents from Baden; and four children born in Illinois. Their immediate neighbors included the families of Michael Rupp, 35; Christian Strubhar, 36; and Christian Ehrisman [Ehresman], 35.
3. Jacob Miller was born in Baden Aug. 23, 1830, and died April 16, 1912. On Aug. 8, 1858 he married Mary Birckelbaw. She was born in Butler County Sept. 28, 1835, and died Feb. 6, 1903, a daughter of Christian Birckelbach and Marie/Mary Schwartzentruber. They are found on the 1880 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer Jacob Miller, 52, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Mary, 36, born in Ohio to parents from Germany; and four children born in Illinois. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
4. John K. Miller was born in Baden July 27, 1833 (according to his headstone at Lantz Cemetery), and died Aug. 2, 1885. However, the 1850 census age and birth order would indicate that he was born after Michael, circa 1835. He is found living with his mother as a 35-year-old (he would actually have been 45 or older) born in Baden, occupation farm hand, on the 1880 census of Dry Grove

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[62] There is some question about where the couple lived before emigrating from Europe. J. Virgil Miller identifies the location as Schöpfheim, but locates it on a map and describes it as if it were Niederschopfheim (seven miles southeast of Altenheim and 44 miles north of Munzingen). Niedershopfheim was within walking distance of the Ottenweierhof, leased by Reidigers. However, there is a Schöpfheim: it is above Rheinfelden, 15 miles southeast of Bamlach, near the border of Baden and Switzerland.

[63] Christian Birckelbach was born circa 1798. He married Marie/Mary Schwartzentruber. She was born in Hesse-Darmstadt Oct. 11, 1804, and died at Dry Grove May 5, 1892. Christian died circa 1838, leaving her with four children. On Aug. 20, 1843 at Trenton, Butler County she remarried to Johannes von Gunde (1791-after 1860) of La Broque, Salm, known in America as John Gundy (see ROTH for his European origin). His first wife Anna König had died in childbirth circa 1831. His children from the first marriage were Barbara, Anna, and John; a fourth child Joseph died before the second marriage. Her children were Catherine (1830), Elizabeth (1833), Mary (1835), and Christian (1838). They had three more children together: Fannie (1844), Jacob (1847), and Jacobina 'Phoebe' (1850). The family appears on the 1860 census of Charleston, Lee County, Iowa as John Gundy, 68, Germany; Mary, 52, Hesse-Darmstadt; Fanny, 15, Ohio; Jacob, 13, Ohio; and Phoebe, 9, Ohio.

5. Michael Miller was born in Baden circa 1834, according to the 1850 census. The 1870 census of Dry Grove shows his household as farmer Michael Miller, 33, Baden; Anna, 26, Ohio; Peter, 6, Illinois; Magdaline, 4, Illinois; servant Elizabeth Burky, 18, Illinois; and 'farming' Daniel Swartz, 26, Iowa [he may have been a Schwartzentruber, the family next door with one child born in Iowa]. The 1880 census of Rantoul, Champaign County shows them as farmer Michael C. Miller, 45, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Anna, 36, born in Ohio to parents from Darmstadt; Peter, 17, born in Illinois to parents from Baden and Ohio; and Maggie, 15, born in Illinois to parents from Baden and Ohio.
6. Fannie Miller was born in Butler County in 1836, and died the same year.
7. Kate Miller was born in Butler County in 1837, and died the same year.
8. Elizabeth Miller was born at Oxford May 7, 1841, and died July 7, 1873. On Feb. 14, 1864 at Dry Grove she married Christian Birckelbaw, a son of Christian Bircklebach and Marie/Mary Schwartzentruber. He was born in Butler County Aug. 25, 1838, and died at Danvers March 19, 1905. At the time of their marriage he was working as a farm laborer for her father for $8 per month. *Gospel Herald*, August 1873: "July 7th, in McLean Co., Ill., of consumption, Elisabeth Birgelbach, aged 32 years, and two months. She leaves a bereaved husband, and 4 children to mourn their loss. Remarks appropriate to the occasion were made by Joseph Stuckey from *John 5*." *Herald of Truth*, April 1905: "On March 19, 1905, in Danvers, Ill., Christian Birckelbough; aged 66 Y., 6 M., 24 D. Bro. Birckelbough was born in Butler Co., Ohio, and was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church at North Danvers. He leaves a wife, two sons and two daughters to mourn his departure. Funeral services were conducted by J. H. King and Pre. Wilson." They are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.
9. Joseph K. Miller was born at Oxford Sept. 29, 1844, and died Jan. 1, 1904. On June 24, 1872 in McLean County he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Mast. She was born at Berlin Township, Holmes County, Ohio Oct. 2, 1854, and died on a visit to Peoria Feb. 9, 1918, a daughter of Daniel Mast and Elizabeth Troyer. They farmed 198 acres at Dry Grove, McLean County. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Dry Grove as farmer Joseph Miller, 34, born in Ohio to parents from Baden; Elizabeth, 25, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio; William O., 6, Illinois; Burtha, 4, Illinois; Josie V., 11 months, Illinois; and housekeeper Amelia Mast, 19, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Jacob Müller/Jacob Miller **Michel/Michael's cousin**

Jacob Müller and Verena Isin or Iseli had a second son, **Johannes Müller/Jean Miller**. He was born at Hochburg or Munzingen, Baden approximately June 12, 1783, and died in Woodford County circa Oct. 3, 1859.[64]

In 1806 Johannes married Magdalena Eyer. She was born circa 1787, and died before 1850, a daughter of minister Daniel Eyer and an unidentified Dettweiler, who lived on the estate Remchingen. She was a granddaughter of Rudolf Eyer and Veronika Kurtz, and a great-granddaughter of Benedikt Eyer.

In 1832 Johannes and Magdalena accepted employment from Comte Henri Gatien Bertrand, the former aide-de-camp to Napoleon, near St. Valentin in the department of Indre, and approximately 170 miles south of Paris (see ROTH for background on Bertrand). There they farmed with Maurers, Risser/Reesers, Roths, and Zimmermans who came to Central Illinois.

Johannes and Magdalena were present and consenting at the marriages of two of their daughters at St. Valentin: Barbara to André (later Andrew) Roth July 23, 1834, and Magdalena to Daniel Zimmerman Oct. 8, 1834. Johannes also witnessed the marriage of Jean Risser and Catherine Zimmerman Feb. 27, 1838. Although the civil entries called him Jean Miller, he signed as Johan Müller.

Annette Surrault found the 1836 census of Lagny, St. Valentin:

99	*Jean Miller*	*[Müller]*	*Cultivator*	*44 [should have been 52]*
100	*Barbard Madeleine*	*[Eyer]*		*44*
101	*Madeleine Fournier*		*Servant*	*21*
102	*Jacobée Miller*			*13*
103	*Catherine Miller*			*14*
104	*Madeleine Miller*			*28*
	[married to Daniel Zimmerman]			
105	*Daniel Miller*			*10 months*
	[Daniel Zimmerman, son of Daniel Zimmerman and Madeleine Müller]			
106	*Elizabeth Miller*			*10*
107	*Suzanne Miller*			*8*
108	*Jean Miller*		*Cultivator*	*28*
109	*Daniel Miller*		*Cultivator*	*22*

[64] Johannes's birthdate was calculated from the year-month-day total found on his headstone.

The Müllers departed from St. Valentin with Michael Zimmerman and Magdalena Erb, and Springers. They are found on the passenger list of the packet ship *Poland* as it arrived at New York from Le Havre May 3, 1839: Jean Muller, 54; Magdalena, 50; Johannes, 26; Catharina, 17; Jacobina, 16; Lesbith, 15; Suzana, 13; and Catharine, eight months [a child of Johannes Müller/Jean Miller and Catharine Farny].

Johannes became Reverend John Miller in America, and followed 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger as elder of the Hessian congregation in Butler County. *A History and Biographical Cyclopaedia of Butler County, Ohio* says that the division between conservatives and progressives "...created a division of the members into two parties, and the other party [the Hessian-oriented 'button' congregation], which may be termed the liberal party, obtained another elder or bishop from Germany, by the name of John Miller, and Joseph Augspurger, Christian Holly, and Peter Kennel were elected assistant ministers, and the two parties held their meetings separately in their dwellings."

His household appears on the 1850 census of Liberty, Butler County as minister John Miller [widower Johannes Müller], 64; Susan, 22 [his daughter]; Elizabeth, 20 [his daughter]; Jacob, 33 [his son]; and Magdaln [Magdalena Moser, Jacob's wife], 40, all born in Germany. They wre living in a small house on the farm of Christian Holly and Magdalena/Helena Iutzi. The two households listed immediately before theirs were those of the Hollys and Daniel Otto, a son-in-law of minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger.

Jacob and his wife Magdalena Moser arrived at New York on the *Gallia* May 9, 1850, and soon went on to Woodford County.

Johannes/John joined his grown children in Illinois in 1855. He died at Montgomery, Woodford County Oct. 3, 1859, and is buried in Miller Cemetery there.

Children of Johannes Müller/John Miller and Magdalena Eyer include:

1. Magdalena Müller/Madeleine Miller was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau March 13, 1807, and died in Tazewell County after 1860 but before the 1880 census. On Oct. 8, 1834 at St. Valentin, Indre she married Daniel Zimmerman, a son of Michael Zimmerman and his first wife Barbara Roggy. Their civil marriage entry described her parents as Jean Miller and Madlaine Aier, who were present and consenting. It was witnessed by Joseph Risser, Pierre Zer [Zehr}, André [later Andrew] Roth, and Pierre Zimmerman. See ZIMMERMAN for more on this couple.
2. Johannes Müller/Jean Miller was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau March 15, 1809. On Dec. 5, 1837 at St. Valentin he married Catherine Farny. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as domestic laborer Jean Miller, 28, born on the Hochburg estate March 15, 1809 and living at Petit Lagny, St. Valentin, a son of Jean Miller and Magdeline Eyer. The bride was described as Catherine Farny, 22, born at Sailly [now Sailly-Achâtel], Moselle, Aug. 7, 1815, a daughter of the deceased Joseph Farny, who had died at Juville [three miles east of Sailly] May 10, 1836, and Marguerite Goldebariere [Coldabert], a resident of Juville who was present and consenting. (For more on Joseph Farny see STAKER). Witnesses included cousin-of-the-groom and cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 59, living at Lagny; father-of-the-groom Jean Miller, 53, living at Petit Lagny; cousin-of-the-groom and domestic servant Jean Miller, 22, Petit Lagny; and friend-of-the-bride and laborer Christoffe Erismin, 24, of Lagny.
3. Daniel Müller is found as 'Daniel Miller, 22' on the 1836 census, but as *'Daniel Müller, gestorben 25 Juni 1871, 61 jahre alt.*' on a headstone in Miller Cemetery at Montgomery.
4. **Jacob Müller/Jacob Miller** was born at Munzingen, Baden June 18, 1811, and died at Montgomery, Woodford County Aug. 22, 1893.
5. Barbara Müller was born at Buggingen, Baden Dec. 28, 1813, and died before April 24, 1842 (the date of her husband's remarriage in Butler County to his cousin Ann/Anna Zimmerman). On July 23, 1834 at St. Valentin, Indre she married Andreas/André (later Andrew) Roth, a son of Niclaŭs Roth and Verena Zimmerman. The civil marriage entry gave her age as 20. For more on this couple see ROTH.
6. Catherine Müller was born circa 1822. She appears on the 1836 census and the passenger list.
7. Jacobée/Jacobine Müller was born circa 1823. She appears as 'Jacobée, 13' on the 1836 census, and as 'Jacobina, 16' on the 1839 passenger list.
8. Elizabeth Müller was born July 27, 1824, and died at Stanford, McLean County Sept. 5, 1865; she is buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers. On March 4, 1854 in Butler County she married Christian Gingerich. He was born at Andernach, Hesse Oct. 5 (local histories) or 28 (headstone date), 1820, and died at Stanford June 20, 1908, a son of Michael Gingerich and Barbara Heinemann. He sailed to America in the spring of 1850, landing at New Orleans. From there he made his way to Butler County, then to McLean County in 1852. He returned to Butler County to marry Elizabeth. In 1862 he was ordained as a minister for Bureau Creek and Wesley City congregations by John Michael Kistler. In 1863 he was chosen as an elder of the Hessian congregation at Walnut, Bureau County by minister and elder John Nafziger. On Sept. 7, 1866 Christian remarried to Catherine Gingerich, a daughter of Jacob Gingerich (of Butler County and Dry Grove) and his first wife Catherine. He served as minister and elder of South Danvers Mennonite Church.
8. Susanne/Susan Müller was born Sept. 7, 1826, and died at Montgomery Jan. 16, 1861; she is buried in Miller Cemetery at Montgomery. On Oct. 25, 1854 she married Christian Engel. He was born at Frankenstein July 16,

1818, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Jan. 17, 1912, a son of Johann Jakob Engel and Elisabetha Jotter. In 1862 he remarried to Magdalena Ehrisman of 'near Morton.'

Jacob Müller/Jacob Miller was born at Munzingen, Baden June 18, 1811, and died at Montgomery Aug. 22, 1893.

On May 10, 1835 at Vittel, Vosges he married Madeleine/Magdalena Moser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jacob Miller, 25, farmer at Mont-sarillon, Monthueux [now Monthureaux-sur-Saône, 14 miles south of Vittel]. His parents were cultivator Jean Miller, 52, of Lagny, St. Valentin, Indre, and Madeleine Eyer, 50. They were not present, but their consent was demonstrated by a notarized form. The bride was Madeleine Moser, 30, a dressmaker at Vittel, born at Denting, Moselle. Her parents were described as the deceased Jean Moser, a farm equipment operator at Bistroff, and Marie Blanc, 56. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Moser, 27, and Christophe Moser, 25.

Madeleine/Magdalena was born at Denting, Moselle June 8, 1804 (per the 10-year civil index) and died at Montgomery July 18, 1889.

Magdalena Moser had a sister Catherine Moser, who was born at Denting Nov. 10, 1808. She married Jean Detweiler. Catherine died in 1849, and Jean in 1852. Their son Jean/John Detweiler, born circa 1839, was adopted by his childless aunt and uncle and went to live with them in America as an adopted son (see DETTWEILER).

The *Gallia* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 9, 1850. The passenger list shows a traveling company of 10 from France: Pierre Beller, 50 [bound for Lewis County, New York, see BELLER]; Jakob Műller, 39; Magdalena, 44; John Dettweiller, 12 [these three bound for Woodford County, see MILLER AND DETTWEILER]; André Zehr, 29; Catharine, 33; Magdalene, 5; Catharina, 3; Joseph, 2 [the Zehrs bound for Lewis County, see the footnote in BELLER] ; and Catharina Bokÿ [Birky or Rogi?], 60.

The 1850 census of Liberty, Butler County shows Jacob and Magdalena living (or visiting in transit) in the home of his father at Liberty, Butler County.

In 1851 Jacob followed the two leaders of the Hessian congregation (minister and elder 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger and minister John Michael Kistler) to Dry Grove, McLean County. There he served with his older cousin Michel Müller/Michael Miller as a deacon for minister and elder Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder. In the spring of 1853 his influence helped to raise $500 needed to build the Rock Creek Amish Church (the 'Yoder Church') north of Danvers. This church provided only German-language services until the North Danvers Mennonite Church was constructed in 1872.

Their household is shown on the 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer Jacob Miller, 48, France; Madeleine, 55, France; and day laborer John Detweiler, 21, France. They lived next door to minister Christian Reeser and Barbara Zimmerman.

Joseph Stuckey replaced Yoder as elder at Danvers after Yoder's death in 1869. The story is told in STAKER.

On the 1880 census of Montgomery they appear as Jacob Miller, 69, born in France; Madeleine Miller, 57, born in France; Louis Craig, 20, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Indiana; and James Fry, 17, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois.

Herald of Truth, August 1889: "On the 18th of July, near Congerville, Woodford County, Ill., of dropsy, Magdalena, wife of Jacob Mueller, aged 84 years, 1 month and 15 days. She was buried on the 20th. Services by John Stahly, M. Kinsinger and others, from *Ps. 90* and *I Cor. 15:37, 38*. The deceased was a member of the Amish Mennonite church and leaves an aged husband in poor health to mourn her departure."

Müller served as deacon and counsel to minister and elder Joseph Stuckey until his death at age 82 on Aug. 22, 1893. Father Johannes Müller, son Jacob Müller, and Jacob's wife Magdalena Moser are buried in Miller Cemetery at Montgomery.

Risser and Reeser

A *Reusser* is a person who fishes without a hook or net. In mountainous parts of Europe this was typically done by weighting a wicker basket and setting it in a stream. A *Reusser* could also be the person who made the basket. Rüsser, Reüsser, Rüesser, Risser, and Reeser are all variations. Risser may also have been derived from *Ryser*, a description of someone who lives on a steep slope.

A number of Anabaptist Risser families emigrated from Canton Bern in the early 1700s. They followed the Rhine River to the communities of Ribeauvillé in Upper Alsace [Ger. *Rappoltsweiler*] and 17 miles farther north to Kogenheim in Lower Alsace. 65

The Rissers that came to Tazewell and Woodford Counties may have been descendants of families that migrated from Alsace west into the region of Lorraine, in a part that is now the French department of Moselle.

Jacob/Jacques Risser

The birth year of laborer **Jacob/Jacques Risser** could not be identified. Presumably it was circa 1733, the probable birth year of his wife.

He may have had two identifiable sisters. Marie Risser was born circa 1735, and died at Gondrexange, Moselle Oct. 4, 1800. She married Christian Zwalter (see the Appendix, ZWALTER for more on the family).66 Anne Risser was born circa 1735 or 1743, and died at Rhodes, Moselle Nov. 28, 1798. In 1770 she married Johannes/Jean Suisse/Schweizer.

Jacob/Jacques married Catherine Roupe/Ruppe/Rupp, who was born about 1733. There is no direct documentation that shows her family connections. We can speculate that she was related as a sister or cousin to Anna Rupp, the leaseholder on the Bärbelsteinerhof at Erlenbach bei Dahn in the Pfalz (mentioned in EHRESMAN, Erlenbach bei Dahn is 38 miles southwest of Friedelsheim). Anna was first married to Hans/Jean Ringenberg of the castle estate Ketzing at Gondrexange, then to Isaac Hochstettler.

Jacob/Jacques and Catherine lived on the Alzing farm at Gosselming (11 miles northeast of Gondrexange, now in the department of Moselle). According to daughter Freni's civil marriage entry, Jacob/Jacques died before 1789. Catherine died at Gosselming Dec. 10, 1801, age 68.67

Children of Jacob/Jacques Risser and Catherine Roupe/Ruppe/Rupp include:

1. Anne Risser was born circa 1761, and died at Gosselming April 29, 1808, age 47. She became the second wife of Joseph Farny (1748-1800). They lived on Nolveyer Pond at Bisping.
2. **Nicolas Risser** was born circa 1764, and died at Gosselming Jan. 19, 1814.
3. Freni Risser was born in 1768, and died in 1814. She married Christian Engel. He was born in 1765, and died in 1814, a son of Jean Engel (occasionally found as Jean Pierre Engel) and his first wife Anne Rouvenacht. They lived at Zommange. When they died within two days of each other, Christian's brother-in-law Nicolas Fonkennel and cousin Christian Engel (later minister and elder of the Partridge Creek meeting) became co-guardians of their children. See ENGEL for more on this couple.

Nicolas Risser was born circa 1764, and died at Gosselming Jan. 19, 1814.

On July 23, 1798 at Gosselming he married Barbe Engel. She was born at Guermange circa 1776, and died at Gosselming Sept. 15, 1833, a daughter of Jean Engel (occasionally found as Jean Pierre Engel) and his second wife Madeleine Rouvenacht.

Their marriage entry described the groom as a 34-year-old cultivator on Alzing farm at Gosselming. The bride was described as the 22-year-old daughter of the deceased Jean Pierre Engel and Magdelaine Riffennacht of

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[65] In *Christian Reeser: The Story of a Centenarian*, Ethel Reeser Cosco wrote that the families of three Risser brothers came from Switzerland in 1757 to the Mennonitenhof at Friedelsheim in the Pfalz. However, she offered no evidence to link them to the families in the region of Lorraine.

[66] A daughter of Christian Zwalter and Marie Risser, Anne Marie Risser, married Joseph Mosimenn. One witness on their civil marriage entry was Nicolas Risser, son of Jacob/Jacques Risser and Catherine Roupe/Ruppe/Rupp, who was described as a cousin of the bride.

[67] Alzing farm at Gosselming is also found as the German 'Alsing,' even in French civil records. Alzing (Ger. *Alsingen*) is also the name of a village above Dalem, Moselle, almost 60 miles northwest of Gosselming.

Guermange. Witnesses included Joseph Farny, a miller on Nolweyer Pond at Bisping (he was Nicolas's brother-in-law, married to Anne Risser); Christian Engel, a Zommange cultivator (Barbe's cousin); Jacob/Jacques Moser, miller at Bisping and neighbor to the bride (he later married Joseph Farny's widow); and Joseph Engel, miller at Lorentzen (Barbe's younger brother).

A census of Mennonite families created April 24, 1809 lists Nas. Ruser as a head of a household at Gosselming (seven residents).

Their children born at Gosselming include:

1. Pierre Risser was born June 29, 1800, and died at Gosselming April 8, 1808.
2. Marie Risser was born July 8, 1802. On Nov. 29, 1830 at Gosselming she married Jean Suisse. He was born at Rhodes Jan. 30, 1802, and died on Alzing farm at Gosselming Dec. 4, 1871, a son of Christophe Suisse and Marie Farny. At the time of the marriage she was living on Alzing farm, and he was a cultivator by Nolweyer Pond at Bisping. Brother of the bride André Risser signed as a witness on the civil entry.
3. Madeleine Risser was born Jan. 25, 1805. On April 19, 1823 at Gosselming she married Christian/Christophe Meyer, a son of Christian/Christophe Meyer and Magdalena Zehr.
4. Barbe Risser was born May 26, 1807, and died at Gosselming July 27, 1813.
5. André Risser was born April 11, 1809. On April 4, 1837 at Gosselming he married Marie Schertz. She was born at Bickenholtz, Moselle in 1806, a daughter of Jacob Schertz and Anne Marie Martin.
6. **Nicolas/Nicholas Risser** was born at Gosselming, Moselle Oct. 19, 1811, and died at Stanford, McLean County Aug. 15, 1889.
7. Barbe Risser was born July 22, 1813, and died at Gosselming Feb. 10, 1815.

Nicolas/Nicholas Risser was born at Gosselming, Moselle Oct. 19, 1811, and died at Stanford, McLean County Aug. 15, 1889.

On Dec. 16, 1845 at Imling, Moselle Nicolas married to Catherine Schmitt (she appears on the entry as Schmid). She was born at Imling April 15, 1824, and died in 1859 or 1860.[68]

Their family can be found on the passenger list of the *Heidelberg* as it arrived at New Orleans from Le Havre in February of 1859: Nicolas Riesser, 47, France; Catherine, 32; Andrés, 16; Joseph, 14; Emilie [Marie/Mary], 12; Hanette [Anne/Anna], 10; Pierre, 8; Catherine, 6; and Madeleine, 3. They traveled directly to Woodford County.

Children of Nicolas/Nicholas Risser and his first wife Catherine Schmitt include:

1. André/Andrew Risser was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois, Moselle Feb. 5, 1843, and died at Paxton, Ford County Dec. 28, 1910. On Dec. 20, 1865 in Tazewell County he married Marie/Mary Schweizer; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born at Black Partridge Dec. 7, 1842, and died at Paxton Feb. 26, 1917, a daughter of Jean Suisse, known in Morton as John Schweitzer or Switzer, and Marie/Mary Engel. When Andrew Risser was naturalized at Pekin Oct. 26, 1868, he stated that he had come from France and resided in the United States and Illinois for 10 years. They are found on the 1880 census of Deer Creek as farmer Andrew Risser, 36, Lorraine; Mary, 37, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine; Louise, 13, Illinois; John, 8, Illinois; Peter, 6, Illinois; and William, 2, Illinois. They also appear on the 1900 census of Murray, Minnesota as Andrew Risser, born in France in January 1843, an 1859 immigrant; Mary, born in Illinois to French parents in December 1844; and son John, born in Illinois in October 1871. They are buried in Glen Cemetery at Paxton.
2. Joseph Risser was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois Oct. 6, 1844, and died at Elbow Lake, Minnesota April 5, 1914. He married Mary's sister Catherine Schweizer. She was born in Woodford County Jan. 4, 1852. They are found on the 1880 census of Washington as farmer Joseph C. Risser, 34, born in Lorraine to parents from Lorraine; Catherine, 28, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine; Valentine, 4, Illinois; and Oscar, 2, Illinois. The 1900 census of Loda, Iroquois County shows farmer Joseph Risser, 57, born in France in October 1842; Kate, 47, born in Illinois to French parents in January 1853; and five children born in Illinois. They are found on the 1910 census of Sanford, Minnesota as farmer Joseph C. Risser, 65, France, immigrated in 1860; Katharina, 56, born in Illinois to French parents; Victoria, 22, Illinois; Valentine, 32, Illinois; and Joseph Jr., 23, Illinois. They are buried in Union Cemetery at Elbow Lake.
3. Marie/Mary Risser was born at Imling July 30, 1846, and died at Corvallis, Oregon Nov. 11, 1927. Her civil birth entry described her father Nicolas Risser as a 36-year-old cultivator at Berthelming. She married Christian Gerber. She is buried at Mary E. Gerber in Riverside Cemetery at Albany, Oregon.
4. Anne/Anna Risser was born at Berthelming Oct. 18, 1848. On May 5, 1873 in Tazewell County she married Henri/Henry Augsburger. He was born at Rahling, Moselle (though no entry is found in the 10-year civil index)

[68] We could only identify one clue to the parentage of Catherine Schmitt. Marie Risser was born at Imling, Moselle Sept. 30, 1846. Her parents were described as cultivator Nicolas Risser, 36, of Berthelming (in Moselle), and Catherine Schmitt, 22, of Berthelming. The birth took place in the home of Anne Schmitt, 50, a miller; the father (presumably Catherine's) living at Imling.

Nov. 14, 1849, and died at Milford, Indiana in 1921, a son of Chrétien/Christian Augsburger and his second wife Magdalena Salzman.

5. Pierre/Peter Risser was born at Berthelming Aug. 28, 1850, and died at Danvers, McLean County March 5, 1932. On Dec. 28, 1875 in McLean County he married Barbara Strubhar. She was born at Stout's Grove Danvers Sept. 30, 1850, and died there May 18, 1914, a daughter of John Strubhar and Anna Schertz. The 1900 census of Danvers Village shows them as farmer Peter Risser, 49, born in France in August 1850, immigrated in 1860; Barbara, 49, born in Illinois in September 1850 to French parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.
6. Catherine Risser was born at Berthelming Aug. 10, 1852, and died March 29, 1928. She is buried in Union Cemetery at Elbow Lake, Minnesota where her headstone gives the birth date Jan. 4, 1852.
7. Madeleine/Magdalena/Maggie Risser was born at Berthelming Nov. 4, 1855. On Sept. 14, 1874 in McLean County she married Valentine Nafziger. He was born at Gondrexange, Moselle Nov. 1, 1851, and died in Mclean County March 6, 1875, a son of Christian Nafziger and Marie Kempf. He may have been the 'Valentin Nafziger, 19, lab., France' who departed from Le Havre via London on the *S.S. Helvetia*, and arrived at New York Aug. 31, 1871. Widow 'Maggie Nafziger, daughter, 24, France' is found in the household of her Risser parents on the 1880 census of Stanford. On Oct. 6, 1885 in McLean County Maggie remarried to James S. Lackey.[69] His household is found on the 1870 census of Allin, McLean County as James S. Lackey, 34, Kentucky, doctor; Sallie D., 34, Kentucky; Keith, 9, Illinois; Eddie, 6, Illinois; and Mary J., 3, Arkansas; with three others.

Catherine must have died in 1859 or 1860, because Nicolas/Nicholas remarried to Magdalena Kempf before the 1860 census. This has caused some confusion for genealogists, particularly because the wives had proximate ages. Magdalena Kempf was born circa April 15, 1823 (figured from her headstone count), and died at Stanford, McLean County Feb. 18, 1884.

They are found on the 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer Nicholas Reaser, 50, France; Magdalene, 36, France; Andrew, 18; Joseph, 16; Mary, 14; Anna, 12; and Catherine, 6; all children born in France. His cousin Christian Farny (with his brother Peter 'the Amishmen who hired Lincoln') and Christian's wife Magdalena Strubhar appear on the same census page. Three of their children are found in the Montgomery household of Peter Ulrich: Peter Reuser, 8, France; Magdalena, 4, France; and Victoria, 1, Illinois.

History of McLean County says they relocated to Tazewell County in 1863, and MacLean County in 1871, but in 1870 they are once again found on the census of Montgomery, where they are shown next door to the Farnys as farmer Nicholas Raseman, 52, France; Madalene, 40, France; Adino [slurred handwriting meant to be 'Andrew'], 27; Joseph, 24; and Peter, 21; sons born in France. The 1880 census of Stanford, McLean County shows their household as farmer Nickolas Risser, 69, born in France to French parents; Magdalina Risser, wife, 55, born in France to French parents; Maggie Nafziger, daughter, 24, born in France to French parents; Victoria Risser, daughter, 20, born in Illinois to French parents; and Louisa Schwitzer, 5, born in Illinois to French parents.

Children of Nicolas/Nicholas Risser and his second wife Magdalea Kempf include:

8. Victoria Risser was born at Stanford, McLean County April 8, 1859, and died at Grand Junction, Colorado April 23, 1945. On Dec. 25, 1883 in McLean County she married William C. Rusmisell. He was born in Tazewell County in October of 1862, and died at Mason City, Nebraska July 21, 1835. They relocated from Illinois to Nebraska in 1886. They are buried in Mason City Cemetery.

Nicolas/Nicholas and Magdalena are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford. See SCHWEIZER for the story of the Risser's involvement in a Schweizer and Springer family feud.

Joseph Risser/Reisser

Anabaptist farmer **Joseph Risser/Reisser** was born circa 1752, and died in the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching, Moselle Nov. 26, 1817.[70]

He actually signed his name 'Joseph Reisser,' though 'Risser' is found in the texts of birth and marriage entries he signed.

Joseph married Anne Marie Kropf, who was born circa 1750, and died at the hamlet Singling Dec. 4, 1833.

Their children include:

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[69] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as Maggie Reiser Nafziger.

[70] The birthdays of Joseph Risser and Anne Marie Kropf are taken from their death entries; other sources vary to make them as much as 10 years younger.

1. Catherine Risser was born on Janau farm at Rahling, Moselle Feb. 13, 1778. On March 30, 1799 at Rohrbach-lès-Bitche, Moselle she married Joseph Schantz. He was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen Aug. 13, 1775, a son of Christian Schantz and Anne Rubi.71 She signed their marriage document 'Catarina Risserin.'
2. **Joseph Risser** was born circa 1780.
3. Marie Risser was born at Singling in 1789. On June 16, 1812 at Gros-Réderching she married Andreas/André Schantz (a double wedding). He was born at Rohrbach-les-Bitche, Moselle in 1780, also a son of Christian Schantz and Anne Rubi.
4. **Johannes/Jean Risser** was born circa 1791.
5. Barbara/Barbe Risser (twin) was born at Singling Jan. 20, 1793, and died at Diedendorf, Lower Alsace June 30, 1872. Her birth record, written in German, was signed by her father Joseph Reisser. Her mother's name was written 'Magdalena Kropf' rather than 'Anne Marie Kropf,' and she signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. On June 16, 1812 at Gros-Réderching Barbe married Valentin Schantz (double wedding). He was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen, Lower Alsace in 1776, and died at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching Sept. 8, 1827, also a son of Christian Schantz and Anne Rubi. Barbe remarried to laborer and cultivator Joseph Roggy at Gros-Réderching Oct. 20, 1828. He was born on the Waderhof at Lorentzen in 1797, and died at Enchenberg, Moselle Sept. 30, 1840; his parents were Jean Roggy and Catherine Birki.
6. Susanne Risser (twin) was born at Singling Jan. 20, 1793. According to Jean François Lorentz she married Christian Fritz. He was a son of Joseph Fritz and Anna Schantz.
7. Veronica/Véronique Risser was born at Singling Nov. 13, 1794, and died there Nov. 3, 1804.

Older brother Joseph Risser

The family relationships of Joseph Risser have been questioned over the years. The information that follows draws on the research of Gary L. Yordy, Ardys Serpette, Steve Estes, and Annette Surrault to complete a picture of John Forney, a farmer who came from New York State to live on Allentown Road in Elm Grove and worship with the Dillon Creek meeting. Forney came to America in a party with Joseph Risser, who may also have been his biological father.

Joseph Risser was born circa 1780.

On Aug. 3, 1814 at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching he married widow Madeleine Farny. She was born on Belgrade farm at Bistroff in 1783, a daughter of Christian Farny and Anne Hirschi. She was a sister to Barbe Farny, wife of Joseph Stecker (#1).

Family notes say Magdalena/Madeleine had a child Peter/Pierre born May 2, 1808. Her marriage entry delays this date to Aug. 20, 1808. On Sept. 7, 1809 she married the likely father, twice-widowed Michel Zehr, on Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching. The groom was 50 and the bride 26, which has caused some confusion for genealogists. A civil entry for both the birth and marriage was entered Sept. 7. Marriage witnesses included Michel Engel, 55, a cultivator at Brandelfing farm at Gros-Réderching (a brother of Christian Engel, who was later elder of the Partridge Creek meeting); and Joseph Risser, 55, of Singling.

Michel Zehr brought several children to the marriage from his first two marriages (to Catherine Esch and Anne Marie Kohler).

For more on Peter/Pierre Zehr and Barbara Roth, see ROTH.

They also had a daughter, Magdalena/Madeleine Zehr. She was born March 13 or 18, 1813, and died at Gros-Réderching, Moselle April 12, 1823. Her death entry was witnessed by stepfather Joseph Risser.

Magdalena/Madeleine's first husband Michel Zehr died June 1, 1813.

Joseph and Magdalena/Madeleine employed a servant, Marie Farny. She was a niece of Magdalena/Madeleine, and a daughter of Joseph Farny (born Nov. 12, 1776) and Anne Neyhouser (born May 15, 1772).

Joseph Risser was the biological father of Marie's illegitimate son, and perhaps of her illegitimate daughter, according to an account told by the son's son Aaron Forney to his children.

1. **Jean Farny/John Forney** was born at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching July 14, 1824, and died at Graymont, Livingston County Dec. 26, 1908.
2. Magdalena Farny was born at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching April 13, 1828. This birth date comes from a family note, and cannot be confirmed by civil records. She died at Wilmot, Ontario Nov. 1, 1915.

Both of these children can be found in civil records as bonded servants of their grandfather, Joseph Farny. This allowed him the legal rights of a guardian despite their illegitimacy.

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[71] Her name is spelled 'Rouvy' on birth records.

Recall from ROTH that in 1827 Joseph Risser and Magdalena/Madeleine were living on the farm L'Age at Jeu-lès-Bois and the farm Poctet (now Poquetets) at St. Août in the department of Indre, 170 miles south of Paris.[72] The properties were owned by Aimé Jacques Marie Constant de Moreton de Chabrillan (1780-1847), a former chamberlain and aide to Napoleon who lived on the castle estate Le Magnet at adjacent Mers-sur-Indre.

In 1830 they relocated onto properties belonging to Comte Henri Gatien Bertrand, the former aide-de-camp to Napoleon (see ROTH for background on Bertrand). They lived on Les Lagnys farms near St. Valentin (10 miles north of Jeu-lès-Bois) until 1835 with Müllers, Roths, Springers, and Zimmermans who later settled in Central Illinois.

Thanks to French author Annette Surrault, we have an abundance of information on the immigration of this family.

A copy of a passport created at Châteauroux June 19, 1835 can be found in the archives of the department of Indre. It named Joseph Rizer, 55, a cultivator living at St. Valentin; destination New York. He was to be accompanied by his wife Madelaine Risser, 53; Jean Rizer, 11; Madelaine Rizer, 9; and servant Madelaine Mayer or Mozer, 33. A sheet of physical description names Joseph Riser and Pierre Zer. Riser is described as age 55; height 1.842 meters (6 foot-½); grayish-blonde hair; gray eyes; and beard gray, strong, and long; and Zer as age 26; height 1.67 meters (5 foot-5¾); blonde hair; gray eyes; and red beard.

On Oct. 12, 1835 at Issoudun the deputy mayor of the community of St. Valentin created a document attesting to the good character of the Rissers and Zehrs. He described the party as Joseph Risser, 55, who had been a farmer at Petit Lagny since 1830; his wife Madeleine Risser [born Madeleine Farny], 53; their son, Jean Risser, 11; a daughter of Madeleine Risser age 9 [born Magdalena Farny]; Pierre Zer [Peter Zehr], 26, a son of Madeleine Risser; and his wife Barbara Risser [born Barbara Roth]; "...all well behaved so as not to have any accusation against them."

In November of 1835 Joseph Risser, Magdalena/Madeleine Farny Risser, servant Marie Farny's two illegitimate children, and Magdalena/Madeleine's son Peter/Pierre Zehr with his pregnant wife Barbara Roth (a daughter of Niclaŭs Roth and Verena Zimmerman) reached the port of Le Havre. They embarked on the packet ship *Formosa,* and arrived at New York Dec. 28, 1935. The passenger list reads: Joseph Risser, 55, farmer, France; Magdeline, 53; Jean, 12; Magdaleina, 10; Peter Yer [Zehr], 26; Barbara Yer, 22; and Andreas, 1. Andreas Zehr (later called Andrew) had been born at sea Dec. 15.

Joseph Risser and Magdelena/Madeleine Farny simply step off the pages after their arrival. We found no records that might identify them in North America.[73]

The Peter/Pierre Zehr family settled in the Amish Mennonite settlement at Croghan, Lewis County, New York, where Peter/Pierre was ordained as a minister by minister and elder Joseph Farny and studied medicine. One of the earlier settlers who might have eased their transition was Peter/Pierre's older stepbrother Michael Zehr, who had become a minister there. Michael and his wife, Anne Jantzi of Belgrade farm, had arrived in America in 1833.

They lived in New York three years before continuing to Waterloo, Ontario. In 1842, 18-year-old **Jean Farny/John Forney** traveled by foot about 430 miles to Lemon, Butler County, Ohio. There he was employed as a laborer on the farm of his cousin-once-removed, Peter Schrock.[74]

In 1848 the Kropp [Kropf] family arrived in Butler County. There John met their daughter, Elisabeth/Elizabeth 'Louisa' Kropp, who was 16 years old. She was born at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe, Vosges March 14, 1833, a daughter of André Kropp [Kropf] and his second wife Madeleine Beller.

The Kropp family traveled to what is now Elm Grove in 1849, perhaps because of their ties to the Schrocks and Ropps. This apparently prompted John to make several trips to Central Illinois. In late 1852 he finally made a permanent move, finding work on the farm of minister Andrew Ropp.

According to the *Grantors Index*, he paid $1,400 to Rpbert Roskoter for 120 acres on Allentown Road next to Andrew's younger brother Jacob Ropp Feb. 24, 1954. Within a year he built a house and barn on the property.

John and Elizabeth were married in the Dillon Creek meeting by minister Andrew Ropp April 17, 1855. Their household appears on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as farmer John Forney, 33, France; Elizabeth, 27, France; Verlinda [Magdalena], 4, Illinois; Joseph, 2, Illinois; laborer Christian Rhodes, 25, France; and laborer Joseph Luther, 45, France.

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[72] Annette Surrault writes that she found a civil death entry at Jeu-lès-Bois for the death of servant Joseph Spring, 18, of the farm L'Age. It was witnessed by Joseph Riser [Risser], 50, of the same farm.

[73] If they lived with Peter Zehr, they would have left for Canada before appearing on an American census. They may have died before the first Canadian census in 1851 (actually counted in 1850), when they would have been 70 and 72 years old.

[74] The parents of Peter Schrock were Joseph Schrag and his second wife Marie Neuhauser. Marie was a sister to Anne Neuhauser, who was John Forney's grandmother.

In 1864, John became a naturalized citizen. In the spring of 1865 he sold his farm in Elm Grove to John Sommer and purchased 360 acres at Pike, Livingston County. The family found temporary shelter there in a sod house until a new one could be built. The land was damp, and in the first year it had to be drained by creating irrigation ditches lined with clay tiles. John and Elizabeth continued to accumulate property over the next 15 years.

In 1892, John and Elizabeth moved into a 15-by-20-foot cottage on the Rook's Creek property of their daughter Mary, who was married to John Beller.

By 1894, Elizabeth was confined to bed and developed morbid obesity. This may have contributed to the stroke that caused her death. *Gospel Herald*, June 1, 1894: "On the 5th of May 1894, in Livingston Co., Ill., sister Elisabeth Forney, wife of John Forney, aged 62 y., 1 m., 21 d. Sister Forney was born near St. Dietel [St. Die], Vosges, France. Of her nine children, three have preceded her. She received all the care and attention during her long sickness that a loving husband and affectionate children could bestow. At times her sufferings were so great that she became delirious. She was very patient and awaited the end with Christian fortitude. She was a faithful sister in the Amish Mennonite denomination. Besides her husband and six children she leaves a number of grandchildren. Her remains were buried on the 7th in the Pike Twp. graveyard, followed thither by many friends. Funeral services by Chr. Zimmerman, Daniel Orendorf, Joseph Zehr and John P. Schmitt from *2 Cor. 5* and *Heb. 4:11*.

When daughter Mary and her husband moved to a different farm, John's cottage was jacked up on rails and pulled by a team of horses to the new location. John's eccentricities included visiting the home of his daughter and son-in-law to eat each meal alone, then returning to his shelter before the Beller family could sit down at table.

John Forney died of stomach cancer Dec. 26, 1908. His funeral was held in Bethel Methodist Church. At the time of his death he owned a substantial amount of land in Livingston County. His modest cottage was used as a storage shed until it was destroyed by fire in 1959. The original Graymont farm had grown to 1,200 acres. Divided into several farms, the property is still largely cultivated by his descendants.

They are buried in Pike Township Cemetery at Graymont, Livingston County.

Gospel Herald, Jan. 16, 1909: "John Forney was born in France July 23, 1824, and died Dec. 26, 1908; aged 84 y. 5 m. 3 d. At ten years of age he emigrated to Canada, later to Pekin, Ill., and finally to Graymont, Ill. He was married to Elizabeth Kropp in 1855, who preceded him to the spirit world. Nine children were born to this union, five of which are still living. He also leaves 37 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren to mourn his departure."

Children of Jean Farny/John Forney and Elizabeth Kropp include:

1. Magdalena 'Lena' Forney was born July 7, 1856, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Nov. 21, 1940. On Sept. 18, 1876 at Pike, Livingston County she married John Rich. He was born in France June 8, 1846, and died at Pontiac Nov. 18, 1921, a son of Jean Rich and Catherine Eicher. They are buried in Pike Cemetery.
2. Joseph Forney was born Aug. 7, 1858, and died at Graymont, Livingston County July 31, 1868. He is buried in Pike Cemetery.
3. Mary Forney was born at Elm Grove March 5, 1861, and died at Graymont Nov. 17, 1904. On Dec. 29, 1879 in Livingston County she married John Beller. He was born at Plaine, Lower Alsace (a location associated with the Ropp family) June 21, 1860, and died at Pontiac July 21, 1953, a son of Jacob Beller and Elizabeth Schirch. They lived at Yates, McLean County, and moved to Graymont in 1885. He remarried to Sarah Good in 1906; she was born in 1869 and died in 1967, a daughter of Joseph Guth and Katharine Stalter. They lived at Pontiac after 1917.
4. Elizabeth Forney was born Nov. 1 or 2, 1863, and died at Chenoa July 27, 1943. On Jan. 18, 1885 at Flanagan she married John Roszhart. He was born at Elm Grove Aug. 29, 1861, and died at Chenoa April 19, 1943, a son of Johannes Rosshardt and Crecentia Dierberger.
5. Aaron Forney was born April 18, 1865, and died in Livingston County June 9, 1941. On Jan. 22, 1889 at Danvers he married Mary B. King. She was born in McLean County Dec. 17, 1861, and died in Livingston County Jan. 12, 1942, a daughter of Christian King and Maria Baechler. They are buried in Pike Cemetery.
6. John Forney Jr. was born in Livingston County Jan. 23, 1867, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Jan. 21, 1944. On July 5, 1892 at Danvers he married Mattie Kropf. She was born at Musselburg, Ontario May 5, 1872, and died in Livingston County May 12, 1904, a daughter of David Kropf and Magdalena Lichty. John remarried Jan. 23, 1907 to Fannie Zehr/Sears. She was born in Illinois Oct. 8, 1874, and died at Washington, Tazewell County July 31, 1964, a daughter of Christian Zehr and Jacobine Eigsti. They are buried in Pike Cemetery.
7. Andrew Forney was born at Livingston County Sept. 7, 1868, and died there Oct. 6, 1868. He is buried in Pike Cemetery.
8. Eva Forney was born at Graymont Oct. 26, 1871, and died there May 5, 1872.
9. Fannie Forney was born at Graymont June 7, 1874, and died at Esmen, Livingston County May 22, 1929. On Jan. 8, 1893 at Pekin she married her cousin Carl/Charles Fahsbender [Jr.]. He was born at Elm Grove Dec. 24, 1872, and died at El Paso, Woodford County June 24, 1956, a son of Carl/Charles Fahsbender and his second wife widow

Barbara Maurer (she had been married to André Kropp/Andrew Grubb Jr.). For background on this family see FAHSBENDER in the Appendix. They are buried in Pike Cemetery.

Magdalena Farny, the sister of Jean/John Forney, lived with Peter/Pierre Zehr and Barbara Roth in New York and Ontario. She was 'adopted,' though she retained her surname, while John was not.

She married Joseph L. Liechti, who was born at Largitzen, Upper Alsace (a location associated with the Ropp family) March 12, 1824.75 He was a son of Christian Liechti and Magdalena Litwiller. By 1851 his family had purchased a home in the Amish Mennonite settlement at Wilmot, Ontario. Joseph purchased this lot from his father in 1859. He became a minister of the Wilmot Amish Mennonite congregation and later the newly-organized Wellesley congregation.

Liechti died at Wilmot June 18, 1890. *Herald of Truth*, September 1890: "On the 18th of June, in Wilmot Twp., Waterloo Co., Ontario, Pre. Joseph L. Lichty, aged 65 years. He was a faithful laborer in the church and was in the ministry about 36 years. He leaves a sorrowing widow and 8 children, all married. On the 20th his mortal remains were consigned to their last resting place in Chr. Zehr's graveyard, on which occasion a very large number of friends and acquaintances met to look for the last time upon the face of him who had so often brought the sweet message of salvation. Funeral services by Joseph Ruby and John Gascho."

Magdalena Farny died at Wilmot Nov. 1, 1915. She and her husband are buried in the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery there.

Younger brother Johannes/Jean Risser

Johannes/Jean Risser "...was a Frenchman and native of Lorraine. While a soldier of France, he met and afterwards married a German lady [Françoise Bergmann], who was born and reared in Germany." According to Cosco, son Christian later stressed that his father had served in one of the noncombatant roles permitted to conscientious objectors.

Françoise (also found as Veronika and Véronique) Bergmann was born near Neustadt in the Upper Pfalz in 1794 to parents Christophe Bergmann and Marguerite Häffner (both Swiss families).

During the Napoleonic Wars Johannes/Jean must have served at Gerlfangen, just north of Moselle. Their oldest son was born there in 1814. Under Napoleon 'Gerlefingen' was within the extended boundaries of Moselle. Following the Treaty of Vienna in 1815 it became 'Guerlefangen' in the Saar region of Prussia; it is now known as Gerlfangen, Saarland, Germany.

Their next son was born at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching (approximately 40 miles to the southeast of Gerlfangen) in 1817.

Jean and Françoise Bergmann were married in a civil ceremony at Gros-Réderching July 22, 1818, perhaps for legal recognition or inheritance rights for their two children. The details were documented in a two-page civil entry.76

Son Christian and daughter Marie Véronique were born at nearby Guebenhouse [Ger. *Guebenhausen*], Moselle in 1819 and 1821. The remaining children were all born at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching. Nearby estates included Olferding and Brandelfing, where Engel, Nafziger, and Schantz families held leases.

In 1827 the Rissers were employed on the farm Poctet at St. Août in the department of Indre, 170 miles south of Paris. The property was owned by Aimé Jacques Marie Constant de Moreton de Chabrillan (1780-1847), a former chamberlain and aide to Napoleon (see ROTH for background on de Chabrillan). Roths, Maurers, Müllers, Springers, and Zimmermans also arrived in 1828 or 1829.

Father Johannes/Jean died after an accident during the construction of a building on Poctet farm July 21, 1828. The civil death entry found by Annette Surrault described him as laborer Jean Risser, 37, born at Sainsglin [Singling] but living at Poëtet [Poctet farm], an employee of de Chabrillan. It named his wife as Françoise Bergman, and his parents as Joseph Risser and Marie Grob [Anne Marie Kropf]. It was witnessed by laborer Joseph Gerber, 60, living at St. Août.

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[75] It is often difficult to discern how this surname should be spelled for a given individual. The Bernese Leichti family is found at Biglen, above Grosshochstetten. Many emigrated to Montbéliard, then migrated into Alsace and the Pfalz when restrictions relaxed. They became 'Liechty' in Alsatian civil records; many of those families changed the spelling to 'Lichti' in North America. Some of the families that came to Ontario reverted to 'Liechty' within a few generations.

[76] Her marriage entry says that she was from 'Flosse' at Neustadt. There is no such village, and apparently 'Flosse,' which means 'fin,' describes the shape of a bend in the river next to the city. Neustadt is also called Neustadt an der Weinstrasse; it is an important trading center in the wine industry. The entire area was annexed by Napoleon in 1802.

In 1830 the remaining family relocated to Les Lagnys, *Grand* and *Petit* farms three miles northwest of St. Valentin in the department of Indre.[77] There they were employed by Marshal Henri Gatien Bertrand, the former aide-de-camp to Napoleon (see ROTH for background on Bertrand) with the other Amish Mennonite families.

Children of Johannes/Jean Risser and Françoise Bergmann include:

1. Joseph Risser was born at what is now Gerlfangen, Saarland Oct. 5, 1814, according to a statement by his mother for her 1818 marriage document. Joseph later traveled with brothers John and Christian Reeser, eventually settling in Montgomery, Woodford County. He had four children, but his wife died during the birth of the last child. He died of yellow fever while visiting his sister Marie in New Orleans.
2. Jean/John Risser, also known as John Reeser, was born at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching Oct. 9, 1817, and died Feb. 9, 1902. His headstone at Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery erroneously gives the birth date Oct. 15, 1811. On Feb. 27, 1838 at St. Valentin, Indre he married Catherine Zimmerman. She was born at Château-le-Vannes, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 17, 1820, died at Morton Oct. 1, 1864, and is buried in Guth Cemetery at Sunnydale in Washington as "Catharina Riser, wife of John." She was the daughter of Michael Zimmerman and his first wife Barbara Roggy, and the niece of Verena (Zimmerman) Roth. Their civil mariage entry described the groom as laborer Jean Risser, 20, born at Gros-Réderching, Moselle Oct. 9, 1817 [his headstone at Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery erroneously says Oct. 15, 1811], a son of the deceased Jean Risser who had died in the canton Châtoreaux, Indre July 21, 1828, and Reine Radimere [Françoise Bergmann], a day laborer at St. Valentin. The bride was described as Catherine Zimmerman, 18, born at Vannes, Meurthe, a daughter of cultivator Michel Zimmerman and the deceased Barbe Roggine [Roggy]. Witnesses included Jean Buré, 34, day laborer at St. Valentin and stepfather of the groom [he did not sign, suggesting he was illiterate]; Jean Ponroy, 50, friend; Michel Zimmerman, 59, father of the bride; and Jean Miller [Johannes Müller], 53. They arrived at New Orleans in 1939 with brother Christian. Their household is found on the 1850 census of Liberty, Indiana as farmer John Riser, 32, France; Catharine, 30, France; Joseph, 12, France; Fanny, 7, Ohio; John, 4, Indiana; and Catharine, 2, Indiana.
3. **Christian Risser/Reeser** was born at Guebenhouse, Moselle Sept. 19, 1819.
4. Marie Véronique/Mary Risser was born at Guebenhouse July 5, 1821, and died at New Orleans in 1864. She married Paul Deutsch at New Orleans, and worked with him in a tailor shop. Although Cosco lists her children as Eugene, Elizabeth, Clara, and Isabelle, the *Louisiana Birth Index* is more specific, listing the parents as Paul Deutsch and Marie Risser: Eugenius, Jan. 17, 1843; Elizabeth, Feb. 1, 1845; Maria Catherine, March 3, 1847, died May 21, 1854; Mathilda Clementine, April 29, 1849; Eva Isabella, May 16, 1851; and Josephine Caroline, May 24, 1854.
5. Madeleine Risser (twin) was born at the hamlet Singling July 14, 1825, and died there July 18, 1826. "At 9 a.m. on July 14, 1825, Jean Rissert, 35 and unskilled, came to me, Jean Breger, mayor and official of the civil administration of Guebenhause, District of Sarreguemines, Department of Moselle. He presented a female child born at 11 a.m., July 13 in his home in Geubenhausen. He and Véronique Bergmann his wife choose to name the child Madelaine. This declaration and presentation was made in the presence of Nicholas Hubant, 29 and living in Puttelange, and Henry Guengrich, a 49-year-old cultivator living in Farschviller."
6. André Risser (twin) was born at the hamlet Singling July 15, 1825, and died at St. Août, France April 10, 1830. His civil death entry was signed by laborer André Rhodes [Andrew Roth] of Chanteloube farm at Mers-sur-Indre, and laborer Pierre Zer [Peter Zehr].

Annette Surrault found an 1836 census of Lagny, St. Valentin. It shows **Christian Risser/Reeser** with his friend Nicolas Mourer/Nicholas Maurer; they are listed after the Zimmerman family, and before the Müller family. Both families came to Woodford County.

97	*Christian Risser*	*Servant*	*17*
98	*Nicolas Marais*	*Servant*	*15*

Widow Françoise Bergmann remarried to day laborer Johannes Bauer/Jean Buré before Feb. 27, 1838 (the marriage date of her son Jean). He was born between 1794 and 1798.

The last families departed from the area of St. Valentin in 1839.

Cosco wrote that in 1839 Christian traveled to America with his brothers John (presumably accompanied by his wife Catherine Zimmerman) and Joseph and sister Marie. Cosco wrote that the males were avoiding compulsory military training, and that Christian stowed away and paid his fare at sea.

Christian's obituary says that he came to New Orleans in 1839 with his brother Jean/John (presumably accompanied by his wife Catherine Zimmerman) and friend Nicolas Mourer/Nicholas Maurer.

Cosco's absurd account of their voyage says that they originally intended to land in Canada, but their ship was blown off course and arrived in New Orleans. "Bad weather pushed their small boat headed for Canada as far south

[77] Cosco calls the farm *Bursch*, but this is simply a German word for 'student.'

as the equator. The boat once stayed still for 12 days in hot weather. When the water supply disappeared, most people on the boat prayed for a miracle. That day it rained so much they had enough water for the remaining voyage. They landed in New Orleans 69 days after leaving France." The brothers traveled up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers by flatboat, while Marie remained in New Orleans and married tailor Paul Deutsch.

Cosco's proposed course can only be roughly estimated. The original destination – the customs station at Quebec City on the St. Lawrence River – is approximately 1,000 miles north of a point in the ocean that is parallel to Key West, Florida. From that point south to the equator would have been another 1,700 miles. Then a return loop 1,700 miles north to Key West, and another 600 miles west in the Gulf of Mexico to reach New Orleans. But this does not even factor in the distance between Le Havre and the point where the ship went off its course, or the 12 days dead in the water. The voyage was not only improbable, but impossible in the age of sail. South-to-north currents would have prolonged such an erratic voyage to well over 69 days.

Thus the story does not ring true, or may have been altered in the retelling. Perhaps it was told by the immigrants later to distract from the real issue. It is understandable that as a minister Christian Reeser would have been reluctant to pass down details of an illegal entry into the country.

Christian declared his intent to become a citizen as 'Christian Risser' at Hamilton Courthouse in Butler County, Ohio in September 1840. The group he came with is listed under John Stecker/Staker's information.

According to Cosco, Christian and his brothers worked on the farm of a 'Mr. Schertz' in Butler County. This was probably the Madison farm of John Schertz, the brother of John Stecker/Staker's wife Barbara Schertz. Schertz bought, developed, and sold a number of land parcels over the years (in many cases in partnership with John Stecker/Staker). John Schertz, Peter Iutzi, Elias Kumler, Christian Augspurger, and minister Joseph Goldsmith all appear on the 1840 census of Madison.

The Risser brothers later accumulated savings by working for Kumler. Kumler's farm is shown on the 1836 plat map of Madison; it was approximately one mile south of the farm where Joseph Stecker/Staker and Frena Roth lived from 1841/42 until 1854.

In October 1842 the Reesers purchased 320 acres at Liberty, Delaware County, Indiana from Kumler for $1,240.78 Christian followed his older brother John there in 1847.

Their stepfather Jean Buré and mother Françoise Bergman followed them to America between 1847 and 1850.

The family can be found living in two dwellings on the 1850 census of Liberty. The first is the home of Christian 'Reser,' 30, a farmer born in France with $1,000 in property; living with him are John Bower [stepfather Jean Buré], 52, described as a farmer born in France, and his wife Fanny [Françoise Bergmann], 54, born in Germany. The second dwelling holds the family of John 'Reser,' 32, farmer from France with $1,000 in property;wife Catharin, 30, born in France; Joseph, 12, born in France [this must have occurred just before their departure]; Fanny, 7, born in Ohio; John, 4, born in Indiana; and Catharin, 2, born in Indiana.

Christian Reeser's mother Françoise Bergmann died at Liberty after the 1850 census. In 1852 John Bower remarried to Catherine Sommer, the widow of Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman. They are found on the Milford census in 1860 as John Bower, 57, France; Barbaray, 65, France [it is not clear why Catherine was called Barbe or Barbara at a number of points in her life, including the birth entris of two children]; and Catherine Zimmerman, 29, Framce [Catherine/Barbara's daughter]. By 1870 John was a widower.

Christian and Barbara traveled to Collinsville in Butler County to be married by minister Nicholas Augspurger before the Hessian congregation March 23, 1852. Augspurger's journal listing their ceremony, copied verbatim into Grubb's *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio*, describes them as 'Boor and Barbra Cimmerman." (Christian was the stepson of John Bower at the time). At the same meeting, Augspurger performed the ceremony of Jacob Zimmerman of the Milford family and Catherine 'Katie' Unzicker. Christian and Barbara then returned to Indiana, where they had a civil ceremony performed at Muncie April 15, 1852.

She was born at Lörrach, Baden April 4, 1830, a daughter of Johannes/John Zimmerman and Anna Schneider. Although family notes originating from Katharine Zimmerman (Mrs. John A. Zimmerman) say they came to Indiana in 1849, the Zimmermans do not appear on the 1850 census, and their children gave their own immigration date as 1851 on later censuses.

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[78] Banker, merchant and farmer Elias 'Liz' Kumler was born Oct. 21, 1809 in Brednocks Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, a son of bishop Johannes Heinrich Kumler and Susanna Wingart [Wenger]. The family moved to Greencastle, Pennsylvania the following year, and to Butler County in 1819. The 1860 census of Oxford in Butler County shows the enormous wealth of Elias Kumler and wife Anna Elizabeth Clippinger: $20,000 in land and $70,000 in personal property, at a time when most farmers averaged about $3,000 together. He died in 1873. His Gothic Revival house built in 1856 at 120 S. Main Street in Oxford is listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

Apparently Christian and Barbara fell victim to a land swindle in 1853. Christian may have been illiterate. While they thought they were only accepting an offered price, Barbara signed a receipt: "Christian Reeser and his wife Barbara Reeser to the Cincinnati, New Castle and Michigan Railroad Company for $2,400 on October 8, 1853, 120 acres." No payment was received, but Christian felt it was against his moral principles to contest the document in court.

The Reeser family continued on to Woodford County by covered wagon in 1857. Perhaps they were taking advantage of the tremendous devaluation of plains land caused by the Financial Panic of 1857. Christian eventually owned 296 acres at Eureka, Montgomery Township, including a two-story house, large barn, summer kitchen, woodshed, smokehouse, hog shed, and other outbuildings.

They can be found in the 1860 census of Montgomery Township: Christian 'Reasar', 41, farmer from France; Barbara, 30, from Baden; John, 6, born in Indiana; Anna, 5, born in Indiana; Joseph, 3, born in Indiana; Christian, 1, born in Illinois; and niece Josephine 'Reasar', 14, born in Ohio.[79] The 1880 census shows Christian Reeser or 'Reesor,' a 61-year-old farmer, and his wife Barbara, 50. He said his birthplace was France, and his parents were born in France and Germany; she said hers was Baden, and both parents were born in Baden.

Barbara died at Eureka March 26, 1903.

The 1910 census of Roanoke, Woodford County has the household of farmer Christian B. Reeser, 51, born in Illinois to a French father and a German mother; Dora, 48, born in Illinois to German parents; nine children born in Illinois; and widowed father Christian Sr., 90, France, immigrated in 1840.

The 1920 census of Cruger, Woodford County has David Ulrich, 69, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and France; Anna, 65, born in Indiana to parents from France and Germany; daughter Anna M., 42, Illinois; and father-in-law Christan Reeser, 100, born in France to a French father and a German mother, immigrated in 1838, naturalized in 1844.

Christian died at Eureka Jan. 14, 1923, and was buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery at Roanoke next to Barbara. *Gospel Herald*, Feb. 21, 1923: "Christian Reeser was a native of Alsace, Lorraine, (Sangamese) [the administrative district of Sarreguemines] which at the time of his birth was a part of France. He was born Sept. 15, 1819, a son of French and German parents. His father, whose name was John, was a Frenchman and native of Lorraine. While a soldier in France he met and afterwards married a German lady, who was born and reared in Germany. The father died while comparatively young, at the age of thirty-five years. [More likely in 1835, when he would have been 44 years old]. His widow came to America and settled in Indiana, at which place she was laid to rest, at the age of sixty years. To this union were born four children, John, Joseph and Mary deceased; Christian, the subject of this sketch, being the only one living. [Note that youngest son André is omitted]. He was reared in France and educated in the French language, but, as usual in those border provinces, he also learned to speak German. While a boy his occupation was herding sheep. In 1839, at the age of twenty years, he came to America with his brother John and a friend, Nicklos Murrier [Nicholas Maurer]. The voyage was made in a sailing vessel, 45 days being spent on the Atlantic. He located on a farm in Butler County, Ohio. Thirteen years later, at the age of thirty-three years, in Delaware County, Ind., he was married to Miss Barbara Zimmerman, a native of Baden, Germany. To this union were born thirteen children; Joseph and Andrew deceased. The living are: John P. Reeser and Mrs. Fannie S. Ulrich of Nampa, Ida.; C. B. Reeser and Mrs. Anna D. Ulrich of Eureka, Ill.; Jacob of Albany, Oreg.; Mrs. Barbara B. Ummel of Reeds, Mo.; Samuel of Goodfield, Ill.; Mrs. Wm. Plaag of Peoria, Ill.; and Peter E. of Seattle, Wash. There are also 82 grandchildren and 101 great-grandchildren. Christian Reeser came to Montgomery Township, Woodford Co., Ill., in 1858 from Delaware Co., Ind. by wagon immigration. In 1895 he decided to quit farming and in doing so moved to Eureka, Ill., at which place he lived ten years. In 1903, at the age of seventy-two, his wife died. He then made his home in Missouri, with his daughter, Mrs. Ulrich, and came back to Illinois with her about four years later. In 1867 he was called to the ministry in the Mennonite Church, with which he united when a young man. He experienced pioneer experiences in the work of the ministry. Years ago his services were used largely in the community at large for funerals. His period in the ministry was 56 years. When he was 100 years old he spoke the last time. He enjoyed his work greatly, and his death was appropriately on the Lord's Day, for that is the day he appreciated most. He passed away on Sunday, Jan. 14, 1923. His age was 103 y. 3 m. 29 d. The funeral was held on Jan. 17. The church was crowded beyond capacity. Bro. Andrew Schrock preached in German on *II Tim. 4:7*, 8. Bro. Clayton F. Derstine preached in English on *Acts 13:36*. Bros. Sam Gerber and Valentine Strubhar assisted in the service. Peace to his ashes."

Those who would like to learn more about Christian Reeser can visit the Mennonite Heritage Center in Germantown Hills, where the Cosco biography is available. A number of personal relics are on display, including

[79] Nicholas Maurer can be found on the same census page: Nicholas Maurer, 38, farmer from France; Mary [Bechler], 31, born in France; and Catherine, one month, born in Illinois.

the suit he used to perform weddings and the clothing trunk he brought to America. The adjacent arboretum was donated and dedicated in his honor by Reeser descendants.

Children of Christian Reeser and Barbara Zimmerman include:

1. John Reeser was born in Indiana March 13, 1853, and died at Nampa, Idaho March 13, 1929. In 1878 he married Phoebe Miller. She was born at Danvers May 8, 1859, and died at Nampa March 19, 1949, a daughter of Jacob Miller and Mary Birckelbaw. They can be found on the 1880 census of Montgomery.
2. Anne Marie/Anne Mary/Anna Reeser was born at Muncie, Indiana Dec. 17, 1855, and died at Eureka Oct. 12, 1941. On Oct. 22, 1874 she married David Ulrich. He was born near East Peoria July 29, 1850, and died at Eureka July 7, 1934, a son of Peter Ulrich and Anna Oyer. *Gospel Herald*, March 1941: "Ulrich. - Anna, daughter of Christian and Barbara Reeser, was born near Muncie, Ind., Dec. 17, 1854; died at her home in Eureka, Ill., Oct. 12, 1941; aged 86 y. 9 m. 26 d. At the age of three she came to Woodford Co., Ill., in a covered wagon with her parents. The Reeser homestead was established along the Mackinaw River where she lived until her marriage to David Ulrich, Oct. 22, 1874. All their married life, with the exception of six years at Garden City, Mo, were lived in Woodford Co., in the vicinities of Eureka and Metamora. Having retired from the farm, they moved to Eureka in 1919. In 1934 her husband passed away. They were blessed with 11 children, all of whom survive the passing of their mother. They are: Barbara Schertz, Eureka; Anna, at home; Christian M., Eureka; Emma Schertz, Fisher; Peter N., Eureka; Elizabeth Schertz, Falfurrius, Texas; Fannie Schrock, David, Ella Schertz, Emmanuel, and Viola Harnish, all of Eureka. In her youth, she united with the Mennonite Church, in which she was a devoted and faithful member all her life. She enjoyed good health until she took sick about eleven months ago. She was very active and found much enjoyment in the duties of home life, and in association with her many neighbors and acquaintances. Much appreciated were the loving remembrances of friends and relatives shown to her during her illness. She especially loved the timber and the beauties of nature, visiting often the vicinity of her childhood home on the Mackinaw. She was a loving mother and grandmother to her 11 children, 47 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren. She also leaves two sisters (Mrs. Lena Plaag of Peoria, Ill., and Mrs. Barbara Ummel of Reeds, Mo.), and five brothers (Jacob of Albany, Oreg.; Peter of Seattle, Wash.; Sam of Goodfield, Ill.; and Ben and David of Congerville, Ill.). One sister and four brothers preceded her in death. Funeral services were held Oct. 14, at the home and at the Roanoke Mennonite Church conducted by Bro. Ezra Yordy, assisted by Bro. H. R. Schertz and Bro. Lee Lantz. Interment in church cemetery." See ULRICH for David's obituary.
3. Joseph Reeser was born at Liberty, Indiana Aug. 18, 1857, and died at Eureka, Ill. Nov. 21, 1895. On Feb. 9, 1888 he married Emma Baker. She was born at Eureka Sept. 26, 1866, and died at Peoria July 13, 1945, a daughter of Jacob Baker and Elizabeth Bradle. They lived at Danvers, and are buried in Olio Cemetery.
4. Christian B. Reeser was born at Eureka March 7, 1859, died Oct. 28, 1940, and is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. On Jan. 24, 1884 at Eureka he married Dora Householder. She was born at Worth Feb. 6, 1861, and died at Eureka April 10, 1935. *Gospel Herald*, April 1935: "Dora (Householder) Reeser was born in Woodford Co., Ill., Feb. 6, 1861; died at her home, Eureka, Ill., April 10, 1935, after an illness of one day which developed into bronchial pneumonia; aged 74 y. 2 m. 4 d. She was married to Christian Reeser Jan. 24, 1884. To this union were born four sons and seven daughters. One daughter preceded her in death in infancy. Surviving her are her sorrowing life companion, four sons and six daughters (Debolt of Benson, Clara Heiser of Peoria, Barbara Heiser of Eureka, Katy Ackerman of Washington, Florence Kinsinger of Carlock, William of Peoria, Chris of Benson, Emma Rastetter of Eureka, Henry of Jacksonville, Anna Buck of Washington). At the death of her eldest son's wife she mothered their four children, three of whom survive. She is also survived by 19 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, one sister (Anna Kamp of Eureka), two brothers (Debolt of Eureka and Joseph of Fairbury), and a host of relatives and friends. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth at Washington, and remained faithful to the end. She was of a quiet, patient, and loving disposition. She never enjoyed the best of health but exercised great patience and never complained her lot in life. The funeral services were held April 13 at the home conducted by Buns and Esch, and at the Roanoke Mennonite Church by Ezra Yordy and Val. Strubhar."
5. Veronica 'Fannie' Reeser was born at Eureka April 25, 1861, and died March 29, 1937. In January 1878 she married Samuel Ulrich. He was born Jan. 12, 1855, and died Dec. 20, 1936, a son of Peter Ulrich and Anna Oyer. They lived near Bloomington and later at Albany, Oregon.
6. Barbara Reeser was born at Eureka June 2, 1863, and died March 22, 1946. On Dec. 2, 1882 she married Benjamin 'Ben' Ummel. He was born in Switzerland circa 1859, and died in 1936. He was naturalized in McLean County Oct. 22, 1888. In 1910 they were living with three children at McDonald, Avilla County, Missouri. They are found on the 1930 census of Jasper, Avilla County, Missouri as Ben Ummel, 71, born in Switzerland to Swiss parents, immigrated 1881; and Barbara, 66, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Germany. They are buried in Avilla Cemetery.
7. Jacob Reeser was born at Eureka July 30, 1865, and died at Albany, Oregon Oct. 14, 1941. Jacob was an engineer in Arkansas before moving to Oregon. In August 1889 he married Mary Nofziger. She was born at Pettisville, Ohio March 20, 1869, died at Albany Dec. 5, 1932, a daughter of Christian Nofziger and Magdalena Yoder. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Albany. *Gospel Herald*, January 1933: "Mary (Nofiger) Reeser, wife of Jacob Reeser, was born at Archbold, Ohio, March 20, 1869; died at her home at Albany, Oreg., Dec. 5, 1932; aged 63 y. 8 m. 16 d. She was married to Jacob Reeser in August 1889. To this union were born eight sons and three daughters.

She leaves her husband and all her children as follows: Simon and Dewey of Van Nuys, Calif.; William, Jessie, Edwin, Cecil, Ray, Walter, Mrs. Lena Erb, Mrs. Jennie Erb, and Mrs. Marie Widmer, all of Albany; also 33 grandchildren, five brothers, three sisters, and many other relatives and friends. She was in failing health for several months. She bore her suffering patiently and cheerfully, which was characteristic of her life. She accepted Christ when a young woman, united with the Mennonite Church, to which she has remained faithful to the end. Funeral services were held Dec. 8 at her late home and at the Grace Mennonite church, by W. Harley King, assisted by N. A. Lind." Following Mary's death Jacob remarried to Sara Shoemaker.

8. Samuel Reeser was born at Eureka April 21, 1867, and died in 1942. In 1892 he married Francis Reel, who was born in 1872, and died in 1960. They lived at Montgomery. They are buried under a joint headstone in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.
9. Magdalena Reeser was born at Eureka May 1, 1869, and died March 13, 1953. In Fulton County June 2, 1921 she became the second wife of William Plaag. He was born at Peoria circa 1886. William is found on the 1910 and 1920 censuses of Peoria with a wife Emma, born circa 1883. William and Magdalena are found on the 1930 census of Peoria as William, 46, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; and Lena, 60, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Germany.
10. Benjamin E. Reeser was born at Eureka Oct. 16, 1871, and died at Bloomington Aug. 7, 1955. On Jan. 31, 1899 he married Clara M. Reel [Riehl]. She was thought to have been born at what is now Congerville July 18, 1883, and died at Eureka Nov. 19, 1935 (though her headstone gives the dates 1882-1934). They lived in Arkansas but returned to Illinois to live at Congerville, and are buried in Imhoff Cemetery.
11. David Reeser was born at Eureka Nov. 28, 1873, and died at Congerville March 19, 1954. On Dec. 28, 1898 at Congerville he married Ellen B. Miller. She was born at Danvers March 7, 1873, and died Dec. 25, 1944, a daughter of Jacob Miller and Mary Birckelbaw. They lived at Congerville and are buried in Imhoff Cemetery there.
12. Andrew Reeser (twin) was born at Eureka May 1, 1877, and died in August 1877.
13. Peter Elmer Reeser (twin) was also born at Eureka May 1, 1877, and died at Miami, Texas Oct. 10, 1963. In 1899 he married Eva Roberts. She was born in Eureka circa 1881, and died in 1932. Peter remarried to Clara Vogel. They lived at Seattle, Washington.

Peter/Pierre Risser

Farmer and day laborer **Peter/Pierre Risser**, born between 1762 and 1768, is only known to us through two civil entries. He may have been a younger brother to Joseph Risser/Reisser.

He married Catherine Stücker/Stecker, who was also born circa 1768. Circumstances suggest that she was a daughter of Adrian Anthoni Stűcker/Antoine Stecker and Marie Müller. However, the connection cannot be proven with available evidence.

Catherine died on Stockbronn farm at Éguelshardt, Moselle (18 miles east of the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching) March 24, 1816. Her civil death entry described the widower as Peter Risser, 48 [thus born circa 1768], a farm equipment operator on Stockbronn farm at Éguelshardt.

The last mention of Peter/Pierre Risser was the 1819 civil death entry of his son Chrétien. It described Pierre as a 57-year-old [thus born circa 1762] day laborer on Morauville farm at Rimling (six miles northeast of the hamlet Singling). He signed 'Peter Risser.'

Children of Peter/Pierre Risser and Catherine Stücker/Stecker include:

1. Joseph Risser was born circa 1792, and died at Gondrexon, Meurthe-et-Moselle Oct. 11, 1857. On Dec. 31, 1818 at Nitting he married Madeleine Zehr. She was born circa 1792, and died at Gondrexon June 15, 1868, a daughter of Christian Zehr and Freni Martin. Their children include:
    a. Catherine Risser was born at Hesse, Moselle (Hesse is located two miles above Nitting) in 1823, and died March 26, 1837.
    b. Joseph Risser was born at Hesse, Moselle May 22, 1824. He married Madeleine Vercler in 1849, becoming her third husband. She was born at Herbéviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle March 24, 1817, a daughter of Jacob Vercler and Marie Brechbühl. Her first husband could not be identified; the second was Jean Springer.
    c. Barbe Risser was born at Hesse, Moselle Oct. 5, 1826, and died at Wilmot, Ontario Feb. 13, 1903. She married Jean Kennel. He was born at Macheren, Moselle July 14, 1825, and died at East Zorra, Ontario July 21, 1904, a son of Jean Kennel and Elisabeth Saltzmann. They settled on Lot 28E at East Zorra, Ontario. They are buried in the East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery.
    d. Jean Risser was born at Hesse, Moselle Nov. 24, 1828.
    e. Madeleine Risser was born at Fraquelfing, Moselle June 3, 1833. On May 24, 1859 at Gondrexon she became the second wife of Jean Schrag/Schrack. He was born at Bénestroff Jan. 29, 1815, a son of Simon Schrag and Anne Suisse/Schweitzer. Jean was previously married to Madeleine Sommer.

f. Pierre Risser was born at Gondrexon April 24, 1838. On April 2, 1878 he married Catherine Gerrard.

2. Madeleine Risser was born circa 1792, and died at Gros-Réderching May 3, 1799.
3. Catherine Risser was born at Gros-Réderching Nov. 21, 1795.
4. Barbe Risser was born at Singling March 25, 1800. On Jan. 9, 1826 at Haboudange she married Jean Sommer (1803-1871). They had five children. Only one of them came to America: Anna Sommer was born Feb. 20, 1841, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County April 23, 1926. On Dec. 17, 1866 at Yates Township, McLean County she married Peter Garber. He was born as Pierre Guerber (as found in the text of the civil birth entry) at Saulxures-lès-Nancy, Meurthe-et-Moselle July 4, 1839 (his headstone says July 22), and died at Fairbury March 26, 1914, a son of Pierre Gerber/Peter Garber and Barbara Saltzmann. His civil birth entry describes his parents as cultivator Pierre Guerber, 28, living at Saulxures, and Barbe Salsmann, 24. It was witnessed by paternal uncle and cultivator Joseph Guerber, 34, of Saulxures. Both the father and his brother signed with the spelling 'Gerber.' In 1852 Peter immigrated with his parents, who settled in Big Lick Township, Hancock County, Ohio, where his father opened a blacksmith shop. Anna and Peter are found on the 1900 census of Fairbury City, Indian Grove Township, Livingston County, where their years of immgration are both given as 1852. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery at Fairbury.
5. Chrétien Risser was born circa 1805, and died at Rimling Jan. 22, 1819. The death entry reads, “Death today of Chrétien Risser, 13, son of Pierre Risser and the deceased Catherine Stücker. Witness Pierre Risser, 57, day laborer on Morauville farm at Rimling, father of the deceased.” Peter Risser signed the entry.

Jean Risser/Riser

Jean Risser/Riser married Marie Schneider.

Their son **Jean Risser/Riser** was born at Rahling circa 1771. On March 30, 1799 at Rohrbach lès Bitche, Moselle he married Madeleine Schantz. She died at Bettviller, Moselle Jan. 7, 1845, a daughter of Christian Schantz and Anne Rubi. (Recall that three of her siblings married children of Joseph Risser and Anne Marie Kropf).

Their son **Christian/Chrétien Risser** was born at Rahling, Moselle July 6, 1807, and died at Epping, Moselle March 11, 1842.

On Nov. 29, 1830 at Rahling he married Anne/Anna Roggy. She was born on the Waderhof at Lorentzen Oct. 14, 1805, and died at Panola, Woodford County Aug. 14, 1882, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Roggy (he wrote his own name 'Johannes Rogÿ) and Catherine Birki.[80]

Her daughter’s obituary says that as a widow Anne/Anna took her four children to live with an uncle at Zweibrücken, Bavaria. That uncle was almost certainly Andreas/André Roggy on the Offweilerhof.

According to a son's 1900 census report, the family immigrated in 1853.

The household of daughter Catherine Risser and her husband Christian Ruvenacht is found on the 1880 census of Panola. Mother Anne/Anna Roggy Risser and brother Valentine Risser were living with them: Christian Reuvenacht, 46, born in Prussia to Prussian parents [Alsace-Lorraine was occupied 1870-1918]; Cathern, 45, born in Prussia to Prussian parents; Annie, 14, Illinois; Barbara, 12, Illinois; Solomon, 7, Illinois; Valentine Risser, brother-in-law, 47, Prussia; and Annie Risser, 77, mother-in-law, Prussia.

The headstone of Anne/Anna in Baughman Cemetery says, “Annie Risser, died April 14, 1882, aged 79 yrs, 6 mos.”

Children of Christian/Chrétien Risser and Anne/Anna Roggy include:

1. Jean/John Risser was born at Rahling Oct. 9, 1831, and died at El Paso March 11, 1869. On March 11, 1856 in Woodford County he married Anne/Anna Farny. The application called them 'John Resser' and 'Ann Forney.' She was born at Buhl-Lorraine, Moselle May 10, 1831, and died at El Paso Dec. 12, 1911, a daughter of Jean Farny and Catherine Gerber. Her family had arrived on the *Belle Assise* with Christian Ruvenacht in 1853. Jean/John and Anna lived at Spring Bay, and relocated to Roanoke in 1860. As a widow Anna moved to El Paso to live with a daughter in 1910. *Herald of Truth*, April 1869: “On the 11th of March in Woodford County, John Risser, aged 37 years, five months, and three days. He was a member of the Omish Mennonite Church. Funeral addresses were delivered by Jacob Naffziger and Christian Risser from *I Cor. 15*.” *Gospel Herald*, January 1912: "Anna Farney was born in Beil, France, Apr. 20, 1832; died at El Paso, Ill., Dec. 12, 1911, aged 79 yr. 7 m. 22 d. She was united in marriage Mar. 11, 1856, to John Risser. To this union were born eight children, of whom five survive, all being present at time of death. Soon after marriage they moved on a farm near Springbay, Ill., living there a few years and then in 1860 moved on a farm near Roanoke, Ill., and lived there until 1899, when she moved to Roanoke. In 1910 she with her daughter, Mrs. Mattie Belsley, moved to El Paso, Ill. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and has been a faithful and devoted member ever since. She leaves to mourn her departure two sons, three daughters, one

[80] A number of sources mistakenly say she was the wife of Joseph Guingrich; this is incorrect, and arose out of confusion over another much younger couple.

brother, 15 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Funeral services at the Roanoke Church Dec. 14. Bro. P.D. Schertz spoke from *Psa. 90:15, 16*, and Bro. I.W. Royer from *Psa. 16:11*. Interment in nearby cemetery." John and Anna are buried in Roanonke Mennonite Cemetery.

2. Valentin/Valentine Risser was born at Bourscheid, Moselle June 13, 1833, and died in Woodford County Nov. 25, 1908. He is found on the 1860 census of Montgomery Township, and on the 1880 census of Panola. He is buried in Baughman Cemetery.
3. Catherine Risser was born at Bourscheid June 8, 1835, and died at Panola April 14, 1882. On Sept. 1, 1864 in Woodford County she married Chrétien Rouvenacht/Christian Ruvenacht. He was born at Asswiller Dec. 26, 1834, and died at Graymont, Livingston Country Dec. 11, 1904, a son of Christian Rouvenacht and Anne Rediger. See RUVENACHT for more on this couple.
4. Joseph W. Risser was born at Bourscheid April 16, 1838, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Aug. 22, 1906. On March 26, 1863 in Woodford County he married Barbara Nafziger. The application called them 'Joseph Resser' and 'Barbary Nafziner.' She was born at Washington April 30, 1843, and died Dec. 18, 1918, a daughter of minister and elder Jean/John Nafziger and Anne Marie Gerber. They are found on the 1870 census of Washington as farmer Joseph Risser, 32, France; Barbary, 27, Illinois; John, 6, Illinois; Christian, 4, Illinois; Peter, 3, Illinois; Elizabeth Noffziger, 22, Illinois; and farm laborer Rudolphe [illegible], 35, Germany. They also appear on the 1880 and 1900 censuses of Washington. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.

Maurer: Mourer of Hattigny

A *Mŭrer* or *Maurer* is a mason, stone fitter, or brick layer. This surname appears in Bernese records as Mŭrer, and in French records as Mourer. The 1682 *Mosestafel* tableau in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg has a coats-of-arms board [Ger.*Wappentafel*] for Andres Mŭrer. It shows a Gothic stone wall.

Peter/Pierre Maurer was born circa 1745, and died at Fénétrange, Moselle Nov. 27, 1824. He may have signed his own name Mŭrer, as his son Nicolas did. He married Marie Barbe Risser. She was born circa 1750, and died at Fénétrange Aug. 24, 1820. They lived on Risholz farm at Hattigny, Moselle from at least 1787 to 1795. From 1798 until their deaths they farmed on Broudergarten farm at Fénétrange.

Their children include:

1. Véronique Mourer was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny circa 1784, and died at Fénétrange Feb. 16, 1816. On July 11, 1810 at Fénétrange she married widower Joseph Sommer. He was born at Bust, Lower Alsace July 15, 1780, and died at Ratzwiller, Lower Alsace Sept. 25, 1835, a son of Jacques Sommer and Catherine Springer. His first wife had been Madelein Martin (see MARTIN).
2. Catherine Mourer was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny circa 1787, and died at Washington in 1845. On Jan. 20, 1800 at Friboug, Moselle (an entry made at Rhodes) she married Christian Nafziger. He was born at Waltembourg, Moselle Jan. 20, 1779, and died at St. Jean-Kourtzerode, Moselle May 27, 1829, a son of Christian Nafziger and Catherine Sommer. As a widow Catherine and her children sailed from Le Havre on the *Marengo*, arriving at New Orleans Nov. 25, 1837. They settled at Washington, Tazewell County. See NAFZIGER, THE NAFZIGERS OF WASHINGTON for more on this family.
3. **Pierre Mourer/Peter Maurer** was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny March 24, 1787 (headstone date), and died at Bloomington, McLean County Jan. 2, 1873.
4. Marie Mourer was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny circa 1793, and died at Oppen, Germany Dec. 6, 1857. On Aug. 23, 1820 at Neufgrange, Sarreguemines she married Joseph Blaser. He was born at Bisten-en-Lorraine, Moselle in 1790, and died there Jan. 7, 1845, a son of Jean Blaser and Marie Ann Gerber.
5. **Nicolas Mourer** was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny Feb. 10, 1794, and died at St. Valentin, Indre in central France Sept. 19, 1834.
6. Barbe Mourer/Barbara Maurer was born on Albéschaux Farm at Fribourg, Moselle Feb. 3, 1798. On May 5, 1818 at Sarrebourg Hof she married Joseph Springer. He was born in the Mattmuhl at Sarrebourg May 5 or 15, 1791, and son of miller Jorg/George Springer and Madeleine Virckler. Marriage witnesses included Christian Springer, 25, and Pierre Springer, 22, brothers of the groom; and Pierre Maurer, 28, and Nicolas Maurer, 25, brothers of the bride. See SPRINGER for more on this couple.

PIERRE MOURER/PETER MAURER

Pierre Mourer/Peter Maurer was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny, Moselle March 24, 1787 (headstone date), and died at Bloomington, McLean County Jan. 2, 1873.

On Oct. 28, 1823 at Fénétrange he married Marie Sommer. She was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois, Meurthe-et-Moselle Dec. 23, 1797, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Aug. 16, 1880, a daughter of Joseph Sommer and Elisabeth Gerber. The civil entry described Pierre as a cultivator on Risholz farm at Hattigny. His younger brother Nicholas Mourer was a witness.

The family may have sailed from Le Havre on the *Science*, and arrived at New Orleans June 14, 1830. The National Archives does not have a copy of this passenger list. All that survives are index cards kept in the *Index of U.S. Passenger Arrivals*, which are no better than third- or fourth-hand transcriptions. They document farmer Peter Mourere, 42, Switzerland, destination Cincinnati; Ms. Moureur, 31, Switzerland; A. [female], 8; Marie, 6; and Pauline, 4. If this is the family – and it is possible because there were few passengers coming into New Orleans from Le Havre at this early date – the names and ages of the children are completely wrong.[81]

Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County (1887): "They were married in France in 1825, and in 1830 came to the United States and located in Butler County, Ohio. They remained there eight years, and thence removed to Woodford County, Ill., where Mr. M. purchased 160 acres of land and where both ... resided until his death." This roughly agrees with the idea that Peter and his family came to Central Illinois only after his intial land purchase. In 1837 he bought 160 acres in Sections 26 and 27 of McLean County from Isaac and Polly Stout. The

[81] The infamous slaver *Armistad* arrived in port at New Orleans Oct. 27, 1830. The cotton ship *Superior* with Litwillers, Oyers, and Mosimanns arrived Dec. 4, 1830.

original property lines can be found on the 1873 plat map of Woodford County as the farm of oldest son Joseph Maurer, within the southern boundary of Woodford County.

The 1840 census of McLean County shows the household of Peter Morey [Maurer] next door to John Stroup [Strubhar]: one male 50-59 years of age; one male 10-14; one male 5-9; one male under 5; one female 40-49; and one female 10-14.

In 1843 Peter provided land at Congerville for a cemetery; this is now the Peter Maurer Cemetery.

The *Illinois Public Land Tract Sales Database* indicates that 'Peter Murer' purchased parcels of 80 and 40 acres for 63 cents per acre in Section 16, Township 25N of Woodford County March 19, 1846.

Their household appears on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Peter Mooney, 63, France; Mary, 53, France; Joseph, 23, France; John, 11, Illinois; Catharine, 9, Illinois; and Barbara Donner, 6, Illinois. They lived next door to Joseph Gerber and Magdalena Sommer, who appear on the census as Joseph Garber, 45, Ohio; Lenah, 36, Ohio; their six children born in Ohio; and Catharine Gingry, 13.

They appear on the 1860 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County as Peter Maurer, 73, born in France to French parents; Mary [Sommer], 63, born in France to French parents; John, 21, born in Illinois to parents from France; Jacob Maurer, 25, born in Germany to German parents [their son-in-law Jacob Donner married to Catherine]; Catherine, 18, born in Illinois to French parents; and Alena [Magdalena, Jacob and Catherine's daughter], one month, born in Illinois.

The 1870 census of Bloomington, McLean County shows Peter living with his son Joseph: retired farmer Joseph Maurer, 45, France; Fanny, 33, Ohio; Wanple, 9, female, Illinois; Elizabeth, 7, Illinois; William, 5, Illinois; Benjamin, 3, Illinois; Peter, 84, France.

Peter's *Bloomington Pantagraph* obituary: "Maurer, Peter, d. at the res. of his son, on W. Mulberry St. Bloomington, Ill. Jan. 2, 1873, aged 85 years, 9 months, 9 days."

Peter and Marie/Mary are buried in Peter Maurer Cemetery near County Road 75 N, southeast of Congerville on the Woodford-McLean county line.

Their children include:

1. Joseph Mourer/Maurer was born at Fénétrange Oct. 1, 1824, and died at Bloomington Aug. 18, 1874. On March 6, 1859 he married Veronica/Fanny/Fannie Mae Mosiman. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Feb. 26, 1837, and died June 21, 1901, a daughter of Christian Mosiman and Barbara Peter Smith. Joseph purchased 40 acres of federal land in section 27 of Montgomery Township for $1.25 an acre Sept. 17, 1852, then returned to the land office on Oct. 22 to claim 80 acres of federal land in section 27 of Montgomery Township for free. He is found on the 1865 state census of Danvers listed immediately after Christian Rupp. John Struphar, Valentine Struphar, Joseph Stuckey, and Christian Imhoff. Joseph's headstone in Evergreen Memorial Cemetery at Bloomington says, "Joseph Maurer died Aug. 18, 1874; aged 49 Ys. 10 Ms. & 13 Ds." On Jan. 14, 1875 in McLean County Fanny remarried to Wilhelm/ William Schenk. He was born in Germany July 20, 1842, a son of John Schenck and Margaret Mire. He had immigratded with his younger sister Anna in 1864. Fanny's headstone at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery calls her Fanny Mosiman Schenk and says that she died June 21, 1901, aged 64 years, 3 months, and 25 days.
2. Barbe/Barbara Mourer was born at Fénétrange May 27, 1826, and died during the 1830 immigration voyage.
3. Marie Mourer/Mary Maurer was born at Hattigny Sept. 22, 1828, and died in McLean County June 18, 1849. As a 15-year-old on Nov. 7, 1843 in Woodford County she married Jacob Donner. He was born April 17, 1820, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Nov. 9, 1893, a son of Peter Donner and Barbara Naffziger. See DONNER for background on this couple.
4. Anna Maurer was born in Illinois in 1833, and died before the 1840 census.
5. Magdalena Maurer was born in Illinois in 1835, and died before the 1840 census.
6. Christian Maurer. The 1840 census of McLean County shows an unidentified boy between the ages of five and nine. He apparently died before the 1850 census. *Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County* listed nine children in this birth order, including one named Christian. Several genealogies confuse this Christian with a son of Samuel Maurer and Magdalena Schwartzentruber, perhaps because both had a younger brother named Peter.
7. Peter Maurer was born in Illinois circa 1836, and died between the 1840 and 1850 censuses.
8. John Maurer was born in Illinois circa 1839. On Nov. 22, 1868 in McLean County he married Anna Schenck. She was born in Germany circa 1845, and died at Bloomington, McLean County circa 1870, a daughter of Frederick Schenck and Margaret Mire. She had immigrated with her brother Wilhelm/William in 1864. According to *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* (1887), on the voyage 33 people died from dehydration, trying to drink salt water after fresh water ran out. In 1875 Anna's brother Wilhelm/William became the second husband of Veronica/Fanny/Fannie Mae Mosiman Maurer; she was the widow of John's older brother Joseph Maurer.
9. Catherine Maurer was born in Illinois in Dec. 19, 1841, and died July 5, 1926. On June 30, 1859 in McLean County she married Jacob Maurer. He was born at Neukirchen (now a neighborhood of Kaiserslautern) in the Pfalz Nov. 1, 1834, and died Jan. 8, 1907. He immigrated from Bavaria in 1855 and worked as a farm laborer in Pennsylvania and Butler County, Ohio before resettling at Dry Grove, McLean County in 1859. Jacob was naturalized in McLean

County Jan. 18, 1868. They appear in the household of her parents in 1860, and again on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township with five children, where Jacob's nationality was given as Bavaria; his widowed mother-in-law Marie/Mary Sommer was listed with them as Mary, 82, born in France to French parents. They are buried under a joint headstone in Evergreen Memorial Cemetery at Bloomington. Jacob's father was Samuel Maurer, who was born at Merxheim (30 miles southwest of Wiesbaden) March 5, 1795, and died at Danvers June 22, 1863; he is buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers. On April or Sept. 27, 1825 at Mehlingen Samuel married Magdalena Schwartzentruber/Schwartzentraub. She was born at Freinsheim Aug. 18, 1800, and died at Danvers Nov. 3, 1884. She is buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.82

NICOLAS MOURER

Nicolas Mourer (he signed his own name Niclas Mŭrer) was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny, Moselle Feb. 10, 1794, and died at St. Valentin in the department of Indre in central France Sept. 19, 1834.

On March 23, 1820 at Fenetrange he married Marie Kropf. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Jan. 1, 1800, and died at Schneckenbusch, Moselle in 1859, a daughter of Anthoni/Antoine Kropf and Marie Baecher.83

They may have been farming at Mérigny (30 miles southwest of Châteauroux) shortly before Nicolas died. His civil death entry created at St. Valentin described him as cultivator Nicolas Muret, 40. It was witnessed by cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 25; and cultivator André Rhodes [Roth] (see ROTH for background on the Amish Mennonite families working for Comte Bertrand at St. Valentin).

Their children born at Xures, Meurthe-et-Moselle, found in those records as Moureur, include:

1. Marie Moureur was born March 11, 1821, and died at Xures March 22, 1821. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Nicolas Moureur, 26, a cultivator on the farm Guedelexat at Xures, and Marie Croupe. It was witnessed by friend Jean Oyer, 33, and second cousin Joseph Farny, 28, both millers in the mill at Guedelexat. Signatures looked like Niclas Mŭrer, Hans Oÿer, and Joseph Farni.
2. **Nicolas Moureur** was born at Xures, Meurthe-et-Moselle March 3, 1822. His civil entry described his parent as Nicolas Moureur, 28, a cultivator on the farm Guedelexat, and Marie Croupe.
3. Marie Catherine Mourer was born at Xures April 19, 1823.

Nicolas Moureur was born at Xures, Meurthe-et-Moselle March 3, 1822. Elsewhere throughout life he would be known as **Nicolas Mourer or Nicholas Maurer**. He died at Danvers, McLean County June 21, 1894.

Annette Surrault found an 1836 census of Lagny, St. Valentin. It shows Nicholas and his friend Christian Risser/Reeser listed after the Zimmerman family, and before the Müller family. Both families immigrated in 1839 and settled in to Woodford County.

96	*Chrosto Hermence*	*Servant*	*21*
97	*Christian Risser*	*Servant*	*17*
98	*Nicolas Marais*	*Servant*	*15*

The servants were employed in the household of Comte Bertrand.

Christian Risser/Reeser's obituary in the *Gospel Herald* Feb. 21, 1923 said that he came to America with Nicholas: "In 1839, at the age of twenty years, he came to America with his brother John and a friend, Nicklos Murrier."

On Christmas Day of 1848 in Butler County, Ohio he married Marie/Mary Bechler; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. The entry is found in Grubb's *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio*; it was transcribed from Augspurger's journal as "Nicholas Mouer and Mary Heeler."84

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82 In 1860 they followed their son Jacob, who had immigrated five years earlier. The steam ship *Illinois* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York June 20, 1860: farmer Samuel Maurer, 55, Bavaria; Magdalene, 50; Jacobina, 26; Christian, 28; Peter, 25; Elizabetha, 22; and Catherina, 18. Samuel and Magdalena farmed 80 acres at Danvers.*Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* (1887) described the children of Samuel and Magdalena as Jacob married to Catherine Maurer; Phebe married to Frederick Heidenfelter; Christian; Peter; Elizabeth married to Eckhardt Wendrath; John married to Barbara/Babette Imhoff; Daniel married to Helen Otto; and Catherine married to Earnest Linneman.

83 Marie Kropf's birth entry was witnessed by 'Chrétien Augstberger,' 41, a cultivator at the farm *Pointe du Jour* [day break]who signed his name Christian Aŭgsbŭrger. This was Christian Augspurger, who was born at Gemaingoutte (now in Vosges) in 1756, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 13, 1808. In 1781 he had married Maria Magdalena Kropf. They may have been aunt and uncle to Marie. Their children were the Augspurgers who settled in Butler County, Ohio.

84 A handwritten journal found in the pocket of minister Nicholas Augspurger after his death was transcribed with its original spelling errors. The transcription was published in Grubb's *The History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio*.

Marie/Mary was a daughter of Christian Bächler/Bechler and Elisabeth/Eliza Zimmerman. Her family arrived from Le Havre at New Orleans on the *Marcia Cleaves* July 26, 1840. For background on that disastrous journey, see GINGERICH; for background on her father, see BECHLER/BECKLER.

The Maurers are found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Nicholas Moorey, 30, Germany; and Mary, 28, Germany.

On Sept. 11 and 25, 1852, Nicholas claimed 80 acres of federal land in Section 11 of Montgomery Township on warrants. The 1860 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County shows Nicholas on the same page as Christian Risser/Reeser: farmer Nicholas Maurer, 38, France; Mary [Bechler], 31, France; and Catherine, one month, Illinois.

We could not ascertain the exact date of Marie/Mary's death, which must have taken place in Woodford County between 1860 and 1864. Circa 1864 Nicholas remarried to next-door-neighbor Mary Kohler. She was born in Switzerland April 15, 1837, and died July 21, 1897, a daughter of Christian Kohler and Susanna Maurer. She immigrated with her parents in 1862.

On Dec. 17, 1867 Nicholas purchased a 40-acre parcel in sections 25 of Montgomery Township for $8.10 an acre, then purchased another 120 acres in Section 10 for the same price.

Their 280-acre farm can be found in section 10 on the 1873 plat map of Woodford County. The farm of Christian Kohler was below them in section 15. The farm of Christian Risser/Reeser (found as C. Risser) was directly north of them in section 3.

The household is shown on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township as farmer Nicholas Maurer, 58, France; Mary C., 43, Switzerland; Catherine, 19, Illinois; Samuel, 14, Illinois; Joseph, 13, Illinois; Lydia, 9, Illinois; John, 7, Illinois; Mary, 1, Illinois; and laborer John Kohler, 21.

In 1885 Nicholas and Mary relocated onto a farm at Danvers, McLean County. When he died there in 1894 he owned 1,500 acres in Woodford and McLean Counties.

The Past and Present of Woodford County, Illinois: "Maurer, Nicholas, farmer; P. O. Danvers ; was born in France in 1822 ; his father, Nicholas Maurer, was a farmer; here Mr. Maurer spent his younger days working on the farm; his father died when he was about 13 years old; this put him out in the world to work for himself: his first work one year was for Sl-4.40 and clothing; next two years for $20.00 per year; here he saved money enough to pay his passage to America in 1839; when he landed here was without money and friends; he set out from New Orleans, this being the port he landed at, having been 56 days in making the trip; by steamer he went to Cincinnati, 0., then to Butler Co., and commenced to farm at $10 per month; he came to Woodford Co.; his first work here was with his uncle [Peter Maurer] at $5 per month; in 1845 he purchased 80 acres of land, and to-day, with hard labor and good management, is one of the successful farmers of Woodford Co.; owns a fine improved farm, 990 acres: he married twice; 1849, to Miss Mary Bechler; one child; second wife Mary Choler; four children." Note that an arrival 'without friends or money' would contradict Christian Risser/Reeser's obituary stating that they arrived together.[85]

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[85] A less reliable version of early events is told in *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois, Volume 2, History of McLean County.* Its dates and numbers suggest that Nicholas's father died when he was seven (he was actually 13); that he came to America circa 1835; and if the 'age of majority' for an orphan is considered to be 21, that he did not come to Illinois until circa 1843. It also implies that his uncle Peter Maurer was in Ohio until circa 1843. "Nicholas Maurer, father of Samuel E., spent his extreme youth on a farm in France, and at the age of seven was left an orphan dependent upon the care and protection of relatives and friends. At the age of fourteen he came to America with a friend who shared his ambition to see more of the world, and thereafter he lived in the home of his uncle, in Ohio, until attaining his majority. He then came to McLean County, Ill., and secured employment on a farm, soon after marrying Mary Garber, with whom he located on a rented farm for a couple of years. He then invested his earnings in eighty acres of land in Woodford County, Ill., and so wisely developed the resources of the same, that he soon supplemented his original eighty acres with as much more land. Possessed of a calm and far-seeing judgement, he proceeded along safe and conservative lines, at the same time reaching out for larger fields of activity, in time becoming the owner of 800 acres of land in Woodford County. In 1885 Mr. Maurer bought, and settled on, a farm in Danvers Township, McLean County, and to the same kept adding until he owned in the vicinity 700 acres of land. Thus was he true to the best traditions of thrift of his native land, and at the time of his death in 1894, was the possessor of 1,500 acres in two of the most fertile counties in the state. Mr. Maurer was a man of deep religious convictions, and a devout member of the Mennonite church. In politics he was independent. To his first wife was born a daughter, Katie, who became the wife of John P. Kohler, a minister in the Mennonite church, residing in White Oak Township. For a second wife Mr. Maurer married Mary Kohler who was born in Germany, and who is the mother of five children: Samuel E., Joseph C., a farmer of Danvers Township; Liddy, wife of G. Miller, of Danvers Township; Amelia, wife of E.Y. Zook, of Danvers Township; and John, a farmer of Danvers Township, all being members of the Mennonite church."

Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County (1887) gives yet another version of events: "Nicholas Maurer, of Danvers Township, has been a resident of this State since 1843, and two years later located in McLean County, where he has continued to make his home until the present. His homestead is located on section 10, Danvers Township, where he is engaged

Herald of Truth, February 1894: "On the 21st of January, 1894, near Danvers, McLean Co., Ill., of the after effects of La Grippe, Nicholas Maurer, aged 72 y., 10 m., 18 d. He leaves a deeply bereaved widow and 6 children. He was a faithful member in the Mennonite congregation at the above place. Bro. Maurer was twice married. His first wife was Mary Bechler with whom he had seven children, of which but one survives. His second wife's maiden name was Kohler. Of their six children, five remain. Sister Maurer was too ill to attend the funeral of her beloved companion on the 22d at the North Danvers M.H. Funeral services by Joseph Stuckey from *Rev. 14:13* and *Phil. 1:21* and Joseph King from *Isa. 38:12*. Bro. Maurer was highly esteemed and his loss will be deeply felt."

Marie/Mary Bechler is buried next to the joint headstone for Nicholas and his second wife Mary Kohler in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery. Unfortunately her headstone calling her 'Mary Maurer' lacks dates of birth or death.

According to his obituary Nicolas Mourer/Nicholas Maurer and his first wife Marie/Mary Bechler had seven children, and only one survived him. It would have been more accurate to say that Nicholas had seven children by two wives (one from the first, six from the second), and the daughter from his first wife survived him.

1. Catherine/Katharina 'Kate' Maurer was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County June 28, 1860, and died June 1, 1944. On March 15, 1883 at Dry Grove, McLean County she married her step-uncle John P. Kohler; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born in Switzerland May 10, 1859, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County Sept. 8, 1930, a son of Christian Kohler and Susanna Maurer. He immigrated with his parents in 1862. Their household appears on the 1900 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as farmer John Kohler, 41, born in Germany in May 1859 to German parents; Katie, 39, born in Illinois in June 1860 to parents from France and Ohio; Jesse, 13, born in Illinois in November 1886; Frank, 9, born in Illinois in May 1891; and Leland, 2, born in Illinois in June 1897. John was ordained as a minister of the North Danvers Mennonite Church in 1899, and as elder in 1903, serving until 1921. They are buried next to each other in North Danvers Mennonite Cemtery as Kate Maurer Kohler and Reverend John P. Kohler.

According to his obituary Nicolas Mourer/Nicholas Maurer and his second wife Mary Kohler had six children, and five survived him. All were born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County.

2. Samuel Maurer (also known as Samuel E. Maurer) was born June 15, 1865, and died Dec. 8, 1953. On Feb. 12, 1891 in McLean County he married Dinah Ropp; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born at White Oak Township May 27, 1870, and died Oct. 30, 1900, a daughter of David S. Ropp and Barbara King. They are buried under a joint headstone in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery. They are found on the 1900 census of White Oak Township, McLean County as dry goods merchant Samuel E. Maurer, 34, born in Illinois in June 1865 to parents from France and Switzerland; Dinah, 30, born in Illinois in May 1870 to parents from Illinois; and Pearl L., 7, born in Illinois in June 1893. On Dec. 15, 1901 Samuel remarried to Mary Catherine Sakemiller. She was born in Ohio Aug. 20, 1878, and died Nov. 25, 1964, a daughter of Jacob Sakemiller and Mary Ann Gasson. In 1940 they were living at Stanford, White Oak Township next door to Harvey Ropp: Samuel Maurer, 74, Illinois; and Mary, 61, Ohio. She is also buried under the joint headstone.
3. Joseph Maurer (also known as Joseph C. Maurer) was born in November 1867, and died at Bloomington March 5, 1937. He married Anna Ummel. She was born in 1870, and died in 1951, a daughter of Christian Ummel and Susan Ramseyer. They appear on the 1900 census of Danvers as Joseph Maurer, 32, born in Illinois in November 1867 to a father from France and a mother from Switzerland; Anna, 30, born in Ohio in February 1870 to Swiss parents; Clark, 10, born in Illinois in March 1890; and Clara, 3, born in Illinois in August 1896. They are found on the same census

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in general farming, and living the life of an upright and conscientious citizen. The subject of our sketch was born near the River Rhine, Germany, in 1822, and is the son of Nicholas and Mary (Korb) Maurer, natives of the same country, where they were reared and married in 1819. Nicholas Maurer, Sr., and his wife were the parents of four children Christian, Catherine, Nicholas of our sketch, and Joseph. They were members of the Mennonite Church, and died about 1835. They were most worthy and excellent people, and greatly respected by all who knew them. Mr. Maurer, of this history, remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, and then set sail for the New World, landing in New Orleans, whence he soon afterward went to Butler County, Ohio, where he engaged as a farm laborer for three and one-half years. In 1843 he came to Woodford County, this State, and purchased 600 acres of land. After a two years' residence in that county he removed to McLean County, and in 1863, was married to Miss Mary Kohler. Mr. Maurer had previously married a Miss Bochler, by whom he had one child, Catharine. He became prosperous in his business and farming transactions, and added 240 acres to his first purchase, so that he now has a large body of finely improved land under a good state of cultivation. The family residence is a substantial and convenient structure, and the farm is supplied with a good barn and all necessary outbuildings. Our subject and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church. The family of our subject included six children Catharine, Samuel, Joseph and Lydia; Johnnie and Mary, two of these, died in infancy. Mr. Maurer is the possessor of 320 acres of fine land in McLean County, and in politics he is independent. A view of Mr. Maurer's residence and surroundings is given on another page of this work."

page as Joseph's brother John and wife Emma. Joseph is buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers as Joseph C. Maurer, 1867-1937; Anna is buried there as Anna Ummel Maurer, 1870-1951.

4. Lydia 'Liddy' Maurer was born Jan. 27, 1870, and died in McLean County Jan. 21, 1916. On Feb. 14, 1889 in McLean County she married August Miller; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born in Woodford County April 15, 1864, and died in McLean County May 6, 1927, a son of Jacob Miller and Mary Birckelbaw. They purchased land at Danvers in 1890. According to *History of McLean County*, August raised Angus cattle, Percheron horses, and Poland China hogs.[86] They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
5. John Maurer was born in January 1873, and died at Danvers July 3, 1931. On Aug. 2, 1894 in Williamson County he married Emma Hoege. She was born in Illinois in April 1874, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Nov. 30, 1946. The 1900 census of Danvers shows farmer John Maurer, 27, born in Illinois in January 1873 to parents from France and Switzerland; and Emma, 26, born in Illinois in April 1874 to parents from Switzerland; they are found on the same census page as brother Joseph and his wife Anna. They are also found on the 1920 and 1930 Danvers censuses. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.
6. Mary Amelia Maurer was born Jan. 4, 1879, and died at Carlock, McLean County Jan. 15, 1935. On Dec. 23, 1896 in McLean County she married Christian Eli Stahly. He was born at Danvers, McLean County March 7, 1874, and died in McLean County March 19, 1898, a son of Johann/John Stahly and Rose Marie Stahly. On Dec. 4, 1900 in McLean County she remarried to Elijah Yoder Zook. He was born at Neshannock Falls, Pennsylvania Aug. 3, 1873, and died in 1956, a son of John R. Zook and Magdalena/Malinda Hertzler. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.

- A child who died young.

[86] The Poland China hog is usually identified with Butler County, Ohio, where it was first bred in 1816.

Litwiller: Leutweiler of Schupfholz

The surname Leutwiler originated in the Aargau region of territories administered from the city of Bern. Leutwil is a village in the upper (southern) sector, adjacent to Berrwil and Reinach.[87]

The Aargau region takes its name from the Aare River, which flows north from Lake Thun through the city of Bern and into the region. From the 15th through 18th centuries it was considered a territory of the city-state of Bern in the Old Swiss Confederacy, and its administrators persecuted Anabaptists under the same laws. It was not until 1803 that the region became a canton/state of the reconstituted Swiss Confederation.

It appears the Amish Mennonite Litwillers who immigrated to Illinois and Ontario came from a single family grouping that appeared in the area above Freiburg im Breisgau, Baden in the mid-1700s. The first generation mingled with many of the Hochburg congregation families mentioned in ROTH and ZIMMERMAN. The second generation migrated west into Alsace and Lorraine and settled among the Dieuze circle of families in Moselle. A third generation made decisions to emigrate or remain in Europe.

The genealogy trail was somewhat muddied by a wide variety of creative spellings. We found...

Leutweiler	Luetweiler	Luitenweiler	Leitenwiler	Letweiler	Letweiller	Ludvuleur
Letteweiler	Lettweiler	Letweller	Letwiller	Littweller	Lidviller	Lhitevuleur
Littweiler	Litteviller	Littevilleur	Lithwiller	Lütweiler	Lütwyler	Ladwiller
Litewiler	Ritwiller	Lidewiller	Lüttwüller	Lüttwüllr	Leutwiler	Litwiller

It would be incorrect to say the surname evolved from one form to another. Variety is still found in Europe and North America. To avoid confusion in what follows, we have reduced all the forms to only two: Leutweiler (the earliest form found in Baden) and Litwiller (the spelling generally employed by North Americans). An individual may be called 'Litwiller' in this text, though he or she may actually have signed 'Lidviller' or some other variant.

Schupfholz is a tiny village in the administrative district of Denzlingen, Baden, on the west side of that village. It is also just four miles west of Sexau and Emmendingen.

The fields of the Weier castle estate [Ger. *Weierschlossgut*] at Schupfholz may have been cultivated by Anabaptists as early as 1670.[88] These farm workers worshipped with the Hochburg congregation.[89]

In 1764 the noble von Dungern family put the Weier castle estate up for auction. As Swiss citizens, the members of the Hochburg congregation could lease but not own land, and could not place a bid. The property and their burial ground were sold in parcels to bidders including the mayor of Emmendingen.

At least one portion of the estate was then leased back to Anabaptists by a new owner. According to the Häberlein article *Eighteenth-Century Anabaptist in the Margravate of Baden and Neighboring Territories*, the district archives at Denzlingen show Weier castle estate tenant **Christian Leutweiler** "appears in the village of Schupfholz from 1771 to 1794."

A few genealogy fragments suggest that Christian Leutweiler had three siblings.

— Barbara/Barbe Litwiller (found as Littweiller, Lindweiler, and Littwiller) was born circa 1743, and died Oct. 29, 1791. She married Christian/Chrétien Rŭpp. He was born circa 1740, a son of Jakob Rŭpp and Anna Halblützer (Jakob is found as leaseholder of the Steckenhof estate at Denzlingen in 1757, and represented the Hochburg congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759). See ROPP, RŬPP OF HOCHBURG for background on their family.

— Samuel Litwiller (found as Littweiller) was born in Baden circa 1750, and died before 1815. They farmed at La Wantzenau, just across the Rhine River in Alsace, northeast of Strasbourg. Before 1774 he married Barbara/Barbe Rŭpp. She was born at Emmendingen in 1749, and died at Lingolsheim, Lower Alsace Nov. 6, 1821, a daughter of Hans Rŭpp and Fronica Müller. They farmed at La Wantzenau, just across the Rhine River in Alsace, northeast of Strasbourg. Her civil death entry identified her as Barbe Rupp, 72, the widow of Samuel Litwiller, and a resident of

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[87] Some genealogists have suggested that antecedents of the surname 'Litwiller' come from the Netherlands. However, the surname only appears there after the arrival of Johannes Leutweiler of Basel in 1742. There has also been some confusion with the Pfalz village Lettweiler.

Through sheer coincidence, there is a Littenweiler only nine miles southeast of Schupfholz, Baden, on the edge of the Black Forest. The Freiburg im Breisgau suburb was called 'Lutenwile' in the 11th century.

[88] Aerial photos of Schupfholz show a distinctive rise next to a reservoir, marking the former site of the Weier castle.

[89] One of the earliest Anabaptist tenant families found on the Weierhof was Hodel of Steffisburg.

Maison No. 80. Her parents were Samuel Litwiller [an obvious error] and Fronica Müller of Emmendingen. Witnesses included Jean Rothacker, 60, and Chrétien Stucki, 45. Their children include:

1. Barbara Litwiller was born circa 1774. On Feb. 14, 1797 at Lingsolsheim she married Johannes Rothacker. He was born circa 1767, a son of Christian Rothacker and Anna Rupp. He acted as a witness at the wedding of Barbara's sister Magdalena and Johannes/Hans Rupp.
2. Magdalena/Madeleine Litwiller was born at La Wantzenau Oct. 21, 1777, and died at Clay, Montgomery County, Ohio Feb. 20, 1864. On Feb. 21, 1805 at Lingolsheim she married her cousin Johannes/HansRŭpp. He was born at Rohrburg bei Altenheim, Baden Sept. 29, 1776, and died at Eckbolsheim Aug. 14, 1814, a son of Christian/Chretién Rŭpp and Barbara/Barbe Litwiller (found as Littweiller, Lindweiler, and Littwiller). See ROPP, RŬPP OF HOCHBURG for background on their marriage, as well as Magdalena/Madeleine's remarriage to Christian/Chrétien Sommer at Eckbolsheim Dec. 20, 1815 and their subsequent emigration from Europe.
3. Michael Litwiller died at Lingolsheim Dec. 28, 1793.

— Anna Letwiller was born circa 1752. She married Joseph Ringenberg, who was born circa 1748. For background on their descendants see RINGENBERGER, THE BAVARIAN PETER RINGENBERGER.

Christian married Elisabeth Wagner (also found as Vagner and Vagnerin). She was born at Mussbach, a village 10 miles northeast of Schupfholz. The Anabaptist Wagner family worked on the Laberhof at Tennenbach (three miles northeast of Emmendingen, and adjacent to Mussbach), a property leased from a Cistercian abbey by Anabaptist Michael Zimmerman.

The Leutweilers must have prospered. Christian Leutweiler of Schupfholz and Jacob Zimmerman of Hochburg acted as guarantors for a 315-guilder commitment as surety when the lease on a Denzlingen property was renewed by the widow of Christian Zimmerman in 1774. Hermann Guth wrote that at the time Leutweiler was working on the Mauracher Hof at Denzlingen (now an organic farm bakery).

In 1787 Leutweiler reached an agreement with a landowner in Tunsel to lease his property for 10 years. Tunsel is 17 miles southwest of Schupfholz, in an area where the Hapsburgs had interests. The lease had to be approved by Further or Outer Austria [Ger. *Vorder Österreich*] authorities. According to the Häberleins, a second would-be leaser named Gschwander objected. The second candidate was an outer Austrian native, and the authorities decided in Gschwander's favor, on the grounds that "Anabaptists were not generally tolerated but only accepted under particular circumstances."

There are no strict rules that might lead us to Anabaptist records for this period in Baden. In some villages they were disregarded as non-citizens, or because they were not affiliated with recognized religions. In others Catholic or Protestant churches kept their entries at the request of the tolerant margrave. It is possible that we will eventually be able to find records for the generation born at Schupfholz. In the meantime, a tentative list of the children of Christian Leutweiler and Elisabeth Wagner might include two that cannot be directly connected to Schupfholz by known documentation:[90]

1. Christian 'Littwiler' [Jr.] was born circa Dec. 6, 1758. 'Christian Leutweiler' paid a religious protection tax [Ger. *Schutzgeld*] while living on the farm of Georg Binningen at Vörstetten (on the east side of Schupfholz) in 1796/97. An entry in the Denzlingen *Kirchenbuch* says he died there June 6, 1805, age 46 years, six months. Denzlingen is on the east side of Vörstetten.
2. **Jacob/Jacques Litwiller** may have been born at Schupfholz circa 1759, and died at Tagsdorf, Upper Alsace Feb. 19, 1814. His civil death entry described him as 52-year-old cultivator 'Jaque Lüttwüllr,' and stated that he died in the home of 39-year-old cultivator Morand Bühl at Tagsdorf. His birthplace was given as 'Schupfholtz en Brussgaure' [Schupfholz by Freiburg im Breisgau]. Earlier civil entries reported him to be 38 in 1797 (1759), 40 in 1799 (1759), 44 in 1801 (1757), and 48 in 1803 (1755). The overall pattern is consistent with many married males who feared losing their conscription exemptions during the Napoleonic wars - their ages 'accelerate' until they pass beyond the 45-year mark, a second disqualifier. See ONTARIO LITWILLERS.
3. Elisabetha Litwiller was born at Schupfholz circa 1763, and died at Ostheim, Upper Alsace (32 miles west of Schupfholz) Dec. 18, 1818.91 She married Jean Hochstettler and Conrad Schweitzer. See HOCHSTETTLER for details of her marriages.

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[90] The index of civil death entries at La Petite Pierre includes the name of Nicolas Lituvill, who died Sept. 3, 1810. Jacob Litwiller and Anna Maria Maurer moved from there to Hattigny circa 1798, so it is unlikely he was one of their children.

[91] There were earlier connections between the Hochburg congregation and the village of Ostheim. Benedict 'Benz' Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ (1716-1793) was mentioned in ROPP as a minister who represented the Colmar congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759 with Hans Rupp/Jean Ropp, the father of Andreas Ropp. Benedict and his wife Anna Maria Neuhaŭser lived on the the Schoppenwihr estate at Ostheim. Their daughter Barbara Stucki married Johannes Zimmerman of

4. **Johannes/Jean Litwiller** was born circa 1764. He died at Repaix, Meurthe-et-Moselle Jan. 29, 1822; the civil entry stated his age as 58. See ILLINOIS LITWILLERS.

- Anne Litwiller was born circa 1764, and died at Hellering, Moselle (now Hellering-lès-Fénétrange, 11 miles northeast of Diane-Capelle) April 25, 1804. Her civil death entry gave her age as 40 and her birth place as 'Emering, Autriche' [Emmendingen or Emeringen, Baden?]. She married Jean Martin. He may have been a son of Nicolas Martin and Jacobée Roqui/Rogi/Rogy (see MARTIN for background on this family).
- Barbe Litwiller was born circa 1766, and died on a leased Benedictine Abbey farm between Domèvre-sur-Vezouze and Blamont in 1853. In 1788 she married Joseph Salzman. He was born circa 1764, and died in a daughter's home at Lafauche, Haute Marne July 29, 1854. He is thought to have been a son of Christian Salzman and Marie Rider of the Zelle farm at Petit-Tenquin. They lived on Ban St. Jean farm at Denting, Moselle [Ger. *Dentingen*] 1795-1801; on the Tensch farm [Ger. *Tenscherhof*] between Linstroff and Francaltroff, Moselle 1807-12; at Marimont, Moselle 1820-36; then on a leased Benedictine abbey farm between Domèvre-sur-Vezouze and Blâmont, Meurthe-et-Moselle until 1853. They had a dozen children.

5. Catherine Litwiller was born circa 1767, and died at Arracourt, Meurthe-et-Moselle (23 miles west of Diane-Capelle) Oct. 5, 1838. On Feb. 17, 1787 at Rohrburg bei Altenheim, Baden she married Christian Zehr (also found as 'Zert').92 He was born at Neuvillers-sur-Fave (later in Vosges Department) circa 1761, and died at Arracourt Aug. 3, 1853. They had a daughter Elisabeth Zehr born at Domèvre-sur-Vezouze, Meurthe-et-Moselle Aug. 25, 1808; she married her cousin Conrad Schweitzer [Jr.].

Ontario Litwillers

Older son **Jacob/Jacques Litwiller** was born at Schupfholz circa 1759.

He married Anne Marie/Anna Maria Maurer. She was born circa 1767, and died at Wilmot, Ontario Sept. 22, 1836, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Maurer and Marie Conde.93

Jacob and Anne Maria lived in a variety of locations. From 1793 to 1797 children were born in the German-speaking hamlet Litzelstein near La Petite Pierre in 'Crooked Alsace,' about six miles from the border of Lorraine. The area is now encompassed by the *Parc naturel régional des Vosges du Nord.*

In 1798 they relocated about 30 miles southwest to the Risholz farm at German-speaking Hattigny, Moselle [Ger. *Hattingen*], where children were born 1799-1803. The village is adjacent to Richeval [Ger. *Reichental*], the home of brother Johannes/Jean's oldest son Christian; also adjacent to Niderhoff [Ger. *Niederhof*], the home of the Oyers; and only eight miles from Diane-Capelle [Ger. *Dianenkappel*], the home of Johannes/Jean. Another couple living on Risholz farm was Johannes/Jean/Hans Roth (found in local records as 'Rodh') and his wife Freni/Véronique Mosimann; they were uncle and aunt to minister Michael Mosiman. The Litwillers lived among the 'Dieuze circle of families' – the mostly Bernese Anabaptists who lived in the network of lakes, ponds, and small rivers that interlace the area surrounding Dieuze, Moselle.

In 1805 Jacob and Anne Marie migrated southeast to Illfurth, Upper Alsace [Ger. *Illfurt*, four miles above Altkirch]. They had children there in 1805 and 1809. An 1813 civil marriage entry for one of their daughters created at Tagsdorf (three miles east of Altkirch) described the parents as residents of Tagsdorf.

Jacob died at Tagsdorf Feb. 19, 1814. Anne Marie was farming there in 1816, and may have remained in the area until her migration to Ontario in 1827.

The difficulty in locating records of Jacob's children was heightened by small complications: Jacob spelled his signature a number of ways over the years; he often formed the letter 'e' as an Old German 'n,' similar to the way the handwritten Engel surname often appeared to be 'Engnl'; and Anne Marie Maurer was occasionally described in French-language records as 'Marie Masson' or 'Marie Mason,' a literal translation of the German 'Maurer,' which

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Emmendingen; after the marriage the couple farmed at Ostheim. Their daughter Elisabetha Stucki married Christian König of Nimburg, Baden (see KING). The surnames Hochstettler and Dettweiler could also be found at both locations.

92 Rohrburg bei Altenheim [Rohrburg near Altenheim] is so named to differentiate it from a Rohrburg ruined castle site at Dursenheim, Baden. The village of Rohrburg is actually midway between Altenheim and Ichenheim; Ichenheim was the location of the Ottenweierhof, a home to Reidiger/Redigers. These locations are on the eastern side of the Rhine River, about 12 miles southeast of Strasbourg, and about 30 miles north of the area of the Hochburg congregation.

93 The identification of Anne Marie Maurer's parents rests on a civil marriage entry filled with spelling errors. See ROTH.

Coincidentally, when Anne Marie Maurer Litwiller arrived at Wilmot Township in 1827, there was someone there with a connection to Bewartstein Castle. Johannes/Hans/John Oesch was born there in 1791, a son of Johannes 'Hannes' Esch and Freni Heres [Ehrisman?]. He married Barbara Schultz at Rothsee below Munich in 1820. They farmed at Probfeld in the *Donaumoos*, departed Neuburg an der Donau June 1, 1824, sailed from Amsterdam on the *Osprey*, and arrived at New York Sept. 2, 1824. Oesch arrived at Wilmot Township shortly after it was surveyed. He became a minister in February 1829, and replaced 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger as elder in September 1829. He died at Bayfield, Huron County in 1850.

means 'brick layer.' It was also obvious that Jacob was either functionally illiterate or did not care to correct the entries written over his signature.

Children of Jacob Litwiller and Anne Marie Maurer include:

1. Catherine Litwiller was born April 10, 1786, and died at Wilmot April 11, 1873. On June 24, 1813 at Tagsdorf (next to Altkirch) she married Christian Boshart. He was born at Staffelfelden circa 1785 (he was 28 and one-half years old at his wedding), and died at Wilmot, Ontario Nov. 20, 1850, a son of the deceased Johannes/Jean Boshart and Anna Maria Müller. After his father's death on the Schönensteinbach convent farm at Wittenheim Oct. 31, 1794, his mother had moved the family to Luemschwiller. There Christian became a farmer and cultivator, and was a witness at the wedding of Christian Hirschi and Anne Marie Ropp, a cousin to Andreas Ropp. Christian was still living at Luemschwiller at the time of their marriage, but afterward they lived at Tagsdorf. They are thought to have arrived at Wilmot in 1832. They settled on Erb's Road in the German Block of Wilmot. Catherine can be found as a widow on the 1851 and 1861 censuses of Wilmot, nationality France, religion 'Amish.' (For background on the Boshart familly see the Appendix).
2. Joseph Litwiller was born at La Petite Pierre Oct. 18, 1793, and died there March 2, 1798. The birth entry indicated that the family resided at Litzelstein; Jacob signed 'Jacob Luitenwiler.'
3. Jean Litwiller was born at La Petite Pierre Aug. 24, 1795, and died at Hattigny, Moselle Dec. 13, 1798. Father Jacob signed Jean's birth entry as 'Jacob Leitenwiler.'
4. Magdalena/Madeleine Litwiller was born at Litzelstein circa 1796, and died at Wilmot between 1862 and 1869. On Dec. 3, 1816 at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace [Ger. *Hirzbach*] she married Christian/Chrétien Liechti. He was born at Friesen, Upper Alsace March 12, 1796, and died at Wilmot Sept. 6, 1865, a son of Johannes/Jean Liechti and Magdalena Joder. The civil marriage entry stated that the 22-year-old groom was a farmer at 'Granlzelen,' and noted that the 24-year-old bride was born at 'Lutzelstein, Meuse.'94 The parents of the bride were described as the deceased Jacques Litwiller and Marie Maurer, who was farming at Tagsdorf and was present and consenting. Witness Chrétien Boshart of Tagsdorf, 30, was described as a brother-in-law of the bride. In 1821 and 1826 civil entries created at Largitzen for the births of sons named Christian indicated that 'Chrétien Liechti and 'Magdalen Ritviller' were residents there; this was also the residence of Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann.
5. Marie/Maria Litwiller was born at La Petite Pierre Oct. 29, 1797, and died at Wilmot Sept. 4, 1863. Her birth entry indicated that the family were residents of Litzelstein; Jacob signed 'Jacob Luitenweiler.' On April 2, 1823 at Seppois-le-Haut, Upper Alsace she married Rodolphe/Rudolph/Rudolf Roth. He was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny, Moselle Jan. 23, 1799, and died at Wilmot June 1, 1853, a son of Jean Roth and Marie Lehman. See ROTH for background on this couple who resettled at Wilmot, Ontario. There Rudolph became a minister and elder for the Amish Mennonite congregation, and later a bishop for the Reformed Mennonite congregation.
6. Elisabeth Litwiller was born at Hattigny Nov. 22, 1799. The birth entry calls the father 'Jacquob Littevilleur,' though he signed 'Jacob Litewiler.' He was described as a 40-year-old cultivator. The mother was identified as 'Marie Mason,' a literal translation of the German 'Maurer,' or bricklayer. Elisabeth presumably died before 1806.
7. Freni/Véronique/Veronica/Frances Litwiller was born at Hattigny Dec. 6, 1801. Her birth entry described her as 'Freny Ludvuleur'; her father as Jacob Ludvuleur, a 44-year-old cultivator (he signed as 'Jacob Litewiler'); and her mother as 34-year-old Marie Mason. She died in Ontario in 1869. In 1828 at Wilmot she married Jacob Gingerich. He was born in Alsace circa 1797, and died in Waterloo County, Ontario Nov. 21, 1869, a son of Peter Gingerich. Freni left the church to become a Reformed Mennonite.
8. Joseph Litwiller was born at Hattigny Dec. 23, 1803, and died there April 18, 1804. The death entry described his father as a 48-year-old living on Risholz farm, and identified his mother as 'Marie Masson.'
9. Elisabeth 'Barby' Litwiller was born at Illfurth, Upper Alsace Oct. 4, 1805. Her civil birth entry described her father as "*Jaques Lidewiller agé de quarante six ans Anabaptiste natif de Schupfholz pres Fribourg en Brisgau, domicilé a Illfurth*," and her mother as 'Marie Murer.' At Wilmot she married Jacob Gardner.95 He was born circa 1802, a son of Daniel Gärtner and Elizabeth. He served as a minister 1845-50, but they left the church to become Reformed Mennonites.
10. **Peter/Pierre Litwiller** was born at Illfurth, Upper Alsace Jan. 8, 1809, and died at Wilmot July 7, 1878. His civil birth entry named him 'Pierre Lidwiller,' describing his father as 50-year-old farmer Jaques Lidwiller living at Illfurth, and his mother as Anna Maria Maurer. The father's signature looks like 'Jacob Littnviller,' the surname 'n'

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[94] Baron Charles de Reinach (1785-1871) employed Liechtis and Joders from Morvillars on Grantzelen, the castle estate of the Château de Hirtzbach. He served in the French military and fought in a number of battles during the Napoleonic wars. After a serious injury at Moscow he was made a *chevalier* of the Legion of Honor. He rejoined Napoleon for his Hundred Days return form Elba. In 1827 he was elected to the national assembly, and served until 1848. The château is now a national historic site.

[95] The Gardner family is descended from Frantz Benedikt Gurtner. German documents say he was born at Seftigen, Canton Bern circa 1687. Baptisms for Seftigen children were performed in the Protestant Reformed Church at Gurzelen. Thus he may have been the Burkhardt Gurtner baptized at Gurzelen Nov. 10, 1687, a son of Frantz Gurtner and Elsi Spari. He arrived on the Winchenbach estate near Siegen, Nassau between 1714 and 1726, and died there in 1773. He had four sons. His descendants in Nassau used the spelling 'Gärtner.'

representing an 'e.' The report of Peter's death at Wilmot stated that he was born at "France, Gamay," a location we could not identify.[96]

In 1827 widow Anna Maria sailed from Le Havre with her extended family on the brig *Abby Jones*; they arrived at New York July 12. The passenger list included Frances Lidwell, 25; and Peter Lidwell, 18; and farther down the page Mary Lidwell [Anna Maria Maurer Lidviller], 60; and Barby Lidwell, 15 [Elisabeth, 20]; as well as the Rudolph Roth/Marie Litwiller, Christian Liechti/Magdalena Litwiller, and Christian Boshart/Catherine Litwiller families (found as 'Rhodes,' and 'Leact,' and 'Passard') (see PASSENGER LISTS in the Appendix). They made their way to Wilmot, Ontario, where they arrived in August.

At Wilmot **Peter Litwiller** selected a lot on the north side of Erb Street. He was directly across the street from two lots occupied by Andreas Ropp and his oldest son Andrew; they moved south to Butler County in 1831-32. Peter's brothers-in-laws lived only a few lots west on Erb Street. A census of Wilmot created by assessor John Hamacher 1830-34 (with spellings as found) includes: Jacob Gingrich, Lot 15, Bleam's Road, North-South; Christian Boshard, Lot 9, Erb's Road North; Christian Lichty, Lot 10, Erb's Road South; Jacob Gardner, Lot 24, Bleam's Road South; Rudolph Roth, Lot 9, Erb's Road South; and Peter Litwiller, Lot 7, Erb's Road North.

In 1830 Peter married his sister-in-law Elizabeth Liechti. She was born at Hirtzbach Oct. 2, 1808, and died at Wilmot Feb. 25, 1882, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Liechti and Magdalena Joder.

They completed improvements on their property and claimed a free title in 1835. Peter became a minister of the Wilmot Amish Mennonite congregation in 1845, following the example of others such as 'Apostle Peter' Nafziger, Christian Farny, his brother-in-law Rudolph Roth, and his brother-in-law Jacob Gardner. In 1850 he became an elder with oversight over the entire area from Wilmot to Lake Huron. The family can be found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as Peter Litwiller, 44, France, Amish, yeoman; Elizabeth Litwiller, 44, France, Amish, married; and 11 children born in Canada, ranging from 2-21 years of age.

Peter had a warm relationship with a Catholic priest at St. Agatha. More than 200 carriages formed a procession for Peter's funeral in 1878; as they passed the Catholic Church, its bells chimed in tribute.

Herald of Truth, August 1878: "July 8th, of long suffering with rheumatism, Peter Litzwiler, bishop of the Amish Mennonite church, at the age of 69 years, 5 months, and 27 days. He was beloved by all who knew him."

A Froschauer *Bible* that belonged to minister Peter Litwiller is now held in the Nelson and Ada Litwiller Collection at Goshen College. The second page inscription in German reads, "This book was the property of Bishop Peter Litwiller, who was born in Alsace, Jan. 8, 1809. He traveled to America in January 1827 and was married to Elisabeth Lichti in the year 1830. He was called to the office of bishop in which he served faithfully to his end. He died on the 7th of July 1878, at the age of 69 years, 6 months less one day. He left me this book as a remembrance. At his suggestion I had this rebound in the year 1881. Christian Litwiller, Wilmot, April 15, 1881."[97] Christian (1848-1924) became a minister of the Wilmot Amish Mennonite Church.

Herald of Truth, April 1882: "On the 25th of February, in Waterloo County, Ontario. Widow of Peter Litwiler aged about 70 years. She leaves a large number of children and grand-children. She was respected by all who knew her and was very kind to the poor."[98]

Peter and Elizabeth's 11 children left many descendants in the area.

Illinois Litwillers

Younger son **Johannes/Jean Litwiller** was born circa 1764, and died at Repaix, Meurthe-et-Moselle on Jan. 29, 1822.

Johannes/Jean married Freni Zehr, who is also found as Françoise or Véronique Serre. She was born in 1766, and died at Repaix Aug. 9, 1819, a daughter of Christian Zehr and Freni/Véronique Martin.

Three of their children lived in Butler County, then Tazewell or Livingston Counties. It is likely that they were welcomed to Butler County by a cousin, Magdalena Litwiller, and her second husband Christian Sommer.

Children of Johannes/Jean Litwiller and Freni Zehr include:

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[96] Peter Litwiller's *Death Register* information was provided by witness Mennonite minister John Gascho, who also stated that Peter had been ill with rheumatism and sciatica for a year and a half. He described Peter's occupation as 'minister of the Gospel.'

[97] A transcription by Steve Buckwalter from the *mcusa-archives* website. Correspondence, a deed, and a sermon are also part of the collection. The Mennonite Archives of Ontario at Conrad Grebel University College holds Peter's business account book and a communion sermon.

[98] Actually Waterloo County only existed from 1853 to 1873.

1. Jean Litwiller was born at Richeval circa 1783, according to his marriage entry. Richeval is adjacent to Hattigny, which was later the home of Jacob Litwiller and Anna Maria Maurer. He died at Repaix May 13, 1851. On March 2, 1814 at Chazelles-sur-Albe he married Marie Mosimann; the civil entry described him as a laborer at Richeval. She was born at St. Quirin (on the opposite side of Hattigny from Richeval) Nov. 6, 1794, and died at Repaix March 19, 1853 or 1855, a daughter of Michel Mosimann and Suzanne Brechbühl. She was an older sister to minister Michael Mosiman. Descendants of this couple belonged to the Repaix congregation; when that congregation was absorbed by a church at Lunéville in 1928, the last elder was named Jean Lidviller.
2. Christian Litwiller was born at Diane-Capelle (eight miles above Richeval and Hattigny) April 13, 1791, and died at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle (12 miles below Hattigny) July 15, 1840. On Dec. 1, 1814 at Badonviller he married Elisabeth Sommer. She was born at Saulxures, Vosges Nov. 2, 1799, and died at Badonviller Oct. 12, 1854, a daughter of Moise Sommer and Marie Innocente Bansept (text)/Banzet (signature)/Innocence Banzet (signature on their marriage entry from Villé, Dec. 10, 1798). They lived on Le Chamois farm at Badonviller, which is still in the possession of a Lidviller family.
3. Catherine Litwiller was born at Diane-Capelle March 11, 1796. Her father signed the civil entry 'Johannes Lutviller,' and her mother was described as 'Frene Sere.' One witness was cultivator George Steider, 32. Catherine died Nov. 15, 1806, according to a civil entry created at Diane-Capelle.
4. Joseph Litwiller was born at Diane-Capelle March 29, 1799, and died at Dillon May 27, 1884. On his birth entry his parents were described as 'Jean Litwiller' and 'Frène Sère'; the father signed his name 'Johannes Litwiler,' and farmhand Jean Abresol, 26, served as witness. On Sept. 19, 1829 at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace he married Barbe/Barbara Ulrich. She was born at Walheim, Upper Alsace March 20, 1804, and died in Butler County Dec. 29, 1847, a daughter of weaver Pierre Ulrich and Catherine Lauber. They sailed from Le Havre with her brother Peter in May of 1831, arriving at New York in July after a 44-day voyage. They raised their family in Butler County, where Joseph appears on the 1840 census of Milford as 'Joseph Lithwiller.' The form shows two males under five years of age, one male 5-10, 1 male 40-50, 1 male 60-70; two females 5-10, one female 30-40, and two females 50-60. Widower Joseph appears on the 1850 census of Milford as 'Jos. Litwell, 50, France' with seven children. In 1851 he brought his children to Dillon. On Feb. 3, 1856 in Tazewell County he remarried to Magdalena 'Malinda' Sommer; their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born Nov. 20, 1803, and died Feb. 21, 1878. The 1860 census of Dillon lists the household as Joseph Letwiler, 60, farmer, France; Madalene, 57, France; Joseph, 24, Ohio; Peter, 20, Ohio; John, 19, Ohio; and Fanny, 18, Ohio. The 1870 census of Dillon shows Jos. Letweiler, 71, retired farmer, France; and Malinda, 69, France; they lived next to sons Peter and John. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, June 1884: "On the 27th of May, in Tazewell Co., Ill., Deacon Joseph Litwiller, aged 84 years and a few months. The funeral was very largely attended. Services by Joseph Springer, Christian Naffziger and Noah Augsburger. He was a peaceful member of the Amish Mennonite Church." Children of Joseph and his first wife Barbe/Barbara Ulrichinclude:
    a. Peter Litwiller was born June 1, 1830, and died before 1839.
    b. Barbara Litwiller was born at Milford Sept. 25, 1831, and died at Hopedale June 12, 1899. On Jan. 12, 1851 in Butler County she married George Zehr. He may have been born Sept. 27, 1825, and died at Minier April 16, 1904. See ZEHR for background on this couple.
    c. Joseph Litwiller was born at Milford March 13, 1833, and died before 1836.
    d. Catherine Litwiller was born at Milford May 21, 1834, and died at Milford, Nebraska May 1, 1930. On April 1, 1855 in Tazewell County she married her second cousin Nicolas/Nicholas Martin, the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Imling, Moselle March 15, 1834, and died Feb. 19, 1905, a son of Christian Martin and Elisabeth Zehr. See MARTIN for more on this couple.
    e. Christian Litwiller was born at Milford Sept. 15, 1835, and died at Waldo, Livingston County Aug. 13, 1917. On March 28, 1859 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Springer; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born Feb. 2, 1840, and died at Colfax, McLean County July 16, 1921, a daughter of David Springer and Elizabeth Guth.
    f. Joseph Litwiller was born at Milford Dec. 12, 1836, and died March 28, 1914. On March 9, 1862 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Birkey; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born March 13, 1843, and died Dec. 30, 1923, a daughter of Christian Birkey and Catherine Mosiman. They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove. Joseph became a minister at Hopedale. They are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery there. *Gospel Herald*, April 1924: "Catherine (Birky) Litwiller was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., March 13, 1843; died Dec. 30, 1923; aged 80 y. 9 m. 17 d. She was united in marriage to Joseph Litwiller, March 9, 1862. To this union were born nine children, namely: Mary Oswald, Beemer, Nebr., Salome Eichelberger, Emden, Ill., Katie, at home, Christian A., John W., Daniel and Louis of Hopedale, Ill., and Ben F., Lakeworth, Fla. Her husband and two sons preceded her to the great beyond. She is also survived by 3 brothers, 3 sisters, 36 grandchildren, and 25 great-grandchildren, besides many relatives and friends. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her youth and remained faithful and loyal to the end. Funeral services were held Jan. 2, at the A. M. Church near Hopedale, Ill., conducted by Samuel Gerber, of Tremont, Ill."
    g. Veronica/ Frances Litwiller was born at Milford Oct. 28, 1838. She died before the 1840 census.

h. Peter Litwiller was born at Milford Sept. 9, 1839, and died June 28, 1900. On March 8, 1864 in Tazewell County he married Anna 'Nancy' Ehresman. She was born Feb. 22, 1841, and died at Hopedale April 11, 1909, a daughter of Christian Ehresman and his second wife Anna Barnett. They are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale. See EHRESMAN for her obituary.

i. John Litwiller was born at Milford Feb. 27, 1841, and died July 15, 1922. On Nov. 8, 1863 in Tazewell County he married Veronica 'Fannie' Birkey; the ceremony was conducted by minister Michael Moiman, who was a cousin to the bride's mother. Veronica was born in Tazewell County Nov. 16, 1845, and died at Hopedale Dec. 21, 1930, a daughter of Christian Birkey and Catherine Mosiman. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

j. Veronica or Frances 'Fanny' Litwiller was born at Milford June 17, 1842. She married Peter Zehr in Tazewell County Feb. 3, 1861; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp.

k. Magdalena Litwiller was born Oct. 19, 1844, and died within the year.

5. Magdalena/Madeleine Litwiller was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois (next to Diane-Capelle) March 30, 1801, and died in Livingston County in 1855. On Nov. 20, 1829 at Niderhoff, Moselle she married Joseph Oyer. At the time Magdalena was living on Le Chamois farm at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Meuse with older brother Christian. Magdalena assumed the care of eight Oyer children, and had five more before the family emigrated on the *Superior* in late 1830.

6. **Peter/Pierre Litwiller** was born Jan. 30, 1808, and died in Tazewell County June 26, 1871. We could not confirm this birth date or ascertain his place of birth. He may have been buried in Schertz-Mosiman Cemetery at East Peoria, which now lies beneath Interstate 74; or was one of many who were buried in Railroad Cemetery under perishable wooden markers.

Peter/Pierre Litwiller was born Jan. 30, 1808, and died in Tazewell County June 26, 1871. He sailed with Mosimans and Oyers on the *Superior* from Le Havre in October of 1830, and arrived at New Orleans Dec. 4. He appears on the passenger list as 'Peter Ledwidder, 23, farmer'; the entire party was labeled 'Suisse.'

From New Orleans the group traveled to Butler County, where Peter soon married fellow passenger Marie/Mary Mosiman. She was born in 1807, and died in 1871, a daughter of Joseph Mosiman and Maria Zwalter of Azoudange, Moselle (see STAKER for more on the voyage).

'Peter Lithwiller' is found on 78 acres in the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 27 on McBride's 1836 plat map of Milford, Butler County. The land was purchased with Christian Mosiman and Barbe Schmitt/Barbara Smith. The household appears under the name 'Peter Lithwiller' on the 1840 census of Milford, next door to Christian Mosiman and on the same page as older brother 'Joseph Lithwiller': one female under five years of age; one female 20-30; one female 30-40; two males under five years of age; one male 5-10; and one male 30-40.

Peter filed a naturalization *Declaration of Intent* as 'Peter Letweller, 31, from France' at Hamilton, Butler County in September 1840: He went to the courthouse with Christian Gerber, whose sons Christian and Peter later settled on Allentown Road in Elm Grove, and John Iutzi. The complete list of those who filed in this time frame is given in STAKER.

> "Peter Lettweller an alien. Butler County. Be it remembered that Peter Lettweller, an Alien or native of France aged thirty-one years, on solemn affirmation in open Court declares that it is bona fide his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State, or Sovereignty whatever and particularly to the King of France, whereof he is now a subject."

In 1842 Peter was involved in litigation involving repayment of a $500 note at eight percent interest.

In 1849 the Litwillers purchased land at North Pekin, directly below Wesley City; this property is labeled 'Letweiller' on the west side of the 1864 plat map of Groveland. The household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as Peter Letwiller, 42, miller, France; Mary, 42, France; Catherine, 18, Ohio; Mary, 17, Ohio; Frances, 16, Ohio; Joseph, 13, Ohio; Peter, 10, Ohio; and Barbara, 8, Ohio.

In 1870 they appear on the census of Elm Grove as Peter 'Letweiler,' 62, farmer, France; and Mary, 62, France. Their next-door neighbors were John Young and John Ropp, indicating they lived near the west end of Allentown Road.

Peter's probate papers file at Pekin named his heirs as widow Mariah and children Catharine Birkey, Maria Gerber, Fanny Schertz, Joseph Litwiller, and Peter Litwiller Jr. Peter Jr. acted as executor of his estate.

Children of Peter/Pierre Litwiller and Marie/Mary Mosiman include:

1. Catherine Litwiller was born in Butler County July 28, 1832, and died Aug. 24, 1870. On June 20, 1848 in Tazewell County she married Andreas/André/Andrew Birky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Andreas/André/Andrew was born Oct. 10, 1822, and died at Morton Nov. 7, 1893, a son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker. See BIRKY/BIRKEY for background on this couple.

2. Marie/Mary Litwiller was born in Butler County Dec. 28, 1833, and died Nov. 18, 1856. On Dec. 8, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Samuel Garber; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Samuel was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Sept. 2, 1824, and died at Emden, Ill. Dec. 7, 1909, a son of John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe. Marie/Mary is buried in the Gerber grouping of graves in Railroad Cemetery. On June 27, 1858, Samuel remarried to Catherine 'Kate' Staker, a daughter of Christian Farny/Stecker/Staker and Magdalina Gabriel; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Moselle March 22, 1834, and died July 13, 1893. They are buried in Prairie Rest Cemetery at Delavan.
3. Frances 'Fannie' Litwiller was born in Butler County in 1834. On July 7, 1857 she married David Schertz. He was born in 1832, and died in 1875, a son of David Schertz and his second wife Anne Rocher. They can be found on the 1870 census of Pekin.
4. Joseph Litwiller was born at Hamilton, Butler County Dec. 24, 1837, and died at Tremont June 1, 1902 (his headstone says 64 years, 6 months, 7 days according to the Tazewell County cemetery book, yielding the birth date). On May 8, 1862 in Tazewell County he married Mary Ropp; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. The ceremony was conducted by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born July 6, 1841, and died Feb. 7, 1920, a daughter of Andrew Ropp and Jacobine Vercler. They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as Joseph Litwiller, 42, born in Ohio to parents from France; Mary, 37, born in Illinois to parents from Alsace; and six children born in Illinois. They eventually had eight children. Joseph was a minister of the Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite Church; his son Jonas also became a minister.[99] They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
5. Peter Litwiller was born at Hamilton, Butler County Sept. 9, 1840, and died at Mattoon Sept. 1, 1915 (according to a Mattoon death entry, where he is found as 'Peter Litwiler'). On Nov. 22, 1863 in Tazewell County he married Josephine Ropp; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in 1844, and died in 1904, a daughter of Jacob Ropp and Elizabeth Schlegel. They lived at Mattoon, and are buried in Railroad Cemetery.
6. Barbara Litwiller was born at Milford in 1841, and died in Tazewell County in 1854.

[99] Jonas Litwiller followed his father as a minister of the Pleasant Grove Church. *Gospel Herald*, June 2, 1944: "Jonas Litwiller, son of Preacher Joseph and Mary (Roop) Litwiller, was born near Tremont, Ill., June 12, 1865, and passed away May 7, 1944; aged 78 y. 10 m. 24 d. He was united in marriage to Katie Eigsti on Jan. 31, 1889, who survives him with the following children: Elmer of Tremont; Louella (Mrs. Harvey Staker), Groveland; Albert and Lester, Morton; and Raymond, Chicago. He leaves also 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. One brother, Andrew of Metamora, and 2 sisters, Elizabeth (Mrs. John Augsburger), Hopedale and Martha (Mrs. Dan Stauffer) Milford, Nebr., preceded him in death. The brothers and sisters surviving are Silas, Middlebury, Ind.; Thomas, Tremont, Ill., Mrs. Emma Litwiller, Hopedale, Ill.; and Anna (Mrs. Dan Stauffer) Milford, Nebr. In youth he accepted Christ as his Savior and united with the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Church near Tremont, Ill. He was ordained to the ministry in 1903 at the age of 38 and served as a faithful servant of the church. He engaged in farming near Tremont until 1904 when he moved to the farm one mile south of Morton. In 1926 the family moved to Morton where he spent the remainder of his life. He believed in the simple life, in honest dealings and few words. He leaves behind many friends who will remember his quiet and unpretentious life. Funeral services were conducted at the home of his son, Albert, by Bro. Leland A. Bachman and at the church by Bro. Simon Litwiller, assisted by Bro. J. N. Kaufman. Text *11 Tim. 4:7, 8*. Interment in the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery, north of Tremont, Illinois."

Sommer of Sumiswald

The Sommer family is associated with Sumiswald, a village 20 miles northeast of the city of Bern. The Emmenthal community was the property of commanders of an order of the Teutonic knights of Alsace-Swabia-Burgundy from 1225 until its purchase by the city of Bern for 30,000 *Reichsthaler* (silver coins) in 1698.

A Catholic church called *Sankt Mariakirche* [Church of St. Mary] was constructed there in 1225. Between 1510 and 1512 it was replaced by a newer building. In 1528, with the Reformation, this became a Protestant Reformed Church called *Mariakirche*. This was heavily damaged by fire in 1730, and largely reconstructed. (Perhaps because of this fire, there are no records of Sumiswald marriages before 1637).

The parish of Sumiswald was home to Hans Haslibacher, an elderly preacher who became the last Anabaptist martyr to be beheaded in 1571 (for background see BERNESE ANABAPTISTS, SWISS ANABAPTIST EMIGRANTS, TRACHSELWALD CASTLE).

The Swiss Peasants War of 1653 was set in motion when peasant representatives from Cantons Bern, Lucerne, Solothurn, and Basel met in a village tavern April 23.

The appearance of the surname Sommer in Sumiswald records was slightly different than the version we will use here; a single letter 'm' was topped by a horizontal line indicating a doubling of the vowel.

Andres Sŭmmer and Verena Meister were the parents of children baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Sumiswald. They include:

1. Isaac Sŭmmer was baptized Nov. 2, 1598. The entry identifies his parents as Andreas Sŭmmer and Verena Mÿester. Witnesses included Caspar Zimmerman, Hans Georgi, and Barbara Hügli.
2. Ŭlÿ Sŭmmer was baptized Oct. 26, 1600. The entry identifies his parents as Andres Sŭmmer and Verena Mÿester. Witnesses included Isaac Rŭch, Friedli Zimmerman, and [illegible] Zimmerman.
3. Basli Sŭmmer was baptized Oct. 2, 1603. The entry identifies his parents as Andres Sŭmmer and Froni Miester. Witnesses included Hans Haslibacher, Tobias Shŭtz [Schŭtz], and Christina Frenkyüzer [Frankhauser]. The name Sebastian and other diminutive forms such as Bashli, Baschli, and Basili were popular at Sumiswald.
4. **Mathÿs Sŭmmer** was baptized March 16, 1606. Witnesses included Andres Leÿbendgut, Oswald Rŭch, and Elsbeth Eütz.
5. Elsbeth Sŭmmer was baptized Feb. 28, 1608. Witnesses included Melchior Meister, Elsbeth Oberli, and Madlena Fankhauser.
6. Lesbeth Sŭmmer was baptized May 26, 1611. The entry identifies her parents as Anderes Sŭmmer and Froeni Miest. Witnesses included Joseph Beck, Lesbeth Heinig [Hennig], and Catharina Rŭch.
7. Jacob Sŭmmer was baptized Sept. 25, 1614. The entry identifies his parents as Andres Sŭmmer and Frenÿ Miest. Witnesess included Abraham Beck, Ŭlÿ Haslibacher, and Elsbeth Stalder.
8. Abraham Sŭmmer was baptized Dec. 28, 1618. The entry identifies his parents as Anderes Sŭmmer and Frani Miest. Witnesses included Ŭlÿ Trüssel, Basli Daurebach, and Elsbeth Beck.

Mathÿs Sŭmmer was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Sumiswald March 16, 1606. Between 1627 and 1633 he married Anna Steiner. Their children baptized at Sumiswald include:

1. **Joseph Sŭmmer** was baptized Oct. 6, 1633. Witnesses included Joseph Trüssel, Andreas [illegible], and Babi Trüssel. See SOLBACH.
2. Basli Sŭmmer was baptized Dec. 26, 1636. Witnesses included Basli Grŭndbacher, Uli Graber, and Freni Grŭndbacher.
3. **Ŭlli Sŭmmer** was baptized March 17, 1639. Witnesses included Ŭlli Sŭmmer, Hans Schöni, and Anni [Schöni]. See WALDERSBACH.
4. Caspar Sŭmmer was baptized Dec. 20, 1640. Witnesses included Bendicht Aschbacher, Caspar Hüfliman, and Barbli Brandt.
5. Barbli Sŭmmer was baptized May 29, 1648. Witnesses included Caspar Brandt, Madlena Meister, and Anna Rŭch.

The Sommer couples we will look at both went from Sumiswald to a Lutheran parish centered around Waldersbach, Lower Alsace. (Waldersbach is easy to confuse with adjacent Wildersbach, a smaller village within the parish). Because this denomination was Protestant, it also served Swiss emigrants affiliated with the Swiss Protestant Reformed Church.

Swiss families had settled on the right side of the Bruche River, across from the Principality of Salm, in an area still known as Le Ban de la Roche. 'Ban' is *patois welsche* for 'county', hence 'county of La Roche.' The area can also be defined as the former properties of an old *seigneurie*. A *seigneurie* was the residence and estate of a *seigneur*. These were feudal lords, then noblemen, given land to reward service to a royal family.

The area encompassed eight villages surrounding the La Roche castle at Bellefosse, a military stronghold that was destroyed in 1469: Bellefosse, Belmont, Fouday, Neuviller (with the hamlets La Haute Goutte and Riongoutte), Rothau, Solbach, Waldersbach, and Wildersbach. Over time they became a Lutheran community surrounded by Catholic neighbors.

Solbach

Joseph Sŭmmer was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Sumiswald Oct. 6, 1633, a son of Mathÿs Sŭmmer and Anna Steiner.

On Feb. 22, 1658 at Sumiswald he married Cathrÿ Wittmer.

Their son **Joseph Sŭmmer** was baptized at Sumiswald June 19, 1664.

Curiously, another marriage entry for the parents was created there July 13, 1665, after the birth entry. They were described as Josep Sŭmmer and Cathrÿ Witmer. It had a notation ending with, "…*es mit ein anderes offentliget*" - "…with another publicly confirmed."

On Nov. 29, 1696 at Sumiswald the son Joseph married Verena (German spelling)/Verene (French spelling) Graber. She was likely the child described as Verena Gerber, who was baptized at Sumiswald Feb. 11, 1666, a daughter of Christen Gerber and Madlena Rŭch. Finding a Gerber at Sumiswald is unusual, and Graber was an established family, increasing the likelihood that her birth entry was simply spelled incorrectly. (Recall that Graber and Gerber were occupational surnames, describing a digger or engraver and a tanner; as time passed they would be considered interchangeable).

Children of Joseph Sommer and Verena/Verene Graber include:

1. Johannes Sŭmmer was baptized at Sumiswald Feb. 25, 1697. The entry identifies his parents as Joseph Sŭmmer and Verena Graber. Witnesses included Hans Steinman, Hans Sŭmmer, and Barbara Bill. Verena/Verene must have been six months pregnant at her marriage ceremony.

Before the next child Joseph and Verena/Verene migrated to Solbach (adjacent above Waldersbach, the seat of the Lutheran/Protestant parish). Joseph's uncle Ŭlli/Ulrich Sommer had settled at Waldersbach in 1769.
Recall from ROPP, THE PRINCIPALITY OF SALM, AND LE BAN DE LA ROCHE that Swiss settlers "…settled on the right side of the Bruche River, in an area still known as Le Ban de la Roche [Ger. Steintal]. 'Ban' is *patois welsche* for 'county', hence 'county of La Roche.' It can be characterized as a Lutheran community surrounded by Catholic neighbors. The area encompassed nine villages surrounding the La Roche castle at Bellefosse, a military stronghold that was destroyed in 1469: Bellefosse, Belmont, Fouday, Neuviller (with the hamlets La Haute Goutte and Riangoutte, since 1961 called Neuviller-la-Roche), Rothau, Solbach, Waldersbach, and Wildersbach."

At Solbach Joseph would be a shepherd [Fr. *berger*].

2. Didier Sommer (later called **André Sommer**) was born at Solbach April 6, 1705. A Protestant entry from Waldersbach says he was baptized at Waldersbach April 9. His parents were described as Joseph Sommer and Verone Graber, a couple from Solbach *de la religion reformée*. Witnesses included Didier Bernard and Jacques Caquelin of Solbach, and Anne Verli, wife of miller Christman Caquelin of Waldersbach.
3. Joseph Sommer was born at Waldersbach March 24, 1707, a son of Joseph Sommer of Sumiswald and Verene Graber of Sumiswald. The event was recorded in a Protestant entry at Rothau. He was baptized in the chapel at Natzwiller March 27. Witnesses were master weaver Benoit Hisler and Christ Nafzinger of Waldersbach.

Joseph the father either abandoned Verena/Verene or died before 1715.

Taking into consideration odd omissions in some of the entries, it appears that Joseph went off to war and did not return.[100] This explanation appears far-fetched until the times are taken into consideration. Joseph was not an

[100] Clues-by-omission for a detective: Joseph and Verena/Verene were married, and an entry was made. They had two children, and entries were made. According to genealogists Ŭlli/Ulrich and Christine had several children, but one did not have an entry made: André born circa 1705. Verena/Verene remarried in 1715; the entry does not name her first husband, or explain his disappearance or death, and no local death entry is found for him. She brought sons Didier and Joseph to the marriage.

Anabaptist. Europe was embroiled in the War of the Spanish Succession from 1701 to 1714. For 13 years France and Bavaria fought against the British, Dutch, Austrians, Hanoverians, Prussians, and Danes. In one battle alone over 30,000 lives were lost in a day.101

Verena/Verene chose a widowed farmer from nearby Bellefosse who also had children. On May 14, 1715 Protestant records from Waldersbach noted that Frene Graber had married Jean Gagnier of Bellefosse. The three-line entry gave no further details, though she was a widow and he was a widower. She may have waited until all soldiers had returned home before remarrying.

Jean Gagnier was born at Bellefosse circa March 23, 1673. His Protestant death entry would describe him as the bastard son of Jean Gagnier of Rote [Rothau] and Catherine Groshans, the daughter of Michel Groshans of Neuviller. His first wife was Margueritte Banzet, a daughter of the deceased Jean Banzet of Bellefosse. They had married at Waldersbach Aug. 25, 1699. They had four children together, all born at Bellefossse and baptized at Waldersbach: Jean Nicolas Gagnier was born July 31, 1700; Didier Gagnier was born Nov. 30, 1702; and twins David and Jean George Gagnier were born Jan. 29, 1705 (David died there April 6, 1707). Margueritte died at Bellefosse June 10, 1713, age 47.

Verena/Verene brought her sons to a new home at Bellefosse where the widowed groom already had children of his own. She had a daughter born there May 25, 1716, Marie Gagnier,.

An entry in Protestant records at Waldersbach said that Frene Graber, the wife of Jean Gagnier, died at Bellefosse [below Waldersbach] Oct. 13, 1718. Her age was '*en environ 50.*'

At some point Didier Sommer, who was born at Solbach April 6, 1705, took on the new name **André Sommer**. This may have happened in the home of Jean Gagnier, who already had a son of that name. His uncle Ulli/Ulrich may have had some input in the change – recall that Joseph and Ŭlli/Ulrich's grandfather was named Andres.

These events have been generally misinterpreted, and it has been misassumed Ŭlli/Ulrich Sommer and his second wife Christine Kommer had a third child named André born at Goldbach, Canton Bern in 1705 (the same year as the birth of Didier/André, with Goldbach as a garbled version of Solbach).

Didier/André was only 13 years of age when his mother died. It is unlikely that he would have inherited much from her – her possessions would have become the property of Gagnier.

In 1723 Didier/André married Anna Binggeli/Pinckele at Banbois/Bambois (now in Plaine), a site leased by his uncle Ŭlli/Ulrich Sommer. When she was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Guggisberg Nov. 11, 1700 the entry called her Anna, and named her parents as Peter Binggeli and Elsbeth Stübi. Witnesses included Christen Rohten [Rothen], Elsbeth Henni, and Barbara Ziset. When her mother died at Belmont Jan. 5, 1724, a Protestant entry at Waldersbach described her as Elisabeth Stöby *Anabaptiste* of the parish of Kocksberg [Guggisberg], Canton Bern, the wife of *Anabaptiste* Pierre Pinckely. When her father remarried at Waldersbach Feb. 17, 1725, the groom and bride were described as Pierre Binckeli, a son of the deceased Christen Binckeli originally from Canton Bern, and Marie Verly, a daughter of the deceased Jean Verly of Belmont.

Didier/André found modest employment in the relatively secluded location where he had married. He would spend the remainder of his life among the circle of Anabaptist families there. Banbois or Bambois was a clearing below the forested area Les Quelles or Aux Quelles (also found as aux Guelles and aux Guevelles).102 It held a water-driven saw mill [Fr. *lambermoulin*] and an Anabaptist cemetery. He died there April 23, 1765.

In 1871 Banbois/Bambois was administratively absorbed into Plaine, the village below it. It is now often called Banbois-de-Plaine. Records for Les Quelles were kept at nearby La Broque. Recall that a number of Ropp, Ulrich, Sommer, and Lehman entries are found there; at varying times all four Anabaptist families were employed by the saw mill.

Children of Didier/André Sommer and Anna Binggeli/Pinckele include:

1. Georges Sommer was born at Les Quelles, La Broque circa 1725. Circa 1745 he married Barbe Sommer.

Verena/Verene's new husband already has a son with the same first name as her son Didier, who was born in 1705. An André appears on the scene, born in 1705, and no further mention is found of a Didier.

[101] The Battle of Malplaquet was fought Sept. 11, 1709. (This was not the hamlet Malplaquet located near La Broque). The English nominally defeated the French, but suffered so many losses that their war efforts lost popular support.

[102] It is easy to confuse with another location seven miles to the east: Le Bambois is below Belmont and Waldersbach and the plateau known as Le Ban de la Roche. Both locations were within six miles of Neuviller and Natzwiller, places identified with the Sommer family. This was just as confusing to contemporary record-keepers as it is now, and it is often difficult to tell which site was meant.

a. Jean Sommer was born at Les Quelles (found as aux *Guevelle*) circa 1745, and died at Banbois/Bambois (now part of Plaine) Nov. 10, 1802, age 57. Circa 1768 he married Barbe Hisler. His civil death entry created at Plaine described him as the husband of Barbe Hiszer, and a son of George Sommer and Barbe Sommer. Witnesses included son-in-law and cultivator Jacob Beller, 44, and friend and blacksmith Jean Holveck, 33. Barbe was born at Banbois/Bambois (now in Plaine) Sept. 18, 1746, and died there Jan. 28, 1811, a daughter of Nicolas Hisler and Anne Paradis. Her civil death entry described her as the deceased farmer Barbe Hisler, 61, wife of the deceased Jean Sommer. It was witnessed by son-in-law and weaver Jacob Beller, 52.

■ David Sommer may belong here. He was born circa 1750-59. According to the marriage entry of his son Joseph, David died at *La Crache, L'aveline, Department de Vosges, Canton de Saint Diez* June 17, 1810 (a *Crache* is a waterfall, and describes a number of farms including those in Raon-sur-Plaine and Grandfontaine/Framont). We assume this location to be what is now called Ban-de-Laveline, a village 17 miles south of Plaine in the administrative district [Fr. *arrondisement*] of Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, in the region Grand Est. No civil entries created between 1797 and 1873 were preserved there. David married Anne Brechbühl, whose surname is found in a variety of spellings. She may have been a daughter of Martin Brachbühl and Anne Bachmann of Bellefosse. Children of David Sommer and Anne Brechbühl include:

1) Joseph Sommer was born at Saulxures (three miles below Plaine) Jan. 1, 1785. On May 26, 1813 at Rehainviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Anne Roupe/Roppe. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as weaver Joseph Sommer, aged 28 years and five months, a resident of Adoménil, Rehainviller born at Saulxures Jan. 1, 1785. He was a son of the deceased miller David Sommer, who had died at *la Crache, l'Aveline, canton de Saint Diez* June 7, 1810; and Anne Prachpine, a resident of Adoménil who was present and consenting. The bride was Anne Rup, 27, a resident of Rehainviller born at Plaine in May of 1786. She was a daughter of the deceased André Rup, who died at Plaine Jan. 5, 1795, and the deceased Barbe Rabre, who died there Feb. 8, 1795 [in ROPP they are identified as André Rŭp and Barbe Reber]. They had been cultivators. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Sommer, 26, a brother of the groom; Christian Rup, 57, uncle of the bride; and Joseph Rup, 26, cousin of the bride; all three were residents of Adoménil . Only witness Jean Sommer could not sign; he marked 'x,' indicating he was illiterate.

2) Jean Sommer was born at St. Remy, Vosges (21 miles west of Plaine) circa 1787, and died at Lachapelle, Baccarat, Meurthe-et-Moselle July 27, 1818. On Jan. 23, 1815 at Angomont, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Elisabeth Roupe/Roppe. She was born at Plaine circa 1791, and died at Nompatelize, Vosges Sept. 16, 1828, a daughter of André Rŭp and Barbe Reber. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Sommer, aged 25 years and three months. He was a resident of St. Remy. He was a son of the deceased David Sommere, who had died at Laveline, and Anne Prapiel, a resident of Angomont. The bride was Elizabethe Roupe, 24, a farm equipment operator at Angomont. She was a daughter of the deceased André Roupe and Barbe Rabre, who had been residents of Banbois [now part of Plaine]. On Oct. 21, 1823 at La Salle, Vosges, Elisabeth remarried to André Kropp [Kropf]. He was born at Hartzviller, Moselle May 14, 1802, and died as Andrew Grubb at Elm Grove in February of 1865, a son of Pierre Kropp and Suzanne Ringenberg. See GRUBB for more on their marriage.

3) Jacques/Jacob Sommer was born at Hohwald (within Breitenbach, Lower Alsace at the time) in 1793 (marriage entry) or St. Blaise-la-Roche (adjacent to Plaine) circa 1792 (death entry and thus less reliable), and died at Baccarat, Meurthe-et-Moselle May 4, 1873. On April 19, 1818 at Bouxwiller, Lower Alsace he married Elisabeth Sommer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer Jacques Sommer. He was a resident of Bouxwiller born at Hohwald, Lower Alsace in 1793. His parents were the deceased cultivator David Sommer, who had died at Laveline June 17, 1810, and Anne Prechbuhl, a resident of Bouxwiller who was present and consenting. The bride was Elisabeth Sommer, a resident of Bouxwiller who was born at Hohwald in 1790. Her parents were the deceased cultivator Jean Sommer, who had died at Hohwald Jan. 23, 1793, and Elisabeth Zenter [Zehnter], a resident of Hohwald. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Rugsti [Augsti], 40, a brother-in-law of the groom; and day laborer Ulrich Brechbuhl, 21, a brother-in-law of the bride [he was actually a half-brother to the bride; they shared the same mother Elisabeth Zehnter, who was married to Johannes/Jean Sommer and then Pierre Brechbühl, a son of Martin Brachbühl and Anne Bachmann of Bellefosse]. The groom signed Jacob Sommer; the bride was illiterate and could not sign. Jacques/Jacob's civil death entry described him as Jacob Sommer, 81, a resident of Baccarat who was born at St. Blaise-la-Roche. He was the widower of Anne Sommer, and a son of the deceased David Sommer and Anne Brechbiehl. Witnesses included his son-in-law miller Joseph Roppe, 59, and grandson miller André Kremer, 26.

4) Pierre Sommer was born circa 1799, and died at Moyenmoutier, Vosges (15 miles west of Plaine) April 8, 1817. His civil death entry identified him as Pierre Sommer, 18. He was a son of cultivator David Sommer, who had died at Laveline, and Anne Prechbil, who was a resident at Preyel, Moyenmoutier (now a hamlet called Saint Prayel within Moyenmoutier).

2. Anne Marie Sommer was born circa Oct. 4, 1728, and died at Banbois/Bambois (now part of Plaine) May 1, 1780. On April 12, 1751 she married Jean Nicolas Banzet. He was born at Belmont Aug. 9, 1724, and died at Moussey, Vosges (13 miles west of Bellefosse) May 30, 1784, a son of Christian Banzet and Madeleine Müller. He was a Lutheran who became an Anabaptist. Her Protestant death entry described her as Marie Sommer, wife of Jean Nicolas Banzet, *censier* at Pendbois (Banbois/Bambois). She was aged 51 years, eight months, and four days. He signed Jean Banzete.
3. **Christian Sommer** was born at Banbois/Bambois (now in Plaine) circa 1736. At the time it was considered part of Les Quelles, La Broque. See BUTLER COUNTY.
4. Joseph Sommer was born at Banbois/Bambois (now in Plaine) circa 1738, and died at Bellefosse Aug. 8, 1782. On March 23, 1765 at Waldersbach he married Marie Hazeman. She was born at Bellefosse July 29, 1737, and died at Moussey, Vosges Nov. 8, 1805, a daughter of David Hazemann and Catherine Scheidecker. Their children born at Banbois/Bambois include:
    a. Marie Madeleine Sommer was born July 20, 1760, and died at Ottrott-le-Bas, Lower Alsace July 12, 1831. On Sept. 19, 1809 at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges she married Jean Baptiste Leutze. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Baptiste Leutze, 32, a son of George Leutze and Justine Barbe of Gaschingen, Vitemberg. He had been a resident there for three years. The bride was Marie Madelaine Somer of Bellefosse, a daughter of the deceased Joseph Sommer and the deceased Marie Hasmant, who had been residents of Bellefosse. Witnesses included Christiane Bansap, 45, second cousin of the bride. They signed Johannes Leutze, Madelen Sommer, and Christman Banzet. Her civil death entry described her as Marie Madeleine Sommer, 71, the wife of Jean Leutze. She was born at Bleu, Vosges, and a resident of Ottrott. Her parents had been the deceased farmer Joseph Sommer of Bellefosse, and the deceased Marie Madeleine Haasman. She was the wife of weaver Jean Leutze, 54.
    b. Gabriel Sommer was born at Bellefosse and baptized in the Protestant church at Waldersbach April 12, 1766, and died at La Broque June 17, 1842. His baptism entry described his parents as a resident of Penbois, Salm and Marie Hazeman. It said he was born at Bellefosse and baptized at Waldersbach; witnesses included Jean Hazeman, Jean George Gagnier, and Catherine, the daughter of Jean Nicholas Gagnier. It was signed by Joseph Sommer. On June 14, 1796 at Bellefosse he married Marie Concorde Verly. She was born at Bellefosse July 7, 1776, and died at Moussey, Vosges Feb. 18, 1814, a daughter of Jean Jacques Werly and Marie Reinhard. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as valet [Fr. *voiturier*] Gabriel Sommer, 30, a resident of the farm Praye at Moussey, Vosges. He was a son of the deceased *censier* Joseph Sommer and Marie Hazeman, who was a resident of Bellefosse. The bride was Marie Concorde Werly, 20, a daughter of cultivator Jean Jacques Werly of Bellefosse and the deceased Marie Reinhard. Witnesses included uncle-of-the-groom Jean George Gagnier, 60; cultivator Jean Jacques Werly, 57, father of the bride; café owner [Fr. cafetier] Jean Hazeman, 61; cultivator Jean Gagnier, 68, uncle of the bride. The minister performing the marriage, Jean George Gagniere, was not the same as the witness (two signatures differ). Signatures looked like gabriel somer [with a hoizontal loine over the letter m dignifying a doubled consonant], Marie Conc. Verly, Jean Jacque Werly, jean Hasemann, Jean Gagniere, and Jean George Gagnier agent. Gabriel's civil death entry described him as farm equipment operator Gabriel Sommer, 76, a resident of Bellfosse born at Plaine. His parents were the deceased Joseph Sommer, who had died at Plaine, and the deceased cultivator Marie Hasmann, who had died at Moussey. Gabriel was the widower of the deceased Marie Werlet, who had died at La Broque. One witness was cultivator Jean Sommer, 66, a resident of La Broque. He signed J. Somer with a doubling line over the 'm.'
    c. Joseph Sommer was born Feb. 3, 1769, and died after emigrating from Europe in 1836, perhaps in that year. Circa 1790 he married Elisabeth Barbe Gerber. She was born in 1761, and died after emigrating with her husband, perhaps in 1838, a daughter of Jean 'Carber' and Anne Liechti. Before 1793 they settled in Guindrimont, a farm and hamlet within Bertrambois, Meurthe-et-Moselle. They were still living there in 1834, according to the marriage entry of their daughter Catherine. They sailed from Le Havre on the Old Line packet ship *Francis DePau*, and arrived at New York July 22, 1836. The passenger list shows Christian Sommer, 32, France; Marie, 23; Salome, 17; Barbe, 55; Joseph Baechler, 26, France; Catharina [Catherine 'Kate' Sommer], 27; Marie, 5; Peter Baechler, 24, France [Joseph's brother]; Joseph Sommer, 74, France; and Barbe [Elisabeth Barbe Gerber], 75.
        1) Anne Sommer was born circa 1791, and died in Campbell County, Kentucky Jan. 4, 1871. On Nov. 10, 1811 at Bertambois she married Johannes/Hans/Jean Schmitt. He was born at Linstroff, Moselle in July of 1775 (marriage entry), 1774 (1850 census), 1772 (186 0 census), or May 16, 1770 (headstone date), and died in Campbell County, Kentucky Nov. 17, 1866. The entry gave his age as 36 years and four months, and hers as 20, but failed to give her birthplace. For background on this couple including her obituary see SMITH.

2) Joseph Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois April 1, 1793 (though no entry is found there). According to a copy of an *Extract Mortuaire* from the *Commune de Geneve, Department du Leman* placed in civil death records at Bertrambois May 14, 1813, he was a *fusilier* [a guard accompanying artillery pieces] with the 23rd Regiment de Ligne, Fifth Battalion, 3rd Company, registered as conscript number 9951. He entered the civil hospital at Geneva Dec. 26, 1812, and died there Feb. 16, 1813, age 19. He may have been a soldier in the *Grand Armée* that began its brutal retreat from Russia in mid-October of 1812.
3) Barbe Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois in 1794 (though no entry is found there), and died at Val-et-Châtillon, Meurthe-et-Moselle March 25, 1832. On Sept. 7, 1813 at Bertrambois she married Pierre Lehé. He was born at Thiaville-sur-Meurthe, Meurthe-et-Moselle in 1791, and died at Glonville, Meurthe-et-Moselle in 1847. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farm hand Pierre Lehé, 23, a resident of adjacent Lafrimbolle. He was the son of Jacob Lehé and Barbe Stroubhard. The bride was Barbe Sommer, 20, a daughter of cultivator Joseph Sommer and Barbe Kerber of Guindrimont, Bertrambois. Witnesses included farm equipment operator Jean Geriche, 60, maternal uncle of the bride living at Lafrimbolle; and cultivator Christianne Kerber, 49, another maternal uncle of the bride living at Bertrambois. Signatures looked like Peter Lehe, barbara summer, Jacob Lehe, Joseph Sŭmmer, and Christian Gerber. Barbe's civil death entry described her as Barbe Sommaire, 38, born at Bertrambois. It was witnessed by her husband miller Pierre Lehé, 42.
4) Madeleine Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois Dec. 6, 1795. One witness on her civil birth entry was her uncle Christian Gerber, 32. On Jan. 5, 1816 at Bertrambois she married Joseph Schmoucker. Their civil marriage entry described him as Joseph Schmoucker, 20, born at Saales, Vosges, and a resident of Bertrambois. His parents were *annabaptiste* farm equipment operator Pierre Schmoucker, a resident of Lingomont who was present and consenting, and the deceased Madeleine Rise. The bride was farm equipment operator Magdelaine Sommer, 20, born at Bertrambois. She was a daughter of cultivator Joseph Sommer and Elisabethe Karbre *de la religion anabatise*. They were residents of Guindrimont who were present and consenting. The groom' father signed Pierre Schmŭcker.
5) Marie Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois Dec. 23, 1797, though no civil entry is found there, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Aug. 16, 1880. On Oct. 28, 1823 at Fénétrange she married Pierre Mourer/Peter Maurer. He was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny, Moselle March 24, 1787 (headstone date), and died at Bloomington, McLean County Jan. 2, 1873. See MAURER for background on this couple.
6) Jean Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois at Bertrambois May 31, 1800, and died March 21, 1813.
7) Elisabeth Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois Dec. 3, 1801, and died in McLean County Sept. 16, 1885. Circa 1824 she married Peter Stucki/Stuckey. He was born in the gardener's house on Blauelhof farm at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace Aug. 5, 1799, an illegitimate son of Peter Stŭcki and Marie Barbara Ullrich. Elizabeth and Peter became the parents of minister Joseph Stuckey of Danvers, the popular leader of tolerant Amish Mennonites in Illinois (see ULRICH for the first part of his life, THE MENNONITE TRANSITION for the second).
8) Véronique Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois Nov. 29, 1804.
9) Catherine 'Kate' Sommer was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois Feb. 1, 1808 (though no entry is found there), and died at Waldo, Livingston County Jan. 28, 1892. On Nov. 3, 1834 at Tanconville, Meurthe-et-Meuse she married Joseph Bechler. He was born in the home of Christian Kempf at Bisping, Moselle Dec. 3, 1810, and died at Waldo May 7, 1878. His civil birth entry created at Bisping described him as an illegitimate child of Elisabeth Bechler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as weaver Joseph Bechler, 23, a resident of Bertrambois born at Bisping Dec. 3, 1810. He was a son of servant Elisabeth Bechler, 44, living at Hammer, Rahling. The bride was Catherine Sommer, 27, a resident of Tanconville born at Guindrimont, Bertambois. Her parents were farm quipment operator Joseph Sommer, 72, and Elisabethe Barbe Kerber, 73, residents of Bertrambois who were present and consenting [note that these ages match their 1836 passenger list]. An added note says that Catherine brought an illegitimate daughter Marie Catherine to the marriage. Marie Catherine had been entered in birth records at Tanconville (adjacent to Bertrambois) April 5, 1831; the witness was cultivator Joseph Sommer, 69. For background on this couple see BECHLER/BECKLER, BECHLER OF MONTGOMERY.

d. Elisabeth Sommer was born circa 1772, and died at Malplaquet, La Broque, Lower Alsace May 27, 1811. On Feb. 19, 1800 at Moyenmoutier, Vosges she married Nicolas Neuhauser (the civil entry has been

lost). He was born circa 1762, and died at Grandfontaine, Lower Alsace Oct. 14, 1847, a son of Nicolas Christian Neuhauser and Véronique Fongond. Her civil death entry described her as Elisabeth Sommer, 43, the wife of Nicolas Neuhauser. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Joseph Sommer and Marie Hassmunn. One witness was cultivator Nicolas Neuhauser, 42, a resident of Malplaquet. He signed Nigglaŭs Nihŭser.

e. Jean Sommer was born Sept. 21, 1775, and died at La Broque Aug. 19, 1854. On Nov. 14, 1816 at Moussey, Vosges he married Marie Catherine Magnette. At the time he was a farmer on the farm Preyé at Moussey. According to their civil marriage entry she was Marie Catherine Magniette, born at Grandfontaine Oct. 9, 1793, and died at Malplaquet, La Broque Aug. 26, 1862, a daughter of Jean Claude Magniette and Catherine Edelbloute. Their civil mariage entry was witnessed by Jean's brother cultivator Gabriel Sommer, 51. His civil death entry described him as cultivator Jean Sommer, 80, born at Plaine and a resident of Plaquette [Malplaquet]. La Broque. He was the husband of Marie Catherine Magnette, a resident of Plaquette. One witness was his son Eugene Sommer, 32, a resident of Rothau.

f. Marguerite Sommer was born July 12, 1777, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Aug. 18, 1845. On July 26, 1821 at Plaine she married Johannes/Jean Bära. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as servant Jean Bérar, 41, a resident of Framont employed by Monsieur Champy of des Forges. He was born at Ville June 5, 1780, a son of Jean Bérar and Magdelaine Redelper, residents of Haute Charm, Grandfontaine who were present and consenting. The bride was farm equipment operator Marguerite Sommer, 44, a resident of Bombois, Plaine. She was born there July 12, 1777, a daughter of the deceased Joseph Sommer, who had died there Sept. 30, 1782, and Marie Haseman, who had died at Moussey Nov. 8, 1805. One witness was cultivator Jean baptiste Vasser, 40, a brother-in-law of the bride. Signatures looked like Johannes Bära, Marguerite Sommer, and Jean Batis Wasser.

g. Magdalena Sommer was born Sept. 17, 1781, and died at Saulxures, Lower Alsace Jan. 14, 1832. On March 28, 1812 at Moussey she married Jean Baptiste Wasser. He was born at Saulxures Aug. 29, 1781. Her civil death entry described her as Magdelaine Sommere, 51, the wife of Jean Baptiste Vasser. She was a daughter of the deceased Joseph Sommer and the deceased Marie Hasemann. It was witnessed by her 51-year-old husband. His signature looked like Jean Batis Wasser.

5. Elisabeth Sommer (occasionally found in modern sources – mistakenly - as Elizabeth Inée Sommer) was born circa 1738, and died before March of 1797. Circa 1770 she married Christian Eymann/Eiman. Their children include:

a. Joseph Eymann was born Dec. 25, 1771. When he married at Chazelles Feb. 18, 1798 the *état civil* entry identified him as 'Joseph Haydmand' and 'Joseph Ayemane' living at Herbéviller, born at 'La Adevant' in the Principality of Salm (this may have been the farm Devant le Moulin at Saales); his parents were identified as the deceased couple 'Christianne Haydmand' and 'Elizabeth Sombre.' His bride was Marie Brechbühl, born Sept. 25, 1771, the widow of Jean Mosimann of Chazelles (see MOSIMAN for more on this couple).

b. Marie Eymann was born at La Broque Feb. 25, 1773. On March 10, 1797 at Herbéviller (now in Meurthe-et-Moselle) 'Marie Hyemanne' married Christian Gerber (Feb. 12, 1761-1854), son of Joseph Gerber and Elizabeth Zimmerman of Biberkirch and widower of laborer Marie Jaussi. The bride's parents were identified as the deceased couple Christianne Hyemanne and Elisabeth Lezy Somaire.

c. Madeleine Eymann was born at Schirmeck Aug. 12, 1777 and died at Ville-en-Vermois, Meurthe-et-Moselle Jan. 23, 1847. On Nov. 7, 1802 at Herbéviller she married Joseph Blanck of Longeville-lès-St. Avold, Moselle, a son of Michel Blanck and Anne Jantzi. On that entry her mother is identified as what looks like Inée Sommere.

6. **Ulrich Sommer** was born circa 1740, and died at La Broque Dec. 12, 1787. See FARNISVILLE.

INFANTICIDE

A note of caution to those who idealize the morality of past generations…

Over the past few pages we have listed seven sets of Sommer children. Their names were found on baptism entries. In Canton Bern baptism in a state church was required by law (generally within five days).

The sets by their time frames:

1598-1618	Six males, two females
1633-1648	Four males, one female
1697-1707	Three males, one female
1725-1740	Four males, two females
1785-1799	Four males, no females
1760-1781	Three males, four females
1791-1808	Two males, seven females

The natural ratio between male and female births is about 105-to-100. Yet over the first five sets listed above, male infants who lived until baptism outnumbered females 21-6. Or looked at another way (think homicide detective), 14 daughters are missing.

In *Infanticide, an Anthropological Analysis* (1978) Laila Williamson wrote that, "Infanticide [the intentional killing of infants] has been practiced on every continent and by people on every level of cultural complexity, from hunter gatherers to high civilizations, including our own ancestors. Rather than being an exception, then, it has been the rule."

The populations of Alpine communities were much lower then than today. It would have been impossible to disguise a full-term pregnancy. We did find (though not in this particular family) some entries for infants who were born and died before christening; often those entries identified three witnesses without providing a name for the child. But there must have been many more female infants smothered very soon after birth (a killing within the first 24 hours from birth is also called neonaticide).

Infant deaths were numerous, and could be sudden and unexplainable. However, when the overall pattern tends so strongly in one direction year after year, it implies the tacit approval of church and community.

In modern Switzerland, infanticide [Ger. *Kindestötung*] committed by the mother during birth or under the influence of the effects of the birth is a misdemeanor. It may be punished by a fine, or a term of imprisonment not to exceed three years.

Butler County (Descendants of Christian born circa 1736)

Christian Sommer was born at Banbois/Bambois (at the time in Les Quelles, La Broque; now in Plaine) circa 1736, and died at Sélestat, Lower Alsace July 29, 1804, the third child of André Sommer and Anne Elisabeth Binggeli/Pinckele.

Circa 1762 he married Barbe Gerber (also found as Guerber and Karbre). She was born at Banbois/Bambois (now in Plaine) circa 1738, and died at Sélestat May 31, 1809.

They farmed on the Struthof at Natzwiller. Natzwiller is not in the old *seigneurie* area called Le Ban de la Roche, but above it in the *Eveché de Strasbourg* [diocese of Strasbourg], across the Rothaine River that forms a natural boundary.

Recall from ROPP, 'OTHER RŬPPS' AT SALM AND LE BAN DE LA ROCHE that Ŭli Rŭpp and his wife Magdalena/Madeleine Dellenbach/Dällenbach had come from Haut Donon to live at Natzwiller as early as 1702. Although they were called Anabaptists, their children were not. The location also figures in the history of the Mosiman/Mosimann family. In 1735 Jacob Mosimann and Magdalena Ruffach had their son Christian baptized at Schirmeck, and their address was given as Struthoff (see MOSIMAN).

Although Barbe's civil death entry would say that she was born there, she was not. In fact it is difficult to say when the Sommers actually arrived. Land records and local histories were destroyed in 1941, when German military officers took possession to start up a notorious forced labor camp.

Christian's civil death entry described him as laborer Chrétien Sommer, 68, born at Sommerhoff, Ban de la Roche. He had been married to Barbe Gerber, and lived with her at Schnellenbühl (now a road four miles southeast of Sélestat village). It was witnessed by son-in-law Joseph Lehmann (he signed his name Lehman) and nephew Jacques Sommer.

Barbe's civil death entry described her as Barbe Gerber, 71, born on the Struthoff at Ban de la Roche. She was the widow of the deceased Chrétien Sommer, who had farmed at Schnellenbühl. It was witnessed by *annabaptiste* Joseph Lehman, 38, a farmer at Schnellenbühl.

Children of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerber include:

1. Marie Sommer was born circa 1762, and died at La Broque Nov. 14, 1798. On July 3, 1779 she married Pierre Rŭbi (most often found on French documents as Roby). Their Catholic marriage entry created at Schirmeck described the groom as *Anabaptiste* Pierre Robi, 27, a son of the deceased Pierre Robi and Barbe Joder. The bride was Marie Sommer, an *Anabaptiste* resident of Strüthoff, and a daughter of Christian Sommer and Barbe Karber. One witness was Ulric Neuhauss [Ulrich Neuhaŭser]. Signatures looked like better rŭbi, Christian Sommer, and Ulric Neŭhauss; the bride signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate. Pierre died at La Broque Dec. 24, 1806.
2. **Johannes/Jean Sommer** was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller circa 1763.
3. Barbe Sommer was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller Dec. 22, 1765, and died at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace Nov. 16, 1827. She took Anabaptist vows on the Struthof at Natzwiller Dec. 13, 1785, and on Dec. 22, 1785 at Schirmeck had a civil marriage ceremony with Ulric Zenter, a son of Jean Nicolas Zehnder and Elisabeth Retter. He was born at Hohwald, Breitenbach, Lower Alsace circa 1762, and died at Ribeauvillé July 8, 1835. At the time of their marriage he was a resident of the Val d'Andlau. His civil death entry described him as cultivator Ulric Cehnder, 73, a native of Hohwald and resident of Ribeauvillé. He was the widower of the deceased Barbe Sommer, and a son of the deceased Nicolas Cehnder. He variously signed his own name Ulrich Zender, Ulerich Zehender, and Ullerich Zender. The entries that bore these signatures had much more colorful varieties of spelling in the texts written by municipal clerks: Zehender, Zehnter, Zentner, Tzenter, Tzentner, Tzener, Zintner, Cehnder, and Cender. See CENDER for background on this couple and their descendants.
4. Christian/Chrétien Sommer was born April 4, 1768 (and an entry was created at Schirmeck), and died at Bergheim (adjacent above Ribeauvillé) March 5, 1814. He married Anne Marie Kropf. She was born at Hattstatt, Upper

Alsace circa 1776, and died at Ribeauvillé Nov. 10, 1809, a daughter of Christian Kropf and Elisabeth Goldschmitt. Her civil death entry described her as Anne Marie Kropff, 33, the wife of 'citizen Anabaptist farmer' [Fr. *citoien Anabaptiste et fermier*] Chrétien Sommer. She was a daughter of *Anabaptiste* Chrétien Croppt of Epfig and Elisabethe Goldschmitt. On July 20, 1811 at Ribeauvillé Christian/Chrétien remarried to Madeleine Goldschmitt. She was born there Sept. 30, 1790, a daughter of Jean Goldschmitt and Barbe Brechbŭhl/Brachbihl. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as Chrétien Sommer, aged 43 years and one month, born at Schirmeck April 4, 1768 but a resident of Ribeauvillé. He was a son of the deceased Jean Chrétien Sommer and the deceased Barbe Gerber, who had died at Schirmeck. The bride was Madeleine Goldschmitt, aged 20 years and nine months, born at Mongoutte, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines but a resident of Ribeauvillé. She was a daughter of the deceased Jean Goldschmitt, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-MinesMarch 19, 1795, and the deceased Barbe Brechbühler, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 6, 1804. One witness was Jan Sommer, 49, the brother of the groom. Signatures looked like an almost illegible Sommr for the groom; an 'x' indicating the bride was illiterate; and Johannes Sommer. The death register of Bergheim has an index at the close of the year 1814 that shows Chrétien Sommer and the name of his second wife, with the date March 5 and page number 11; but no actual entry is found there.

5. Anne Sommer was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller circa 1772, and died at Les Quelles Aug. 26, 1804. In 1787 at La Broque she married Jean/Hans Lehman. He was born circa 1765, and died at Les Quelles Oct. 9, 1795, a son of Rŭdi Lehman and Barbe Joder. When their one-month-old son Pierre died at 'Aux Quelles' June 16, 1794, his wife was erroneously named as Elisabeth Sommer (Anne's sister); witnesses on the civil death entry included father Rüdi Lehman and younger brother Joseph Lehman. On March 7, 1797 at La Broque Anne remarried to Joseph Sommer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Sommer, 23, a resident of aux Guelles, Bambois at Plaine; he was a son of cultivators Jean Sommer and Barbe Kisler of aux Guelles. The bride was cultivator Anne Sommer, widow of cultivator Jean Leimann. She was a resident of La Broque born at aux Guelles, and a daughter of Christian Sommer and Barbe Karbre, cultivators at aux Guelles. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Sommer, 52, a resident of Bambois and father of the groom; cultivator Christian Banzet, 33, a resident of Raon-sur-Plaine and second cousin of the groom; cultivator Pierre Roby, 35, a resident of aux Guevelles and brother-in-law of the bride; and cultivator Pierre Sommer, 21, a resident of Sélestat and brother of the bride.
6. Elisabeth Sommer was born at Schirmeck April 17, 1773, and died a Heidolsheim, Lower Alsace May 12, 1833. She married Joseph Lehman. He was born circa 1774, and died at Schnellenbuhl, Lower Alsace Feb. 11, 1814, a son of Rŭdi Lehman and Barbe Joder. His death entry created at adjacent Heidolsheim Feb. 12 described him as cultivator Joseph Lemann, 40, born at Miguel [Les Quelles] in the valley of Schirmeck, a son of cultivator Rutte [lined out] Lemann who had died at Miguel [Les Quelles?], and husband of Elisabethe Sommer. It was witnessed by cultivators Jacob Stalt, 38, and Christian Beller, 25. On Jan. 18, 1817 at Sélestat Elisabeth remarried to Jacob Wagler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Jacques Wagner. He was born at Steckenhoff en Breisgau [the Steckenhof estate at Denzlingen, Baden] April 14, 1786, a son of the deceased Jacques Wagner and the deceased Barbe Griesser. The bride was Elisabeth Sommer, a resident of Sélestat who was born at Schirmeck April 17, 1773; a daughter of the deceased laborer Chrétien Sommer and the deceased Barbe Gerber. One witness was second cousin Joseph Sommer, 44. The groom signed Jacob Wagler, and the bride signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate. They lived at Heidolsheim, Lower Alsace. Son Chrétien Lehmann, born circa 1811 and also a launderer, signed his stepfather Jacques's civil death entry March 10, 1833, then his mother's two months later.
7. Pierre Sommer was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller Dec. 23, 1775, and died at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges May 5, 1809. On March 18, 1798 at Raon-sur-Plaine he married his cousin Marie Sommer. She was born there circa 1777, and died at Cirey-sur-Vezouse, Meurthe-et-Moselle Dec. 18, 1828, a daughter of Ulrich Sommer and Marie Fongond.

Johannes/Jean Sommer was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller (three miles southeast of Schirmeck) circa 1763. 103

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[103] In 1940 German geologists found red granite at Struthof, a farm area adjacent to Natzwiller. It soon became the location of the Natzweiler-Struthof forced labor camp (often called a concentration camp, though it did not follow the model of others). French resistance fighters were confined there under a program that intentionally left few official records of their whereabouts or fate (the Night and Fog Decree, Ger. *Nacht und Nebel*). Field Marshall Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of the Armed Forces High Command [Ger. *Oberkommando der Wehrmacht*] in February of 1942: "Efficient and enduring intimidation can only be achieved either by capital punishment or by measures by which the relatives of the criminals do not know the fate of the criminal. The prisoners are, in future, to be transported to Germany secretly, and further treatment of the offenders will take place here; these measures will have a deterrent effect because A) The prisoners will vanish without a trace; B) No information may be given as to their whereabouts or their fate." Many laborer-prisoners were worked to death quarrying granite slabs to be used as facades on federal buildings at Nuremburg. Late in the war, previously-existing mine tunnels were enlarged by pick and shovel to conceal the manufacture of aircraft engines. Roughly 17,000 prisoners, about two-thirds of the total population, died in the main camp and its subcamps from extreme fatigue, stress, disease, and starvation. Those too weak to work were simply shipped in boxcars for immediate execution in gas chambers at concentration camps. Guards could only discuss the matters among themselves, saying that prisoners were *vernebelt* [transformed into mist]. Natzweiler-Struthof was liberated by French troops Nov. 23, 1944. Keitel was tried at Nuremburg and executed by hanging Oct. 16, 1946, shouting "*Alles für Deutschland!*

On Dec. 22, 1785 at Schirmeck he married Barbe Stŭckÿ (derived from Stŭcki, her surname was also found as Stocki). She was a daughter of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and his second wife Madeleine Zender (see STUCKY for background on her parents).

She may have been born on Schoppenwihr farm at Ostheim (found on her marriage entry) or at 'Baweiller, Haut Rhin' (death entry; Bollwiller and Berrwiller are both adjacent to Staffelfelden) circa 1763. The first location is obviously more reliable, having been recorded in the presence of Barbe and her mother.

Anabaptist vows were taken on the Struthof Dec. 13, 1785, but an entry with full witnesses (suggesting a ceremony took place there for legal purposes) was made in the Catholic parish book at Schirmeck. This entry described the groom as Jean Sommer, born on the Struthof and a resident there, a son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerberin. The bride was Barbe Stucky. She was born at Shoppwir near Colmar [Schoppenweier farm at Ostheim, the residence of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ]. She was a daughter of the deceased Nicolas Stŭcky and Madeleine Zenter, a resident of Salm, *Anabaptistes*. Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Christian Sommer, *Anabaptiste*; Ulric Zenter of Val d'Andlau [he signed Ulrich Zehender]; and *Anabaptiste* Ulric Neuhauser of the Struthof [he signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate].

Another ceremony was held in conjunction with this one. The groom was described as Ulric Zenter, a resident of Val d'Andlau, and a son of Jean Zenter [Jean Nicolas Zehnder] and Elisabeth Retter. The bride was Johannes/Jean's sister Barbe Sommer, a resident of the Struthof, and a daughter of *Anabaptistes* Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerberin. The same witnesses signed. For background on this couple see CENDER.

Johannes/Jean died at Ribeauvillé Aug. 16, 1814. His civil death entry said he was 52, born at Steinthal, identified his parents, and said he was a resident of Ribeauvillé. It was witnessed by Jean Dellenbach, 52, and Jean Sommer, 27.

Barbe died at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace Aug. 12, 1817. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Stoky, 54, widow of Jean Sommer. She was born at 'Baweiller, Haute Rhin,' and died in *Maison No. 135*, where she was living with Christian Rupp and Madeleine Litwiller. Her parents were the deceased cultivator Nicolas Stoky and Madeleine Zehntner. Witnesses included her son Christian Sommer, 27, a cultivator at Eckbolsheim; and Jean Rothacker, 54, a cultivator at Lingolsheim.

Five of their sons settled in Butler County, Ohio in or shortly after 1819, and their only daughter in 1836.

Children of Johannes/Jean Sommer and Barbe Stŭckÿ include:

a. Jean/John Sommer was born circa 1784, and died in Butler County, Ohio before 1850. Circa 1840 in Butler County he married Barbara König/King. She was born at Münchenroth (below Nästatten on the border of Rhineland-Pfalz and Hessen, both about eight miles northeast of Sankt Goarshausen) Feb. 9, 1806, and died Nov. 18, 1878, a daughter of Nikolaus König and Maria Güngerich. On Feb. 3, 1850 in Butler County she remarried to Joseph Augspurger. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 29, 1786, and died in Butler County Dec. 9, 1869, a son of Christian Augspurger and Maria Magdalena Kropf and younger brother to Christian Augspurger. Joseph's first wife had been Elizabeth Schlabach, who had died in Butler County July 11, 1848. Joseph and Barbara lived on 135 acres in the northwest corner of Section 15, Milford. The 1850 census of Milford shows farmer Joseph Augspurger, 63, France; Barbaray, 44, Germany; John, 19; Jacob, 17; Christian, 14; Mary, 11; John, 7 (all children born in Ohio); and Catharine Unziker, 22. Three of the children were Joseph's, and two were Barbara's. 'Catharine Unziker' was a daughter of Daniel Unzicker and Magdalena Kahn.

b. Henri Sommer was born at Natzwiller circa 1785, according to French genealogist Jean François Lorentz.

c. **Christian/Chrétien Sommer** was born at Belmont, Lower Alsace Feb. 4, 1790, and died in 1865.

d. Joseph Sommer was born circa 1794. The lifelong bachelor is found on the 1860 census of Oxford, Butler County as laborer Joseph Sumers, 66, France; on the 1870 census of Wayne, Butler County as Joseph Somers, 75, works on farm, in the home of nephew John Somers, 34, next door to his father Peter; and on the 1880 census of Collinsville, Butler County as uncle Joseph Somers, 86, Germany, in a Kinsinger household (Peter's daughter Elizabeth Sommer was the second wife of Christian Kinsinger).

e. Pierre/Peter Sommer was born circa Jan. 27, 1797 (headstone age count 78 years, 8 months, and 13 days), and died Oct. 10, 1875. Before 1823 he married Anne/Anna Schlabach (their oldest son was born in Montgomery County April 26, 1823). She was born at Saulxures, Lower Alsace March 20, 1797 (headstone March 27, 1797), and died April 23, 1880. Her civil birth entry created March 2 says Anne was born a day earlier, a daughter of cultivator David Schlapach [Schlabach, derived from Schlapbach] and Marguerite Loquipiel [Luginbŭhl] *de la secte Anabaptiste*. It was signed David Schlabach. They are found on the 1850 and 1860 censuses of Wayne, Butler County. The 1870 census of Wayne shows retired farmer Peter Somers, 73, France; Anna, 72, France; domestic servant Lydia Kinsinger, 14, Ohio; and Albert Schlonaker, 5, Ohio. His son John, 34, living next door with Peter's

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Deutschland über alles!" on the platform. Nazi minister of armaments and war production Albert Speer received only a 20-year sentence. He was released in 1966, promoted two best-selling books, and died in prosperity in 1981.

brother Joseph in his household. They are buried in Collinsville Cemetery, where Peter's headstone calls him Peter Sommers, and Anna's calls her '*Anna Frau von Peter Sommers*.'

f. David Sommer was born circa 1801. Before 1829 he married Barbara Slonneger/Sloneker [Schlunegger]. She was born in Neuchâtel Jan. 17, 1803, a daughter of Johannes/Hans Schlunneger and Verena/Freni Liechti or Fanny Liechty. Although her father died in Neuchâtel in 1814, her mother had remarried to Johannes Ramseyer in 1817. Widowed a second time, she immigrated with her children in 1824. They came to Butler County in 1825 (see RAMSEYER for more on this family). David filed a naturalization *Declaration of Intent* at Hamilton, Butler County in the June term of 1840. The household of David Summers is found at Milford on the 1840 census. They are found on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County as farmer David Sommer, 49, Germany; Barbaray, 47, Ohio; and 10 children born in Ohio, the oldest 21.

g. Catherine Sommer was born at Sélestat, Lower Alsace March 11, 1802, and died in Butler County, Ohio between March 23, 1852 and the 1870 census. Her civil birth entry called her Catharine, and described her parents as *cabaretier* [restauranteur] Jean Somer and Barbe Stocki, residents of Sélestat. It was signed Johannes Sommer. On Nov. 17, 1824 at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace she married Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman. He was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau March 10, 1790, and died in Butler County, Ohio before March 23, 1852 (the day Catherine remarried to Jean Buré/John Bower at Milford). Catherine and Christian/Chrétien did not emigrate from Europe until 1836; they went to Butler County, and their children came to Tazewell and McLean Counties. See ZIMMERMAN for background on this couple.

Christian/Chrétien Sommer was born at Belmont, Lower Alsace (adjacent on the east side of Waldersbach) Feb. 4, 1790, and died in 1865.

He served in the French army during the Napoleonic wars. French military records document him as conscript No. 10798, brought into service at Rosheim May 25, 1813. He was described as having blonde hair, blue eyes, a long nose, and a large mouth; his parents were Jean Sommer and Barbe Stoky. He served as a guard accompanying artillery pieces [Fr. *fusilier*] with the *7th Regiment d' Infantrie de Ligne* until Oct. 23, 1813, and mustered out Dec. 31, 1813. Neil Ann Stuckey Levine described him as "a maimed veteran of Napoleon's winter campaigns in 1813."

Because he left his regiment Oct. 23, presumably because of wounds, it is likely that he was a participant in the Battle of Leipzig Oct. 16-19. Recall from ROPP, "The military conscription system became ineffective after the 'battle of the nations' at Leipzig Oct. 16-19, 1813. More than 500,000 soldiers met on the field. The French army lost 40,000 dead or wounded, another 25,000 prisoners, 6,000 deserters, and lost all ground in Germany and Poland."

On Dec. 20, 1815 at Eckbolsheim he married widow Magdalena/Madeleine Litwiller. She was born at La Wantzenau [Ger. *Wanzenau*] Oct. 21, 1777, and died at Clay, Montgomery County, Ohio Feb. 20, 1864, a daughter of Samuel Litwiller and Barbara/Barbe Rŭpp. (Although we use our standardized 'Litwiller' spelling here, she was most often found in French documentation as 'Litweiller').

Witnesses on their civil marriage entry included cultivator Chrétien Stucky, 41, brother-in-law of the bride living at Strasbourg; and cultivator Jean Rothacker, 52, brother-in-law of the bride. The groom signed 'Christian Sommer.'

Magdalena/Madeleine was the widow of Johannes/Hans Rŭpp. He had died at Eckbolsheim Aug. 14, 1814. Background on this first marriage can be found in ROPP, RŬPP OF HOCHBURG. Five of their children were brought to Magdalena/Madeleine's second marriage.

On March 1, 1819 they petitioned at Strasbourg for permission to emigrate with Christian Stŭcki and Barbe Rŭpp; their request was approved March 17, 1819. However, the Christian Stŭcki family remained in Alsace.

Christian/Chrétien and Madeleine's party included six children (five were brought to the marriage by the bride, but one had died in 1817; also Joseph, 2, and newborn Elisabeth). They may have sailed soon after receiving permission.

According to Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, they do not appear on the passenger list of the *Montgomery*, which departed from Le Havre and arrived at Philadelphia June 18 or 19, 1819. There is only a Chrétien Sommer, 52, and a Paul Sommer, 30. However, she points out that the surviving typescript is at best a thirdhand copy.

William H. Grubb's *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* said that, "In the spring of 1819 he [Christian Augspurger, who is on the passenger list] again left [Europe] with his family and a colony of 36 families [actually 36 persons] for America. Of these, six families came to Butler County in August of the same year: Christian Augspurger, his brother Joseph, their second cousin Jacob Augspurger, Christian Sommer, John Miller and John Gunden. These were all members of the Amish branch of the church." Was this the Christian Sommer married to Magdalena/Madeleine Litwiller? We will continue to search ship's passenger lists.

They appear on the 1830 census of Clay Township, Montgomery County (above Butler County) as the Christian Sumer household; on the 1840 census of the same location as the Christian Somers household; and in 1850 as farmer Christian Summers, 60, France; Magdalena, 73, Fance; and Magdalena Baupe, 46, France; next door to

son Joseph Summers, 34, France, and his wife Lydia, born in Ohio, and six children born in Ohio. Magdalena/Madeleine is last found as Madelane Somers, 82, France, in the household of her son Joseph, 43, France, on the 1860 census of Clay.

Christian's headstone in Brown Cemetery at West Manchester, Preble County (adjacent to Montgomery County) says he was "Christian Somers 1790-1865." Her headstone in Landis Cemetery at Brookville, Montgomery County says she was "Magdalena, wife of Christian Somers, d. 20 Feb. 1864, aged 84 Y. 4 M. 5 D."

Children of Magdalena/Madeleine Litwiller (as the surname was later standardized) and her second husband Christian/Chrétien Sommer born at Eckbolsheim include:

1. Joseph Sommer was born Sept. 17, 1816. On June 7, 1838 in Montgomery County, Ohio he married Lydia Studebaker. They appear on the county marriage entry as Joseph Somers and Lydia Studibaker. Their household is found under the name Joseph Somers on the 1840 census of Clay Township, Montgomery County, Ohio; and on the 1860 census of Clay as farmer Joseph Somers, 43, France; Leydda, 38, Ohio; 10 children born in Ohio; and Madelane Somers, 82, France [Joseph's widowed mother]. They were living at the same location in 1870. The 1880 census of a household at Brookville, Clay Township, Montgomery County shows a second wife: Joseph Sommers, 62, France; Mahala, 53, born in Ohio to parents fom Virginia; son Jesse, 20, born in Ohio to parents from France; and stepdaughter Laura B. Wilson, 22, born in Indiana to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio. Joseph and his first wife are buried under a two-sided headstone in Landis Cemetery, Brookville, Montgomery County. His side says he was "Joseph Somers, died Aug. 19, 1881, aged 70 Y. 11 M. 4 D." Her side says she was "Lydia, wife of Joseph Somers born Feb. 3, 1821, d. Oct. 6, 1877, age 56 Y. 8 M. 3 D."
2. Elisabeth Sommer was born Feb. 14, 1819.

Farnisville (Descendants of Ulrich born circa 1740)

Ulrich Sommer was born circa 1740, and died at La Broque Dec. 12, 1787, the sixth child of Andrè Sommer and Anna Binggeli/Pinckele.

In 1770 at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges (nine miles west of La Broque and Schirmeck) he married Marie Fongond. She was born at Raon-sur-Plaine circa 1739-42, and died there May 17, 1808.

After Ulrich's death Marie remarried to Christman Banzet. Her civil death entry described her as Marie Fongon, 69, wife of Christiane Bansap of the farm de la Crache. It was signed Christman Banzet.

1. **Jean Sommer** was born at Raon-sur-Plaine Feb. 22, 1773, and died at La Broque,Vosges May 13, 1808. .
2. Joseph Sommer was born at Raon-sur-Plaine May 10, 1775, and died there May 23, 1812. On Dec. 17, 1803 at La Broque he married Anne Fongon. She was born at La Broque March 28, 1779, and died at Oberhaslach, Lower Alsace Jan. 8, 1837, a daughter of Ulrich Fongon and Elisabeth Neuhauser.
3. Marie Sommer was born at Raon-sur-Plaine circa 1777, and died at Cirey-sur-Vezouse, Meurthe-et-Moselle Dec. 18, 1828, On March 18, 1798 at Raon-sur-Plaine she married her cousin Pierre Sommer. He was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller Dec. 23, 1775, and died at Raon-sur-Plaine May 5, 1809, a son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerber.
4. Jacques Sommer was born at Schirmeck May 5, 1778, and died at Merviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle July 23, 1859. On Jan. 1, 1810 at La Broque he married Barbe Schérique/Göerig. She was born at La Broque June 20, 1788, and died at Merviller Nov. 12, 1824, a daughter of André Schérique/Göerig and Barbe Mosimann. On Nov. 21, 1825 at Merviller Jacques remarried to Barbe Sommer. She was born on the Sommerhof at Neuviller Feb. 3, 1799, and died at Merviller Feb. 22, 1864, a daughter of Ulrich Sommer and Barbe Guérich/Göerig.

Jean Sommer was born at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges Feb. 22, 1773, and died at La Broque,Vosges May 13, 1808.

On Dec. 17, 1803 at La Broque he married Magdalena Neuhauser. She was born at La Broque May 8, 1779, a daughter of Nicolas Christian Neuhauser and Véronique Fongond.

Jean's civil death entry described him as a cultivator who had lived at Malplaquet [a hamlet four miles west of La Broque]. He was the husband of resident Magdelaine Neuhauser, and the son of the deceased Ulric Sommer, who had been a cultivator at Haut Donon, and Marie Fongond, who was a resident of La Broque. It was witnessed by cultivators Jean Sommer, 44, and Christian Neuhauser, 49.

1. **Christian Sommer** was born at Raon-sur-Plaine Oct. 24, 1804.
2. Marie Sommer was born at La Broque April 25, 1806, and died at Turquestein, Moselle Oct. 7, 1846.

Christian Sommer was born at Raon-sur-Plaine Oct. 24, 1804. He married Marie Sommer. She was born at Neuviller Jan. 31, 1813,a daughter of Ulrich Sommer and Barbara Guérich [Göerig].

The packet ship *Frances DePau* sailed from Le Havre, arriving at New York July 22, 1836 (for the ship's background see BECHLER/BECKLER). Its passenger list includes Christian Sommer, 32; Marie, 23; Salomé, 17; Barbe, 55; Joseph Baechler, 26; Catharina, 27; Marie, 5; Peter Baechler, 24; Joseph Sommer, 74; Barbe, 75; and Andreas Sommer, 18. They can be identified as:

- Christian Sommer, 32, and his wife Marie Sommer, 23, were the couple we have mentioned.
- Andreas Sommer, 18, was a younger brother to Marie.
- Salomé Sommer, 17, was a younger sister to Marie and the future wife of Christian Schlegel [Jr.].
- Barbe Sommer, 55, was Salomé's mother Barbe Göerig/Guérich, now a widow.
- Relations Joseph Sommer, 74 [a son of Joseph Sommer and Marie Hazemann], and Barbe [his wife Elisabeth Barbe Gerber], 75, and the Baechlers can also be identified (see BECHLER/BECKLER).

The birthplaces of the children indicate that they settled at St. Louis, Missouri in 1836, and came to Illinois between 1845 and 1847.

Christian Sommer appears as 'C. Summer' on the 1840 census of St. Louis. The St. Louis census shows a male in the 30-39 age bracket (Christian); a male in the 20-29 age bracket (André?); a male under 5 (Joseph); a female in the 50-59 age bracket (Barbe Guengerich?); a female 20-29 (Marie); and a female under 5 (Mary). The household of a 'Joseph Summers' is shown on the same page.

In 1850 they appear on the census of District 56 (Woodford County) as John Klopfenstein and Nicholas Ramseyer as farmer Christian Sommer, 47, France; Mary, 37, France; Joseph, 14, Missouri; Mary, 11, Missouri; Christian, 8, Missouri; Elizabeth, 6, Missouri; Peter, 3, Illinois; and Magdalena, 6 months, Illinois.

In 1860 they are found at Montgomery Township as farmer Christian Sommer, 56, France; Mary, 45, France; laborer Joseph, 23, Missouri; Mary, 20, Missouri; Christian, 17, Missouri; Elizabeth, 16, Missouri; Peter, 12, Illinois; Magdalene, 10, Illinois; Barbara, 7, Illinois; Cath., 4, Illinois; and Benj., 7 months.

An 1865 federal tax assessment shows Christian Sommer at Farnisville, Montgomery Township. He paid $1 tax on a carriage.

It is thought that Christian and Marie died before 1870, and were buried in Slabtown Cemetery. Cattle were allowed to graze on the grounds. Many of the graves had wooden markers that no longer survive. Only 16 or so headstones can still be read.

Children of Christian Sommer and Marie/Mary Sommer were extremely difficult to identify. We hope to look in family histories in the Mennonite Heritage Center at Germantown Hills in the near future. They include:

1. Joseph Sommer was born at St. Louis, Missouri in 1836. On Sept. 11, 1864 in Woodford County he married Magdalena Ramseyer. She was born in Stark County, Ohio circa 1843, a daughter of Nicholas Ramseyer and Barbara Sommer. They were next-door neighbors on the 1850 census of Montgomery.
2. Mary Sommer was born at St. Louis, Missouri circa 1839, and died in 1867. On Dec. 24, 1861 in Woodford County she married Isaac Zimmerman. He was born at Grenzach, Baden Jan. 17, 1838, and died Dec. 30, 1903, a son of Johannes/John Zimmerman and Anna 'Emma' Schneider. On Feb. 6, 1868 in Woodford County he remarried to Mary Stuckey. She was born in Baden Aug. 30, 1847, and died April 19, 1901. They can be found on the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Pike. Isaac and Mary are buried in Sterling Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Sterling, Kansas, which was established on land they donated.
3. Christian Sommer was born at St. Louis, Missouri circa 1842. Woodford County records say that on July 30, 1865 in Woodford County he married Anna Bimmermahn (Bimmerman or Zimmerman?).
4. Elizabeth Sommer was born at St. Louis, Missouri circa 1844.
5. Peter Sommer was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County Aug. 13, 1847, and died at Union Township, Iowa Dec. 17, 1910. In November 1875 in Woodford County he married Susan Landis. She was born Feb. 19, 1854, and died at Union Township, Iowa June 12, 1901. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Montgomery as Peter Sommers, 32, born in Illinois to French parents; Susan, 26, born in Illinois to German parents; Jonathan, 3, Illinois; William, 1, Illinois; laborer Benjamin, 20, born in Illinois to French parents {Peter's brother]; and Gottlieb Moser, 27, Switzerland. They appear on the 1900 census of Union Township, Iowa as farmer Peter Summers, 52, born in Illinois in August 1847 to French parents; Susan, 54, born in Illinois in February 1846 to French parents; and nine children born in Illinois, the youngest in September 1895. They are buried in North Pulaski Cemetery at Pulaski, Iowa.
6. Magdalena Sommer was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County circa 1850.
7. Barbara Sommer was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County circa 1853.
8. Catherine Sommer was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County circa 1857.
9. Benjamin Sommer was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County circa 1859. He is found on the 1880 census of Montgomery in the household of his older brother Peter. He is found on the 1900 census of Pamona, California as salesman Benj. F. Sommer, 40, born in Illinois in September 1859 to French parents; Katherine, 38,

born in Switzerland in September 1861 to Swiss parents; and seven children, the first five born in Illinois up to 1889, the last two born in California in 1891 and 1893.

Waldersbach

Ŭlli Sŭmmer was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Sumiswald March 17, 1639, a son of Mathys Summer and Anna Steiner and younger brother to Joseph whose son migrated to Solbach. He would later be known as Ulrich Sommer.

The Emmental region [Ger. *Emmenthal*] centered around the valley of the Emme River held many citizens who were not Anabaptists, but considered themselves sympathetic *Halbtäufer*. When the Council at Bern cracked down on Anabaptists in 1670-71, the *Halbtäufer* protested the intolerance of their government by warning or hiding their neighbors. When a few Anabaptists were arrested, 60 citizens stormed the local jail before they could be transferred to the nearby prison-castle at Trachselwald. The friendship and cooperation of *Halbtäufer* families influenced the attitude of Sumiswald native Hans Reist, who would later oppose Jacob Amman's intolerant stance (see HANS REIST in the Appendix).[104]

Ŭlli/Ulrich anticipated the trouble and resettled at Waldersbach (now in Lower Alsace) in 1669. There he continued to affiliate with the Protestant Reformed Church. His new home had its own Lutheran church, subordinate to the parish of Rothau, less than five miles west by road. There was also a Protestant chapel at Natzwiller [Ger. *Natzweiler*]. Natzwiller was only four miles to the northeast, but was reached with difficulty by a roundabout 10-mile route that passed through Rothau. Recall from ROPP a description of Natzwiller as 2,500 high in the Vosges Mountains, on a side road with Wildersbach and Neuviller in the Le Ban de la Roche area.

Starting with his first marriage, a number of his family events were recorded in the Protestant parish register at Rothau. "*Ulrich Sommer du village de Sommiswald au canton de Berne en Suisse a espouse Christine Resse du village de Gogesberg au canton de Berne en Suisse ce 22 de 9bre, 1669*" — "Ulrich Sommer of Sumiswald, Canton Bern, Switzerland has married Christine Resse of Guggisberg, Canton Bern, Switzerland Nov. 22, 1669."

Christine Resse was actually a Rieser. The Riesers were and are one of the principal families in the Protestant congregation at Guggisberg; the spelling is now standardized as Ryser. Christina Rieser was baptized there May 12, 1650; on the entry the names of her parents look like Cŭni Rosses or Rosser and Catharina Wänger.

On July 20, 1674 at Waldersbach a Protestant marriage entry was created for Matthis Sommer and Christina Schneiderin, both from Canton Bern. This may or may not have been Ŭlli/Ulrich's father Mathÿs, who would have been 68 years of age.

Christina Rieser died at Fouday (on the west side of Waldersbach) Oct. 16, 1691. Her Protestant death entry created at Waldersbach said she was of *la religion reformée*, and about 40 years of age.

Children of Ŭlli/Ulrich and his first wife Christina Rieser include:

1. **Johan/Jean Sommer** was baptized at Waldersbach May 7, 1671. Witnesses included Jacob Blink, Stefan Werlin, and Elizabeth Rohrbach [wife of Stefan Rŭchti]."
2. Anne Marie Sommer was baptized at Waldersbach Feb. 13, 1684, and died there Dec. 23, 1750. Her Protestant birth entry described her parents as Ulrich Sommer of Sumiswald and Christian Ressé of Goguesperg [Guggisberg]. Witnesses included weaver Jean Christman of Waldersbach, Anne the wife of Oswald Becker, and Anne the wife of Christman Caquelin. On Aug. 13, 1715 at Waldersbach she married Didier Loux. Their Protestant marriage entry described her as Marie Sommer of Switzerland.

On Feb. 2, 1693 at Waldersbach Ŭlli/Ulrich *du canton de Berne* remarried to Christine Kommer. According to their entry she was a daughter of Antoine Kommer and Verene Weber, Swiss emigrants living at Waldersbach. Kommer may have been a variation of the Swiss surname Kammer or Kammerer – in German a *Kammer* is an overseer; it is also found at Waldersbach as Commer and Gŭmmer.

In their article *Les Anabaptistes á Bénaville*, Marie-Thérèse and Gerard Fischer cite a document found at Badonviller stating that in 1717, "Oillery Roppe [Ŭli Rŭpp], an Anabaptist farmer from *'la cense de Donon,'* [he actually lived at Natzwiller after 1702] along with Pierre Charpentier [Peter Zimmerman] living at Bénaville, stood guarantor for Olry [Ŭlrich] Sommer, a Mennonite of Les Quelles." Ŭlli/Ulrich may not have actually moved to Les

[104] In 1702 the Täuferkammer or Anabaptist Commission in the city of Bern ordered an Anabaptist hunt. Their records show that, "The efforts of the hunters were frustrated when the majority of the populace aided the Anabaptists to escape through various signals, as blowing horns, shooting, calling, and the like. Between sixty and seventy Anabaptists were released from prison through mob action of the sympathetic residents at Sumiswald April 24, 1714. Bern [the commission] fined the community 100 Taler [$2,000] for its actions."

Quelles, but leased Banbois or Bambois (now part of Plaine), a clearing below the forested area Les Quelles. At one time or another a water-powered sawmill there employed members of Anabaptist Ropp, Ulrich, Lehman, and Sommer families.

Ŭlli/Ulrich died at Rothau (found on his Protestant death entry as Rote) Jan. 8, 1725, age 86, and was buried the following day in the cemetery there. The Protestant register at Rothau described him as '*Ulric Sommer le Suisse*,' age 90. The Protestant register at Waldersbach called him Voilri Sommer *originaire de la Suisse Allemande* (from the German-speaking part of Switzerland), and said he had died at Rote, and also estimated his age as about 90.

Children of Ŭlli/Ulrich and his second wife Christine Kommer include:

3. Glaude or Claude Sommer was born at Belmont June 24, 1693. A Protestant entry at Waldersbach said that Glaude Sommer, a son of Ulric Sommer and Christine Kommer, was born at Belmont June 24, 1693, and baptized there June 28. It was witnessed by Glaude Gladon of Belmont, Pierre Kommer, and Catherine Neuviller (wife of Balthasar Kommer). No known descendants.
4. Jacques Sommer was born at Belmont April 18, 1695. A Protestant entry at Waldersbach said that Jacques, a son of Ulric Summer and Christine Kummer, was born at Belmont April 18, 1695, and baptized there April 24. It was witnessed by Jacob Trit [Tritt] of Waldersbach, Ulric Verlÿ of Belmont, and Marguerite, the wife of Oswald Pek [Becker].

Johan/Jean Sommer was baptized at Waldersbach May 7, 1671, and died there Feb. 10, 1706, the first child of Ŭlli Sŭmmer/Ulrich Sommer and his first wife Christine Ris.

He married Catherine Kommer.

A Protestant entry at Waldersbach says, "Jean Sommer of the reformed religion, a 34-year-old landowner at Waldersbach, died there Feb. 10, 1706 at 3 a.m., and was buried the following day in the cemetery at Fouday."

On Sept. 9, 1706 at Waldersbach Catherine remarried to Benoit Herzog. Their Protestant marriage entry described him as a son of the deceased Jean Herzog, and a native of Schorheim, Canton Bern. She was described as Catherine Commer, a native of Switzerland and the widow of the deceased Jean Sommer, who had been a shepherd [Fr. b*erger*] at Waldersbach.

Children of Johan/Jean Sommer and Catherine Kommer include:

1. **Jean Sommer** was born circa 1703.
2. Nicolas Sommer was born circa 1709, and died at Les Quelles, La Broque Jan. 30, 1776. On Feb. 5, 1731 at La Broque he married Libaire Juilliot. Only the pre-announcement is still found in Catholic records; Nicolas signed Niclaŭs Summer, while Libaire signed with an 'x,' indicting she was illiterate. She was born at La Broque July 31, 1699, and died there Nov. 10, 1761, a daughter of Antoine Juilliot and Mathiatte Charlier. On Sept. 13, 1762 at La Broque he remarried to Catherine Holveck. They were only described as widower Nicolas Sommer and widow Catherine Holveck. Signatures looked like Nicolaŭs Somer, gaspard holveck, an 'x' for the bride, indicating she was illiterate. She may have been the Catherine Holveck baptized at La Broque June 12, 1712, who married Jacques Huguin at Schirmeck May 13, 1735. She was a daughter of Simon Holveck and Christine Jacques. His Catholic death entry from La Broque described him as Nicolas Sommer, 66, the husband of Catherine Holveck. He had died at Les Quelles Jan. 30, 1776.

Jean Sommer was born circa 1703.

In 1728 or 1729 he married a Neuhauser. The birth entry of one son called her Barbe; the death entry of another son called her Marie. Because the second entry was less reliable we favor Barbe.

In 1731 they leased property in the hamlet La Haute Goutte [the high drop] within Neuviller. Before 1739 they resettled on Sommerhof farm, located outside the village Neuviller (it became Neuviller-la-Roche in 1961) at the Croix-Rouge meeting of the Rothaine Valley (the Rothaine River came from the western Rothau direction) and the Chergoutte Valley (coming from the eastern Barr direction).

Children of Jean Sommer and Barbe Neuhauser include:[105]

1. **Jean Sommer** was born in the hamlet La Haute Goutte within Neuviller circa 1730, and died on the Sommerhof at Neuviller Dec. 9, 1805.

[105] A number of sources imply that a Joseph Sommer born circa 1745 was born on the Sommerhof at Neuviller. But this Joseph died at Pisdorf, Lower Alsace June 30, 1801. His civil death entry said that he was born at Neu-dorfer Muse. There are at least four communities in the French department of Meuse that begin with the letters 'Neuvill.' It also said that his parents were named Ulrich Sommer and Catherine Rinkenberg.

2. Jacques Sommer married Barbe Kérich or Koerich [Görig]. They are identified as the parents of the groom at a wedding that took place at Villé Dec. 10, 1798. A pre-announcement posted at Urbeis a week earlier identified them as Jacques Sommer and Barbe Kérich of Neuviller. The civil marriage entry identified them as the deceased Jacques Sommer and Barbe Koerich, a cultivator at Hohwald, Breitenbach. The groom was cultivator Moÿse Sommer, 40, a resident of Climont, Urbeis. The bride was Innocence Banzet (as she signed her own name, though it is found elsewhere as Bansept), 28. She was born at Climont March 21, 1770, a daughter of deceased cultivator Christmann Banzet and Margueritte Morel of Belmont.
    a. Moÿse Sommer was born at Climont circa 1757, and died at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Meuse May 10, 1816. On Dec. 18, 1798 at Villé he married Innocence Banzet. She was born at Belmont March 21, 1770, and died at Badonviller Jan. 2, 1837. Moÿse's civil death entry described him as Moise Sommer, 60, a cultivator on the farm la Chamois at Badonviller, and husband of Marie Innocent Banisette. It was witnessed by farmer Christian Lüdvily [Litwiller], 26, a farmer at la Chamois, his son-in-law. The signature looked like Christian Lidtwil. Innocence's civil death entry described her as Marie Innocence Banzet, born at Bemont [Belmont], around 66 years of age. She was the widow of Moyse Sommer. One witness was her son-in-law, cultivator Christian Lidviller, 49, who signed Christian Lidtwiller.
3. Ulrich Sommer was born on the Sommerhof at Neuviller circa 1739, and died at Neuviller Jan. 6, 1814. He married Marie Salzmann/Saltzmann. She was born at Still, Lower Alsace [adjacent above Oberhaslach] circa 1737, and died at Neuviller Nov. 29, 1816, a daughter of Michel Salzmann and Marie Gerber/Kerber. The marriage entries of their children described this couple as *Anabaptiste*. His civil death entry described him as Ulric Sommer, 84, the husband of Marie Zaltzmann. He was a son of the deceased Jean Sommer and Barbe Neuhouser of the Sommerhof. Witnesses included his sons *censier* Pierre Sommer, 42, and *censier* Michel Sommer, 37, both living on the Sommerhof. Her civil death entry described her as Marie Saltzman, 79, widow of Ulric Sommer, a daughter of the deceased Michel Saltzman and Marie Kerber. It was witnessed by sons Michel Sommer, 40, and Pierre, 48, both living on the Sommerhof. Their children born on the Sommerhof at Neuviller include:
    a. Chrétien Sommer may have been born circa 1763 (as a witness to his brother Jean's marriage) or 1757 (death entry and thus less reliable), and died at Breitenbach Sept. 19, 1844. His civil death entry described him as cultivator Chrétien Sommer, 87, born at Neuwiller and a resident of Breitenbach. His parents were the deceased cultivator Ulric Sommer, born at Neuviller, and the deceased Marie Salzmann, born at Still, Lower Alsace [ajacent above Oberhaslach]. It was witnessed by his brother cultivator Michel Sommer, 71 [he was 65], of Grendelbruch; and innkeeper Chrétien Stibi, 32, of Breitenbach. They signed Michael Sŭmer and Christian Stib.
    b. Barbe Sommer was born circa 1765, and died at Breitenbach (eight miles southeast of Neuviller-la-Roche) Jan. 8, 1822. Before 1786 she married Jean Hodler. He was born circa 1756. They farmed at Hohwald, Breitenbach (now the community of Le Hohwald). Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Sommer, 57, born at Nasswiller [Natzwiller] but a resident of *Maison No. 11* at Hochwald [Hohwald], Breitenbach. She was the wife of cultivator Jean Hottler of Hochwald, and a daughter of the deceased cultivator Ulric Sommer of Nasswiller and Marie Saltzmann.
    - Jacob/Jakob Sommer may belong here. He was born in the area of Le Ban de la Roche circa 1765 (age 40 at his marriage in 1805), and died in 1838. Baden law required that family events that included Anabaptists be registered at Catholic churches. On July 9, 1805 at Umkirch, Baden Jacob married Barbara Roth, the widow of Johannes König. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1769, and was buried at Umkirch Jan. 24, 1821, age 52. Barbara was an older sister to Niclaŭs Roth, the father of a family that came to Butler County and Tazewell County. After the marriage Jacob renewed the lease on the Mundenhof estate at Umkirch. Jacob remarried to Elisabeth Sommer at Umkirch Dec. 17, 1821. The Catholic entry identified her parents as Christian Sommer and Maria Kropf. This was Elisabeth Sommer, born in 1793 to Christian/Chrétien Sommer (son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerber) and Anne Marie Kropf. One source says she died in 1849.
    c. Ulric Sommer was born in June of 1767, and died at Barr (18 miles southeast of Neuviller-la-Roche) Jan. 19, 1832. On Sept. 7, 1795 at Neuviller he married Marie Bächler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Anabaptiste farmer Ulric Sommer, 28, born on the Sommerhof. He was a son of Anabaptiste farmers Ulric Sommer and Marie Salzmann, also residents of the Sommerhof. The bride was Marie Bachler, aged 19 years, seven months. Her parents were *Anabaptiste* cultivator Jean Bächler and Anne Goekine [?], residents of Reinhardmunster, Lower Alsace. Witnesses included cultivator Ulric Sommer, 56, father of the groom; cultivator Christoph Kommer, 39, a resident of La Haute Goutte; cultivator Jean Bächler, 50, father of the bride; and *Anabaptiste* cultivators Jean Sommer, 63, and Christian Sommer, 33, friends of the bride livng on Sommerhof. (Jean was her uncle, Christian could have been her older brother but was more likely Jean's son born in 1769, who would have been 26. Ulric's civil death entry described him as dairyman [Fr. *vacher*] Sommer, 67, born at Neuwiller. He was the widower of Marie Baechler, and a son of the deceased cultivator Ulric Sommer, who was born at Neuviller, and the deceased Madeleine Salzmann, who was born at Haslach. One witness was his son dairyman Michel Sommer, 29. His signature looked like Michael Sommer.

d. Jean/Hans Sommer was born circa 1768, and died at Kintzheim, Lower Alsace Jan. 8, 1817. On Nov. 10, 1795 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines (22 miles south of Neuviller-la-Roche) he married Barbe Goldschmitt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Sommer, 27, a son of cultivator Ulric Sommer and Maria Saltzman of Neuviller. The bride was Barbe Goldschmid, 20, a daughter of the deceased Jean Goldschmid and Barbe Brechbiehl, who had been farmers at Mongoutte, St. Marie-aux-Mines. The couple were accompanied by cultivator Chrétien Sonmer, 32, a brother of the groom born on the Sommerhof [note that this figures to a birth year of 1763 for Chrétien, which may be more accurate than the one found on his death entry]. Witnesses included uncle-of-the-bride Christian Brechbuhl, 36, a resident of Naville, territoire de Salm [Guevelles or Les Quelles?]; and uncle-of-the-bride Nicolas Heüser, 46, a resident of Mongoutte (see HEISER). Signatures looked like Hans Sŭmer, Barbara Goldschmitt, Ŭlric Sŭmmer, barbrabechbill, Christian Sŭmmer, Christian Brächbeil, and Niclaŭs Hissor. Jean/Hans's civil death entry described him as *Anabaptiste* Jean Sommer, 46. There is no mention of having been married. It was witnessed by *Anabaptistes* Michel Sommer, 40, and Ulrich Sommer, 46, residents of Neuwiller, likely his brothers.

e. Pierre Sommer was born May 15, 1769, and died at Neuviller May 14, 1833. On Dec. 13, 1809 at Neuviller he married Marie Zehnter. She was born at Andlau (17 miles southeast of Neuviller-la-Roche) Aug. 14, 1790, and died at Neuviller March 14, 1823, a daughter of Nicolas Zehnter and Marie Stücker. Their civil marriage entry incorrectly described the groom as Ulric Sommer. He was a son of farmers Ulric Sommer, 70, and Marie Salzman, 72, who were present and consenting. The bride was Marie Zenhter, 19, a resident of Andlau who was born there Aug. 14, 1790. She was a daughter of Nicolas Zehnter, 54, and Marie Stuker, 50, residents of Andlau who were present and consenting. Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Ulric Sommer; cousin-of-the-groom Joseph Sommer, 34; and innkeeper Christoph Kommer of la Hautte Goutte, a friend of the bride. Pierre's civil death entry described him as Pierre Sommer, 64, born on the Sommerhof, a son of the deceased Ulric Sommer and Marie Salzman; he was the widower of Marie Zentner.

f. Joseph Sommer was born circa 1776, and died at Mittersheim, Moselle Sept. 25, 1837. On May 1, 1796 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace he married Anne Marie Schwartz. She was born at Walbach, Upper Alsace circa 1778, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Michel Schwartz and Barbara Kaufman. She had been living at Walbach with her grandfather Valentin Kaufman, 78, who attended the ceremony. One witness was cultivator Pierre Goldschmid, 30, a resident of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Joseph's age was given as 20.

g. Michel Sommer was born March 23, 1779. On May 8, 1811 at Neuviller he married Sara George. She was born at Wildersbach (on the west side of Neuviller) Nov. 13, 1778, a daughter of Jean Nicolas George and Madeleine Bernard. Their civil marriage entry described the groom's parents as Ulric Sommer, 71, and Marie Saltzmann, 73, residents of the Sommerhof who were present and consenting, as well as the bride's uncle and brother. In 1844 Michel was living at Grendelbruch, adjacent above Natzwiller.

Jean Sommer was born in the hamlet La Haute Goutte within Neuviller circa 1730, and died on the Sommerhof at Neuviller Dec. 9, 1805.

He married Marie Rŭbi/Robÿ.

Jean's civil death entry described him as Jean Sommer, 75, who had died on the Sommerhof. He was a son of the deceased Jean Sommer and Marie Neuhouser, who had been residents of the Peiÿs d'Allemagne [perhaps meant to be *Pays d'Allemagne*, the country of Germany, assumed by the municipal clerk because they spoke German]. He was the husband of Marie Robÿ, 56. It was witnessed by son and farmer Christiane Sommer, 44 [he should have been 36], and farmer Christiane Sommer, 42, a nephew and neighbor of the deceased; both were living on the Sommerhof.

Children of Jean Sommer and Marie Rŭbi/Robÿ born at Neuviller include:

1. Johannes/Jean Sommer was born circa 1762, and died at Hohwald, Breitenbach Jan. 23, 1793. He married Elisabeth Zehnter. She was born at Andlau, Lower Alsace circa 1758, and died at Guewenheim, Upper Alsace March 19, 1829, a daughter of Johannes Zehnter and Elisabeth Ketter. (For the story of Elisabeth's brother Ulrich, whose descendants came to Central Illinois, see CENDER). Johannes/Jean's civil death entry said that he was 30 years of age and born on the Sommerhof, but did not identify his parents. One witness was his father-in-law Johannes Zehntner (as he signed his own name), 65. On Dec. 15, 1793 at Breitenbach Elisabeth remarried to Pierre Brachbühl. He was born at Bellefosse July 5, 1767, and died at Guewenheim April 18, 1827, a son of Martin Brachbühl and Anne Bachmann. Elisabeth's civil death entry described her as Elisabeth Sehnter, 70, born at Andlau, a resident of Guewenheim, and the widow of the deceased Pierre Brechbühl. It was witnessed by her son cultivator Ulrich Brechbiehl, 30, and son-in-law cultivator Jacques Sommer, 40. They signed brechbüel and jacob sommer.

Note that the next two children were twins born two weeks apart; their marriage entries say their birth entries were verified.[106]

2. Christian/Chrétien Sommer (twin) was born Oct. 4, 1769 and had an entry created Oct. 6 (per marriage entry), and died at Breitenbach May 9, 1840. On May 7, 1793 at Neuviller he married Marie Madeleine Dolter. She was born at Hohwald, Breitenbach June 29, 1774 (marriage entry), and died there May 6, 1834. (Recall from CENDER that Hohwald was a possession of several wealthy families until the French Revolution; in 1867 parts of Breitenbach, Erlenbach, Barr, Andlau, and Ottrott were combined to form the village of Le Hohwald). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as *censier* [stock raiser or breeder] Chrétien Sommer, 23, a resident of the Sommerhof at Neuviller.107 He was a son of *censier* Jean Sommer and Marie Rubi. The bride was Marie Madeleine Dolter, 19, a daughter of *censier* Chrétien Dolter and Anne Mŭller, residents of Hohwald, Breitenbach. Witnesses included father-of-the-bride and *censier* Chrétien Dolter, employed by the municipality of Breitenbach; second-cousin-of-the-bride's-father and tailor Chrétien Dapbe [Deppen] of Neuviller, 45; and Jean Dolter of Breitenbach, 57-year-old uncle of the bride. Christian/Chrétien's civil death entry created at Breitenbach described him as laborer Chrétien Sommer, 73, a resident who was born there. He was the widower of Madeleine Dolter, who had died there; and the son of the deceased laborer Jean Sommer, who was born at Breitenbach, and Marie Rovÿ, who was also born there. One witness was his son laborer Chrétien Sommer, 43, a resident of Breitenbach; and Jean Dolter, an uncle of the bride.
3. Ulrich Sommer (twin) was born Oct. 18, 1769 and had an entry created the same day (per marriage entry), and died at Raon-l'Etape, Vosges July 20, 1833. On Jan. 5, 1795 at Neuviller he married Barbe Guérich/Göerig. She was born at Le Hang, Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace June 16, 1777, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County before 1860, a daughter of Jean Guérich/Göerig and Barbe Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as *censier* Ulric Somer, 25, born Oct. 18, 1769 on the Somerhoff at Neuviller. He was a son of *censier* Jean Somer, 63, and Marie Rubi. The bride was Barbe Guerich, aged 17 years and six months. She was born at au Hang, bruche, Vosges [Le Hang, Bourg'Bruche] June 16, 1777, a daughter of Jean Guérich and Barbe Goldschmitt. Witnesses included Christoph Komer, 38; father of the bride Jean Guérich, 52; Christian Somer, 32, son of Ulric Somer; and Christian Somer, 27, brother of the groom. Signatures looked like Ulli Sŭmmer, Christophe Kumer, Christian Sŭmer, hans gerig, and Christian Sŭmmer; the bride signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate.
4. **Joseph Sommer** was born Sept. 18, 1775, and died at Paris, Stark County, Ohio Aug. 4, 1856.
5. Elisabeth Sommer was born Feb. 15, 1780, and died at Savonnières-Devant-Bar, Meuse May 18, 1825. On Jan. 18, 1804 at Neuviller she married Andreas/André Guerich. He was born at Le Hang, Bourg-Bruche, Vosges Oct. 31, 1781, a son of Jean Guérich/Göerig and Barbe Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as *censier* André Gérig [he signed Andreas Gerig], 22, born at Bourtl Bruche Oct. 31, 1781, a son of the deceased Jean Gérig and Barbe Goetschmitz, residents of au Hang. The bride was Elisabeth Sommer [she signed Elisabeth Sŭmmer], born *au Sommer Hoff* Feb. 15, 1780. She was a daughter of *censier* Jean Sommer [he signed Hans Somer], 73, and Marie Robÿ, 58. Witnesses included paternal uncle of the bride Ulric Sommer [he signed Ŭlrich Sommer], 60; and innkeeper Christoph Kommer [he signed Christophe Kommer], 47, a resident of Hautte Goutte [La Haute Goutte within Neuviller].

In the latter half of the 18th century, the area of Le Ban de la Roche was influenced by three strong personalities:

– Lutheran pastor and teacher Jean-George Stouber lived at Waldersbach and Bellefosse 1750-54 and 1760-67. He believed that literacy spread the message of the *Bible*, and published an elementary primer in 1762. His daughter wrote, "The beliefs of the Moravian brethren [Anabaptists] held many attractions in his eyes. He once made a footnote with points for and against the Anabaptists, and it became very controversial. But finally he renounced the temptation to join them, in particular because of their very shocking banter about the love of Jesus, and their unpleasant way of saying that one washes oneself and bathes in his blood; that one rests and sleeps comfortably in his wounds; and other oddities of their speech."

– Stouber's successor as pastor and teacher was Jean Frédéric Oberlin (1740-1826) of Strasbourg. He visited in 1766, and made a permanent move to Waldersbach March 30, 1767. He studied theology and surgery, and served as a regimental chaplain. He expanded Stouber's library, published an almanac, established a mutual insurance company and loan office, and organized an agency that placed abandoned children in families. While Stouber was wary of industry, Oberlin welcomed it. He is best known for his contributions to early education. His 'knitting rooms' for children gave them a place to knit, draw, or garden while their parents worked. Oberlin is buried next to his church at Fouday. An Oberlin museum is located in Waldersbach.

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[106] Maria Jones-Elliot of Glenmore, Ireland had twin daughters born June 1 and Aug. 27, 2012 – 87 days apart.

[107] In French a *cense* was originally a lordship, or an extensive parcel of land owned by one family. It later came to describe a hamlet. At first a *censier* was a tax collector or census taker at such a place. It later came to describe the breeders or stock raisers who passed through small communities and took on responsibilities for livestock owned by the community or just grazing on communal land.

– Jean Dietrich (1719-1795) became Jean de Dietrich, a baron of the Holy Roman Empire and the largest landowner in Alsace. He also became the Comte du Ban de la Roche when he bought up its mineral rights in 1771. His mineralogists found valuable ores and expanded a foundry at Rothau. This created jobs and a new demand for horses and oxen. However, the area ultimately could not sustain the resource-intensive industry. His blast furnaces consumed huge quantities of wood, while his livestock stripped the pastureland. Pastor Oberlin helped a little by encouraging communal cooking to conserve wood, a notion he may have borrowed from Swiss settlers.

Joseph Sommer was born on the Sommerhof at Neuviller Sept. 18, 1775, and died at Paris, Stark County, Ohio Aug. 4, 1856.

On Jan. 15, 1806 at Neuviller he married Anne Marie/Mary Guérich/Göerig. She was born in the Le Hang basin near Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace Sept. 14, 1788, and died at Paris, Ohio in 1859, a daughter of Jean Guérich/Göerig and Barbe Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt. Witnesses at the ceremony included Joseph's brother farmer Christian Sommer, 44, and Anne Marie's brother farmer André Göerig, 24; they were described as residents of the Sommerhof. The groom signed Joseph Sŭmer.

In 1814, Napoleon's armies chose to leave the Bruche Valley undefended. Allied troops approaching from the east saw it as a potential gateway into Lorraine. Rothau mayor Nicholas Wolff hastily organized a ragtag army of foundry workmen armed with farm implements to meet them. They engaged Russian and Austrian soldiers in the woods, where their scythes and spades were no match for rifles. Wolff's men retreated to the cemetery at Rothau, while the Russians wheeled around to the south and camped at Fouday. The two sides reached a tentative truce until Wolff's home was looted and burned. The mayor took refuge on the Sommerhof. When Cossacks knocked at the door, Wolff answered in simple black clothing and a broad-brimmed hat borrowed from his host, Joseph. He misled the Cossacks by suggesting that the Bonapartist force had retreated eastward toward Barr. The Cossacks were never seen again.

The Sommerhof was once embedded in woods. But the industrial consumption of its trees apparently led the family to relocate after 1815. (The farm was finally abandoned when the last of the extended family came to America in 1834).

The Sommers resettled on Zellerhof farm above the Zinsel River west of Dossenheim, Lower Alsace (above Saverne). This location is about 40 miles north of Neuviller. Their civil records can be found at Dossenheim-sur-Zinsel.

According to the *Alsace Emigration Index*, the family applied to emigrate at Dossenheim in 1828. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Carolina Agusta.* The passenger list for the ship's arrival at New York May 16, 1828 has a number of errors. It lists Alsatian passengers John [Joseph] Somer, 52; Maria, 36; Joseph, 19; Peter, 17; Christiann, 19; John, 14; Madeline, 13; Cathena, 11; Elzabeth, 8; Barbe, 6; and John [Jacob], 2.

From New York they went to Butler County, Ohio, where they lived until 1834. When the older children left to settle in Illinois, the remaining family members moved to Stark County, Ohio.

The family of 'Joseph Summers' is found on the 1840 census of Paris, Stark County, Ohio living next door to 'John Ramesayer' (see RAMSEYER). In 1850 the Paris census lists the household of 'Joseph Somers,' 75; Mary, 65; and Anna, 20.

Children of Joseph Sommer and Anne Marie/Mary Göerig include:

1. Joseph Sommer [Jr.] was born on Sommerhof Feb. 13, 1807, and died at Columbus, Ohio Aug. 25, 1847. He may have been the French farmer Joseph Sommer, 29 or 27, found on the passenger list of the packet ship *Albany*. It departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York Oct. 8, 1832. In 1833 in Ohio he married Marie/Mary Vercler. She was born on the Château de Romecourt estate at Azoudange, Moselle June 12, 1809, died at what is now Congerville Nov. 4, 1855, and is buried in Dillon Cemetery at Elm Grove. She was a daughter of Joseph Vercler and Catherine Ringenberg of Hellocourt. General Land Office certificates 8445 and 8323 describe full payment by 'Joseph Sommer of Tazewell County, Illinois' for one 40-acre parcel of land in the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 19, and another in the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 19 of what later became Elm Grove, on Oct. 15, 1835. The household of 'Joseph Summer' is listed on the 1840 census of unincorporated Tazewell County. *History of the Illinois River Valley*: "When Peter Sommer [Joseph Jr. and Marie/Mary's son] was but three years of age [1847] the family decided to return to Ohio to visit his grandfather [Joseph Sommer Sr.], making the trip in a covered wagon, and it was on this journey that his father [Joseph Jr.] passed away at Columbus, Ohio. The mother [Marie/Mary] remained with her husband's people in Ohio for about a year and then returned to the little log cabin home near Pekin." Marie/Mary also lived with her oldest brother Joseph in Woodford County. On Feb. 3, 1852 in Tazewell County she remarried to Joseph Guingrich (1803-1875; see GINGERICH); the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Mary/Mary Vercler is buried in Dillon Cemetery at Elm Grove as 'Mary Sommer Gingrich'; Joseph Guingrich is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers. One of Joseph Sommer and

Marie/Mary Vercler's children, Peter Sommer (1834-1920), is credited with inventing the wire fencing method that led his son Peter Jr. to establish the Keystone Steel and Wire Company.

2. Christian/Christianne Sommer was born on Sommerhof Nov. 7, 1808, and died in Allen County, Indiana in 1900. On June 10, 1841 in Stark County he married Mary Conrad. She was born at Montandon, Franche-Comté, France June 14, 1819, a daughter of Jacob Conrad and Anna Graber. Their household can be found on the 1850 census of Paris as Christian Somers, 42; Meary, 29; Jacob, 8; Joseph, 5; and Christian, 4. Christian was naturalized in Allen County Nov. 3, 1856. The 1880 census of Cedar Creek, Indiana lists their household as Christian Sommers, 73, retired farmer; Marry, 62; Christian, 33; Anna, 28; Elias, 24; and Caroline, 22.
3. **Peter/Pierre Sommer** was born on Sommerhof April 28, 1811, and died at Gridley March 29, 1880.
4. Jean/John Sommer was born on Sommerhof May 24, 1813, and died Aug. 28, 1893. On Nov. 30, 1839 in Tazewell County he married Barbara/Barbe Schertz. The county register says their ceremony was performed by John O'Brien. She was born circa 1824, and died May 28, 1894, a daughter of David Schertz and Catherine Belsley. They would farm on the Elm Grove land that had been purchased by John's older brother Joseph in 1835. The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows farmer John Summer, 47, France; Barbara, 40, France; Catharine, 17; Joseph, 14; Mary, 12; John, 10; Magdaline, 8; Elizabeth, 4, all children born in Illinois; and Bavarian laborer Joseph Stalder [Stalter], 30.108 The farm was appraised at $3,000. By 1870 the value of the family farm had risen to $20,000: farmer John Sommer, 54, France; Barbara, 50, France; Joseph, 24, Illinois; John, 20, Illinois; Madelaine, 17, Illinois; and Elizabeth, 14, Illinois. The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows John Summers Sr., 67, France; Barbara, 51, France; a Fahsbender working on the farm; John Summers Jr., 29, Illinois; Mena [Amalie/Amelia Unzicker], 35, Illinois; and Andrew, 3 months, Illinois.
    a. David Sommer was born March 1, 1840, and died in 1842.
    b. Anna Sommer was born Oct. 2, 1841, and died in 1844.
    c. Catherine Sommer was born Oct. 15, 1843, and died July 4, 1897. On Dec. 28, 1869 in Tazewell County she married Christian Mosiman; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born March 27, 1835, and died July 4, 1897, a son of minister Michael Mosiman and Maria Rocher. The 1880 census of Fon du Lac lists them as retired grocer C. Moseman, 45, born in Illinois to French parents; Catharine, 39, born in Illinois to French parents; and brother Joseph Mosiman, 43, a hardware merchant born in Illinois to French parents.
    d. Joseph S. Sommer was born Oct. 22, 1845, and died June 21, 1926. He married Mary F. Lange. She was born April 1, 1855, and died May 12, 1942. They can be found on the 1900 census of Groveland as farmer Joseph Sommer, 54, born in Illinois in 1845 to German parents; Mary, 45, born in English Canada in April 1855 to German parents; and six children.
    e. Mary Sommer was born June 30, 1847, and died in June 1930. On Feb. 17, 1867 she married Christian Augspurger, a namesake grandson of Christian Augspurger. He was born in Wayne, Butler County, Ohio Dec. 9, 1840, and died March 14, 1880, a son of Christian Augspurger [Jr.] and Magdalena Roes. They can be found on the 1870 census of Prairie, Iowa as tanner Christian Augspurger, 29, born in Ohio; Mary, 24, born in Ohio; John, 2, born in Iowa; and Anna, 6 months, born in Iowa. *Herald of Truth*, April 1880: "March 14th, in Pulaski, Davis Co., Iowa, Christian Augspurger, aged 39 years, 3 months and 4 days. He leaves a bereaved wife and five children to mourn the loss of a husband and father."
    f. John S. Sommer was born Oct. 12, 1849, and died March 23, 1935. On Oct. 24, 1878 he married Amalie/Amelia Unzicker. She was born May 10, 1854, and died Oct. 24, 1935, a daughter of Peter Unzicker and Katharina Kennel of Morton. They can be found on the 1910 census of Elm Grove as John S. Sommer, 60, born in Illinois to a German father and French mother; Emelia, 55, born in Illinois to German parents; and two children.
    g. Magdalena 'Maggie' Sommer was born March 8, 1852, and died Nov. 4, 1928. On Feb. 5, 1877 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Rich. He was born at Morton March 15, 1853, and died Aug. 20, 1929, a son of Joseph Rich and Catherine Zimmerman (niece of Andreas Ropp). They can be found on the 1880 census of Cruger, Woodford County. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
    h. Elizabeth Sommer was born Jan. 30, 1856, and died March 18, 1938. She married Jacob F. Ropp. He was born July 20, 1853, and died Nov. 21, 1928, a son of Jacob Ropp and Elizabeth Schlegel. They lived at Gridley, and had three children. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
5. Magdalena/Madeleine Sommer was born on the Sommerhof Aug. 2, 1815, and died Aug. 10, 1902. In 1833 she married Joseph Gerber, who was born at Insviller, Moselle May 25, 1806 (his headstone says May 6), and died Feb. 2, 1882 (the cemetery book gives these dates as May 26, 1806 and Feb. 21, 1882), a son of Peter/Pierre Gerber and Barbe Schertz. See GERBER AND GARBER for more on this couple.
6. Catherine Sommer was born on Zellerhof farm near Dossenheim, Lower Alsace April 19, 1818, and died at Leo (Leo and Cedar Creek have merged into Leo-Cedarsville), Allen County, Indiana June 30, 1895. On March 4, 1836 in Stark County, Ohio she married John Klopfenstein. He was born Dec. 16, 1813, and died April 10, 1891, a son of Jean Klopfenstein and Catherine Linder of Belfort. They can be found on the 1880 census of Cedar Creek as John Klopfenstein, 66; Catherine, 65; and Magdalenia, 36.

[108] This may have been Josef Stalter of Gern, a son of Heinrich Stalter and Jakobine Stalter born in 1828.

7. Elisabeth/Elizabeth 'Eliza' Sommer was born on Zellerhof farm (her civil birth entry actually names the mill Zellerseegmühl) near Dossenheim, Lower Alsace June 15, 1821, and died in Allen County, Indiana May 26, 1885. She is buried in Leo Cemetery at Cedar Creek, Indiana. On May 28, 1840 in Stark County she married Jacob Conrad. He was born in Montbéliard Nov. 3, 1811, and died in Allen County Nov. or March 22, 1885, a son of Jacob Conrad and Anneli Graber. She may be the 28-year-old Eliza Sommers who appears in the household of Jacob and Catharine Weiz on the 1850 census of Paris with children Jeremiah, 4; and Meary, 1.
8. Barbe/Barbara Sommer was born on Zellerhof farm near Dossenheim March 14, 1823, and died in Harper County, Kansas. Her civil birth entry called her 'Madeline.' On Jan. 8, 1843 in Woodford County she married Nicholas Ramseyer. He was born at Maiche, Doubs March 28, 1821 (headstone March 12, 1820), and died at Harper County, Kansas Aug. 29, 1895, a son of Johannes Ramseier and Barbara Kauffman. They came from Ohio to Woodford County in 1849. See RAMSEYER for background on this couple.
9. Jacques/Jacob Sommer was born on Zellerhof farm near Dossenheim May 29, 1826, and died at Ashtabula, Ohio Feb. 24, 1892. On Oct. 26, 1851 in Woodford County he married Leah Lantz. She was born at Belleville, Pennsylvania Aug. 28, 1831, and died in Woodford County March 17, 1868, a daughter of John Lantz and his first wife Magdalena Yoder. He was a farmer and butcher. They can be found on the 1860 census of Eureka, Woodford County as Jacob Sommers, 34, France; Leah, 30, Pennsylvania; and Anna Helderly, 15, Hesse. On May 5, 1872 at Mansfield, Ohio Jacob remarried to Kathryn Steiner. She was born at Wayne, Ohio Feb. 21, 1841, and died at Mansfield, Ohio Sept. 21, 1923.
10. Anna Sommer was born in Ohio circa 1830, and died in Illinois in 1852. She was still living with her parents in Stark County in 1850.

Peter/Pierre Sommer was born on the Sommerhof at Neuviller April 28, 1811, and died at Gridley March 29, 1880.

On July 13, 1834 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Schertz; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Engel. She was thought to have been born in August of 1816, and died in August 1874, a daughter of David Schertz and Catherine Belsley; however, she may actually have been an illegitimate child born at Bühl, Moselle Dec. 22, 1816 and adopted into their family (see SCHERTZ).

They are found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Peter Summers, 39, France; Catharine, 34, France; Magdalane, 14; Catharine, 13; Mary, 8; Barbary, 6; Elizabeth, 4; Joseph, 2; and Christian, one month; all children born in Illinois; and farmer Jacob Summers, 22, France. The households immediately following theirs belonged to Christian Sommer and Magdalena; John Klopfenstein and Catherine Klopfenstein; and Christian Sommer and Marie/Mary Sommer.

Peter was naturalized at the Peoria Courthouse Dec. 4, 1854.

They lived at Montgomery, Woodford County 32 years, and resettled at Gridley in 1866, where they farmed 160 acres. They became Apostolic Christians.

The History of McLean County (1879): "Peter Sommer, farmer and stock-raiser: Post Office at Gridley; has been a resident of Illinois since 1834. He was born near Strasburg, Alsace, France, April 24, 1811. He came with his parents to the United States in 1828; they settled in Butler County, Ohio; there he lived till his removal to Illinois in 1834; he was one of the pioneers of Woodford County, the Indians not having yet left their hunting grounds on the Mackinaw, when Mr. Sommer took up his claim form the Government, built his log cabin, and began to carve himself a home in the wilderness. After living there thirty-two years he settled on his present farm in 1866. He owns a fine farm of 160 acres, well improved, his set of buildings being among the best in the township. His success in life is due entirely to his own exertions. He is emphatically a self-made man. Has held no political offices, giving all his attention to his legitimate business of farming. He is a leading member of the Apostolic Christian Church and was prominent in the building of the church in Gridley. He was first married in August 1834 to Miss Catharine Schertz of Woodford County. She came with her parents from Alsace, France in 1832. She was born in August 1816, and died in August 1874. They had ten children, four of whom are living: Catherine, wife of John Ehresman of Livingston County; Barbara, wife of Peter Ehresman of Gridley Township; Mary; and Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Rich of Gridley Township."

Children of Peter Sommer and Catherine Schertz born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County include:

1. Magdalena Sommer was born in 1835, and died before 1879.
2. An unidentified infant was born and died in 1836.
3. Catherine 'Katie' Sommer was born in 1838, and died Jan. 26, 1913. On Nov. 18, 1858 she married John Ehresman. He was born May 26, 1828, and died at Gridley Dec. 13, 1891, a son of Christian Ehresman and his first wife Magdalena Barnett. See EHRESMAN for more on this couple.
4. An unidentified infant was born and died in 1840.
5. Mary Sommer was born July 28, 1842, and died at Gridley Nov. 29, 1929. On Jan. 28, 1862 she married Pierre/Peter Klopfenstein. He was born at Florimont April 30, 1837, and died Dec. 28, 1863, a son of John Klopfenstein and

Catherine Klopfenstein. He is buried in Slabtown Cemetery, where his headstone says he died Dec. 28, 1863 at 26 years, 8 months. She is buried at Gridley.

6. Barbara Sommer was born March 2, 1844, and died Jan. 29, 1914. On May 3, 1863 at Slabtown she married Peter Ehresman. He was born in Ohio March 5, 1837 (his headstone says 1836), and died at El Paso, Woodford County Dec. 2, 1893, a son of Christian Ehresman and his second wife Anna Barnett. For more on this couple see EHRESMAN.
7. Elizabeth Sommer was born Jan. 31, 1846, and died at Gridley May 18, 1927. On March 6, 1864 she married Jacob/Jacques Rich. He was born at Florimont Oct. 30, 1838, and died at Gridley Jan. 19, 1907, a son of Christian Rich and Marie Hirschy. They can be found on the 1900 census of Gridley, McLean County. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
8. Joseph Sommer was born in 1848, and died before the 1860 census.
9. Christian Sommer was born Nov. 13, 1850, and died before the 1860 census.
10. An unidentified infant was born and died in 1852.

Rich of Ruederbach

The surname 'Richen' or 'Rychen' is associated with the village of Frutigen in the Oberland southwest of Lake Thun in Canton Bern. Spelling variations have included Riche, Reich, and Rychener.

After the expulsion of Anabaptists from the Markirch valley in 1712, many families found a haven under the protection of Duke Léopold-Eberhard of Württemberg-Montbéliard. His principality was a detached enclave of Württemberg, located west of what later became Upper Alsace.

By 1740 Alsatian restrictions were relaxed. Many of Montbéliard's second generation migrated east into the French-speaking district of Belfort, where the lords of Florimont owned estates. Over the next decades some migrated farther east. into the German-speaking Sundgau Region, drawn by its accessible farm land and proximity to Basel.

French genealogist Thierry Huckel has identified an early generation of this family. Cultivator **Peter/Pierre Rich** was born circa 1746. His Anabaptist Rychen/Richen family had migrated from Frutigen to Montebéliard and then to the area below Altkirch, Upper Alsace.109

Before the French Revolution the Anabaptists living near Altkirch attended services at Neunich, a remote farm in the foothills of the Jura Mountains between Ligsdorf (14 miles south of Altkirch) and the Swiss border (two miles below Ligsdorf). The religious liberties promised by the revolution apparently encouraged Peter to lead a service on the Baumerthof estate at Riespach June 20, 1790. The occasion was the first documented open meeting of Anabaptists in the area. Later meetings were held at a number of locations including the Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach; Blochmont farm at Kiffis on the Swiss border; Haushof farm between Oltingue and the Swiss border; the grounds of Château de Liebenstein at Liebsdorf; Montigo farm at Levoncourt; and Schweighof farm at Altkirch.

Peter/Pierre served as minister and elder on the Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach (Ruederbach is only three miles east of Largitzen, where Andreas Ropp farmed). *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online* on Peter at Birkenhof: "He served more than 30 years as elder. His influence was felt far beyond his own congregation. He had great prestige everywhere among the Mennonites."

In 1798 Peter/Pierre became involved in some sort of dispute involving business. His adversary was also named Peter Rich; he lived on the grounds of the Château de Liebenstein at Liebsdorf (seven miles south of Ruederbach).110 Outside elders unsuccessfully attempted to mediate the argument on the Birkenhof Oct. 28. The two Peters finally came to agreement at a second meeting on Baumerthof farm at Riespach April 5, 1801.111

In 1802, simultaneous assemblies of Amish Mennonites took place at Pulversheim and Richwiller, both suburbs of Mulhouse. Military conscription for Napoleon's campaigns had become a function of local government, and this was undoubtedly a topic of discussion. Jean Pierre attended as a representative of his congregation. Other representative ministers included Jacob Hirschi of Sigolsheim and Bollwiller, Hans Roth of Dornach, and Benedict Tschantz of Bolwiller; family names likely included Amstutz, Bächer, Brechbühl, Conrad, Eicher, Frey, Frutiger, Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt, Göerig/Gerig, Graber, Hochstetter, Hochstettler, Joder/Yoder, Kauffmann, Lehmann, Litwiller (found there as Lidviller), Lüginbuhl, Maurer, Ropp, Schlegel, Schmitt, Schmucker, Schürch/Schirch, Schwartz, Schwari/Schwary, Sommer, Stucki/Stucky/Stocky, Ummel/Hummel, and Zimmermann.

Barbe Linder died at Ruederbach Jan. 14, 1809. Peter/Pierre Rich died at Ruederbach July 15, 1814. His civil death entry described him as a 68-year-old cultivator, and identified his deceased wife as Barbe Linder.

Their children include:

1. Johannes/Jean Rich was born circa 1788. He was described as a 26-year-old cultivator from Ruederbach when he signed the civil death entry of his father in 1814. He married Barbe Rich, and was living at Ruederbach when they had daughter Barbe there Sept. 9, 1818. The civil birth entry described the father as Jean Rich, a 35-year-old cultivator. He was described as a cultivator at Ensisheim on the1830 marriage entry of his brother Pierre.
2. **Jacob/Jacques Rich** was born at Ruederbach Jan. 12, 1789. He died in the home of his son Joseph at Washington, Tazewell County in August 1876.

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[109] Frutigen is about six miles south of Lake Thun. It was also home to large Kaŭffman and Stücki families. The Richen/Rychen family extended to Adelboden, which is higher up in the same valley as Frutigen.

[110] The Peter Rich at Leibsdorf was married to Catherine Stauffer of Schwarzenegg, Canton Bern.

[111] A cemetery was established on the Birkenhof Oct. 15, 1807. A minor dispute about who should pay community fees was resolved Nov. 26, 1808.

3. Anne Rich was born circa 1792, and died at Ruederbach Jan. 4, 1812. Her civil death entry gave her age as 19, and described her father Pierre as a 67-year-old cultivator.
4. Barbe Rich was born at Ruederbach Dec. 13, 1797.
5. Pierre Rich was born at Ruederbach circa 1799. On Nov. 9, 1830 at Heidwiller, Upper Alsace he married Catherine Eicher. Their civil marriage entry described the grooom as Pierre Rich, 31, born at Ruederbach, a son of the deceased Pierre Rich and Barbe Linderin. The bride was described as Catherine Eicher, a son of Jaques Eicher, 43, and Catherine Kolopstine [Klopfenstein], 39, cultivators at Aspach. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Luginbiely [Luginbuhl], 73, a resident of Altkirch; cultivator Chrétien Hirschy, 44, of Ruederbach; cultivator Jaques Stauffer, 63, of Altkirch; and brother-of-the-bride cultivator Jean Rich, 43, of Ensisheim.

Jacob/Jacques Rich was born at Ruederbach Jan. 12, 1789.

He was conscripted into the French Grand Army, presumably in a noncombatant role such as teamster or medical aide. He participated in the disastrous Russian Campaign.

On June 24, 1812, between 450,000 and 690,000 troops assembled on the Neman River and began a march to Moscow. The Battle of Borodino on Sept. 7 caused more casualties than any other day of the Napoleonic Wars. But the Russian armies retreated, and the French Grand Army impetuously advanced again. When they arrived at Moscow they found an empty city. Over the next few days it burned, depriving the French troops of shelter as winter set in. On the retreat many horses were either frozen or killed for food. Supply wagons were abandoned. Approximately 31,000 troops managed to return in formation, while another 35,000 returned as stragglers. The remainder were killed in battle, by disease or starvation, or froze to death after receiving wounds.112

On April 28, 1819 at Berrwiller, Upper Alsace veteran Jacob/Jacques married Catherine Zimmerman. The civil entry described the groom as 30-year-old Jacques Rich, born at Ruederbach Jan. 12, 1789, a son of the deceased Peter Rich (who had died July 15, 1814) and Barbe Linder (who had died Jan. 15, 1809) from 'Burgenhoff,' Ruederbach. The bride was identified as Catharine Zimmerman, 22, born at Ungersheim (above Mulhouse) April 2, 1797, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Zimmerman and Elisabeth Röschlé [Röschli] who was living at Weckenthal, Berrwiller, and was present and consenting. For background on earlier generations of her family see ZIMMERMAN.

Their son Joseph Rich emigrated from Europe circa 1840. The remainder of the family was processed for emigration at Illzach (a suburb above Mulhouse) in 1848. Father Jacob/Jacques stated that he was born at Ruederbach, was 60 years old, and would be accompanied to New York by his wife and three daughters. They sailed from Le Havre on the *St. Nicolas*, arriving at New York Jan. 22, 1849. The passenger list shows them as Jacques Rich, 62, France; Catherine, 54; Babette, 24; Elisab., 16; and Catherin, 7.

Catharine Zimmerman died before 1870, and was buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington. Jacob appears as an 83-year-old in the household of his son Joseph on the 1870 federal census of Morton. He died in the home of his son Joseph at Washington, Tazewell County in August 1876. The Morton and Washington cemetery book says that he is buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington, though no headstone is found there.

Children of Jacob/Jacques Rich and Catherine Zimmerman include:

1. Anna Rich died at age 21, before her family's emigration from Europe.
2. **Joseph Rich** was born Jan. 1, 1822, and died Nov. 30, 1894 (headstone dates); he is buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
3. Barbara 'Babette' Rich was born at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace April 8, 1823, and died in Adams County, Indiana Aug. 23, 1905.
4. Pierre Rich was born at Hirsingue Jan. 19, 1825, and died there Nov. 12, 1825.
5. Pierre Rich was born at Hirsingue March 16, 1827, and died there March 23, 1827.
6. Elisabeth Rich was born at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace April 19, 1832. On Aug. 9, 1856 in Tazewell County she married Pierre Habecker (also known as Peter Hawbecker); the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. See HABECKER for background on this couple.
7. Catherine Rich was born Sept. 21, 1841, and died at Wheatland, Missouri Dec. 3, 1931. On Feb. 20, 1862 in Tazewell County she married Daniel Schindler; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was

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[112]Marriage was a grounds for exemption from military service. In 1811, the year before the Russian Campaign, 203,000 marriages were entered in *état civil* records. In 1813, the year following, the number leaped to 387,000.

In 1852 Napoleon's nephew become Napoleon III. In 1857 more than 80,000 awards of the Médaille de Sainte-Hélène were made to former soldiers of the *Grande Armée* who had served between 1792 and 1815 (it was estimated that 405,000 were still living in 1857). A French delegation visited graves in Central Illinois to hold commemoration ceremonies. One representative donated the headstone of Russian Campaign veteran Jean Pierre Mougeon (1781-1852) in Fagotte Cemetery at Groveland, also called the Old French Burial Ground.

born in Lorraine July 3, 1836, and died at Wheatland Nov 30, 1905, a son of Daniel Schindler and Marie Liechti. They are buried in Crutsinger Cemetery at Wheatland.

Joseph Rich was born Jan. 1, 1822, and died Nov. 30, 1894 (headstone dates); he is buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.

According to Chapman's *History of Tazewell County*, he arrived at New York in 1840. He worked in New York for two years, then traveled to New Jersey, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh before living in Butler County, Ohio for five years. In 1848 he settled on a farm at Washington, Tazewell County. According to the *Grantors Index*, on Jan. 12, 1850 he paid Timothy Crosby $400 to purchase the land.

On Feb. 1, 1852 in Tazewell County Joseph married Catherine Rich; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Kingersheim, Upper Alsace Sept. 29, 1827, a daughter of Pierre/Peter Rich and Barbara Schlatter. The Rich family had sailed from Le Havre on the *Cotton Planter*, arriving at New York May 31, 1843. They appear on the passenger list as Pierre Rich, 47; Barbara, 35; Catharina, 15; Barbara, 9; Anna, 6; Joseph, 5; and Veronika, 3. They settled in Ontario until the death of the father there in November 1850.113

Children of Joseph Rich and his first wife Catherine Rich include:

— David Rich may have been adopted by the family. He was born in Warren County, Ohio Feb. 5, 1850, and died May 6, 1901; he is buried in Glendale Cemetery. On May 1, 1873 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Zook. She was born May 2, 1854, and died Dec. 22, 1909, a daughter of Michael Zook and Barbara Otto; she is buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Bloomington, McLean County. In 1900 they were living apart. The 1900 census of Deer Creek shows widowed carpenter David Rich, 50, born in Illinois to French parents in May 1850. The 1900 census of Nebraska, Livingston County shows widow Cathrine Rich, 46, born in Illinois to German parents in May 1854; Barbara, 25, born in Illinois in May 1875 to parents from Ohio and Illinois; George, 18, born in Illinois in August 1881 to parents from Ohio and Illinois; and Lena, 14, born in Illinois in September 1885 to parents from Ohio and Illinois.

1. Jacob Rich was born at Washington Feb. 15, 1853, and died Aug. 20, 1929. On Feb. 5, 1877 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Maggie' Sommer. She was born in March 8, 1852, and died Nov. 4, 1928, a daughter of Jean/John Sommer and Barbara/Barbe Schertz of Elm Grove. They can be found on the 1880 census of Cruger, Woodford County. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
2. Mary Rich was born at Washington Sept. 10, 1854, died Jan. 6, 1881, and is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. On Dec. 29, 1874 in Tazewell County she married lumber and grain dealer Peter Schertz. He was born at Worth Aug. 8, 1848, and died at Metamora July 15, 1904, a son of Joseph Schertz and Anna Zehr. On May 26, 1881 at Metamora Peter remarried to Emma Dora Kuhl. She was born April 8, 1862, and died at Peoria June 20, 1935, a daughter of Johann Kuhl and Mary Ellen Forell. Peter, Mary, and Emma are buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora.
3. Lydia Rich was born at Washington May 1, 1856, and died at Eureka Dec. 9, 1934. On Feb. 22, 1883 in Tazewell County she married Peter R. Lehman. He was born Dec. 3, 1860, and died Jan. 4, 1901; his parents appear on the 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County as Peter Lehmann, 36, France; and Magdalena, 44, Bavaria. Lydia and Peter R. lived at Flanagan. Lydia remarried to Christian King, a minister of the Goodfield Mennonite Church. He was born at Liberty, Butler County Oct. 13, 1840, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 2, 1924, a son of Michael King and Elizabeth Barnett (see KING for details of his three marriages). Lydia was an invalid from February 1931 until her death in 1934. She and her first husband are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
4. Daniel Rich was born at Washington Oct. 25, 1857, and died Aug. 19, 1947. On Feb. 20. 1883 at Nebraska, Livingston County he married Ella B. Lehman. She was born Aug. 12, 1865, and died Dec. 6, 1923, a younger sister to Peter R. Lehman. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.

Catherine Rich died at Morton in 1859, and is buried in Hirstein Cemetery. On April 6, 1860 in Johnson County, Iowa Joseph remarried to Catharine Zimmerman. She was born at Froeningen, Upper Alsace May 22, 1824, died in Tazewell County April 12, 1891, and is also buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington. She was a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman and Catharina/Catherine Ropp of Froeningen, and a niece to Andreas Ropp.

Their farm can be seen in the northeast corner of Morton on the 1864 plat map. The 1870 census of Morton shows their household: Joseph Rich, 49, a farmer from France; Catharine [Zimmerman], 46, keeping house, from France; and children born in Illinois including Jacob, 17; Mary, 15; Lydia,14; Daniel, 12; Joseph, 9; and Christian,

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[113] Father Pierre/Peter Rich was born at Montjoie, Doubs April 26, 1796, and died in Ontario in November 1850, a son of Nicolas Rich and Anne Marie Eicher. Mother Barbara Schlatter was born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace Aug. 10, 1805, and died at Jefferson or Burlington, Iowa April 20, 1885, a daughter of Christian Schlatter and Anne Marie Roth. They were married at Kingersheim, Upper Alsace Aug. 8, 1826.

5. Jacob Rich, 83, is also listed. The 1880 census of Morton shows farmer Joseph Rich, 57, Alsace; Catherine, 55 Alsace; Lydia, 24; Daniel, 21; Joseph, 18; and Christian, 14; all children born in Illinois.

Children of Joseph Rich and his second wife Catherine Zimmerman include:

5. Joseph Rich was born at Morton July 9, 1861, and died at Washington Dec. 10, 1933. On April 26, 1887 in Tazewell County he married Louisa Roth. She was born April 29, 1866, and died Jan. 7, 1940, a daughter of Daniel Roth and Catherine Ropp. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
6. Christian Rich was born at Morton March 8, 1865, died at Meadows Nov. 20, 1839, and is buried in Glendale Cemetery. On Dec. 30, 1890 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Lena' Eicher. She was born at Elm Grove Jan. 10, 1874, died at Chicago June 7, 1957, and is buried in Irving Park Cemetery. She was a daughter of Pierre/Peter Eicher and Verène Stocki/Veronica 'Fannie' Stucky. They divorced, and she remarried to a Fischer before 1912.

Daniel Rich

Brother-in-law to Joseph Rich

Two or perhaps three Richen/Rychen family lines followed the same emigration route to end up in Upper Alsace. One line is better documented than the others.

Peter Rychen was born at Frutigen, Canton Bern Feb. 15, 1583. On June 12, 1615 he married Anna Wandfluh.

Their son **Jacob Rychen** was born at Frutigen March 8, 1635. On April 26, 1669 he married Marguerite Zurcher.

Their son **Peter Rychen** was born at Frutigen Oct. 20, 1681. On Feb. 2, 1706 he married [first name illegible] Rosti.

Their son **Peter Rychen** was born at Frutigen Aug. 21, 1707. On Dec. 8, 1733 he married Margreth Schmid.

Their son **Peter Rychen** was born at Frutigen June 6, 1741. On June 11, 1761 he married Elisabeth Furer. On Dec. 12, 1768 he remarried to Susanna Rychen, a daughter of Jacob Rychen and Susanna Gueman.

Peter Rychen/Peter Rich was a child of first wife Elisabeth Furer, born at Leibsdorf, Upper Alsace Feb. 14, 1768. On April 10, 1792 Peter married Anne Müller. She was born circa 1774, and died at Riespach, Upper Alsace (nine miles below Altkirch) Oct. 30, 1809, age 36. Their children born on Baumerthof farm at Riespach include:

1. **Daniel Rich** was born in 1793. His birth entry was the first in *état civil* records at Riespach. We had difficulty interpreting the German script, which appeared to say the date was January 22 in the second year of the French Republic.
2. Christian Rich was born July 11, 1802, and died at Riespach Dec. 1, 1807.
3. Catherine Rich was born April 23, 1803. When she died at Riespach Dec. 10, 1807, the civil entry incorrectly stated that she was only 2 years old.
4. Catherine Rich was born Jan. 22, 1808, and died on the Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach in 1859. Her civil birth entry described her parents as 43-year-old laborer Pierre Rich and Anna Müller. It was signed 'Pierre Riche' - perhaps by a municipal clerk, since he usually signed 'Petter Rich.' In 1828 Catherine married Jean Hirschy, a son of minister Jacob Hirschi/Hirschy and Anne Marie Zimmerman of Bollwiller.

Cultivator **Daniel Rich** was born on Baumerthof farm at Riespach in 1793, and died at Walheim, Upper Alsace Jan. 6, 1845. His civil death entry described him as a 51-year-old cultivator born on Baumerthof farm, the husband of Eve Rich, 50.

He married Eve Rich circa 1818. She was born circa 1795. (The birth entry of their son said that they had been married on Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach, but did not give a date; we could not locate a civil marriage entry at either Ruederbach or Riespach).

Daniel died at Walheim, Upper Alsace Jan. 6, 1845. The civil death entry described him as a 51-year-old cultivator, and Eve as a 50-year-old.

Their son **Daniel Rich** was born at Riespach July 14, 1819. On March 12, 1848 at Dornach he married Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman. She was born at Froeningen March 9, 1815, an older sister to Catherine Zimmerman (mentioned earlier as the second wife of Joseph Rich). Mother-of-the-groom Eve Rich was present and consenting at the wedding.

Dominique Dreyer's *Emigrants Haut-Rhinois en Amérique 1800-1870* states that 32-year-old cultivator Daniel Rich applied for a passport for himself and his family at Colmar April 23, 1851. He was from Riespach and

Dornach; his intended destination was New York. Daniel Rich and wife are listed as 1851 applicants bound for New York in the *Alsace Emigration Index.*

Daniel Rich appears as a resident of Washington, Tazewell County on the 1852 Illinois state census. He died in Johnson County, Iowa July 6, 1855 (minister Joseph Goldsmith established an Amish Mennonite congregation there that year).

As a widow, Barbara appears on the 1860 federal census of Morton as a 44-year-old born in France, in the household of her younger sister Catharine and brother-in-law Joseph Rich. In 1870 she appears as a 55-year-old born in France and living in Iowa City, Iowa. She died Jan. 24, 1899. They had no children.

Ulrich: Ŭli of Steffisburg

Under the *Heimatrecht* legal rights and benefits system created in Canton Bern in 1672, 'Ŭllrich' and 'Ŭlrich' are considered distinct families, and the spellings are standardized. The Ŭllrichs have *Heimatorte* or legal points of origin for Swiss citizenship rights at Guggisberg, Rüschegg, and Schwarzenburg (created from a merger of Albligen and Wahlern in 2011) - all northwest of Thun. The Ŭlrichs have points of legal origin at Huttwil, Trub, Rüegsau, and Sumiswald - all northeast of Thun.

However, before this the surnames had already devolved into Ŭhlrich, Ŭlli, Ŭli, Ŭhlmann, and Ŭtz. Alsatian administrators also created Oillery, Oulry, Ullery, Voilery, Voilrich, and Voile.

Hans Ŭli married Verena Spring. [114]

Their children include:

1. Barbli Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 9, 1617. Witnesses included Gilgen Stŭcker, Margret Haltiman, and Appolonia Rüsser. She may have been the Bäbi Ŭli who married Jacob Hebÿsen at Steffisburg May 26, 1665.
2. Stephan Ŭli (later **Mathias Ŭli**) was baptized at Steffisburg May 23, 1619. Witnesses included Hans Müller, Andres Steiner, and Margret Fŭchsler.
3. Verena Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg Aug. 19, 1621, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Hans Fŭchsler, Trini Zŭm Stäg, and Madlen Mürer.
4. Anna Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg Sept. 24, 1626, and died in 1670. Baptism witnesses included Barbli Im Hof, Barbli Dŭmmermŭth, and Anthoni Zimmerman. On Nov. 23, 1657 at Steffisburg she married Hans Kaŭffman. He was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 21, 1620; the entry clearly stated that he was an illegitimate child of Jacob Kaŭffman *der Jünger* and Maria Wÿler. (The baptism entry of one of their children also said Hans was the son of Jaggi, a nickname for Jacob). Despite this, Hans became overseer of Heimberg (adjacent to both Steffisburg and Thun, and part of Steffisburg parish), and sat on the three-person civil court in 1683.
5. Verena Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg April 18, 1630. Witnesses included Verena Zügen, Hans Jacob, and Anna Gÿsler. As Verena Ŭlli she married Bendicht Bürki at Steffisburg Sept. 17, 1652.
6. Cathri Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg May 27, 1638. Witnesses included Christen Stägman, Anna Ärni, and Hans Kropf's wife Anna. On Oct. 23, 1663 at Steffisburg she married Christen Farni.

Mathias Ŭli was baptized as Stephan Ŭli at Steffisburg May 23, 1619, and died between 1682 and 1685.

Steffisburg was Sankt Stephansburg before the Protestant Reformation. In 1619 the binding on the *Taufrodel* baptism register still said, *Tauff-Rodel Der Kilch-höri Stephansb*. Perhaps because the name Stephan was seen in a Catholic context, he eventually became Mathias, after the tax and customs collector who became an apostle.

On March 22, 1650 the Steffisburg marriage register listed Mathys Ŭlli and Elsbet Rüfenacht. Elsbeth/Elsi Rüfenacht was baptized at Steffisburg May 26, 1639, a daughter of Hanns Rüfenacht and Maria Eicher.

A Genealogy and History of the Kauffman-Coffman Family of North America 1584-1937 (1940) by Charles Fahs Kauffman cites a Bern document dated March 6, 1660. It said that Mathias Ŭlli and Jacob Kaŭffman had arranged a 400-pound loan from the treasury of Bern for the church at Steffisburg.[115]

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[114] Beat Ŭli may have been a brother to Hans. On April 1, 1611 at Steffisburg he married Barbli Jaberg. The name Beat went out of favor shortly after this, perhaps because it was derived from a local folk story involving the Catholic Saint Beatus (see STAKER for background). Jaberg is a community on the Aare River, five miles northwest of Steffisburg. Beat may have been the Bat Ŭli who is named on a marriage list at Steffisburg May 24, 1622; the bride's name was left blank. He may also have been the Beat Ŭli who married Verena Steiner there Sept. 16, 1631. Children of Beat Ŭli and his first wife Barbli Jaberg baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Ŭli was baptized Oct. 8, 1611, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Hans Spari, Peter Zaŭggen, and Anna Haberstock.
2. Hans Ŭli was baptized July 19, 1612. Baptism witnesses included Hans Kropf, Ŭli Gÿsler, and Barbli Steiner. This Hans was baptized exactly nine months and 11 days after the first. Assuming a period of infertility immediately after the first birth, he would have been extremely premature, which is implausible. It is more likely that the first was born much before the 1612 baptism ceremony, bringing the first birth date even closer to the marriage of the parents.

[115] Charles Fahs Kauffman believed that Mathias's companion in the loan arrangement was Jacob Kaŭffman, who was baptized at Steffisburg May 31, 1590 (the entry says Jackob, son of Jackob Kauffman of Schopfe, Basel – now called Schöpfli in Klein Basel, a district of the city of Basel – and Anni Bürki of Trimstein). Twenty-seven years earlier, in February of 1633, minister Christian Seeman of Steffisburg had taken a loan of 300 pounds from the treasury of the city of Bern. A 15-pound fee was due on *Fastnacht* (roughly the first week of March, a day of hearty meals before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent fasting). Peter Seeman and Jacob Kaŭffman of Steffisburg were guarantors for that fee. Kaŭffman had been a miller and a

It must have been an interesting time to be involved in church finances. Recall from STAKER that in 1657 minister Gabriel Schmid had been beheaded for adultery. A fellow minister, Johann Uriel Freudenberger, had come from Lüsslingen, Canton Solothurn to Steffisburg in 1655. He replaced Schmid. In 1670 he would be dismissed after being accused of withdrawing too much from church funds and keeping false accounts.

Children of Mathias Ŭli and Elsbeth/Elsi Rüfenacht include:

1. **Matthÿs Ŭli** was born no later than 1650.
2. Anna Ulli was baptized at Steffisburg April 9, 1654. Her parents were described as Mathys Ŭlli and Elsbeth Rüfenacht; witnesses included Daniel Blank *der jŭng*; Anna Blank, Peter Meier's wife; and Barbara Müller.
3. Elsbeth Ulli was baptized at Steffisburg May 4, 1656. Her parents were described as Mathis Ŭlli and Elsi Rufenacht; witnesses included Peter Schnÿder, Anna Schlappach, and Catarina Raber.

Matthÿs Ŭli (also found as Mathias, Mathis, Mathys, and Mathieu) was born no later than 1650.

No baptism entry is found at Steffisburg. Elsbeth/Elsi may have brought him to the marriage as an illegitimate child. Or he may have been baptized in another parish; records from adjacent Thun are unavailable. But probability weighs in favor of a third possibility: there were many displaced children adopted in the aftermath of the Swiss Peasants War of 1653.

A witness on a baptism entry was expected to be of marriage age: 18 for females, 21 for males. On April 21, 1671 at Steffisburg Maria Blank was baptized. She was a daughter of Jost Blank and Margareth Pfÿffer. One witness was Matthÿs Uli; the other two were Catharina de Losea, the wife of newly-appointed head minister Johann Jakob Freudenreich, and Catharina Freudenberger, a daughter of the recently dismissed minister. Irrespective of his origins, this sets his birth year as 1650 or earlier.

This first witnessing could have been a step in his training. At about the same time he took on duties as the *sacristan* of the Protestant Reformed Church, also called *der Sigrist* (a German-language phonetic spelling of a Latin word). This was an unpaid position as a sexton who maintained the valuable objects within the church.

He was only a witness in three other instances, in 1674, 1677, and 1682. We might have expected more, given his availability, but his role may have been more as an observer.

On June 26, 1685 at Steffisburg he married Barbara Stegman (as she is found on the marriage entry, but Stägman elsewhere). Barbara was baptized as Babÿ Stägman at Steffisburg March 21, 1658, a daughter of Ŭli Stägman and Salome Berger.

The absence of '*der jŭng*' after the name of the groom indicated that his father had died.

Matthÿs was still called *der Sigrist* on the baptism entry of one of his children born in 1687. One source says this also appeared on a document related to his emigration in 1695.

Since travel to Alsace often involved relatives or neighbors in small groups, it was not unusual for the husband to travel ahead and settle living arrangements, while the wife followed with any children in a separate party.

From the records of the Steffisburg church consistory morals court [Ger. *Chorgerichtsmanual*] May 26, 1695, payments of a five percent emigration export tax: "...Deductions paid on April 3, 1695 by Anabaptists as a tax on property being taken out of the land, a twentieth penny: Hans Rŭpp; Ŭlrich Catrey and Barbara Schwarz; Christen Farni's wife and children; Hans Rŭpp and Catryn Joder; Mathys Ŭlli; Christen Zimmerman and Babi Bachmann; Michel Schwaar; Andreas Kropf and Anna Haldimann; Christen Joder; Hans Küng, his wife and children; and Peter Farni from Langenegg. On May 6, 1695, these persons left: Christen and Anni Zimmerman of Reutschibrunnen; and Christen Roth and his four Anabaptist children. On May 26, 1695 we received 50 crowns from Verena Spring, Nicklaŭs Zimmerman's wife; Christian Müller of Horben and Anna Tschabold; and Christen and Michel Maurer."

Matthÿs and Barbara do not appear on 1697, 1703, and 1704 property tax lists for Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, but they are found in 1708. This suggests that in the early years they were elsewhere, or living in a house with someone else as head of household.

In 1708 they paid taxes in the hamlet Échery. Recall from ROTH that their immediate neighbors on one side included Peter Roth and Verena Roth; a bachelor Christen Linder; Caspar Linder and Cathrin Roth; on the other side Hans Zimmerman [there were at least three Hans Zimmermans at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines; Larry Zimmerman cautions that no identified document specifies which one lived at Échery]; Jacob Hochstettler and Christini/Stini Kŭntzi; Hans Wolff [nephew of Jacob Amman] and Anna Breitt; Jacob Amman and Verena Stüdler; and Hans Roth and Maria Kleiner.

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bailiff, but in 1660 he was 69 years of age. It is more likely that Mathias's companion was Jacob's son miller Jacob Kaŭffman, born in 1633. The miller's illegitimate half-brother Hans, born in 1620, was Mathias's brother-in-law.

Two of their sons went from Échery to Montbéliard after the expulsion order of 1712. Montbéliard [Ger. *Mömpelgard,* but also found as *Mumpelgart*] described a detached enclave of Württemberg, located west of what later became Upper Alsace, as well as the city at its center. Its general description is confusing, because in the early 1700s various documents called it a county (ruled by a count), a dukedom (ruled by a duke), a principality (Léopold-Everhard was technically a prince of Württemberg), or a territory. All agree that the population was mainly Protestant.

Children of Matthÿs Ŭli [the younger] and Barbara Stägman include:

1. **Matthias Ŭli** (later found as Mathis Ulrich) was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 13, 1685. Witnesses included Matthias Zaŭg, Michel Ösch, and Elsbeth Maurier [Maurer].
2. Anna Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 23, 1687, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Hans Berger *der jŭng*, Anna Stagman, and Verena Roth. Her father is called *der Sigrist*.
3. Anna Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg Sept. 2, 1688. Witnesses included Hans Kropff, Margreth Egli, and Christina Kolb.
4. Barbara Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg May 8, 1691. Witnesses included Hans Küntzi, Christina Kaŭffman, and Magdalena Bücher.
5. **Johannes/Hans Ŭlrich** was born circa 1698.

MATTHIAS ŬLI or MATHIS ULRICH

Matthias Ŭli (later found as Mathis Ulrich) was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 13, 1685, and died at Montbéliard July 7, 1764.

A few of the farms owned by Duke Léopold-Eberhard of Württemberg-Montbéliard that had Amish Mennonite tenants were Des Gouttes at Exincourt, the Schwabenhof/Souaberie in Montbeliard, La Petite Hollande, Grand Cerf, Mont Chevis, Grange la Dame, Étupes, and Ste. Suzanne.

Duke Léopold-Eberhard died March 25, 1723. A list of Anabaptists put together for his successor has the household of laborer Hans Zimmerman [Sr.], 62; his wife Barbe Farni, 52; Hans [Jr.], 27; Catherine, 19; Anne1i, 15; Frene 12; and valet Mathias Ulrich, 25. The Zimmermans had come from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines after the 1712 expulsion order.

The peculiarity of this census report was that Mathias Ulrich were much older than his given age. He would have been 37 rather than 25. This was the age of his brother Johannes/Hans, who was living at Badevel, about eight miles to the north.

The initial farm of Hans Zimmerman was described in Charles Mathiot's *Recherches Historiques sur les Anabaptistes* (1922) as one in Marchelavillers near Abbévillers, Montbeliard. Marchelavillers is now a road in Abbévillers, about 11 miles southeast of Montbéliard's city center. Kropfs from Échery may have been there with him, because they leased the property in 1718.

Before 1728 Matthias married Catherine Zimmerman, a daughter of Hans and Barbe. She was born circa 1704, and died at Montbéliard March 22, 1786.

Joe Springer wrote that Hans Zimmerman was involved with Grand Cerf farm at Montbéliard in 1722 and 1736, and Matthias was working there in 1736 and 1739. A second list of Anabaptists was put together in 1733. It showed Hans Zimmerman at Montbéliard; he died there circa 1737.

Although Amish Mennonites were not given written lease contracts by the royal family, they were content with handshake agreements. And although they were not allowed to build a church structure, they felt confident enough to create a congregational register in 1750.

From a *Liste des Anabaptistes du Comté de Montbéliard* (1759): "At Grand Cerf, Mathieu Ulli and his wife Catherine Zimmerman; their two sons Hans and his wife Anne Roth, and Christ Uli and his wife Catherine Schindler, all four born in the country; their servant Freni Boessiger, and a worker Elisabeth Mosimann – the first from Atheiswil [Attiswil, Canton Bern], and the second from Sumiswald [Canton Bern]. Elisabeth has been in the country 50 years, and Freni eight years." Mathiot added a footnote to explain that Elisabeth was the sister of Michel Mosimann, one of the first Amish Mennonites who came to Montbéliard at the invitation of Duke Léopold-Eberhard in 1709.[116]

[116] Mathiot: "...In 1709 we find the prince's chamberlain, Jean-Louis de Sandersleben, approving tenancy on the newly-acquired farm Clémont [at Montécheroux, 14 miles south of Montbéliard] to Anabaptists Isaac Kauffman and Michel Mosimann." Kauffman was originally from Homberg in Steffisburg parish (now Homberg bei Thun), and Mosimann from Sumiswald, but they were living at remote Grindelwald before coming to Montbéliard. Grindelwald is about 11 miles southeast of Lake Thun, and 3,390 feet above sea level, at the foot of the Eiger in the Alps. The farm Clémont came with 40 cows, eight

Mathias Ulrich died at Montbéliard July 7, 1764. One congregational register death entry described him as Mattis Ulerich, a *Lesermann* [reader, a general description of someone who inventories, in this case livestock]. Another said Madtdeis Willrich died *"...auf dem Hirtzen ab einem häuwagen gefallen (urhlötzlich gestorben)"* – fell from a house wagon or buggy on the sheep pastures and died instantly.

Catherine Zimmerman died at Montbéliard March 22, 1786. Her entry in the congregation register was reported by her son Hans/Jean, and said she was 97 or 98 years old (she would have been about 82).[117]

Children of Mathias Ulrich and Catherine Zimmerman include:

1. **Matthias Ulrich** was born circa 1725 (a very loose estimate).
2. Hans/Jean Ulrich was born circa 1731, and died in the home of brother-in-law Jacob/Jaques Roth at Exincourt March 10, 1799. On April 21 or Nov. 21, 1752 at Montbéliard he married Annelÿ Roth. She was born at Exincourt circa 1734, and died at Montbéliard Feb. 22, 1789, a daughter of Jacob Roth and Anneli Frey. His civil death entry described him as Jean Ulric, but did not give an age; it was witnessed by Jaques Roth.
3. Christen/Christian Ulrich was born before 1735, and died at Grand Charmont (two miles northeast of Montbéliard) Aug. 1, 1783; he is buried in the Burgerwald at Montbéliard. On Dec. 30, 1755 at Montbéliard he married Katrina/Katharina/Catherine Schindler, a daughter of Hans Schindler and Madeleine Gaümann; their ceremony was performed by Michel Ritschard *in der Wassergassen* (on the water lanes). The congregational register described the groom as Christ Uilli. She died on Grand Cerf farm Oct. 29, 1770. Children of Christian Ulrich and his first wife Katrina/Katharina/Catherine Schindler include:
    a. Katharina/Cathrin Ulrich was born circa 1756, and chose adult baptism at Montbéliard April 19, 1772. On Nov. 21, 1780 at Grand Charmont she married Jacob Bürcki. The congregational register entry describes Jacob Bürcki from *Basseler Gemeinde* [Basel community or congregation] and Cathrin Ŭlli, a daughter of Christen Ŭlli, a lease holder [Ger. *Lehenmann*]. Minister/elder Hans Rychen signed 'Jean Rieche.' Jacob Bürcki was born at Abnit, Oberhofen, Canton Bern and baptized at Hilterfingen Sept. 13, 1744, a son of Christen Bürcki and Elsbeth Baŭmgartner. He had gone via Emmendingen, Baden to the Basel-Binningen congregation. He then went to Grand Charmont with a brother Hans Bürcki, who married Maria Wichter. For the story of a son of Jacob and Katharina/Cathrin who lived at Wilmot, Ontario see BÜRCKI/BUERGE OF EGGLEN AND WILMOT in the Appendix.
    b. Anna Ulrich was born circa 1765, chose adult baptism at Montbéliard April 8, 1781, and died at Grand Charmont Feb. 19, 1807. On Jan. 25, 1784 at Montbéliard she married Christian Schad. He was born circa 1764. Their entry in the congregational register describes them as Christen Schadt, son of Hans, and Anneli Ulli, daughter of Christen. She apparently had a second baptism ceremony in another community; according to the Montbéliard congregational register Annli Willi, a daughter of Christ, was baptized at the home of her cousin H. Schindler at Courcelles April 9, 1786. Her civil death entry described her as Anne Hulli, 41; it was witnessed by laborer Chrétien Chaden, 42, her husband, and farm equipment operator Jean Hulli, 40, her brother.
    c. Hans/Jean Ulrich was born circa 1766, and chose adult baptism at Monbéliard March 27, 1785. He died at Grand Charmont April 1, 1836. His civil death entry described him as Jean Hüeli, 70.
    d. Verena/Frena Ulrich was born at La Petite Hollande farm, Montbéliard circa 1770, chose adult baptism in 1786, and died at Étobon Sept. 30, 1803. On March 25, 1800 at Clairegoutte she married widower Christ Gaümann; the ceremony was performed by Hans Lugbüll. Christ was born at Mont Chevis, Montbéliard Dec. 26, 1750, and died at Étobon March 23, 1830. His first wife had been Freni Yoder. She was born at Étobon circa 1752, and died May 5, 1799, a daughter of Jost Yoder and Anneli Kropf.

    On April 28, 1771 Christian remarried to Verena/Frena Bühler *auf der Gutten* [on the farms]; their ceremony was performed by Hans Rich. The entry once again described him as Christ Uilli. Verena/Frena died in 1814. Children of Christen/Christian Ulrich and his second wife Verena/Frena Bühler include:
    e. Christen Ulrich. On Dec. 10, 1795 he married Barbara Gyssler. He died in 1825.
    f. Barbara Ulrich. On Nov. 1, 1802 she married Christen Würgler. She died Jan. 20, 1859.
    g. Maria Ulrich was born at Saint Jacob, Basel Nov. 12, 1778, and died in Miami County, Indiana July 27, 1870. On May 26, 1801 at Blotzheim, Upper Alsace she married Nicolas Rich. He was born at Oberlarg, Upper Alsace April 8, 1768, and died at Moos, Upper Alsace Dec. 19, 1816, a son of Jean Rich and Marie Kaŭffmann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Niclaŭs Rich, and the bride as Anna Maria Ulrich, 32. She was born at Saint Jacob, Basel, a daughter of Christian Ulrich and Frena Bühler (see NEUHAUSER for background on this location as well as Liestal). The groom signed Claŭs

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oxen, a breed bull, and 45 goats. Others joined them, and eventually they came to the attention of hostile Catholic clergy. By 1711 they had given up the arrangement.

[117] We initially considered the possibility that she was not the daughter in the household of Hans Zimmerman and Barbe Farni; but an age of 97 or 98 would have put her birth year at 1689, and she would have been 45 at the time her youngest child Rosina was born – unlikely. Perhaps she had told her children she was born in 1689, to move her age closer to that of her much older husband born in 1685.

Rich. His very brief civil death entry described him as Claŭs Rich, 46, a resident of Moos. *Herald of Truth*, September 1870: "On the 27th of July, near Peru, in Miama Co., Ind., Mary Richer, whose maiden was Ulrich, aged 93 years, and about 7 months. The deceased was born in Europe, emigrated with two of her children from Linsthal, Canton Basel, Switzerland (Liestal, nine miles southeast of Basel] to America in the year 1840, lived eight years in Wayne County, Ohio, and from thence moved to Peru, Ind., with her youngest son, where she dwelt until her death. She was a widow about 54 years, leaves three children, 27 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren to mourn their loss. Five children and a grandchild preceded her to the eternal world. She greatly desired to depart from this world and be with Christ. Her last words that could be understood were addressed to her Saviour, "Receive my soul into the heavenly kingdom." She was a member of the Omish Mennonite Church. She was buried on the 28th where a large number of friends and relatives were present. A funeral discourse was delivered by John Wolf from *Rom. 6:23*." Her headstone in Courter Cemetery in Miami County says, "Mary Richer died July 27, 1870, aged 92 Ys. 7 Mo." There are also headstones there for John Richer (May 4, 1815-Nov. 30, 1893) and his wife Magdalene Naftzinger (Oct. 14, 1815-Oct. 22, 1902). Birth records for Moos from 1815 have not been preserved.

h. Our source has been the congregational records of Montbéliard, which say Christan and Verena/Frena had four children. This child either died before coming of age, chose not to be baptized, or worshipped elsewhere.

4. Rosina Ulrich was born Nov. 1, 1734. The 1759 census has Rosine Ulli as a servant in the Kraubühl household at Schwabenhof/Souaberie, Montbéliard (see ROTH for background on this location). On Feb. 8, 1760 at Montbéliard Rosina Uihli married Peter Büittschi; their ceremony was performed by Jacob Roth. The groom was Peter Büttschi. His parents had come from Oberhofen, Canton Bern to Erguel in 1718 (now in the municipality of St. Imier in the Jura Mountains, 36 miles northeast of the city of Bern). He is thought to have been born at Erguel in 1725. Rosina and Peter immigrated in 1767. Peter purchased land in Baltimore County (now near Hampton, Maryland) in January of 1768. *Maryland Journal* and *Baltimore Advertiser*, March 10, 1771: "Whereas Rosina Bitchie, my wife, had eloped, this is to forbid any person trusting her on my account, as I am determined not to pay any debts on her contracting, after the date hereof. At the same time I forbid any person from harbouring her at their peril, as I am determined to prosecute those who do by a regular course of law. Peter Bitchi. Note well, there is a certain John Ribble that harbours her, and says he will not let me take her away. P.B." Peter purchased land in Bedford (now Somerset County) in 1784. He then left for Springs (now in Elk Lick), Bedford (now Somerset) County with two sons. Peter died in Somerset County, Pennsylvania in April of 1805. One of their descendants was Moses M. Beachy, a minister and elder of an Amish Mennonite congregation in Somerset County when they divided into tolerant and strict factions in 1927. The tolerant faction was later called the Beachy Amish, though they have abandoned most of the older traditions.

Matthias Ulrich was born circa 1725 (a very loose estimate), and died in the foundry town Klingenthal, Lower Alsace April 10, 1764.

He may have departed from Montbéliard before the 1759 census. He went to the Boersch forest between Boersch and Klingenthal, where he lived and worked at a sawmill.

He married Barbara Mosimann. She was born circa 1735, and died at Klingenthal April 29, 1771. Though it is easy to assume they met at Montbéliard, she may have been a daughter of Jacob Mosimann/Jacques Mosimann and Magdalena Rüfenacht on the Struthof at Natzwiller (adjacent on the west side of Klingenthal).

His Catholic death entry from Klingenthal described him as Mathias Ulrich, Barbara Mosiman's *calviniste* husband. He had been buried at Bischofsheim (now Bischoffsheim, five miles east of Klingenthal and one mile southeast of Rosheim).[118]

Barbara's Catholic death entry from Klingenthal described her as Barbara Mosiman, widow of the deceased Mathis Ulrich *calviniste,* a worker who lived at the Boersch sawmill. Though witness Joannes Murer *anabaptiste* is mentioned, the signature looks like hans cŭnrad.

When Barbara died she left orphaned children roughly 7, 10, and 12 years of age. They were taken in by her husband's cousin Peter/Pierre Ulrich and his first wife Marie Berse/Wagler/Vagler, who lived at Bambois de Plaine, only nine miles southwest of Klingenthal.

Children of Matthias Ulrich and Barbara Mosimann include:

[118] We noticed that the following year there is a Klingenthal death notice for the child of an Anabaptist: Anna Maria, the daughter of Joannes Murer and Magdalene Gunden *conjugum anabaptistarum.* In 1782 there was a death entry for Maddalena Gunten, the wife of Joannes Murer *anabaptiste*. It was signed Johannes Maŭrer.

1. Jacob Simon Ulrich was born at Boersch Aug. 14, 1759, and the event was registered in the Catholic church there Aug. 16. He was described as Jacobus Simon, a son of Mathis Ulrich *Anabaptiste* working in the sawmill and Barbara Mosiman. The father's shaky signature looked like madeÿs üllrÿchh.
2. Peter Ulrich was born and registered at Boersch May 3, 1761. His Catholic entry described him as Petrus, and his parents as Mathis Uhlrich *anabaptista* and Barbara Mossimann living in the Boersch forest. Before 1787 Peter married Barbara Hochstettler, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Hochstettler and Christina Wittmer, and a great-granddaughter of Échery residents Jacob Hochstettler and Christina/Stini Kŭntzi. She was born circa 1767, and died at Bennwihr Nov. 9, 1796. Thus Peter was married to Barbara Hochstettler, whose father was Johannes/Jean Hochstettler, whose youngest sister was Barbara Hochstettler (the mother of Andreas Ropp who came to Central Illinois). They spent 1789-1794 at La Robertsau [Ger. *Ruprechtsau*], the northernmost quarter of Strasbourg. Because it had a high groundwater level, and was periodically exposed to flooding, it was slow to urbanize. At the time Peter and Barbara lived there it was made up of small holdings that farmers leased to grow vegetables for the city markets. In 1794 they went from there to the Katzenwangenbrückmühle at Bennwihr, Upper Alsace (see ROPP for background on this location). Bennwihr is only five miles north of Colmar; like Strasbourg, Colmar was a center of the fabric industry. Children of Peter Ulrich and Barbara Hochstettler include:
    a. Anne Marie Ulrich was born at La Robertsau, Strasbourg Sept. 7, 1787. On Jan. 1, 1812 at Bennwihr she married Jacques Gerig. Their civil marriage entry described him as Jacques Gerig, aged 27 years and two months, born at Weldenstein, Canton de Bâsle Oct. 1, 1784. He was a son of the deceased Frédéric Gerig, who had died at Zimmerbach [Upper Alsace] Feb. 21, 1796, and Catherine Freyenberger, a resident of Ribeauvillé. The bride was described as Anne Marie Ulrich, aged 24 years and three months. She was a daughter of miller Pierre Ulrich of Katzenwangen and the deceased Barbe Hochstettler, who had died at Bennwihr Nov. 7, 1796. Witnesses included farmer Nicolas Stuky of Scho[illegible, almost certainly meant to be Schoppenwihr farm at Bennwihr, where he was born in 1756], 55; shopkeeper Joseph Reis of Ostheim, 36; Jean Sommer of Bergheim, 50; and farmer Chrétien Sommer of Bergheim, 43.
    b. Barbe Ulrich was born at La Robertsau, Strasbourg July 10, 1793, and died at Bennwihr Oct. 15, 1808, age 15. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator Peter Ulrich, 32, and Barbe Hochstatter. The uncharacteristic signature (perhaps written by a clerk) looked like Peter Ullrich.
    c. Peter Ulrich was born at Bennwihr Nov. 30, 1795.

    On Jan. 9, 1797 at Ostheim Peter Ulrich of Katzenwangenbrücke, 34, remarried to Marie Magdalena Gering [the civil index calls her Gerig], 21. She was a daughter of Bendich Gering and Catherina Langberg. One witness was plowman Johannes Roggy, 35, a resident of Ostheim [operator Johannes Rogi/Roggy of Katzenwangen Mill]. The entry has a significant mistake: it describes Peter as the widower of Anna Maria Hochstettler, who was Barbara's sister. Anna Maria was the wife of witness Roggy. Children of Peter Ulrich and his second wife Marie Magdalena Gering include:
    d. Nicolas Ulrich was born circa 1797, and died at Bennwihr April 30, 1815, age 8.
    e. Madeleine Ulrich was born at Bennwihr June 24, 1799, and died there Sept. 23, 1804.
    f. Joseph Ulrich was born at Bennwihr July 12, 1801.
    g. Henri Ulrich was born circa 1804, and died at Bennwihr Oct. 24, 1808, age 4.
3. Barbara Ŭlrich was born at Boersch but registered at Klingenthal April 15, 1764, five days after the death of her father. She married three times. Her first husband was Samuel Eyer. He was born at Singling (now in Gros-Redérching, Moselle) circa 1757. When he died at Strasbourg Sept. 2, 1798, his civil death entry described him as cultivator Samuel Eyer, 41, of Singling at Bitsch (Bitche is 10 miles east of Singling). He was a son of the deceased cultivator Jacques Eyer and Ester Dettwiller, and the husband of Barbe Ulrich. His death near *la Porte Blanche* was reported by his second cousin Jean Roggy, 33, and neighbor Michel Gautsché, 42, both cultivators. Barbara's second husband was Johannes/Hans Griesser. On Oct. 13, 1803 at Strasbourg she married for the third time to Christian Laŭber. Their civil marriage entry described him as Christian Laŭber, 36, born at Mussig Nov. 1, 1767, a son of Christian Laŭber and Catharina Schanz. [Thus Christian was a brother of Catherine Lauber, who married Pierre Ulrich from the other side of the family in 1794]. The bride was Barbara Ŭlrich, 35, born at Klingenthal in September of 1768, a daughter of plowman Mathias Ulrich and the deceased Barbara Mosimann. She was the widow of Johannes Hans Griesser. Witnesses included Joseph Ropp, 28, and Michael Muller, 41. When Barbara died at Strasbourg June 27, 1827, her civil death entry described her as Barbe Ulrich, born at Boersch, aged 63 years and six months [circa January of 1764], parents unknown, the wife of cultivator Christian Lauber, 55. It was witnessed by son-in-law Nicolas Ŭlrich, 36. Children of Barbara Ŭlrich and her first husband Samuel Eyer include:
    a. Barbara Eyer was born at Hagenau, Lower Alsace Nov. 11, 1792, and died at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace Oct. 26, 1829. On Dec. 21, 1815 at Strasbourg she married Nicolas Ulrich. He was born at Ribeauvillé Dec. 6, 1790, and died at Phalsboug, Moselle Jan. 22, 1844, a son of Johann/Hans/Jean Ulrich and Anna Eymann. They were second cousins (once removed). See his information for additional background including a second wife.
    b. Madeleine Eyer was born at Strasbourg in November of 1796, and died there Oct. 2, 1863. On Jan. 20, 1820 at Strasbourg she married Johannes/Jean Ulrich. He was born at Ribeauvillé Oct. 26, 1793, and

died at Strasbourg June 3, 1860, a son of Johann/Hans/Jean Ulrich and Maria Eymann. They were second cousins (once removed). See his information for additional background including a second wife.

JOHANNES/HANS ŬLRICH

Johannes/Hans Ŭlrich/Ulrich was born circa 1698.

The 1723 census of Anabaptists has Hans Ulrich and miller Hans Baumgartner of Ottègue [Uttigen, Kirchdorf, Canton Bern] living at Badevel. Badevel is located in Doubs, Franche-Comté, less than two miles from the Swiss border. It is also only seven miles east of Montbéliard, and six miles east of Exincourt, the next addresses of several of the Amish Mennonites who left Échery after 1712.

According to Mathiot, Baumgartner wrote a letter of complaint to the prince in 1723. He explained that he had come to the territory from Switzerland after receiving three optimistic letters from Jean Graber. He was given an agreement for a new mill at Badevel. But so little grain had come in from the local farmers that he had to purchase his own bread loaf by loaf from Belfort. Baumgartner later lived on Rue Derrière-Dessus at Montbéliard.

Johannes/Hans married Rosina Bächler/Baechler. Their son was:

1. **Peter/Pierre Ulrich** (also found as 'Voilrich' and 'Oillery') was born at Mortzwiller (now in Upper Alsace, 25 miles north of Badevel) circa 1741.

Circa 1750 Johannes/Hans remarried to Elisabeth Maurer (also found as Murer or Mourer) of Rosheim, Lower Alsace (four miles northeast of Klingenthal, 15 miles southwest of Strasbourg).

Children of Johannes/Hans Ŭlrich/Ulrich and his second wife Elisabeth Maurer include:

2. Johannes/Hans/Jean Ulrich was born at Rosheim circa 1753, and died at Eckbolsheim (on the west side of Strasbourg) May 7, 1828. He married Anne Eymann (three of her siblings were married to Maurers). She was born circa 1752, and died at Illhaeusern, Upper Alsace March 12, 1825, a daughter of Pierre Eymann and Catherine Kropf. Her civil death entry described her as Anne Eymann, 74, a daughter of the deceased Pierre Eymann and Catherine Kempf, who had been residents of Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace. It was witnessed by her husband weaver Jean Ulrich, 73, and their son Nicolas Ulrich, 35, a resident of Strasbourg. From late 1825 until his death in 1828 Johannes/Hans/Jean may have lived in the household of his oldet son Nicolas at Eckbolsheim. His civil death entry described him as cultivator Jean Ulrich, 75, born at Rosheim, Lower Alsace. He was the widower of Anne Eimann, and a resident of Eckbolsheim where he had died in *Maison No. 166*. His parents were the deceased cultivator Jean Ulrich and the deceased Elisabeth Murer. Witnesses include cultivator and son Nicolas Ulrich, 37; and weaver and son Jacques Ulrich, 25. Children of Johannes/Hans/Jean Ulrich and Anne Eymann include:
    a. Barbara/Barbe (or Marie Barbara) Ulrich was born in May of 1780, and died at Ribeauvillé Aug. 3, 1801. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Ulrich, 21, a daughter of Ribeauvillé residents Jean Ulrich and Anne Eymann. Her father signed Hans Ŭlrich. Her child was:
        1) On Aug. 6, 1799 a German-language civil birth entry was created at Ribeauvillé. It described the birth a day earlier of an illegitimate male child in the gardener's house on Blauelhof farm. The mother was Marie Barbara Ullrich, a daughter of Johannes Ullrich and Anna Maria Eymann. The mother wished to name the child Peter. On Sept. 26, 1800 Peter Stŭcki signed a legal document stating that he was the father. Peter was born at Frŭtigen, Canton Bern (eight miles southwest of Lake Thun) Feb. 25, 1776, a son of Peter Stŭcki and Anna Gross. The child was then named Peter or Pierre Stucki (the 10-year civil indez lists the entry under Pierre Stucki).[119] The parents did not marry. When Barbe died at Ribeauvillé July 30, 1801, infant Peter/Pierre was left in the care of his maternal grandparents Johannes/Hans/Jean Ulrich and Anne Eymann. A family story says that he remained with them only until age 12. Circa 1824 Peter/Pierre married Elisabeth Sommer. She was born on Guindrimont farm at Bertrambois, Meurthe-et-Moselle Dec. 3, 1801, and died in McLean County Sept. 16, 1885, a daughter of Joseph Sommer and Elisabeth Barbe Gerber. The documentation of this family's arrival in America is a single entry for his father 'Mr. Stucki' found on the customs manifest of the ship *Marengo* at New Orleans March 19, 1834. They went directly to Fairfield, Butler County, Ohio. 'Peter Stukey' can be found on the same page as Christian Augspurger and Christian Iutzi on the 1840 census of Madison, Butler County. 'Peter Stuckey' signed a naturalization *Declaration of Intent* at Hamilton, Butler County in September 1840. It described him as a 41-year-old native of France, and noted sons Joseph, 14; Christian, 8; and

[119] The authoritative source on the background of the younger Peter Stucki was written by his great-great-granddaughter Neil Ann Stuckey Levine. It appeared as a three-part series of articles in the October 1999, April 2000, and January 2001 issues of *Mennonite Family History*.

John, 6. The 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County shows farmer Peter Stuckey, 50, Germany; Elizabeth, 49, Germany; Christian, 19; John, 17; Elizabeth, 13; Catharine, 9; Peter, 6; all children born in Ohio; and laborer Jacob Leahy, 39, France. On the next page is their son farmer Joseph Stuckey, 34, Germany; Barbara, 27, Germany; and Phebe, 4, Ohio. Peter died at Danvers Feb. 22, 1860. Children of Peter/Pierre Stucky and Elisabeth Sommer include:

a) The headstone of Joseph Stuckey calls him 'Joseph Stucky' and does not give a date of birth. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* (1926) says he was born in Alsace July 12, 1825. However, a number of sources say he was born 'on the Jantry Farm at Zabra, Upper Alsace' July 12, 1826. This may have been meant as Saverne [Ger. *Zabern*], Lower Alsace, but we found no civil birth entry there. He received a very limited formal education. Though his native language was French, he later said he began learning German from other children during his voyage to America. At age 18 he was baptized in Butler County by minister Jacob Augspurger. On Dec. 17, 1844 in Butler County an 18-year-old Joseph married 23-year-old Barbara Roth. She was born at Paris March 1, 1821, and died April 27, 1881, a daughter of Christian/Chrétien Roth and Barbara Goldschmitt (see ROTH for background on her family). See THE MENNONITE TRANSITION for background on Joseph's later life and career as a minister and elder.

b) Barbara Stuckey was born in 1829, and died in 1831.

c) Christian Stuckey was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio June 17, 1831, and died at Eureka Springs, Arkansas Aug. 30, 1885. In 1850 in Butler County he married Magdalena Miller. She was born at Baden-Baden Oct. 18, 1827, and died at Danvers Aug. 25, 1911. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.

d) John Stuckey was born at Hamilton Oct. 23, 1833, and died at Carlock, McLean County April 13, 1912. His *Pantagraph* obituary said he came to Danvers in 1856. On Dec. 25, 1856 in McLean County he married Barbara Strubhar; the ceremony was performed by justice-of-the-peace Henry Deal. She was born at Commercy, Meuse March 13, 1834, and died at Colfax, McLean County Aug. 13, 1895, a daughter of Joseph Strubhar and Madeleine Engel. Terry Bowen found the couple on two Illinois censuses: the 1860 census of Danvers, McLean County as farmer John Stuckey, 26, Ohio; Barbara, 25, France; Joseph, 3, Illinois; Peter, 1, Illinois; and Elizabeth, 58, France. In 1863 they moved to Livingston County. The 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County has farmer John Stoka, 36, Ohio; Barbara, 35, France; Joseph, 13; Peter, 11; Jacob, 9; Anna, 7; Amial [Emiel], 5; Verena, 3; and Elizabeth, 1; all children born in Illinois. In 1872 they moved again to Washington, Tazewell County. In 1880 they are found there as farmer John Stuckey, 46, born in Ohio to French parents; Barbara, 45, France; 10 children born in Illinois; and John's widowed mother Elizabeth Stuckey, 79, France. In 1885 they finally settled at Carlock. They are buried in Park Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers. *Herald of Truth*, September 1895: "On the 13th of August, 1895 in Colfax, McLean Co., Ill., of diarrhea, Barbara (Strubhar) Stucky, aged 61 years and five months. She leaves a deeply sorrowing husband, five sons, four daughters and four grandchildren to mourn her death. Her remains were laid to rest on the 16th at the Danvers M. H. Funeral services in German and English by John Stahley, Joseph King and Peter Schantz, and at the grave by Peter E. Stucky of Kearney, Neb. Sister Stucky was born in France, came to America in 1855, was married in 1856 to John Stucky, and has lived in this neighborhood since. Joseph Stucky."

e) Anna Stuckey was born in Ohio in 1835, and died before the 1850 census.

f) Elisabeth 'Lisi' Stuckey was born at Hamilton July 26, 1837, and died at Abbyville, Kansas Oct. 30, 1928. On May 11, 1856 at Danvers she married Nicholas Hildy. He was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace June 21, 1835, and died at Abbyville July 5, 1908, a son of Nicolas Hildy and Madeleine Moser.

g) Catherine Stuckey was born at Hamilton Aug. 30, 1840, and died at Danvers Jan. 14, 1916. On March 22, 1859 at Danvers she married Peter Nafziger. He was born at Reinheim, Hesse March 4, 1831, and died at Slaughter, Louisiana Feb. 13, 1910, a son of Johann Christian Nafziger and Barbara Stahly. She is buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers; he is buried in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford, McLean County.

h) Peter Edward Stuckey was born at Hamilton May 31, 1844, and died at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa Jan. 25, 1929. On Feb. 22, 1867 at Metamora, Woodford County he married Catherine Engel. She was born at Metamora June 2, 1842, and died at Salem, Iowa Jan. 13, 1927, a daughter of John Engel and Barbara Dettweiler. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.

b. Nicolas Ulrich was born at Ribeauvillé Dec. 6, 1790, and died at Phalsbourg, Moselle Jan. 22, 1844. On Dec. 21, 1815 at Strasbourg he married his second cousin (once removed) Barbe Eyer, a daughter of Barbara Ŭlrich and her first husband Samuel Eyer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmhand and cultivator Nicolas Ulrich, born at Ribeauvillé Dec. 6, 1790, and a resident of Strasbourg. His parents were farmer ad cultivator Jean Ulrich and Anne Eymann of Illhaeusern, Upper Alsace. The bride was Barbe Eyer, born at Hagenau, Lower Alsace Nov. 11, 1782, and a resident of Strasbourg. Her parents were the deceased Samuel Eyer, who had died at Strasbourg 16 fruc 6, and Barbe Ulrich, who was present and consenting. Signatures looked like Nicolaŭs Ŭlrich, Barbara Eÿer, Christen Laŭber, and Egli. On Jan. 13, 1831 at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace Nicolas remarried to Elisabeth Egli. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Nicolas Ulrich, 40, widower of Barbe Eyer, He was born at Ribeauvillé Dec. 6, 1790, and a resident of Eckbolsheim. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Jean Ulrich and the deceased Anne Eymann. The bride was Elisabeth Egli, 25, born at Strasbourg July 18, 1805, and a resident of Strasbourg. She was a daughter of cultivator Jacques Egli, 60, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Barbe Steiner. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Ulrich, 36, a brother of the groom; cultivator Chrétien Lauber, 58; and cultivator Chrétien Stuky, 55, a resident of Lingolsheim. They went to Phalsbourg, Moselle in 1834.

c. Johannes/Jean Ulrich was born at Ribeauvillé Oct. 26, 1793, and died at Strasbourg June 3, 1860. On Jan. 20, 1820 at Strasbourg he married his second cousin (once removed) Madeleine Eyer, a daughter of Barbara Ŭlrich and her first husband Samuel Eyer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Ulrich, born at Ribeauvillé Oct. 26, 1783. He was a son of cultivator Jean Ulrich and Anna Eymann of Illhaeusern, Upper Alsace, who were present and consenting. The bride was Madeleine Eyer, who was born at Strasboug in November of 1796. Her parents were the deceased cultivator Samuel Eyer, who had died at Strasbourg Sept. 2, 1798, and Barbe Ulrich, who was present and consenting. Witnesses included Nicolas Ulrich, 29, brother of the groom; Chrétien Lauber, 47, stepfather of the bride; Michel Zehr, 54; and cultivator Chrétien Stucki, 45. Signatures looked like Johannes Ŭlrich, Magdalena Eÿer, Zehr, Stŭcki, Ŭlrich, and Laŭber.

d. Joseph Ulrich was born at Ribeauvillé Nov. 28, 1796, and died there the following day.

e. Joseph Ulrich was born at Ribeauvillé March 25, 1799, and died at Clairvaux-sur-Albe, Upper Alsace April 13, 1829. On Nov. 2, 1821 at Strasbourg he married Anne Marie Gerber. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as valet and laborer Joseph Ulrich, born at Ribeauvillé March 25, 1799, a resident of Illhaeusern who was staying at Neuhoff, Strasbourg. His parents were weaver Jean Ulrich and Anne Eymann, residents of Illhaeusern. The bride was Anne Marie Gerber. She was born at *Jardin d'Angleterre* [English Garden], Bischheim, Lower Alsace Feb. 27, 1799, and was a resident of Neuhof [she was a servant in that community southeast of Strasbourg]. Her parents were the deceased cultivator Ulric Gerber, who had died at Eckbolsheim Dec. 20, 1803, and the deceased Catherine Müller, who had died May 20, 1814. Witnesses included cultivator Nicolas Ulrich, 31, brother of the groom; cultivator Jean Ulrich, 28, brother of the groom; cultivator Chrétien Miller, 39, uncle of the bride; and day laborer Joseph Robb, 40, uncle of the bride by marriage. On April 2, 1827 at Strasbourg Joseph remarried to Katharina Schmidt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Ulrich. He was the widower of Anne Marie Gerber, who had died at Strasbourg Feb. 19, 1826. His parents were day laborer Jean Ulrich of Strasbourg, who was present and consenting, the the deceased Anne Eymann, who had died at Ribeauvillé March 11, 1825. The bride was Catherine Schmidt, born at Breuschwickersheim, Lower Alsace April 11, 1803, a daughter of Anne Schmidt, who was present and consenting. Catherine's mother Anne was married to cultivator George Meyer of Strasbourg. As a witness he was described as a 49-year-old day laborer, and the bride's stepfather. According to Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, Joseph deserted his second wife and died in jail at Clairvaux-sur-Albe.

f. Jacques Ulrich was born at Ribeauvillé Jan. 18, 1802, and died July 3, 1867. On Oct. 17, 1829 at Strasbourg he married Catherine Zimmerman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacques Ulrich, born at Ribeauvillé June 16, 1802, a resident of Strasbourg. His parents were the deceased cultivator Jean Ulrich, who had died at Eckbolsheim May 7, 1828, and the deceased Anne Eymann, who had died at Illhaeusern March 16, 1825. The bride was Catherine Zimmerman, born at Strasbourg Nov. 8, 1800. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Zimmerman [from Emmendingen, Baden], who had died at Strasbourg Dec. 18, 1828, and the deceased Barbe Stocky [from the Schoppenwihr estate at Ostheim], who had died there April 16, 1828. Witnesses included cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 24, brother of the bride; cultivator Jean Ulrich, 32, brother of the groom; and cultivator Chrétien Lauber, 57.

3. Nicolas Ulrich was born at Rosheim March 10, 1761, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 11, 1833. He married Marguerite Eymann. She was born on Près-du-Chêne farm at Lubine, Vosges in 1753, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 15, 1811, a daughter of Ulrich Eymann and Barbe Lehmann. On Feb. 4, 1816 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nicolas remarried to Catherine Reschly [Röeschli]. She was born at Harcholet, Senones [actually Le Harcholet, Le Saulcy[June 2, 1790, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 31, 1818, a daughter of Jean Reschly and Elisabeth Hertig. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Nicolas Ulrich, 55, born at Rosheim March 10, 1761, a son of the deceased Jean Ulrich and the widow Elisabeth Murer, He was the widower of Margueritte Eymann, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 5, 1811. The bride was Catherine Richely, 25, born at Harcholet, Canton de Saalle, Vosges June 2, 1790, a daughter of the deceased Jean Richely and the widow Elisabeth Hertigue. .His civil death entry described him as day laborer Nicolas Ulrich, 81, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, parents unknown. He had died in the home of his son at Fenarupt. Witnesses included son cultivator Joseph Ulrich, 38, and cultivator Joseph Haury, 47.

Peter/Pierre Ulrich (also found as 'Voilrich' and 'Oillery') was born at Mortzwiller (now in Upper Alsace, 25 miles north of Badevel) circa 1740, and died at Heimersdorf, Upper Alsace Sept. 13, 1807 (despite 'Alcherique' meant to be Alktkirch Sept. 4, 1808 on the civil marriage entry of his daughter Barbe).

Circa 1767 he married Marie Berse (later known as Wagler/Vagler). She was born at Aubure (three miles below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) Aug. 21, 1754, and died at 'Fluchporique' Feb. 5, 1799 (according to the civil marriage entry of his daughter Barbe). She was a daughter of Abraham Berze and Catherine Cofechemette [Küpferschmidt].

Pierre found work at a lumber mill in the forest opening Bambois de Plaine at Plaine (seven miles southwest of the Struthof at Natzwiller). This location was a home to the Ropp family; note that the other side of the Ŭlrich family had an association with the same Ropps though the mill at Bennwihr, and perhaps because of this proximity of Natzwiller/Klingenthal and Plaine.

On Jan. 30, 1801 at Heimersdorf, Upper Alsace Peter/Pierre remarried to Barbara Kupferschmidt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Peter Ŭllrich, 60, a son of Hans Ŭllrich and Rosina Bachler and the widower of Maria Wagner. The bride was Barbara Kupferschmit, 29, born in Upper Alsace, a daughter of Johannes Kupferschmit and Barbara Garber. One witness was Peter Ullrich, 30. All principals signed with an 'x,' suggesting they were illiterate.

A civil death entry created at Heimersdorf Sept. 14, 1807 described the death a day earlier of weaver Pierre Ulrich, 68, the husband of Barbe Kupferschmitt.

Children of Peter/Pierre Ulrich and his first wife Marie Berse/Wagler/Vagler include:

1. **Pierre Ulrich** was born at Plaine circa 1767, and died in 1831.
2. Barbe Ulrich was born at Turquestein (now Turquestein-Blancrupt, Moselle) June 6, 1768. She married Jaques Kreipiller [Jacob Krayenbŭhl]. He was born circa 1759, and died at Saales Jan. 14, 1809. His civil death entry described him as Jacob Kraipierre, the 50-year-old husband of Barbe Voilrich. It was witnessed by 36-year-old brother-in-law and farm equipment operator Jacob Voilrich of Saulxures, and 47-year-old farmer Jacob Pacher of Labattue [L'Abbateux] farm at Saales. They signed Jacob Bächer and Jacob Ulrich. On Oct. 11, 1810 at La Broque Barbe remarried to Ulrich Fongond. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Ulric Fongond, 59, born at Salm Nov. 15, 1750, a son of Ulrich Fongond (who had died Aug. 23, 1757) and Barbe Mayer (who had died Sept. 9, 1751). He was the widower of Barbara Eimann, who died at Salm Dec. 23, 1808. The bride was described as Barbe Ulric, 43, born at Turquestein [12 miles northwest of La Broque] June 6, 1768, a daughter of Pierre Ulrich (who had died at 'Alcherique' Sept. 4, 1808) and Marie Vagler (who had died at 'Flachparique' Feb. 5, 1799). It was witnessed by brother-in-law of the groom Christianne Neuhauser, 48, and cousin of the bride Joseph Fongond, 33, both cultivators at Salm. Ulrich Fongond died at La Broque Dec. 29, 1818.
3. Jean Ulrich was born circa 1770. He married Anne Huber. He appears on the 1794 civil marriage entry of his brother Pierre as Jean Voilrich, 24, a weaver at Lubine.
4. Jacob/Jacques Ulrich was born at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines circa 1772, and died at Saulxures Nov. 12, 1837. On Nov. 16, 1795 at La Broque he married Anne Brune. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacob Voilrich, 22, a son of Pierre Voilrich and Marie Vagler, who were cultivators at Banbois, Plaine. He was also a resident of Banbois. The bride was described as Anne Brune, 30, a daughter of the deceased Jean Brune and Anne Mayer. She and her mother were described as cultivators at Aux Guielles/aux Guelles, now called Aux Quelles, La Broque. She was the widow of cultivator Roidy Leimann [Rudi Lehman], who in life had been a resident of Aux Quelles. Witnesses included four cultivators: father-of-the-groom Pierre Voilrich, 50, of Banbois; friend-of-the-groom Voilrich Fongon, 45, of Salm [who would later become the groom's brother-in-law]; friend-of-the-bride Kupferschmitte, 65, of Salm [minister and elder Jacob Kupferschmidt]; and friend-of-the-bride Roidy Leimann, 63, of aux Guelles. The bride, groom, and the groom's father all signed with an 'x', indicating that they were illiterate. One signature that is not mentioned in the text is 'Jacob Petter Schmitt.' He was described on the 1809 death entry of a brother-in-law as a 36-year-old farm equipment operator at Saulxures.

Pierre Ulrich was born at Plaine circa 1767.

On Aug. 24, 1794 at Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace (10 miles southwest of La Broque) he married Catherine Lauber. She was born at Mussig, Lower Alsace (27 miles southeast of La Broque) circa 1775, a daughter of Christian Lauber and Katharina Schwartz. Thus Catherine was a sister to Christian Laŭber, who in 1803 married Barbara Ŭlrich from the other side of the family.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as *anabaptiste* Pierre Voilrich, 26, born at Plaine [five miles south of La Broque], a son of weaver Pierre Voilrich and Marie Vagler, who were residents of Bourg-Bruche. The bride was Catherine Laubre, 18, born at Mussig, a daughter of the deceased Christiann Lauber (who had been a resident of Bourg-Bruche) and Catherine Schartzen. Witnesses included Pierre Voilrich, father of the groom; weaver Jean Voilrich, 24, brother of the groom and resident of Lubine [four miles south of Bourg-Bruche]; George Risser, stepfather of the bride; and Jacob Pierre Marchal, brother-in-law of the bride and a weaver at Moussi.In 1796 Pierre and Catherine moved south to the area of Altkirch, Upper Alsace. There Pierre worked as a weaver in the fabric industry. A number of family events were recorded in three adjacent villages below Altkirch: Heimersdorf, Hirtzbach, and Hirsingue. The late John Hüppi wrote that they lived at Hirtzbach, Steinbrunn-le-Haut, Walheim, and Hirsingue.

Pierre and Catherine attended the wedding of a daughter at Hirsingue April 7, 1831. The civil marriage entry said the parents of the bride were living at Hirsingue. They signed with an 'x,' indicating they were illiterate.

The ship *France* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York July 12, 1833. On the passenger list was carpenter Peter Ulrich, 30, France. This was not their son Pierre; he had already sailed in 1831. It was actually their son-in-law Jacob/Jacques Berse with their daughter Catherine Ulrich; he would be known in Illinois as Christian Wagler (see WAGLER).

THE *FRANCE* PASSENGER LIST

Page 2 lists Jacob Augspurger, 18, France. Farther down the page is a family that would be residents of Wayne County, Ohio: Christian Schantz, 46, France; Catharine [Roggi], 40; Magdelina, 19; Christian, 19; Christian, 16; Peter, 14; Peter, 14; Elizabeth, 11; Jacob, 8; and Barbara Summer [Sommer], 21.

On page 5 is a couple that would be residents of Spring Bay, Woodford County in 1850: Bendict Stucky, 25, France; Elizabeth [Elisabeth Liechti], 40; Peter [Pierre Kauffman, Elisabeth's nephew],10; and Joseph, 5 [a son from Elisabeth's first marriage to Pierre Kauffmann].

Farther down that page are carpenter Peter Ulrich, 30, France [actually Jacob Berse, who would later be known as Isaac Wagler]; Catharine [Catherine Ulrich, his wife and cousin], 33; and Peter, 2 [Peter Jacob Berse]. One line later Catherine's parents Peter Ulrich, 60, France, and Catharine Lowbers [Lauber], 55.

The Berse/Waglers were at Ross, Butler County in 1840, and came to Elm Grove in 1844. Pierre and Catherine are thought to have died in Butler County between 1833 and 1844.

When Pierre and Catherine's son Christian died at Hirsingue in 1854, his civil death entry described him as *'fils de feu Pierre Ulrich et Catherine Lauber décedé en Amérique'* – son of the deceased Pierre Ulrich and Catherine Lauber who died in America.

Children of Pierre Ulrich and Catherine Lauber include:

1. Christian Ulrich was born at Bambois de Plaine Feb. 10, 1796, and died at Hirsingue Jan. 29, 1854. His father Pierre signed his civil birth entry created at Plaine with an 'x', indicating he was illiterate. On Oct. 9, 1820 at Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace he married Anne Beller. She was born at La Broque Jan. 18, 1786, and died at Hirsingue Jan. 27, 1851, a daughter of Jacob Beller and Marie Anne Lehmann. The witnesses at their wedding included Joseph Kolchemette [Goldschmidt], a 30-year-old cultivator from Le Hang basin near Bourg-Bruche who was a brother-in-law to the bride (he married Barbe Beller); and Jacob Petter Schmid, described as Jacob Pierre Chemette, a 21-year-old weaver from Bonnedof [Bendorf], Upper Alsace. Christian was described as a weaver at Hirsine [Hirsingue], Upper Alsace.
2. Catherine Ulrich was born at Hirtzbach March 2, 1797, and died at Pekin May 21, 1887. On April 7, 1831 at Hirsingue she married Jacob/Jacques Berse. He was born at Chipal (or Le Chipal, Vosges) Nov. 30, 1803, and died as Christian Wagler at Pekin Dec. 22, 1877, a son of Isaac Berse and Anne Krahenbühl. The bride's parents both signed their civil marriage entry with an 'x.' For background on this couple see WAGLER.
3. Anne Marie Ulrich was born at Steinbrunn-le-Haut (Ger. *Obersteinbrun*, above Altkirch) Nov. 8, 1801, and died at Hirsingue Oct. 22, 1826. Her death entry created at Hirsingue Oct. 23 was witnessed by brother Christian. It stated that she was born at Obersteinbrun, and described her parents as weaver Pierre Ulrich and Catherine Lauber. Christian signed with an 'x', indicating he was illiterate.
4. Barbe/Barbara Ulrich was born at Walheim (above Altkirch) March 20, 1804, and died at Milford, Butler County, Ohio Dec. 29, 1847. On Sept. 19, 1829 at Hirsingue she marrie4d Joseph Litwiller. He was born at Diane-Capelle,

Moselle March 29, 1799, and died at Dillon May 27, 1884, a son of Jean Litwiller and Freni/Françoise Zehr. See LITWILLER for background on this couple.

5. Madeleine Ulrich was born at Hirsingue June 22, 1807, and died there Nov. 11, 1808.
6. **Pierre/Peter Ulrich** was born at Hirsingue July 10, 1811, and died at Eureka Feb. 8, 1904.

Pierre/Peter Ulrich was born at Hirsingue [Ger. *Hirsingen*] below Altkirch, Upper Alsace July 10, 1811, and died at Eureka Feb. 8, 1904.

His civil birth entry described his parents as weaver Pierre Ulrich, born at la Croix [La Croix-aux-Mines], Vosges but a resident of Hirsingue, and Catherine Lauber. Pierre signed with an 'x', indicating he was illiterate.

Like his sister Catherine, Peter may have experienced adult baptism on the Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach, Upper Alsace. The farm was associated with the Rich and Hirschi families. Before 1826, Andreas Ropp had lived only three miles away at Largitzen.

The threat of renewed military conscription for the occupation of Algeria prompted an exodus from Alsace and Lorraine in the years 1830-34.

Peter, his older sister Barbe/Barbara, and her husband Joseph Litwiller sailed from Le Havre. They departed in May, and arrived in New York in July of 1831 after a 44-day voyage.

Past and Present of Woodford County says they remained in New York "...but a short time, as Mr. Ulrich had the experience of someone stealing his hat; they then went to Cincinnati, O. via canal, flat and steamboat; eight days from N.Y. to Cincinnati, O.; here he remained one year as a teamster; then in the country at farming for seven years."

In September of 1837 in Butler County, Ohio Peter married Anna 'Nancy' Oyer. She was born at Niderhoff, Moselle Nov. 29, 1811, and died at East Peoria Aug. 5, 1855, a daughter of Joseph Oyer and his first wife Catherine Schrag

The couple resettled at East Peoria in September 1838. There Peter purchased 80 acres and farmed for five years. In 1843 he sold the farm and leased another for five years.

The 1850 census of unincorporated Tazewell County shows the household of Peter Ulrich next door to John O'Brien, suggesting that it was in present day Groveland: farmer Peter Ulrich, 40, Germany; Nancy, 35, Germany; Joseph, 11; Peter, 9; Catherine, 7; Christian, 5; John, 4; Anthony[Andreas/Andrew], 3; David, one month, all children born in Illinois; farmer Anthony Oyer [Anna's stepbrother André/Andrew], 24; Anna, 18; Madeline [Anna's stepmother, Joseph Oyer's second wife Magdalena Litwiller], 50; Jacob, 20; John, 22; all Oyers born in Germany.

Anna 'Nancy' Oyer died Aug. 5, 1855. On Nov. 5, 1858 in Tazewell County Peter remarried to Barbara Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born in Baden circa 1812. We could point to someone who would fit the time, geography, and relationship/religious context: Barbara Zimmerman was born at Umkirch, Baden March 4, 1812, a daughter of Jacob Zimmerman and Barbara König; she was a second cousin to Michael King. But no information has been available that could verify this.

The 1860 census of Montgomery shows farmer Peter Ullrich, 48, France; Barbara [Zimmerman], 48, Baden; Joseph, 31; Peter, 19; Christian, 17; John, 15; Andrew, 12; David, 9; Samuel, 7; Catherine, 18; Valentine Nauhauser, 40; Peter Reuser [Risser; these were children of Nicolas Risser], 8, France; Magdalena Reuser, 4, France; Victoria Reuser, 1, Illinois; and John Suisse, 25, France. Barbara Zimmerman died at Montgomery April 5, 1865.s

Over the next six years Peter sold 200 acres. In 1867 he purchased 178 acres of improved land at Olio, and moved there the following year.

The 1880 census of Olio, Woodford County shows farmer Peter Ulrich, 69, France; daughter Cathrine, 37, Illinois; son Christian, 36, Illinois; son David, 30, Illinois; son Samuel, 27,Illinois; Annie [Reeser, David's wife], 25, Indiana; Barbara, 5, Illinois; Annie, 3, Illinois; Christian, 2, Illinois; Fannie [Reeser, Samuel's wife], 19, France, parents born in France and Baden; Peter, 2, Illinois; and Christian, one month, Illinois.

Herald of Truth, February 1904: "Feb. 8, 1904, near Eureka, Ill., Bro. Peter Ulrich, aged 92 Y., 6 M., 28 D. He was born in Alsace, Germany, July 18, 1811, came to America in May 1831 and located in Ohio. He was married to Sister Annie Oyer, Sept. 1837. This union was blessed with seven sons and one daughter. He went to Illinois in September 1838. His companion preceded him to the better world Aug. 5, 1855. In 1858 he was married to Sister Barbara Zimmerman, who died April 5, 1865. From that time until he died he lived with his children. The deceased was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church. He leaves six sons, one daughter, 51 grandchildren and 52 great-grandchildren. One son, ten grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren preceded him to the other world. Funeral was held at the Roanoke M. H. Feb. 10. Services by Chris. Reeser and Andrew Schrock in German and John Smith in English from *1 Peter 3:3-5*."

Children of Peter Ulrich and his first wife Anna Oyer born at East Peoria include:

1. Joseph Ulrich was born Dec. 16, 1838, and died at Pioneer, Ohio Jan. 6, 1927. On Feb. 9, 1865 in Woodford County he married Fanny King. She was born at Liberty, Butler County, Ohio Aug. 17, 1842, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County in May 1872, a daughter of Michael King and Elizabeth Barnett. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County. *The Pontiac Leader*: "Joseph Ulerich. Flanagan, Ill. Jan. 11 - Funeral services for Joseph Ulerich were held at Salem Mennonite Church Sunday afternoon. Mr. Ulerich was born in Tazewell county, December 16, 1838. On February 9, 1865, he was married to Veronica King, to which union were born six children. For many years Mr. Ulerich cared for a friend, Daniel R. King, who resided two miles south of Flanagan and it was through Mr. King's benevolence that the Salem orphanage was established. After the death of Mr. King in 1902, Mr. Ulerich spent sometime in Central Illinois and a few years later moved to the state of Missouri. Later, he located at Pioneer, O., where he continued to reside until his death on January 6. Surviving are four children: Peter J. of Flanagan, Elizabeth, Anna, and Samuel of Pioneer, O.; three brothers, Peter of Shelbyville, David of Eureka and Samuel of Idaho; 16 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. The services at the Salem Church on Sunday were conducted by Rev. Benjamin Rupp, of Bloomington. The Salem choir gave several selections. Pallbearers were grandsons or near relatives of Mr. Ulerich. Rev. Emanuel and William Ulerich, Elmer Schrock, Stephen and Valentine Zehr, Jr., and David Ulerich. Burial was in Waldo Cemetery."
2. Peter P. Ulrich was born March 24, 1840, and died at Okaw/Shelbyville, Shelby County, Indiana Sept. 6, 1928. On July 22, 1866 at Eureka he married Magdalena/Melinda/Martha King. She was born at Dry Grove, McLean County May 12, 1845, and died at Okaw/Shelbyville, Shelby County Dec. 17, 1915, a daughter of Michael King and Elizabeth Barnett. They are found on the 1870 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer Peter Ulrick, 30, Illinois; Martha, 25, Illinois; and five children born in Illinois.
3. Catherine Ulrich was born Nov. 1, 1841 (headstone date; *Past and Present of Woodford County* gives Oct. 1, 1842), and died Jan. 17, 1905. She is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Christian Ulrich was born May 26, 1843, and died at Eureka Dec. 17, 1898. He is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, February 1899: "Christian Ulrich died at his home near Eureka, III,, Dec. 17th, 1898, of lagrippe in connection with an old trouble. Bro. Ulrich was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., May 26, 1843, and had therefore attained the age of 55 years, 6 months and 21 days. At the age of sixteen he gave himself to his Master, uniting with the Amish Mennonite Church, of which he was a faithful and zealous member until death. He was never married, and lived on the home place with his father, Peter Ulrich, Sr., who survives him at the advanced age of 88 years. He also leaves six brothers and one sister to mourn their loss. He was laid to rest in the Roanoke burying ground, Dec. 19th. Funeral services conducted by Bishop John Smith and Pre. Peter Sommer."
5. John Ulrich was born Aug. 18, 1845, and died July 15, 1912. On Jan. 31, 1869 in Woodford County he married Catherine Reidiger/Rediger. She was born at Ichenheim, Baden April 22, 1843, and died at Manson, Iowa Aug. 3, 1937, a daughter of Jacob Reidiger/Rediger and Magdalena Schrag. For background on their immigration in 1868 see REDIGER. *Gospel Herald*, July 1937: "Catherine, daughter of Lena and Jacob Rediger (deceased), was born near Freiburg, Germany, April 22, 1843; died Aug. 3, 1937, near Manson, Iowa. When she was a young woman she came with her parents to Woodford Co., Ill., where she was united in marriage to John Ulrich in 1867 [1869]. To this union were born 10 children, 2 passed away in infancy and Samuel in 1933. Her husband died in July, 1912. She is survived by 8 children (Lena Schertz and Peter Ulrich, of Manson; Lizzie Bachman, of Washington, Ill.; John of Estlin, Sask.; Katie Moery of Carlisle, Ark.; and Chris and Fannie). One sister (Elizabeth Wirkler of Los Angeles, Calif.), two brothers (Ben Rediger of Hoopersville, Ill., and Joe Rediger of Milford, Neb.), 33 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren survive. Four great-grandchildren, one grand child, two sisters and three brothers preceded her in death. She lived with her children at Manson most of her married life. God blessed her with good health until she was old. She had been bedfast since February, 1934. She was cared for in the home of her son Peter for over a year, when she was taken to her granddaughter (Mrs. E. E. Zehr) where her daughter Lena, cared for her and where she passed away. She was always appreciative of all favors shown her. She was always patient and endured her affliction with Christian fortitude. She often expressed her eagerness to go to her eternal home, but was willing to wait until God called her. "While I lay here, I often wonder how beautiful heaven must be, and how glad we will be to meet those gone before," was typical of expressions she often made. She was a faithful member of the Mennonite Church for more than seventy years. Funeral services were held Aug. 6 at the Mennonite Church, conducted by Bro. Nick Stoltzfus. Burial in Rose Hill Cemetery."
6. Andreas/Andrew Ulrich was born June 5, 1848, and died at Deer Creek Feb. 13, 1919. On March 6, 1873 in McLean County he married Elizabeth Zehr. She was born at Deer Creek Sept. 28, 1854, and died Aug. 1, 1948, a daughter of Christian Zehr and his second wife Marie/Mary Schrag. They are buried in Stumbaugh Cemetery at Goodfield, Woodford County.
7. **David Ulrich** was born July 29, 1850, and died at Eureka July 7, 1934. 8. Samuel Ulrich was born Jan. 12, 1855, and died at Nampa, Idaho Dec. 20, 1936. In January 1878 in Woodford County he married Veronica 'Fannie' Reeser. She was born at Eureka April 25, 1861, and died March 29, 1937, a daughter of Christian Reeser and Barbara Zimmerman. They lived near Bloomington and later at Nampa, Idaho. They are found on the 1920 census of Canyon County, Idaho as farmer Samuel Ulrich, 67, born in Illinois to a father from Alsace-Lorraine and a mother from France; Fannie, 59, born in Illinois to parents from France and Germany; Vernie, 26, Illinois; Benjamin, 20, Illinois; and Mattie, 17, Illinois.

David Ulrich was born at East Peoria July 29, 1850, and died at Eureka July 7, 1934.

On Oct. 22, 1874 in Woodford County he married Anne Marie/Anne Mary/Anna Reeser. She was born at Muncie, Indiana Dec. 17, 1855, and died at Eureka Oct. 12, 1941, a daughter of Christian Reeser and Barbara Zimmerman. They farmed Section 35 of Roanoke. They are buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.

Gospel Herald, August 1934: "David, son of Peter and Anna Ulrich, was born near East Peoria, Ill., July 29, 1850; died at his home in Eureka, Ill., July 7, 1934; aged 83 y. 11 m. 9 d. His parents had come to America from Alsace Lorraine, and were among the early settlers in this part of Illinois, arriving in 1838. From East Peoria the family moved to Deer Creek, where his mother died, when he was five years old. In his early youth they moved to the vicinity of Eureka, where his father purchased the farm now occupied by his son, C. M. Ulrich, and which is spoken of as the old home place. Oct. 22, 1874, he was united in marriage to Anna, daughter of Christian Reeser, who lived to the age of 103 years. To this union were born 11 children, all of whom survive. They are: Barbara Schertz, Eureka; Anna, at home; Christian M., Eureka; Emma Schertz, Cazenovia; Peter N., Eureka; Elizabeth Schertz, Falfurrias, Texas; Fannie Schrock, David, Ella Schertz, Emanuel and Viola Harnish, all of Eureka. After marriage he farmed for thirty years in Woodford Co., living in the vicinity of Eureka and Metamora, from which latter place they moved to Garden City, Mo., in 1904, where he had purchased a farm. After living there for six years they returned to Woodford Co., locating south of Roanoke, remaining there until January, 1919, when he retired from the farm, moving to the home in Eureka where he passed away. In his youth he united with the Mennonite Church, in which he was a devoted and active member until his Lord called him home. For twenty-two years he served as a trustee of the Roanoke Mennonite congregation northeast of Eureka, of which he was one of the early members, and where he had his church home these many years... Saturday evening he was seized with a heart attack, peacefully passing away about two hours later. All his children were at his bedside, except Emma Schertz, who was visiting at Fisher, Ill., and Elizabeth Schertz of Falfurrias, Texas, who also was not able to come to the funeral because of ill health. He leaves his younger brother (Samuel Ulrich of Nampa, Idaho), the only one remaining of a family of eight; his wife (who was his faithful companion for almost sixty years); 11 children; 46 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held July 11, at the home by Andrew Schrock and at the Roanoke Mennonite Church by Ezra Yordy. Burial in the church cemetery."

Brenneman: Brönniman of Köniz

In the interest of sorting out past genealogies, we will give two Brenneman histories. We believe the first provides more accurate information that leads to the Central Illinois family. The second is a 'near miss,' but we have done our best to verify its information because it has persisted for so long.

In Canton Bern a *Brendi* was a clearing created by fire. A location that was once called Brendi and evolved into Brönni (a *Bröndimann is* a person who distills brandy from fruit) is located in the Aarwald forest, across the Aare River from Münsingen, about halfway between the city of Bern and Steffisburg,.

Brönni was located in Belpberg. The church was located in Belp, just above it and slightly farther inland. Both Belpberg and Belp ran along the western side of the Aare River. Belpberg was absorbed by Belp in 2012, in the Bern-Mitteland administrative district.

A significant number of early marriages in Belp records and the evolution of their spellings makes it clear that this was the ancestral home. Twenty-six grooms between 1549 and 1590 ranged from Brendiman to Brenniman and Brönniman. By 1861 the spelling had been standardized in Belp as Brönnimann, and as Brönniman in the area around it. A family blazon [Ger. *Wappenschild*] registered at the State Archives of Canton Bern shows a falcon with wings spread above a red cross.

Today Belp is significantly different than it was in the 16th and 17th centuries. New farmland was opened up when marshes were drained, and the course of the Aare River was amended by dredging in 1829-31. The present population is about 11,500.

The hamlet Oberscherli is less than seven miles to the west. Its present population is about 500. Three miles to the north is the town and Protestant Reformed church of Köniz (also found as Könitz), and Oberscherli is just within the southern boundary of its parish.

The town Köniz is approximately three miles south of the city center of Bern in Canton Bern. A Catholic church dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul was constructed there circa 1100 AD. Protestant Reformed church records have been preserved since 1553. An 1861 list of families in its congregation [Ger. *Geschlecter*] included Brönnimann, Müller, Zeender, and Zehnder. We also noticed many Kŭrtz events in early records.

The church at Köniz was initially the seat of a parish that included the area around what is now the city of Bern. In 1191 AD the two areas were separated, but Köniz continued to administer a parish of its own. The boundaries of that parish became the present boundaries of a municipality called Köniz in the Bern-Mitteland administrative district. Thus the town of Köniz is within the greater municipality of Köniz, and the outer boundaries are also those of the parish. Its present population is about 42,000.

At present the municipalities of Köniz and Münsingen are considered *Heimatorte* or points of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for the surname Brönniman.

Daniel Brönniman of Oberscherli and Barbara/Barbel/Barbli Schnÿder had four children baptized at Koniz between 1661 and 1667. They include:

1. Elsbeth Brönnimann was baptized Nov. 24, 1661. Witnesses included Petter Riser, Elsbeth Otz, and Barbli Gebhard.
2. **Hans Brönnimann** was baptized July 5, 1663. Witnesses included Hans [illegible], Ŭlrich Fischer, and Barbli Dietrich.
3. Ŭllrich Brönnimann was baptized Feb. 16, 1666. Witnesses included Ŭllrich Färni, Bendicht Fugi, and Cathrÿna Scherber.
4. Barbara Brönnimann was baptized June 29, 1667. Witnesses included Christen Wintzenried, Anni Fischer, and Barbara Spani.

Hans Brönniman was baptized at Köniz July 5, 1663.
He married Cathrÿna/Catharina Zehnder. Their children baptized at Köniz include:

1. Hans Brönnimann was baptized June 26, 1692, and died before May 14, 1702. Witnesses included Sigmŭnd Zehnder of Könitz; Hans Zehnder; and Marie Spÿcher of Könitz.
2. Elsbeth Brönnimann was baptized Sept. 8, 1695. Witnesses included Peter Zisel of Krŭmenegg; Elsbeth Brönniman; and Elsbeth Zeender.
3. **Niclaŭs Brönniman** was baptized Feb. 6, 1698. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Zender, Ulÿ [illegible] of Krŭmmenegg, and Christina Michel.
4. Barbara Elsbeth Brönnimann was baptized March `17, 1700. Witnesses included Peter Hänni of Könitz; Christina Streidt of Könitz; and Barbara Hanschmid of Bŭch.

5. Hans Brönnimann was baptized May 14, 1702. Witnesses included Joseph Gŭrtner, Peter [ilegible] of Niderscherli, and Elsbeth Blors.

Father Hans may have remarried while these children were between 15 and 21 years of age; an entry was created at Köniz April 30, 1717 for the ceremony of Hans Brönnimann of Oberscherli and Anna Strÿt of Oberscherli.

A search of Köniz marriage entries up to 1735 found no further events for this family.

Niclaŭs Brönniman was baptized at Koniz Feb. 6, 1698. His name is later found as Nikolaus and Claüs, and his descendants became Brennemans. He was the forebearer of the Central Illinois families, as documented by leases and Kennel family passdown.

He presumably lived at Oberscherli at least until his father's second marriage in 1717, when he would have been 19 years of age.

He may have spent some time in the Pfalz before settling in Baden-Durlach. Oberscherli is 14 miles west of Oberdiessbach, and 16 miles northwest of Steffisburg. In Baden-Durlach he associated with a number of families from these two locations.120

Between 1732 and 1735 Niclaŭs married a widow whose first husband was named Von Känel/Kendel/Kennel, and she brought to her second marriage a daughter Maria and a son Johannes/Hans. Johannes/Hans was the forebearer of a Kennel family that came to Central Illinois (see KENNEL).

Niclaŭs joined with others to guarantee the lease on the Katharinentaler Hof above Pforzheim in Baden-Durlach (about 54 miles southeast of Friedelsheim; see background on this location in KING, König/Koenig/King Background KURTZ). On Feb. 8, 1750 he signed 'Claüs Brn' (suggesting he was illiterate) alongside minister Peter Rothaker and the leading minister and elder of his day Johannes/Hans Nafziger, who represented Benedict Eÿer (senior) and his son Rudolf Eyer. Stepson 'Hanss Kendel' was another guarantor. A facsimile of the document can be found in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. The Katharinentaler Hof would be used for services, as a training ground for ministers, and as a place to stage travel parties for emigration.

The same year Niclaŭs became leaseholder of the Karlshäuserhof estate at Dürrn, an adjunct farm to the Katharinentaler Hof. When the Margraviate of Baden-Durlach took over management of the two estates in 1763, Niclaŭs was given permission to extend the lease for the remainder of his lifetime.

Nevertheless, he died in his son's home on the Braunshardt estate at Wieterstadt Feb. 12, 1785. He was reported to have been 88 years of age, but was actually a recent 87.

Children of **Niclaŭs Brönniman** and the widow Kendel/Kennel include:

- Anna Brenneman may belong here. She married Christian Eyer, a son of Benedict Eÿer (senior) and Elsbeth Wÿss.

1. **Nikolaus Brenneman** was born circa 1736, and died May 5, 1789.

Nikolaus Brenneman was born circa 1736, and died at Braunshardt May 16, 1789 (per the marriage entry of daughter Katharina/Catherine, though other sources say May 5, 1789).

On Dec. 1, 1756 he married Barbara Kurtz. She was born on the Katharinentaler Hof circa 1736. She was a daughter of deacon Jakob Kurtz. Jakob was a co-leaseholder of the Karlshäuserhof estate beginning in 1743.

Nikolaus must have lived on the Karlshäuserhof at Dürrn for 10 years before he leased the Braunshardt estate at Weiterstadt in 1760. Weiterstadt was 80 miles to the north, on the northwest corner of the city of Darmstadt, Hesse-Darmstadt. (This location has added an element of confusion for genealogists who notice that Weiterstadt is above Griesheim – but it is not the same as the town that Melchior Brenneman went to in 1671, which is now called Kreigsheim).

Barbara died on the Braunshardt estate in 1770.

Children of Nikolaus Brenneman and his first wife Barbara Kurtz include:

1. Jakobina Brenneman was born on the Karlshäuserhof estate at Dürrn Dec. 20, 1757. She married Jakob Güngerich of the Albacherhof estate at Lich, Hesse. See GŰNGERICH for background on this coujple.

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120 Although there were Brönnimans at Stefffisburg, we could only find one family in the time frame around his birth. In the mid-1600s Peter Brönniman married Elsi Brunner. Their son Peter was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 25, 1668. On June 28, 1689 at Steffisburg he married Verena Schiffman. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include: 1) Peter, March 16, 1690; 2) Christen, Oct. 30, 1692; and Jacob, March 12, 1699.

One source maintains that Nicolaŭs/Nikolaus/Claüs Brönniman was born at Münsingen, Canton Bern March 30, 1696. An entry created on that date is actually for Niclaŭs Baümann, a son of Niclaŭs Baümann and Maria Karli.

2. Samuel Brenneman was born on the Karlshäuserhof estate at Dürrn Dec. 7, 1759, and died at Itzenhain July 20, 1834. On March 3, 1786 at Schaaken he married Marie Schwartzentraub. She was born at Ernsthausen (11 miles west of Wohra) circa 1766, was living at Lichtenfels at the time of her marriage, and died at Itzenhain May 5, 1829. They leased the Bellnhausen estate at Itzenhain. According to Guth, they also leased the Fiddemühle at Wohra.
3. Jakob Brenneman was born on the Braunshardt estate at Weiterstadt Feb. 1, 1762, and died there in March 1763.
4. **Jakob Brenneman** was born on the Braunshardt estate at Weiterstadt April 7, 1764.
5. Johannes/John Brenneman was born on the Braunshardt estate at Weiterstadt March 30, 1766, and died at Wilmot, Ontario Oct. 21, 1848. He and his family immigrated via Baltimore in 1821, briefly settling in Pennsylvania. They either went to Ontario with the Jacob Kropf family in 1823, or with the Jacob Kropf family as well as Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith and his new wife Elizabeth Schwartzentruber in the spring of 1824. The Brennemans settled on Lot 13, south of Bleam's Road at Wilmot. In 1824 minister and elder John Stoltzfus of Pennsylvania organized the first Wilmot congregation and ordained Johannes/John Brenneman and Joseph Goldsmith as ministers. One source says his unidentified wife died Sept. 22, 1842.
6. Daniel Brenneman was born on the Braunshardt estate at Weiterstadt Sept. 10, 1769, and died at New Germany, Maryland May 16, 1842. On Feb. 20, 1803 he married Maria Bender of Bödenhausen (now in Lower Saxony). She was born at Bodenhausen in Waldeck in 1782, and died at New Germany, Maryland after 1860, a daughter of Jacob Bender. Seven of their children were born at Meischeit 1809-21; then they lived on the Eichhof estate between Langendorf and Rosenthal, Hesse. They sailed from Rotterdam on the *Brig William*, arriving at Baltimore March 12, 1826 (see OHRENDORFF for more on this voyage). They appear on the passenger list as Daniel Brenneman, 50; Maria, 40; Jacob, 19; Maria, 17; Anna, 15; Caroline, 13; Elizabeth, 9; Helena, 7; Christian, 5; and Daniel, 2. They farmed at 'The Glades' near Elk Lick in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and then at New Germany. New Germany is about eight miles south of Salisbury, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, where some of their children were married; it became part of Garrett County, Maryland in 1876. Their modern joint headstone in the Brenneman Family Cemetery at New Germany calls her 'Maria his wife, died 1856,' but she is listed as Mary Brinneman, 76, in the household of her son Jacob on the 1860 census of Allegany County (in a part that became Garrett County).

On Feb. 2, 1771 Nikolaus remarried to Magdalena Unzicker. She was born in Erzhausen (adjacent to Weiterstadt) circa 1750, and died at Fränkisch-Crumbach Oct. 20, 1811 (per the marriage entry of daughter Katharina/Catherine). She also had six children.

Children of Nikolaus Brenneman and his second wife were all born either at Erzhausen or on the Braunshardt estate at Weiterstadt. They include:

7. Christian Brenneman was born Jan. 30, 1772, and died Jan. 12, 1828. In 1809 he married Barbara Jötter, who was born circa 1776. They farmed at Erzhausen until the death of his father Nikolaus in 1789, and then assumed the lease on the Braunshardt estate.
8. Barbara Brenneman was born Jan. 21, 1774.
9. Elisabeth Brenneman was born Dec. 9, 1776, and died on the Albacherhof at Lich, Hesse May 3, 1851. She became a much younger second wife to married Jakob Stahly. He was born at Enkenbach July 25, 1752, and died on the Obertraisa estate July 26, 1822. This is the same individual who became step-grandfather to 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger (see NAFZIGER, the story of the *De Rham* in KENNEL, and EHRESMAN, ERISMAN OF BUREAU COUNTY). They had two daughters who went to McLean County, and two sons who went to Bureau Count.
10. Peter Brenneman was born Aug. 23, 1780. On March 10, 1806 he married Magdalena Güngerich. Their children immigrated to Canada; the parents may have emigrated as well.
11. Veltin/Valentine Brenneman was born Nov. 20, 1786. He hanged himself at Gross-Gerau in 1809.
12. Katharina/Catherine Brenneman was born on the Braunshardt estate June 14, 1789. She married on the Willsteinerhof estate at Trippstadt June 16, 1814. The entry described the groom as Jean Imhoff, aged 18 years and 10 months, born on the Wilensteinerhof, a son of cultivator Chrétien Imhoff and Jacobine Kinsinger. The bride was Catherine Brenneman, 25, a resident of the Wilensteinerhof. She was born at *Braunshard dans le Grand Duché de Darmstadt* June 14, 1789. Her parents were the deceased cultivator Nicolas Brenneman, who had died at Braushard May 16, 1789, and the deceased Madeleine Unsinger, who had died at Fränkisch Crumbach Oct. 20, 1811. Her husband was later known as Johann August Imhof. When he died on the Wilensteinerhof Feb. 18, 1855, the entry described him as plowman Johannes Imhof, 60, the husband of Catharine Brenneman, 66, and son of Christian Imhof and Jakobina Kinzinger. Their son Johannes Roggy (1828-1909) became mayor of Trippstadt.

Jakob Brenneman was born on the Braunshardt estate April 7, 1764.

On June 20, 1788 at Marburg, Waldeck (now in the Marburg-Biedenkopf district of Hesse) he married to Anna Güngerich. She was born at Marburg May 6, 1768, a daughter of Peter Güngerich.

Immediately after their marriage they leased the Klosterhof estate at Wohra, Hesse.[121]

[121] The Wohra is a river. The exact location of the Klosterhof has caused some confusion. Part of what was once called Wohra is found on modern maps as the village of 'Gemünden (Wohra)', within the municipality of Gemünden, within the

Anna died at Wohra Dec. 17, 1842, and Jakob died there May 17, 1848.
Their children born at Wohra include:

1. Peter Brenneman was born May 11, 1789, and died in 1792.
2. Maria Brenneman was born Jan. 26, 1792, and died in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 31, 1850. On March 20, 1814 at Wohra she married Johannes Bender. He was born circa 1786, and died in Butler County in April of 1833, a son of Jacob Bender and Helena Brenneman of Bödenhausen. They lived at Zwesten (15 miles northeast of Wohra) until 1822, then on the Schmitthof between Kraftsolms and Kröffelbach, Nassau. They appear on the '100 Hessian Mennonites' passenger list of 1832 as Johann Bender, 46; Jacob, 11; Daniel, 9; Maria, 40; Maria, 13; Anna, 17; Helena, 16; Jacobine, 7; and Elise, 5. See the Appendix, PASSENGER LISTS, THE HESSIAN MENNONITE VOYAGE OF 1832.
3. Peter Brenneman was born Feb. 19, 1794, and died in Butler County Oct. 31, 1850, only three months after arriving in America. On May 24, 1818 he married Jakobine Holly. She was born at Bellersheim April 10, 1797, and died in Putnam County Aug. 17, 1852, a daughter of estate manager Daniel Holly and Jakobine Eyer living at Langsdorf (adjacent to Bellersheim). They farmed in Vetzberg (six miles northwest of Giessen), then sailed from Le Havre on the *Admiral*, arriving at New York July 17, 1850. Their family appears on the passenger list as Peter Brenneman, 56, Bavaria; Jacobine, 53; Elisa, 29; Jacob, 27; Helene, 26; Cathrina, 21; Jacobina, 19; Herman, 17; Anna, 13; and Emelie, 10.122
4. Katharina Brenneman was born May 7, 1796, and died May 24, 1799.
5. Michael Brenneman was born May 2, 1798, and died at Eden, LaSalle County Jan. 18, 1886. On Sept. 1, 1822 he married Elise Güngerich. She was born at Zwesten [16 miles northeast of Wohra] March 14, 1805. They lived at Wohra, then on the Eichhof near Rosenthal. They sailed from Bremen on the *Copernicus* with the family of younger brother Joseph Brenneman, arriving at New York June 19, 1852. The passenger list has Michael Brennemen, 54, Wohra, destination Illinois; Elise, 47, Zwesten; then Marie, 24; Joseph, 22, and Christian, 18; the last three from Wohra. They appear on the 1860 census of Eden, LaSalle County as farmer Joseph Brenneman, 30, Germany; Michael Brenneman, 62, Germany; Eliza, 55, Germany; and Emily Brenneman, 18, Germany.
6. Helene Brenneman was born April 26, 1800, and died July 5, 1831.
7. Johannes Brenneman was born March 22, 1802, and died Feb. 28, 1820.
8. **Daniel Brenneman** was born March 16, 1804, and died in Tazewell County March 14, 1884.
9. Christian Brenneman was born in June 1806, and died Nov. 11, 1806.
10. Joseph Brenneman was born Dec. 3, 1807, and died in Putnam County April 22, 1890. On Feb. 4, 1843 he married Elise Unzicker. She was born on Hof Offenthal at Sankt Goarshausen in the Duchy of Nassau Aug. 14, 1816, and died in Putnam County Oct. 29, 1853, a daughter of Jacob Unzicker and Elisabeth Jordy. They lived at Radenhausen, a farm between Amöneburg and Kirchhain, Kassel. They sailed from Bremen on the *Copernicus* with the family of older brother Michael, arriving at New York June 19, 1852. The passenger list has economist Joseph Brenneman, 44, Radenhausen, destination Illinois; Elisabeth, 34, Ofenthal; Elise, 5; Bertha, 4; Oskar, 2; Julius, six months; the last four from Radenhausen; and Cath. Nafzier, 26, from Kämeln, destination Illinois, servant (see KENNEL for more on Nafziger). Joseph appears as a widower on the 1860 census of Granville, Putnam County: farmer Joseph Brenniman, 52, Hessen; Eliza, 14; Burdy, 12; Oscar, 10; Julius, 8; with Catharine Schanbeck, 55, and Catharine Linker, 17. On the same page is found Jacob Brenneman, 36, and his family (Jacob was a nephew, the son of Joseph's older brother Peter).
11. Jakob/Jacob Brenneman was born July 19, 1809, and died Feb. 16, 1895. On April 25, 1840 in Butler County he married Christine Güngerich. The ceremony was performed by minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger, and a civil entry was created July 6, 1840. She was born in Gemünden an der Wohra (adjacent to Wohra) March 29, 1809. He had immigrated in 1834, and she had immigrated in 1839. They may have been the first of the Brennemans to settle in Central Illinois. They appear on the 1850 census of Putnam County, listed between John Burkey and Peter Albright [Albrecht]: farmer Jacob Brenniman, 40, Germany; Christiana, 40, Germany; Jacob, 9, Illinois; Catharine, 7, Illinois; Mary, 3, Illinois; and Ellen, 1, Illinois. They appear on the 1880 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as boarder Jacob Brenneman, 70, and Christena, 71, both from 'Hessia,' living in the home of their 39-year-old son Jacob Brennemen.

Daniel Brenneman was born on the Klosterhof estate at Wohra March 16, 1804, and died in Tazewell County March 14, 1885 (his headstone: 79 years, 11 months, 29 days).

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administrative district of Waldeck-Frankenberg. Adjacent to Gemünden is Wohra, a municipality in the community of Wohratal, in the district of Marburg-Biedenkopf, Hesse. The grounds of the Klosterhof may have fallen within either one, or between them.

[122] Other passengers in the same part of the *Admiral* list include Daniel Kennel, 30; Peter Gangerich, 26; Catherine Guengerich, 46, with children Peter, 20, Christian 17, Louis, 15, and Daniel, 13; and Valentin Naffziger, 19, with Elise Naffziger, 17.

On Sept. 26, 1826 he married Elizabeth Jutzi. She was born at Altenburg (30 miles southwest of Wohra) Oct. 16, 1804, and died in Tazewell County July 26, 1879 (her headstone: 73 years, 9 months, 9 days), a daughter of Michael/Michel Jutzi and Marie Holly. They are buried in Orndorff Cemetery at Hopedale.

After their marriage Daniel and Elizabeth lived with Daniel's parents on the Klosterhof estate at Wohra. They made the decision to emigrate in 1831, and relocated to live with Elizabeth's parents at Altenburg until arrangements could be made. On May 16, 1832 they departed from Bremen on the charter *A Two-Masted Brig*. Their family appears on the passenger list as Daniel Brenneman, 26; Elise or Elisabeth, 23; Jacob, 5; Marie, 3 (she later married Jacob Hauter); and Elise, 1.

Augusta Iutzi Phillips in *A Brief History of the Daniel Brenneman Family*: "They left Bremen the 16th day of May and landed at Baltimore July 31. After a rest of several days, wagons of the prairie schooner type were engaged to convey the party to Wheeling, West Virginia. Their road lay over the Allegheny Mountains, and it took them 13 days to make their journey. At Wheeling they took passage on a steamboat on the Ohio River to Cincinnati, then up the Miami River, and landed at Hamilton, Ohio, their destination, arriving there on the 3rd day of September." At Hamilton the family shared a rented house with two other families.

On Dec. 18, 1832, Daniel purchased 120 acres for $2,200. The parcel was located in Turtle Creek Township, Warren County, Ohio, which borders on Monroe, Butler County. The 188-acre parcel was on the east side of Red Buck farm. That farm straddled the border between the two counties. Red Buck farm was purchased by brothers Peter Iutzi and Jacob Iutzi four days later.

Turtle Creek was the location of a Shaker settlement called Union Village. The first Shakers to come to Ohio arrived there as missionaries from Mt. Lebanon, N.Y. in 1805.123

Although nine more children were born at Turtle Creek, the three youngest died in 1840, presumably from a cholera epidemic.

Daniel 'Bannam' appears on the 1840 census of Turtle Creek. The Brennemans appear on the 1850 census of Turtle Creek: farmer Danial Branaman, 47; Elizabeth, 44; farmer Jacob Bramanan, 23; Maria, 21; Eliza, 19; Joseph, 17; Carolin [Helene], 15; Anna, 10; William, 7; Amelia, 4; Christian, six months; farmer Jacob Braman, 27; Helena, 26; and laborer Herman, 17; all of Germany. The last three individuals were children of Peter Brenneman, who died in Butler County Oct. 31. Their farm was appraised at $4,800.

Daniel's younger brother Jakob was living at Granville, Putnam County, Illinois after 1840. Other family members probably visited Illinois before the main body of the family resettled there. In 1854 the Turtle Creek farm was sold to George Jutzi/Iutzi, a son of Jakob/Jacob Jutzi/Iutzi and Maria Holly.

The journey of the parents from Ohio to Tazewell County in 1854 was recounted by Augusta Iutzi Phillips: “They came to Illinois making the trip by water from Cincinnati, Ohio on the Ohio River to Cairo, Illinois, from there to the mouth of the Illinois River, and up this river to Pekin. At this place they were met by friends with wagons and were taken to Danvers where they moved onto a farm belonging to a Mr. Naffziger, which they had rented for one year, and in the fall of that year they bought a farm of 320 acres in Boynton, Tazewell County, for which they paid $15 per acre for part and $20 for the balance...At this time there were no fences, roads, bridges or railroads on this vast prairie, one always taking the shortest route to their destination. A few houses were scattered about the prairie, and these and a huge tree or cluster of trees served as guides to the traveler. Streams were forded, and if a heavy rain came up while the traveler was across the stream, he had but to wait patiently until the swollen waters subsided ere he could return. This was sometimes a matter of several days. The nearest markets were Peoria, Pekin, and Atlanta [southeast of Tremont]. For their groceries, hardware, etc., they usually went to Tremont, where there was a general store and where they could obtain almost anything needed. Game at that time was abundant, such as wild geese, ducks, chickens, partridges, and deer.”

The parents appear on the 1860 census of Boynton living next door to sons Jacob and Joseph: farmer Dan. Brenneman, 56, Germany; Elizabeth, 54, Germany; Wm. [Wilhelm], 16, Ohio; Amelia, 14, Ohio; and Edward, 10, Ohio. In 1870 their Boynton household contained farmer Daniel Brenne[illegible], 66, Hesse-Darmstadt; Elizabeth, 64, Hesse; Wm., 23, Ohio; Edward, 21, Ohio; [son-in-law] Fred Iutzi, 28, Ohio; [daughter] Amelia, 24, Ohio; Jacob Erisman, 40, farm laborer, Hesse-Darmstadt; and Katharine Rosch, 23; domestic servant, Baden. Son Jacob Brenneman and his wife Jacobine Jutzi appear only one household removed.

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[123] The Shakers believed in "celibacy, self-denial, repression of passion, communal living and ownership of property, withdrawal from the secular world, and pacifism." They were also called The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing. The Protestant denomination was established in England in 1772, but met in New York State only two years later. After 1847 many Ohio Shakers left to join the Mormon exodus to Utah. The remaining members increased their number by adopting and converting orphans. The total national membership may have peaked at 6,000 in 1850.

In 1876 Daniel and Elizabeth celebrated their golden anniversary with a family reunion. In 1880 Daniel is found as a widower living in the Boynton household of youngest son Edward.

Children of Daniel Brenneman and Elizabeth Jutzi include:

1. Jakob/Jacob Brenneman was born at Wohra July 8, 1827, and died in Tazewell County April 6, 1887. On Nov. 20, 1853 he married Jakobine/Jacobine Jutzi. She was born on the Mittelhof estate at Felsberg (14 miles below Kassel, Hesse) March 12, 1829, and died May 5, 1926, a daughter of Christian Jutzi/Iutzi and Maria Sommer. Her family came on *A Two-Masted Brig* in 1832. They returned to Europe, then sailed from Bremen on the *Agnes*, returning to New York April 21, 1857. They are described as cabin passengers on the passenger list: farmer Jacob Brenneman, 31, and Jacobine, 27, U.S. residents with ultimate destination 'Peru, Ill.' They were accompanied by Christian Erisman (1835-1907), who became a 'German school' teacher in Woodford County. They appear on the 1860 census of Boynton as farmer Jacob Brenneman, 33, Germany; Jacobin, 31, Germany; Maria, 5, Illinois; Julia, 4, Illinois; and Albert, 2, Illinois. They are buried in Orndorff Cemetery at Hopedale.
2. Maria/Marie Brenneman was born at Wohra Feb. 24, 1829, and died at Boynton March 15, 1882. On March 3, 1853 in Butler County, Ohio she married Jacob Hauter.124 He was born in the city of Zweibrücken Nov. 9, 1823, and died at Delavan April 26, 1905, a son of Christian/Chrétien Hauter and his second wife Katharina Güngerich. They came to Tazewell County with her family in 1854. See HAUTER for more on this couple.
3. Peter Brenneman was born at Wohra Nov. 4, 1830, and died there Dec. 25, 1830.
4. Elise/Eliza Brenneman was born at Wohra Oct. 13, 1831, and died at Stanford, McLean County June 7, 1919. On Nov. 13, 1856 in Tazewell County she married Peter D. Springer; the ceremony was performed by minister John Michael Kistler. He was born at Lorquin, Moselle Sept. 5, 1826, immigrated with his parents in 1830, and died at Stanford April 24, 1916, a son of Christian Springer and Magdalena/Madeleine Engel. The 1860 census of Mosquito Grove, McLean County calls her Eliza, 27, born in Ohio; but the 1870 census of Allin (the same community under a new name) describes the household as farmer Peter D. Springer, 43, France; Eliza, 39, Hesse; and four children born in Illinois. Springer became a justice of the peace in McLean County. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford, McLean County. See SPRINGER, MCLEAN COUNTY SPRINGERS.
5. Joseph Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek May 7, 1833. On June 5, 1858 in McLean County he married Elisabeth/Elise/Eliza Ehrismann. She was born at Schrecksbach, Hesse (22 miles southeast of Wohra) Jan. 23, 1838, a daughter of Peter Erisman and Magdalena Stahly. They can be found on the 1860 census of Boynton living next door to his parents: Jos. Brenneman, 26, Ohio; Eliza, 22, Germany; and Adelia, 1, Illinois. They sold their farm in Tazewell County in 1883, and then farmed at Lincoln, Nebraska; Hubbell, Nebraska; and finally Republic County, Kansas.
6. Helene Brenneman (twin) (later known as Helen C. Brenneman) was born at Turtle Creek March 21, 1836, and died at Whiting, Iowa Feb. 2, 1915. On July 1, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Enoch Thomas Orendorff. He was born in Logan County, Kentucky Aug. 19, 1835, and died at Fergus Falls, Minnesota May 4, 1920, a son of Esau Orendorff and Mary Milliken. They are found on the 1860 census of Boynton as Thos. Orendorff, 25, Germany; Helen, 24, Germany; and Isabella, 5 months, Illinois; on the 1880 census of Hopedale; and on the 1900 census of Whiting, Iowa. In ORENDORFF we took this marriage as an indication that the Ohrendorf/Orendorf family of Spring Bay knew their distant relatives the Orendorff family of Hopedale.
7. Jacobine Brenneman (twin) was born at Turtle Creek March 21, 1836, and died there from cholera Feb. 3, 1840.
8. Christian Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek Nov. 27, 1837, and died there from cholera Feb. 9, 1840.
9. Johannes Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek in 1840, and died perhaps from cholera within a month.
10. Anna Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek Oct. 20, 1841, and died in 1914. On Sept. 20, 1859 she married Carl Philip Tomm. He was born at Salaska in Pomerania, Germany Jan. 22, 1829, immigrated in 1849, and died Jan. 13, 1876. She can be found on the 1880 census of Delavan as Anna Tomm, 38, born in Ohio to parents from Hesse-Cassel, with seven children. They are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Pekin.
11. Wilhelm/William Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek Oct. 22, 1843, and died at Kansas City, Missouri. On Dec. 24, 1878 in Tazewell County he married Emma Dettmer. She was born in Logan County Sept. 15, 1858. They are found on the 1900 census of Albion, Kansas as W. Brenneman, born in Ohio to German parents in October 1843; Emma, born in Illinois to German parents in September 1858; and two daughters born in Illinois and Nebraska.
12. Amelia Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek Jan. 3, 1845, , and died at Boynton Jan. 22, 1892. On Nov. 2, 1869 in Tazewell County she married Frederick 'Fritz' A. Iutzi; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Gingerich. He was born in Butler County Dec. 26, 1841, and died at Boynton July 5, 1911, a son of Peter Jutzi/Iutzi/Yutzi and Barbara Augspurger. Their household can be found on the 1870 census of Boynton. In 1900 the Boynton census describes farmer Fred A. Iutzi, born in Ohio in December 1841 to German parents; seven children born in Illinois; and Fred's brother Christian Iutzi. They are buried in Orndorff Cemetery at Hopedale.
13. Edward Christian Brenneman was born at Turtle Creek Dec. 9, 1849, and died at Hopedale Jan. 6, 1932. On Dec. 28, 1876 he married Laura Amelia Bender. She was born in Putnam County Sept. 14, 1856, and died in 1923. Their

[124] *Warren County, Ohio Marriage Records 1834-1854 Brides Index A-K* lists them as Mary Brenneman and Jacob Hunters.

household appears on the 1880 census of Boynton as farmer Edward Breimemann, 30, Ohio; Laura, 23, Illinois; Bertha, 2, Illinois; Ella, 1, Illinois; and Daniel [Brenneman], 76, Hesse-Darmstadt. Edward and Laura are buried in Orendorff Cemetery at Hopedale.

A Distraction: Gerberich's History

A number of genealogies including Albert Gerberich's imposing *The Brenneman History* (1938) have suggested a direct line between **Melchior Brönniman** of Diessbach and the known ancestors of the families that came to Central Illinois. Diessbach was only four miles southeast of Münsingen; in 1870 its name changed to Oberdiessbach.

Numerous sources say Melchior was born at Seftigen, Canton Bern circa 1631. We could not identify the original source. This location did not have a Protestant Reformed Church, and fell in the parish of Kirchdorf, but no Brönniman baptism entries are found there.

When Melchior's oldest child was baptized the entry identified the father as 'Melchior Brönniman *von Kisen.*' Kiesen is a hamlet five miles northwest of Steffisburg, and four miles from Seftigen, on the east bank of the Aare River. Kiesen did not have its own church, but fell in the parish of Wichtrach, the community above it. No Brönniman baptism entry was found there, or at Steffisburg.

Circa 1655 at Buchholterberg Melchior married Christina/Stini Rüsser.

On Oct. 28, 1659 Melchior was imprisoned in the castle at Thun. A *Chorgericht* entry reads: "The Mennonite Melchoir Brönnimann, a weaver from the district of Steffisburg, is held in prison in the castle at Thun. The bailiff and the pastor superior have been unable to bring him to forswear his Anabaptist convictions. He only promises to attend preaching services in the state church. The government decrees that he shall be given a period of probation; if he does not give up the Anabaptists in that time, the provisions of the recent law of August 9, 1659 shall be applied against him. According to these he shall be banished from the land, and if he should return unconverted he shall be beaten with rods and again driven away, while his property is to be confiscated." Melchior and Hans Bieri paid a fine, obtained their release, and resettled at Buchholterberg in the parish of Diessbach.

However, in 1671 Melchior had his property confiscated and given to the state church. He was banished from Canton Bern.

By Jan. 1, 1672 the family had arrived at Griesheim. This village was on the Pfrimm River, seven miles west of Worms (which stood on the west bank of the Rhine River). At the time Griesheim was also called Kresheim. In 1794 it would become Kriegsheim.

According to a letter sent by Mennonite residents of Griesheim to a minister in Holland, the family consisted of a 40-year-old man, his 35-year-old wife, and seven children between the ages of 15 years and 18 months. Their possessions included a horse, a trundle bed, bedding, and 43 rix dollars – the equivalent of no more than $47.30.125

A census of Fischbach (24 miles southwest of Griesheim) shows that the family had relocated there by April 6, 1672. It described Melchior as 40 and his wife nearly 40, with seven children. Christina/Stini's mother lived with them, and was described as someone who had been released from prison.

Melchior later obtained a hereditary lease on a strip of land at the nearby Enckenbach Abbey. A hereditary lease enables a widow or oldest son to continue leasing after the death of her husband. It is generally found in situations where land has little likelihood of increasing in value over time.

Fischbach and Enkenbach were located seven miles east of Kaiserslautern, on either side of Alsenborn. Enkenbach, Alsenborn, and Sembach are now Enkenbach-Alsenborn.

Melchior is thought to have died there in 1678.

It has been suggested that this family was influenced by William Penn when he visited the area in September of 1677. However, at the time Penn was only interested in Quaker concerns. Penn did not receive his charter for Pennsylvania until 1681, when he began to recruit non-Quakers as potential American settlers. But his fortunes were reversed by a change of governing family in England only seven years later. He was arrested for treason and had his estates seized, and was not pardoned until 1690. He hid for four years, and lost his Pennsylvania lands through sloppy business practices.

Children of Melchior Brönniman and Christina/Stini Rüsser include:

1. Christen Brönniman /Christian Brenneman was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 7, 1656, and died at Towamencin, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania July 17, 1757. He married Susanna. They arrived at Philadelphia in 1709,

[125] In this instance a rix dollar was probably a silver *thaler* minted in Saxony. A rix dollar could also be a silver coin minted in Holland or the Scandinavian countries, ranging in value from 30 cents to $1.10. Thus Melchior had coins worth no more than $47.30.

initially settling near Germantown. In 1715 he purchased 60 acres between the Schuykill River and French Creek in Lancaster County for 90 pounds.

2. Hans Brönniman /John Brenneman was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 10, 1658, and died in 1710. He married Anna Beutler.
3. Elsbeth Brönniman was baptized at Diessbach June 16, 1662.
4. Stefli Brönniman/Stephan Brenneman was baptized at Diessbach Aug. 23, 1663.
5. Anna Brönniman/Brenneman was baptized at Diessbach Oct. 29, 1665.
6. Melchior Brönniman /Brenneman (Jr.) was baptized at Diessbach Marcy 27, 1668, and died at New Danville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Jan. 20, 1737; he is buried in New Danville Mennonite Church Cemetery. He joined a group exodus from the Pfalz destined for Pennsylvania. They assembled around Mannheim, and traveled together to Rotterdam. Three ships carrying 363 Anabaptists arrived at Philadelphia Aug. 10, 17, and 24, 1717 (see KING for background). On Nov. 30 Melchior obtained a warrant for 500 acres at Stumptown, Strasburg Township, Chester County (now New Danville, Conestoga Township, Lancaster County). The New Danville Mennonite meetinghouse was constructed on this land. In America Melchior became a farmer and weaver. On Dec. 3, 1728 he purchased another 700 acres on the Susquehanna River in Lancaster County, which was cultivated by a son. His first wife could not be identified; before 1718 he remarried to Elizabeth Stehman. She was born circa 1673, and died at New Danville after 1737. Melchior already had five children in Europe, and one named Melchior was born at New Danville in 1719. His will is on file at the Lancaster County Courthouse; his family *Bible* (1553) is now in the Allen County Museum at Lima, Ohio.
7. Barbara Brönniman/Brenneman was baptized at Diessbach May 8, 1670.
8. **Adam Brönniman/Brenneman** was born at Enckenbach in the Pfalz in 1673.

In 1932 Albert Gerberich corresponded with Rudolph Schäfer of Darmstadt, an officer of the Hessian Genealogy Union [Ger. *Hessische Familienge schichtliche Vereinigung*]. Schäfer held a number of original documents pertaining to the family. He arrived at the conclusion that Melchior's youngest son Adam Brenneman was the next figure in our chain.

Adam Brenneman was born at Enckenbach in the Pfalz in 1673.

He married Katharina Würtz of adjacent Münchhof, and they farmed at Fischbach in the early 1700s.

Adam is found on a census of 19 Anabaptist heads of families in the district [Ger. *Oberampt*] of Lautern in 1717. According to Hermann Guth's *Palatine Mennonite Census Lists, 1664-1793*, in 1724 Adam was described as, "A hereditary tenant of the Enckenbach abbey, has nothing of his own, but is also a weaver. He makes a miserable living from one year to the next with much difficulty."

Circa 1732 Adam relocated to Friesenheim near Mannheim (31 miles east of Fischbach). Guth found him as a resident of Friesenheim on a 1738 report of Anabaptists obligated to pay a Kurpfalz protection fee (Ger. *Schützgeld*) for Anabaptists. In 1743 his Freisenheim household was listed as a man, a woman, one daughter, one farmhand, and one maid. A 1752 report from Friesenheim listed "Adam Brenneman, got his treasury's hereditary and temporary estate's tenancy twenty years ago already, and also bought a house. Five persons." He would have been 79 years of age.

Adam's three sons were Johannes Brenneman, who married Anna Beutler and lived at Enkenbach; Abraham Brenneman, who "left Enkenbach and probably lived for sometime at Friesenheim"; and Jakob, who was living at Enckenbach with a daughter in 1752 but may have later lived at Friedelsheim (17 miles east of Fischbach).

The Central Illinois families knew their line back to a Nikolaus Brenneman born circa 1736. Gerberich proposed that Nikolaus was a son of one of the three brothers mentioned above. However, his proposed link has not been found over the past 80 years.

Gerberich's 'near miss' was finally refuted in the 1980s, when the late German genealogist Hermann Guth found that descendants in Europe also knew about Nikolaus Brenneman born circa 1736.

Eigsti of Strasbourg

The Eigstis have a relatively new name and a colorful history. They are representative of the 'Forty-Eighters,' the second wave of families that came to the Dillon Creek meeting (later Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite Church).

The earliest form of the surname that we found related to Amish Mennonites was Augster, describing a family that moved from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to Strasbourg, Lower Alsace. Augster is a common Swiss surname found in Canton Appenzell Interrhoden, located below Lake Constance.126 It may be derived from the communities of Augst and Kaiseraugst, both built on Roman foundations along the Swiss side of the Rhine River between Basel, Switzerland and Rheinfelden, Baden.

The variation Augstein appeared about the time one family member - Nicolas - moved from Strasbourg to Bavaria. Variations on Augstein continued to be used by family members even decades after their arrival in Illinois, as shown on a number of census entries in Tazewell County (Eigstein) and Livingston County (Augstein, Augstin, Augustin, and Augustine). Eigsti was a compromise - a standardization of the surname created in Central Illinois in the 1880s.

This portion of the text has presented the greatest difficulty to research. The genealogy of the Eigsti family should probably be considered 'unsolved' until documentation can be found that tells us more about Nicolas, who died in Europe (his widow Barbara Gascho brought their children to Tazewell County). Relevant documentation may no longer exist because of gaps in civil records for the area around Munich.

Christian/Chrétien Augsti was born about 1758.

He married Elisabeth Eymann, who was also born about 1758. She was a daughter of Ulrich Eymann and Barbara Mosimann, and an aunt to the Elisabeth Eymann who married Andreas Ropp. The couple lived on the Pré du Chêne farm near Lubine, Vosges, then relocated onto Canardière [Ger. *Entenfang*], municipal park land that had been used as a duck-hunting preserve near Strasbourg in 1796-97, according to census ledgers identified by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine.

To understand their situation, it is necessary to know a little about the notorious smuggler-spy-general who became their employer and landlord at Canardière.

THE SPYMASTER SCHULMEISTER

Karl Ludwig Schulmeister was born at Neufreistett, Baden Aug. 5, 1770, the son of a Lutheran minister. The community of Neufreistett [now part of Freistett] is only 15 miles northeast of Strasbourg, on the German side of the Rhine River.

On Feb. 20, 1792, Schulmeister married Louisa Charlotta Unger, the only daughter of the mining director at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. He set himself up as an iron merchant in Neufreistett, but soon found it more profitable to smuggle goods between Baden and Alsace. At the time smuggling along the Rhine River was inextricably linked with military activities. Troops of the Austrian 8th Hussar Regiment under Field Marshal Count Dagoldert-Sigismond de Wurmser were billeted in Schulmeister's home village between 1792 and 1795. Wurmser was constantly undermined by minor German princes who provided his Alsatian counterparts with arms, food, and carts.

All of France suffered during the French Revolution of 1789 and its aftermath. Before the revolution Strasbourg had been a prosperous royal free city. The city hall was looted only two days after the storming of the Bastille at Paris. But the rise of Napoleon and a new 1,300-foot bridge across the Rhine River brought prosperity back to Strasbourg.

When a rumor circulated that Schulmeister had killed a customs agent, he chose to conduct further smuggling activities from Strasbourg. The Ungers already owned a home in the Lower Alsace city. Schulmeister purchased his own small house there in 1798.

During his early years at Strasbourg, Schulmeister profited by increased demand for goods and confusion caused by the devaluation of *assignat* currency. It was later alleged that during this time he spied on political émigrés and cultivated friendships with general staff officers.

Schulmeister was employed at various times by General Anne Jean Marie René Savary, the head of military intelligence, and Joseph Fouché, head of internal security. Fouché played both sides - Bonapartists and Royalists - and

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[126] Another derivation may come from the communities of Augst and Kaiseraugst, both built on Roman foundations along the Swiss side of the Rhine River across from Rheinfelden, Baden.

To add a bit of confusion, it might also be noted that the Swiss Augspurger family name is presumed to have been taken from the city of Augsburg (now in Bavaria). From about 1260 to the late 15th century the city flag featured a cluster of a variety of grapes called Augster, apparently in the mistaken belief that grapes had something to do with the city's name. However, it was actually founded over a Roman settlement, *Augusta Vindelicorum*.

survived the Napoleonic wars with his fortune intact. He has been described as a Jacobin fanatic with calculated cunning and no scruples.

In September of 1805, Strasbourg authorities expressed disapproval of his shady activities, and expelled him from Alsace. It later became obvious that this was a charade arranged by Savary and Fouché, giving Schulmeister an excuse to return to Baden. On the eve of his departure - Oct. 1, 1805 - Schulmeister met face-to-face with Napoleon to receive his assignment. Austrian troops were massing in Baden, and Napoleon was looking for a spy with the qualities of the smuggler: cold, logical, reckless, and greedy.

Within a few days a disguised Schulmeister managed to pass through the Austrian lines. After making a few financial arrangements with Austrian officers at the headquarters encampment, he appeared before chief of staff Karl von Mack posing as a spy for Austria. He personally provided von Mack with forged newspapers and letters that described a non-existent rebellion in Paris. Bribed officers reassured their chief of staff that the news was real, and von Mack became convinced that Napoleon was withdrawing to head west. Schulmeister was even given a liberal payment for his misinformation.

Napoleon displaced part of his troops to give the appearance of a withdrawal. When von Mack's troops took to the field on low ground for the Battle of Ulm, they found themselves surrounded by French artillery on high ground. Schulmeister's deception directly resulted in the surrender of 25,000 Austrian troops only 19 days after his meeting with Napoleon. Napoleon is supposed to have made a remark that Schulmeister "was worth 10,000 troops."

Schulmeister briefly served as commissioner-general of police in occupied Vienna before returning to Strasbourg in early 1806. There he purchased the municipal park land called Canardière at an exclusive low price. The arrangement was understood to be a gift from a grateful French nation. With the sale, 22-year-old day laborer Joseph Augster (also found as Eigst and Eigsty) became Schulmeister's employee and tenant.

Schulmeister was not content with the simple quarters at Canardière, and in 1809 he contracted an architect and a sculptor to create the elaborate Château Meinau on adjoining land. 127 The Amish Mennonite brothers Christian Augspurger, 27, and Joseph Augspurger, 23, came from Ixheim, Pfalz-Zweibrücken to be estate managers (they were born on Point du Jour farm at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines).128

Schulmeister took on a number of aliases, but at Meinau he was known as Charles Louis Schulmeister or 'Monsieur de Meinau.' The onetime smuggler became a millionaire celebrity. In Meinau's first year Schulmeister's wife received visits from the Empress Josèphine, Queen Hortense of Westphalia, and the Grand Duchess of Baden.129 He spent lavishly to entertain diplomats and officers over the next four years.

According to Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, the Strasbourg population register shows more than 40 individuals with familiar Amish Mennonite surnames working at Canardière 1798-1811, including 'Eigsty,' Augspurger, Egli, Eyer, Gerber, Lauber, Müller, Ummel, and Zimmerman.

The good life came to an end with the disastrous Russian Campaign of 1812. Baden went over to the allied coalition, and allied troops approached Strasbourg Jan. 5, 1814. A light force encircled the city for three months, while the majority moved on. Typhus broke out in the city, resulting in 600 civilian deaths. Paris surrendered March 31, and Napoleon abdicated unconditionally April 11. Strasbourg finally flew a white flag above its cathedral, and Meinau was sacked by Austrian troops. A warrant was issued for Schulmeister's arrest, and his brother in Baden was imprisoned.

On Dec. 23, 1814, the Parisian prefect of police suggested that Schulmeister should be exiled for the good of the French nation. The concern was ignored, but helped to fuel rumors that Schulmeister was visiting Napoleon in exile on Elba.

The failure of Napoleon's return from exile during the 'Hundred Days' tarnished Schulmeister's image even more. On March 1, 1815, Napoleon escaped from Elba and landed in southern France. The troops sent to arrest him instead pledged their allegiance and escorted him to Fountainebleau. Schulmeister's son Charles-Isidore, who was serving in the National Guard, rode from Paris to Fountainebleau to personally notify Napoleon that Louis XVIII had fled.

On March 20 it was reported that Karl Ludwig Schulmeister was in Vienna. It was suspected that he had engaged in an abortive plot to kidnap Napoleon's son from Austrian custody at Schönbrunn Palace.

When Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo, the British exiled him to the island of St. Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean. Schulmeister was arrested in September 1815 and taken to a fortress at Wesel, Prussia, but was released after just two months. After being forced to make public apologies for his conduct during the wars, he wrote and published a pamphlet, *Fragments of the life of Schulmeister of Meinau, accused of having been the favorite spy of Napoleon*. It was meant to exonerate his actions.

Schulmeister lived under police surveillance until 1827. Some biographies say that in later years he reverted to smuggling or ran a tobacconist's stand at Strasbourg. It is only certain that he was not impoverished. On Sept. 27, 1827 at Strasbourg his youngest daughter Joséphine Adèle Schulmeister married Pierre Joseph Charles Louis Garat. He was the son of Baron Martin Garat, who had been the director general of Napoleon's Bank of France. Pierre established a branch of

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[127] The château was named for Meinau, an island in Lake Constance on the border of Baden, Austria, and Switzerland. Meinau may have been incidental to his early smuggling activities. It is now the name of Strasbourg's soccer stadium.

[128] Joseph Augspurger later managed another Schulmeister estate at Boissy-Saint-Léger near Paris.

[129] The empress's luck was about to run out. On Jan. 10, 1810, Napoleon divorced Josèphine to remarry to Austrian Duchess Marie Louise, for a child who could be a legitimate heir. Josephine retired to the Château de Malmaison near Paris and died four years later, in the same month that Napoleon abdicated unconditionally.

the commercial Bank of France at Strasbourg, and served as its director 1846-71. In 1848, Schulmeister received a visit from the president of the Second Republic (and later emperor) Louis Napoleon that helped to restore his reputation. He was buried in Saint Urbain Cemetery at Strasbourg in 1853.

In 1817, Meinau estate manager Christian Augspurger made his first trans-Atlantic voyage. He took his family to Pennsylvania, then went on to scout for land in the Miami River Valley north of Cincinnati. The following year he returned to Europe.

By 1818, both Canardière and Meinau had fallen into disrepair. In 1819 former estate manager Christian Augspurger and his close relatives at Meinau sailed for America. Although more than 60 individuals made the voyage, no members of the Augspurger branch at Canardière were included in the party.

We have identified four children of Christian/Chrétien Augsti and Elisabeth Eymann:

1. Jean Augster, also known as Augsti, was born at Bevrault, St. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace June 26, 1783, and died at Guewenheim, Upper Alsace Dec. 15, 1825. On July 31, 1813 at Breitenbach, Lower Alsace he married Marie Sommer. She was born at Hohwald, Breitenbach Dec. 4, 1788, and died at Menoncourt, Belfort April 26, 1843, a daughter of Jean Sommer and Elisabeth Zendner. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a cultivator, a son of Chrétien Augster and Elisabeth Eymann who were residents of Strasbourg who were present and consenting. The bride was described as a daughter of cultivator Jean Sommer, who had died at Hohwald June 23, 1797, and Elisabeth Zeuer, who was present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Pierre Brechbiehl, 50, stepfather of the bride. Their children include:
    a. Madeleine Augster was born at Bouxwiller Aug. 11, 1810. On June 19, 1845 at Menoncourt she married Joseph Gerig.
    b. Marie Augster was born at Breitenbach Dec. 18, 1815, and died at Menoncourt Feb. 20, 1866. On March 10, 1836 at Menoncourt she became the second wife of Christian Klopfenstein. He was born in 1786, and died in 1863, a son of Jean Klopfenstein and Catherine Richard.
2. Joseph Augster was born circa 1784, and died at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges (seven miles northwest of La Broque) June 11, 1832. He was a day laborer at Canardière. He also appears in Strasbourg documentation as Augstin, Eigst, and Eigsty. Sometime before 1810, Joseph Augster married Barbara/Barbe Augspurger at Canardière. Barbara was born circa 1784, and died at Strasbourg May 22, 1832, one of four children of Noé Augspurger and Anna Müller. Joseph died in the home of his daughter Barbe at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges; Barbe and Joseph Dellenbach had been married there only five months earlier. The civil death entry created the following day stated that Augster was a 48-year-old operator from Strasbourg, married to 'Barbe Augsburger.' Joseph Augster's father-in-law Noé Augspurger remarried to Anna Maria Heiser in 1807 and left the area of Strasbourg to resettle at Hanfeld, Bavaria; he died there after 1831. Children of Joseph Augster and Barbara Augspurger born at Strasbourg include:
    a. Barbe Augster was born Aug. 13, 1810. On Jan. 21, 1832 at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges she married Joseph Dellenbach. He was born at Lagarde, Moselle Feb. 2, 1801 (this date should be verified because it conflicts with the stated birth date of a younger sister), and died at Turquestein, Moselle July 24, 1844, a son of Christian Dellenbach and Barbe Schrensberg (her signature is found as 'Trensberg' and 'Schvensberg'); for more on this couple see DELLENBACH). The entry said that her parents, cultivator Joseph Augster and Barbe Augsburger, were present and consenting. On April 8, 1847 at Hermelange, Moselle she remarried to Jean Kempf, a son of André Kempf and Madeleine Abresol.
    b. Joseph Augster was born Feb. 8, 1812.
    c. Valentine Augstein/Augstin was born June 17, 1813, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Nov. 5, 1872. He married three times. On Aug. 14, 1848 at Turquestein he married Freni/Véronique Bacher. She was born at Ranrupt, Lower Alsace (near Saales) March 25, 1822 (her civil birth entry called her 'Freni Pecheur'), and died at Turquestein April 5, 1850, a daughter of Michel Bäecher and Magdalena Neuhauser. On Dec. 18, 1850 at Turquestein he remarried to Marie Lehmann. Marie was born at Saulcy-sur-Meurthe, Vosges Oct. 19, 1824 and died at Turquestein Oct. 27, 1851. On March 13, 1859 in McLean County he married third wife Anna König/King in McLean County. Anna was born Nov. 4, 1822, and died at Nebraska, Livingston County Aug. 20, 1903, a daughter of Johannes König and Jakobea Reidiger. They moved to Livingston County in 1868. *Herald of Truth*, December 1872: "Died on the 5th of November, in Livingston co., Ill., of inflammation of the nerves and bladder, Valentine Augstein, aged 51years and ten months. He was buried the 7th in the presence of many relatives and acquaintances. He was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church, and a co-laborer in the vineyard of the Lord, leaving a deeply grieved wife and five children to mourn their loss. We hope that he is now resting from his labors in heaven, where he frequently desired to be. Funeral services were delivered by Jacob Naffziger, of Woodford Co., Ill., at the house, from *2 Cor., 15* and a very impressive exhortation at the graveyard; by Christian Schloegel at the church from *Ps. 103*, and by the writer from *1 Thess. 4:13-18*." Anna King is found as 56-year-old widow Anna Augstin on the 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County, with children Daniel, 20; 'Pheby,' 18; and Christian, 16. Valentine and Anna are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan as Valentin Augstein and Anna Augstein.

3. Chrétien Augsti was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 7, 1788, and was living at Strasbourg in 1816. His marriage entry identifies him as a son of cultivator Christian Augsti and Elisabeth Eymann. On Jan. 3, 1816 he married Elisabeth Hürster at Strasbourg. She was born at Altenheim, Baden (13 miles southeast of Strasbourg) March 25, 1794. She was a daughter of miller David Hürster, who had died at Altenheim March 1, 1813, and Elisabeth Schlagel, who had died at Altenheim April 3, 1815. Chrétien Augsti and Elisabeth Eymann were present at their wedding. Announcement *bans* had been posted two weeks before at Altenheim. The marriage entry acknowledged that the couple had a 3-month-old child, Elisabeth, born at Altenheim Sept. 18, 1815. It was signed 'Christian Augsti.' Their children born at Strasbourg include:
    a. Marie Augsti was born Aug. 4, 1823, and died Aug. 17, 1827.
    b. Barbe Augsti was born June 3, 1825.
    c. Louise Augsti was born April 26, 1837, and died Jan. 22, 1864.
4. In 1818 **Nicolas Augster** left Strasbourg and moved with others to Bavaria.

In Bavaria Nicolas was known as **Nicholas Augustin**. Circa 1822 he married Barbara Gascho. She was born at Desseling, Moselle Nov. 10, 1800, and died at Macon, Bureau County Dec. 26, 1880, a daughter of Andreas/André Gascho and Anna Zwalter.

From circa 1829 to 1841 the couple farmed on the grounds of the castle estate of major general Maximilian *Graf* von Spreti at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria (five miles north of Dachau, in the northwestern suburbs of Munich; see BIRKY/BIRKEY for more on this location; its records are found at Pellheim). Nicholas served as a minister for the Mennonite congregation there.130

Herbert Holly has provided this list of Augustin children from the archives at Munich. It was found with Catholic education documents noting children in the area. "The castle tenant has the following children...": Marie Augustin in Unterweilbach; Katharina in Unterwielbach; Barbara in Unterwielbach; and at Pellheim Joseph, Christian, Jakob, Magdalena, Jakobina, Veronica, and Elisabetha.

After the death of their last child Elisabetha, they relocated 33 miles northeast. A note found by Herbert Holly in the Pellheim Death Register says, "This Nicolaus Augustin on Nov. 30, 1841 with his wife and children moved into the parish of the Lambach Church near Moosburg, where he has purchased the Schillerhof."

The weather throughout Europe was especially severe in the fall of 1847, causing the harvest to fail. Resulting food shortages sparked rioting. A chain of uprisings in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna culminated in the German near-revolution of 1848-49. King Ludwig I of Bavaria was forced to abdicate in favor of his son. In September of 1848 the army of Bavaria helped to suppress radical democrats. The attempted revolution failed, and its reforms were reversed within a few years.

Many Bavarians who had quietly hoped for the success of the German near-revolution left for political reasons or departed to avoid conscription. They were called 'Forty-Eighters.'131 They joined famine immigrants on overcrowded ships leaving Bremen, Hamburg, and Le Havre. The Steerage Act of 1819 that required documentation of immigrants had also limited the number of passengers a ship could carry (two per five tons); this limitation was relaxed at the beginning of the year.132

The children of Nicholas Augustin and Barbara Gascho started their lives with the surname Augustin. Several of those who came to America saw their names spelled 'Augstein' and 'Eigstein' on census records. A few died as 'Eigsti.' For the sake of simplicity, they are all given here as Eigsti. Children of Nicholas Augustin and Barbara Gascho born at Pellheim, Bavaria include:

1. Maria/Mary Eigsti was born Feb. 2, 1823, and died Jan. 17, 1904. She is buried in Willow Springs Mennonite Cemetery at Tiskilwa, Bureau County.

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130 According to Hermann Hage, Nicholas Augustin was listed as a minister of the Mennonite congregation of Munich in January 1836 in a letter from the *'Evangelischen Dekanats München*' to the *'Evangelische Oberkonsistorium München*.'

131 The most famous 'Forty-Eighter' in Illinois was Frederick Hecker (1811-1881). In Germany he was considered the leader of the Republican left. He fled from Baden into Switzerland after a failed uprising. He arrived at Cincinnati in 1848, where he established the first gymnastics club in America. He returned to Germany briefly in 1849, but within a year he was back in America, where he purchased a farm between Summerfield and Belleville, St. Clair County. In September 1862 he created the patchwork 82nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment at Springfield. The regiment began as a German-speaking unit in a German-speaking division of a German corps. See GINGERICH for background on its record in the Civil War, where it suffered over 65 percent casualties. Christian Gingerich of Woodford County and Michael Ritthaler of Tazewell County were three-year privates in Company E. Hecker was eventually disabled by wounds and resigned his commission March 4, 1864, retiring to his Illinois farm.

132 The overcrowding of famine immigrants and subsequent rapid spread of disease aboard ships peaked in November 1853, when 28 packet ships reached New York. 13,762 immigrants disembarked, but another 1,141 were listed as fatalities.

2. Katharina/Catherine Eigsti was born circa 1825. She sailed from Le Havre, and appears on the passenger list of the brig *Daniel Kilby* as "Cath. Augustin, 21," arriving at New Orleans Nov. 22, 1846 with her sister Barbara, 'Little Red Birkys' Joseph, Valentine, Magdalena, and Elizabeth; and the couple Christian Beckler and Jacobine Holly. Family notes say she married John Birkey/Burcky. An entry appears in the *Putnam County, Illinois Marriage Index* for the marriage of 'John Berke' and 'Catherine Eicksty' in 1847.
3. Barbara Eigsti was born Jan. 23, 1827, and died at Milford, Nebraska Aug. 6, 1911. She is buried at East Fairview Church Cemetery at Milford. 133 On Aug. 22, 1847 she married Joseph Birky/Birkey. He was born at Gern near Munich May 7, 1816, and died at Milford, Nebraska May 13, 1902, a son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker. From *Roanoke Centennial History:* "Joseph Birkey was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1816. He came to the United States in 1844, and settled first in New Orleans, Louisiana. He then moved to Tazewell County for one year, then returned to Germany. He married Barbara Eikstein in Bavaria, then returned to the United States. Twenty years after returning from Germany, the Birkeys moved from Tazewell County and settled on a 260-acre farm in Roanoke Township and raised eight children." Actually, 20-year-old Barbara was not yet married to Joseph when they sailed on the brig *Daniel Kilby*. *Gospel Herald*, August 1917: "Barbara (Eigstein) Birkey was born Jan. 23, 1827; died Aug. 6, 1911; aged 84 y. 6 m. 12 d. She was united in marriage Aug. 22, 1847, with Joseph Birkey and lived in matrimony 55 y. 6 m. To this union were born four sons and six daughters. Her husband, two brothers, five sisters, two sons, one daughter, and 13 grandchildren preceded her to the spirit world. Two sons, five daughters, 44 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters and a host of relatives and friends mourn her departure. Sister Birkey was a faithful member in the A. M. Church from youth. She lost her eyesight 13 years ago. She suffered much in her last days, but bore all patiently to the end. She was laid to rest in the East Fairview Cemetery near Woodriver, Nebr. Services by the brethren, Christian Rediger and Jos. Whitaker."
4. Joseph Eigsti was born April 19, 1830, and died at Washburn, Woodford County Dec. 16, 1899. On May 27, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Susan Nafziger. She was born in Illinois Oct. 19, 1837, and died at Morton July 27, 1877, a daughter of Daniel Nafziger and Elizabeth Summer. She is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove. The family appears on the 1860 census of Morton, where Joseph is listed as 'Joseph Ickstine' (however, this was the same year that the Stakers and others purposely misspelled their surnames to avoid conscription later). He and wife Susan, ages 28 and 22, gave their birthplaces as Germany. Their children include Elizabeth, four; Christian, two; and Barbara, one, all born in Illinois. They appear on the 1870 census of Morton as 'Joseph Eigstein,' 40, a farmer born at Berne'; Susan, 35, keeping house and born in Illinois; and nine children. The 1880 census of Morton shows Joseph as a 50-year-old widower named 'Eigstin' with seven children. *Gospel Herald*, April 1900: "Eigsti. - On the 16th of Dec. 1899, near Washburn, Woodford Co., Ill., Jos. Eigsti, aged 69 years, 7 months and 27 days. He died very suddenly. He had not been well however for several weeks and had expressed his willingness to depart whenever the messenger of death would come, having the living hope of a bright hereafter. . . On the day of his departure he had partaken of dinner as usual, after which he went to his room and sat down in his rocking chair. An hour afterwards his daughter, going to his room, found he was dead. He had evidently passed quietly away a few minutes before. He was the father of four sons and seven daughters. His wife and two daughters preceded him to the spirit world. The remains were laid to rest in the Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery."
5. **Christian Eigsti** was born Feb. 15, 1832 according to his gravestone at Landes Mennonite Cemetery. He died at Morton March 5, 1903.
6. Jakob/Jacob Eigsti was born Aug. 15 or 21, 1833, and died at Middlebury, Indiana March 5, 1914. His birth entry at Pellheim described his mother as *'aus Frankreich Dep*. Saarboug.' On Oct. 29, 1863 he married Veronica 'Fannie' Albrecht. She was born at Hennepin Sept. 9, 1844, and died Sept. 26, 1903, a daughter of Peter Albrecht and Catherine Burkey. They farmed 160 acres at Macon, Bureau County. *Gospel Herald*, March 1914: "Jacob Eigsti was born Aug. 15, 1833, in Bavaria, Germany; passed away at the home of his son, John, near Middlebury, Ind., Mar. 5, 1914; aged 80y. 6m. 20d. At the age of 19 he came to this country. Oct. 29, 1863, he was married to Fannie Albrecht of Bureau Co., Ill. To this union there were born three children. The daughter who was married to John Gingerich died in 1908, two sons, William of Bureau Co., Ill., and John of Middlebury, Ind., are still living. His wife preceded him to the eternal world 11 years ago. He is also survived by one sister, and one brother; also 16 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Bro. Eigsti accepted his Savior in his youth and united with the Mennonite Church of which he remained a faithful member until the end. Services at the home of his son near Middlebury, Ind., by the brethren, A.J. Hostetler and D.D. Miller, from *II Cor.5:1*, after which the body was shipped to his former home near Tiskilwa, Ill., where services were conducted at the Willow Springs A.M. Church by Jacob Ringenberg and C.A. Hartzler from *Phil. 4:5*, last clause. *Gospel Herald*, October 1903: "On the 26th of Sept. 1903, near Lombardville, of cancer, Veronica, wife of Jacob Eighsti, aged 59 Y., 17 D. She suffered for many months and bore all patiently till the Lord finally called her away from all sorrow and suffering. She leaves a sorrowing husband, two sons, one daughter, 13 grandchildren, a brother and sister to mourn her death. She was a devoted Christian and member of the Mennonite church. Funeral services were held in the Mennonite M.H. near Willow Springs on the

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[133] In 1875 ministers from McLean County visited Amish Mennonites in Seward County, Nebraska to help them observe their first communion. The settlement drew many Alsatian latecomers from Central Illinois hoping to purchase inexpensive prairie land. At Milford they joined others from Iowa and Ontario to establish a church in 1878. Their migration dovetailed on the sale of railroad property and earlier settlement by Civil War veterans.

29th, Bish. Jacob Burkey of this place officiating in German, and Bish. Jonathan Kurtz of Topeka, Ind., in English, from *Heb. 9:27*. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

7. Magdalena 'Lena' Eigsti was born Oct. 23, 1835, and died at Pekin May 13, 1906. On April 30, 1854 in Tazewell County she married Henry Birky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Birkey. He was born at Gern near Munich Feb. 2, 1831, and died at Groveland Aug. 4, 1918, a son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. On the 1870 census of Morton they gave their birthplaces as 'Berne.' They can also be found on the same page of the 1880 census of Morton as brother Joseph Eigsti, where they listed their birthplaces as France (Henry) and Bavaria (Magdalena). On Sept. 3, 1883 their son Nicholas Birkey married Matilda 'Tilly' Staker, the youngest child of Joseph Staker and Frena Roth.
8. Jakobina/Jacobine 'Phoebe' Eigsti was born Aug. 7, 1838, and died at Tiskilwa, Bureau County Nov. 25, 1913. Her Pellheim birth entry described her mother as *'aus Frankreich Saarbourg.'* On June 5, 1859 in Tazewell County she married Christian Zehr; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Mannried (27 miles northwest of Munich) Aug. 1, 1831, and died at Providence, Bureau County Oct. 4, 1891, a son of Daniel Zehr and his first wife Barbara Ingold.
9. Veronica 'Fannie' Eigsti was born April 12, 1840 (the entry was created at Pellheim), and died at Milford, Nebraska Nov. 9, 1921. On Feb. 8, 1862 she married André/Andrew Hauter (also found as Andrew R. Hauter). He was born at Claven, France (we could not identify the present name of this location) Oct. 27, 1837, and died at Milford Feb. 24, 1929. He sailed from Le Havre with his family on the *Confederation*, and arrived at New York Nov. 21, 1854. They are found on the passenger list as Jean Hauter, 44; Françoise [misspelled as Francois], 43; André, 18; Joseph, 14; Jacobine, 20; Madelein, 6; and Lisa, 2. He relocated from Butler County, Ohio to Groveland before 1859. On Feb. 8, 1862 he married Fannie Eigsti. In 1866 they relocated to Indiantown/Tiskilwa, Bureau County; in 1882 to Wyanet, Bureau County; in 1887 to Elmerdaro, Kansas (now called Elmendaro); in 1907 to Beaver Crossing, Nebraska; and finally in 1919 to Milford. They are found on the 1900 census of Elmerdaro has landlord Andrew Hauter, 61, born in France in November 1828 , immigrated in 1854; and Fannie, 60, born in Germany in April 1840, immigrated in 1854. *Gospel Herald*, March 1929: "Andrew Hauter was born Oct. 27, 1837 in Claven, France; died Feb. 24, 1929, at the home of his adopted daughter, Mrs. John Sutter, Milford, Nebr.; aged 91 y. 3 m. 27 d. When a young man he came to America, first to the state of Ohio, later to Illinois and Kansas, and in 1902 he moved to Milford, Nebr., where he lived the remainder of his life. On Feb. 8, 1862, he was married to Fannie Eigsti, who died Nov. 9, 1921. In his youth he accepted Christ as his Savior and united with the Amish Mennonite Church and remained faithful until death. Besides his adopted daughter and her husband, who tenderly cared for him the last seven years of his life, he leaves one brother, Joseph Hauter, Tiskilwa, Ill., five nephews, six nieces, besides many relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the Milford A. M. Church on Feb. 27, 1929, conducted by L. O. Schlegel assisted by Warren Eicher. Burial in East Fairview Mennonite cemetery."
10. Elisabetha Eigsti was born Aug. 14, 1841, and died eight days later on Aug. 21. Her death was recorded at Pellheim as Elisabeth Augustin.
11. John Eigsti was born in 1843, and died at Milford, Nebraska June 8, 1925. On March 20, 1879 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Miller.[134] She was born Oct. 25, 1854, and died Nov. 20, 1926, a daughter of Elizabeth Sutter and her first husband Joseph Miller. They are found on the 1880 census of Macon, Bureau County. They later moved to Nebraska. They are buried in Blue Mound Cemetery at Milford, Nebraska.

In 1849, Nicholas's son 17-year-old **Christian Eigsti** left Europe. His party included the widower Valentine Birky of Gern (now part of Munich) with the youngest five of his 13 children; Jacob Stalter (found as 'Stalder') and his new wife Barbara Birkey, a niece of Valentine Birky; 67-year-old Daniel Zehr of Hanfeld (located 18 miles southwest of Munich near Lake Starnberg); Daniel's nephew David Springer (born at Struth like the Zehrs) and his wife Elizabeth Guth of Solln (a suburb on the southern edge of Munich), who later settled at Hopedale; George Ritthaler (found on the passenger list as George 'Riedthaler,' 30, who became an Elm Grove resident); Andreas Oesch, 26, of Hanfeld (a son of Andreas Oesch and Catherine Augspurger/Katharina Augsburger); and Elizabeth Egli, 50, of Hanfeld.

They sailed from Bremen via Liverpool to New York, where they arrived on the *Minnesota* June 21. From there many in the group traveled directly to Central Illinois. Their fares from New York to Chicago would have been about $9.50. This would have been equivalent to about $250 in modern buying power.[135]

Nicholas Augustin died in Bavaria in 1850. The following year, widow Barbara Gascho followed the path of her son to America. She emigrated with the remaining children from Europe through New York and traveled directly to Illinois. The Augustin family was reunited at Morton.

Barbara Gascho can be found as 80-year-old 'Barbaray' on the 1880 census of Macon, Bureau County living in this household of her son John and his wife Barbara Miller. She died at Macon Dec. 26, 1880, and was buried in Willow Springs Mennonite Cemetery at Tiskilwa. *Herald of Truth*, April 1881: "Eigsti. - December 26th, in

[134] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists him as John Eigstein.

[135] Measured against the *Consumer Price Index*.

Bureau Co., Ill., Sister Barbara Eigsti, at the advanced age of 81 years. She was a faithful sister in the Amish Mennonite church. Services by A. Oesch and Joseph Buerky."

The 1860 census of Tremont shows farmer Christian Egstane [**Christian Eigsti**], 26, Germany; Barbaray, 30; Jacob, 24; Mary, 28; Fanny, 19; John, 13; and laborer John, 18. The same year's census of Morton describes farmer Joseph Ickstine, 28, from Germany; Susan, 22, from Germany; and children born in Illinois Elizabeth, 4; Christian, 2; and Barbara, 1.

In 1863 the brothers divided their 240 acres (two miles south of Morton center) into three equal parts. Christian sold his third. The 1864 plat map shows only an 80-acre property remaining, owned by 'J. Eigston.' On March 1, 1865 Christian purchased 160 acres slightly closer to the center of Morton for $8,000.

Christian's brothers Jacob and John later resettled at Macon, Bureau County. They can be found on the same page of the 1880 census as 48-year-old farmer Jacob 'Eighsti,' 48, born in Bavaria with both parents born in Bavaria; 'Franica' [Veronica Albrecht], 34; with three children born in Illinois; and 36-year-old farmer John 'Eighsti,' born in Bavaria with both parents born in Bavaria; 'Barbaray' [Barbara Miller], 26. John's houseguests included his 80-year-old mother 'Barbaray' [Barbara Gascho], and 55-year-old sister Mary.

Christian was probably born 'Augustin,' but chose the spelling 'Eigstin' throughout most of his life. He worshipped with the Dillon Creek meeting, and in 1879 served on the committee that supervised construction of the Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite Church. It is appropriate that he worshipped with the 'Ropp Church' - he had been a second cousin to Elisabeth Eymann, the wife of Andreas Ropp who had died in Ohio in 1834.136

In 1888 Christian was naturalized in Tazewell County as 'Christian Eigstin.'

Christian Eigsti would have three more marriages.

On Feb. 5, 1863 at Eureka, Woodford County, Christian 'Eigstin' married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Orendorff. She was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County July 21, 1844, and died of typhoid June 26, 1881, a daughter of Daniel Ohrendorf/Orendorf and Katharina Albrecht. They are listed on the 1870 census of Morton as 'Christian Eigstein,' a 35-year-old farmer from Bern; Elizabeth, 26, born in Illinois; and four children. Elizabeth's 70-year-old father Daniel Ohrendorf/Orendorf of Hesse-Darmstadt and two younger brothers were living with them. They are listed on the 1880 census of Morton (at the same address) as 'Christ Eigstin,' 45, and Elizabeth, 36, with seven children. Elizabeth is buried at Landes Mennonite Cemetery, where her stone in the Eigsti grouping says, "Lizzie wife of C. died June 27, 1881 at 36 years, 11 months, nine days." Her father is buried nearby.

Children of Christian Eigsti and Elizabeth Orendorff include:

1. Christian Eigsti was born Jan. 15, 1864, and died July 26, 1873 (also found as July 27). He is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery.
2. John Eigsti was born at Morton March 29, 1865, and died March 18, 1939. He is buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. On Nov. 1, 1892 he married Lena Springer. She was born at Hopedale Nov. 21, 1869, and died at Shickley, Nebraska June 17, 1948, a daughter of John Springer and his wife Elizabeth. *Gospel Herald*, July 1948: "Eigsti. - Lena, daughter of John and Elizabeth Springer, was born on a farm near Hopedale, Ill., Nov. 21, 1869; passed away at the Proctor Hospital, Peoria, Ill., after a short illness, June 17, 1948; aged 78 y. 26 d. On Nov. 1, 1892, she was united in marriage to John Eigsti, of Morton, Ill., who passed away on March 24, 1939. They opened their home to two infant girls, rearing them as their own. In her youth she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church... Surviving are two daughters (Mrs. Robert Yordy, Morton, Ill., with whom she made her home the last eight years; and Mrs. Carl Holloway, Hopedale, Ill.), 11 grandchildren, one sister (Mrs. Mary Nafziger, Foosland, Ill.), and one brother (David Springer, also of Foosland). Funeral services were conducted June 20 by N. N. Roeschley, Simon Litwiller, and L. A. Bachman. Burial was made in the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
3. Daniel Eigsti was born June 12, 1867, and died Nov. 16, 1898. He is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Catherine 'Katie' Eigsti was born April 5, 1869, and died Nov. 5, 1948. On Jan. 31, 1889 she married Jonas Litwiller. He was born June 13, 1865, and died May 7, 1944. *Gospel Herald*, November 1947: "Litwiller.- Katie, daughter of Christian and Elisabeth (Orendorff) Eigsti, was born near Morton, Ill., April 5, 1869; passed away Nov. 5, 1947; aged 78 y. 7 m. On Jan. 31, 1889, she was united in marriage to Jonas Litwiller, who predeceased her three years ago. Surviving are five children (Elmer, Tremont, Ill.; Luella Staker, Groveland, Ill.; Albert, Morton, Ill.; Lester, Wooster, Ohio; Raymond, Camp Kilmcr, N.J.), 14 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, two brothers (Jacob and Joseph, of Morton), two stepbrothers (Christ Yordy, Morton, Ill.; and Alvin Smith, Tiskilwa, Ill.), one sister (Mrs. Joe Schrock, Flanagan, Ill.), and one half-sister (Mrs. Alvin Bachman, Upland, Calif.), and one stepsister (Mrs. Andrew Bachman, Roanoke, Ill.). One sister and two brothers preceded her in death. In her youth she confessed Christ as her Saviour and joined the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Church. She was quiet and unassuming, exemplifying her beliefs. Funeral services were held at the Morton Church, in charge of Simon Litwiller, Noah N. Roeschley and Paul Rupp.

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[136] Christian Eigsti's paternal grandmother was Elisabeth Eymann (married to Christian Augsti), a younger sister to Johannes Eymann (married to Anna Goldschmidt), who was the father of Elisabeth Eymann (married to Andreas Ropp).

Interment was made in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery, near Tremont, Ill." On Feb. 2, 1921 their daughter Luella Litwiller married Harvey Staker, the youngest child of Christian Staker and Magdalena Ropp.

5. Barbara Eigsti was born Jan. 16, 1871, and died Aug. 15, 1927. She married Joseph Saltzman, who was born May 17, 1865, and died June 22, 1913.
6. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Eigsti was born Oct. 5, 1872, and died Oct. 26, 1963. She married Joseph Schrock, who was born Aug. 31, 1870, and died March 13, 1953, a son of Andrew Schrock and Catherine Kramer.
7. Jacob Eigsti was born Feb. 15, 1876, and died July 23, 1949. He married Lydia Gerig. She was born March 2, 1873, and died Sept. 9, 1955. They are found living next to Jacob's father on the 1900 census of Morton. Jacob farmed the original Eigsti homestead until 1938, when he moved closer to the center of Morton. He served as vice president and director of the Morton State Bank, and on the Morton Township High School board of education. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove.
8. Joseph Eigsti was born April 24, 1879, and died Dec. 8, 1963. He married Lydia Kurtz. She was born Nov. 25, 1882, and died May 28, 1965. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove.

Christian remarried to second wife Barbara Beller at Indiantown, Bureau County March 5, 1882. She was born at Bambois de Plaine (above Plaine) March 22, 1847, a daughter of Jacob Beller and Elizabeth Chérique/Shirch.[137] The clearing of Bambois between Les Quelles and Plaine was the site of a lumber mill and Anabaptist cemetery, and was home to Ropps before they migrated down from the Vosges Mountains. Barbara is buried at Landes Mennonite Cemetery, where her stone in the Eigsti grouping says, "Barbara wife of C. died May 25, 1887 at 40 years, two months, three days." Christian Eigsti and Barbara Beller had only one child:

9. Mary Eigsti was born Sept. 12, 1886, and died Aug. 20, 1975. She married Alvin D. Bachman. He was born April 26, 1883, and died in November 1974.

Christian's third wife was Barbara Jordy/Yordy. She was born on the Grossprüfening estate (now a neighborhood on the west side of Regensburg) Dec. 14, 1853, a daughter of Jacob Jordy and Magdalena Schantz. She sailed from Hamburg aboard the steamship *Hammonia* in late May of 1884. Following a stopover at Le Havre, the ship continued on to New York, where it arrived June 27, 1884. The arrival passenger list names wife 'Babette Jordy', 28, as a native of 'Bavary' (Bavaria) with son 'Christ', 4.[138] The pair disembarked at Castle Garden. The immigrant processing station was located on a small island off the southwest tip of Manhattan, and was active 1855-1890. It is now called the Castle Clinton National Monument. (Ellis Island took on its functions in 1892; most immigration documents of the period were lost when the original wooden structure there was destroyed by fire in 1897).

In 1888, Christian Eigsti of Morton approached Barbara with an offer of marriage. Although he was many years her senior, his household held nine motherless children, ranging from 1 to 24 years of age. She agreed to become his third wife, provided that her son would be treated equally with the others and that he be given land in the future. They were married in the home of Peter Yordy at Roanoke, Woodford County Oct. 1, 1888. Minister Christian Ropp performed the ceremony. Gary L. Yordy located their marriage license at the Woodford County Registry. It states that Barbara Yordy was 37 at the time of marriage, which was her first marriage and his third; that Barbara lived at Roanoke; and that Christian lived at Morton. Barbara's parents were identified as Jacob Yordy [Jordy] and Magdalena Shants [Schantz], and Christian's were identified as Nicolas Eigsti and Barbara Gascho. (Gary L. Yordy proposes that Peter Yordy may have been Barbara's uncle, and that Barbara was living with his family, since it is Amish custom to marry in the home of the bride).

She lived only six more years, dying at Morton Sept. 20, 1894. She was buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. Her headstone gives no birth date, but her age at death, 42.

Barbara's only known child Christian 'Chris H.' Yordy was born Feb. 20, 1880, and died at Morton Feb. 27, 1958. He inherited 80 acres at Flanagan, Livingston County in 1903. On Feb. 16, 1904 at Tremont he married Magdalena 'Lena' Staker. She was born at Tremont April 19, 1883, and died at Morton Feb. 3, 1964, a daughter of Nicholas Staker Jr. and Jakobina 'Bena' Roth.

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[137] Jacob Beller was born at Plaine Aug. 23, 1803, and died there in 1876; Elizabeth Chérique/Shirch was born at Bourg-Bruche June 9, 1815, and died at Plaine in 1871.

[138] 'Babette Jordy' appeared in a bracketed group of 11 passengers from Bavaria. All but one are known to have been Mennonites. The group includes Joseph Ackermann, 38, and his wife Anna, 33, with three children. The Ackermanns can be found on the 1900 census of Waldo, Livingston County, where his birth date is given as March 1848 (making his correct age 36 in 1884) and hers as 1851 (matching the passenger list); other names on the same census page include Stalter and Good [Guth]; the page before includes Albrecht, Augsburger, Ingold, and Zehr.

Gospel Herald, March 1964: "Yordy, Lena, daughter of Nicholas and Bena (Roth) Staker, was born at Morton, Ill., April 19, 1883; passed away in her sleep at the home of her son, Russell, Morton, Feb. 3, 1964; aged 80 y. 9 m. 15 d. On Feb. 16, 1904, she was married to Chris H. Yordy, who died Feb. 27, 1958. Surviving are three sons (Clarence, Robert, and Russell), and two sisters (Viola - Mrs. Joe Kurtz and Mrs. Fannie Gerber). Three brothers and three sisters preceded her in death. She was a member of the First Mennonite Church, Morton, where funeral services were held Feb. 6, in charge of Clyde D. Fulmer; interment in Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Tremont, Ill."

Children of Christian Yordy and Magdalena Staker include:

1) *Gospel Herald*, June 1983: "Yordy, Clarence Edward, son of Chris and Lena (Staker) Yordy, was born at Morton, Ill., June 28, 1907; died of a heart ailment at Carlisle, Pa., May 31, 1983; aged 75 y. On Dec. 14, 1927, he was married to Esther Ella Studer, who survives. Also surviving are 2 sons (Harold and James), one daughter (Marilyn, Mrs. Roger Harrington), 8 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, and one brother (Russell). One brother preceded him in death. He was a member of First Mennonite Church, where funeral services were held on June 4, in charge of James Detweiler and Patrick Flaherty; interment in Pleasant Grove Cemetery." Esther Ella Studer was born at Roanoke Oct. 8, 1905, and died at Morton May 21, 1994.
2) Robert Nicholas Yordy was born April 24, 1909, and died Jan. 29, 1982. On Feb. 18, 1931 he married Elsie Eigsti. She was born March 3, 1907 and adopted by the Eigsti family. She died Nov. 22, 1991. They farmed and raised turkeys.
3) Russell Yordy was born June 30, 1927. On Aug. 17, 1947 he married Annalee Smucker. She was born April 12, 1929.

Gary L. Yordy provided many of the details of Christian Eigsti's fourth marriage.

Veronika Catarina 'Fannie' Ringenberg was born in Bavaria in August 1841, a daughter of Christian Ringenberg (1799-1890) and Maria Burky (circa 1805-1871). Before emigrating she had three children: Peter Ringenberg, born 1857; Marie Ringenberg, born 1862; and Anna 'Nancy' Ringenberg, born 1864.

Veronika, her three children, her parents, and her 11-month-old nephew Valentine Ringenberg (a son of her sister Katharina) sailed from Bremen on the *Union*, arriving at New York March 16, 1867. They settled at Wheatland, Bureau County where on Nov. 11, 1869 Veronika gave birth to her fourth child, Mary.

The 1870 census of Wheatland shows Christian Ringbert, 65, France; Mary, 64, Bavaria; Frances Ringbert, 27, Bavaria; Peter, 12, Bavaria; Catherine, 9, Bavaria; Mary, 1, Illinois; and Jacob Ringberd, 21, Bavaria [Veronica's brother]. Mary was not listed.

On March 12, 1877 at Wheatland, Veronika married Anton Smith. They had four children. Anton died in 1893, and was buried in Willow Springs Cemetery.

On April 8, 1895 widow Veronika married three-time widower Christian Eigsti in her residence at Macon, Bureau County. The marriage certificate stated that her parents were Christian Ringenberger and Mary Burky, that she was born in Bavaria, was 53 years old, and this was her second marriage. She signed her name 'Veronika Eigsti.'

Christian Eigsti is described on the 1900 census of Morton as a farmer born in Germany in February 1832 [Alsace was occupied by Germany in 1871]. 'Fannie' stated that she was born in August 1841, and that she had borne 8 children, 7 still living. Both Christian and Veronika stated that they had been married (not necessarily to each other) for 37 years, or since 1862. Their household included son and farm laborer Christian Yordy, born in Germany in February 1880; Emma Smith, born in Illinois in May 1880; Alvin Smith, born in Illinois in December 1885; and Lydia Smith, born in Illinois in August 1886.

Christian Eigsti died at Morton March 5, 1863, and was buried next to his third wife Barbara Yordy in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. (His first two wives died before the newer cemetery was established in 1885). Following his death, Veronika lived at Tremont and Arispie. She died in the home of her daughter Lena Smith Ulrich and son-in-law Peter M. Ulrich June 1, 1929. She was buried next to her first husband in Willow Springs Cemetery.

Birky/Birkey: Variations of Bürki

Bürcki, Burchi, Burky, Burcky, Buercky, Birchi, Birki, Birky, Birkey, Berkey

The Bernese surnames 'Bürgi' and 'Bürki' describe a guard, perhaps a castle guard.

The Bürki families of Canton Bern were extremely prolific. In the 1500s the surnames Bürki and Bürcki could be found in a number of communities surrounding Steffisburg and Diessbach (since 1870 Oberdiessbach).

Our question, 'What is the Y-chromosome haplogroup passed down by male Bűrkis?' prompted a few chuckles. Because Bűrki is an occupational surname, there may have been a number of streams of lineage between Lake Thun and the city of Bern. The keeper of a DNA database might be terribly frustrated until the number of samples became large enough to define the family groupings.

A significant branch of the family could be found in the mid-1700s at Muri bei Bern, a community four miles southeast of the city of Bern that is also associated with the Joders and Stückers. It is thought that a number of Lake Thun families relocated there to find work during the construction of a cathedral.

Genealogist Julius Billeter (1869-1957) spent decades in Canton Bern collecting family information. He created dozens of monographs by transcribing original parish records. In 1944 he published *Genealogy of the Bürki (Buerki) family of Trimstein, Konolfingen, Tagertschi, Häutligen, Niederhünigen, Kanton Bern, Switzerland, 1536-1938*. The communities where Billeter found Bürki records were all located in Konolfingen District, which comprises the area along the 15-mile route between Steffisburg and Muri be Bern.

The Crooked Alsace Chain

Sometime after 1687 **Christian Bürki** settled on the Bärbelsteinerhof, the grounds of ruined Bewartstein Castle at Erlenbach bei Dahn. 139

The site is located in the parish of Niederschlettenbach, only six miles north of the border between the Pfalz and Lower Alsace. The Amish Mennonite connections to this location are too numerous and intricate to mention here; it was occupied by Swiss Anabaptists as early as 1687, and was a transition home for many families that migrated from Alsace into the Pfalz in the mid-1700s (see EHRESMAN for information on the families).140

The death of 'Christian Bourquit vom Diessbach,' 81, was noted on an entry at Niederschlettenbach in 1729. (Diessbach may have been his *Heimatort* rather than his actual birthplace).

Only one son of Christian can be positively identified. It is probable that there were other sons born earlier, and they may have been the fathers or grandfathers of Bürkis who came to America in the mid-1700s.

Christian's son or grandson **Johannes/Hans Bürki** was born circa 1695, and died on the Bärbelsteinerhof in 1741.141 He married Barbara Güngerich. His death entry was placed on a special Anabaptist list in the Niederschlettenbach parish book by minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly, who held the Bärbelsteinerhof lease 1718-1848. It described him as 'Johannes Bürcki, Anabaptist of Bärbelstein near Erlenbach.'

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[139] Billeter reported the baptism of Christian Bürki registered in the Protestant Reformed Church at Diessbach (also called Diessbach bei Thun) June 18, 1648. Christian's parents were listed as Melchior Bürki and Elsbeth Hara of Buchholterberg (there were several Bürki families in the area). Witnesses included Jacob Stücki, Hans Hara, and Vrena Anthoni. We did not find this entry at Diessbach on this date, and suspect a clerical error. Coincidentally June 18, 1648 was the date of the baptism of Ŭlli, a son of Hans Bürki, at Steffisburg.

[140] Other Bürkis may have traveled directly to the Pfalz from the Old Swiss Confederacy after 1671. Censuses taken in the early 1700s show Bürki families already established at Ibersheim (on the Rhine River eight miles north of Worms) and on the Froschauerhof near Marnheim.

[141] Johannes/Hans Bürki may have had a younger brother or cousin named Christian who came to America. He sailed from Amsterdam via Plymouth on the *Charming Nancy*, arriving at Philadelphia Oct. 8, 1737. The various arrival lists have him as Christian Burkie married to Catrina, Christian Burcki, and Christian Bürcki; it appears Anglicized as 'Berkey' in Pennsylvania sources. Some sources say immigrant Christian was born at Saales (9 miles south of La Broque) circa 1715; J. Virgil Miller places his birth circa 1708. He married Catherine Seiler. Catherine Seiler is thought to have been born Hedwig Seiler, a daughter of Joseph Seiler, at Obermehlingen in the Pfalz Jan. 22, 1712. 'Saylor' is also found in Pennsylvania sources. They warranted 85 acres at Upper Tulpehocken Township, Berks County in 1745. There is also earlier documentation indicating that they had requested land near Jacob Hochstetler, who had arrived on the *Charming Nancy* in 1838 (see HOCHSTETTLER).

Johannes/Hans Bürki and Barbara Güngerich had five known children. All but one farmed in Lower Alsace. Three locations cluster around the castle estate Waderhof at Lorentzen in a four-mile square situated in 'Crooked Alsace' [Ger. *Krummes Elsass*], a hilly projection of Lower Alsace that is tucked beneath Lorraine. This region was relatively isolated for many centuries, sandwiched between the Catholic Duchy of Lorraine and the forests of the Vosges Mountains. In 1793 'Crooked Alsace' was annexed into French territory. This was confirmed by the Treaty of Lunéville in 1801.

'CROOKED ALSACE' LOCATIONS

The Neumatte estate at Diemeringen is one mile south of Lorentzen.

After the 1300s the lordship of Diemeringen became an isolated German-speaking enclave that fell under the administration of the Palatine Electors. During the Thirty Years War (1618-48), in 1629, the Duchy of Lorraine seized possession of Crooked Alsace. Brutal conditions caused many families to abandon their villages and move to higher elevations. The Lutheran religion favored by German-speaking residents was suppressed.

By 1698 tensions had eased and the area had largely recovered from the Thirty Years War. The Lutheran religion was restored, and Crooked Alsace was recast as a religiously tolerant region.

From 1718 to 1789 the community was a Pfalz-Zweibrücken lordship belonging to the Wittelsbach family. Revenues were divided between the Prince of Salm-Salm (3/16ths), Prince of Salm-Kirburg (3/16ths), Count of Grumbach (5/16ths), and Count of Rheingrafenstein (5/16ths). French troops occupied the area in 1789, and it was absorbed into Alsace and the French Republic in 1793.

Bürki descendants were also associated with the Lutterbacherhof estate at Voellerdingen**,** a property that was subordinate to the Neumatte estate. It is one mile northwest of Lorentzen.

The *Encyclopaedia Germanica* says the Lutterbacherhof stands on the former site of the monastery Bürenthal, surrounded by the site of an ancient village called Heimeldingen. At present there is one manor house there, surrounded by the buried foundations of six smaller houses that probably date from the early 1700s.

In 1776 a lease agreement was signed by Johann Burcky of Diemeringen; and in 1793, by Hans Burcki of Diemeringen. Both instances may have been the husband of Freni/Vreni/Véronique Leyenberger (more on this to follow); this would have been appropriate, because he was also leaseholder of the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen.

The village of Dehlingen is one mile north of Lorentzen, and four miles north of Diemeringen.

The consequences of isolation and repression are recorded in the Catholic Parish Books of Diemeringen. On June 21, 1673, six women and one man from Dehlingen were condemned "to be burnt as witches and wizards after being beheaded by the sword." On Oct. 16, six women from Dehlingen were "beheaded by sword and burned for witchcraft near the gallows." These excesses continued until 1674, when the French troops of Vicomte de Turenne occupied the area.

The transition of Crooked Alsace into a religiously tolerant region brought many Protestants to Dehlingen in the 1700s. It was seen as a refuge because its politics, geography, and customs set it apart from the mainstream. In 1776 the population was 400; of these residents, 22 were Jewish and only 3 were Catholic.

Children of Johannes/Hans Bürki and Barbara Güngerich include:

1. **Christian Bürki** was born circa 1720.
2. Barbara Bürki was born circa 1724, and died at Nehwiller-près-Woerth Nov. 28, 1793 at age 69. In 1756 at Nehweiler-près-Woerth she married Jörg/Georg Holly. He was born on the Bärbelsteinerhof circa 1723, and died at Nehwiller-près-Woerth, Lower Alsace Jan. 20, 1794, a son of minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly. See BECHLER/BECKLER for more on this couple.
3. Johannes/Jean Bürki/Birkÿ was born circa 1732. He married Freni/Vreni/Véronique Leyenberger.142 They lived on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen, Lower Alsace. Their children include:
    a. Andreas Bürki/André Bircky was born circa 1761, and died at Diemeringen Jan. 10, 1811. His civil death entry named his father as Jean Burki. He married Barbe Schantz. She was born circa 1768, and died at Sexey-aux-Forges, Meurthe-et-Moselle Dec. 27, 1835. Their children born at Diemeringen include:
        1) Georg Birky was born circa Jan. 10, 1786. When he died at Diemeringen July 10, 1795, his civil death entry said he was aged nine years, six months.
        2) Johannes/Jean Birky was born at Sarrebourg circa 1788, and died on the Schottenhof at Sarralbe May 14, 1825. On Oct. 29, 1807 at Lorentzen he married Magdalena/Madeleine

142 Some sources give the date of the marriage of Johannes/Jean Bürki/Birkÿ and Freni/Vreni/Véronique Leyenberger as Dec. 5, 1798. There is no note of the place or the original source. If this is correct, his children were born to an earlier unidentified wife. However, we suspect their marriage actually took place circa 1758, and she was the mother of his children.

Perhaps Freni/Vreni/Véronique was a daughter of minister Andreas Leyenberger. He became a co-leaseholder with Daniel Ösch on the Kirschbacherhof at Zweibrücken in 1742. Andreas represented Zweibrücken at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779. Johannes/Jean may have met her through the Dettweilers, who had come to Diemeringen from Zweibrücken - or visa versa, she was the reason the Dettweilers came to Diemeringen.

Schertz. She was born at Sarrebourg circa 1790, and died at Gros-Réderching, Moselle June 21, 1836, a daughter of André Schertz and Barbe Bachmann. Their son André/Andrew Birky waas born at Lorentzen, Lower Alsace Aug. 3, 1813, and died at Wellman, Iowa March 28, 1875. He married Anne Kempf. She was born at Imling, Moselle Oct. 18, 1818, and died at Wellman April 2, 1866. a daughter of Jean Kempf and Anne Schmitt. André/Andrew may have sailed ahead of his family; Anna sailed with her children from Le Havre on the *Sarah Jane*, arriving at New York Sept. 14, 1854. The passenger list gives Anna Birky, 34; Joseph, 17; Anna, 14; Jacob, 9; Madeline, 7; and Marie, 4. They settled at Tiskilwa, Putnam County, then moved on to Wellman, Iowa in 1861 where some took the surname 'Birkey.' André/Andrew and Anna are buried in West Union Mennonite Cemetery at Parnell, Iowa.

3) André Birky was born at Diemeringen Aug. 24, 1789, and died at Dehlingen (four miles north of Diemeringen) Aug. 15, 1841. On Dec. 23, 1813 at Diemeringen he married Barbe Rouvenacht. She was born at Rhodes July 4, 1792, and died at Chassey, Meuse Jan. 30, 1872, a daughter of Magdalena/Madeleine Engel and her second husband Jean Rouvenacht of Rhodes. They resided on the Morauville farm at Rimling, Moselle.
4) Chrétien Birky was born circa Feb. 2, 1792. When he died at Diemeringen July 7, 1801, his civil death entry said he was aged nine years, five months, and five days.
5) Georg Birky was born at Diemeringen April 18, 1796. On Feb. 5, 1829 at Rimling, Moselle he married Madeleine Koch.
6) Catherine Birki was born at Diemeringen Sept. 1, 1798. On Feb. 23, 1822 at Rimling, Moselle she married Christian Gerber/Guerber. He was born on Wiesing farm at Blies-Ébersing, Moselle, a son of Christian Gerber/Guerber and Marie Güngerich/Guengerich.
7) Valentin Birky was born at Diemeringen Nov. 27, 1800, and died there Sept. 18, 1819.
8) Barbe Birky was born at Diemeringen Feb. 23, 1803. On Feb. 5, 1829 at Rimling, Moselle she married Pierre Thomas.
9) Magdalena Birky was born at Diemeringen April 26, 1805. She died as an infant.
10) Magdalena Birky was born March 25, 1808, and died before March 19, 1836. On March 9, 1830 at Rimling, Moselle she married Jean Gingerich. He was born at Bistroff, Moselle Jan. 17, 1804, a son of Christian Gingerich and Madeleine Marguerite Blanck. Following her death, Jean remarried to Madeleine Eymann at Custines, Meurthe-et-Moselle March 19, 1836. She was 32, a daughter of local residents Joseph Eyman and Marie Praspil [Brechbühl]

b. Marie Suzanne Birki was born at Diemeringen circa 1768, and died at Rimling, Moselle March 30, 1802. She married Christian Schantz. He was born at Niederbronn-les-Bains, Lower Alsace Oct. 28, 1762, and died at Sinzing, Bavaria (near Regensburg) Feb. 9, 1834, a son of Jean Georges Schantz and Catherine Birki.

4. Anna Bürki/Birki married Johannes/Jean Wagler. His parents were Christian Wagler and Susanne Gerig (also found as Göerig/Chérique) from l'Abbateux farm in the Le Hang basin near Bourg-Bruche.143 By 1759 Johannes/Jean and Anna were leaseholders on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen.
5. Valentin Birki was born circa 1735, and died at Diemeringen Nov. 28, 1803. His civil death entry described him as Valantin Birkÿ, 68, a son of Johannes Birkÿ and Barbara Gingrihin, and leaseholder [Ger. *Hofbeständer*] of Neumatt estate; it was witnessed by his by Andreas Birkÿ and Chrétien Detweiller (Dettweiler, who signed as 'Christian Detweiler'). He married Catherine/Katharina Ehrismann (found on his death entry as Anna Kathrina Ehrismannin). She was born circa 1740, and died on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen Oct. 4, 1813, age 73. Her civil death entry describes her as Catherine Erichmann, 73. Their children include:

a. Madeleine Birki/Birckÿ was born on Neumatte estate at Diemeringen circa 1773, and died there May 15, 1829. Her civil death entry said that she was age 56, noted that she was born on the Neumatte estate, and identified her parents.
b. Catherine Birki was born on Neumatte estate at Diemeringen circa 1765, and died at Lorentzen, Lower Alsace May 27, 1845. She married Johannes/Jean Roggy. He was born at Lorentzen circa 1758, and died there on the Waderhof estate Dec. 31, 1815. Their son Pierre Rogy, 40, witnessed Catherine's civil death entry, which described Catherine as an 80-year-old daughter of the deceased Valentin Bircky, who in life had been a cultivator on the Neumatte estate. Johannes/Jean's civil death entry described him as Jean Rogÿ, 57, a cultivator born at Lorentzen; it was witnessed by cultivator Jean Birky, 28, who signed his name 'Johannes Birky.'
c. Valentin Birki was born on Neumatte estate at Diemeringen circa 1770, and died at Ostheim, Upper Alsace April 30, 1803. On June 5, 1794 at Strasbourg he married Magdalena/Madeleine Roggy. She was born at Strasbourg in 1775, and died in 1817, a daughter of Christian Roggy and Sarah Detweiler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Valentin Bircki, 25, born at Neumatte, Diemeringen, a son of cultivator Valentin Bircki and Catherine Ehresmann. The bride was described as

[143] Christian and Susanne farmed on Rauschenbourg estate near Ingwiller, 15 miles southwest of Nehwiller-près-Worth.

Madaleine Rocki, 18, born at Strasbourg, a daughter of cultivator Chrétien Rocki who was present and consenting and the deceased Sare Dettweiller. Signatures looked like Fellen Birki, Magdalena Rogi, and Rogi (her father). Valentin's civil death entry described him as Vallentin Bürcky, 33, widower of Magdalena Rogÿ of Ostheim.

d. Anne Birki was born at Langatte in what became Moselle circa 1783. She married Jean Rogy. On March 31, 1813 at Diemeringen she remarried to André Kohler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as André Kohler, born on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen March 11, 1785, a son of the deceased day laborer Kohler and Feronique Kohler, who was present and consenting. The bride was described as Anne Bircky, 30, widow of the deceased Jean Rogge, a daughter of the deceased Valentine Bircky and Catherine Ehrismann, who was present and consenting. Witnesses included merchant-trader [Fr. *négoceant*] Chrétien Dettweiler, 50; Jean Roggy, 54, a cultivator at Lorentzen; and cultivator André Bircky, 28, brother of the bride

e. Andreas/André Birki was born on Neumatte estate at Diemeringen Nov. 25, 1784, and died there April 30, 1826. On Nov. 10, 1808 at Diemeringen he married Magdalena Dettweiler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Andreas Birki, 23, born Nov. 25, 1784, a son of Balantin Bircki *burger und ackerman* and Katharina Ehrismann. The bride was described as Magdalena Dettweiler, 19, born Aug. 5, 1789, a daughter of Christian Dettweiler and Anna Wagler. It was witnessed by Andreas Birki, 57 (he was the husband of Barbe Schantz), who was described as a cousin [Ger. *der Vetter*]. Magdalena Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen Aug. 5, 1789, a daughter of Christian/Chrétien Dettweiler and his second wife Anne Wagler. Andreas/André and Magdalena resided in *Maison* 121 at Diemeringen. Widow Magdalena emigrated with her children in 1830. They are found on the passenger list of the *De Rham* as it arrived at New York from Le Havre Dec. 21, 1830: Madeleine Bergui, 40; Jacob, 21; Christian, 19; Andreas, 15; Catharine, 12; Anna, 7; Valentin, 4; and Madeline, 3. She is found on the 1850 census of Berne, Fairfield County, Ohio in the household of her daughter Catherine and her husband Emanuel Stuzman as 'Matlena Barge, 66, Germany.' She appears on 1870 censuses of Wayne County, Ohio twice: once in the household of daughter Magdalena as an 80-year-old retiree, and once in the household of daughter Anna as an 83-year-old retiree. She died at Smithville, Wayne County Sept. 19, 1871, and is buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery. Children of Andreas/André Birki and Magdalena Dettweiler born at Diemeringen include:

1) Jacques/Jacob Birky was born Dec. 18, 1809. We could not follow him after his 1830 arrival.
2) Christian/Chrétien Birky/Christian Berkey was born Feb. 12, 1811, and died at Green Township, Wayne County, Ohio Jan. 26, 1903. Circa 1839 in Wayne County he married Sarah Stutzman. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania April 1, 1819, and died in Wayne County March 9, 1873, a daughter of Michael Stutzman and his first wife Hannah Yoder. Her family had come from Mifflin County to Wayne County in 1827. The 1840 census of Wayne Township, Wayne County shows the household of Christian Berkey, who may or may not be the same person: one male 20-29 years of age (Christian would have been 29), one male 15-19; one female 40-49 years of age; one female 30-39 (Sarah would have been 21); and one female 10-14. The 1850 census of Wayne Township, Wayne County shows Christian Berkey, 31 (Christian would have been 39), Germany; Sarah, 32, Pennsylvania; Christian, 1, Ohio; and Mary Miller, 7, Ohio. The 1880 census of Smithville, Wayne Township shows farmer Christian Berkey, 68, France; Sarah, 61, Pennsylvania; ` Lydia, 27, Ohio; Anna, 7, Ohio; and Elisabeth Detweiler, 16, Ohio. *Herald of Truth*, April 1893: "On the 9th of March, 1893, in Wayne Co., Ohio, of asthma, Sarah, wife of Christian Berkey, aged 73 years, 11 months, and 8 days. She is buried in the Oakgrove Amish burying ground, where a large concourse of friends and relatives assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to the beloved sister. She was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church and leaves a husband and two daughters to mourn their loss. She was fully resigned to her heavenly father's will, and longed to go to her eternal home. Services by J.K. Yoder at the home and David Hostetler at the meeting house, from *Isa. 38:1* "Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die and not live." The 1900 census of Orrville Village, Green Township, Wayne County shows father-in-law (and widower) Christian Birky, born in France in February 1811 to French parents; he was living in the household of his daughter Emma, born in 1860, and her husband Daniel Leichty, born in 1855.
3) Andreas/André Birky/Andrew Berkey was born Nov. 22, 1813, and died at Smithville, Wayne Township, Wayne County May 8, 1889. He married Elizabeth Grady. She was born in Pennsylvania in 1819, and died in 1870. The 1870 census of Wayne Township shows farmer Andrew Berkey, 57, France; Elizabeth, 54, Pennsylvania; and six children born in Ohio, the oldest 27. The 1880 census there shows Andrew Berkie, 65, Pennsylvania; and five children born in Ohio. Andrew is buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Smithville, Wayne Township.

4) Catherine Birky/Berkey was born March 26, 1815, and died Feb. 22, 1888. She married Emanuel Stutzman. He was born in Mifflin County, Pennslvania Feb. 29, 1816, and died at Haw Patch (now Topeka), Indiana Aug. 13, 1881, a son of Abraham Stutzman and Catherine Yoder. They are found on the 1860 census of Berne, Fairfield County, Ohio; and on the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Eden, LaGrange County, Indiana. *Herald of Truth*, March 1888: "Feb. 22nd, in Haw Patch church, LaGrange County, Ind., of a lingering illness, Sister Catherine Stutzman, widow of Emanuel Stutzman, aged 72 years, 10 months, and 28 days. She was born in France, and united with the Amish Mennonite church when about 20 years of age. She had put her faith in Jesus, and had an earnest desire to depart and rest with her dear Savior. She was buried on the 24th. Funeral services at the Haw Patch Amish Mennonite church by J.F. Funk, of Elkhart, assisted by J.S. Hatzler, text *Rev. 14:13*. May God bless this affliction to the welfare of her bereaved children and friends." Emanuel and Catherine are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery at Topeka, LaGrange County, Indiana.
5) Joseph Birky was born Oct. 24, 1817, and died at Diemeringen Jan. 26, 1821.
6) Anna/Anne Birky/Berkey was born Oct. 13, 1820, and died in 1897. She married Samuel Byler, who was born in Pennsylvania circa 1814, and died in 1902. They appear on the 1870 census of Chippewa, Wayne Township, Wayne County as farmer Samuel Biler, 56, Pennsylvania; Anna, 45, Prussia; Susan, 20, Ohio; Rebecca, 18, Ohio; and Magdalena [Dettweiler] Berky, 83, retired, Prussia (Alsace was occupied after the Franco-Prussian War of 1870). They are found on the 1880 census of Green Township, Wayne County as Samuel Byler, 66, born in Pennsylvania to parents born in Pennsylvania; Anna, 60, born in Alsace to a father born in Switzerland and a mother born in Alsace; and Susan, 28, born in Ohio to parents from Pensylvania and Alsace. The 1900 census of Green Township, Wayne County shows father-in-law Samuel Pyler, 86, born in Pennsylvania in February 1814 to parents from Pennsylvania; in the household of Amandus Hooley, born in Ohio in October 1856; and Susan, born in Ohio in April 1952.
7) Valentin Birky was born Sept. 26, 1823, and died in Wayne County May 3, 1900. Circa 1849 he married Catherine Yoder. She was born in Centre County, Pennsylvania Aug. 1, 1824, and died in Wayne County Sept. 6, 1893, as daughter of Henry Yoder and his cousin Anna Yoder. Henry was the confessed baby murderer whose story was told in KING.144 The 1870 census of Chippewa, Wayne Township shows them as farmer Valentine Berkey, 48, France; Catharine, 44, Pennsylvania; and Samuel, 19, Ohio. They lived next door to Christ Yoder, 24. They are found on the 1880 census of Green Township, Wayne County as farmer Valentine Berky, 56, Alsace; and Catharine, 56, Pennsylvania. They lived next door to the household of their son Samuel Berkey, 29, born in Ohio and his wife Sarah Speicher/Spichear.
8) Magdalena/Madeleine Birky was born July 25, 1825, and died between 1900 and 1910. She married Jacob Miller. He was born in Ohio in 1827, and died in 1910. The 1870 census of Wayne Township, Wayne County shows farmer Jacob Miller, 42, Ohio; Magdalena, 44 (the number is circled), France; Jeremiah, 17, Ohio; and Magdalena [Dettweiler] Berkey, 80, France. The 1880 census of Green Township, Wayne County shows farmer Jacob A. Miller, 52, born in Ohio to parents from France and Pennsylvania; and Lena, 54, born in Alsace to parents from Alsace. The 1900 census of Green Township shows Jacob Miller, 72, born in Ohio in July 1827, to parents born in Germany and Pennsylvania; and Lena, born in Ohio in July 1826 to German parents. The 1910 census of Green Township shows Jacob B. Miller, 82, born in Ohio to parents from Germany and Pennsylvania; and servant Nancy Berkey, 68, born in Ohio to parents from Germany and Pennsylvania (she was Jacob's niece, a daughter of Andrew Berkey and Elizabeth Grady).

Christian Bürki was born circa 1720. He married a daughter of Johannes/Hans Nafziger and Barbara Holli/Holly.

In 1768 'Christian Bürcki' and 'Johannes Ehrismann' [*der junge* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrisman] of the Mechtersheimerhof estate near Speyer appeared on a list of those who paid the six-guilder fee required from religious minorities for government protection. The Mechtersheimerhof estate is located south of Speyer in the Pfalz (36 miles northeast of the Bärbelsteinerhof, and 55 miles northeast of his older sister's home at Nehwiller-Près-

[144] Henry Yoder was a son of Heinrich Yoder and Catherine Detweiler; Catherine was a daughter of Rudolph Detweiler; and Rudolph was a son of Melchior Detweiler, who was born at Wittwil, Canton Bern (in a part that is now Canton Aargau) April 2, 1699. Melchior and his son Rudolph were among the Detweilers who sailed from Amsterdam and arrived at Philadelphia on the *Princess Augusta* Sept. 15, 1736. There is a probable yet unproven connection between this early-immigrant branch and Magdalena's Diemeringen branch.

Woerth; see EHRESMAN for more on Mechtersheimerhof residents). The location was not far from the leased estate of her parents at Essingen.

The 1773 census lists him as 'Christian Bürcki', a subtenant on the Mechtersheimerhof with a wife, one minor son, two minor daughters, seven farmhands, and three maids.

In 1787 Christian and his wife moved 22 miles to the southeast, across the Rhine River to the Stift Odenheim estate (*Stifterhof* or 'convent estate') at Tiefenbach in Baden-Durlach. According to Hermann Guth in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, there are Bürki and Holly entries in the municipal register at Königsbach, a village 23 miles south of Tiefenbach. Anabaptist meetings were held on the Katharinentaler Hof estate above Pforzheim.

Amos Hoover translated this portion of a letter from Johannes/Hans Nafziger to Christian Schowalter in Pennsylvania, written in 1788 and now held by the Mifflin County Mennonite Historical Society: "...My son-in-law Christen Berckÿ also lived there [on the Mechtersheimerhof estate] about 18 years or more on the farm where Hans Höffly used to live; but last year he leased a farm from a clergyman from the cathedral at Speyer, three hours from Bruchsal. It is a large place; almost 1,000 head of sheep, but the Lord only knows how it will turn out for him. He now also has a son-in-law, the son of Jörg Holly from Nehwiller, living with him. Recently we have also ordained him as a minister of the book; he had to draw the lot with Jacob Friedauer and the lot fell on him." (The entirety of this letter can be found in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*).

Christian was 93 when he signed the civil death entry of a son-in-law at Speyer in 1819. His three known children were likely all born on the Mechtersheimerhof estate. They include:

1. **Johannes Bürki or Burcky** was born circa 1753.
2. Barbara Birky was born circa 1761, and died on the Johannisthalerhof at Königsbach Nov. 26, 1811. Before 1773 she married Christian Holly. He was born at Nehwiller, and died at Speyer June 15, 1800, a son of Jörg/George Holly [Sr.] and Barbara Birki. They farmed at Stein, Baden-Durlach and at Speyer.
3. Magdalena Burky married Jörg/Georg Holly [Jr.]. He was born in 1765, and died at SpeyerJune 13, 1819, a son of Jörg/George Holly [Sr.] and Barbara Birki. They resided on the Stift Odenheim estate in 1788. When Georg died, his 93-year-old father-in-law Christian Bürki signed his civil death entry.

Johannes Bürki/Burcky was likely born on the Mechtersheimerhof estate circa 1753, and died at Hennepin, Putnam County Aug. 23, 1838. He became a farmer and a physician. On March 6, 1790 he married Maria Schönbeck of Hesse-Darmstadt.

They joined Güngerich, Stahly, Brenneman, and Wagler families on the Albacherhof estate. The estate was located at Albach, seven miles southeast of the university town of Giessen in Hesse-Darmstadt; it is still an active farm.145 It is likely that the families on the Albacherhof followed Daniel Holly (1761-1824) to the area. After his own exemplary estate at Mühlhofen was ruined by French troops in the French Revolution of 1789, he was hired by Count Degenfeld-Schönburg.146 The count's family held numerous properties in Hesse, and Daniel became estate manager at Langsdorf, the village adjacent to Lich.

At least two of the children of Johannes and Maria were born at Gelnhausen, Hesse. The circular city built over medieval foundations is located 28 miles east of Frankfurt am Main, Hesse and 40 miles southwest of the Albacherhof. Johannes may have practiced medicine there.

Children of Johannes Bürki/Burcky and Maria Schönbeck include:

1. Christian Burcky was born in 1796. He married Anna Schmidt, who was born in 1817, and died in Butler County in March 1896. She is buried in the Augspurger Memorial Cemetery at Trenton, Butler County, as 'Anna Smith Burchy.' 'Chritian Burky' appears on the 1840 census of Putnam County with a wife and one child. Their daughter Elizabeth 'Eliza' Burcky was born Jan. 28, 1842. On Feb. 13, 1862 she married Christian K. Augspurger; he was born at Trenton Jan. 9, 1839, and died Feb. 6, 1907. He was elected minister to the 'hook and eye' Augspurger congregation in 1867, and served until 1897. They are buried in the Augspurger Memorial Cemetery at Trenton. Their daughter Magdalena Ellen Burcky was born at Hennepin Nov. 28, 1847 and died in Butler County, Ohio March 7, 1889. On Oct. 31, 1867 she married John K. Augspurger. He was born at Trenton, Butler County Oct. 7, 1842 and died Jan. 6, 1914. The Augspurgers were sons of Joseph Augspurger and Magdalena Kennel, and grandsons of Christian Augspurger. They are also buried in the Augspurger Memorial Cemetery at Trenton. Their marriage ceremonies were performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger; both appear in *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* with the spelling 'Berke.'

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[145] Since 1866 Hesse-Darmstadt has been known simply as Hesse. It is easy to confuse the location with Albach in the state of Bavaria.

[146] Mühlhofen is located in the Pfalz, 11 miles northeast of the Lower Alsace border village Wissembourg.

2. Elizabeth Burcky was born Jan. 6, 1798, and died in Hesse in 1834. In 1818 she married Christian Fischer Hufschmidt.
3. Johannes/John Burcky was born on the Albacherhof March 2, 1800. He married Anna Conrad in Butler County Feb. 28, 1837; the ceremony was performed by minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger (the civil entry was created May 8, 1837). She was born circa 1813, and died after 1880, a daughter of Pierre Kunrad/Peter Conrad and Barbara Ramseyer. 'John Berkey' is found on the 1840 census of St. Clair, Butler County, Ohio. He was 30-39 years of age, with a wife in the same age bracket; their daughter is under five. They were three addresses removed from the households of Barbara Conrad and Jacob Conrad. Anna Conrad appears as a 67-year-old widow on the1880 census of Ohio, Bureau County, Illinois.
4. **Jacob Burcky** was born at Gelnhausen March 9, 1804.147
5. Daniel Burcky was born Oct. 3, 1805, and died at Engelwood, Cook County Sept. 3, 1882. On July 24, 1838 in Butler County he married Elise/Eliza Holly; the ceremony was performed by minister Benedict König/King. She was born at Bellersheim (next to Lich and Langsdorf) Feb. 18, 1814, and died at Chicago Aug. 7, 1901, a daughter of Johannes Holly and his first wife Marie Jutzi. Elise and her entire extended family arrived on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832.148 In 1836 Daniel opened a grocery store at Hennepin, Putnam County with his brother Freidrich. Following his marriage in Butler County, he returned to Putnam County to purchase farmland. 'Daniel Burky' is listed as the purchaser of two parcels at Granville Oct. 20, 1838: 20 acres for $8.25 per acre, and 20 acres at $5 per acre. They had four children in Putnam County, and four at Chicago. 'Daniel Burkey' appears on the 1840 census of Putnam County with a wife and four children. He returned to Butler County again in 1846 to participate in the settlement of the estate of his father-in-law Johannes Holly. Daniel's family appears on the 1880 census of E.D. 198 Lake, Cook County as Daniel Burky, 74; Eliza Burky, 65; and six children ranging in age 25-34. *History of Chicago*: "Daniel Burcky was for many years identified with the business interests of Chicago, and was devoted to the establishment of German educational institutions in this city." Elise appears on the 1900 census of Chicago Ward 34 as an 86-year-old born in February 1814, in the household of son Christian born in March 1844. 149
6. Barbara Burcky was born Nov. 1, 1807, and died in 1842.
7. Magdalena Burcky was born June 1, 1809, and died Sept. 7, 1882.
8. Freidrich/Frederick Burcky was born at Gelnhausen June 9, 1814, and died at Chicago Oct. 25, 1902. He operated a grocery store at Hennepin, Putnam County with his older brother Daniel in 1836. *History of Chicago*, published in 1878: "Mr. Burcky was married, on October 27, 1849, to Miss Susan Berdel, of Fachbach, Germany; she died on March 6, 1858. They had five children, only one of whom – Mary, wife of John Sheldon – is now living." Frederick moved to Chicago in 1840. The *Directory of the City of Chicago* for August-December 1843 lists a baker Frederick Burcky. Frederick appears on a Chicago census as a 30-year-old baker in 1860. He appears as a 55-year-old confectioner on the 1870 census of Chicago Ward 1, stating that his birthplace was Frankfurt-on-Main [Frankfurt-am-Main is 35 miles south of the Albacherhof]. He became a member of the Chicago Old Settlers' Society

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147 *The Past and Present of LaSalle County, Illinois* has notes for son John Burcky of Eden, LaSalle County: "Farmer; Tonica. Born Putnam Co., Ill. 1844. To La Salle Co. 1853. Father, Jacob, was born in Gillenhousen, near Hesse Cassel, Germany in 1801. To U. S., state of Ohio in 1834; to Putnam Co., Ill. in 1836. Married Magdalena Grabiel, in Ohio. She was born in Bavaria, Germany in 1805. Children: Mary; Elizabeth; John. Mr. Jacob Burcky was buried at Mt. Palatine Cemetery in 1856." John appears as 37-year-old farmer John Burckey on the 1880 census of Eden, where he stated that his father was born in Germany, his mother in Bavaria.

148 The 1832 passenger list held the extended Johannes Holly family on two pages: Johann, 44, of Langsdorf; Daniel, 16 [a future minister]; Johannes, 11; Wilhelm, 8; Peter, 5; Helena [Jutzi], 36 [her sister Maria had been Johannes' first wife]; Christine, 20; Elise, 18; Maria, 14; Jacobine, 3; Catherine, 38; [top of next page]Peter Holly, 40, farmer; Christian, 12; Johannes, 12; Maria, 16; Jacobine, 10; Catherine, 7; Elise, 2; and Susanna, 7. Farther down the page, Daniel Holly, 28; Catherine, 26; Barbara, 4; Christine, 2; Maria, 1; Anna, 16.

Several children of Johannes Holly and Marie Jutzi were brought to Granville by the presence of minister Jacob Burcky. The 1860 census of Granville shows his 1832 co-passengers Daniel Holly, 35; John [Johannes] Holly, 28; and William [Wilhelm] Holly, 24 on the same page as the Burckys and Albrechts. Daniel Holly was born at Neuhof farm near Hanau Aug. 3, 1816, and died in LaSalle County Nov. 18, 1886. According to Grubb "...he was one of the organizers of the Hessian congregation, and became one of its ministers in 1841." On April 2, 1839 in Butler County he married Helena Bender (1817-1902). Daniel and Helena had four children in Butler County, moved to Putnam County in 1848, and had three more children, leaving numerous descendants in the area. They are also listed on the 1870 census of Granville.

149 Their son Christian Burcky was born at Hennepin March 3, 1843, and died at Chicago June 21, 1908. *The New York Times*, June 22, 1908: "Christian Burcky Dead. Chicago Pioneer Restaurant Keeper 'Made His Pile and Quit.' Christian Burcky, one of the pioneer restaurant proprietors of Chicago, died yesterday at his residence. He attained something more than local prominence when he became known as 'the man who quit when his pile was made.' Previous to the big fire of 1871, he and Ed Milan opened a lunchroom in an old box car on Madison Street. 'We won't quit until we get a million' was their motto. Within a couple of years they accumulated sufficient money to furnish a basement in Madison Street, near Clark. After the fire they moved to 154 and 156 Clark Street, and opened what is said to have been, 'the original first class restaurant in Chicago.' During the latter part of 1888 they began taking stock and counting cash. They discovered their joint riches totaled more than $1,000,000, and the next day the place was offered for sale. Burcky never again entered any business."

established in 1871. He appears on the 1880 census of Chicago as baker Fred Burcky, 66, born in Germany; with two sons William, 25, a restaurant worker born in Illinois; and Henry, 22, an artist born in Illinois. Both sons stated that their parents were born in Germany. Frederick's entr y in *History of Chicago* provides a number of details about the family, but the story exaggerates the earliness of his arrival in America by about four years: *"Frederick Burcky, one of the oldest bakers in Chicago, was born in Gelhausen, Germany, on June 9, 1814, the son of John Burcky, a physician. He became a pupil at the common school, and at the age of fourteen was apprenticed to learn the trade of a baker. His apprenticeship continued two years, and in 1830 he came to America, with his family, which consisted of the parents and eight children. They landed at New Orleans in the fall of 1830, and remained there during the winter, and in the spring of 1831 went to Cincinnati. In 1835, Jacob Burcky, a brother, bought a farm in Illinois midway between Hennepin and Peru, and one year later was followed by his two brothers, Daniel and Frederick, who opened a grocery store at Hennepin in 1836, continuing it two years. At the end of that time, Mr. Burcky's health failed, and for two years he was an invalid on the farm of his brother Jacob... In 1840, Frederick Burcky came to Chicago, and for three years worked for Winship & Howe, bakers. He then moved to Wells Street, where the Times Building now stands, and started a bakery and coffee house, the first of that kind in Chicago. He continued business there until the great fire, and, suffering heavy losses, established again at No. 93 Halstead Street, selling out his business in 1874."*

Jacob Burcky came to America on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832; the story of the journey was told in STAKER. The passenger list describes him as 'Jacob Birty, 25.' He accompanied two families that came from Langsdorf. They belonged to Johannes Holly and his wife Helena Jutzi, and Katharina Holly and her cousin-husband Peter Holly of nearby Bellersheim. Johannes and Katharina were children of Langsdorf estate manager Daniel Holly. Jacob's younger brother Daniel later married passenger Elise Holly, a daughter of Johannes Holly and an earlier wife (the first of two Jutzi sisters he married).

Jacob found employment in Butler County, where in 1834 he was joined by other family members including his father, who had traveled via New Orleans.[150] The Burckys were participants in the congregational vote that divided conservative 'hooks and eyes' from progressive 'buttons' in Butler County in 1835. They chose to become part of the progressive Hessian congregation under minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger, with Naffziger as elder.

In Ohio, Jacob married Magdalena Grabiel [Krayenbühl, Ger. *Krehbiel*].[151] She was born in Bavaria in 1805.

The family soon moved to Central Illinois. *Past and Present of Bureau County:* "Mennonite Church of Indiantown: The first family of this sect came to Putnam County in 1835 or 1836, from Ohio. In the family, whose name was Burchey, were four boys, Daniel, Christian, Frederick, and Jacob, the latter being a minister of the gospel, and thus was a nucleus formed for the Mennonite church, which has been maintained up to the present time." It might be noted that the 'boys' would have been roughly ages 40, 32, 31, and 22 in 1836.

Jacob Burcky became a minister and held meetings at Granville, Putnam County. Unfortunately, he was also known for his temper.

His household appears on the 1850 census of Putnam County. A single page includes these families, as written:

- Farmer John Burkey [Burcky] junior, 30, Germany; and Catharine [Zierlein], 19, Germany.
- Farmer Jacob Brenniman [Brenneman], 40, Germany; Christiana [Christine Güngerich], 40, Germany; Jacob junior, 9, Illinois; Catharina, 7, Illinois; Mary, 3, Illinois; and Ellen, 1, Illinois.
- Farmer Peter Albright [Albrecht], 40, Germany; Catharine [Burkey], 28, Germany; Farona, 5, Illinois; Catharine, 10 months, Illinois; and John Burkey senior, 73, France.
- Jacob Burkey, 45, Germany; Magdalene [Grabiel], 33, Germany; Mary, 13, Illinois; Eliza, 11, Illinois; and John, 6, Illinois [another son died young; the two are shown on the 1840 census]; and farmer George Raitz, 31, Germany.
- Farmer Daniel Holly, 35, Germany; Leanna [Helena Bender], 33, Germany; Mary, 12, Ohio; John, 10, Ohio; William, 8, Ohio; Theodor, 6, Ohio; Gustavus, 4, Ohio; Daniel Gingrich, 23, Germany; John Holly, 28, Germany; and William Holly, 24, Germany. (See the footnote on the Johannes Holly family).

Jacob is buried in Mount Palatine Cemetery at McNabb, Putnam County as 'Jacob Burky.' His headstone says he died March 3, 1856 at age 51 years, 10 months, 25 days (yielding his estimated birth date March 8, 1804).

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[150] A biographical note on Frederick Burcky in the Alfred Theodore Andreas's *History of Chicago, Volume Three* (1886) tells an entirely different story. It says that the entire family - parents and eight children - arrived at New Orleans in the fall of 1830, and at Cincinnati in the spring of 1831.

[151] It is possible that Jacob's future wife came to America on the *De Rham* in 1830. 'Magalena Crepie, 24,' appears on the passenger list immediately after the family of Jacob Naffziger and Barbara Krehbiel.

Magdalena can be found as a 75-year-old from Bavaria on the 1880 census of Eden, La Salle County, living in the household of her son John, 37, and his wife Mary, 26. She died April 11, 1886 at age 81, and shares a headstone with her husband.

The Little Red Birkys

In their lifetime the 'Little Red Birkys' specifically described the family of Valentine Birky (1793-1860) and Elizabeth Unzicker, who settled along Allentown Road on the Elm Grove-Tremont boundary line. Now the term is used to describe their entire family branch.

The father of the generation that came to Illinois was **Johannes Birki or Bircki**. He may have been born circa 1748 (an estimation derived only from the birth year of his second wife), and died before the marriage of a daughter June 27, 1802.

In OESCH/ESCH, we speculate that he may have had a younger sister Catherine/Katharina Bürki. She was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen in 'Crooked Alsace' in 1764. She married Christian Oesch; they settled at Hanfeld, a location identified with this branch.

In or before 1776 he married for the first time to Elisabeth Ruby. Their child was:

1. Johannes/Hans/Jean/John Bircki/Burkey (he signed his own name 'Johannes Birki' and 'Hans Bircki') was born circa 1776, and likely died in Putnam County between 1850 and 1860. On March 5, 1798 at Gondrexange [Ger. *Gunderchingen*] in the Dieuze Ponds area of Moselle he married Freni Zwalter (also found as Swalter and Svalter). She was born circa 1777, a daughter of Christian Zwalter and Marie Risser (see the Appendix, ZWALTER for background on the family). 152 The *ban* announcement announcing their intention to marry described them as Jean Perki, 22, and Freine Stavalter, 21. The couple farmed on *La Canardière* ['the farm stock yard', Ger. *Entenhof* or *Antehof*] at Gondrexange. Freni's sister Catherine Zwalter (born circa 1768), worked there as well with her husband Joseph Gascho (born circa 1773). In 1802 Johannes signed a lease contract at Steingaden, Bavaria. The name Christian Bürcky also appears on that document; this individual could not be identified with certainty.153 Another document signed there in 1804 describes only Johannes of Buscherhof, the German name of his family's prior home in Lower Alsace. An additional document names Johannes Birki and 'cousin' Friedrich Hage.154 Johannes and Freni also lived at Obersanding (15 miles south of Regensburg), then purchased the Hellerhof estate there in 1826. It was put up for auction in 1836, the same year that Johannes and Freni emigrated from Europe, and sold in 1839. The packet ship *Charles Carroll* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 12, 1836. Its passenger list shows farmer John Berkie, 52; Fenica, 56; farmer Andrew, 30; Madeline, 17 [this may have been Magdalena Albrecht, who married Andrew in 1838; her name is marked with an 'x' and a note that she delivered a female child May 7]; John, 21; Catherine, 16; and Nicholas [actually Joseph], 20. Farther down the list is weaver Jacob Berkie or Berkin, 46. They settled at Hennepin, Putnam County (adjacent to Granville), and hosted the Albrechts over their first year 1836-37. *Past and Present of Bureau County*: "Mennonite Church of Indiantown: The first family of this sect [that of Johannes Burcky and Marie Schoenbeck] came to Putnam County in 1835 or 1836, from Ohio. In the family, whose name was Burchey, were four boys, Daniel, Christian, Frederick, and Jacob, the latter being a minister of the gospel, and thus was a nucleus formed for the Mennonite church, which has been maintained up to the present time." This family came from Hesse. The youngest son held meetings at Granville. "About a year later came another family of the same name [that of Johannes and Freni] with four sturdy sons and one daughter (leaving four daughters in the mother country, Germany)." We cannot yet account for four daughters in Germany, though one may have been Barbe. Magdalena was the daughter who came to Putnam County, and the 'four sturdy sons' may have included her husband Peter Roggy. Freni died before the 1850 federal census. Her name was passed down in a local history as 'Solphonia,' and it is also possible that it was thought to be the more common 'Sophronia'; we think it very likely that this was someone's misreading of a handwritten 'Fronica,' a German version of Freni. The father is last found in the Putnam household of Peter Albrecht and his wife Catherine Burkey, on the 1850 federal census: farmer Peter Albright 40, Germany; Catharine, 28, Germany; Farona, 5, Illinois; Catharine, 10 months, Illinois; and John Burkey

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[152] She is found on various documents as Fréne (derived from the Swiss Freni), Ferene (derived from the equivalent Verena), Veronica, and Frenica. See MOSIMAN for a footnote on her family.

[153] The signature of Christian Bürcky is a close match (with only slight differences) to those on contracts signed with the same spelling by the father of the 'Big Birkeys' of Tazewell County. But he would have been only 21 yeas of age in 1803, and co-signed a lease elsewhere in the same year (see THE BIG BIRKEYS).

[154] Steingaden is in the Alpine foothills of Upper Bavaria [Ger. *Oberbayern*]. A Steingaden Abbey [Ger. *Kloster Steingaden*] was established there in 1147. A parish church [Ger. *Welfenmunster*] was constructed in 1176. Another pilgrimage church [Ger. *Wieskirche*] was constructed 1746-54. Until it was secularized in 1803, the entire district was the property of the abbey. The pilgrimage church is now recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Senr., 73, France. John does not appear on the 1860 census. Children of Johannes/Hans/Jean/John Bircki/Burkey and Freni Zwalter include:

a. André Birki was born at Gondrexange Dec. 28, 1798, and died there March 6, 1799. His civil birth entry describes his parents as Jean Perki, farmer at *La Canardièr*, and Fréne Svaltert. It was witnessed by Jean's brother André Perki, 21, of Bouquenom [now called Sarre-Union, adjacent to Rimsdorf, Lower Alsace]. It was signed 'Johannes Birki' and Andreas Birki.'

b. Barbe Burkey was born at Gondrexange Jan. 29, 1800. Her civil birth entry described her parents as farmer Jean Perky and his wife Svalter. It was signed 'Johannes Birki.'

— The index to the civil records of Rimsdorf, Lower Alsace indicates an entry for the birth of Johannes Birki Sept. 17, 1801. Note that the next listed child Andreas/Andrew was born nine months later, substantially lessening the likelihood that Johannes belongs with this family. However, the actual entry is omitted from the online archives, so the parents cannot be identified with certainty.

c. Andreas/Andrew Burkey was born at Rimsdorf, Lower Alsace June 16, 1802, and died at Milford, Nebraska March 4, 1886, where he is buried in East Fairview Cemetery. His birth entry described his parents as field worker Johannes Birki, 26 [he signed Hans Bircki], and Frene Zwalterin, 22. In 1838 in Illinois he married Magdalena 'Lena' Albrecht. She was born on the Büdenhof estate at Sesslach, Upper Franconia, Bavaria June 17, 1819, and died at Milford, Nebraska April 10, 1886, a daughter of Christian Albrecht and Elisabeth Engel. She is also buried in East Fairview Cemetery. Andrew is found as the purchaser of 20 acres of public land at Granville Feb. 12, 1839 for $5 per acre. 'Andrew Birky' on the 1840 federal census of Putnam County (living alongside Jacob, John, and Christian of the Crooked Alsace chain). They appear on the 1850 census of Eden, LaSalle County as farmer Andrew Burky, 48, Germany; Martellina, 30, Germany; Valentine, 10, Illinois; Florina, 7, Illinois; Andrew, 5, Illinois; and John, 1, Illinois. In 1880 they appear on the census of Crete, Saline County, Nebraska, where Andrew's and Lena's birthplaces were given as Bavaria. *Herald of Truth*, March 1886: "Burkey - On the 5th of March, near Milford, Seward County, Neb., of old age, Andrew Burky, aged 84 years, 2 months and 4 days. He was married forty-eight years and leaves five children. Services were held by Joseph Shlegel, Joseph Gascho and Pre. Shupp, from *2 Cor. 5:1-3*." *Herald of Truth*, May 1886: "Burkey - On the 12th of Apr., near Milford, Seward Co., Neb., of consumption, Magdalena Burkey, aged 64 years, 5 months and 27 days. She leaves 5 children. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church and was buried in the graveyard. Funeral services were held by Joseph Gasho and Pre. Shupp from *2 Tim 4:7, 8*."

d. Magdalena Birki/Burkey was born circa 1805, possibly at Obersanding, Bavaria, and died after 1860. On April 22, 1828 she married Peter Roggy. He was likely born at Neidenfels (17 miles east of Kaiserslautern) circa 1795, and died in Illinois after 1860, a son of Christian 'Christel' Roggy/Rocke/Rocki and his second wife Veronica/Veronika.[155] In 1822 he leased the Arnsdorf castle estate near Wasserburg (now Wasserburg am Inn, 40 miles east of Munich); in 1828 he applied there for Bavarian citizenship. On April 22, 1828 he married Magdalena. Their ceremony took place in her father's home, on the Hellerhof estate at Obersanding (73 miles north of Wasserburg). Christian Gingerich, Jakob Ackermann, and Joseph Schantz were present as *Mennonit* witnesses. They sailed from Bremen on the *Barque Elisa*, and arrived at New York Aug. 1, 1837 with a traveling party including Albrechts, Joders, and Zierleins (see ALBRECHT OF BUREAU COUNTY in the Appendix for details of the passenger list). *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929* places their arrival in Illinois in the same year. On Nov. 1, 1839 the Register of Land Office at Springfield issued a deed to Peter Roggy. It stated that he had paid in full in cash (the going price was $1.25 per acre, though this is not mentioned) for 80 acres in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 10, Township 30. It was signed by the recorder of the General Land Office on behalf of President Martin Van Buren and his son and secretary, Martin Van Buren Jr. The 1840 census of Putnam County has faded and is largely illegible. The July 3, 1845 state census of Putnam County shows the household of Peter Roggy: one adult male, and one infant son; one adult female, and 5 daughters the age of 10. The family appears on the 1850 census of Granville, Putnam County as farmer Peter Rakey, Fance; Magdalena, 45, Germany; Catharine Albright [their oldest daughter had married Christian Albrecht], 20, Germany; Magdalena Rakey, 16, Germany; Barbara, 14, Germany; Faronica, 10, Illinois; John, 9, Illinois; Mary, 6, Illinois; John Albright [Albrecht], seven months, Illinois; and farmer Henry Boffman, 35, Germany. Peter Roggy is found on the 1855 state census of Putnam County. The 1860 census there has farmer Peter Rogga, 65, Bavaria; Madalena, 55, Bavaria; John, 19, Illinois; Mary, 15, Illinois; Christian, 8, Illinois; and farm laborer Joseph Stokey, 27, of Ungarden, Germany. No Roggys are found on the 1870 census of Granville. We could not find their places of death or burial. A Roggy Cemetery was established at Buda, Bureau County in 1855, but the grounds were ignored and many markers were lost. Because so little is known about this family, we have tried to provide background on their children:

[155] His father Christian 'Christel' held a hereditary lease at Neidenfels from 1758 until his death in 1796. (In other words, after his death an heir would have the privilege of renewing it). His first wife was Magdalena.

1) Jacobine Roggy was born at Obersanding March 29, 1829. The *Barque Elisa* passenger list gave her age as 14, when it should have been eight.
2) Catherine Roggy was born Dec. 15, 1830, likely at Obersanding, and died at Hennepin (adjacent to Granville) in 1909. On Sept. 17, 1848 at Arispie she married Christian Albrecht. He was born at Bamberg, Germany Feb. 10, 1821, and died at Tiskilwa Jan. 10, 1910, a son of Christian Albrecht and Elizabeth Engel. For more on this couple see the Appendix, ALBRECHT OF BUREAU COUNTY.
3) Magdalena Roggy was born at Obersanding Sept. 7, 1834, and died at Manson, Iowa March 15, 1920. In March 1869 she married David Musselman. He was born in Germany June 4, 1818, and died March 4, 1896. *Gospel Herald*, September 1920: "Musselman - Lena Roggy was born in Germany, Sept. 7, 1834. She came to America in her youth and was united in marriage with David Musselman in March, 1869. This union was blessed with three children, two sons and one daughter. One son died in infancy. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her early youth and remained a faithful member until her death which occurred Mar. 15, 1920, at the age of 86 y. 7 m. 8 d. She leaves two children, nine grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. The last three months of her life, she suffered greatly with a broken hip but bore her suffering patiently and expressed herself as ready to depart this life. Short funeral services were conducted at the home of her son near Manson, Ia., by Bro. J. C. Eigsti after which the body was shipped to Tiskilwa, Ill., where services were conducted in the Willow Springs Church by Brethren H. V. Albrecht and C. A. Hartzler. Burial in the adjoining cemetery."
4) Barbara Roggy was born Sept. 15, 1835. We could not follow her after the 1850 census of Granville, which said she was born in Germany.
5) Veronica Roggy was born at Granville Sept. 17, 1838, and died in Livingston County April 13, 1919. In 1860 she married Jacob Gingerich. He was born in Hesse Jan. 18, 1833, and died in Livingston County April 13, 1919.
6) John Roggy was born at Granville March 25, 1841. He appears on both the 1850 and 1860 censuses of Granville.
7) Mary Roggy was born iat Granville circa 1844. She appears as a 6-year-old on the 1850 census of Granville, and as a 15-year-old on the 1860 census of Granville.
8) Christian Roggy was born at Granville Feb. 29, 1852, and died at Meadows, McLean County Nov. 21, 1919. On Feb. 8, 1874 in Bureau County he married his second cousin Helena Birkey. She was born in Bavaria June 19, 1850 (headstone date; we would expect the end of the year from her father's emigration application), and died Oct. 2, 1878, a daughter of Christian Birki and his second wife Elizabeth Stalter. He remarried to Barbara Stalder [Stalter] in Bureau County Feb. 23, 1880. *Gospel Herald*, December 1919: "Christian Roggy was born near Granville, Ill., Feb. 29, 1852; died at his home in Meadows, Ill., Nov. 21, 1919: aged 67 y. 8 m. 22 d. Feb. 8, 1874, be was united in marriage to Helen Burkey of Tazewell Co., Ill., who died Oct. 2, 1878. One son (Joseph) and one daughter (Lydia) were born to them, who both preceded him in death. Feb. 2, 1880, he was married to Barbara Stalter. Two sons and two daughters were born to this union. One daughter (Ada L.) died at the age of 18 mo. He leaves his deeply bereaved wife, two sons (Edwin J. and Alvin P.) and one daughter (Katie King), six grandchildren, and many friends and relatives. He united with the A. M. Church at Tiskilwa, Ill., at the age of 23 years and remained faithful to the end. He loved to read God's Word and to have it read to him. In 1893 be with his family moved to Decatur Co., Kans., for his health where they resided until 1904, when they removed to Cass. Co., Mo., remaining there until 1914, when they came to Illinois where they have since resided. Funeral services at the house by Bro. G. H. Summer and at the church by Bro. Joe Kinsinger in the German and Bro. D. W. Slagel in the English language. Interment in the Waldo Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, April 1847: "Roggy - Barbara, daughter of Jacob and Barbara Stalter, was born near Tremont, Ill., Feb. 2, 1857; died at the home of her daughter (Mrs. Joe King), Toluca, Ill., March 12, 1947; aged 90 y. 1 m. 10 d. On Feb. 23, 1880 she was united in marriage to Christian Roggy, who preceded her in death twenty-eight years ago. Surviving are two sons (Edwin J., Flanagan, Ill.; and Alvin P., Meadows, Ill.), one daughter (Mrs. Katie King, Toluca, Ill.), one brother (Chris Stalter, Pontiac, Ill.), two step-granddaughters, one step-grandson, nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and two foster grandchildren, and four foster great-grandchildren. One great-grandchild, one foster great-grandchild, four sisters, and three brothers preceded her in death. In her youth she united with the Mennonite Church. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Church, Flanagan, Ill., in charge of Ezra B. Yordy, assisted by George Gundy."

e. John Burkey Jr. was born June 24, 1812, possibly at Obersanding, Bavaria, and died in Bureau County Dec. 9, 1890. He married Catherine Zierlein. She was born July 30, 1830, and died in Bureau County

March 1, 1854, a daughter of Casper Zierlein and Elizabeth Albrecht of Granville, Putnam County. Following her death, he remarried to Catherine Rediger. She was born at Bébing, Moselle Nov. 11, 1820, and died at Tiskilwa Feb. 11, 1894, an illegitimate daughter of Marie Rediger. She had sailed form le Havre on the *Athens*, and arrived at New Orleans May 13, 1853. The passenger list is given in REDIGER. *Herald of Truth*, January 1891: "Buerki. On the 9th of December, near Tiskilwa, Bureau Co., Ill, of the infirmities of old age, Bro. John Buerki, aged 78 years 5 months and 16 days. He was buried on the 11th in the Amish Mennonite graveyard in Indiantown. Funeral services by Jos. Buercky and Chr. Zehr, and Peter Ropp, of Tazewell Co. Bro. Buerki leaves his companion, one daughter and two grandchildren, and many warm friends to mourn his departure. He was a faithful follower of Christ. His place at meeting was never empty so long as he was able to go. He departed in peace." *Herald of Truth*, May 1894: "Buerky. On the 11th of February 1894, near Tiskilwa, Bureau Co., Ill., of heart disease, sister Catherine Rediger, relict of the late John Berky, aged 73 y. Buried on the 13th in Willow Spring graveyard. Funeral services by Jacob Ringenberg, Hy. V. Albrecht and A. Oesch of Nebraska and Pre. Kaufman of Tiskilwa. The deceased leaves a daughter and a step-daughter beside many friends to mourn their loss."

f. Valentin Birky was born at Meierhofen, Bavaria June 20, 1815.

g. Joseph Burkey was born April 26, 1816, possibly at Obersanding, Bavaria, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Dec. 12, 1887. On Oct. 25, 1846 in Tazewell County he married Anne Ringenberg/Anna Ringenberger; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born on Hingsange farm at Linstroff, Moselle Nov. 6, 1819, and died at Alvin, Vermilion County July 17, 1871, a daughter of Pierre Ringenberg/Peter Ringenberger and Anna/Anne Schrag/Schrock. They are found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Joseph Bairgie, 33, Germany; Anne, 30, Germany; Catherine, 4, Illinois; Mary, 3, Illinois; and Anne, 1, Illinois. Anne is buried in Rinkenberger Cemetery at Fon du Lac.

h. Catharina Birki (per birth entry)/Catherine Burkey was born at Obersanding, Bavaria Feb. 4, 1819, and died at Macon, Bureau County March 4, 1895. Her civil birth entry described her as a daughter of "Joannis Birki of the Mennonite sect, living at Obersanding Number 16, and Veronica, also an Anabaptist, whose father Joannis Zwalter [actually Christian Zwalter] is a bishop of that sect living at *La genarich ex Lotharingia* [Gondrexange in the region of Lorraine]." She married Peter Albrecht in Illinois. He was born Nov. 30, 1810, and died in Bureau County Jan. 23, 1888, a son of Christian Albrecht and Elizabeth Engel. For more on this couple see the Appendix, ALBRECHT OF BUREAU COUNTY.

In 1782 or earlier Elisabeth Ruby died, and Johannes remarried to Barbara Birki. She was born circa 1748, and died at Perlach, Bavaria Jan. 24, 1826 (the home of her second son Andreas/André/Andrew).

Either wife could have been the mother of this son:

2. Andreas or André Burki/Andrew Burkey was born circa 1778. When he witnessed the birth of a nephew at Gondrexange, Moselle in 1798, his age was exaggerated as 31 and his place of residence given as Bouquenom [Ger. *Bockenheim*], now the east side of Sarre-Union, Lower Alsace. Circa 1801 he married Catherine/Katharina Ackermann. In 1802 he was a witness at the Rimsdorf marriage of his sister Barbara Birki and Heinrich Ackermann, where his age was given as 23. In June of 1803 Andreas/André/Andrew and Catherine/Katharina obtained a lease for a property at Englmannsberg (10 miles south of the Amish Mennonite settlements at Karlskron and Probfeld). On Dec. 6, 1806 he purchased House No. 26 and 170 acres at Flügelsberg, Bavaria (eight miles south of Amish Mennonite settlers at Breitenbrunn); they sold the property in 1813. On July 1, 1818 Andreas purchased the Perlach castle and its 181 acres outlying Munich on its southeastern side. The castle had been leased by Johannes Pechler (father of Elm Grove settler Christian Beckler) and Christian Eichelberger (see BECHLER/BECKLER for more on this location). According to a document held by Herbert Holly, Andreas sold it in 1830 with the intention of emigrating to York, Upper Canada (now Toronto, Ontario, but also the name of the county surrounding it) to join his oldest son Johannes/John.156 His departure was put off after a dispute over a military service penalty tax; his sons

[156] A letter to the Royal Government, Chamber of the Interior Sept. 11, 1830, found by Herbert Holly and translated by Helmut Gingerich: "Family circumstances, specifically the tact that I have a son who for 10 years has been a resident of York in Upper Canada in America, inclines me to follow that son and emigrate to America myself. Since I am a French citizen, and never gained naturalization in Bavaria, nor any other rights of a citizen, it is not necessary to seek approval for emigration, and I would not bother the Royal Highest Administration without a very special issue pending. I was trained in agricultural management, and through hard labor, and after terms as leaseholder at several locations, finally obtained ownership of an estate at Perlach. Since I would have no joy in remaining in Bavaria, it was natural to sell my estate, which resulted in the purchaser's money being deposited at court. My capital is still held there. The Royal Court instructed me to report my emigration to the Royal Government, and to apply there for my funds, and no obstacles would oppose my emigration. And so I respectfully tender that application and trust in a speedy positive decision. My admission at York in Upper Canada has been approved by Vice

had not attended mandatory training. He then moved into another judicial district. On Dec. 9, 1830 he purchased House No. 2 and and 236 acres at Söcking, Bavaria (this location is often found as 'Secking'; it is now part of Hanfeld, about 12 miles below Munich, adjacent to Starnberg at the head of Lake Starnberg). Early in 1835 he obtained passorts from the District Court of Starnberg, stating only an intention to travel west of the Rhine River into the Pfalz. On March 9 he sold 111 acres of forest in parcels to local farmers. On June 7, 1835 he had a Kaiserslautern notary draw up an authorization for his son Andreas/Andrew to operate or sell the estate at Söcking. They sailed from Le Havre on the *William J. John*, arriving at New York Aug. 6, 1835. The passenger list shows farmer Andrie Burky, 57; Catherine, 57; brewer Joseph Burky, 24; and Marie Burky, 22. They settled at Worth, Woodford County. When the last of the Perlach property was sold by Andreas/Andrew Burcky in 1838, employee Barbara Heiser from Arzbach bei Dachau was given a severance of 600 guilders for her service; her probable nephew Joseph Heiser accompanied Andreas/Andrew when he finally emigrated (see HEISER). Their children include:

a. Johannes/John Burcky was born April 28, 1804, and died Sept. 27, 1863; he is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. He emigrated and resettled at York in Upper Canada (now Ontario) as a 16-year-old in 1820, then returned to Europe after Sept. 11, 1830 (the day his father applied to emigrate and join him). He then sailed from Hamburg with his younger brother Joseph on the brig *Montano*, arriving at New York Sept. 5, 1833.157 The passenger list identified the brothers as distillers; gave his age as 29 years, 2 months; said they were coming from 'Seking' in Bavaria and were bound for Kentucky; and that John was already a citizen of the United States. Donna Schrock Birkey suggests that one or both brothers were part of what author Doris Page described as "the unmarried young men and women who stopped there [Butler Co.] as early as 1831," and that they worked for or with the Augspurger distilleries. On May 31, 1841 John married the much younger Magdalena/Madeleine Roggy in Illinois. She was born at Volmunster May 15, 1823, a daughter of Christian Roggy and Catherine Engel. ROGGY shows that she was a granddaughter of Johannes/Jean Roggy and Catherine Birki (1765-1845, also found as Birchÿ and Bircky). The 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) shows a combined household: John Berkey, 46; Madalene [Roggy], 27; Catharine, 8; Elizabeth, 6; John, 4; Barbary, six months; Christian Donner, 25; and Catharine [Roggy], 18. Magdalena is found on the 1880 census of Washington as 57-year-old widow Magdalena Burky, living in the household of her son John. She stated that she was born in France to parents from France. Magdalena/Madeleine Roggy is buried with the Taylor family in Glendale Cemetery at Washington, identified as 'Magdalena Burky, Grandmother.' Her headstone gives the dates May 13, 1823-Oct. 9, 1918. Her daughter Barbara married a Taylor.

b. Barbara Burcky was born March 12, 1805, and died at Perlach castle Dec. 26, 1825.

c. Katharina Burcky was born at Flügelsberg May 5, 1807 (per the civil entry found by Herbert Holly), and died at Perlach castle Dec. 24, 1825.

d. Andreas/Andrew Burcky was born at Flügelsberg Dec. 3, 1808 (per the civil entry found by Herbert Holly; the majority of sources say he was born Dec. 4, 1809; however, his headstone gives his date of death as May 21, 1881; his age count as 72 years, four months, and 26 days; and his date of birth as Dec. 4, and a barely legible 1808 or 1809. He married Barbara in Bavaria circa 1830. She was born circa 1808, and died at Tiskilwa Nov. 22, 1894. Barbara was thought to have been an Eyer or Oyer, but this is contradicted by the birth entry of their son Joseph created at Söcking May 29, 1836. It names the father as Andreas Burka and the mother as Barbara Grounis [or something similiar], both Anabaptists, residing at No. 2. When Andreas/Andrew sold the estate at Socking prior to emigration, he was obliged to pay a 10 percent tax, and to pay for a military training exemption for a brother who had already emigrated. They sailed with Joseph Heiser and Peter Yordy from Le Havre on the packet ship *Charles Carroll*, arriving at New York Sept. 17, 1838.158 That passenger lists describes A[illegible] Burkey, 29; Barbara

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Governor P. Maitland under Royal English guarantee, as shown on the attached document. With this plea I ask a second favor: not to prolong the process, since the ship's passage is booked for myself and my companions, and it is bound to leave soon. Delay would cause difficulty and extra expense. In any event, under the circumstances, emigration taxes should not be an issue. In deepest respect, submitted by most obedient Pirk of Perlach."

Enclosed with this letter was a copy of the Sept. 9, 1822 letter addressed from Upper Canada Vice Governor Peregrine Maitland to Christian Nafziger, mentioned in ROPP, WILMOT TOWNSHIP. Andreas likely knew Christian; Nafziger's last European address was Ebersberg, 20 miles east of Munich. Andreas owned Lindach castle at Munich, and Lindach estate was located at Ebersberg.

York was located on the north shore of Lake Ontario, 75 miles east of Wimot Township. The area was settled by Loyalist British soldier veterans of the Revolutionary War (or their surviving families), starting in 1783. The village and county were established in 1792. It was not incorporated as a township until 1850. Toronto was established in 1834, and York was absorbed into the city in 1998.

[157] The *Montano* is one of dozens of wooden ships buried beneath the streets of San Francisco. It was sunk in 1850-53 and covered with landfill.

[158] *Guide to the Manuscript Materials relating to American History in the German State Archives* (1913) collected by Marion Dexter Learned describes item 1064.33 as *Geheime Raths-Acten K. Staats - Ministerium des Innern vom J. 1830. Betreff: Das Gesuch des Andreas Pirki von Perlach um Bewilligung zur Auswanderung nach York in Ober Kanada.*

Burkey, 29; and Joseph Burkey, 2; Joseph Heser, 20 [Joseph Heiser]; and Peter Jodte, 23 [Peter Yordy], who would become their next-door neighbors. The obituary of a son states that they arrived in America in 1839, spent a year in Butler County and five years in Woodford County, then relocated to Tazewell County. 159 They are found on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as farmer Andrew Bergy, 50, Bavaria; Barbara, 59 [should have been 51 or 52], Bavaria; Andrew, 21, Illinois; and laborer Christian 'Hastetter,' 19, Bavaria, all on the same page as Joseph Heiser and Peter Yordy. They are found on the 1880 census of Indiantown, where both give their birthplaces as Germany, but the birthplaces of their parents as Lorraine. In their household is one 39-year-old son, Andrew Burcky, whose birthplace is given as Illinois, and the birthplace of his parents as Bavaria. *Herald of Truth*, July 1881: "Burcky. May 31st, in Bureau Co., Ill., Andrew Burcky, aged 72 years, 5 months and 26 days. He leaves an aged widow, two children, nine grand-children, and one great-grand-child. Words of comfort were spoken on the funeral occasion by Jacob Unzicker, Andrew Ropp, and Peter P. Stuckey." *Herald of Truth*, December 1894: "Buercky. On the 22d of November 1894, at Tiskilwa, Ill., of the infirmities of old age, sister Barbara, widow of Bro. Andrew Buercky, aged 86 y., 5 m. She leaves two sons, eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and many friends to mourn her death. Her remains were laid to rest on the 24th in the Willow Spring graveyard Indiantown, Bureau Co., Ill. Funeral services by Jac. Ringenberg and Hy. V. Albrecht in German from *Phil. 2:21* and *Rev. 14:13*, and Val. Strubhar of Washington, Ill., in English from *2 Tim. 4:7*, *8*. J. Buercky."

e. Joseph Burcky was born at Flügelsberg Sept. 8, 1810 (per the civil entry found by Herbert Holly). According to Herbert Holly, Joseph and Katharina Riedl had two illegitimate children together: Maria, born Jan. 4, 1830; and Barbara, who was born Aug. 28, 1831, and died Sept. 7, 1831. Joseph sailed from Hamburg with his older brother John on the brig *Montano*, arriving at New York Sept. 5, 1833. The passenger list identified the brothers as distillers; gave his age as 23 years, 3 months, 29 years, 2 months; and said they were coming from 'Seking' in Bavaria and bound for Kentucky. He then returned to Europe, and sailed again with his parents and younger sister in 1835. In the same year Joseph married Catherine 'Katie' Schlegel, either in New York or Illinois. She was born Sept. 9, 1816, and died in 1894, a daughter of Christian Schlegel and Catherine Ernst. The household of Joseph and Katie appears on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Joseph Berkey, 40, Germany; Catharine, 34, France; and Joseph, 13, Illinois. They appear on the 1870 census of Roanoke as farmer Joseph Burkie, 60; Catharine, 54; Theodor, 26; John, 19; Andrew, 16; and Peter, 12; all stated to be born in Bavaria.

f. Marie Burcky [twin] was born at Meierhofen Jan. 18, 1813 (per a Catholic entry found by Herbert Holly), and died circa 1844. On May 1, 1836 in Tazewell County she married Charles Molitor. He may have been born at Metz Sept. 29, 1809 (no civil birth entry is found there), and died at Metamora June 2, 1891, a son of Charles Molitor and Verena Conrad. *Past and Present of Woodford County* lists him as an 1835 early settler of Worth (when it was still Germantown); in 1875 he was elected a vice president of the Old Settler's Association. "Chas. Molitor, though born in France, lived in Germany from the time he was six years old until he came to America, in 1835, and two years after settled in Worth Township, where he still lives. His father-in-law, Andrew Burcky, came the year before and settled near where Mr. Molitor now resides." Perhaps this is more reliable than the early events in an online history of Worth sponsored by St. Mary's of Lourdes Church saying he was "...born in Canada of German and French parents; sojourned in Russia as a young man; came to New York City, worked as a cabin maker, and then

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1830. This is an application Andreas/Andrew made in 1830 for travel to what is now Ontario. His plans may have changed, or his application was denied because he had reached the age for mandatory military training.

[159] Their son Joseph Burcky served as a minister and elder at Willow Springs Mennonite Church at Tiskilwa, Bureau County; he spelled his surname 'Buercky.' *Gospel Herald*, August 1920: "Joseph Burcky, oldest son of Andrew and Barbara Burcky, was born in Seckking [Söcking], Bavaria, May 29, 1836. He came to America with his parents in 1839. They stopped in Butler Co., Ohio, one year, then came on to Woodford Co., Ill., where they lived for five years, after which they moved to Tazewell Co., where he grew to manhood. Here he confessed Christ as his Savior and was received into the Mennonite Church by baptism at the age of eighteen. Feb. 28, 1858, he was married to Jacobina Zimmerman, which union was blessed with eleven children. Three (Josephine, Jonathan, and Albert) died in their infancy. Two (John and Mary) grew to manhood but preceded their father in death. Six (Elizabeth, Simon, Benjamin, Edward, Amos, and Joseph) survive their father. He was ordained as a minister of the *Gospel* in 1863 and moved to Bureau Co., in 1869, from which time he has served the Willow Springs Church as minister, and as bishop since 1878, until old age and failing health made it necessary for him to lay down his charge. August 1, 1920, at the People's Hospital in Peru, Ill., he passed away at the ripe old age of 84 y. 2 m. 3 d. In his departure he leaves six children, 20 grandchildren and five great grandchildren, besides the many relatives and friends to whom he has endeared himself by the 50 years of service for the community of the Willow Springs Mennonite Church. Funeral services were conducted at him home by Eugene Augsburger and C. A. Hartzler of Tiskilwa, Ill., after which his body was laid away in the adjoining cemetery there to await the call of his Lord." A note on Joseph's wife Jacobina Zimmerman is given in ZIMMERMAN; she was a daughter of Michael Zimmerman and his second wife Magdalena Erb. ROPP notes that John Alexander Dowie addressed Tazewell County Mennonites in a meeting at the Railroad Schoolhouse May 14, 1897; the text, mentioning Peter W. Ropp and Joseph Buercky, can be found at *zionhealingrooms.com/iwill.pdf*

moved to Worth Township; fathered children by 2 wives; enlisted in the cavalry in the Civil War (wounded and taken prisoner); was a Justice of the Peace in Worth Town for 40 years and lived to the age of 81." They had a daughter Catherine (born circa 1840) and a son Peter (born circa 1842) in Woodford County. Charles remarried to Mary Ann Phillips in Woodford County Sept. 10, 1844. They appear on the 1850 census of Woodford County. During the Civil War he served as a sergeant in the 14th Regiment, Illinois Cavalry. They can be found on censuses of Worth in 1860, 1870 (as Charles 'Molodore'), and 1880, where they had six more children. Son Peter Molitor married Elizabeth Rengisen in Woodford County March 1, 1866. Their household can be found on the 1870 census of Chatsworth, Livingston County as miller Peter Molitor, 28, born in Illinois; Elizabeth, 23, born in Germany; Charles, 3, born in Illinois; and Rudolph, 1, born in Illinois.

g. An unnamed twin was born at Meierhofen Jan. 18, 1813, and likely died the same day.

Toward the end of the 19th century Johannes and Barbara were living on the Bouchert farm [Ger. *Buscherhof*] in the adjacent villages of Rimsdorf and Sarrewerden in 'Crooked Alsace.' We found Buscherhof administered as part of a parish that included Bouquenom, Harskirchen, Mittersheim, Neusarrewerden, Rimsdorf, Sarrewerden, Vibersviller, Willer, and Zollingen in the early 1700s. The Cassini map created in the late 1700s shows a Bouchert farm on the east side of Sarrewerden. Rimsdorf and Sarrewerden are within a day's walking distance of the Neumatt estate at Diemeringen and its subordinate farm, the Lutterbacherhof estate at Dehlingen.

In 1802 the Stalter family received property from elector Maximilian IV Joseph, the future king of Bavaria, and other families accompanied or followed them. Those families often leased confiscated cloister properties on generous terms. The Birki//Birckis were among the families that migrated north to Bavaria.

Children of Johannes Birki and his second wife Barbara Birki include:

3. Barbara Birki was born circa 1782. On June 28, 1802 at Rimsdorf, Lower Alsace she married Heinrich Ackermann. Their civil marriage entry describe the groom as Heinrich Ackermann, 28, of Wartenberg; he was a son of Johannes Ackermann, 62, and Barbara Albrecht, residents of Wartenberg. The bride was described as Barbara Birk, a daughter of the late Johannes Birki and his still-living wife Barbara Birki (born a Birki), 50, of Buscherhof, community of Rimsdorf. Johannes Birki, 26, and Andreas Birki, 23, attested that the bride was 20 years of age. It was signed 'Johannes Birki.' See ACKERMANN for background on the groom's family and Wartenberg-Rohrbach (adjacent to Sembach, 10 miles northeast of Kaiserslautern)
4. Christian Birki was born March 14, 1789, and died at Groveland Jan. 14, 1866. Circa 1815 he married Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho. They purchased House No. 11 at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria May 5, 1818. 'Christian Birgi' was described as a *Mennonit* and a partial leaseholder on the grounds of the estate of major general Maximilian *Graf* von Spreti at Arzbach bei Dachau 1818-24. Christian, his younger brother Valentin, and minister Daniel Zehr were carpenter/builders on the von Spreti estates Arzbach and Unterweilbach in 1831. The Birkis later lived at Odenstockach, southeast of Munich. His surname appears as 'Birky' on most Bavarian records, but historical notes call him 'Birki' because that is how he signed it and how it appears on his headstone. However, 'C. Birkey' labels his farm on the 1864 plat map of Groveland, and that was the spelling chosen by most of his children. For more on Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho, see GASCHO. Their children include:
    a. Maria Birki/Mary Birkey was born April 8, 1816, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County May 13, 1903. She sailed from Le Havre to New York on the ship *Baltimore*, arriving June 17, 1844. Gary L. Yordy found the passenger list of group traveling from Bavaria: Peter Zerr, 15; Joseph Burger, age illegible; Catharina Kernder [Kettner], 27 [she returned to Europe and sailed again on the *Ademhar* in 1851]; Maria Burge, 28; and Johann Horn, 5.160 Johann Horn was her son by a first marriage, later known as John. On Feb. 9, 1847 in Tazewell County she remarried to Pierre Jordi/Peter Jordy/Peter Yordy; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Peter was born at Windstein, Lower Alsace June 12, 1815, and died at Roanoke July 2, 1897, a son of Jacob/Jaques Jordi and Catherine Schantz. See YORDY for background on this couple.
    b. Josef Birki/Joseph Birkey was born at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria Feb. 24, 1818, and died at Flanagan Dec. 12, 1887. He sailed from Le Havre to New York on the ship *Baltimore*, arriving June 17, 1844. On Oct. 25, 1846 in Tazewell County he married Anne/Anna Ringenberg; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born on Hingsange farm at Linstroff, Moselle Nov. 6, 1819, and died at Alvin, Vermillion County July 17, 1871, a daughter of Pierre Ringenberg/Peter Ringenberger and Anna Schrag/Schrock. Joseph purchased 40 acres at Tremont Oct. 11, 1849. They can be found on the

[160] Gary L. Yordy has identified the *Baltimore* passengers as Peter Zehr, a son of Daniel Zehr II and Magdalena Unzicker (he married Elizabeth Oyer); Josef Birki/Joseph Birkey, the oldest son of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho; possibly Catharina Kettner, a daughter of George Kettner and Maria Birky; Maria/Mary Birkey, a daughter of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho; and her son later called 'John.' 13-year-old Daniel Steinmann/Steinman is thought to have traveled with them, but is not found on the passenger list.

1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Joseph Burgie, 32; Anne, 30; Catherine, 9 or 4; Mary, 3; and Anne, 1; they were living on Allentown Road at Tremont, next door to Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birky. Joseph was listed as a son and heir to Christian's estate on a legal petition filed by Christian's second wife Elizabeth Stalter in 1866. Gary L. Yordy found that Joseph co-signed a guardianship bond with Elizabeth Stalter for his half-siblings Jacob, 'Hellen,' and John Birkey April 18, 1868. Joseph and Anne can be found on the 1870 census of Nebraska, Livingston County as farmer Joseph Berkee, 52, Bavaria; Anne, 50, France; Anne, 20, Illinois; Barbara, 14, Illinois; Christian, 17, Illinois; Solomon, 12, Illinois; and Joseph, 10, Illinois; and on the 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County as farmer Joseph Birkey, 62, born in Germany to French parents; Anni, France, 60; Solomon, 23, Illinois; Mary, 22, Illinois; Joseph, 21, Illinois; and F. Schwartzentruber, 18, Iowa.

c. Christian Birki/Birky (twin) was born at Arzbach bei Dachau, House No. 10 April 21, 1820. His birth entry was created at Pellheim.

d. Magdalena Birki/Madeleine Birkey (twin) was born at Arzbach bei Dachau House No. 10 April 21, 1820, and died before 1871. Magdalena married Johann Ackermann/John Ackerman in Bavaria July 13, 1843. He was born at Köfering, Bavaria May 24, 1817, and died at Groveland Oct. 28, 1891, where he is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery with his second wife. See ACKERMAN for more on this couple.

e. Barbara Birki/Birky was born at Arzbach bei Dachau Feb. 26, 1822, and died at Hopedale March 31, 1885. She is buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale. On April 30, 1849 she married Jacob Stalter. He was born on the Hemerten estate at Münster on the Lech River Sept. 12, 1823, a son of Jacob Stalter of the Hemerten estate and Katharina Stalter of Gern, and died in Livingston County June 8, 1898; he is buried in Waldo Cemetery. See STALTER, THE STALTERS OF HEMERTEN for more on this couple.

f. Katharina Birki/Birky was born at Pellheim House No. 20 Nov. 21, 1825.

g. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Birkey was born at Pellheim House No. 20 Feb. 29, 1828, and died Feb. 26, 1889. On Sept. 18, 1853 in Tazewell County she married André/Andrew Oyer; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Niderhoff Feb. 27, 1826, and died at Sterling, Kansas June 27, 1913, a son of Joseph Oyer and his second wife Magdalena Litwiller. For background on this couple see OYER.

h. Andreas/Andrew Birky was born March 3, 1830, and died at Fisher, Champaign County Sept. 11, 1895. On March 25, 1858 in Tazewell County he married Veronica 'Fannie' Sutter [found in Germany as Sutor]; their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria Nov. 11, 1838, and died at Fisher April 16, 1927, a daughter of Johannes Sutter and Barbara Oesch/Esch. They are found on the 1870 census of Morton. Donna Schrock Birkey: "Andrew [Birky], Barbara's brother, married Veronica Sutter, daughter of Johannes Sutter. Andrew and Veronica bought 80 acres of the Sutter land in Tazewell County in 1882 for $50 an acre. In 1891 they sold the land for $95 an acre and moved to Fisher. Andrew bought land in the same section where daughter Mary and her husband had purchased land and built a house. He donated one acre for cemetery purposes (the present East Bend Mennonite Cemetery) and it happened that he was the first to be buried there. Andrew was a devout Christian and a great disciplinarian according to his daughter Mary." *Gospel Herald*, May 1927: "Fannie S. Birkey was born Nov. 11, 1838; died April 16, 1927. She was the daughter of John Sutter of Berlin, Germany, who with his family came to the United States in 1848 [1851]. She became a member of the Mennonite Church in her youth. In 1858 she was married to Andrew Birkey, who preceded her in death in 1895. She was the mother of five sons and two daughters. She is survived by three sons, one daughter, twenty-six grandchildren, and thirty-nine great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held in the East Bend Mennonite Church near Fisher, Ill., by A. H. Lehman of Chicago, Ill."

i. Anna Birky was born Jan. 20, 1832, and died Dec. 4, 1901. On March 15, 1853 in Tazewell County she married Johannes/John Rediger; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born in Baden Nov. 28, 1828, and died March 13, 1882, a son of Benjamin Rediger and Barbara Ehresmann. They can be found on the 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer John Rediger, 51, born in Baden to a father from France and a mother from Württemberg; Anna Rediger, 46, born in Bavaria to parents from France; and 10 children born in Illinois.

j. Katharina/Catherine Birky was born in November 1834, and died Feb. 8, 1874. On Nov. 12, 1854 in Tazewell County she married Daniel Steinman; their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Breitenbrunn, Bavaria March 1, 1831, and died at Nebraska, Livingston County March 17, 1916, a son of Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman and Barbara Nafziger.

k. Veronika/Veronica/Fronika 'Fanny' Birky was born Jan. 16, 1837, and died Feb. 12, 1916. On Aug. 10, 1854, Christian Birki petitioned to be named legal guardian of his 17-year-old daughter 'Fronica' until she reached the age of 18. Gary L. Yordy discovered the document signed by 'Christian Birki': "This suggests that Mary [Christian Birki's first wife] received a bequest (most likely from her father at the time of his death). Since she had apparently pre-deceased the benefactor, her bequest was divided among her natural children (Mary, Joseph, Magdalena, Barbara, Elizabeth, Andrew, Anna, Catharina, and

Veronica). All save Veronica were of the age of majority in 1854. In order for her to collect her property, she needed a legal guardian, and that became her father. The person leaving the bequest may have been of some means since Mary's share was $1,602, and an equal amount may well have been left to any of Mary's siblings or their issue. The entire process suggests that Mary Birki's father may have died intestate in Illinois in 1853 or 1854, and it thus may be possible to identify him through probate or other guardian records." On Aug. 17, 1856 in Tazewell County Veronica married Peter Guth/Good; their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Burgwalden near Augsburg, Bavaria March 25, 1832, and died Aug. 8, 1916, a son of Christian Guth and Barbara Christner. They are found on the 1880 census of Groveland as farmer Peter Goot, 48, born in Albirn [Altbayern or Oberbayern, the governmental district of Bavaria where Munich and Augsburg are located] to a father from France and a mother from Albirn; and Fronia, 43, born in Albirn to parents from France. See GOOD for background on this couple.

Christian remarried to the much younger Elizabeth Stalter in 1844. She was born April 15 or 18, 1813 (24 years younger than Christian), and died at Groveland Sept. 29, 1872. She was a daughter of Heinrich Stalter (junior) and Jakobina Stalter, the owners of the Gern estate. Farmer 'Christian Birky of Oedenstockach' applied to emigrate March 13, 1851. Mary and Magdalena were already in America. The names and ages of their accompanying children appear on their application to emigrate: Andreas, 29; Anna, 28; Elizabeth, 23; Katharina, 17; Veronika, 15; Jakobine, 5; Heinrich, 4; Jakob, 3; and Helena, six months. They took 10,000 florins; Friedrich Blendinger wrote in *Die Auswanderung nach Nordamerika aus dem Regierungsbezirk Oberbayern in den Jahren 1846-1852* that of the 79 Mennonites who emigrated from the Munich area, Christian was by far the wealthiest.161 Gary L. Yordy found the passenger list of the bark *Adhemar*, which sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York June 7, 1851: Christian Burki, 62; Elizabeth, 37; Elizabeth, 23; Andrew, 20; Anna, 19; Catharina, 18; Veronica, 15; Jacobina, 5; Heinrich, 4; Jacob, 3; Helena, 6 months. Christian's brother-in-law Georg Kettner also brought his family on this ship. Christian's household is found on the 1860 census of Groveland as farmer Christian Berky, 72; Elizabeth, 48; Henry, 13; Jacob, 11; John, 8; Hellen, 10; and Jacobina, 14; all born in Bavaria except John, who was born in Illinois. Christian and Elizabeth are buried in Birki Cemetery at Groveland, which was carved out of an 80-acre farm they owned just above the center of Groveland (this farm was sold out of the family in 1875, three years after Elizabeth's death). Several members of this family may be buried in unidentified graves in this cemetery. The county cemetery book notes a pile of loose flagstones that may once have held up markers. The 1870 census of Groveland describes the household as Elizabeth Burky, 54, Bavaria; Jacobine, 24, Bavaria; farmer Henry, 23, Bavaria; Jacob, 21, Bavaria; Helena, 20, Bavaria; and John, 18, Illinois; and carpenter John Gerber, 28, born in Canada. Children of Christian Birki and his second wife Elizabeth Stalter include:

l. Jakobina/Jacobine 'Phoebe' Birkey was born in Bavaria circa 1846.

m. Heinrich/Henry Birkey was born in Bavaria circa 1847.

n. Jakob/Jacob Birkey was born in Bavaria circa 1848.

o. Helena Birkey was born in Bavaria June 19, 1850 (headstone date; we would expect the end of the year from her father's emigration application), and died Oct. 2, 1878. On Feb. 8, 1874 in Tazewell County she married Christian Roggy. He was born at Granville, Putnam County Feb. 29, 1852, and died at Meadows, McLean County Nov. 21, 1919, a son of Peter Roggy and Magdalena Burkey. He remarried to Barbara Stalter Feb. 2, 1880. See STALTER for more on this couple.

p. John Birkey was born at Groveland circa 1852.

In August 2007 Gary L. Yordy located a petition filed after Christian Birki's death by his widow Elizabeth Stalter and oldest son Joseph. On March 5, 1866 they stated that Christian died intestate Feb. 14, 1866, and that he left property valued at $1,400. Joseph requested to be named administrator of the estate. The children of the family were listed in order of birth. The list above follows this list, given here with spellings as found: Mary Yorte [Yordy], Joseph Birkey, Magdalena Ackerman, Barbara Stalter, Elizabeth Eyer, Andrew Birkey, Anna Rekeker [Rediger], Catharine Steinman, Fronica Guth, Jacobina Birkey, Henry Birkey, Jacob Birkey, Helena Birkey, and John Birkey.

5. Marie Birki, a husband, and children are found as emigrants from Gern in Friedrich Blendinger's *Die Auswanderung nach Nordamerika aus dem Regierungsbezirk Oberbayern in den Jahren 1846-1852*. However, Marie does not appear on the passenger list and may have died shortly before her family's emigration. Blendinger's account from Munich records says farmer/small landowner [Ger. *Gütner*] Georg Kettner emigrated from Gern with seven children, one illegitimate child, four illegitimate grandchildren, and 1,562 florins. See KETTNER for background.

6. **Valentine Birky** was born in France in 1793, and died at Tremont Sept. 12, 1860. He is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove, where the headstone spells his first name 'Valentin.'

Valentine Birky was the father of a family that came to be called the 'Little Red Birkys' of the Dillon Creek meeting. He was born in France in 1793.

[161] *Auswanderung* also indicates that from 1848 to 1852, 67 persons left the administrative district of Munich to emigrate to Illinois.

Valentine married Elizabeth Unzicker at Pellheim, Bavaria circa 1815, the year he turned 21 and their first child was born.[162] Pellheim was three miles north of Dachau in the northwest suburbs of Munich; it was administratively incorporated into Dachau in 1972. She may have been a daughter of Daniel Unzicker and his first wife Jakobea Holly, and a half-sister to Daniel Unzicker who married Magdalena Kahn (he was a son of Daniel Unzicker and his second wife Elisabeth Hauter).

The political landscape of Europe changed significantly after the Congress of Vienna. Maximilian I struck up an alliance with the Vatican. The Catholic Church was reinstated in Bavaria in October of 1817, but the monarch reserved the right to restrict activities and approve appointments. A Catholic priest was chosen to tutor the king's son.

In 1831 Valentine, his older brother Christian, and minister Daniel Zehr were carpenter-builders on the von Spreti castle estates at Arzbach bei Dachau and Unterweilbach. Valentine and Elizabeth later raised cattle on the Gern estate owned by Heinrich Stalter (junior) and his wife Jakobina Stalter.

Elizabeth Unzicker died in 1848, leaving five younger children living with their father in Bavaria.

The political circumstances that might have prompted the 'Forty-Eighters' to emigrate from Bavaria were noted in EIGSTI. Friedrich Blendinger in *Die Auswanderung nach Nordamerika aus dem Regierungsbezirk Oberbayern in den Jahren 1846-1852:* "Emigration from the urban area of Munich peaked in the period 1846-1852, with 177 total emigrants, including 47 in 1846 and 45 in 1852. About one-quarter of these were Mennonite or Evangelical, among them...the Mennonite family Birki of Gern..." Valentine elected to emigrate with the younger children in 1849, leaving only oldest son Jacob in Bavaria. According to his emigration application he carried 10,000 florins.

His voyage from Le Havre to New York on the *Minnesota* was described in EIGSTI. The family appears on the passenger list filed June 21, 1849 as Valentin Burke, 56; Henri [Heinrich and later Henry]; Marie, 14; Johann, 12; Jacobina, 11; and Barbara, 9. After Heinrich's name his age is heavily overwritten 'infant' – although he was 18 years old. We can speculate that the trip saved him from military conscription.

Upon arrival at New York, Valentine traveled directly to Tremont. Land on the north side of Allentown Road was jointly held by three of his sons, awaiting his arrival.[163]

The 1860 census of Morton shows the household of Joseph Birky and Barbara Eigsti with Valentine Birky, 67. Son Jacob finally emigrated from Europe in 1860, arriving at New York only 27 days before the death of his father Valentine Sept. 12. Valentine is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove.

Presumably the first eight children of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker were born at Gern. Their children include:

1. Jakob/Jacob Birky was born circa 1815, and died in Woodford County March 1, 1887. In 1845 he married Veronica 'Fannie' Gingerich, who was born Aug. 10, 1819, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 24, 1901; she is buried in East Fairview Cemetery as 'Veronika Birky.' Jacob/Jakob was the last of the children to leave Europe. They sailed from Bremen on the bark *Tuisco,* arriving at New York Aug. 15, 1860; the passenger list included Jacob Birki, 46; Veronika, 37; Jacob, 16; Joseph, 14; Magdalen, 12; Christian, 7 years 6 months; and John, 4. They can be found on the 1870 census of Linn, where their household is described as farmer Jacob Burkie, 56, Bavaria; Frances, 51, Bavaria; Jacob, 25, Bavaria; Joseph, 24, Bavaria; Christian, 18, Bavaria; John, 15, Bavaria (the sons were all farm hands); Lena, 23, Bavaria; Mary, 12, Bavaria; and Annie, 7, Bavaria. The 1880 census of Linn describes Jacob Birkey, 66; Fannie, 55; Jacob, 35; Joseph, 34; and John, 26, all from Baden. *Herald of Truth*, April 1887: "On the 1st of March, in Woodford county, Ill., of cancer in the stomach and lung fever, Bro. Jacob Burky, aged about 72 years. He was buried on the 3d. Services by Chr. Risser, John P. Schmidt and Peter Hockstetler, from *1 Cor. 15* and *John 5:24*. The deceased suffered much pain for several years, but he bore it all patiently." *Herald of Truth*, March 1901: "Veronica Berkey was born Aug. 10, 1819, died near Milford, Neb., Feb. 24, 1901, aged 81 years, 6 months and 14 days. She was the widow of Jacob Berkey and leaves three sons and one daughter, thirty grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren to mourn her departure. She was a beloved sister in the Amish Mennonite Church, and an affectionate mother. She lived with her youngest son, John, and was tenderly cared for during her illness of over four weeks. Buried in the Fairview cemetery. Funeral services by Joseph Schlegel in German, from *2 Cor. 5:1* and in English by N.E. Roth, from *John 11:25*. A large concourse of people gathered on this occasion, in token of the respect and esteem in which she was held. Peace to her ashes. D.B."

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[162] An online transcript of the *Heiratsregister Pfarrei Pellheim* says that Valentin Birky and Elisabeth Unzinger were married there before 1830.

[163] The 1850 census shows three couples family clustered next to Christian Beckler's property on the north side of Allentown Road (just west of what is now Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery): Walter Burkie, 26, Germany, and Elizabeth, 20; Andrew Burkie, 22, and Catherine, 18; Joseph Burkie, 28, Barbara, 25, and laborer Christian Springer, 15. In retrospect they appear to be Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Springer; Andrew Birky and Catherine Litwiller; and Joseph Birky and Barbara Eigsti; their incorrect ages may have been taken from travel documents prepared in Europe.

2. Joseph Birky was born May 17, 1816, and died at Milford, Nebraska March 13, 1902 (where his East Fairview Cemetery headstone says 'Joseph Burkey'). He sailed from Le Havre on the *Nashville*, and arrived at New Orleans Nov. 1, 1844. The passenger list shows Pierre Belzlé, 25, France; and Joseph Burgi, 28, France. He later returned to Europe for Barbara Eigsti. From *Roanoke Centennial History:* "Joseph Birkey was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1816. He came to the United States in 1844, and settled first in New Orleans, Louisiana. He then moved to Tazewell County for one year, then returned to Germany. He married Barbara Eikstein in Bavaria, then returned to the United States." Joseph, his bride-to-be Barbara Augustine (later 'Eigsti'), her sister Catherine, his younger brother Valentine, his sisters Magdalena and Elizabeth, and the couple Christian Beckler and Jacobine Holly sailed from Le Havre on the brig *Daniel Kilby*, arriving at New Orleans Nov. 22, 1846. One page of the passenger shows Bürk Magdaline, 19; Elisabethe, 18; Bircky Joseph, 29; Cath. Augustin, 21; Barbara, 20; Valentin Birky, 26; Behler [Beckler] Christian, 38; and Jacobine [Holly], 36. They married in America Aug. 22, 1847. She was born at Pellheim, Bavaria Jan. 23, 1827, died at Milford Aug. 6, 1911, and is buried near Joseph in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford. They are found on the 1860 census of Morton as farmer Joseph Birky, 43, Germany; Barbaray, 33, Germany; Valentine, 11; Mary, 9; Nancy, 6; Jacobin, 2; and Susan, 1; all children born in Illinois; Valentin Birky, 67, Germany; and laborer Lous Stegely, 27, Germany.
3. Christian 'Harry' Burkey was born Sept. 4, 1819, and died at Milford, Nebraska Nov. 6, 1890, where he is buried in East Fairview Cemetery. *The Past and Present of Woodford County, Illinois* says he married Maria/Marie/Mary Stalter in Germany in 1839. She was born at Munich March 5, 1820, and died at Raymond, Lancaster County, Nebraska Jan. 3, 1916, a daughter of Gern estate owners Heinrich Stalter (junior) and Jakobina Stalter. She is also buried in East Fairview Cemetery as 'Mary Burkey.' *The Past and Present of Woodford County, Illinois* says that son Christian "...was raised a farmer, and came to this country in 1842, landing at New Orleans, and proceeding up the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peoria, where he remained a couple of weeks and then came to Woodford County; at the end of one year, however, he removed to Tazewell County, and resided there until 1875, when he returned to Woodford County." When 'Christian Burky' was naturalized at Pekin May 10, 1855, his application stated that he was 37, had come from Bavaria, and arrived at New Orleans in 1842. Christian Beckler signed a similar document the same day. At Hanover/Metamora they owned 80 acres of Section 15 valued at $4,800, where Christian was a farmer and stock raiser. His household is found on the 1880 census of Metamora as farmer Christian Burkey, 60, born in Bavaria to a father from France and a mother from Bavaria; Maria, 59, born in Bavaria to Bavarian parents; and daughter Katharina, 22, born in Illinois to Bavarian parents. The 1885 state census of Precinct O, Seward County, Nebraska shows farmer Christian Burkey, 65, born in Bavaria to parents from France and Bavaria; Mary, 61, Bavaria; and Barbara, 24, born in Illinois to parents from Bavaria. Maria/Marie/Mary is found on the 1900 census of Precinct O, Milford Village, Seward County, Nebraska in the household of her son Joseph E. Burkey: mother and widow Mary, 80, born in Germany in March 1820, immigrated in 1842. *Herald of Truth*, December 1890: "On the 6th of Nov. 1890, near Milford, Seward Co., Neb., Christian Burkey, aged 71 Y., 2M., 2 D. He lived in matrimony 51 years and leaves a wife, 11 children, 46 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren to mourn their loss. He was a member of the A. Mennonite church. Services were conducted by Jos. Schlegel from *John 11:25, 26*, and Jos. Gasho from *2 Cor. 5:1*." *Gospel Herald*, January 1916: "Mary Burkey (nee Stalter) was born Mar. 5, 1820, at Munich, Bavaria, Germany; died Jan. 3, 1916, at the home of her son at Raymond, Nebr.; aged 95 y. 9 m. 29 d. Married to Christian Burkey in 1838, came with him to America in 1843. To them were born 12 children, one died at birth, one in later years and 10 remain to mourn her departure. She also leaves 49 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She has always lived a beautiful Christian life and has enjoyed good health until the last 10 days when she was taken with lagrippe."164
4. Valentine Birky was born Oct. 12, 1821, and died at Tiskilwa, Bureau County June 28, 1901. In 1846 he was a *Daniel Kilby* passenger. On Feb. 4, 1850 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Springer; the ceremony was

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[164] John W. Burkey, a son of Christian 'Harry' Burkey (son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker) and Maria/Marie/Mary Stalter (daughter of Heinrich Stalter junior and Jakobine Stalter) may have been the only Bürki descendant from Central Illinois to serve in the Civil War. He was born Aug. 24, 1847. *The Historical Encyclopaedia of Tazewell County* says he enlisted May 4, 1864. Military records describe him as "John Burky, private, Tremont, enlisted June 1, 1864; mustered out Oct. 28, 1864; Company C, 139th Illinois Infantry." The 139th Illinois Infantry was composed of 100-day volunteers from Tazewell and Woodford Counties. It stood guard duty at Cairo. Just after the 100 days of enlistment had passed, before the soldiers could be mustered out, a Confederate force under Major Gen. Sterling Price began marching toward St. Louis. President Lincoln sent a dispatch directly to the regiment commanding officer, Col. Peter Davidson of Peoria, asking him to defend the city. The 139th used the railroad to reach the city first, and Major Gen. Price retreated. President Lincoln wrote a letter to the regiment expressing his gratitude. On Sept. 25, 1882 at Milford, Nebraska John married Veronica 'Fannie' Kuhns. She was born in Holmes County, Ohio Nov. 24, 1862, and died May 21, 1940, a daughter of Joseph Kuhns and Catherine 'Katie' Garber; their family had come to Seward County from Ohio in 1873. John is found on lists of veterans created in Nebraska in 1891 and 1893, while he was living at Ulysses, Butler County, Nebraska. He may have taken advantage of Nebraska homesteading requirement waivers awarded to federal veterans. He belonged to Post 73 of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Civil War veterans meeting at Ulysses. They appear on the 1930 census of Seward, Milford County as John W. Burkey, 75 [he was actually 82], born in Illinois to German parents; and Fannie, 67, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio. One sources says he died as a centenarian Feb. 11, 1948.

performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Solln near Munich July 24, 1830, and died Aug. 30, 1921, a daughter of David Springer and Elisabeth Guth. Her parents sailed with the Birkys on the *Minnesota*. Valentine is listed as 38-year-old farmer Valentine 'Buckey' on the 1860 census of Tremont. The *Civil War Draft Registration* list for Tremont created in July 1863 showed him as farmer Valentine Birky, 38. The 1880 census of Tremont lists their household as farmer Valentine Burkey, 59; Elisabeth Burkey, 48; and seven children. Every member of the household is erroneously listed as a native of Berne with parents from Berne. *Herald of Truth*, July 1901: "Valentine Birky was born on Oct. 12, 1821, and died June 28, 1901, aged 79 years, 8 months and 16 days. He came to America in 1846 and settled in Tazewell Co., Ill. In 1850 he was married to Elizabeth Springer. To this union were born thirteen children, three of whom preceded him to the spirit world. The deceased leaves ten children, twenty-four grandchildren, one great grandchild, three brothers, and three sisters to mourn his death. The funeral services were conducted by Jacob Ringenberg from Tiskilwa, and Peter Hochsettler, Groveland, Ill."

5. Andreas/André/Andrew Birky was born Oct. 10, 1822, and died at Morton Nov. 7, 1893. He is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland as 'A. L. Birky.' In *Auswanderung* German genealogist Hermann Hage found the date of his emigration application as March 8, 1845.165 He arrived at New York on the packet ship *Emerald* Sept. 23, 1845, listed as 'André Burki' and accompanied by his cousin Magdalena/Madeleine Birkey, her husband Johann/ Ackermann/John Ackerman, their son Joseph, and George Eichelberger. On June 20, 1848 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Litwiller; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Butler County July 28, 1832, and died Aug. 24, 1870, a daughter of Peter Litwiller and Marie Mosiman. On the 1850 census he is listed as 'Andrew Birkie'; he is also shown as 42-year-old farmer Andrew 'Buckey' on the 1860 census of Tremont, and the 1870 census of Morton as 'Andrew Burky.' On Jan. 25 and 28, 1856, Andrew Burkey applied for naturalization at the county clerk's office. He renounced allegiance to King Ludwig of Bavaria; declared that he was born at Willbach, Bavaria; and had arrived at New York in 1846. 'Willbach' has many possibilities. Given the family's history, we suspect but cannot prove that the location was meant to be Wielenbach. This is a municipality nine miles wide, 29 miles southwest of Gern, and 24 miles southeast of what is now the village of Waal. Its center is eight miles east of Wessobrunn, seven mile west of Lake Starnberg, and five miles north of Polling. Several of the Bavarian families that came to Tazewell and Woodford Counties had leased properties there. The *Civil War Draft Registration* list for Tremont created in July 1863 showed him as farmer Andrew Birky, 41. In 1880 Andrew is found as a widower on the census of Morton.
6. Magdalena Birky was born Nov. 12, 1824, and died Feb. 18, 1897. She appears on a Munich emigration list from 1848, which states that she carried 500 florins. In about 1850 she married Herman Simermacher, who was born in Hesse circa 1818. We found him completely elusive until Gary L. Yordy pointed out the correct spelling of his surname and provided a wealth of information. Herman arrived at New York on the *Burgundy* June 21, 1843, appearing on the passenger list as 'Herrman Simermacher,' 25. In 1850 they were living at Philadelphia, where Herman was employed as a lamp maker. They also lived in Missouri, and later at Peoria. Herman appears on the 1860 census of Peoria as a 42-year-old brass worker; Magdalena, 36; with fours sons Charles, John, Henry, and William. Herman enlisted at Peoria Sept. 26, 1862, served as a private with Company E of the 82nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment (some related sources call him 'Adam Simmenmacher'), and was discharged at Washington, D.C. for disabilities Jan. 9, 1863. The family is listed without Herman on the 1870 census of Peoria County's 7th Ward. On the 1880 census of Peoria Magdalena is listed as 'Mary Simermacher' in the household of son Theodore Herman Simermacher. [The standardized German spelling of this surname is 'Simmermacher'].
7. Elisabethe/Elizabeth Birky was born in 1826, and died in Tazewell County in October 1866. On Jan. 3, 1847 in Tazewell County she married Johannes/John Birkey ('Big Birkeys'); their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Johannes/John was born Jan. 25, 1815, and died in Tazewell County Nov. 9, 1896. His household is found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as retired farmer John Birkey, 65, born in Bavaria to a father from France and a mother from Hesse; and three children born in Illinois to a father from Bavaria and a mother from Hesse: Christian, 25; Elizabeth, 19; and Catherine, 17.
8. Catherine Birky was born Jan. 29, 1829, and died March 18, 1870. She is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery. On Feb. 3, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Ropp; their ceremony was conducted by Christian Ropp. The next day her older brother Valentine married Elizabeth Springer. Joseph was born at Largitzen, Upper Alsace July 6, 1823, died March 3, 1885, and is buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington, a son of Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann.
9. Heinrich 'Henry' Birky was born Feb. 2, 1831, and died at Groveland Aug. 4, 1918. On April 30, 1854 he married Magdalena 'Lena' Eigsti. She was born Oct. 24, 1836, and died at Pekin May 13, 1906, a daughter of Nicholas Augstein and Barbara Gascho. They can be found on the same page of the 1880 census of Morton on the same page as her brother Joseph Eigsti, where they listed their birthplaces as France (Henry) and Bavaria (Magdalena), with 10 children. On Sept. 3, 1883 their son Nicholas Birkey married Matilda 'Tilly' Staker, the youngest child of Joseph Staker and Frena Roth. Henry is found as 80-year-old widower Henry Birkey on the 1910 census of Groveland,

[165] *Guide to the Manuscript Materials relating to American History in the German State Archives* (1913) collected by Marion Dexter Learned, describes item 1245/143 as *Andreas Birki Guts besitzers Sohn von Gern Gesuch, etc. nach Illinois. 1845.* This may be the actual application.

where he stated that he had immigrated in 1849. Henry and Magdalena are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

10. Mary Birky was born March 19, 1833, and died at Schickley, Nebraska Oct. 28, 1908.166 On Jan. 7, 1851 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Birkey ('Big Birkeys'); the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born March 19, 1828, and died at Schickley Dec. 6, 1906 (background follows).
11. Johann/John Birky was born at Gern Jan. 1, 1835, and died at Peoria March 28, 1925. On March 15, 1858 at Pekin he married Jakobina Hochstettler. She was born at Meringerau near Augsburg, Bavaria Nov. 7, 1835, and died at Tremont in 1896, a daughter of Joseph Hochstettler and Jacobine 'Phoebe' Gingerich. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. On June 18, 1855 he applied for naturalization, cited as John Burky but signing Johann Birky. His *Declaration of Intention* stated that he was born at Gern, and arrived at New York June 20, 1849 (the *Minnesota* passenger list was turned in the following day).
12. Jacobene 'Phoebe' Birky was born Jan. 15, 1838, and died at Milford, Nebraska Sept. 5, 1914. On Nov. 17, 1857 in Tazewell County she married shoemaker and farmer Daniel Unzicker; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Wilmot, Ontario Feb. 11, 1829, a son of Daniel Unzicker and Magdalena Kahn. Perhaps she met Daniel Unzicker through his sister Magdalena, who married David Augspurger. Or perhaps Daniel Unzicker (senior) was a half-brother to Valentine's first wife, Elizabeth Unzicker. For more on this couple see UNZICKER.
13. Barbara Birky was born Jan. 9, 1840, and died July 28, 1934. On March 14, 1858 in Tazewell County she married future minister Peter Hochstettler; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born Feb. 28, 1834, and died Jan. 20, 1824, a son of Joseph Hochstettler and Jacobine 'Phoebe' Gingerich. See HOCHSTETTLER for background on this couple.

The Big Birkeys

The 'Big Birkeys' arrived in Tazewell County in 1840.

Christian 'Christel' Bürcky/Bircki (senior) was somewhat of a mystery. One family story said that he was a Swiss émigré named Christian Burchi who was born circa 1760. He died after jumping or falling off a wall to avoid a duel circa 1800. He had a son and a daughter.

Then Herbert Holly found a lease contract where his son named his own birth place as 'Bitsch, Lorraine', Moselle. This led us to the civil death entry of Christian (senior). We now know that Christian (senior) died at La Rosselle, Bitche, Moselle at 7 a.m. on Aug. 13, 1797. His death entry described him as Christian Bircki, the 38-year-old husband of Barbara Koch (thus he was born circa 1759). It was witnessed and signed by his father-in-law Christian Koch, 65, *Anabaptiste de Gendersberg*.

BITCHE

Bitche [Ger. *Bitsch*] is located near the German border in the northeast corner of Moselle, on the river Horn.

It is the site of an historic fortress [Fr. *Citadelle de Bitche*], standing 250 feet over the town. It was constructed in 1624. Beginning in 1744 army officer Louis de Cormontaigne rebuilt it to be self-sustaining with its own water supply. On Nov. 17, 1793 a 739-man garrison held off an assault by 1,200 Prussian troops. The siege is found in military histories as an engagement in the First Battle of Wissembourg.

During the Napoleonic wars the citadel was used to confine prisoners of war. It was common to see them marched to the citadel in chain gangs. Officer prisoners under guard were routinely permitted to leave the citadel and purchase food at the town's markets. Accounts of imprisonment there can be found online in Edward Fraser's *Napoleon the Gaoler; Personal Experiences and Adventures of British Sailors and Soldiers during the Great Captivity (*1914). During Napoleon's 100 days in 1815, the French commander repulsed a siege by Austrian troops.

The present population of the village is less than 5,500. The surrounding area is known as *le Pays de Bitche* [Ger. *Bitscherland*].

THE GENTERSBERG ESTATE AT HANVILLER

The garrison at Bitche purchased fruit, vegetables, and dairy products from nearby farms. The jurisdiction of Bitche encompassed adjacent Hanviller [Ger. *Hanweiler*]. The Gentersberg estate [Ger. *Gendersbergerhof*] at Hanviller had belonged to the dukes of Lorraine. A *château* stood there 1445-1661, and was reconstructed in 1723. But its farm house dates from the 16th century.

The first Amish Mennonite lease holders at Gentersberg were Joseph Oesch/Esch and Magdalena Schertz. They took up residence in 1779, and farmed for the customary nine-year term. In 1778 the lease was extended by their daughter

[166] The name of this community has only recently changed spelling to 'Shickley.'

Barbara and son-on-law George/Georg Unzicker. Barbara and George remained there until 1804, when they relocated to the Horterhof estate at Heligenmoschel (five miles north of Otterberg and Kaiserslautern) in the Pfalz.[167]

Like Christian Bürcky, two of the Unzicker children migrated to the vicinity of Munich:

- Magdalena Unzicker was born at Nehweiler-près-Woerth, Lower Alsace in 1786. On April 18, 1804 at Hanviller she married Jakob Holly. He was born at Reichshoffen, Lower Alsace (adjacent to Nehweiler-près-Woerth) April 3, 1780. Recall from BECHLER/BECKLER that they were the parents of Jacobine Holly, who married Christian Beckler; they sailed to America in 1846 with 'Little Red Birkys.' Jacobine Holly and Christian Beckler settled on Allentown Road at Elm Grove.

- Daniel Unzicker was born at Kaiserslautern (per his marriage entry) April 4, 1795. On May 4, 1815 at Riedseltz, Lower Alsace he married Anne Marie Roggi. She was born at Riedseltz March 3, 1795, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Rogi/Roggi and Elisabetha Eÿer. In 1826 Daniel purchased the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof. It had become available because of the bankruptcy of Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger and Elisabeth Eyer a year earlier (see AUGSPURGER). The Horterhof estate was sold in 1828. In 1836 they relocated to the Stoffersbergerhof estate at nearby Stoffersberg (adjacent to Landsberg am Lech). According to Hermann Guth, Daniel was later at Bierdorf am Ammersee, and died at Sendling near Munich in 1865.

Christian 'Christel' Bürcky/Bircki married Barbara/Barbe Koch circa 1781. She was was born in 1763, a daughter of Christian Koch and Madeleine Martin.

THE KOCH FAMILY

A Nicolas Koch was living on a property of the Ribeaupierre family near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1732. He may have been the father of **Nikolaŭs Koch,** who settled on the Rauschenbourg estate [Ger. *Rauschenburg*] at Ingwiller, Lower Alsace (17 miles south of Bitche) in 1742. There he became a minister and elder.

Amsterdam publisher Mattheus Schooneveld placed a listing of Amish Mennonite ministers in *Naamlyst der Remonstrantsche Professoren en Predikanten* (1789). It noted, *"In't Graafschap Leeuwenhof, Ruseburg: Nicolaus Koch, Oudste; Abraham Oesch"* (In the domain of Count Löwenhaupt, Rauschenbourg estate: Nicolaus Koch, elder; Abraham Oesch, minister).

His children include:

1. **Christian Koch** was born circa 1731, and died at Bitche Feb. 3, 1798. 168 He married Madeleine Martin. She was born at Zilling (28 miles southwest of Bitche) in 1733, and died at Hanviller April 11, 1805. They farmed on the Gentersberg estate at Hanviller (adjacent on the north side, and downriver from Bitche). Their daughter Barbara/Barbe Koch was born in 1763, and became the wife of Christian 'Christel' Bürcky/Bircki circa 1781.
2. Anna/Anne Koch died before Aug. 14, 1836. She married Abraham Oesch. He was born circa 1730; settled at Hagenau, Lower Alsace (14 miles east of Ingwiller) in 1755; became a minister under his father-in-law Nikolaus Koch; and died before Aug. 14, 1836. In *Amish Mennonites in Germany* author Hermann Guth described Abraham as "from an unknown branch of Oesches." See OESCH, CHRISTIAN OESCH (ELM GROVE) for more on this family.

■ Barbe Koch may belong to this family. She was born circa 1750, and died at Zilling Dec. 30, 1822, age 72. She married Christian Martin. He was born circa 1737, and died at Imling, Moselle June 8, 1837, age 100. See MARTIN for their descendant Christian Martin of Hopedale.

Christian 'Christel' Bürcky/Bircki and Barbara/Barbe Koch were residents of a 297-acre farm called Freydenberg in the neighborhood/parish of La Rosselle within Bitche [Fr. *la cense de la Rosselle dit Freydenberg*].169 Up until the early 20th century potatoes were raised there and processed through a distillery.

Barbara/Barbe Koch died at Heimberg, Germany (14 miles southwest of Augsburg) Dec 28, 1834. She had likely lived there on an estate leased by her son Christian. An Augsburg church death entry identified by Herbert Holly described her as a 71-year-old widowed farmer who had died of pneumonia.

Children of Christian ‘Christel’ Bürcky/Bircki and Barbara/Barbe Koch include:

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[167] Magdalena Oesch was a daughter of Joseph Oesch/Esch and Magdalena Schertz. She was born on the Gentersbergerhof in 1784, but went to live on the nearby Dorsterhof with her parents at age four. She and her second husband Johannes Nafziger of Steinseltz came back to the Gentersbergerhof in 1813. Johannes became deacon for the local congregation. Hence the property is often recalled as a Nafziger residence.

[168] We found a civil death entry from Bitche dated Feb. 3, 1798, calling him Christine Koch, and giving his age at death as 68. Some sources say he died at Hanviller May 26, 1806. The name of a Christian Koch does appear on that date in the index to Hanviller entries; we have not seen the actual entry.

[169] One hectare is 100 meters-by-100 meters. The measurement 120 hectares (296.526 acres) may have been considered the optimum manageable size for an estate. It was employed by early Pennsylvania surveyors. Christian Reeser accumulated parcels of land at Eureka, Woodford County until he owned that total.

1. **Christian Bürcky** (junior) was born at Bitche circa 1782. He was described on a German lease contract as a native of *Bitsch, Lorraine*; and we assume that he was 21 years of age in 1803, when he co-leased an estate.
2. Fröny Bürcky/Veronica Burkey was born at Bitche Oct. 3, 1796, and died in Tazewell County in 1855. Her civil birth entry calling her Fröny Bürcky described her parents as Christel Bürckÿ, 38, an Anabaptist from *la cense de la Rosselle* at Bitche, and Barbe Koch. She married Christian Nafziger. He was born on the Hofgut Illbach at Reinheim, Hesse April 3, 1794, a son of Johannes Nafziger and Katharina Spring. He became a tenant farmer on the castle estate at Unterweilbach. Nafziger sons Christian and John traveled to Tazewell County in 1846. Father Christian and mother Veronica brought their two daughters in 1848. Veronica died in 1855, and became the first person to be buried in what is now Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. Christian died at Little Mackinaw March 29, 1873, and was buried beside Veronica. See NAFZIGER, HOPEDALE BRANCH for background on Christian Nafziger.

- Elizabeth Bürki may belong in this family. She was born circa 1801, and died in Tazewell County Jan. 24, 1892. Circa 1821 she married Christian Schrag. He was born on the Freudenbergerhof estate near Ernstweiler and the city of Zweibrücken Dec. 24, 1798, and died at Unterföhring (above Munich) Aug. 26, 1831, a son of Jacob Schrag and Magdalena Holly. Like Fröny/Veronica, Elizabeth is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. See SCHRAG for background on this couple and her immigration.

Christian Bürcky (junior) was born at Bitche circa 1782.

According to *A Brief Account of the History, Ancestry & Descendants of the John C. Birky Family*, Christian left Alsace during the Napoleonic Wars, and went north to avoid military conscription.

In 1803 with Joseph/Josef Stalter he leased the Waal estate near Unterdiessen, below Landsberg am Lech, 42 miles west-southwest of Munich.[170] Recall from STALTER that Joseph/Josef Stalter was a son of Heinrich Stalter and his second wife Katharina Imhof, and the husband of Magdalena Egli.

The Waal estate was a *Schwaige*. Helmut Gingerich points out that a *Schwaige* differed substantially from a simple dairy farm. It provided foodstuffs for a castle or monastery, and required business acumen to keep a number of employees with a variety of skills, such as distilling and cattle raising.

On Dec. 17, 1809 on the Hofgut Illbach at Reinheim, Hesse Christian married Katharina/Catherine Nafziger. The entry described them as Catherine Nafziger, a daughter of Johannes Nafziger and Katharina Spring, and Christian Birkel, a son of Christian Birkel and Anna Koch.

In 1811 the Waal estate was the birthplace of Christian Beckler. See BECHLER/BECKLER to see how he was associated with the 'Little Red Birkys' as an immigration companion and later as a neighbor on Allentown Road at Elm Grove. His parents were named Johanes/Johann Pechler and Magdalena Birky.

Herbert Holly has found documents in the archives at Augsburg that show Christian purchased the Heimberg estate near Daniel Unzicker's Abstried *Schwaige* in 1830. Abstried was one of the properties of the Benedictine abbey Wessobrunn [Ger. *Kloster Wessobrunn*]. It was secularized in 1803.

When their sons reached the age of eligibility for military training, Christian considered emigration. His sons Christian and Johannes/John were sent ahead to scout the new country, sailing on the *Burgundy* from Le Havre to New York, arriving Oct. 12, 1839.[171] The passenger list shows J. Burky, 24, and C., 31. *A Brief Account of the History, Ancestry & Descendants of the John C. Birky Family Family* says, "The two older sons, Christian and John, went to America alone first and settled in Butler County, Ohio." On March 9, 1840 Christian signed an agreement to sell his estate at Heimberg, presumably planning to emigrate.

Christian died at Meringerau, Bavaria April 26, 1840 while visiting parents or relatives. Services at his funeral were conducted by minister Peter Hochstettler (1814-1884), a resident of Meringerau.

Recall from HOCHSTETTLER that Meringerau was an open area below the city of Augsburg that was home to Hochstettlers. 'Meringer Au' was a meadow surrounding the village of Meringer. The village was later torn down to protect the water supply of the nearby city. In 1910 the entire area was incorporated into the city of Augsburg and divided into two parts: Haunstetten, a populated strip, and Siebenbrunn, a strip of open fields (also called 'Siebenbrunnenfeld,' or 'seven spring field'). It is now the city district of Haunstetten-Siebenbrunn.

Other sons who had remained in Europe now joined Christian and John in Ohio (despite youngest son Joseph's 1900 census report saying he immigrated in 1839). Together they went west and located along Dillon Creek in Tazewell County, Illinois. *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929* places the arrival of the Big Birkeys in 1840.

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[170] In 1803 a Christian Burcky signed a lease document at Steingaden, Bavaria with Johannes/Hans/Jean/John Bircki/Burkey (husband of Freni Zwalter) of the 'Little Red Birky' chain.

[171] Coincidence or not, the passenger list of the *Burgundy* as it arrived in New York June 3, 1840 included pasengers # 23, Maria Burkey, 51; #24 Barbara, 17; #84 seamstress Maria Burkÿ, 20, Bavaria; and #86 farmer Daniel Burkÿ, 49, Bavaria.

A Brief Account of the History, Ancestry & Descendants of the John C. Birky Family also mentions the Birkeys who remained in Europe: "The sister Elizabeth, who had married Jacob Eichelberger, came to America with her family [in 1860] and settled in the vicinity of her brothers. The mother and older sister, who married a man by the name of Jacob Rogie, remained in Germany."

The Heimberg estate was patented to a new owner Jan. 22, 1841, "Since Christian Bürcky had died, and his relicts had emigrated to North America..."

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows the households of Valentine, Andrew, John (with Jacob and Joseph), and Christian in consecutive order on one page.

In Tazewell County the family worshipped with the Dillon Creek meeting, where they were known as the 'Big Birkeys' for their physical stature. Two of them married children of Valentine Birky (whose children and grandchildren were called the 'Little Red Birkys'), who arrived in 1849.

Children of Christian Bürcky (junior) and Catherine Nafziger born in Bavaria include:

1. Christian Birkey was born Sept. 29, 1810, and died in Tazewell County Sept. 26, 1885. He sailed on the *Burgundy* from Le Havre to New York, arriving Oct. 12, 1839. On Aug. 30, 1841 he married Catherine Mosiman, whose family was living in Butler County at the time. Catherine was born circa 1820 (some sources say Azoudange, but no listing is found in the 10-year civil index), and died at Boynton Feb. 13, 1909, a daughter of Joseph Mosimann and Anne Marie Zwalter. The Mosiman family were *Superior* passengers in 1830. Catherine was a cousin to minister Michael Mosiman. Their household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as Christian Burkie, 38, Germany; Christian, 27, Germany [marked as a female, almost certainly meant to be Catherine]; Catharine, 6, Illinois; Fanny, 4, Illinois; Christian, 2, Illinois; and John, 1 Illinois. They are found on the 1860 census of Morton as Christian Burkey, 49, Germany; Catharine, 40, France; Catharine, 17; Fanny, 15; Christian, 13; John, 11; Joseph, 9; Andrew, 7; Jacob, 5; and Valentine, 3; all children born in Illinois. They are described on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as Christon Birky, 70, farmer from Bavaria; Katherine, 60, from France; and four children ranging in ages 22-15. *Gospel Herald*, March 1909: "Catherine Mosiman was born in Germany in the year 1820 and came to this country with her parents when about ten years old. She was married to Christian Birky in 1841, who died Sept. 26, 1885. To this union were born six sons and four daughters; one son died Sept. 12, 1900. Sister Birky was converted in early life and lived a consistent Christian life. She died Feb. 13, of the infirmities of old age; aged 89 y. She leaves to mourn her death, nine children, 80 grandchildren, 96 great-grandchildren. 'Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.' Buried near Hopedale, Ill., Feb. 16. Services by Daniel Nafziger and A. H. Leaman." They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
2. Katharina Birkey was born Aug. 12, 1812. She married Jakob Roggie/Roggy and did not emigrate from Europe. He was born at Neidenfels (16 miles southeast of Kaiserslautern) in 1805, and died at Schaffhausen (37 miles above Augsburg, 75 miles northwest of Munich) in 1881, a son of Christian Roggy and Catherine Nafziger. Schaffhausen is next to Kaisheim, where an estate was managed by the Roggy family.
3. Johannes/John Birkey was born Jan. 25, 1815, and died in Tazewell County Nov. 9, 1896. He sailed on the *Burgundy* from Le Havre to New York, arriving Oct. 12, 1839. On Jan. 3, 1847 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Birky ('Little Red Birkys'); their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in 1826, and died in Tazewell County in October of 1866, a daughter of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker. Their household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer John Burkie, 35, Germany; Elizabeth, 25, Germany; Elizabeth, 2, Illinois; John, 1, Illinois; laborer Jacob, 25, Germany; and laborer Joseph, 22, Germany. John is found as a 65-year-old retired farmer on the 1880 census of Elm Grove, living with three children. He stated that his father was born in France, his mother in Hesse.
4. **Andreas/Andrew Birkey** was born circa November of 1816, and died in Tazewell County Jan. 27, 1892.
5. Valentine Birkey was born circa 1821, and died Nov. 30, 1856. On March 14, 1847 in Woodford County he married Magdalena Naffziger; minister John Nafziger performed the ceremony. Magdalena was born Aug. 24, 1827, and died April 2, 1908, a daughter of Jacob Naffziger and Barbara Krehbiel and niece of 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger. She came to America with her parents in 1833. Valentine was ordained as a minister of the Dillon Creek meeting in 1847. The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows his household as Valentine Burkie, 29, Germany; Madeline, 24, Germany [she was born in 1827, and would have been 22]; Phoebe Burkie, 2, Illinois; and Barbara, 1, Illinois. In 1869 Magdalena remarried to minister Christian Ropp, a son of Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann.
6. Jacob Birkey was born May 4, 1826, and died at Garden City, Cass County, Missouri July 4, 1883. On Dec. 10, 1850 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Mary' Hochstettler; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Meringerau, Bavaria Feb. 7, 1829, and died at Garden City May 28, 1888, a daughter of Joseph Hochstettler and Jacobine 'Phoebe' Gingerich. The *Civil War Draft Registration* list for Tremont created in July 1863 showed him as farmer Jacob Birky, 38. He may be the Jacob Burkey found on the 1865 state census of Roanoke, Woodford County, next door to a Joseph Burkey. The 1880 census of Dayton, Cass County, Missouri shows famer Jacob Burkey, 56, Germany; Staler, 48, Germany; Joseph, 24, Illinois; Crytal, 21, Illinois [a son]; Kate, 19, Illinois; Mary, 16, Illinois; Elizabeth, 13, Illinois; and George, 12, Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, July 1883: "On the 4th of July, in Cass Co., Mo., of typhoid fever, Bro. Jacob Buerky, aged 59 years. He leaves a wife and six children. But they need not mourn as those who have no hope. He was a faithful brother in the Amish Church. We trust he

has entered the rest that remaineth for the children of God. Peace to his ashes. Funeral services by John Hertzler and Jacob C. Kenagy." They are buried as "Jacob Birky died July 4, 1888, aged 53 Ys. & 2 Ms." and "Magdalene Birky died May 28, 1888, aged 56 ys. 2 ms. & 14 Ds." in Clearfork Cemetery at Garden City.

7. Joseph Birkey was born March 19, 1828 (some sources say he was born at Augsburg, but no civil entry is found there), and died at Schickley, Nebraska Dec. 6, 1906. According to Harry F. Weber in *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois*, "Joseph was the youngest of the six sons and the smallest, and he was a man of over 6 feet in height and weighed over 200 pounds." On Jan. 7, 1851 in Tazewell County he married Mary Birky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Mary was born March 19, 1833, and died at Schickley Oct. 28, 1908, a daughter of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker ('Little Red Birkys'). They appear on the 1860 census of Morton as farmer Joseph Burket, 32, Bavaria; Mary, 27, Bavaria; Catharine, 8; Elizabeth, 6; Jacob, 4; Valentine, 2; and Mary, 3 months, all children born in Illinois. He may be the Joseph Burkey found on the 1865 state census of Roanoke, Woodford County, next door to a Jacob Burkey. They are found on the 1880 census of Boynton as farmer Joseph Berky, 52, born in Bavaria to a father from France and a mother from Hesse-Darmstadt; Mary, 47, born in France to parents from France; and six children. The 1900 census of Cook, Decatur County, Kansas shows Joseph Birky, 73, born in Germany in May 1827, immigrated in 1839; and Mary, 67, born in Germany in March 1833. *Gospel Witness*, December 1906: "Joseph Birkey was born in Germany, Mar. 19, 1828, and died near Shickley, Neb., Dec. 6, 1906; aged 78y. 8m. 17d. On January 7, 1851, he was married to Mary Birkey. They lived in this relation for over fifty-five years. To this union were born nine children, three of whom have preceded him to the spirit world. Three sons, three daughters, fifty-three grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren are left to mourn their loss, but they mourn not as those who have no hope. Bro. Birkey was deacon in the Mennonite church for twenty-nine years and was faithful to the trust placed upon him. He was laid to rest on the 8th of December in the Salem cemetery. Funeral services were conducted by Christian Beller of this place and Jacob Stauffer and Joseph Rediger, of Milford, Neb. A great many people assembled to show their love and esteem to one who had lived in their midst and also to show their sympathy to the bereaved ones. As his body now rests in the grave we believe his soul is sweetly resting on the shores of eternal deliverance. Peace to his ashes." They are buried in Salem Mennonite Cemetery at Schickley.
8. Elizabeth Birkey was born Nov. 25, 1829, and died June 27, 1899. She is buried in the Eichelberger family plot in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. In 1854 in Bavaria she married Jacob Eichelberger. He was born at Ellwangen, Württemberg Dec. 25, 1825, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County July 10, 1897, a son of Johann Georg Eichelberger and Maria Anna Ringenberger. See EICHELBERGER for background on this couple.

Andreas/Andrew Birkey was born circa November of 1816, and died in Tazewell County Jan. 27, 1892.

Circa 1844 he married Magdalena Gerber. She was born as Marie Madeleine Gerber at Barr, Lower Alsace Jan. 22, 1823, and died at Dewey, Champaign County June 12, 1912, a daughter of restauranteur [Fr. *cabaretier*] Jean Louis Gerber and Louise Goyer.172 She had sailed from Le Havre on the *Cotton Planter*, and arrived at New York July 14, 1844. The passenger list shows Louis Gerber, 25 [her bother]; and Lena, 21.173

Their household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Andrew Burkie, 33, Germany; Madeline, 26, Germany; Caroline, 5, Illinois; Christian, 3, Illinois; and Andrew, 6 months, Illinois.174 They are found on the 1860 census of Morton as farmer Andrew Birkey, 44, Bavaria; Madaline, 33, Bavaria; Christian, 13; Andrew, 10; John, 7; Valentin, 4; Magdeline, 1; and Pheobe, 12, all children born in Illinois. The 1880 census of Boynton has farmer Andrew Berky, 63, born in Bavaria to parent from France and Hesse; Magdalene, 54, born in France to French parents; and two children born in Illinois.

Herald of Truth, February 1892: "On the 27th of January, 1892, in Tazewell Co., Ill., Pre. Andrew Buerky, aged 75 years and 3 months. Funeral services were conducted by Pre. Egli and Noah Augspurger from *1 Cor. 15*." He was presumably buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.

Gospel Herald, July 1912: "Magdalena Birkey, nee Gerber, was born in Germany, Dec. 22, 1823; died at her home near Dewey, Ill., of infirmities of old age, June 12, 1912; aged 88 y. 5 m. 20 d. Mother Birkey united with the A. M. Church in her younger years and remained a faithful member to the end. She united in marriage with Andrew Birkey. This union was blessed with six children. She lived in matrimony with her husband 48 years and lived a widow about 20 years. She leaves five children, 30 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and many friends to mourn her departure. Her husband and one daughter preceded her to the world beyond. Funeral services at the home by Peter Zehr in German and at the church by Daniel Greiser and J. C. Birkey in German and Peter Zehr in English. Texts, *Psa. 90, Deut. 31.14, II Cor. 5:1*, and *II Tim. 4:6-8*. Buried in cemetery nearby." She is buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher, Champaign County.

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[172] There was a Bürcky family at Barr, though we do not know of a connection: the parents were teacher [Fr. *instituteur*] Jean Bürcky, born circa 1783, and Susanne Catherine Rietsch. They had a daughter Caroline Bürcky born there Oct. 14, 1825; this may explain Magdalena's choice of that name for her first child.

[173] Magdalena's older brother Jean Louis Gerber was born at Barr, Lower Alsace May 9, 1819.

[174] Magdalena's daughter Caroline died before the 1860 census.

Note in Magdalena's obituary that if the age count '88 years, five months, and 20 days' had been subtracted from June 12, 1912, it should have yielded a birth on Jan. 22, 1824. Still off by exactly one year.

Children of Andreas/Andrew Birkey and Magdalena Gerber include:

1. Caroline Birkey was born in Tazewell County circa 1845, and died between the 1850 and 1860 censuses.
2. Christian Burkey was born in Tazewell County March 6, 1847, and died in Bureau County Feb. 13, 1833. On Dec. 26, 1869 in Bureau County he married Catherine/Katie Albrecht. She was born in Illinois April 2, 1849, and died in Bureau County Aug. 15, 1930, a daughter of Jacob Albrecht and Barbara Rinkenberger. They are buried in Red Oak Cemetery in Bureau County.
3. John G. Birkey was born in Tazewell County Jan. 14, 1852, and died in Calhoun County, Iowa Dec. 17, 1932. On Feb. 22, 1873 in Tazewell County he married Catherine 'Katie' Schrock. She was born in France Nov. 25, 1850 (per obituary), and died in Calhoun County Aug. 22, 1938, a daughter of Christian Schrock and Elizabeth 'Elise' Cender.175 They are found on the 1930 census of Lincoln, Calhoun County as farmer (truck and chickens) John G. Birkey, 77, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and France; and Katherine, 79, born in France, immigrated in 1855. *Gospel Herald*, January 1933: "John G. Birkey was born Jan. 14, 1853, in Tazewell Co., Ill.; died of hardening of the arteries Dec. 17, 1932; aged 79 y. 9 m. 3 d. He grew to manhood on his father's farm near Morton, Ill. On Feb. 22, 1873, he was married to Catherine Schrock of Roanoke, Ill. They lived on a farm near there for 23 years. In 1893, with their family, they moved to Champaign Co., Ill., where they resided on their own farm until 1913. [They are found on the 1910 census of East Bend]. In the spring of that year they moved to Manson, Iowa, and have since that time resided in their home in East Manson (except for a few years when they lived with their daughter Katie, Mrs. Ben Zehr). In his early youth he accepted Christ as his personal Savior, and united with the Mennonite Church, in which faith he continued until the end. During his lifetime he made many friends wherever he went by his kind disposition and friendliness. He was a man who enjoyed comparatively good health until about eight weeks ago, when he began to fail. About two weeks ago his condition became more serious. During his illness he endured much pain and suffering, but he bore it patiently, waiting for the time that God should call him home. He leaves his life-long companion of nearly 57 years, five sons, three daughters, 40 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. The surviving children are: Lena (Mrs. Dave Springer), of Foosland, Ill.; Joe D. and Levi of Clarksville, Mich.; Andrew, John E., and Will, of Manson, Ia.; Lizzie (Mrs.Alpha Naffziger), of Rockwell City, Ia.; and Katie (Mrs. Ben Zehr), of Manson. Three children preceded him in death, two in infancy and one in early childhood. Although he will be greatly missed by his loved ones, yet we bow to Him who doeth all things well, and with trust and confidence say, "Thy will be done." Funeral services were held at his home in Manson, followed by services at the Manson Mennonite Church on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 20, conducted by J. D. Graber, Nick Stoltzfus, and A. R. Egli. Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, September 1938: "Catherine Schrock was born Nov. 25, 1850, at Alsace-Lorraine, France; died Aug. 22, 1938, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ben Zehr; aged 88 y. 8 m. 27 d. She came to America with her parents, settling in Woodford Co., Ill., where she grew to womanhood. On Feb. 22, 1876 she was united in marriage to John G. Birkey of Roanoke, Ill. They made their home in Illinois until 1913; then moved to Manson, Iowa, where they resided the rest of their life. She leaves eight children, two brothers, 40 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. The surviving children are Mrs. David Springer of Saybrook, Ill.; Joe and Levi of Clarksville, Mich.; Andrew, John and Will of Manson, Ia.; Mrs. Alpha Naffziger of Rockwell City, Ia.; and Mrs Ben Zehr of Manson, Ia. The surviving brothers are: Joseph of Albany, Oreg., and John of Dewey, Ill. Her husband, two children, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild preceded her in death. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained faithful unto the end. Her greatest desire was for the spiritual welfare of the Church and her children. She will be greatly missed, but our loss is her gain."
4. Andrew James Burkey was born at Delavan May 1, 1850, and died at Zion, Lake County Feb. 19, 1928. On Jan. 29, 1871 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Staker. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 10, 1851, and died at Zion Oct. 29, 1836, a daughter of Nicholas Stecker/Staker and Magdalena Eiman. Andrew and Lena had 12 children named 'Burkey', but three died in infancy. They lived next to her parents on Allentown Road until a move to Kansas. After a number of years and following a four-year drought they returned to Illinois to live at Walnut, Bureau County. They are found on the 1900 census of Walnut with 11 children born in Illinois. While they were living at Walnut, their daughter Marie traveled to Chicago to be healed by minister John Alexander Dowie. She recovered. Dowie built the community of Zion, where brother-in-law Peter W. Ropp became an elder. Andrew and Lena moved there about 1905, and attended the Christian Catholic Church. Andrew worked for Zion Industries, but became disenchanted with the church. But in 1920 they were still living at Zion City, Benton Township, Lake County. They are buried in Mount Olivet Memorial Park at Zion.
5. Valentine A. Birkey was born at Morton Aug. 12, 1857, and died at Dewey, Champaign County May 13, 1935. On Dec. 30, 1883 in Bureau County he married Phoebe Zimmerman. She was born at Princeton, Bureau County Jan. 12, 1864, and died Oct. 5, 1946, a daughter of Andrew Zimmerman and Elizabeth Albrecht. *Gospel Herald*, December

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[175] Some sources say Catherine 'Kate' Schrock was born in 1853. This is a misunderstanding caused by her 1855 immigration passenger list (it gave her age as 2) and census reports. The entire *John Hancock* traveling part is listed in CENDER.

1946: "Birkey. - Phoebe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Zimmerman, was born at Princeton. Ill., Jan. 13, 1864; passed away Oct. 5, 1946; aged 82 y. 8 m. 22 d. On Dec. 30, 1883, she was married to Valentine Birkey, who predeceased her on May 13, 1935. For five years they lived on a farm near Hopedale, Ill., and in 1892 they moved to Champaign County. For the past three years she had made her home with her granddaughter, Mrs. Homer Cender, Goshen, Ind. In her youth she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, remaining faithful until death. Surviving are two sons (Andrew, Fisher, Ill.; and John C., Dewey, Ill.), one daughter (Lena, of Goshen), seven grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the East Bend Mennonite Church, Fisher, Ill., Oct. 6, with J. A. Heiser and Lester Mann in charge. Interment was made in the adjoining cemetery." They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher, Champaign County.

6. Magdalena/Lena Birkey was born at Morton March 7, 1859, and died at Fisher, Champaign County June 20, 1928. In 1893 she married Jean/John Springer. He was born in France Feb. 7, 1864, and died in Champaign County April 26, 1895. He is buried in Beekman Cemetery at Fisher. *Gospel Herald*, July 1928: " Lena Birkey Springer was born near Morton, Ill., Mar. 7, 1859; died at the home of her nephew, Edwin Birkey, near Fisher, Ill., June 20, 1928; aged 69 y. 3 m. 17 d. In March 1893 she was united in marriage with John Springer. To this union one son was born. In the spring of 1894 she moved with her husband to a farm near Dewey, Ill. In May, 1895, her husband was called to the spirit world, leaving her with her infant son whom she brought up and with whom she made her home. At the age of 16 she confessed her Christ and united with the Mennonite Church to which she remained a faithful and consistent member until death. Her health failed for the past year and she was a helpless sufferer for the past five months. She bore her sufferings patiently and was glad to depart to be with her Christ. She leaves one son (Joseph), three grandchildren, three brothers (Christian, John and Valentine), and a host of relatives and friends. One brother and one sister preceded her in death. Funeral services were conducted at the home of her nephew by Bro. Samuel S. Zehr and at the East Bend Mennonite Church by Bro. J. A. Heiser. Interment in cemetery near by."

DID THE LITTLE RED BIRKYS AND BIG BIRKEYS KNOW EACH OTHER IN EUROPE?

A 'modern' family bond was created by the 1847 marriage of Elizabeth Birky and Johannes/John Birkey in Tazewell County. But over the years any pre-immigration relationships between the two branches have been obscured. We could only determine with certainty two adjacent estates where they would have known each other. They were owned by the von Spreti family.[176]

Arzbach bei Dachau was an area around their castle estate outlying the village of Pellheim, which is four miles northwest of Dachau, a suburb of Munich. Arzbach is now a community about 1.7 miles north of the center of Pellheim. *Schloss* Pellheim, the count's house or palace, is now a restaurant at Arzbach. Pellheim was administratively incorporated into Dachau in 1972. Both communities are in Pellheim parish.

Amish Mennonite residents on the von Spreti properties included medical assistant Jacob Heisser and Katharina Oesch, the parents of future Elm Grove settler Joseph Heiser, 1815-18; Christian Gascho and Maria Madalena Güngerich; Christian Birki (of the 'Little Red Birky' chain) and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho 1824-28; and Nicholas Augustin (the surname that was later Eigsti in America) and Barbara Gascho circa 1829-41.[177] Christian Birki and his younger brother Valentine Birky were employed with minister Daniel Zehr as carpenter-builders on the adjacent Arzbach bei Dachau and Unterweilbach estates in 1831, though they may no longer have been living on the grounds. The marriage of Valentin Birky and Elisabeth Unzinger is mentioned in the Pellheim marriage register.

Fröny Bürcky/Veronica Burkey was a sister to the father of the 'Big Birkeys' who came to Tazewell County in 1840. She and her husband Christian Nafziger were tenant farmers on the von Spreti estate at Unterweilbach.[178]

For more on these families see Donna Schrock Birkey's website:
http://www.birkey.org/articles/Johannes-Schrock.php

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[176] Maximilian *Graf* (count) von Spreti was born at Straubing, Bavaria July 16, 1766, and died at Munich Sept. 29, 1819. His family had come to Bavaria from Italy as mercenary soldiers in the early 18th century. He fought the French in a number of battles, and was seriously wounded at the Battle of Terfens in 1809. However, he returned to command of his regiment only five months later. He was promoted to major general Sept. 4, 1813, and fought to the conclusion of the Napoleonic wars.

After his death he was succeeded by Eduard Sigmund Franz Sales *Graf* von Spreti. He was born at *Schloss* Unterweilbach Jan. 7, 1805, and died there Nov. 30, 1877.

[177] An additional Amish Mennonite resident was Jakob Stalter. He was a day laborer at Unterweilbach. He was born at Gräfinthal, Thuringia in March 1801, a son of Jakob Stalter and Magdalena Hauter. In 1832 at Gern he married his cousin Anna Stalter. She was born at Weissach (20 miles northeast of Stuttgart) in 1798, and died at Sturzelbronn, Moselle in 1838, a daughter of Joseph/Josef Stalter and Magdalena Egli. Jakob also worked on the Hellmannsberg estate and at Gern (now in Munich).

[178] In addition to lands at Arzbach and Unterweilbach, the von Spretis owned property at Schönbrunn (six miles northeast of Dachau).

Kettner of Gern

Recall the family of Johannes Birki and his second wife Barbara Birki from BIRKY/BIRKEY. It mentioned their son Christian Birki and his wife Elisabeth Stalter of Groveland on the voyage of the *Adhemar* in 1851. They later settled in Groveland.

Christian's younger sister Marie failed to make the journey. Blendinger's account from Munich records says her husband farmer/small landowner [Ger. *Gütner*] **Georg Kettner**, born circa 1788, emigrated from Gern with seven grown children, one illegitimate child, four illegitimate grandchildren, and 1,562 florins.

Gary L. Yordy found the passenger list of the bark *Adhemar*, which sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York June 7, 1851: George Kether, 63; Magdalena, 39; Susanna, 37; Elizabeth, 35; Georg, 34; Catharine, 33; Veronika Kettner, 31; Jacobina, 29; Elizabeth, 5; George, 9; Magdalena Lindeler, 6; and Jacob Lindeler, 5.

No Kettners live in Tazewell or Woodford Counties today. But it is a curiosity that six daughters began their families here in a remarkably brisk fashion.

Only 16 days after arriving at New York, the first daughter married in Tazewell County. The last married 16 months later. Three ceremonies were performed by Amish Mennonite ministers; three were performed by county judge Middleton Tackaberry.

The six daughters of Georg Kettner and Marie Birki, in the order and spellings, as their entries are found in the county marriage register:

— Jacob Zitler to Susannah Kitner. M. Tackaberry, June 23, 1851.
— John Shurts to Magdalina Kidner. Minister Andrew Ropp, Aug. 6, 1851.
— Joseph Kaughman to Saphrona Kitner. Minister Andrew Ropp, Aug. 13, 1851.
Actually Joseph Kauffman and Fronika 'Fanny' Kettner. Kauffman later became the third husband of Magdalena Sutter (see SUTTER for background).
— Casper Overmire to Elizabeth Kitner. M. Tackaberry, Dec. 27, 1851.
— Christian Rinkenberger to Jockobina Kettner. Minister Michael Mosiman, March 12, 1852.
Christophe/Christian Ringenberg/Ringenberger (1817-1871); see RINGENBERGER.
— Casper Masmal to Catharine Katner. M. Tackaberry, Oct. 13, 1852.
She is thought to have crossed the ocean twice; the first time on the Baltimore, *sailing from Le Havre and arriving at New York June 17, 1844.*

Son **Georg/George Kettner (Jr.)** was born circa 1817.

George Kettner signed a *Declaration of Intent for Naturalization* at Pekin Sept. 20, 1855. He stated that he was 39, was born in the Kingdom of Byrne [*Bayern*/Bavaria], and that he had arrived at New York June 2, 1851.

In 1860 he was living with Anna Elizabeth Haas at Pekin; the census describes the household of laborer George Kidner, 43, Bavaria; Anna, 37, Bavaria; John Bohn,4, Illinois; Frederic Smelzer, 24, Bavaria; and Cartroon, 23, Prussia. Anna had apparently brought a 2-year-old son John to her marriage with John Bohn Sr. in Tazewell County June 25, 1858, and John Sr. had died before 1860.

The 1870 census of Pekin's Third Ward describes laborer George Keltner, 54, Bavaria; Anna, 46, Bavaria; and John Bohn, 4, Illinois.[179]

[179] John Bohn Jr. was married to Eliza Schwardt in Tazewell County Sept. 30, 1880.

Ritthaler of Fussgönheim

In German a *Ried* is a reed, and a *Thaler* is someone who lives in a valley. Ritthaler, an equivalent form, was not necessarily an accidental misspelling.

George Ritthaler
Of Elm Grove

Fussgönheim is a village in the Pfalz, midway between Bad Durkheim and Ludwigshafen. At one time it was jointly owned by the Bolanden and Frankenthal families. Their domains became Oberdorf (upper town) and Unterdorf (lower town); from 1200 to 1729 a marker stone next to the church served as a boundary between the two lordships.

In *Die Sippe Ritthaler eine altes Geschlecht aus Fussgönheim* [The Ritthaler Clan, an Old Family from Fussgönheim] (2006), author Heinz Krunrey wrote that the family seems to have arrived there after the Thirty Years War [1618-1648].

In a document created Jan. 12, 1660, **Michael Ritthaler** is mentioned as the holder of a property lease.

His son **Friedrich Ritthaler** was born circa 1648.

Friedrich's son **Johann Friedrich Ritthaler** was born at Fussgönheim in 1673, and died at adjacent Ellerstadt May 19, 1738. He married Anna Barbara. She died at Fussgönheim March 14, 1736. On Feb. 26, 1737 at Ellerstadt Johann Friedrich remarried to Catharina Margaretha Gross.

One son of Johann Friedrich and his first wife Anna Barbara was **Johannes Ritthaler**. He was born at Fussgönheim circa 1710. He was a master blacksmith. On Jan. 29, 1732 at Fussgönheim he married Maria Margaretha Gross.

Johann Jacob Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim Nov. 2, 1735, and died April 2, 1784. He married Anna Barbara Kirsch. When she died at Fussgönheim June 22, 1791, her civil death entry gave her age as 52 years and four months. His civil death entry described him as a *Burger* [citizen] and *Ackermann* [plowman], and gave his age as 58 years and seven months.

Andreas Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim April 2, 1766, and died there Aug. 26, 1823. Circa 1787 he married Philippina Götz. Andreas' civil death entry described him as a *Burger* and *Ackermann*, and gave his age as 48 years and seven months.

Andreas had a sister who married an Anabaptist. Maria Catharina Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim May 18, 1769, and died Dec. 13, 1840. She married Abraham Egli. He was born at Neustadt an der Hardt (now Neustadt an der Weinstrasse) in 1769, and died at Fussgönheim Jan. 30, 1804, a son of Jacob Egli and Eve Brenneman. His civil death entry described him as 'Abraham Egler, 34,' and was witnesses by Andreas.

Andreas and Philippina's son **Georg Friedrich Ritthaler** was born at Fussgönheim May 9, 1787, and died at Pulling, Bavaria Dec. 20, 1855. His baptism godparents were George Friedrich Ritthaler (1767-1809) and his wife Maria Catharina Sahler (1770-1834).

On Oct. 7, 1809 at Fussgönheim he married Anna Maria Roth. She was born at Weisenheim am Sand (five miles northwest of Füssgonheim) Sept. 14, 1788, and died at Freising, Bavaria Jan. 22, 1863, a daughter of Johann Peter Roth and Anna Maria. Civil marriage documents from the French occupation department of *Mont Tonnère/Donnersberg* described the groom's parents as Andreas Ritthaler and Philippina.

Recall from SUTTER that after 1811 about 50 Mennonite families were given formerly-Catholic properties between Neuburg an der Donau and Ingolstadt, as the government encouraged cultivation of the Danube Marsh. Trusting the same methods, government administrators decided to develop secularized farmland clustered around Allershausen (224 miles southeast of Fussgönheim) in the district of Freising. It was under-utilized, and agricultural improvements could provide more foodstuffs for the growing populations of Dachau and Munich. Between 1820 and 1833 administrators offered property concessions to 67 families from the Pfalz and Rheinhessen.

An excellent article by Ernst Dittler in the *Blätter der Bayerischen Landesvereins für Familienfunde* (Volume XIII, Issue 6, 1977) not only drew a bridge between Fussgönheim and the Munich/Dachau area, but led us to the precise Ritthaler couple that made the move.

According to Dittler's *Pfälzer Familien im Umkreis von Allershausen bei Freising*, between 1820 and 1824 farmer Georg Friedrich Ritthaler and Anna Maria Roth of Fussgönheim resettled at Hetzenhausen in the Kingdom of

Bavaria, seven miles south of Allershausen. It is 14 miles east of the city of Dachau, and seven miles above the outskirts of the city of Munich.

Hetzenhausen belonged to the Freising Monastery from 1499 until it was secularized in 1802/1803. Administratively it was served by adjacent Massenhausen, which became part of Neufahrn bei Freising in 1978. Hetzenhausen's present population is less than 1,000. Only Catholic records have been preserved.

The Ritthalers were the only resettlement family from Fussgönheim, and the only one that went to Hetzenhausen.

THE ABSENCE OF RECORDS

Historians often use words like 'partial,' 'implied,' or 'reconstructed' to describe family lines in Munich-area communities.

During World War II the Munich area hosted production of the *Dornier Do 335*, a twin-engine heavy fighter; and turbo blades for a new turbofan jet engine used in the ME Messerschmitt 262 fighter and the Arado Ar 234 Blitz, the world's first jet bomber. The projects were farmed out from the company factories to smaller workshops spread over a wide area. Time was critical, and it was felt that the quickest way to halt production was an all-out Allied attack to cripple transportation, damage housing, and force a complete evacuation of the skilled work force.

On the night of Sept. 24-25, 1944 almost 450 two-ton bombs, 61,000 high-explosive bombs, and 3.3 million four-pound magnesium incendiary bombs were dropped on the city and suburbs. About half of the Munich area was destroyed.

Ludwig I became king of Bavaria in 1825. His reign lasted until rebellious movements disrupted the peace of the area in 1848.

At first Ludwig I favored liberal reforms. However, after political turmoil throughout Europe in 1830 he became more conservative, favoring higher taxes and censorship. This took a severe turn in 1837, when a conservative Roman Catholic clerical group gained influence in his assembly.

Recall from EIGSTI that, "The weather throughout Europe was especially severe in the fall of 1847, causing the harvest to fail. Resulting food shortages sparked rioting. A chain of uprisings in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna culminated in the German near-revolution of 1848-49."

The king lost prestige by permitting Lola Montez, an Irish dancer and actress who was also his mistress, to endorse liberal reforms. She encouraged the Protestant prime minister to press for her proposals. When the clerics in the assembly insisted that she be naturalized as a citizen of Bavaria, they fell out of favor with the king.

Conservatives took to the streets of the capital Munich to demonstrate Feb. 9, 1848. This prompted liberal students to come out in support of constitutional reforms, as they had in other European cities. On March 6 Ludwig I abdicated in favor of his oldest son.

On May 21, 1848 the *Freisinger Wochenblatt*, a newspaper serving Freising, Moosburg, and Dachau, announced that Georg Friedrich Ritthaler and his family would emigrate to Hungary. However, on July 6 the *Hetzenhausen Haus Chronik* recorded the purchase of House No. 13 by Friedrich Ritthaler, described as a Protestant with five children. It was stated that this was a new house, and his old home was on property that had been subdivided.

EIGSTI: "In September of 1848 the army of Bavaria helped to suppress radical democrats. The revolution failed, and its reforms were reversed within a few years."

Children of Georg Friedrich Ritthaler and Anna Maria Roth include:

1. Catherine Elisabeth/Katharina Elisabeth Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim July 1, 1810. According to Dittler, Kath. Elis Ritthaler was confirmed as a Protestant at Ober-Allersheim March 11, 1825. The confirmation entry was Dittler's earliest indication that a couple from Fussgönheim had arrived in the area.
2. Katharina Margaretha Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim May 11, 1811.
   On Feb. 7, 8, and 9 of 1850 three local newspapers ran an announcement of the marriage at Freising of dairyman Adam Banerlein and Katharina Ritthaler, Gütlerstochter von Pulling. *This could have been either of these daughters.*
3. Johannes Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim March 1, 1813.
4. Maria Katharina Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim Sept. 13, 1816. She would become the mother of Michael Ritthaler, who came to Tazwell County in 1856.
5. **Johann Georg or George Ritthaler** was born at Fussgönheim Dec. 28, 1818.
6. Anna Barbara Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim Sept. 18, 1820, and died Dec. 11, 1820.
7. Johann Philipp Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim Feb. 6, 1823, and died April 13, 1823.

Johann Georg Ritthaler was born at Fussgönheim Dec. 29, 1818 (headstone date), and died at Elm Grove Jan. 20, 1908. In America he would be known as **George Ritthaler**.

On March 11, 1849 an official notice on the front page of the *Freisinger Wochenblatt* stated that Georg Ritthaler of Pulling, Bavaria, '*Der ledige Gütlerssohn*" – the unmarried son of a farmer – intended to emigrate to North America. Anyone with a legal claim against him could submit the claim up to 10 a.m. on March 26. It would be reviewed by a judge in the regional court. This was a standard protocol for every would-be emigrant.

The village centers of Hetzenhausen and Pulling are slightly less than six miles apart, with Massenhausen and Moosmühl between them. The only resettlement couple that had gone directly to Pulling was Daniel Kinsinger and Katharina Schramm, coming from Alsenborn. The village became a municipality in 1818. There are no old records of family events from Pulling – a church was not constructed until 1965. Records found at adjacent Freising are incomplete.[180]

Johann Georg/George likely started out toward Le Havre in early May.

In EIGSTI we told the story of an Amish Mennonite traveling party on the *Minnesota*. It sailed from Bremen via Liverpool and arrived at New York June 21, 1849. The group coming from the Munich area and Hanfeld included Birky/Birkey, Eigsti, Guth, Oesch, Springer, and Zehr. Recall that many in the group traveled directly from New York to Central Illinois.

Another *Minnesota* passenger also migrated to Illinois that year (per his death entry). The passenger list described him as Georg Riedthaler, 30, a farmer from Baden (the entire page was erroneously marked 'Baden,' though most were actually from Bavaria).[181]

At Elm Grove George became a general operator and repairman of farm equipment, and a day laborer. He was also a wheelwright who constructed his own spring wagons and carriages.

Whether or not he could be considered an Amish Mennonite or a Mennonite is an open question. He certainly knew everyone in the Dillon Creek meeting, and occasionally attended their meetings. Two of his four children became Defenseless Mennonites (later called Evangelical Mennonites) and attended the church in Groveland. But too little is known about him or his wife to define them.

An entry from *St. Louis, Missouri Marriage Records 6*: "State of Missouri. This is to certify that on the 13th day of March, A.D. 1855, by virtue of authority vested in me by the county of St. Louis, I united in the holy bonds of matrimony Georg Rutthaler and Christine Lütteke. Given under my hand this 21st day of April 1855. Filed and recorded April 26th 1855. C. Keemle recorder. Fr. Picker pastor."

The *SS Aeolus* had sailed from Bremen and arrived at New Orleans Nov. 15, 1854. Passenger #246 was listed as Christine Lüdecke, 25, a native of Lichtenberg, destination St. Louis.

Although there are several Lichtenbergs in Germany today, we presume that she was born at Lichtenberg 16 miles southwest of Braunschweig/Brunswick, Lower Saxony circa 1825 (the year on her headstone and censuses). Her report on the 1870 census indicated that she was from Brunswick. Braunshweig was the capital of the Duchy of Braunschweig before 1815. At the time Christine was born there it had been reorganized into the municipality of Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel. In present day their phonebook lists Lüttecke and Luttecke.

Their first child was born in Illinois slightly more than nine months after the ceremony. Yet we could not identify them on the 1860 census. Their household is found on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as farmer George Ritthaler, 51, Bavaria; Christina, 45, Brunswick; and five children born in Illinois: Frederick, 14; Elizabeth, 12; Henry, 8; Charles, 6; and Veronika [later called 'Fannie'], 4. In 1880 they were at Elm Grove as farmer Geo. Reittallah, 61, Germany; Christine, 54, Germany; Henry, 18, Illinois; and Fannie, 13, Illinois.

Christine died at Elm Grove in 1885.

The 1891 plat map of Elm Grove shows Geo. Ritthaler on 25.5 acres in the southeast quarter of Section Two. He lived next door to John Kinsinger and his second wife Barbara Wagler. The 1900 census of Elm Grove has widower George on that property in the household of son Henry: farmer Henry Ridallah, 38, born in Illinois in December of 1861 to parents from Germany; Polly, 28, born in Germany in January of 1861, immigration year illegible; Frank, 7, born in Illinois in January of 1893; Lewis, 6, born in Illinois in April of 1894; Henry, 4, born in Illinois in October of 1895; and retired farmer and father George, 82, born in Germany in December of 1818.

When George died at Elm Grove Jan. 20, 1908, the entry described him as a farmer and a native of Germany. He was aged 89 years and 23 days, and had lived in Illinois for 58 years [thus arriving circa 1850]. He had been enfeebled for five years, and died of Hemiplegia [paralysis of one side of the body].

George and Christine are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery at Tremont. Their joint headstone gives the dates 1818-1908 and 1825-1885.

Children of George Ritthaler and Christine Lüttecke include:

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[180] On May 1, 1978, Pulling was administratively incorporated into the adjacent city of Freising. Its S-Bahn rail station is called *Pulling bei Freising*. Its present population is about 1,240.

[181] Georg Ritthaler is not included in Blendinger's lists of Munich-area emigrants in this time frame.

1. Frederick A. Ritthaler was born in Illinois Dec. 17, 1855, and died at Tremont May 1, 1920. He is found in the household of James Habeck on the 1900 census of Elm Grove next door to his father and brother Henry as farm laborer and boarder Fred Ridallah, 40, born in Illinois to German parents. He is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery at Tremont.
2. Elizabeth Ritthaler was born in Tazewell County circa 1858 (headstone date), and died at Tremont Oct. 28, 1941. On July 25, 1878 at Pekin she married Phillip Hoffman. Phillip was born in 1843, and died at Tremont June 12, 1919. He immigrated in 1866. The *Register of Marriages* entry described the groom as Phillip Hoffman, 35, a farmer at Tremont who was born at Bonfeld, Wurttemberg, a son of George Hoffman and Johanna Geyer. The bride was Elizabeth Retthaler of Elm Grove, 21, born in Tazewell County, a daughter of George Ritthaler and Christin Lidke. The entry was signed by Lutheran minister H.C. Witte.182 They are found on the 1910 census of Tremont. They are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery at Tremont.
3. Henry L. Ritthaler was born at Tremont Dec. 14, 1862 (his headstone says 1861), and died at Limestone, Peoria County Sept. 22, 1929. On March 16, 1892 at Pekin he married Paulina Hahn, a resident of Peoria. She was born Jan. 13, 1871, and died July 1, 1967, a daughter of Christ Hahn and Marie Kuhl. The *Register of Marriages* entry gave the age of the groom as 28, the age of the bride as 22, and the name of the groom's mother as Rediche. The entry was signed by H.C. Witte; witnesses included John Raeuber and Marie Hahn. They are found on the census of Elm Grove census in 1900 and 1910, and on the Groveland census in 1920. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
4. Charles John Ritthaler was born in Illinois Dec. 31, 1863, and died at Morton March 31, 1956. On Jan. 21, 1891 at Pekin he married Marie Ino Duncan. She was born in Illinois Feb. 12, 1872, and died Feb. 16, 1954, a daughter of William Duncan and Lizzie Pippin. The *Register of Marriages* entry gave the age of the groom as 28, the age of the bride as 19, and the name of the groom's mother as Christine Luediker. The entry was signed by H.C. Witte. They are found in censuses of Groveland in 1900 and 1910, and then censuses of Morton in 1930 and 1940. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
5. Veronica 'Fannie' Ritthaler was born at Tremont Oct. 10, 1866, and died at Tremont May 10, 1948. On June 8, 1892 at Pekin she married John Kalb. He was born in Richland County circa 1847, and died at Tremont July 14, 1923, a son of Henry Kalb and Lizzie Kalb. The *Register of Marriages* entry gave the age of the bride as 20, and the name of the bride's mother as Christiana Slike. Both bride and groom were residents of Tremont, where John was a farmer. The entry was signed by H.C. Witte. They are found on the Tremont censuses of 1900-1940. They are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery at Tremont.

Nephew Michael Ritthaler

Groveland

Michael Ritthaler was born at Hetzenhausen Feb. 14, 1839, the illegitimate child of Georg/George's sister Katharina Margaretha Ritthaler.

Michael secretly left Hetzenhausen before reaching the age of obligatory military training. He would later be recorded as a deserter, and charged *in absentia* for crossing the national border without permission.

He departed from Le Havre on the clipper ship *Mary Ogden*, and arrived at New York July 18, 1856. The passenger list shows passengers 21-23 as farmer Michel Rinthaler, 17, Prussia; farmer Daniel Oswald, 18, Prussia; and farmer Joseph Stalter, 23, *Etats Unis.* Stalter had been to Butler County, Ohio, and returned to Europe; see STALTER, THE STALTERS OF MONBIJOU.

After arriving Michael went directly to his uncle in Tazewell County. The 1860 census of Groveland shows laborer Michael Ridhawer, 21, Bavaria, in the household of laborer George Landis, 29, Illinois.

On July 24, 1862 at Peoria he signed up for a three-year enlistment in the 82nd Illinois U.S. Infantry, Company E. His military documents would describe him as a single farmer who was age 23 at enlistment, 5-foot eight-inches tall, black hair, black eyes, and dark complexion. He stated that he was a citizen of Bavaria born at 'Isenhausen.'

Three days later he was naturalized at Pekin, stating that he had been a citizen of Bavaria. Michael mustered in at Camp Butler Sept. 26, 1862.

Another soldier in Company E was Christian Gingerich (1823-1895). He was a son of Johannes/Jean Güngerich (later known as John Gingrich or Gingerich) and Barbara/Barbe Gerber, who had died in Woodford

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182 Henry C. Witte (1852-1940) of Hanover, Germany became minister of St. Johannes Evangelical Lutheran Church at Pekin (now St. John's Lutheran Church at 700 Court Street) in 1878. It is likely that he did not perform ceremonies for Ritthalers, but simply signed the marriage entries for all German speakers who came to the Tazewell County Courthouse at 342 Court Street.

County. He had signed up on Aug. 5, but would muster in and out with Michael. Gingerich's military documents described him as a 38-year-old farmer and resident of Peoria, born at Labroughan, France [La Broque].

See GINGERICH for background on Company E's remarkable record during the Civil War, where they suffered more than 60 percent casualties. After participating in Sherman's March to the Sea, Michael and Christian came from the Carolinas by train to participate in the Grand Review Parade at Washington, D.C. May 23-24, 1865. They mustered out as privates there June 9.

On Oct. 29, 1865 in Tazewell County Michael married Harriet Zipprich. She was born at what became Groveland Feb. 3, 1848, and died at Fremont, Dodge County, Nebraska April 4, 1931, a daughter of Lorenz/Lawrence Zipprich and Philipina Harth. Her family farmed on 160 acres in the southwest corner of Section 20 at Groveland.

In 1874 Michael and Harriet relocated from Illinois to Dorchester, Saline County, Nebraska, where they bought an 80-acre farm for $950. In 1884 they moved again about 50 miles north to Fremont, Dodge County.

The 1900 census of Pohocco, Saunders County (across the Platte River from Fremont) has farmer Michal Ritthaler, 71, born in Germany in February of 1839, immigrated in 1856; Harriet, 52, born in Illinois in February of 1848 to parents from Germany; farmer William, 32, born in Illinois in January of 1868; and farmer Ruben, 27, born in Illinois in May of 1873.

Michael died at Pohocco, Saunders County, Nebraska Jan. 19, 1904. They are buried in Platteville Cemetery at adjacent Cedar Bluffs.

Sutter of Annweiler

The information in quotation marks that runs throughout this portion of text was collected in 1963 by Robert E. Birkey of Bloomington. It can be found online in A Brief History of the John and Barbara Sutter Family.

A *Suter, Sutter,* or *Suttor* is a shoemaker.

The early history of this family is fragmentary. In *Die Soziale Herkunft der Schweizer Täufer in der Reformationszeit,* Paul Peachey lists Suters among Anabaptists active at Zurich 1520-50. However, it is generally agreed that the Anabaptist Suter family came from Kölliken. This village was once in Canton Bern, but is now in the district of Zofingen in Canton Aargau.

Johannes Suttor was born at Sankt Goarshausen in 1765, and died on the Hellmansberg estate eight miles northeast of Ingolstadt, Bavaria June 1, 1844.[183] The birth and death dates of Johannes are given on a memorial headstone in Miars Cemetery, also known as Elm Grove Cemetery.

Sankt Goarshausen runs for five miles along the eastern shore of the Rhine River in a part known as the Rhine Gorge. Its village center is 18 miles below the city of Koblenz.

The district of Sankt Goarshausen held an estate called Hof Offenthal where Amish Mennonites worked small parcels of land. From 1674 until 1806 Hof Offenthal was administered by the landgraves of Hesse-Rheinfels. It was occupied by French soldiers in 1806 and held until 1813, when it became part of the Duchy of Nassau. In that year Jacob Unzicker and Elizabeth Jordy leased the entire estate. When Jacob died in 1828, his son Jacob assumed the lease. Hof Offenthal is still a working farm.

Before 1789 Johannes married Magdalena Stähli/Stahley of Fränkisch Crumbach, Hesse-Darmstadt. The Stähli/Stahley family of Fränkisch Crumbach was associated with the Nafziger family. Their first child was born at Münchweiler (now Münchweiler an der Rodalb) in 1788. Münchweiler an der Rodalb in on the east side of the city of Pirmasens, 79 miles south of Sankt Goarshausen.

From before 1796 to 1811 they farmed on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler. This community is also called Annweiler am Trifels, and is 15 miles east of Münchweiler an der Rodalb. It is comprised of two portions of land. Wilgartswiesen (mentioned many times throughout this text) is below one portion, and adjacent on the west side of the portion that holds the village; Eusserthal is above it. Both portions are about five miles west of the city of Landau, and 15 miles above the German-French border station at Wissembourg, Lower Alsace

A street on the east side of Annweiler called Lindelbrunnstrasse marks the location where there was once a farm called the Lindelbrunnerhof. 184 Ingold families from the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt also lived on the farm. They later lived with Sutters in other locations, their children intermarried, and descendants live in Tazewell County (see INGOLD). Josef/Joseph Ingold and Elisabetha Güngerich were tenants of the Lindelbrunnerhof until 1805 when they went to Kaisheim, and their first five children were born there; Josef/Joseph's younger brother Jakob Ingold and Elisabeth Baumann were tenants until 1812, when they went to Probfeld.

The area around Annweiler had a number of enclaves or islands of land belonging to Darmstadt, centered on Pirmasens. Ludwig IX became the Landgrave of Darmstadt in 1768. While he was away training troops at Pirmasens, his wife Henriette Karoline ran his administration from the town of Darmstadt. According to Hermann Guth in *Amish Mennonites in Germany,* she issued a decree in 1771 that permitted Mennonites to lease their estates. Ludwig IX was a Wittelsbach, the family of Christian III of the house of Birkenfeld-Bischweiler-Pfalz-Zweibrücken (the administrator of St. Marie-aux-Mines who helped Anabaptists when they were expelled in 1712) and Maximilian Joseph, the elector of the Pfalz who became the first king of Bavaria (he leased or gave confiscated Catholic properties to Anabaptists).

Someone looking for confirmation of the family's whereabouts before they went to Bavaria might look at the civil marriage entry of Heinrich Stähli and Barbara Sommer/Summer created at Weiler, Lower Alsace Aug. 7, 1802. Witnesses included brother-of-the-bride Balentin Summer, 21; plowman Joseph Albrecht, 30; and plowman Johannes Sŭtter, 40; all three witnesses were coming from the Hermann hof (meant to be the Hermersbergerhof at Wilgartsweisen, 15 miles north of Weiler).

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[183] Sankt Goarshausen is easily confused with St. Goar on the opposite side of the Rhine River.

[184] Lindelbrunn is also a hamlet adjacent on the east side of Darstein in the Pfalz. It is above Oberschlettenbach and Ehrlenbach bei Dahn. However, it is eight miles southwest of Annweiler.

After the occupation of the Pfalz by French troops, a number of Anabaptist families move eastward onto Bavarian soil. A migration from the Pfalz to Bavarian territory would certainly have described the family's relocation from the area of Pirmasens eastward toward Ingolstadt. There Johannes would manage a number of properties.

Circa 1804 the family moved 149 miles east from Annweiler to an estate at Kaisheim (32 miles west of Ingolstadt), where they remained until 1811. The estate had belonged to a Catholic abbey before it was secularized in 1803. During the time the Sutters lived there the grounds were used to grow food for the Bavarian army. After 1811 it was used to house displaced Franciscans, and then converted into a prison. Kaisheim is also found as Kaisersheim.

In 1811 Johannes Sutter and Friedrich Hage signed a 12-year lease on the Forsthof estate four miles northwest of Neuberg an der Donau, in the district of Neuberg-Schrobenhausen. Several Sutter children were born there (see STEINMAN for more on Hage).

Around this time the government encouraged cultivation of the Danube Marsh. About 50 Mennonite families were given formerly Catholic properties between Neuburg an der Donau and 16 miles northeast to the city of Ingolstadt. (Neuburg an der Donau means 'New Town on the Danube River', though the Wittelsbach family built a castle there in the 12th century and the town's walls date from the 14th century). This may also have been seen as a way to create gainful employment for pacifist French emigrants, who were offered draft deferments in exchange for participation in the project.

Some Anabaptist refugees established a village at Maxweiler, just east of Neuburg an der Donau, and set to work building small dikes and draining land in the Danube marsh [Ger. *Donaumoos*].185

In 1819 daughter Catharina married Christian Oesch, and the new son-in-law came to work on the Forsthof estate. This freed Johannes to take up another nine-year lease on the Hellmannsberg estate eight miles northeast of Ingolstadt (on drier ground) with his son Christian Sutter. The grounds had belonged to a monastery before 1802. A year later he also leased the Oberhaunstadt castle estate (now a neighborhood of Ingolstadt) in partnership with Christian Ingold. Christian was marred to Maria Oesch, a sister of Johannes's daughter-in-law.

On Dec. 7, 1824 purchased the 'research farm' properties of the late land commission director Klinghof at Probfeld in the Danube marsh. Half of the acreage was sold to Joseph Ingold March 5, 1826; Ingold purchased the remaining half Jan. 8, 1833.

Johannes died at Hellmannsberg near Ingolstadt June 1, 1844, age 79, and was buried in a Mennonite cemetery there. His wife Magdalena is also buried there. Their children include:

1. Christian Sutter was born at Münchweiler (later Münchweiler an der Rodalb) in 1788, and died at on the Hellmannsberg estate March 12, 1863. He married Elizabeth Nafziger. She was born in 1789, and lived at Runkel, Nassau (five miles east of Limburg an der Lahn); she died on the Forsthof estate Jan. 30, 1869. Her parents are assumed to be Valentine Nafziger from the ruined castle estate Froensbourg at Lembach, Lower Alsace and his wife Elizabeth. After leasing the Hellmannsberg estate for many years, they purchased it April 29, 1837. Their Sutter and Suttor descendants can still be found in the area of Ingolstadt.186
2. Elizabeth Sutter was born circa 1791, and died at Niedershönenfeld (between Kaisheim and Neuburg an der Donau) July 25, 1861. In 1816 on the Forsthof estate she married Jakob Hage. He was born circa 1787, and died on the Forsthof estate Jan. 29, 1939.
3. Katharina Sutter was born Aug. 24, 1794, and died on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau Nov. 27, 1872. In 1819 she married Christian Oesch. He was born at Sarre-Union, Lower Alsace Oct. 15, 1789, and died on the Forsthof estate June 23, 1844, a son of Christian Oesch and Katharina/Catherine Bürki.
4. **Johannes/John Sutter** was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler Dec. 26, 1796.

Johannes/John Sutter was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler Dec. 26, 1796, and died at Morton Aug. 2, 1887. The *Karlskron Familienbuch* calls him Johan Sutor, *Mennonit*, but gives his correct birth date and place, and correct information on his marriage.

On Oct. 31, 1819 at Hanfeld near Lake Starnberg, below Munich, he married Barbara Oesch (a Karlskron index described them as Joh. Sutor sen. and Barb. Esch). She was born at Sarrbrücken heim (now in Saarland) June 24, 1799, and died at Morton Sept. 10, 1884, a daughter of Christian Oesch and Katharina/Catherine Bürki. In 1802

185 At Maxweiler (halfway between Neuburg an der Donau and Karlskron), the Bavarian government granted 270 acres of wooded land per family. New arrivals stayed in the Wittelsbach's Grünau hunting lodge-castle until homes could be built. A church was constructed in 1832. The village dwindled to less than 80 residents by 1855.

186 Jakob Suter was a minister at Ingolstadt 1854-81. A letter of reconciliation sent from European Mennonite spokesmen to Pope John Paul II in April 2000 was signed by minister Gerhard Suttor, representing the Ingolstadt Mennonite congregation.

her parents had come to live at Hanfeld. Hanfeld was home to Heisers and Zehrs who later came to Tazewell County. It was adjacent to Söcking, the home of a Birkey family.

Johannes/John was a minister and estate manager. "The farm work was done by hired help. Daily, John Sutter inspected his estate from the back seat of a carriage, driven by one of the hired men, and drawn by a team of fine black horses."

The last address of the main family before emigrating is said to have been Dittenfeld, about four miles west of Ingolstadt. Coincidence or not, this would roughly describe the Forsthof estate.

The birthdates of the first four children of Johannes/John Sutter and Barbara Oesch/Esch were found in the *Karlskron Familienbuch*. They were born at Probfeld, where several Mennonite families lived, including Ingolds; Karlskron was a parish seat and administrative center. Their children include:

1. Magdalena Sutter was born on the Forsthof estate July 22, 1821, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 24, 1909. She is buried as Magdalena Kaufman in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford. On March 30, 1844 she married Jakob Ingold. He was born at Kaisheim, Bavaria Sept. 9, 1809, and died in 1849, a son of Georg Ingold and Magdalena Baŭmann. The *Karlskron Familienbuch* said that when their son Jacob was born Nov. 5, 1844, his parents had been married only seven weeks. Jakob died at Kaisheim March 30, 1844. When the *Samuel M. Fox* sailed from Le Havre approximately Oct. 5, 1851, and arrived at New York Nov. 11, 1851, the widow Magdalena and three children accompanied other Sutters. They are found on the passenger list as Inquet, Magdalena, 30; Jacob, 7; Johann, 3; and August, ¾. The persistent question is: if Jakob Ingold had died before the birth of the first child, who were the parents of the two youngest children? Background on the three can be found in INGOLD. They are also given here for those who would attempt to sort out Magdalena's three sets of children:
    a. Jacob Ingold was born Nov. 5, 1844, and died at Farmington, Fulton County, Illinois April 26, 1931. See INGOLD for background.

   The two 'extra' children on the *Samuel M. Fox* were:
    — Johann Ingold was born circa 1848.
    — Augustus Ingold was born Oct. 15, 1849, and died at Glendale, California April 29, 1941. On March 9, 1880 in Peoria County he married Catharine 'Katie' Gingerich. She was born in Germany Jan. 29, 1861, and died at Glendale July 17, 1929. They are buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park at Glendale.

   On Sept. 11, 1855 at Elm Grove Magdalena remarried to John Bachman; minister Andrew Ropp performed their ceremony. The county register described them as John Bachman and Laney Sutor. This has caused confusion because minister Andrew Ropp married her sister Barbara to a John Bachman at the Ropp meeting Nov. 4. Magdalena's John Bachman died Jan. 3, 1858. Their child was:
    d. Magdalena Bachman was born in Tazewell County circa 1856. She is found as Madaline, 5, on the 1860 census, and Magdalena, 14, on the 1870 census. She is easily confused with Magdalena Bachman March 2, 1858-Aug. 16, 1917, a daughter of Andreas Bachmann/Andrew Bachman and Katharina/Catherine Sutter, and a cousin to this set of children.

   On Feb. 8, 1860 at Elm Grove Magdalena Sutter married a third time to widower Joseph Kauffman. The ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman, who recorded their names as Joseph Koffman and Magdalena Backman in the county marriage register. Joseph was born in Germany March 19, 1823, and died in the 1870s. He is thought to have sailed from Bremen on the bark *Alexander*, and arrived at New York May 13, 1850. The passenger list shows John Bachm., 27, Kingd. Bavaria, Lutter. The Tazewell County marriage register shows an entry for an earlier marriage: Joseph Kaughman and Sophrona Ketner [actually Fronika 'Fanny' Kettner] created Aug. 15, 1851; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. See KETTNER for background on her family that immigrated in 1851 and had six daughters marry within 17 months in Tazewell County. Joseph brought three of his and Fanny's children to his second marriage with Magdalena Sutter:
    - Peter Kaufman. He was born at Pekin Oct. 15, 1854, and died at Manson, Calhoun County, Iowa when his automobile overturned Aug. 28, 1925. On Oct. 10, 1882 in Tazewell County he married Mary Eigsti. She was born at Morton Aug. 12, 1862, and died at Manson May 14, 1847, a daughter of Joseph Eigsti and Susan Nafziger. They went to Iowa in March of 1901. They are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery at Manson.
    - Elizabeth Kaufman was born in Illinois circa 1856. We could not follow her after the 1870 census.
    - Veronica 'Fannie' Kaufman was born March 28, 1858, and died in Calhoun County, Iowa Oct. 25, 1937. On Sept. 13, 1877 in Tazewell County she married August Kammerer.[187] He was born in Germany Sept. 25, 1845, and died at Rockwell City, Calhoun County July 30, 1907. They are buried in Lake Creek Cemetery in Calhoun County.

   The 1860 census of Fon du Lac has farmer Joseph Kofman, 32, France; Madalene, 33, Bavaria; Peter, 5, Illinois; Jacob, 14, Bavaria; George, 10 [was this Johann?], Bavaria; Catharine, 10, Illinois; Madaline, 5, Illinois; Elizabeth, 4, Illinois; and Auguste, 9, Illinois. They can be found on the 1870 census of Groveland as farmer Joseph Kaufmann, 48, France; Magdalena, 48, Bavaria; Jacob [Ingold], 26, Bavaria; August [Ingold], 19, Bavaria; Catharina, 19,

[187] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as Fanny Kaufman.

Illinois; Magdalena, 14, Illinois; Peter, 15, Illinois; Elizabethe, 14, Illinois; Veronika, 11, Illinois; Mary, 9, Illinois; Joseph, 4, Illinois; and Catharine, 20, Ohio [Katharine 'Katie' Schick, son Jacob Ingold's new wife]. No death entry for Joseph is found in a county register of deaths that begins in 1877, indicating he died between the 1870 census and 1876. The 1880 census of Groveland shows widow Magdelin Kaufman, 60, Germany; Mary, 21, born in Illinois to German parents; Joseph, 14, born in Illinois to German parents; farmer August Ingold, 27, Germany; and daughter-in-law Katie [Gingerich], 18, Germany. *Gospel Herald*, April 1909: "Magdalena Kauffman, maiden name Sutter, was born in Germany, July 22, 1820; died Feb. 24, 1909; aged 88 y. 7 m. 2 d. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charley Stormer, Milford, Nebr. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, besides grandchildren and great-grandchildren and friends. Interment in the East Fairview burying ground. Funeral services were conducted by the brethren Jacob Stauffer, N. E. Roth and Jos. Schlegel." She is buried as Magdalena Kaufman in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford. The children of Magdalena Sutter and her third husband Joseph Kauffman include:

d. Mary Kaufman was born in 1861, in agreement with the 1870 census. Her headstone says she was born Dec. 2, 1859, but she is not found on the 1860 census. She died at Milford, Nebraska Aug. 4, 1930. On Dec. 23, 1881 in McLean County she married Charles Stormer.[188] He was born in Tazewell County Nov. 7, 1858, and died at Milford Oct. 11, 1937, a son of John William Stormer and Sarah Pippin. On the 1930 census of Milford Mary reported that both of her parents had been German. Mary and Charles are buried in Milford Mennonite Cemetery.

e. Joseph Kaufman was born in April of 1866, and died Sept. 2, 1884. He is buried in Waggoner Cemetery (also known as Blackford Cemetery) at Elliott, Ford County, where his obelisk says he was aged '18 yrs. 4 ms.'

2. **Christian Sutter** was born on the Forsthof estate April 21, 1823, and died at Hopedale May 11, 1899.

3. Johann Sutor/John Sutter was born at Probfeld (adjacent to Karlskron) March 14, 1825, and died Dec. 11, 1904. It is likely he was exempted from military service or hired a replacement, since family notes make no mention of compulsory military service at age 20. The *Karlskron Famlienbuch* index listed Joh. Sutor Jun. and his wife Barbara Ingold, who was a daughter of Christian Ingold and Maria Esch. Other sources say they married in 1847. On March 27, 1855 in Tazewell County he remarried to Magdalena Guth/Good; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Burgwalden (now part of Bobingen below Augsburg), Bavaria Feb. 14, 1835, and died Aug. 18, 1921, a daughter of Christian Guth and Barbara Christener; they are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. They are found on the 1860 census of Boynton as farmer John Suter, 35, Germany; Magdaline, 26, Germany; John, 3, Illinois; Barbara, 2, Illinois; and Magdaline, 1, Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, January 1905: "John Sutter died at his home near Hopedale, Ill., Dec. 11, 1904; aged 79 Y., 8 M., 27 D. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, March 14, 1825; was united in marriage to Magdalene Goot, March 27, 1855. To this union seven children were born; one preceded him to the home beyond. He was one of the first settlers of the A. M. congregation at this place. He leaves his widow, six children, 23 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren to mourn his departure. He united with the A. M. church in his youth and remained faithful to the end. He was buried Dec. 13th in the A. M. graveyard near Hopedale. Funeral services were conducted at the house by John C. Birky from *Psa. 90* and at the church by Samuel Garber from *1 Thess. 5:9.* "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ. John C. Birky." *Gospel Herald*, January 1922: "Magdalena Good-Sutter was born in Bavaria, Germany, Feb. 14, 1834. She came to America, when about 19 years old, settling in Tazewell Co., Ill., where she has since resided. She was united in marriage to John Sutter who preceded her in death. She passed away at her home southeast of Hopedale, Ill., after an illness of several weeks; 87 y. 6 m. 4 d. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her early youth and lived a consistent Christian life, until called home. She leaves six children (Andrew W., Amos, Christian, John, Lizzie Wittrig, and Mrs. Susan Egli). Funeral services were held at the A. M. Church, Aug. 21, conducted by Simon Litwiller, and Samuel Gerber. Interment in the Amish cemetery west of Hopedale."

4. Barbara Sutter was born at Probfeld Feb. 1, 1827, and died at Fisher, Champaign County Jan. 10, 1903. On Nov. 4, 1855 in Tazewell County she married Johann Bachmann/John Bachman; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp.[189] He was born circa March 12, 1818, died of 'malarial fever' at Morton Oct. 12, 1888, and is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. They are found on the 1870 census of Morton as farmer John Bachman, 52, France; Barbara, 43, Berne; Barbara, 9, Illinois; 7, Illinois; Joseph, 5, Illinois; and John Grond, 10, Illinois. (In this context 'Berne' may have been confused with Bayern/Bavaria). They were three households removed from Barbara's parents. The 1880 census of Morton has them as farmer John Bachman, 62, Bavaria; Barbara, 52, Bavaria, with measles; Barbara, 19, Illinois; Lizzie, 19, Illinois; Lena, 17, Illinois; Joseph, 16, Illinois; Andrew, 9, Illinois; and stepson John Graunt, 20, born in Illinois to German parents. His headstone describes him as "*Johann Bachmann, Gest. D. 12 Oct. 1888, 70 Jahr 7 Mon. alt.*" Another four lines are unreadable. His county death entry said he was born in Germany, but this may only reflect the occupation of Alsace and Lorraine by Prussia 1870-1918.

5. Joseph Sutter was born Oct. 10, 1829, and died Sept. 26, 1860. On April 8, 1856 in Woodford County he married Magdalena Zehr. She was born July 20, 1834 (headstone July 27, 1834), and died at Goodfield, Woodford County May 19, 1919, a daughter of Daniel Zehr and his second wife Magdalena Müller. Joseph's status as a deserter from

[188] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as Mary Kaufman.
[189] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as Barbara Sutor.

Bavarian military training may explain why they do not appear on the federal census. On Aug. 2, 1868 in Woodford County Magdalena remarried to widower Magnus Helderle. He was born Sept. 6, 1840, and died May 11, 1909; his first wife was Elizabeth Sommer. At one point they lived in Michigan. Magdalena and Magnus are buried in the Apostiolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville,

6. Katharina/Catherine Sutter was born Aug. 23, 1831 (her headstone calls her Catherina Bachman and says 1833), and died in 1888. On April 20, 1857 in Tazewell County she married Andreas Bachmann/Andrew Bachman; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp.190 He was born June 2, 1820, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Jan. 10, 1881, a son of David Bachmann and Anna Bächer; for background on his family see BACHMAN, BACHMANN OF ROANOKE.
7. Jacob Sutter was born Nov. 27, 1833, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 26, 1923. He is buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford, Nebraska. On Feb. 18, 1858 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Wagler. She was born at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace March 23, 1838, and died at Milford, Nebraska July 30, 1908, a daughter of Jacob Wagler and Magdalena Reschly. They are found on the 1860 census of Morton as farmer Jacob Suter, 26, Germany; Catharine, 22, Germany; Jacob, 1, Illinois; and Barbara, 4 months, Illinois. On May 31, 1869 Jacob purchased 80 acres of public land for $1,200 in what is now Rook's Creek (adjacent to Waldo). The 1900 census of Milford, Nebraska shows them as farmer Jacob Sutter, 66, born in Germany in November 1833, immigrated in 1854; Catherine, 63, born in Germany in March 1837, immigrated in 1856 [actually 1854]; and three sons born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, July 1908: "Catherine Sutter, nee Wagler, was born in Alsace, Germany, March 23, 1838; died at Milford, Nebr., July 30, 1908; aged 70 y. 4 m. 7 d. She lived in matrimony with Jacob Sutter 50 y. 4 m. To them were born 15 children, eight sons and seven daughters; five children preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves to mourn, her husband, 10 children and many relatives and friends, but not as those that have no hope, for Sister Sutter was a faithful member in the A. M. Church from her youth; her desire was to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Funeral services were held at the Fairview Church near Milford, July 31, by Jos. Schlegel. Text, *II Tim. 4:1*, and N. E. Roth, *Rev. 21:7*." Following her death he remarried Feb. 14, 1909 to Magdalena 'Martha' King Yordy. She was born at Sand Prairie Dec. 13, 1842, and died at Harper, Kansas Feb. 11, 1927, a daughter of Samuel King and his first wife Magdalena Kurtz; she was the widow of John Birkey Yordy (1838-1906), a son of Peter Yordy and Mary Birkey. *Gospel Herald*, March 1923: "Jacob Sutter was born Nov. 27, 1833, in Byron [Bayern, or Bavaria], Germany. From there he moved to Illinois where he was united in marriage to Kathrine Wagler. Later they came to Milford, Nebr., where he has lived for 46 years. He died February 26, 1923, in Milford at the age of 89 y. 2 m. 29 d. He united with the Amish Mennonite Church in his youth. He had 15 children (eight sons and seven daughters), 59 grandchildren and about 25 great-grandchildren. His wife died July 30, 1908, with whom he lived in matrimony over 50 years. Three sons, three daughters and eleven grandchildren preceded him in death. He leaves to mourn his departure, five sons, four daughters and one sister, Fannie Birky, Fisher, Ill. On Feb. 14, 1909, he again united in marriage to Magdalena Yordy with whom he lived until death. The cause of his death was lagrippe. Buried near Milford in East Fairview Cemetery. Services by home ministers." After Jacob's death his widow remarried to John Plank.
8. Elisabeth Sutter was born March 1, 1836, and died June 30, 1884. On Jan. 8, 1854 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Miller. Their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born circa 1830, and died Sept. 11, 1868. Their household is found on the 1860 census of Tremont as farmer Joseph Miller, 30, Germany; Elizabeth, 24, Germany; Barbaray, 5, Illinois; John, 4, Illinois; Joseph, 2, Illinois; Catharine, 16, Ohio; and Elizabeth, 12, Ohio. On Feb. 9, 1871 in Tazewell County Elisabeth remarried to Johann Ackermann//John Ackerman, the widower of Magdalena/Madeleine Birkey (see ACKERMAN). They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
9. Veronica 'Fannie' Sutter was born Nov. 11, 1838, and died at Fisher, Champaign County April 16, 1927. On March 25, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Andreas/Andrew Birkey; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born in Bavaria March 3, 1830, and died at Fisher Sept. 11, 1895, a son of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho. See BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE LITTLE RED BIRKYS for more on this couple.
10. Andreas/Andrew Sutter was born May 14, 1842, and died at Phoenix, Arizona Feb. 8, 1921. On Feb. 21, 1864 in Woodford County he married Mary Magdalena 'Maggie' Klopfenstein. She was born at Belfort, Franche-Comté March 30, 1846, and died at Phoenix Nov. 15, 1914, a daughter of Johannes/John Klopfenstein and Catherine Klopfenstein (Maggie's parents had migrated from Belfort to Slabtown). They are buried under a joint headstone in Good Hope Cemetery in Woods County, Oklahoma, that says, “Father Andrew J., 1842-1921, Mother Magdalene, 1846-1914, Sutter.”

Christian Sutter (Jr.) was born on the Forsthof estate April 21, 1823, and died at Hopedale May 11, 1899. He was inducted into the 1st Royal Bavarian Field Artillery Regiment [Ger. *Feldartillerie-Regiment Prinz-Regent Luitpold*] of the 1st Royal Bavarian Artillery Brigade of the Royal Bavarian Army March 26, 1845. The regiment was garrisoned at Munich. It is probable that his service was going to be extended because of the country's political turmoil when "...It was decided that he [Christian] should hire a replacement and should go to America."

190 The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* erroneously listed them as John Bachman and Catharine Suter.

The discharge certificate of 'Christian Sŭtor' from the Royal Bavarian Army signed March 12, 1848 is now in the Mennonite Heritage Center at Germantown Hills.191

Christian may be the 'C. Suttr, 22, Germany' found on the passenger list of the ship *Severn*. It sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York July 23, 1849.

"Landing in America, Christian Sutter came inland to Tazewell County, Illinois where he worked on a farm for about a year. He then married Magdalena Nafziger and started farming for himself."

On March 17, 1850 at Tremont Christian Sutter married Magdalena Nafziger. Their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Unterweilbach, Bavaria May 6, 1819, and died May 25, 1871, a daughter of Christian Nafziger and Fröny Bürcky/Veronica Burkey.

"Being very poor and unaccustomed to such a crude mode of living, he [Christian] became very homesick. Wishing to have the rest of the family join him in America, he wrote interesting letters back to Germany telling of the beautiful, progressive country that he was now living in. These letters, together with his disapproval of his younger son to enter the military service, were a great inducement to his father, John Sutter, to come to America."

With the Bavarian government threatening compulsory military training, the Mennonites of the Danube Marsh began to disappear in 1851. Many migrated to Lee County, Iowa and Summerfield, St. Clair County, Illinois; the exodus was all but complete by 1855.

In 1851 father Johannes/John "...sold his estate and made the journey to America with the rest of his family, with the exception of one son Joseph, who was now in the service and was supposed to remain for one more year. Thus the father, John Sutter, and his wife Barbara; their three sons John, Jacob and Andrew; and five daughters Magdalena, Katherine, Barbara, Elizabeth, and Veronica secured their passes and made their way to a French port [Le Havre]."

"While waiting there for their boat, they were joined by Joseph who had deserted the army and followed them. When the time came to embark, the shipmaster found one too many persons for the passes they had given him and would not let Joseph go without a pass. His father, John, asked if he could pay for it. John Sutter was not worried about a shortage of money and he said that if it were a question of money, he could fix it. The shipmaster secured a pass and John Sutter produced the money. It was a happy day for Joseph when the ship left the shore out of the reach of the army officials."

The *Samuel M. Fox* sailed from Le Havre approximately Oct. 5, 1851, and arrived at New York Nov. 11, 1851. "It was a long, stormy, and weary voyage. Mrs. John Sutter became so ill that it was feared at one time that she would not live to see America. After thirty-six days at sea they reached New York."

The passenger list described the family as: Sutor Johann, 56, farmer, Bavaria; Barbara, 53; Johann, 25; Barbara, 22; Balthasar, 20 [this should have been Catherine, 20]; Jacob, 18; Elisabeth, 15; Veronica, 13; Andreas, 11; Inquet [Ingold, born Sutor], Magdalena, 30; Jacob, 7; Johann, 3; and August, 3/4 [nine months]. And six lines later: Sutor, Joseph, 21, shoemaker, Bavaria.192

From New York the family "...traveled to Buffalo, and via the Great Lakes to the little town called Chicago, Illinois; then by the Chicago and Illinois rivers to Peoria, Illinois. Upon their arrival at Christian's home, the family was sorely disappointed and wanted to turn back. Being very angry with Christian, the brothers went out into the woods and discussed the matter and it was decided to seek revenge on him by giving him a beating. When they returned to do so, Christian's wife locked the door and would not let them in, so they again went out into the woods and spent the night there."

"John Sutter immediately bought a section of land in Morton for $2 per acre. In a few years it became quite settled around there. Forgetting their old home in Germany, the Sutters became contented to live here. Other Amish Mennonites settled near them in four districts – Morton, Roanoke, Pekin, and Metamora."

Johannes/John, who was ordained as a minister by 1824, would serve the Dillon Creek congregation from 1850 until his death. "John Sutter preached in each district every fourth Sunday. As there were no church buildings, services were held in the homes."

Their household can be found on the 1860 census of Morton as farmer John Sutter, 65, Germany; Barbara, 61; Andrew, 19; Andrew Buky [son-in-law Andrew Birkey], 29; Fanny [Veronica], 22; and Barbara, 1, born in Illinois.

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[191] Christian Sutter's discharge certificate was signed by 'Prinz Luitpold.' Luitpold was a Wittelsbach, born at Würzburg, Bavaria March 12, 1821, the third son of King Louis I of Bavaria. He chose a military career with the 1st Royal Bavarian Army Corps. Luitpold became de facto ruler of Bavaria June 10, 1886, ruling as prince regent in place of his incompetent nephews Louis II and Otto I. When he died at Munich Dec. 12, 1912, his son succeeded him as regent.

[192] At least one genealogist looking at the passenger list has interpreted a squiggle after 'Sutor' as an 'n' and given Joseph the name 'Sutorn.' In this instance, the extra flourish probably cleared the ink from a quill pen.

Johannes/John attended an assembly of ministers in 1871, and hosted one in 1875. It convened in his barn at Hittle. The barn was later dismantled and reconstructed behind the Mennonite Heritage Center at Germantown Hills.

Barbara Oesch/Esch died at Morton Sept. 10, 1884. Her headstone in Landes Mennonite Cemetery says she was age 85-2-0. Johannes/John Sutter died at Morton Aug. 2, 1887, and was buried beside her. His headstone gives his age as 91-2-9.

The household of their son Christian Sutter and Magdalena Nafziger is described on the 1860 census of Hittle as farmer Christian Suter, 37, Germany; Magdaline, 35, Germany; Barbary, 9, Illinois; Christian, 7, Illinois; John, 4, Illinois; Magdalena, 2; Henry Terwirt, 21, Germany; Nicholas Myer, 25, France; and Wm. Beck, 20, Germany. In 1870 they were living at Little Mackinaw: farmer Christian Sutter, 47, Bavaria; Magdaline, 44, Bavaria; Barbaray, 19, Illinois; Christian, 17, Illinois; John, 14, Illinois; Magdalene, 11, Illinois; and farm hand George Zeidler, 20, Bavaria; and John Miller, 14, Illinois.

Magdalena died in Tazewell County May 25, 1871, and was buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

On April 15, 1873 in Tazewell County, Christian remarried to Barbara Steinman. She was born in Bavaria June 16, 1829, possibly a daughter of Jacob Steinman, and the widow of Jacob Augsburger. Their household can be found on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer Christian Suter, 57, Bavaria; Barbara, 50, Bavaria; Annie Augsberger, 17, stepdaughter born in Illinois; Daniel, 13, stepson born in Illinois; and Fannie, 10, stepdaughter born in Illinois.

Christian died at Hopedale May 11, 1899, and was buried next to his first wife in the Mennonite Cemetery there. *Herald of Truth*, August 1899: "On May 11, 1899, Christian Sutter, aged 76 years and 20 days. He leaves a widow, two children, twenty-seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was one of the first Amish Mennonites to settle in this neighborhood, and he could see how the small membership grew to a large congregation, and how many a one, who came after him, was called away before him. He was married twice. With his first wife, Magdalena Nafziger, he lived in matrimony twenty-one years; with his second wife, Barbara Augsburger, twenty-six years. He was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church since his youth, and died in Hopedale, Tazewell Co., Ill., trusting in the mercy of the Lord. Buried on the 14th. Funeral services by Samuel Gerber and J. C. Birky."

Barbara died March 21, 1911, and was buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery with her first husband Jacob Augsburger, Jacob Steinman, and Sutter in-laws.

Children of Christian Sutter and his first wife Magdalena Nafziger include:

1. Barbara Sutter was born at Morton Aug. 31, 1851, and died at Minier April 2, 1885; she is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. On Jan. 29, 1874 in Tazewell County she married Joseph E. Egli. He was born at Zurich, Huron County, Ontario Feb. 2, 1852, and died at Manson, Iowa Oct. 10, 1915, a son of John Egli and Magdalena Gascho. For background on this couple see EGLY.
2. Christian Sutter (found on his headstone as Christian N. Sutter) was born at Morton Aug. 3, 1853, and died at Hopedale July 22, 1932. On Feb. 28, 1876 at Flanagan, Livingston County he married Fannie Stalter. She was born at Morton April 17, 1858, and died at Hopedale March 25, 1943, a daughter of Jacob N. Stalter and Barbara Birky. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
3. John Sutter (also found as John A. Sutter) was born at Morton or Hittle March 27, 1856, and died in Tazewell County May 20, 1879. He is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Magdalena Sutter was born at Morton or Hittle Oct. 7, 1858, and died at Minier June 17, 1948. On Feb. 6, 1876 in Tazewell County she married Christian Heiser/Hieser. He was born at Elm Grove Oct. 19, 1851, and died at Minier Feb. 17, 1938, a son of Joseph Heiser and Barbara Schrag/Schrock. For background on this couple see HEISER.

An excellent source of information on this family is Rudolph Ingold's article *The Suttor Family from Hellmannsberg* in the October 1991 issue of *Mennonite Family History*.

Ingold of Trippstadt

Ingold may have been derived from Ingwald, a given name. Or from *Inghold*, which described a supporter of the ruler.

There is a very extensive family at Herzogenbuchsee in the administrative district of Oberaargau, Canton Bern. The first page of the first church baptism record (1570) names an Adam Ingolt. Herzogenbuchsee will be recalled from the Peasants War of 1653 as a village where about 6,000 soldiers from the city of Bern caught up to 2,000 retreating peasants. After a brief battle they looted the refuge village and burned it to the ground.

According to the *Global Anabaptist Encyclopedia Online*, Freidrich Ingolt was a Bavarian Anabaptist who participated in a disputation with Hans Denck at Augsburg in 1526. Denck had studied at the universities in Ingolstadt and Basel. Although Denck had Anabaptist friends, Ingolt objected to his belief in universalism.

The Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt is seven miles south of Kaiserslautern. Mennonites settled there in 1688, and Amish Mennonites in 1717. Recall from IMHOFF that *"Die Domäne Trippstadt*, the private domain of a *Freiherr*, was exempted from censuses conducted by *Kurpfalz* administrators. Thus we do not find an accounting of the Mennonite residents of Trippstadt in the Guth publication *Palatine Mennonite Census Lists, 1664-1793* - though we do find the locations surrounding it such as Kaiserslautern, Schmalenberg, and the Lauberwald." For background see IMHOFF.

Jakob Ingold was born there before 1749, and died in 1798.[193]

Between 1775 and 1780 Jakob moved 18 miles southeast to the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler. For a description of this community see SUTTER.

Jakob's four children resettled in two places:

KAISHEIM

Recall from SUTTER that circa 1804 that family moved 149 miles east from Annweiler to an estate at Kaisheim (32 miles west of Ingolstadt), where they remained until 1811. The estate had belonged to a Catholic abbey before it was secularized in 1803. During the time the Sutters lived there the grounds were used to grow food for the Bavarian army. After 1811 it was used to house displaced Franciscans, and then converted into a prison. Kaisheim is also found as Kaisersheim.

THE DISTRICT OF KARLSKRON

The Archduchess Maria Leopoldine was a Habsburg princess born in Italy in 1776. In 1795 she was forced to marry Charles Theodor, Elector of Bavaria. He was 52 years older. She refused his advances, but had affairs with a number of courtiers. She renounced her claim to succession after her husband died in 1799. She settled in as a permanent resident of the castle at Söcking.[194]

The Archduchess originated the idea of inviting Anabaptists to drain and cultivate the marshes along the Danube River [Ger. *Donaumoos*]. A religiously-tolerant resettlement law was enacted as the Bavaria *Electoral General Directorate* [Ger. *Chufürstliche General-Landesdirektion*] on March 6, 1802.

The Archduchess correctly guessed that the measure would enhance the value of properties she owned at Steppberg, 20 miles west of Karlskron. The villages of Josephenburg and Probfeld in the district of Karlskron became home to Anabaptist Gascho, Güngerich, Hage, Ingold, Oesch, Pechler, Springer, and Sutter families. They traded years of service for exemptions from military service, then stayed on for exemption from taxes. In some cases it would prove to be their last address before emigrating from Europe.

Children of Jakob Ingold include:

1. Josef/Joseph Ingold was born on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt in 1769, and died between 1833 and 1844. Circa 1793 he married Elisabetha Güngerich. She was born in 1765 or 1778, and died Feb. 28, 1844, a daughter of Christian Güngerich and Elisabeth Roggy. Elisabeth had a brother Johannes Güngerich, born in 1764, who married Katharina Baŭmann of the Wilensteinerhof. In 1805 they, like the Sutters, leased property at Kaisheim. They may have brought his grandmother; a death entry created April 30, 1809 describes *Wiedertaüfer* widow Elisabeth Ingold, 88 (and thus born circa 1721). Properties at Kaisheim had been nationalized in 1803. In 1816 Joseph rented the

[193] He had a brother Joseph Ingold, and another who died young. All we know about Joseph was that he was the father of Magdalena Anne Ingold, who was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler in 1795.

[194] She remarried to a count in 1804, and died after a carriage accident in 1848.

brewery estate of a former imperial Catholic abbey. Elisabetha's death entry at Karlskron described her as a widowed *Mennoniten* resident of Neuberg, Probfeld. Their children include:

a. Christian Ingold was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler April 22, 1794, and died on the Klinghof Oct. 10, 1870. He leased the Klinghof in 1820. On Sept. 20, 1820 on the Forsthof he married Marie/Maria Oesch. She was born at Saarbrückenheim (now in Saarland; the *Familienbuch* calls it *Saarbrückenheim im Frankreich*) Feb. 5, 1802, and died on the Klinghof Jan. 30, 1870, a daughter of Christian Oesch and Catherine/Katharina Bürki. Their family had gone to Hanfeld in 1802. The *Karlskron Familienbuch* described them as a couple at Probfeld. In presentday the hamlets Probfeld, Josephenburg, and Dreubling where Mennonites lived have been absorbed into the municipality of Karlskron. In the year they were married Christian also leased the Oberhaunstadt Castle estate (now a neighborhood of Ingolstadt) in partnership with Johannes/John Sutter. Their children include:
    1) Barbara Ingold was born at Oberhaunstadt by Ingolstadt Oct. 6, 1821. She married Johannes Sutor, a son of Christian Sutor and Elizabeth Nafziger, though the *Karlskron Familienbuch* identifies him as Johan Sutor (jun.). One source says they married in 1847. On March 21, 1855 in Tazewell County he remarried to Magdalena Guth/Good; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Burgwalden (now part of Bobingen below Augsburg), Bavaria Feb. 14, 1835, and died Aug. 18, 1921, a daughter of Christian Guth and Barbara Christener. See SUTTER for background.
    2) Christian Ingold was born at Probfeld July 21, 1825.
    3) Katharina Ingold was born at Probfeld Oct. 17, 1826, and died the following year.
    4) Joseph Ingold was born at Probfeld Aug. 5, 1831, and died in 1865. In 1826 he married Magdalena Springer.
    5) Maria Ingold was born at Probfeld March 26, 1834.
    6) Elisabetha Ingold was born at Probfeld June 1, 1836.
    7) Peter Ingold was born at Probfeld March 7, 1838.
    8) Jakob Ingold was born at Probfeld Aug. 14, 1846.

b. Johann Ingold was born on the Lindelbrunnehof in 1798, and died on the Klinghof July 15, 1880.

c. Barbara Ingold was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof circa 1800, and died at Arzbach bei Dachau Aug. 5, 1831 (an entry was created at nearby Pellheim). On May 12, 1827 at Hilgertshausen-Tandern, Bavaria (27 miles east of Augsburg) she married Daniel Zehr. He was born at Struth June 8, 1803, and died during a cholera epidemic in his home at what is now Congerville, Woodford County Aug. 11, 1855, a son of Daniel Zehr and Magdalena Unzicker. See ZEHR for background on this couple and their children together. Barbara brought to the marriage an illegitimate child Joseph Ingold, who came to Tazewell County before her Zehr children.

    — Joseph Ingold was born at Kaisheim, Bavaria Jan. 24, 1826, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Nov. 5, 1909. He sailed from Bremen on the *Teutonia*, and arrived at New York Aug. 29, 1861 with the family of Johannes/John Augsburger and Marie Oesch (see AUGSPURGER). On Nov. 8, 1863 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Unzicker; the ceremony was conducted by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born in Tazewell County in 1844, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County April 7, 1871. The household of Joseph Ingold is found on the 1865 state census of Pike, Livingston County: one male 30-39 years of age, one male nine or under, and one female 20-29. On Jan. 14, 1872 in Tazewell County Joseph remarried to Barbara Ernst. She was born at Wilmot, Ontario circa 1833, and died in Livingston County Dec. 8, 1887, a daughter of Christe/Christian Ernst and Madeleine Chepach [Shűpbach]. The 1880 census of Pike has them as Joseph Ingold, 55, born in Bavaria to Bavarian parents; Barbara, 44, born in Canada to French parents; Henry, 16, born in Illinois; Joseph, 13, born in Illinois; and David, 10, born in Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, January 1888: "On the 8th of December in Livingston County, Ill., of dropsy, Sister Barbara Ernst, second wife of Joseph Ingold, aged 53 years. She was buried on the 11th. Services by Daniel Grieser, Chr. Zehr, and John P. Schmitt. She leaves her husband and three stepsons to mourn her departure." *Gospel Herald*, November 1909: "Joseph Ingold was born in Bavaria, Germany Jan. 24, 1826; died Nov. 5, 1909, at the home of his son Joseph, near Flanagan, Ill., where he spent the last eighteen years of his life; aged 83 y. 9 m. 11 d. In his early youth he united with the A. M. Church, and was faithful to the end. In 1863 he was united in holy matrimony with Barbara Unzicker. To this union were born three sons. In 1871 his wife departed to the spirit world. In 1872 he was married to Barbara Ernst. She preceded him to the spirit world in 1887. He leaves to mourn his departure three sons, twenty-one grandchildren and many friends. Funeral services were held at the Waldo A. M. Church, conducted by the brethren, John Birky and D. W. Slagel. Interment in the cemetery nearby. Peace to his ashes." Joseph is buried with his first wife Barbara Unzicker under a joint headstone in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

d. Josef/Joseph Ingold was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof in 1801, and died at Hellmansberg July 26, 1865. In 1826 he married Magdalena Springer. She was born at Struth, Lower Alsace Aug. 24, 1803. On July 21, 1828 they bought the Kösching estate for 2,215 *Gulden*.

e. Heinrich Ingold was born at Kaisheim Aug. 4, 1808, and died in 1847. In 1833 he married Barbara Holly (1811-1886). In 1833 together with his older brother Christian he paid 9,500 *Gulden* for the Templehof. After his death his wife remarried to his nephew.

f. Magdalena Ingold was born at Kaisheim Oct. 22, 1812, and died there July 30, 1839.

g. Elisabetha Ingold was born at Kaisheim March 2, 1814.

2. The age of daughter Walburga Ingold could not be determined, but she likely belongs here.[195] In 1809 at Dreubling (now part of Karlskron) she married widower Johannes/Johann Ackermann. He was born in 1758, and died July 25, 1818; his children with first wife Barbara Albrecht are listed in ACKERMAN. Their children born at Deubling died young:

a. Veronika Ingold was born Nov. 30, 1811, and died at Deubling in 1817.

b. Christian Ingold was born Sept. 2, 1814, and died at Deubling in 1816.

c. Elisabeth Ingold was born Feb. 3, 1817, and died at Deubling in 1818.

3. Jakob Ingold (possibly a twin) was born on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt in the Pfalz in 1778, and died at Probfeld, Bavaria Oct. 7, 1836. In 1795 on the Wilensteinerhof he married Elisabeth Baŭmann. She was born on the Wilensteinerhof in 1770, and died at Probfeld Feb. 28, 1844. Jakob was co-leaseholder of the Lindelbrunnerhof as late as 1812, when they left for Probfeld. At Probfeld they started out as tenants on a colony estate. An experimental farm called Klinghof was established there, named for the land commissioner von Kling. Klinghof became the property of Josef/Joseph Ingold (junior) in 1826. Jakob's Karlskron death entry said he was 58 year of age and gave his address as Neuberg, Probfeld No. 10. Children of Jakob Ingold and Elisabeth Baŭmann include:

a. Barbara Ingold was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler in 1801. She had an illegitimate son Jakob Ingold (1829-1888); the father was hired man Jakob Stalter of Helmannsburg. She later married Jakob Bier, who was born circa 1802, and died at Probfeld Sept. 11, 1839. After marriage they lived near Dachau where two children were born. As a widow Barbara immigrated to Ontario. She is found on the 1861 census as Barbara Bier, 61, France, in the household of Joseph Jacobs. She died June 13, 1881, and is buried in the Reformed Mennonite Cemetery at New Hamburg (also called Hochstettler's Cemetery). Jakob Ingold obtained a passport at Neuberg in 1863, and went to Ontario. There he settled at New Hamburg and married Catherine Oberheimer.

b. Magdalena Ingold was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler Nov. 1, 1803, and died at Zurich, Ontario Feb. 21, 1891. In January of 1824 at Arzbach bei Dachau she married Joseph Gascho. His birth date is found in many sources as May 16, 1793 (perhaps figuring from his obituary or headstone count), but the *Karlskron Familienbuch* says that he was born at Desseling, Moselle (found as 'Dötzlingen im Lothringen') Nov. 2, 1797. No civil birth entry was found there. He died at Hay, Huron County, Ontario Jan. 17, 1882, a son of Andreas/André Gascho and Anne Zwalter. The *Familienbuch* lists seven of their children. In 1849 they migrated from Probfeld to East Zorra. They are buried in Lakeview Conservative Mennonite Cemetery at Blake, Huron County, where a modern joint headstone says "Joseph Gascho, 1792-1882, his wife Magdalena Ingold, 1799-1891." For background on this couple see GASCHO.

c. Katharina/Catherine Ingold was born on the Lindenbrunnerhof at Annweiler in 1805 (per *the Familienbuch*, but 1803 according to her modern headstone), and died in 1883. The *Karlskron Familienbuch* identified her first husband as Joseph Pechler, who died April 17, 1834. Their children born at Probfeld included Christian, April 21, 1827; Katharina, Feb. 22, 1830; Andreas, Nov. 29, 1831; and Joseph, April 1, 1833. In 1848 Katharina/Catherine remarried to Christian Shantz. He was born in 1809, and died in 1888, according to his modern headstone. They arrived in Ontario in 1849, and settled at Hay. They are found on the 1861 census of Hay, Huron County, Ontario as Christian Shantz, 53, Germany, Mennonite; Caterina, 60, Germany, Mennonite; Joseph, 19; Magdelene, 17. According to the late Lorraine Roth, this son Joseph died young. On Oct. 6, 1868 Magdalena married Jacob O. Gingerich of South Easthope; she died April 4, 1912. Christian and Katharina/Catherine are buried in Lakeview Conservative Mennonite Cemetery at Blake, Huron County.

d. Veronika Ingold was born in 1807. After 1831 she married Chrétien Augsburger. He was born at Strasbourg Nov. 29, 1807, a son of Christian Augspurger/Chrétien Augsburger and Katharina/Catherine Stalter. In 1841 he remarried to Magdalena Salzman. The *Karlskron Famliienbuch* lists their children born at Probfeld as Johannes, May 23, 1842; and Magdalena, Aug. 4, 1844.

e. Elisabetha Ingold was also born in 1809 (per the *Familienbuch*).

f. Jakobina Ingold died as an infant, per the *Familienbuch*.

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[195] Walburga or Walpurga was an eighth-century English missionary from Rome to the Frankish Empire. She died in 777 or 779 AD, and was buried at Heidenheim. Her bones were removed to a rocky niche at Eichstätt, Bavaria (22 miles northwest of Karlskron) in 870 AD. The rocks began to exude oil, which was credited with healing powers and accepted as a miracle. This led to her popular acceptance as a saint. Her story became tangled with pagan folk stories, and later she was more often associated with successful harvests.

- Christian Ingold may belong here, though he is not found in the *Familienbuch*. He was born circa 1809, and died at Hay, Huron County, Ontario July 4, 1889. In 1862 in South Easthope/East Zorra he married Barbara Giesler. According to the late Lorraine Roth she was born circa 1822, a daughter of John and Catherine Giesler. The ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Ruby. A plat map of South Easthope showing settlers in the 1850s has Christian on Lot 17, Concession II, eight farms to the west of Christian Bier. The 1861 census of South Easthope, Perth County, Ontario has Christian Ingold, 54, Germany, Menonist; and Barbara, 60, Germany, Menonist. They are buried in United Church Cemetery at Bronsen Line, Hay Township.

4. **Georg Ingold** (twin) was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof in 1778, and died in 1809.

Georg Ingold (possible twin) was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof at Annweiler in 1778, and died at Kaisheim Nov. 15, 1810.

In 1802 he married Magdalena Baŭmann. According to the *Karlskron Familienbuch*, she was born at Lindenbrunn bei Weissenburg (36 miles northwest of Karlskron) in 1780. When older brother Josef/Joseph Ingold and Elisabeth Güngerich resettled at Kaisheim in 1805, George and Magdalena were with them.

Georg died as a 32-year-old at Kaisheim Nov. 15, 1810, where he was working as a farmhand for his brother. Their children include:

1. Christian Ingold died May 26, 1807, at one month of age. He is only known to us from a belated death entry recorded at Kaisheim in 1839.
2. **Jakob Ingold** was born at Kaisheim Sept. 9, 1809.

The *Karlskron Familienbuch* lists only one son **Jakob Ingold**, born at Kaisheim in 1806. However, his birth entry at Kaisheim is dated Sept. 9, 1809. It describes his parents as *Wiedertaŭfer* Georg Ingold and Magdalena.

A birth entry recorded at Karlskron says that an illegitimate son Georg was born at Dreubling May 4, 1828. The father was Jakob Ingold, a son of a colonist. The mother was Anna Maria Hofbaŭer, the daughter of a barrelmaker [Ger. *Schaffler*]. Her residence was Grillheim No. 5 (Grillheim is adjacent on the east side of Karlskron). Because the father was a *Mennonit* and the mother a Catholic, the child was baptized as a Catholic. This Georg died as an infant. Though it was not mentioned, Jakob was only 18 years of age.

Circa 1835 Jakob married Barbara Miller. Perhaps she had their four children and then decided to part from Anabaptist ways. Or, she may have died between October of 1841 and mid-1843, though no death entry is found at Kaisheim.[196] Rudolf Ingold and Hermann Guth wrote that she died in 1843, with no further explanation.

The birth entries of their children noted that both parents were *Mennoniten*. Their children born in Kaisheim No. 15 include:

1. Magdalena Ingold was born April 26, 1836, and died at Kaisheim June 17, 1842. Her death entry said she was Wiedertaŭfer aged six years, two months.
2. Christian Ingold was born Jan. 26, 1838, and died at Griessenbach near Landshut (76 miles east of Kaisheim) Feb. 1, 1891.
3. Joseph Ingold was born Jan. 11, 1840, and died at Altheim (seven miles southwest of Griessenbach) May 17, 1923. *Jahres-Bericht des Vereines zur Hebung der Pferdezucht in Niederbayern* (*Annual Report of the Association for the Improvement of Horse Breeding in Lower Bavaria*, published at Landshut) listed Joseph Ingold as a small farmer at Griessenbach in 1869 and 1872. A newspaper report has him there in 1878.
4. Elizabeth Ingold was born Sept. 30, 1841.

On Nov. 6, 1843 Jakob remarried to Magdalena Sutter. She was born on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria July 22, 1821 (recorded at Karlskron), and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 24, 1909, a daughter of Johannes/John Sutter and Barbara Oesch/Esch.

Jakob died at Kaisheim March 30, 1844. His death entry describes Jakob Ingold, a 39-year-old *Wiedertaŭfer* farmer (and thus born circa 1805). At this time the children from his first marriage may have been left with Miller relatives or placed in homes of the congregation.

Recall from SUTTER that the *Samuel M. Fox* sailed from Le Havre approximately Oct. 5, 1851, and arrived at New York Nov. 11, 1851. As a widow Magdalena and three children accompanied other Sutters. They are found

[196] Kaisheim kept a separate register for those who died of typhoid fever [Ger. *Sterbefälle an Nervenfieber*]. It shows the illness peaking from 1839 to 1842.

on the passenger list as Inquet, Magdalena, 30; Jacob, 7; Johann, 3; and August, ¾. If Jakob Ingold had died before the birth of the first child, who were the parents of the two youngest children?

For background on Magdalena's two later marriages to John Bachman and Joseph Kauffman see SUTTER.

Children of Jakob Ingold and Magdalena Sutter include:

5. **Jacob Ingold** (junior) was born Nov. 5, 1844, and died at Farmington, Fulton County, Illinois April 26, 1931.

The two 'extra' children on the *Samuel M. Fox* were:

— Johann Ingold was born circa 1848.

— Augustus Ingold was born Oct. 15, 1849, and died at Glendale, California April 29, 1941. On March 9, 1880 in Peoria County he married Catharine 'Katie' Gingerich. She was born in Germany Jan. 29, 1861, and died at Glendale July 17, 1929. On her death certificate their son described his maternal grandparents as John Gingriech and Fannie Ringerburg. On the 1900 census of Cement, Canadian County, Oklahoma he said he immigrated from Germany in 1851. Augustus and Katie are buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park at Glendale.

Jacob Ingold (junior) was born in Bavaria Nov. 5, 1844, and died at Farmington, Fulton County, Illinois April 26, 1931.

On Dec. 30, 1869 in Peoria County he married Katharine 'Katie' Schick. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 8, 1850, and died at Farmington Aug. 11, 1925, a daughter of Joseph Schick and Magdalena Augspurger.

Jacob was naturalized at Pekin Oct. 21, 1880, giving Germany as his country of birth and stating that he had entered the country as a minor.

They are found on three consecutive censuses of Deer Creek. The 1880 census of Deer Creek shows farmer Jacob Ingold, 3, Bavaria; Catherine, 28, born in Ohio to German parents; Lena, 9, Illinois; Theodore, 7, Illinois; Amiel, 3, Illinois; and domestic servant Lydia Schick, 18. The 1900 census has farmer Jacob Ingold, 55, born in Germany in October of 1844; Catherine, 49, born in Ohio in October of 1850 to German parents; farm laborer Amiel, 23, born in Illinois in January of 1877; farm laborer William, born in Illinois in August of 1881; Lydia, 16, born in Illinois in January of 1884; and Lizzie, born in Illinois in February of 1888. In 1910: Jacob Ingold, 65, Germany, 'own income,' immigrated in 1858; Kate, 61, born in Ohio to German parents; and Lydia, 24, Illinois, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio.

The 1920 census of Salem, Marion County, lllinois has farmer Jacob Ingold, 76, Germany; Catherine, 70, Ohio; and Lydia, 32, Illinois. And the 1930 census of Farmington has Jacob Ingold, 85, Germany, immigrated in 1850; Kate, 61, born in Ohio to German parents; and Lydia, 34, Illinois.

Jacob and Katie are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.

Ackerman: Ackermann of Wartenberg-Rohrbach

In Germany an *Ackermann* is a field worker, although it is sometimes interpreted specifically as a plowman.

In the 18th century the Ackermann family is found at Wartenberg-Rohrbach (adjacent to Sembach, 10 miles northeast of Kaiserslautern). According to the *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online*, "The original families of the congregation — Krehbiel, Eymann, Eichelberger, Würtz, Schnebele, Beutler, Latschar, Kinzinger, Höfli — emigrated from the Emmental, Switzerland, in 1660-1710.... Religious services were held in private homes in Sembach, Wartenberg, Fischbach, and Diemerstein until 1777, when the church was built.... Until circa 1780 the present congregation of Sembach was called either simply Wartenberg or Wartenberg-Sembach, because so many ministers and elders came from that location." In 1769 the number of Anabaptists attending services in Wartenberg-Rohrbach and adjacent Sembach was estimated to be 250.

Johannes/Johann Ackermann was born in 1758, and died July 25, 1818.

Circa 1780 he married Barbara Albrecht. Their children include:

1. Maria Ackermann she was born at Wartenberg [Wartenberg-Rohrbach] Feb. 28, 1781, and died at Josephenburg Nov. 26, 1833. At Kaisheim (16 miles west of Stepperg) in 1805 she married Josef Hage. He was born at 'Gunthersburg, Lothringen' (likely Gentersbourg, in German *Gendersbergerhof*, a farm property attached to Château Gentersberg at Hanviller, Moselle that was home to Unzickers and Esches) Sept 15, 1781, and died at Karlskron June 24, 1833, a son of Friedrich Hage and Elisabeth Anna Schultz.
2. Heinrich Ackermann was born circa 1774. On June 28, 1802 at Rimsdorf, Lower Alsace he married Barbara Bircki. Their civil marriage entry describe the groom as Heinrich Ackermann, 28, of Wartenberg; he was a son of Johannes Ackermann, 62, and Barbara Albrecht, residents of Wartenberg. The bride was described as Barbara Birk, daughter of the late Johannes Birki and his still living wife [his second wife] Barbara Birki (born a Birki), 50, of Buscherhof, community of Rimsdorf. Johannes Birki, 26, and Andreas Birki, 23, attested that the bride was 20 years of age [thus born circa 1782]. It was signed 'Johannes Birki.'
3. **Jakob Ackermann** was born in 1785, and died at Köfering in 1851.

In 1809 at Dreubling (now part of Karlskron) Johannes/Johann remarried to Walburga Ingold, a daughter of Jakob Ingold (see INGOLD for background on her family).

Their children born at Deubling died young:

4. Veronika Ingold was born Nov. 30, 1811, and died at Deubling in 1817.
5. Christian Ingold was born Sept. 2, 1814, and died at Deubling in 1816.
6. Elisabeth Ingold was born Feb. 3, 1817, and died at Deubling in 1818.

Jakob Ackermann was born in 1785, and died at Köfering in 1851.

In 1798 he married Anna Maria Birki. She was born in 1793, and died at Josephenburg Jan. 19, 1814 (aged 20 years, five months).

According to Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Jakob remarried to Katharina Reidiger in 1814. She was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden in 1783, a daughter of Joseph Reidiger and Katharina Hunzinger.

They initially farmed at Josephenburg. Circa 1817 they leased a large farm at Köfering, 30 miles west of Josephenburg and three miles southeast of Regensburg. This is confirmed by *Königlich Bayerisches Intelligenzblatt für die Oberpfalz und von Regensburg*, naming Jakob as a leaseholder as late as 1838.

On Oct. 31, 1824 at Alteglofsheim (adjacent to Köfering) Jakob married a third time to Katharina Birky.

Jakob became the first ordained minister for the congregation in the Regensburg area. According to *The Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online*, "Since the beginning of the 19th century there has been a Mennonite congregation with Regensburg as its meeting place. It was formed by families from Alsace and Lorraine who leased the larger farms in the vicinity of Regensburg; most of the members are still farmers."

Children of Jakob Ackermann and his first wife Anna Maria Birki born at Josephenburg include:

1. Katharina Ackermann was born July 15, 1810.
2. Magdalena Ackermann was born Aug. 14, 1811, and died the following day.
3. Johann Ackermann was born July 12, 1812, and died at Josephenburg Dec. 13, 1813.
4. **Christian Ackermann/Ackerman** was born Dec. 13 (*Karlskron Familienbuch*) or Dec. 25 (headstone), 1813, and died at Morton March 29, 1903.

Children of Jakob Ackermann and his second wife Katharina Reidiger were likely born at Köfering. They include:

5. Jakob Ackermann was born May 10, 1816, and died at Irlbach (40 miles southeast of Regensburg) May 27, 1870. He married Katharina Suttor.
6. **Johann Ackermann/John Ackerman**, also known as John Ackerman of Groveland, was likely born at Köfering May 24, 1817, and died at Groveland Oct. 28, 1891.
7. An infant son died July 10, 1818.
8. An infant daughter died Sept. 3, 1821.

Children of Jakob Ackermann and his third wife Katharina Birky were likely born at Köfering. They include:

9. Magdalena Ackermann was born Sept. 3, 1825, and died May 9, 1856. She married Christian Güngerich.
10. Benjamin Ackermann was born June 16, 1827, and died June 22, 1867. Presumably he was named after Katharina Reidiger's uncle Benjamin Reidiger (born 1758) or cousin (born 1787, immigrated in 1834) of the same name (see REDIGER).
11. Elisabeth Ackermann was born May 19, 1830.
12. Veronika Ackermann was born April 11, 1832.

Older brother Christian Ackermann/Ackerman

Christian Ackermann/Ackerman was born at Josephenburg, Bavaria Dec. 13 (*Karlskron Familienbuch*) or 25 (headstone), 1813, and died at Morton March 23, 1903.

He is found as 'Christian Ackermann' on the steerage passenger list of the *Bark Atlantic*. The ship sailed from Bremen and arrived at New York Sept. 12, 1838. He sailed with his second cousin Peter Ringenberger, who later lived at Elm Grove.

According to a brief biography collected by Sam Ackerman, Christian went directly to Butler County, Ohio. His obituary says he lived 'near Hamilton.' He remained there six months before heading on to Spring Bay.

On May 24, 1839 in Tazewell County Christian married Anna/Anne Belsley. The county register says the ceremony was performed by A. Brown, andd escribes them as Christian Ocramon and Anna Beltzley.

She was born on Neuhof farm at Bühl, Moselle (later Buhl-Lorraine) March 28, 1819 (her obituary says Strasbourg, May 1820), and died at Morton May 2, 1903, a daughter of Michael/Michel Bältzli/Belsley and Catherine Schertz

The 1840 census of Tazewell County shows the household of 'Christian Acrement.' The four names listed before him were Peter Summers [Sommer], Joseph Belsey [Belsley], Joseph Kemp [Kempf, later Camp], and M[illegible] Belsy. Although the census does not give exact locations, we know that Joseph Kempf was living in what is now Green Township, Woodford County.

In 1841 they settled at what is now Groveland. Their household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County: farmer Christian Ackerman, 45 [eight years older than his true age], Germany; Anne, 33, Germany; Christian, 7, Illinois; John, 3, Illinois; Barbara, 1, Illinois; and John Schrock, 50, Germany.

Circa 1852 they resettled on a 40-acre wooded property near Evans Corner at Morton. They built a brick house there. Christian appears on the 1855 state census of Morton, along with other familiar names such as (as written) Joseph Staker, Christian Staker, John Oswald, Jacob Schwarztraub, John Switzer, Peter Belsly, and Jacob Rich (found as Ja. Ritch).

The 1860 census of Morton shows farmer Christian Ackerman, 46, Bavaria; Anna, 41, France; Christian, 16; Barbara, 12; John, 13; Mary, 7; Anna, 5; Lydia, 3; and Madaline, 2; all children born in Illinois. The next three households on that census were those of Thomas Roberts, Robert Roberts, and Daniel Roth and Catherine Ropp (his mother Verena Zimmerman Roth was living with them); see ROTH for background on the abolitionist Roberts brothers. Their property in the southwest quarter of Section 4 is labeled 'C. Ackemann' on the 1864 plat map of Morton.

The 1870 census of Morton shows farmer Christian Ackerman, 55, Bavaria; Anna, 50, France; farm laborer John, 22; Barbara, 19; Mary, 17; Anna, 15; Letty [Lydia], 14; and Magdalena, 11.

In 1880 Christian and Anna were living next door to John Oswald and his son John, and son-in-law Samuel Butler Hirstein and daughter Lydia Ackerman. They appear on the federal census as retired farmer Christian Ackerman, 67, Bavaria; Anna, 61, Bavaria; Barbara, 28; and Lena, 21. The 1900 census of Morton shows: Christian Ackerman, 86, born Dec. 1813, immigrated in 1838, Germany; Anna, 80, born May 1820, Germany; Barbra, 51, born March 1849; and Lena, 41, born July 1858.

Christian and Anna are buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Morton, where their headstones describe them as 'Grandpa' and 'Grandma.'

Their children born at Morton include:

1. Peter Ackerman was born March 17, 1840, and died young.
2. Jacob Ackerman was born March 5, 1842, and died young.
3. Christian Ackerman [Jr.] was born Feb. 12, 1844, and died Sept. 18, 1884. He died from injuries suffered in the explosion of a cider and sorghum mill at Morton three days earlier. On Aug. 30, 1868 in Peoria County he married Maria/Mary Gerber. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Aug. 23, 1850, and died at Morton Sept. 11, 1908, a daughter of John Gerber and Mathilda Zimmerman. They are buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery.
4. Catherine Ackerman was born Oct. 15, 1845, and died young.
5. John Ackerman was born Feb. 13, 1847, and died at Morton Feb. 22, 1925. On Jan. 23, 1873 in Davis County, Iowa he married Hannah/Nancy Naffziger. She was born at Wilmot, Ontario Oct. 24, 1849, and died at Morton June 24, 1929, a daughter of John Naffziger and Catharina Miller. For background on her family see the Appendix, CHILDREN OF CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER AND MARIA STALTER. In 1878 they donated land for the new Defenseless Mennonite Church of Groveland. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
6. Barbara Ackerman was born April 8, 1849, and died March 23, 1913. She is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
7. Joseph Ackerman was born Dec. 26, 1850, and died young.
8. Mary Ackerman was born Feb. 22, 1853, and died in Kosciusko County, Indiana Nov. 23, 1913. On Sept. 28, 1873 in Peoria County she married Heinrich/Henry Rassi. He was born at Falkenstein near Schweinfurt, Bavaria July 17, 1847, and died in Kosciusko County, Indiana July 18, 1916, a son of Jacob Rassi and Magdalena Musselman. They lived at Cissna Park and later Milford, Indiana. They are buried in Milford Cemetery at Milford.
9. Anna Ackerman was born June 9, 1855, and died Oct. 2, 1903. On Sept. 10, 1876 in Peoria County she married Johann/John Wittmer. He was born at Elgin, Iowa March 24, 1854, and died at Lacrosse, Indiana Jan. 12, 1939, a son of Jacob Wittmer and Mary Reusser. They are found on the 1880 census of Morton as farmer John Wittmer, 26, born in Iowa to parents from Switzerland; Anna, 24, born in Illinois to parents from Bavaria; and two children born in Illinois. On Oct. 2, 1905 Johann/John remarried to Mattie Naffziger, a daughter of John Naffziger and Catherine Miller.
10. Lydia Ackerman was born Feb. 28, 1857, and died at Morton Jan. 30, 1892. She is buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton. On March 21, 1877 in Peoria County she married Samuel Butler Hirstein. He was born at Morton July 22, 1852, and died Sept. 28, 1838, a son of Samuel Herstein and Gertrude Butler. They had 10 children. Samuel Butler Hirstein remarried to Louise Kuehner in Tazewell County Sept. 14, 1892, and they had seven more children. The Hirsteins relocated to Wing (adjacent to Fairbury) in 1874, and Fairbury in 1906.
11. Magdalena 'Lena' Ackerman was born Aug. 15, 1858, and died April 5, 1945. She is buried as 'Miss Lena' in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
12. Samuel Ackerman was born Aug. 22, 1860, and died young.

Younger brother Johann Ackermann/John Ackerman

Johann Ackermann/John Ackerman was born at Köfering, Bavaria (we found it described as 'near Regensburg') May 24, 1817, and died at Groveland Oct. 28, 1891.

On July 13, 1843 in Bavaria he married Magdalena Birki/Madeleine Birkey. She was born at Arzbach bei Dachau Feb. 26, 1823, and died before 1871, a daughter of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho.

John and Magdalena arrived at New York on the packet ship *Emerald* Sept. 23, 1845. They were accompanied by Magdalena's cousin Andreas/André/Andrew Birky of the 'Little Red Birkys' and George Eichelberger, a future Elm Grove resident.197 The passenger list shows them as George Eichelberger, 29; Jean Ackermann, 26; Madeleine, 22; Joseph, 1; and André Burki, 24.

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows their household as John Ackerman, 31, Germany; Madeline, 27, Germany; Joseph, 6, Germany; Mary, 4, Illinois; Nancy, 2, Illinois; and Catherine, 1, Illinois. The 1860 census of Groveland shows the birthplace of the parents and oldest son Joseph as Bavaria.

Children of Johann Ackermann/John Ackerman and his first wife Magdalena Birki/Madeleine Birkey include:

1. Joseph Ackerman was born in Bavaria in 1844, and died in Bureau County Oct. 29, 1878; he is buried in Red Oak Cemetery in Bureau County. On Feb. 21, 1867 in Bureau County he married Maria/Mary Albrecht. She was born in Bureau County Sept. 10, 1848, and died there April 8, 1925, a daughter of Jacob Albrecht and Barbara Ringenberg. They are found on the 1870 census of Ohio, Bureau County as a 25-year-old farmer with a 21-year-old wife named

[197] On Jan. 5, 1851 in Tazewell County he married Veronika Stalter, the youngest daughter of Heinrich Stalter (junior) and Jakobine Stalter, owners of the Gern estate. See STALTER, THE STALTERS OF GERN for more on this couple.

Mary, born in Illinois, and a son Jacob, 2. *Herald of Truth*, October 1883: "Sept. 15th, near Ohio, Bureau county, Ill., of typhoid fever. Jacob Ackerman, son of Wid. Maria Ackerman, aged 15 years, 5 months and 16 days. Funeral sermon by Jos. Buercky. Text, *Luke 7:13*." On March 31, 1897 in Bureau County Maria/Mary remarried to Joseph D. Hoffert. She is buried in Red Oak Cemetery as 'Mother Mary Hoffert.'

2. Maria/Mary Ackerman was born in Bavaria June 20, 1846, and died June 16, 1910. On Feb. 4, 1867 in Tazewell County she married Peter F. Gerber. He was born in Butler County Aug. 1, 1845, and died June 16, 1910, a son of Christian Gerber and Anna Roth. They farmed at Tremont and are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery at Elm Grove.
3. Anna 'Nancy' Ackerman was born in Tazewell County Dec. 2, 1847, and died July 12, 1915. She appears on the 1900 census of Tremont, as a 53-year-old sister-in-law in the household of Peter F. Gerber and Mary Ackerman. She is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery.
4. Catherine Ackerman was born in 1849.
5. Magdalena Ackerman was born in 1854. On Aug. 25, 1879 in Tazewell County she married John Miller.
6. Henry Ackerman was born Jan. 3, 1859, and died Oct. 22, 1942. On Oct. 31, 1882 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Miller. She was born July 15, 1863, and died Jan. 3, 1938. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
7. Andrew Ackerman (twin) was born at Groveland in June 1860. He was four months old at the time of the census.
8. Daniel Ackerman (twin) was born at Groveland in June 1860, and died there Oct. 22, 1942. On June 28, 1885 at Groveland he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Gerber. She was born at Elm Grove July 15, 1856, and died at Morton Jan. 17, 1950, a daughter of Peter Gerber and Barbara Bechler. They attended the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Groveland, and are buried in the cemetery there. *Metamora Herald* obituary, Jan. 27, 1950: "Mrs. Elizabeth Ackerman, 93, died at 5:20 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17 in her home in Morton, following a two weeks' illness. Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Friday from the residence and at 1:30 p.m. at the Evangelical Mennonite church at Groveland. Burial was in the church cemetery with three pastors officiating, the Rev. Paul Rupp, the Rev. Emanuel Rocke of Woodburn, Ind., and the Rev. Albert Hager of Indianapolis, Ind. She was born at Elm Grove July 15, 1856, a daughter of Peter Gerber and Barbara Bechler. She was married to Daniel Ackerman in Groveland township in 1884. He died Nov. 24, 1932 [see above]. Surviving are one daughter, Miss Marianne Ackerman of Morton, two sons, Reuben of Morton and Roy of Groveland, three grandchildren, one great grandchild, and four sisters, Mrs. Katie Meyer and Miss Anna Gerber, both of Peoria, Mrs. Lydia Stolz of Gibson City and Mrs. Josephine Staker of Pekin. Three brothers and two sisters preceded her in death. She had lived in Morton for the past 25 years in Groveland township. She was a member of Groveland Evangelical Mennonite Church."
9. Susan Ackerman, born at Groveland April 10, 1863, died at North Hollywood, Los Angeles May 27, 1956. On Oct. 2, 1888 in Tazewell County she married Joseph C. Rediger. He was born at Pekin March 15, 1865, and died at North Hollywood Jan. 23, 1936, a son of Jacob R. Rediger and Magdalena Rediger. They are buried in Valhalla Memorial Park at North Hollywood.

Johann/John remarried to Elisabeth Sutter Miller in Tazewell County Feb. 9, 1871.

Elisabeth was born on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria March 1, 1836, and died June 30, 1884, a daughter of Johannes Sutter and Barbara Oesch/Esch. She had first married Joseph Miller in Tazewell County Jan. 8, 1864; he died Sept. 11, 1868.

Johann/John and Elisabeth are found on the 1880 census of Groveland as farmer John Ackerman, 61, from 'Labiern'; Elizabeth Akerman, 45, from 'Albiern' [Altbayern or Oberbayern, the governmental district where Munich and Augsburg are located]; Daniel Akerman, 21; Katie Akerman, 29 [this was meant to be 19]; Susan Akerman, 17; Sara Akerman, 7; Abraham Akerman, 6; stepdaughter Elizabeth Miller, 17; and stepdaughter Mary Miller, 14; all children born in Illinois.

Johann/John and Elisabeth are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Heiser of Hanfeld

Heisers who came to Tazewell County were descendants of a family from Richterswil, Canton Zurich. Richterswil is a village on the southwestern shore of the Zürichsee. Other Anabaptist families from that congregation were Bachmann/Bachman, Bär (North America Behr and Bear), Egli [Fr. Egley], Goldschmid [Fr. Goldschmitt, Ger. Goldschmidt], Hiestand, and Landis (later Landes). See BACHMANN for background on the religious community there.

We found Hüsser, Hŭsser, and Haŭser in older records, all describing the same family in one congregation. The spelling is now standardized in Canton Zurich as 'Heusser' and pronounced 'Hoyzer.' French and German records show Hauser, Hausser, Hüser, Hüsser, Husser, Hissert, Hisser, and Heisser.[198] Illinois descendant families chose 'Heiser' and 'Hieser.' We have used 'Heiser' to describe almost all of the children of later generations, though some in the family might disagree.

Drawing on the memories of Joseph Heiser's children, *History of Illinois and Her People* misidentified the father of the Central Illinois family as Nicholas Hieser. It described Nicholas "moving from Switzerland to Lorraine, France, and later to Bavaria where he died." The story has a basis in truth, but may have taken place over three generations. The family actually migrated from Richterswil to Mannheim to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to Hanfeld, Bavaria before emigrating from Europe.

Rudolf Hüsser (found as 'Hüßer') and Verena Billeter were the parents of **Rudolf Hüsser**. He was baptized at Richterswil Sept. 15, 1661. This was coincidentally the same place and year as Hans Heinrich Bachmann, a Reist faction minister at Heidolsheim who went to Pfalz-Zweibrücken in 1713; see BACHMANN.

Before 1691 the younger Rudolf migrated to Mannheim, where he became a minister. In that time frame Mannheim was a city in the Pfalz [Ger. *Kurpfalz* or *Pfalzgrafschaft bei Rhein*]. Mannheim became the capital of the Pfalz 1720-1778, and did not become a city of Baden-Württemberg until 1803. The decade of the 1690s was a period of high anxiety for Mennonites in the Pfalz. An elector who had extended their rights died in 1690. His successor Johann Wilhelm was a strict Catholic. He delayed renewing their rights for eight years.

On May 16, 1694 a fire destroyed numerous homes in the village of Rheydt in the Pfalz (now in North Rhine-Westphalia). Catholic residents blamed Mennonite residents and appealed to the elector. On July 16, 1694 the Mennonites were forcibly removed from their homes. The men were put into chains. In confinement they were given the choice of conversion or death. They were only permitted to buy their freedom for 8,000 *Talers* after the intercession William of Orange. When they were released Aug. 29, many chose to emigrate to the Netherlands.

In June of 1697 a substantial fire damaged homes at Mannheim. This was the subject of a letter sent Dec. 13, 1697 from the congregation at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to the Reist faction congregation of Mennonites at Mannheim. It was addressed to Rudolph Husser, Hans Rudy Nagele (Rudolf Nägele was later in Lancaster County), Christian Pleam [Bliehm], Peter Leemann (or Lehman; later in Lancaster County as 'Leman'), and Christophel Dohltan. Apparently this letter was hand carried 127 miles northeast to Mannheim, because there was a reply from Peter Lemann and Rudy Husser dated Dec. 23, 1697.

Rudolf Hüsser/Rudolph Husser was also the recipient of a letter dated Oct. 19, 1699. It was sent by Jakob Gut [Guth] on behalf of the congregation of the Upper Pfalz to Reist faction Mennonites in the Lower Pfalz. Gut had been banished from Canton Bern (a part that is now Canton Aargau) in 1660.

Jacob Amman called Hüsser and Peter Lehman ‘gray beards’ for appearing to be more concerned about social interactions with officials than spritual needs.

In 1705 a petition was introduced before the Pennsylvania Assembly to permit German Palatines to be naturalized and to own land. It was finally approved Sept. 29, 1709. In the meantime the first log structure for indoor worship was constructed by Mennonites at Germantown, Pennsylvania. These events encouraged emigration from the area of Mannheim. The 'Pennsylvania Dutch' spoken today closely resembles the dialects spoken there.

The loss of emigrating acquaintances and congregants may have prompted Rudolph 'Rudy' Husser to resettle at Fertrupt between 1708 and 1712. 'Rudolf Hauser' is found as a head of household on a record created at Fertrupt Oct. 10, 1712.

We can identify three probable children of Rudolf 'Rudy' Hüsser:

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[198] *The Dordrecht Confession of Faith*, a statement of religious beliefs, was created in the Netherlands April 21, 1632. It was accepted and signed by an assembly of ministers at Ohnenheim (20 miles east of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) Feb. 4, 1660. They included representatives from Heidolsheim, Eisenheim, Mackenheim, Baldenheim, Kunheim, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Jebsheim, and Dürrenentzen. Ŭlrich Husser signed as deacon from Ohnenheim.

1. On April 23, 1711 Rudolf Houser the younger was identified as a blacksmith and cutler at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.
2. Barbara Hüser/Hauser was born circa 1691. She died at age 51 years 6 months, and was buried at Fertrupt Feb. 19, 1743. Circa 1732 she married Heinrich Goldschmidt. He was baptized at Richterswil Jan. 18, 1691, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 17, 1755, a son of Jacob Goldschmid and Barbara Haab. He was a blacksmith 'in the meadow' [Ger. *auf der Matten*] at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. He had married first wife Elizabeth Schmitt in 1717; she died before 1732. Heinrich and Elizabeth were the great-grandparents of minister Joseph Goldsmith, mentioned in ROPP and STAKER.
3. **Heinrich/Henry Hüsser/Hausser/Hyser**.

Heinrich/Henri Hüsser /Hausser/ Hyser was married to Verena Blank. She was born circa 1693, and was buried at Fertrupt March 27, 1743. They lived on the *Ziegelhof* at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Repeating a footnote from the ROPP Background: *Ziegel* means 'brick.' A *Hof* can be a farm or estate, but the literal translation is yard, describing an enclosed courtyard surrounded by house, barns, and stable on most estates. Thus *Ziegelhof* could be the name of an estate, or a brick yard. This address is also found as *Ziegelhaus*.

Also recall from the ROPP Background the letter of recommendation [Fr. *certificat de attestation*] signed by a representative of Christian III and the mayor of Echery Nov. 8, 1715 for 'honest Niclaus Blank' [Fr. original *honneste Nicola Blanc*], his brothers Michel and Pierre, their brother-in-law Henry Hyser, brothers Christe and Anthony Kropf, David Chertzer [later Schertz], and Michel Mourer [Maurer]. He was still at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1732, when his household had five members.

Heinrich/Henri and Verena were the parents of three children we can identify:

1. 'Heinrich the younger' Hauser is mentioned on the 1761 death entry of a two-year-old daughter Verena. He was described as a resident of the *Ziegelhof*. He was likely born in the decade 1714-24. His wife was named Staub, and was likely born at Richterswil to parents Rudolf/Rudolph Staub and Anna Walti.199
2. **Nicholas Hüser/Hyser**. He was likely born in the decade 1714-24.
3. Michel Husser was born in 1728, and was buried at Fertrupt May 30, 1752. He did not marry.

Nicholas Hüser/Hyser was likely born in the decade 1714-24. He married Anna Schmucker of Grindelwald. Their children born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines include:

1. **Nicolas Hyser** who was born circa 1745, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 22, 1805.
2. Véronique Hyser was born circa 1752, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 22, 1808. Before 1790 she married Jean Chrétien Roeschly. He was born on Harcholet farm at Le Saulcy, Vosges May 17, 1763, and died at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace March 27, 1832, a son of Johannes/Jean Röschli and Elisabeth Hertig. See ROESCHLEY for background on this couple.

Nicolas Hyser was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1749, and died there Dec. 22, 1805.

He married his second cousin Marie Goldschmitt. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 16, 1750, and died on the Streicherhof at Uffing, Bavaria (30 miles south of Hanfeld) Sept. 26, 1831, a daughter of Hans Heinrich Goldschmid and Anne Neuhauser (see GOLDSMITH for backgound on this family).

When Nicolas attended the marriage of Jean Sommer and his niece Barbe Goldschmitt (a daughter of Jean Goldschmidt and Barbe Brechbühl) at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 10, 1795, he was described as uncle-of-the-bride Nicolas Heüser, 46, a resident of Mongoutte, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. His signature looked like Niclaŭs Hissor.

Mongoutte was and is a dairy and breeding farm, and is also the name of a road. Since 1916 its name has been lent to a cemetery for German soldiers on its east side.

Nicolas's civil death entry indicated that he was a 60-year-old native of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and named his parents and widow (his mother Anna Schmucker was written as 'Schumacher'). It was witnessed by brother-in-law Henri Goldshmit, 55.

We can speculate that Nicolas Hyser and Marie Goldschmitt had a daughter named Barbara Heiser. When the last of his family's property at Perlach castle was sold by Andreas/Andrew Burcky in 1838, employee Barbara Heiser from Arzbach bei Dachau was given a severance of 600 guilders for her service.

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[199] Rudolf/Rudolph Staub was baptized at Richterswil April 4, 1681, and Anna Walti was baptized there April 26, 1693. Anna was buried at Fertrupt Sept. 8, 1759. Rudolf/Rudolph died in the home of 'Heinrich the younger' Hauser and was buried at Fertrupt April 27, 1761.

However, only one child of Nicolas Hyser and Marie Goldschmitt has been positively identified, **Jacob Hyser/Heisser**. He was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1788. Heisser was the way his surname would be spelled in Bavaria.

On Oct. 24, 1807 at Strasbourg Jacob's widowed mother Marie remarried to Noé Augspurger of Canardière. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 8, 1755, and died in Bavaria after 1831, a son of Noé Augspurger and Julienne Doebler/ Diebler.

Their civil marriage entry described Marie as Marie Goldschmit, 57, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 16, 1750, a daughter of the deceased Jean Henri Goldschmit and the deceased Marie Neuhausser. She was the widow of cultivator Nicolas Hyser, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 22, 1805. It was witnessed by Jean Roth (he signed Hans Roth), 36, and Michel Müller, 45, both cultivators and brothers-in-law of the groom.

Noé's first wife had been Anna Müller, who died at Canardière estate near Strasbourg May 6, 1806; a daughter from that first marriage was married to an Oesch from Hanfeld, Bavaria, and this became the home of Noé/Noah and Anna Maria. For background on their later life, their location, and Noé's children from his first marriage, see AUGSPURGER, THE HANFELD/HEINZENHOF FAMILY. In that portion of text Noé is called Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger (#2).

At Hanfeld Jacob was described as an *arbeiten beim Pfleger*, a medical assistant or care giver.

He married Katharina Esch. We can speculate that they were married in Lorraine circa 1813, or she came from Lorraine, accounting for a mention in a family story. She died from birth complications at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria (27 miles north of Hanfeld) May 14, 1816, three months after the delivery of a child.

Jacob lived on the grounds of the castle estate of major general Maximilian *Graf* von Spreti at Arzbach bei Dachau from 1815 to May 4, 1818. He is found as 'Jacob Hiesser' on records there. See BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE BIG BIRKEYS for background on this location.

Children of Jacob Hyser/Heisser and his first wife Katharina Esch include:

1. **Katharina/Catherine Heiser** was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Jan. 6, 1814 (recorded at Starnberg), and died at Madison, Butler County Oct. 31, 1891.
2. Barbara Heiser (found in Hanfeld records as 'Heisser') was born at Hanfeld Dec. 17, 1814 (recorded at Starnberg), and died Jan. 10, 1815.
3. **Jacob Heiser** was born at Arzbach bei Dachau Feb. 20, 1816 according to an entry created at nearby Pellheim, and died at Dillon, Tazewell County Dec. 24, 1877.

On Nov. 25, 1816 at Arzbach bei Dachau father Jacob Hyser/Heisser remarried to Magdalena Eyer. Their marriage entry was identified in Pellheim records by Herbert Holly. It described the groom as *Bauer* Jakob Hiser, living in House No. 10, born in 1788, a son of Nicolaus Hiser and Katharina Hiser. Magdalena Eyer was a resident of Mergenthau LG Friedberg, born in 1789, a daughter of Jakob Eyer and Magdalena Bircky. Witnesses included Christian Miller and Jakob Güngerich.

Magdalena brought three-year-old Barbara Eyer of Hatten, Lower Alsace to the marriage. She was noted in the marriage entry, and raised at least temporarily in their family. She would later come to Tazewell County (see BARBARA EYER AND THE ERIE CANAL PEOPLE in the Appendix).

Magdalena's father Jakob Eyer was a son of Christian Eyer and Anna Brenneman, and a grandson of Benedikt Eyer. He farmed in Pfalz-Zweibrücken, then leased the Prullhof of the cloister Scheiern (now Scheyern abbey, 40 miles north of Munich), and was minister and elder of a congregation at Mergenthau (on the southeast corner of Augsburg). In 1807 he was farming the Stadelhof estate at Heinzenhof, and later leased the Stillerhof near Wessobrunn (about 14 miles southwest of Hanfeld).

The daughters of Jakob Eyer and Magdalena Birki are thought to include Magdalena, who married Jacob Hyser/Heisser; Elisabeth, who married Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger (from Noé's first marriage with Anna Müller); and Veronika, who married Christian Steinmann and settled at Wilmot, Ontario.

Children of Jacob Hyser/Heisser and his second wife Magdalena Eyer include:

4. **Joseph Heiser** was born in Bavaria March 1, 1818. His headstone at Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery says he died Nov. 9, 1892 at 71 years, 8 months, 8 days.

Katharina/Catherine Heiser

Katharina/Catherine Heiser was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Jan. 6, 1814, and died at Madison, Butler County Oct. 31, 1891.

According to Bavarian records identified by Helmut Gingerich, she married George Müller in 1834. They farmed on the Ottendichl estate at Feldkirchen (six miles east of the center of Munich), where they had a daughter Maria born Dec. 23, 1834. George died the following year.

Herbert Holly has also identified a marriage contract from Feldkirchen dated August 1836. It names Paul Popp as the groom. The match must have ended abruptly, because Katharina/Catherine and Maria emigrated from Europe the following year.

They departed from Bremen on the bark *Elizabeth*, and arrived at New York July 24, 1837. The last page of the passenger list shows 15 passengers from *Bayern* [Bavaria] bracketed together. They apparently boarded together, because a notation was made about the numbering of their baggage: "Twenty-four boxes, 21 of them from one to twenty-one." All but one of the group had their ultimate destination listed as Illinois. Only the last passenger intended to travel to Canada.

The list gave their ages in years and months: "Catharina Muller, 23-4, farmer, Illinois" and "her child Maria, 2-6." Two names later (and last on the list) was "Joseph Schrag, 32-6, brewer, Canada."200

Upon arrival the mother and child traveled via Lancaster County to Butler County.

On July 29, 1838 in Butler County Katharina/Catherine remarried to Jacob J. Augspurger. He was born June 13, 1813, and died Nov. 2, 1867, a son of minister and elder Jacob Augspurger and his second wife Maria Schlabach.

Herbert Holly and Helmut Gingerich located a legal document from Munich dated March 3, 1840. Minister Andreas Oesch of Hanfeld, who identified himself as Katharina/Catherine Heiser's cousin, requested return of a 120-florin deposit she had made earlier. As part of her passport process she had applied for officially designated *Heimatrecht* (citizenship rights associated with legal place of origin in Germany, in this case Feldkirchen) for herself and her daughter, under the names Katharina Müller and Marie Muller. Oesch stated that they were in America, and presumably declared that they did not intend to return.

The 1850 census of Madison shows farmer Jacob Augsberger, 34, Germany; Catherine, 34, Germany; Mary, 15; Catherine, 11; Jacob, 7; Magdalena, 9; Nancy, 6; Jena [Josephine], 4; and Joseph, 2; all children including Mary (who was actually born in Germany) described as born in Ohio. They can be found on the 1860 census of Madison on the same page as Katharina/Catherine's daughter Maria as farmer Jacob Augsberger, 47, Germany; Catharine, 46, Germany; and seven children. The 1870 census of Madison shows Catharine [Heiser] Augsparger, 56, born in Prussia; Anna, 24; Phebe, 23; Joseph, 21; Christian, 18; and Henry, 17; all children born in Ohio.

Herald of Truth, December 1891: "On the 31st of October, 1891, near Trenton, Butler Co., Ohio, Catharine J. Augspurger, maiden name Hieser, widow of Jacob Augspurger, aged 71 years, 9 months and 25 days. She had not been able to leave her room for two years, having lost the use of her limbs. She was a member of the Mennonite church for about 63 years, and during the time she adorned her profession with her quiet, pious life, by which she won the esteem of all who were about her. She was the mother of nine children, of which two preceded her. Seven children, 16 grand children, and five great grandchildren and one brother remain to mourn her departure. Buried on the 3d of November. Funeral services by J. Augspurger and B. Zelner in German from *2 Cor. 5: 1*."

The child of Katharina/Catherine Heiser and her first husband George Müller was:

1. Maria Müller/Mary A. Heiser was born at Meininger, Bavaria (now a neighborhood of Munich) Dec. 23, 1834, and died at Danvers April 12, 1911. On May 23, 1856 at Trenton she married Peter G. Schertz; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Peter was born March 25, 1826, and died at Danvers March 6, 1891. They can be found on the 1860 census of Madison (listed on the same page as Maria's mother) as farmer Peter Schertz, 34, France; Mary, 25, Germany; and Joseph, 1, Ohio. They moved from Butler County to Danvers in 1869. The 1870 census of Danvers has them as farmer Peter Shirtz, 44, France; Mary, 36, France; Joseph, 12, Ohio; Katy, 11, Ohio; Magdalen, 8, Ohio; Henry, 6, Ohio; Anna, 4, Ohio; and Peter, 1, Illinois. The 1880 census of Danvers shows Peter G. Schertz, 53, France; Mary, 44, France; Magdalena, 15, Ohio; Henry, 14, Ohio; Anna, 12, Ohio; Peter, 10, Illinois; Otto, 4, Illinois; Mary, 2, Illinois; and Edward, 6, Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, May 1891: "On the 6th of March 1891, near Congerville, Woodford Co., Ill., of grippe and lung fever Peter G. Schertz, aged 59 years. His wife and eight children mourn their loss. Buried on the 18th in the Imhoff graveyard. Services in the Congerville church by Peter Schantz and Solomon Yoder." The 1900 census of Danvers shows Mary Schertz, 63, living with son Otto and daughter Mary. It reported that she was born in Germany in December 1836, and did not give a year of immigration. In 1910 she was living at the same location with friend Rosa Everhardt. She was described as age 75, born in Germany, and the mother of 10 children of which eight were still living. Once again her year of immigration

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200 Joseph Schrag was born on the Kaplaneihof at Zweibrücken, and died at East Zorra, Ontario March 11, 1880, a son of Jacob Schrag and Magdalena Holly. He later married Catherine Schwartzentruber and Elisabeth Diener. Most sources give his birth date as Jan. 12, 1804. However, he is buried in the Amish Mennonite Cemetery at East Zorra-Tavistock, where his headstone gives the age count 77 years, one month, 22 days, yielding circa Jan. 18, 1803.

was omitted. Maria/Mary and Peter are buried in Imhoff Cemetery, where their joint headstone gives Peter the erroneous date of death 1892.

Children of Katharine/Catherine Heiser and her third husband Jacob J. Augspurger born at Madison, Butler County, Ohio include:

2. Catherine Augspurger was born July 21, 1839, and died at Madison Oct. 2, 1856. She is buried next to her father in the Mennonite Cemetery at Trenton.
3. Jacob C. Augspurger was born April 4, 1843, and died at Danvers Oct. 13, 1890. On Nov. 2, 1865 in Butler County he married Veronica 'Fannie' Bachman, born about 1842; she was a daughter of John Bachman and Anna Stecker/Staker. For more background including his obituary see BACHMAN.
4. Magdalena Augspurger was born March 20, 1844, and died at Seven Mile, Butler County Nov. 6, 1911. On July 3, 1864 in Butler County she married Peter Young. He was born in Ohio Dec. 28, 1840, and died at Trenton, Butler County Dec. 21, 1923. They can be found on the 1880 census of Madison, then on the 1900 census of Trenton, Butler County as farmer Peter Young, 59, born in Ohio in December 1840 to German parents; Magdalena, 59, born in Ohio in March 1841 to German parents; and one daughter born in Ohio. They are buried in Miltonville Cemetery.
5. Anna/Nancy Augspurger was born Feb. 25, 1845. We could not follow her after the 1870 census of Madison.
6. Josephine 'Phebe' Augspurger was born Aug. 4, 1846. She is found on the 1900 census of Trenton, Butler County as a 46-year-old born in Ohio in August 1853, living with her brother Joseph. They were still living together at Madison in 1910.
7. Joseph Augspurger was born May 1, 1848, and died April 9, 1930. He is found on the 1900 census of Trenton, Butler County as a 52-year-old born in Ohio in May 1848, living with his sister Josephine.
8. Christian/Christopher C. Augspurger was born Oct. 25, 1850, and died at Trenton, Butler County May 13, 1923. Circa 1871 he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Emhart. They are found on the 1900 census of Trenton, Butler County next door to Peter Young and Magdalena Augspurger as Christian Augspurger, born in Ohio in October 1851; Lizzie, born in Ohio in September 1851; and four children born in Ohio. His death entry described him as a retired carpenter.
9. Heinrich/Henry C. Augspurger was born April 5, 1853, and died in Butler County March 17, 1931. On March 2, 1880 he married Ida D. Law. She was born at St. Clair, Butler County July 11, 1860, and died at Trenton, Butler County Sept. 8, 1939, a daughter of John Law and Sarah Trine. They appear on the 1900 census of St. Clair, Butler County as farmer Henry Augspurger, 47, born in Ohio in April 1853 to a father from France and a mother from Germany; Ida, 39, born in Ohio in July 1860 to parents from Ohio; and a son born in Ohio. They are buried in Miltonville Cemetery.

Jacob Heiser

Jacob Heiser was born at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria Feb. 20, 1816, according to a birth entry recorded at nearby Pellheim. The entry described his parents as Jakob Hisser, Arzbach, House 11, *Mennonit*, and Katharina Esch, Hanfeld near Starnberg, *Mennonit*.

He departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Rhone*, and arrived at New York July 2, 1842. He appears on the passenger list as Jacob 'Heisser,' a 27-year-old from Bavaria, accompanied by 26-year-old Margaretha, who has not been identified and may have been a hitherto unknown first wife.

The *Grantors Index* shows that on Oct. 14, 1848 Jacob Heiser paid Reuben W. Williamson $80 for 20 acres in Section 15 of Township 23 (likely what later became Dillon). His half-brother Joseph took up residence on the property while Jacob remained in Butler County until 1850.

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows Jacob as a 34-year-old farmer, living with his stepmother Madaline [Eyer], 62, in the home of his younger stepbrother 'Joseph Hiser,' 30.

Despite a 17-year discrepancy in their ages, 33-year-old Jacob married 16-year-old Catherine Wagler in Tazewell County Oct. 8, 1850. The ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp (the county register calls them Jacob Hiser and Catharine Wauble). Catherine was born in Butler County, Ohio June 8, 1834, and died Sept. 2, 1910, a daughter of Christian Wagler and Catherine Ulrich. The family of Jacob ‘Heisor’ can be found on the 1855 Illinois State Census. It described them as one male, 40-50 years old; one male, 20-30 years old; one male, under 10; one female, 20-30 years old; and one female, under 10 years of age. Their family can also be found on the 1860 census of Dillon as 'Jacob Hiser', 40; Catherine, 26; Christian, 7; Catherine, 6; Jacob, 4; Barbara, 3; and Joseph, eight months.

Jacob was naturalized at Pekin Nov. 6, 1876. He died at Dillon Dec. 24, 1877, and is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery. His obelisk headstone is partially illegible.

Catherine is buried in Buckeye Cemetery at Morton. *Gospel Herald* obituary, Oct. 20, 1910: "Mother Catherine Heiser, nee Wagler, was born in Butler Co., O., June 8, 1834; passed to her reward near Morton, Ill., Sept. 2, 1910; aged 76 y. 2 m. 24 d. Her death was caused by the infirmities of old age. Mother Heiser united with the A. M. Church in her younger years and remained a faithful member to her blessed end. She was united in matrimony

with Jacob Heiser in 1850. This union was blessed with 13 children. Father Jacob Heiser, her husband, four children, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves nine children, 48 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, two brothers and many friends to mourn her departure. Funeral services were conducted by Christ King at the house in German, text *90th Psalm*; and at the church near Morton, Ill., by Andrew Schrock in German and Val. Strubar in English; text, *Heb. 9:27, 28*. Burial in cemetery nearby."

Children of Jacob Heiser and Catherine Wagler include:

1. Christian W. Heiser was born at Allentown, Tazewell County April 30 or May 5, 1853, died at Goodfield Dec. 12, 1938, and is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek. On Feb. 25, 1877 at Goodfield he married Elizabeth Zehr. She was born at Mackinaw Feb. 2, 1855, and died at Goodfield Jan. 29, 1933, a daughter of Peter Zehr and Elizabeth Oyer. They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery.
2. Katharina Heiser was born at Pekin May 1, 1854, and died at Deer Creek May 15, 1911. On Jan. 13, 1874 she married minister Daniel Zehr. He was born at East Peoria March 9, 1849, and died at Morton June 5, 1942, a son of Peter Zehr and Elisabeth Oyer. For background on this couple see ZEHR.
3. Jacob Heiser was born April 22, 1856, and died at Fisher Feb. 19, 1923. On Feb. 20, 1883 he married Elizabeth Bachman. She was born at Groveland June 15, 1862, and died at Jacksonville, Ill. Dec. 26, 1923, a daughter of John Bachman and Barbara Sutter of Elm Grove. *Gospel Herald*, March 1923: "Jacob Heiser, son of Jacob and Kathrine Heiser, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., on April 22, 1856; died at his home in Fisher, Ill., on Feb. 19, 1923; aged 66 y. 10 m. 28 d. He was married to Elizabeth Bachman on Feb. 20, 1883. To this union were born 12 children, of whom the following survive: Manuel, Alvin, Samuel, Katie, Jake, Mrs. Alvin L. Burkey, Roy, Jesse, and Esther. Barbara preceded him in death about six years ago, and two died in infancy. He leaves to mourn his departure his beloved wife, nine children, 12 grandchildren, five brothers, and two sisters. He was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church since his youth, and was one of the first Mennonite settlers in the East Bend congregation and worked faithfully unto the end. He expressed his readiness to go home and called the family to his bedside. He bade farewell leaving words of warning and comfort which will long be remembered. It was indeed hard to say goodbye to one we all loved so well, one who meant all a father could mean to us. But we feel assured that our loss is his eternal gain. Therefore we humbly say, "Lord, thy will be done." Funeral services were conducted on Feb. 21 by Samuel Zehr from *Psalm 39* and Samuel Gerber of Pekin, Ill., from *Col. 2:8-10*." *Gospel Herald*, February 1924: "Elizabeth Bachman) Heiser died at Norbury Sanitarium, Jacksonville, Ill., Dec. 26, 1923; aged 62 y. 6 m. 4 d. She was the daughter of John and Barbara Bachman and was born near Groveland, Ill., June 15, 1861. On Feb. 20, 1883, she was united in marriage to Jacob Heiser, who preceded her to the spirit world Feb. 19, 1923. To this union were born 12 children, namely: Manuel, Alvin, Samuel, Katie, Jake, Lizzie, Roy, Jesse, and Esther. One daughter, Barbara, and two infants preceded her in death. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful member until her death. She leaves to mourn her departure six sons, three daughters, 13 grandchildren, two brothers, one sister, one aunt, and a host of relatives and friends. She was a faithful and devout mother who was especially concerned about the spiritual welfare of her family and will long be remembered by her gentle disposition and kindness shown to all with whom she came in contact. Funeral services were held at the East Bend Church near Fisher, Ill., conducted by Samuel Gerber of Tremont. Text, *II Cor. 5:1-10*. Burial in the East Bend cemetery."
4. Barbara Heiser was born Nov. 1, 1857, and died at Foosland Nov. 16, 1934. On June 8, 1876 she married minister Peter Zehr (see ZEHR for his obituary). He was born in Tazewell County Aug. 24, 1851, and died at Foosland March 14, 1922, a younger brother of Daniel Zehr. For background on this couple see ZEHR.
5. Joseph A. Heiser was born Nov. 14, 1859, and died at Fisher March 27, 1889. On Dec. 11, 1881 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Bachman. She was born June 15, 1862, and died at Fisher March 24, 1926, the older sister of Elizabeth Bachman.
6. Mary Heiser was born Oct. 19, 1860, and died in 1862.
7. Peter Heiser was born at Morton April 21, 1863, and died at Foosland, Champaign County May 11, 1940. On Jan. 31, 1888 in Tazewell County he married Adina King. She was born at Elm Grove May 23, 1868, and died at Fisher/Foosland Jan. 30, 1930, a daughter of Samuel King and his second wife Mary Garber.
8. Fannie Heiser was born April 6, 1866, and died at Fisher Jan. 12, 1950. On Dec. 19, 1893 at Deer Creek she married minister Joseph King. He was born in Tazewell County Nov. 22, 1871, and died at Fisher Oct. 17, 1951, a son of minister Christian King and his first wife Phoebe Zehr.
9. Phoebe 'Bena' Heiser was born Nov. 12, 1867, and died at Fisher May 16, 1908. On Feb. 26, 1889 in Tazewell County she married Samuel Studer. He was born in the city of Bern, Canton Bern Aug. 14, 1864, and died in Champaign County June 11, 1944. *Gospel Herald*, May 1908: "Bena Studer, (nee Heiser) was born Nov. 12, 1867; died of consumption near Fisher, Ill., May 16, 1906; aged 40 y. 6 m. 14 d." *Gospel Herald*, August 1944: "Samuel Studer was born in Berne, Switzerland, Aug. 14, 1864; died at the Burnham City Hospital, Champaign, Ill., June 11, 1944; aged 79 y. 9 m. 27 d. His health failed him about a year and half ago, and on Oct. 27, 1943, he entered the Burnham City Hospital where he was a patient until departure. At the age of 19 he immigrated to America, locating near Olney, Ill. Later he moved to Morton, and then to Fisher, where he lived the remainder of his life. Early in life he accepted Christ as his Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church. In February 1889, he was united in

marriage with Phoebe Heiser. To this union three children were born. His wife passed away May 16, 1908. On Sept. 9, 1909, he was married to Anna Sommer, who preceded him in death Nov. 7, 1943..."

10. Isaac Heiser was born at Morton Feb. 23, 1869, and died at Fisher June 15, 1953. On March 22, 1892 in Tazewell County he married Mary A. King. She was born at Deer Creek Oct. 9, 1869, and died May 29, 1962, an older sister of Joseph King.
11. Samuel Heiser was born at Morton Oct. 22, 1872, and died there Aug. 30, 1957. On Dec. 20, 1897 at Fisher he married Ida D. Birkey. On Dec. 5, 1922 at Washington, Tazewell County he remarried to Lydia Birkey. She was born Dec. 22, 1882, and died Feb. 25, 1940.
12. Daniel Heiser was born at Morton Nov. 16, 1874, and died at Peoria April 11, 1958. On Nov. 23, 1899 at Deer Creek he married Phoebe King, another daughter of Christian King and his first wife Phoebe Zehr. She was born Oct. 5, 1879, and died Aug. 10, 1929.

Joseph Heiser

Joseph Heiser was born in Bavaria March 1, 1818. His headstone at Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery says he died Nov. 9, 1892 at 71 years, 8 months, 8 days.

He departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Charles Carroll*, and arrived at New York Sept. 17, 1838.

The passenger list shows a Joseph 'Heser,' 20. One name removed from his entry are three entries for A[illegible] Burkey, 29; Barbara Burkey, 29; and Joseph, 2. The father was Andrew Burcky, a son of André/Andrew Burkey and Catherine Ackerman. He was born Dec. 5, 1809; his wife Barbara Oyer (or Eyer) was born circa 1808; and their son Joseph was born May 29, 1836. Joseph had lived at Hanfeld, and Andrew had lived at Söcking; the two villages are adjacent and the town squares only two miles apart. Immediately after Joseph's is a name on a crease appearing to be 'Peter Jodte', 23; Peter Yordy was born in 1815, and is known to have immigrated that year. (Andrew Burcky, Joseph Heiser, and Peter Yordy are all listed on the same page of the 1860 census of Elm Grove). The *Charles Carroll* passengers all had France listed as "The country to which they severally belong." This suggests that Joseph used French travel documents obtained at Le Havre, though he would have been a citizen of Bavaria.

History of Illinois and Her People says that "...Joseph Hieser, born in Germany...came to the United States at an early day, and after stopping in Ohio, where he was in the employ of a Butler County farmer, he came to Illinois and located in Elm Grove Township."

Joseph went to Dillon in 1848 to work laying railroad tracks. As noted earlier, the *Grantors Index* shows that on Oct. 14, 1848 his older half-brother Jacob Heiser paid Reuben W. Williamson $80 for 20 acres in Section 15 of Township 23 (likely what later became Dillon). Apparently Joseph took up residence on the property and labored on the rails to Peoria until 1850, but came away with little savings.[201] Jacob and their mother remained in Butler County until 1850.

Their household can be found on the 1850 census of Dillon as 'Joseph Hiser', 30; 'Madaline', 62, and Jacob, 34. *History of Illinois and her People*: "Until his marriage the home of Joseph Hieser was cared for by his mother, who had subsequently joined her son. She is now deceased and lies in the cemetery of Elm Grove Township." Magdalena died Oct. 19, 1851. She is thought to be buried in one of the unmarked graves at Railroad Cemetery or Landes Mennonite Cemetery.

Joseph married Barbara Schrag/Schrock Feb. 4, 1851. She was born on the Grathof estate at Kösching, a suburb of Ingolstadt Aug. 17, 1828, a daughter of Christian Schrag and Elizabeth Bürki (see SCHROCK, THE SCHRAGS OF KÖSCHING for background on her family). Her father Christian Schrag had died in Bavaria in 1831, and she likely arrived at New Orleans in 1848. She arrived at Pekin in 1850.

They worshipped with the Dillon Creek meeting (after 1876 the Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite Church), and their children were educated at Railroad Schoolhouse. 'Joseph Hizer' and Barbara moved onto 40 acres at Elm Grove Sept. 6, 1852. According to the *Grantors Index*, Joseph made the final payment for the land to Jesse Hodgson Feb. 23, 1854, for a total price of $725. On the same day Hodgson also sold land to Joseph Ropp for $1,025.

At first it seems odd that the Heisers should come to Elm Grove relatively late, when land prices had already risen. But an odd coincidence may also have been a factor. Magdalena Eyer's sister Veronika lived at Wilmot, Ontario, where she was married Christian Steinman. The Steinmans had purchased Andreas Ropp's improved lot before his move to Butler County, Ohio. Were the Ropps assisting the Heisers in the same way that the Steinmans had assisted Ropps? The arrival of the Heisers in turn brought the Oesches and others.

[201] The first Peoria and Bureau Valley Railroad passenger train did not enter Peoria until Nov. 9, 1854.

Their Allentown Road household appears on the 1860 census of Elm Grove sandwiched between Peter Yordy and Joseph Ropp; it is described as farmer Joseph Hoser, 40, Bavaria; Barbara, 30, Bavaria; Christian, 9; Joseph, 6; Andrew, 3; Barbara, 3; Madalene, one month (all the children born in Illinois); and laborer Jonas B., 32, from Hesse-Darmstadt. They appear on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as Joseph Heiser, 50, farmer; Barbara, 40; Christian, 19, farm laborer; Joseph, 17; Andrew, 14; Barbara, 14; Magdalena, 10, Elizabeth, 8; and Maria, 5. The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows 'Jos. Hiser', 62, farmer; Barbara, 52, keeping house; Andrew, 23; Barbara, 23; Mary, 15; and Elisabeth [Barbara's mother], 67. Joseph stated that he was born in Germany, his father was born in Switzerland, and his mother in France; Barbara stated that she was born in Germany, but both parents were born in France.

History of Illinois and Her People on Joseph Heiser: "He was one of the most highly respected men of his locality, a very conscientious member of the Amish congregation, and a close attendant on church services."

Joseph Heiser died Nov. 9, 1892 at 74 years, 8 months, 8 days. *Herald of Truth* obituary, Jan. 1, 1893: "On the 8th of November, 1892, near Pekin, Tazewell Co., Ill., of the infirmities of old age and other complaints, Bro. Joseph Hieser, aged 74 years, 8 months and 8 days. He leaves an aged widow, three sons and four daughters to mourn his death. He begged his family not to weep for him, for he said he was going home to Jesus. His remains were laid to rest at Pleasant Grove on the 10th. Funeral services by David Augsburger of Washington, Pre. King of Mackinaw, P. Ropp of Pekin, and J. Burckey of Tiskilwa."

Barbara Schrag/Schrock died at Elm Grove Oct. 30, 1911. She and Joseph are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery with several of their children.

Children of Joseph Heiser and Barbara Schrag/Schrock born at Elm Grove include:

1. Christian Heiser/Hieser was born Oct. 19, 1851, and died at Minier Feb. 12, 1938. At 24, he moved to Little Mackinaw. On Feb. 9, 1876 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Sutter. She was born Oct. 7, 1858, and died at Minier June 18, 1948, a daughter of Christian Sutter and Magdalena Nafziger. They later lived in Kansas for a year, but returned to Illinois to live in Minier in 1896. A biography of Christian published in George Smith's *History of Illinois and Her People* in 1927 yielded much of the information on his father. *Gospel Herald*, August 1948: "Hieser. – Magdalena, daughter of the late Christian and Magdalena (Nafziger) Sutter, was born Oct. 7, 1858; passed away at her home at Minier, Ill., June 18, 1948; aged 89 y. 8 m. 11 d. On Feb. 6, 1876, she was married to Christian Hieser, who preceded her in death Feb. 17, 1938. They were the first couple to be married in the church at Hopedale, then known as the Amish Church, but now the Hopedale Mennonite Church. She was a member of this church until death. Surviving are 11 children (John and Mary - Mrs. Chris Birky, Hopedale, Ill.; Clara - Mrs. Ben Springer, William, Alma - Mrs. E. R. Holmes, Estella - Mrs. William Glaser, all of Minier, Ill.; Harry and Roy, Bloomington, Ill.; Anna - Mrs. J. B. Quigg, Ocean Park, Calif.; Emma - Mrs. J. B. Lippitt, and Mena, Denver, Colo.), 23 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Two daughters (Leah and Barbara - Mrs. David P. Springer) preceded her in death. Funeral services were held at the Hopedale Mennonite Church June 21 in charge of Simon Litwiller and A. H. Leaman. Text: *Luke 11:2*. Interment was made in the Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery."
2. Joseph S. Hieser was born Jan. 4, 1854, and died at Elm Grove Aug. 8, 1932. On Jan. 28, 1877 in Tazewell County he married Veronica 'Fannie' Roth. She was born at Morton Feb. 14, 1856, and died at Tremont Dec. 17, 1946, a daughter of Daniel Roth and Catherine Ropp. They lived in Tremont and Pekin and had five children. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, January 1947: "Hieser – Fannie, daughter of the late Daniel and Catherine (Ropp) Roth, was born north of Morton, Ill., Feb. 14, 1856; passed away Dec. 17, 1946; aged 90 y. 10 m. 3 d. On Jan. 28, 1877, she was united in marriage to Joseph S. Hieser. They lived on a farm at Elm Grove and later retired and moved to Tremont, Ill. Her husband, two daughters (Bena and Ella), two granddaughters, one great-granddaughter, three sisters (Bena Staker, Louisa Rich, and Kate Rediger), and two brothers (Jacob and Amos) preceded her in death. Surviving are three children (Albert, Pekin, Ill.; Louisa, of Tremont; and Edward, also of Pekin), three brothers (Joseph, of Morton; Daniel, Gibson City, Ill.; and Samuel, also of Morton), two sisters (Mary Teuscher, Fisher, Ill.; and Amelia, of Morton), eight grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. In early youth she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, remaining faithful until death. She was active in church work, being the president of the first organized sewing circle in the Pleasant Grove community. Funeral services were held at the home and at the Morton Mennonite Church, Dec. 20, in charge of J. W. Davis and Leland Bachman. Texts: *II Cor. 5:1, Heb. 13:14*. Interment was made in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery."
3. Andrew Hieser (twin) was born Oct. 27, 1856, and died at Elm Grove May 16, 1916. On Jan. 14, 1886 in Tazewell County he married Emma C. Naffziger. She was born Jan. 5, 1862, and died Feb. 28, 1929, a daughter of Valentine F. Naffziger and Elizabeth Steiger. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Barbara Hieser (twin) was born Oct. 27, 1856, and died at Elm Grove March 29, 1916. She is buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery.
5. Magdalena Heiser was born May 22, 1860, and died at Tremont Dec. 28, 1938. On Feb. 15, 1881 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Andrew Naffziger. He was born at El Paso Feb. 16, 1856, and died at Tremont Jan. 1,

1939, a son of Peter J. Naffziger and Magdalena Nafziger. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, January 1939: "Naffziger.- Jacob A., son of Peter and Magdalena Naffziger, was born Feb. 16, 1856, at El Paso, Ill.; died at his home at Tremont, Ill., Jan. 1, 1939; aged 82 y. 10 m. 14 d. "just four days following the passing of his wife. On Feb. 15, 1881, he was united in marriage with Magdalena Heiser, to which union were born 5 children. Joseph, the eldest, preceded him in death. Those surviving are: Oscar, of Ithaca, Mich.; William E. of Pekin; Mrs. Carl Oswald, Morton; and Mrs. Oliver Miller, Barrington, Ill. Three brothers (John of Foosland, Ill., and Henry and Thomas of Ithaca, Mich.), and two sisters (Mrs. Katie Kaufman and Mrs. Amos Litwiler of Hopesdale) also survive him, together with 17 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. At the time of his passing he was a faithful member of the Pleasant Grove Mennonite Church, although he had not been able to attend for a number of years because of the infirmities of old age. Funeral services were in charge of Leland A. Bachman, Jonas Litwiler, and Simon Litwiler. Text, *Heb.11:16*. Interment in the cemetery near the church."

6. Elizabeth Heiser was born Dec. 15, 1862, and died June 20, 1911.
7. Maria/Mary Heiser was born Feb. 24, 1865, and died April 20, 1941. She is buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery.
8. Veronica Heiser was born Dec. 17, 1872, and died Nov. 11, 1876.

Augspurger of Münsingen

Augspurger and Augsburger males are Y-DNA haplogroup R-M269, subgroup U106, indicating descent from the Franks. See STAKER, BARBARIANS for background on this genetic identification.

One *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname is Langnau im Emmental (formerly Langnau), Canton Bern.

Bendicht Augspurger and Verena Gfeller were the parents of **Niclaŭs Augspurger**. He was born at Konolfingen (10 miles southwest of Langnau im Emmental), and baptized at Münsingen (three miles west of Konolfingen) Feb. 25, 1644.

He married Margreth Luginbühl. She was born at Aeschi bei Spiez, and baptized at Reichenbach im Kandertal April 18, 1652, a daughter of Hans Luginbühl and Anna Spieler.

They were in Ste. Marie-aux-Mines by 1688.

In 1692-93 Jacob Amman returned to Canton Bern from exile at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. He made a tour of Bernese villages to evaluate support for his advocacy of strict practices. He was accompanied by Niclaŭs Augspurger, Christen Blank, and his brother Ŭli Amman acting as scribe.

After 1713 Niclaŭs briefly practiced medicine on humans and animals from the home of his daughter Magdalena and her husband Anthon Bächer at Saales (12 miles northwest of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines).

His son **Jacob Augspurger** was born at Gemaingoutte, Vosges or Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace circa 1688 (the two communities are almost adjacent). Circa 1708 he married Elisabeth Ummel. They are thought to have been the parents of at least 10 children. Three sons are particularly relevant:.

- Nicolas Augspurger was born on the *ferme de la Cude* at Gemaingoutte, Vosges circa 1735, and died there before 1796. Circa 1755 he married Barbe Fongond [von Gunten]. One of their sons was Christian/Chrétien, who was born at Gemaingoutte circa 1757, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 3, 1808. He married Marie Madeleine Kropf. Two of their sons established large families in Butler County: Christian Augspurger, who married Catherine Hauter; and Joseph Augspurger, who married Elizabeth Schlabach.
- **Jacob/Jacques Augspurger**, the progenitor of another Butler County branch of this family.
- **Noé Augspurger** (#1), the progenitor of the Bavarian branch called Augsburger.

Jacob/Jacques Augspurger may have been born circa 1735, and died before 1792. Circa 1735 he married Anne Göerig/Gerig/Gerich, who also died before 1792.

Their children include:

1. **Nicholas 'Nigi' Augspurger** was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 14, 1760, and died at Boissy-St. Léger, Val-du-Marne, Val-du-Marne March 26, 1836.
2. Jacques Augspurger was born at Gemaingoutte, Vosges circa 1766. On Dec. 27, 1802 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he married Margueritte Goldschmit. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacob Augsburger, 36, born at Gemaingoutte, Vosges, and a resident of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. His parents were the deceased Jacob Augsburger and Anne Goerig, who had been residents of La Cude at Gemainegoutte. The bride was described as Margueritte Goldschmitt, 18, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 18, 1784. She was a daughter of cultivator Jacob Goldschmitt and Barbe Eymann. Witnesses included father-of-the-bride Jacob Goldschmitt, 62; brother-of-the-groom and cultivator Nicolas Augsburger, 42; and Joseph Baecher [he signed Bacher], 43.
3. Marguerite Augspurger was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1767, and died there Jan. 21, 1813. She married David Reck. He was born at Saales circa 1768, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 6, 1830, a son of Henri Reck and Anne Formwald. Her civil death entry described her as Marguerite Augsbourger, 46, the husband of weaver David Reck. Her parents were the deceased Jacques Augsbourger and Anne Gerig.

Nicholas 'Nigi' Augspurger was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 14, 1760, and died at Boissy-St. Léger, Val-du-Marne (southeast of Paris, 10 miles from the city center) March 26, 1836.

He married Madeleine Goldschmitt. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 16, 1756, and died there July 15, 1808. Her civil death entry described her as Madeleine Goldschmitt, 52, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. She was a daughter of Jean Henry Goldschmitt and a Neuhauser [Hans Heinrich Goldschmid and Anne Neuhauser]. Witnesses included her husband Nicolas Augsbourger, 50, and her niece cultivator Catherine Goldschmitt, 36.

The child of Nicholas 'Nigi' Augspurger and his first wife Madeleine Goldschmitt was:

1. Jacques/Jacob Augspurger was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 6, 1786. On May 16, 1807 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he married Catherine Fritz. She died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 30, 1808. On July 11, 1810 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he remarried to Marie Schlabach. She was born at Saales, Lower Alsace Oct. 9, 1780, a daughter of cultivator Ulrich Schlabach and the deceased Marie Adam. Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Nicolas Augsbourger, 50; and father-of-the-bride Ulrich Slappach, 70. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Montgomery*, arriving at Philadelphia June 18 or 19, 1819. In Butler County Jacques/Jacob served as a minister, and eventually became elder. It is not our intent here to do the genealogy of Butler County, Ohio, but a brief list of Jacques/Jacob's children may reflect or explain his influence on the congreation there: Nicholas, who married Magdalena Gautsche and became the 'marrying minister'; Jacob, who married Catherine Heiser; David, who married Magdalena Unzicker and Elizabeth Schertz and came to McLean County; Moses, who married Fannie Frey and Fannie Kinsinger; Joseph, the minister who married Elizabeth Augspurger, Jacobina Roth, and Bina Ropp; Mary, who married minister Joseph Meyer; Catherine, who married minister Peter Imhoff.

Now the widowed father decided to marry for a second time to the younger sister of his own son's second wife. On July 14 (Bastille Day), 1811 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nicolas remarried to Elisabeth Schlabach. Their civil entry described the groom as Nicolas Augsbourger, 51, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 14, 1760, the widower of Madeleine Goldschmitt. His parents were cultivator Jacques Augsbourger and Anne Gerich. The bride was described as Elisabeth Schlabach, 28, born at Les Quelles, Vosges Sept. 14, 1782. She was a daughter of cultivator Ulrich Schlabach and the deceased Marie Adam. Witnesses included father-of-the-bride Ulrich Schlabach, 72, a resident of Lubine; and cousin-of-the-groom Catherine Goldschmitt, 38. The signature of the groom looked like nigi aŭgspŭrger.

Augsburger

A Bavarian Branch of the Augspurger Family

Descendants of Noé Augspurger (#1)

Recall that **Jacob Augspurger** was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1688. Circa 1708 he married Elisabeth Ummel. They were the parents of Jacob/Jacques, the progenitor of the Butler County, Ohio branch of this family; as well as **Noé Augspurger** (#1).

Noé was born in 1730. Circa 1754 he married Julienne Dobler. They went from the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to Canardière near Strasbourg in 1786 (see EIGSTI for more on this estate). Both died there before October 1796.

Children of Noé Augspurger and Julienne Dobler born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines include:

1. Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger (#2) was born Oct. 8, 1755, and died in Bavaria after 1831. See THE HANFELD/HEINZENHOF FAMILY.
2. Catherine Augspurger/Augsburger was born March 4, 1772, and died at Strasbourg, Lower Alsace Dec. 27, 1810. On Oct. 3, 1796 at Strasbourg she married Jean Rothacker. He was born at Beblenheim, Upper Alsace May 9, 1772, and died at Strasbourg Dec. 23, 1827. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Rothacker, 24, living at Strasbourg for the last five years but a native of Beblenheim, and a son of cultivator David Rothacker and the deceased Barbe Wittner. The bride was described as cultivator Catherine Augspurger, 24, a resident of Strasbourg for the past seven years, a native of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and a daughter of the deceased cultivator Noé Augspurger and the deceased Julienne Doebler. The entry was witnessed by 38-year-old cultivator Noé Augspurger, brother of the bride. The groom signed 'Johannes Rothacker' and the bride signed 'Aŭgsbŭrgnr Cat.'
3. **Christian/Chrétien Augspurger/Augsburger** was born circa 1773, and died at Strasbourg April 17, 1818.

Christian/Chrétien Augspurger/Augsburger was born circa 1773, and died at Strasbourg April 17, 1818.

He married Katharina/Catherine Stalter. She was born in the Pfalz-Zweibrücken circa 1782, and died at Gern, Bavaria (now a neighborhood of Munich) April 12, 1824.

Christian's Strasbourg civil death entry described him as cultivator Chrétien Augsburger, 44, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to the deceased cultivator Noé Augsburger and the deceased Julienne Dobler, and the husband of Catherine Stalter. It was witnessed by brother-in-law Jean Rothacker, 44; and Michel Zehr, 52.

Although 'Augsbourger' is found on many French records to describe Augspurgers, it may not be appropriate here. This Augspurger family had their surname spelled 'Augsburger' even on records created at Strasbourg, then kept the Germanicized spelling as they moved north into Bavaria.

In the year of his death Katharina/Catherine took her nine children to the Hanfeld estate at Starnberg. The owners at Gern were Heinrich Stalter (junior) and his wife Jakobina Stalter; she may have been a sister to Katharina/Catherine.

Children of Christian/Chrétien Augspurger/Augsburger and Katharina/Catherine Stalter born at Strasbourg include:

1. Catherine/Katharina Augsburger was born Nov. 17, 1799. One witness on her civil birth entry was cultivator Noé Augsburger, 42.
2. Barbe/Barbara Augsburger was born Aug. 11, 1801, and died on the Hanfeld estate in 1854. One witness on her civil birth entry was cultivator Noé Augsburger, 43. This was the first of several entries that spelled her mother's maiden name 'Gestalter.'
3. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Augsburger was born Sept. 23, 1803, and died April 26, 1854. Witnesses on her civil birth entry included cultivators Noé Augsburger, 46, and Jean Rothacker, 34. She married Catholic Christian Burkli of Untervaz, Canton Graubünden, Switzerland.
4. Anne Augsburger was born Feb. 9, 1806, and died at Strasbourg Feb. 3, 1807. Witnesses on her civil birth entry included cultivators Noé Augsburger, 50, and Michel Rupp, 33.
5. **Chrétien/Christian Augsburger** was born Nov. 29, 1807.
6. **Joseph Augsburger** was born at Strasbourg Feb. 5, 1810, and died at Dornach, Bavaria (five miles east of Munich) Jan. 30, 1851.
7. Madeleine/Magdalena Augsburger was born Jan. 21, 1812, and died at Gern Jan. 3, 1840.
8. Marie Augsburger was born Jan. 12, 1815. On May 16, 1849 at Colmar she applied for a passport, destination Ohio. She was described as 34-year-old servant born at Strasbourg.
9. Jacques/Jacob Augsburger was born Oct. 30, 1816. One witness on her civil birth entry was cultivator Chrétien Augsburger, 33, who signed his name Augspŭrger. He later became a distiller known as Christian Augspurger in Butler County, Ohio.

DESCENDANTS OF CHRÉTIEN/CHRISTIAN AUGSBURGER

Chrétien/Christian Augsburger was born at Strasbourg Nov. 29, 1807.

Circa 1830 he married Veronika/Veronica/Véronique Ingold. According to the *Karlskron Familienbuch*, she was born on the Lindenbrunnerhof by Annweiler in 1807, a daughter of Jakob Ingold and Elisabetha Baŭmann (they later lived at Probfeld). She died at Graville, a quarter of Le Havre July 6, 1839.

She brought to the marriage an illegitimate child Helena Ingold, who was born at Probfeld Dec. 9, 1826.

Their children include:

1. Christian Augsburger was born in the Höhenkirchner Forst in Hohenbrunn (a district on the southeast corner of Munich) Jan. 12, 1831, and died at Kankakee, Kankakee County May 21, 1888. On Nov. 15, 1859 in Butler County, Ohio he married Anna Mosiman. She was born in Butler County July 16, 1835, and died at Normal, McLean County Sept. 27, 1923, a daughter of Christian Mosiman and Barbe Schmitt/Smith. The 1880 census of the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane at Kankakee lists farmer C. Augsberger, 43, France. His family was shown on the census of Danvers as Ann Augspurger, 43, Ohio; Barbara, 19, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Ohio; Magdalena, 15, Illinois; Joel, 12, Illinois; and Joseph, 8, Illinois. The next door households were headed by Christian Imhoff, 41, and John Strubhar, 70. *Herald of Truth*, June 15, 1888: "On the 21st of May, in Kankakee, Ill., of pulmonary fever, Bro. Christian Augspurger, aged 57 years, 3 months and 21 days. He was buried on the 24th. He leaves his wife and five children. The deceased suffered since 1861 at which time he fell into despondency, but was able most of the time to support his family until the year 1877, when he became worse and had to be removed to the asylum, where he remained until his death. He united with the Church in his youth and lived happily with his companion up to the time that his mind was affected. Services were held in the North Danvers Mennonite meeting-house on the 27th by Joseph Stuckey from *Ps. 103*." *Gospel Herald*, December 1923: "Anna, daughter of the late Christian and Barbra (nee Smith) Mosiman, was born July 16, 1835, in Butler Co., Ohio. She lived with her parents until Nov. 15, 1859, when she united in marriage with Christian Augspurger who died May 21, 1888. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Illinois. Five children survive: Barbra Landis, Elizabeth Strubhar, Madelina Ehresman, Joseph, Joes, and one brother (Christian). She had been in failing health the past few years, but was able to be up and about the house until Wednesday, when she was taken to her bed. She passed away to her heavenly reward Thursday, Sept. 27, aged 88 y. 2 m. 11 d. At the age of sixteen years she united with the Mennonite Church and at the time of her death was a member of the First Mennonite Church, Normal, Ill. She was a kind and loving mother and her life was spent in giving service and happiness to others and in devotion to her Lord whom she loved and she has gone to be with Him... The funeral services were held from the home of her daughter in Normal Sept. 30, and were conducted by Bro. W. H. Grubb. Text: *I Thes. 4:13*. Interment in Imhoff Cemetery, Congerville, Ill."

2. Elisabeth Augsburger was born at Neŭberg, Probfeld in House No. 1 on April 4, 1835, and died there April 6, 1836, according to the *Karlskron Familienbuch*. Her parents were described as Mennonite settlement small farmer Christian Aŭgsbŭrger and Veronika Ingold.
3. Joseph Augsburger was born at Neŭberg, Probfeld March 1, 1837. He may have been the corn day laborer Joseph Augsburger, 23, Germany found in the household of Nancy Johnson on the 1860 census of Partridge, Woodford County.
4. Jakob/Jacob Augsburger was born at Neŭberg, Probfeld April 13, 1839, and died at Graville, Le Havre June 20, 1839.

Presumably Chrétien/Christian and Veronika/Veronica/Véronique were preparing to emigrate from Le Havre at the time of her death.

On July 8, 1841 at Rahling, Moselle Chrétien/Christian remarried to Magdalena/Madeleine Salzman (though no entry is found in the 10-year civil index).[202] She was born at Rahling Feb. 20, 1810, a daughter of Christian Salzman and Catherine Ringenberg.

Chrétien/Christian likely died between early 1846 and the close of 1850.

Magdalena Salzman sailed from Liverpool on the *Lemuel Dyer*, and arrived at New Orleans Dec. 5, 1850. The timing of her voyage suggests she was watching expenses. The passenger list shows Christian Augstburger, 18; Madelaine, 41; Joseph, 12; Daniel, 5; and Jacob, 3. Three-year-old Henry was onboard but not listed.

Children of Chrétien/Christian Augsburger and his second wife Magdalena Salzman include:

5. Daniel Augsburger was born at Rahling (though no entry is found in the 10-year civil index) June 20, 1842. The 1870 census of Morton shows Jacob Shuencentraub [Schwarzentraub], 51, Hesse-Darmstadt; Carolin, 31, France; John, 11, Illinois; Theodore, 5, Illinois; farm laborer John Melfers, 25, Hanover; farm laborer Daniel Ausburger [Augsburger], 28, France; and farmer Christian Schuenemtraub, 53, Hesse-Darmstadt. Despite an erroneous age and birthplace, he may also have appeared on the 1880 census of Morton in the household of 59-year-old farmer Jacob Kennel as servant Daniel Augsberger, 40, born in Ohio to parents from France. Kennel was a next door neighbor to Jacob Schwarzentraub.
6. Jacob Augsburger was born at Grostenquin, Moselle (25 miles west of Rahling) March 19, 1845 (though his headstone gives 1846; the 10-year index of civil birth entries calls him Jacob Augsbourger), and died after a railroad accident at Hudson, McLean County Jan. 23, 1912. On Oct. 25, 1868 in Tazewell County he married Jacobina/Phoebe Birky. She was born May 25, 1848, and died at Hudson in 1915. She was a daughter of Magdalena Nafziger and her first husband Valentine Birky; her second husband was Christian Ropp. The 1900 census of White Oak, McLean County shows farmer Jacob Augsburger, 54, born in Germany in March of 1846, immigrated in 1851; Jacobina, 52, born in Illinois to German parents in May of 1848; Bina, 12, born in Nebraska in August of 1887; and Katie, 10, born in Colorado in November of 1889. The 1910 census of Normal, McLean County has roughly the same information, but Jacob's immigration date was given as 1858. At Normal they were members of the Mennonite congregation under minister William H. Grubb. They are buried in Kaufman Cemetery at Hudson.
7. Henri/Henry Augsburger was born at Rahling (though no entry is found in the 10-year civil index) Nov. 14, 1849, and died at Milford, Indiana in 1921. The 1860 census of Morton has farmer John Oswould, 48, Germany; Barbara [Kennel], 45, Germany; John, 15, Ohio; Rodolph, 5, Illinois; Helena, 3, Illinois; and Henry Auxberger, 11, France. In 1870 the Morton household was farmer John Oswald, 58, Hesse-Darmstadt; Barbara, 54, Bavaria; John, 25, Ohio; Frederica, 18, Switzerland; Rudolph, 15, Illinois; Magdelena, 13, Illinois; farm laborer Henry Augburger, 20, France; and farm laborer Henry Reeiden, 40, Prussia. On May 5, 1873 in Tazewell County he married Anna Risser. She was born at Berthelming, Moselle Oct. 18, 1848. a daughter of Nicolas/Nicholas Risser and Catherine Schmitt. The 1880 census of Allin, McLean County has farmer Henry Augspurger, 30, France; Anna, 31, France; William, 3, Illinois; and daughter Alwine E., 1, Illinois. The 1900 census of Carpenter, Jasper County, Indiana shows farmer Henry Augspurger, 50, born in France in November of 1849, immigrated in 1850; Anna, 51, born in France in October of 1848; Alvina, 21, born in Illinois in March of 1879; Walter, 17, born in Illinois in November of 1882; and Erwin, 14, born in Illinois in September of 1885. Henri/Henry is buried in Milford Cemetery.

DESCENDANTS OF JOSEPH AUGSBURGER

Joseph Augspurger/Augsburger was born at Strasbourg Feb. 5, 1810, and at Dornach, Bavaria (five miles east of Munich) Jan. 30, 1851. His civil birth entry called him Joseph Augsburger, and named his parents as 37-year-old cultivator Chrétien Augsburger living at *la porte en Bouchers* in Strasbourg, and Catherine Gestalter [Stalter]; it was witnessed by 60-year-old gardener André Dieble.

[202] French genealogist Jean François Lorentz attributes the Rahling Augsburger events that are not found in their 10-year civil index to an article by Edgard Nussbaumer in *Souvenance Anabaptiste/Mennonitisches Gedächtnis* (L'Association Française d'histoire Anabaptiste-Mennonite), Issue 32 from 2013, page 69.

At about age 20, Joseph had a relationship with Elizabeth Holly. She was born on the Horterhof estate at Heiligenmoschel in the Pfalz Jan. 27, 1809, and died on the Templehof estate at Eichstätt, Bavaria June 20, 1888. She was a daughter of Jakob Holly and Magdalena Unzicker, and a niece of local landowner Daniel Unzicker.203

Her father left his family on the Horterhof estate and worked in Bavaria for several years before purchasing the 110-acre Stadelhof estate in Heinzendorf/Mindelheim in 1818. Elizabeth went to live there with the remainder of her family.

In 1833 Elizabeth's father purchased the 145-acre Sellmairhof farm at Lindach near Ebersberg (25 miles east of Munich), and Elizabeth moved there. In 1834 and 1835 Joseph Augspurger/Augsburger was employed there as a servant.

Daniel Augsburger was born at Lindach July 7, 1835. According to Mary Ann Augsburger Eng, "Birth records indicate that Daniel suffered a difficult birth, and was administered emergency baptism by the country doctor who delivered him. His parents, Elizabeth Holly and Joseph Augsburger, were not married and both were about 26 years of age. Joseph was a Mennonite and was listed as being from Strassburg, Alsace at the time. Daniel was given the surname of Augsburger because (his birth record stated) his father Joseph Augsburger insisted that he carry that name. Joseph left Lindach, and Elizabeth and son Daniel stayed on the family farm."

Elizabeth Holly later had a relationship with Adam Kandler of Lindach. A son was born Oct. 8, 1841. Kandler had the boy baptized, and insisted that he be raised as a Catholic. But Elizabeth and her father Jakob Holly took the matter to court, where the baptism was rescinded. The child was then renamed Johann Baptist Holly. Elizabeth moved from Lindach to the Templehof farm with her two sons in 1848.

Daniel emigrated in 1853. According to Herbert Holly, Daniel explained his reasons for departing on his travel application: "A sister of my mother Elizabeth Holly (Jakobea Holly born on the Horterhof/Pfalz in 1807) lives married and in good conditions in Pirot/Illinois [Peoria?]. But the marriage is childless. Therefore I intend to emigrate to her (in America) which offers me the best prospects of a good future." See BECHLER/BECKLER for background on Jacobine Holly and Christian Bechler/Beckler.

When Daniel was naturalized at Pekin July 19, 1858, he was described as a 23-year-old from Germany. One witness was Christian Springer. His application gave the date of his arrival in the United States as May 7, 1853.

In 1858 Daniel's half-brother Johann was accused of poaching deer on a neighboring estate.

On July 24, 1858 Daniel applied for a passport to return to Europe. "State of Illinois, County of Peoria: Daniel Augsburger having first been duly sworn doth depose and say, as follows, to wit: that he is a naturalized citizen of the United States of North America, residing near Tremont, in the County of Tazewell, and State of Illinois; that he is about to travel to Europe on private business; that he has never before his arrival in the United States taken part in any political machinations against the government of his native state, the Kingdom of Bavaria, or any other dominions; that he will abide by and confirm to and with the existing laws of the countries to which he shall come, and therefor he respectfully petitions to be furnished by the United States with a passport. Age: 23 years. tature: 5 ft. 7½ inches, slim. Eyes: grey. Nose; aquiline. Mouth: middle. Chin: round. Hair: auburn (light coloured). Complexion: Sound. Face: oval. Signature: Daniel Augsburger. Peoria the 24th of July A.D. 1858, State of Illinois, County of Peoria. J. Julius G. Lueder, notary." His application was approved July 30.

On Sept. 20, 1858 at Ebersberg Elizabeth and 16-year-old Johann applied for permission to join Daniel in the United States: "Here present, the non-married 47-year-old Elizabeth Holly of Lindach, with assistance of her brother Joseph Holly, estate owner at Lindach, declares she intends to take her non-married son on a journey to North America, to the city of Pirot [Peoria] in the state of Illinois, and applies for a traveling document valid for one year." The one-year joint travel plan may or may not have been implemented. Johann would immigrate alone in 1870.204

At about this time Daniel arrived from America. On Nov. 14, 1858 on the Sutter family's Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria he married Marie/Mary Oesch. She was born on the Forsthof estate April 25, 1837, a daughter of estate foreman Christian Oesch and Katharina Sutter (see SUTTER to understand why this is a link to

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203 For more on her sister Jacobine Holly see BECHLER/BECKLER. Their brother Joseph Holly was born April 11, 1824. He married Barbara Oesch, the sister of Maria/Mary Oesch; they were the great-great-grandparents of contributor Herbert Holly.

For more on Daniel Unzicker see BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE BIG BIRKEYS.

204 Johann Baptist Holly or John B. Holly sailed from Le Havre on the *Bremen*, arriving at New York July 7, 1870. He appears on the passenger list as Bavarian farmer Johann Holly, 29. On Jan. 16, 1877 in McLean County he married Anna Graber. She was born in West Galicia, Russia July 26, 1858, a daughter of Peter Graber and Katharina Krehbiel. They farmed at Sparta, Kansas, then Weatherford, Oklahoma. John died at Weatherford June 8, 1823, and Anna died there June 23, 1924; they are buried in Bergtal Cemetery.

Hanfeld). After the death of her father in 1844, she had been appointed a ward of Joseph Ringenberg of Ingolstadt. On June 17, 1858 a 'protocol of majority' document had stated that she was of legal age to marry.

On Sept. 27, 1859 Daniel and Maria/Mary took part in a legal procedure at Neuberg an der Donau. Maria/Mary's mother Katharina wanted to transfer the entire property to her son Christian Oesch (junior). This required the consent of the son, another son Joseph, daughter Maria/Mary (married to Daniel Augsburger), daughter Barbara (married to a Holly), and daughter Veronika (married to a Gascho). All five signatures appear on the document.

Daniel and Marie/Mary sailed from Le Havre to Northampton to New York on the *Ocean Queen*, arriving at New York Oct. 25, 1859. They appear on the passenger list as farmer Daid [the handwriting is unclear] Augsburger, 24; and Mina, 23.[205]

Their first child was born at Tremont in January. They must have purchased property there at about the same time. The 1860 census of Tremont shows the household of Daniel Ausberg, 25, Germany; Marian, 24, Germany; and Elizabeth, 5 [this should have been five months], Illinois.[206] They are found next door to 'Nicholas Soker' (actually Nicholas Stecker/Staker), who lived on the south side of Allentown Road. On the same census page were the households of Jacob Steinman and his nephew Daniel; Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birkey; and Valentine and Andrew Birky.

Daniel died in Tazewell County July 15, 1861. He is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove. At last sighting his headstone was broken into two pieces. A reading for the cemetery book in 1980 interpreted his headstone as Daniel Augsburger, died July 15, 1861 at 25 years, 11 months, and 20 days.

The widowed Maria/Mary gave birth to her second child two months later. On Sept. 7, 1862 in Tazewell County she remarried to Daniel Steinman's older brother Jacob Steinman. He was born in Bavaria June 1, 1825, and died March 3, 1908, a son of Johannes Steinmann and Barbara Nafziger. Apparently there was no hurry to amend the land title, because because the property was still designated 'D. Augusberger' on the 1864 plat map.

Maria/Mary died at Flanagan, Livingston County Feb. 22, 1892. She and her second husband Jacob Steinman are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. See STEINMAN for her obituary.

Daniel Augsburger and Maria/Mary Oesch had two children, and Jacob Steinman's 1908 obituary stated that he left two stepchildren:

1. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Augsburger was born at Tremont in January 1860, and died in Iowa in 1950. She was listed on the 1870 census of Allin, McLean County as a 9-year-old in the household of her mother and stepfather Jacob Steinman, while her younger brother Daniel was listed as an 8-year-old. In 1880 she appears in Allin as a 19-year-old born in Illinois to German parents, a servant in the Leitfritz household. On Jan. 3, 1884 in McLean County she married Theodore Miller. He is found on the 1880 census of Allin as a 30-year-old German laborer in the Imick household. They appear on the 1900 census of Pomeroy Town, Sherman Township, Iowa as Theodore Miller, 46, born in Germany to German parents in November 1853; Lizzie, born in Illinois to German parents in January 1860; farm laborer William Miller, born in Illinois to a German father and mother from Illinois in October 1884; and niece Emma Greiser, 7, born in Minnesota in February 1893 to a German father and mother from Illinois. The 1930 census of Lincoln, Iowa shows Theodore Miller, 76, born in Germany to German parents; Elizabeth, 70, born in Illinois to

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[205] The *Ocean Queen* was a side-paddled wooden ship build in 1857. Though it was steam-powered (it had two funnels), it had two masts as backup. It carried 350 first- and second-class passengers, indicating that the couple was financially well-off at this time. Perhaps Daniel was returning to purchase land with 2,500 marks from his mother, mentioned later in her will. The next time the *Ocean Queen* went out from New York, on Nov. 23, 1859, it made its last Atlantic crossing before the commencement of the Civil War. In 1861 it was chartered by the War Department.

[206] Elizabeth Holly later lived on the Templehof, where she was employed as a cook. She died there June 20, 1888. Her will has been translated by **A**nneliese Maschke-Kammermayr: "I the undersigned Elizabeth Holly, single major landowner's daughter from Hergolding near Munich, since 1848 living on the Tempelhof near Eichstätt, have voluntarily decided to make my will as follows: I am 76 years old, unmarried and not engaged by any contract. Therefore, I am able to do with my means as I want. My means consist of 80,000 marks which my brother Joseph Holly, landowner in Hergolding, owes me together with interest. I have two illegitimate children: 1) Daniel Augsburger (so named by his extramarital father), who lived and died in Illinois, America. He has left two legitimate children: a) Elizabeth, who is married (I don't know more about the husband), and b) Daniel Holly (Augsburger). 2) Johann Holly, who lives in America and is married there. Johann Holly and the deceased Daniel Augsburger have each received 2,500 marks from me. As heir of my estate, no matter how much it will be at the time of my death, I name the before mentioned Johann Holly who has already received his 2,500 marks inheritance, his legitimate children existing at the time of my death. They are to inherit half of my estate. The other half of my estate is to be divided equally between Daniel Augsburger and his sister Elizabetha, the children of my deceased son Daniel Augsburger. This is my last will which has to be fulfilled in the case of my death. Eichstatt, Oct. 4, 1886. I want to mention that the deceased Daniel Augsburger and Johann Holly are American citizens. On the left are addresses of the children respectfully grandchildren in America."

German parents; and niece Emma Miller, 35, born in Minnesota to a German father and mother from Illinois. Theodore and Elizabeth are buried under a joint headstone in Rose Hill Cemetery at Manson, Iowa, with the dates 1853-1931 and 1860-1950. .

2. Daniel Augsburger was born at Tremont Sept. 25, 1861, and died of cancer at Milford, Indiana in 1923. In addition to the 1870 census, he appears on the 1880 census as an 18-year-old in the household of his mother and stepfather. Daniel moved to Gridley in 1883. He worked as a clerk in a hardware store at Flanagan, then returned to Gridley to clerk in a general store. He later formed a partnership with J.H. Andrews to sell dry goods, and eventually bought him out. On Nov. 28, 1893 at Chenoa, McLean County he married Mary King. She was born circa 1867, and died May 13, 1899, a daughter of John King and Lydia Troyer. She is buried in Waldo Cemetery. On May 15, 1902 in McLean County Daniel remarried to Leah Susan Gurtner. She was born at Carlock, McLean County in 1866, and died in 1958, a daughter of Christian Gurtner and Rosina Stahly. They appear on the 1910 census of Gridley, McLean County as Daniel A. Augsburger, 48, born in Illinois to German parents; Leah S., 42, born in Illinois to Swiss parents; Martha, 7 ; John F., 4; and E.E., 1; all children born in Illinois. The 1920 census of Elkhart, Indiana shows them as Daniel Augsburger, 58, Illinois; Leah S., 53, Illinois; Martha, 16, Illinois; and John F., 14, Illinois. Daniel is buried near Mary King in Waldo Cemetery. Leah is buried in Milford Cemetery at Milford, Indiana.

The Hanfeld/Heinzenhof Family

Earlier we noted that **Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger** (#2) was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 8, 1755.

Noé was employed at Canardière. Circa 1785 he married Anna Müller there. She was born at Sexau, Baden, and died on the Canardière estate near Strasbourg May 6, 1806, a daughter of Jacob Müller and Anna Litwiller. Her civil death entry was witnessed by cultivator Jean Rothacker, 36.

On Oct. 24, 1807 at Strasbourg Noé/Noah remarried to widow Marie Goldschmitt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Noé Augsbarger, 52, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 8, 1755, a son of the deceased cultivator Noé Augsbarger and the deceased Julie Diebler, widower of Anne Müller who had died on the Canardière estate at *la porte de boucher*, Strasbourg May 6, 1806. It described the bride as Marie Goldschmit, 57, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 16, 1750, a daughter of the deceased Jean Henri Goldschmit [Goldschmid] and Marie Neuhausser [Anne Neuhauser]. She was the widow of cultivator Nicolas Hyser, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 22, 1800. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Roth, 36, brother-in-law of the groom; and cultivator Michel Müller, 45, brother-in-law of the groom (the brother of his first wife). Noé's Swiss-style writing made his script signature look like 'non aŭgsbŭrgnr.'

Noé/Noah's daughter Katharina was living with her husband at Hanfeld, Bavaria, and this became the home of Noé and Marie.

Hanfeld is located 18 miles southwest of Munich, adjacent to Söcking, a village already mentioned as the home of André/Andrew Burchi/Burkey before he came to America. The two villages fall in the administrative district of Starnberg on Lake Starnberg. The Mennonites at Hanfeld and Söcking may have staffed properties belonging to the royal Wittelsbach family. Starnberg on Lake Starnberg was the site of the Wittelsbach's Castle Berg.[207]

Other families at Hanfeld included Egli (from Baden), Rupp (from Baden), Schott, and possibly Jordy.[208] Widower Daniel Zehr (1782-1856) lived on the Mang estate at Hanfeld from 1828 to 1849 before leaving for Woodford County.

Noé/Noah and Marie held a lease on the Pflegangerhof ('grazing meadow farm') from June 5, 1810 to Jan. 11, 1820, where they lived in House No. 7.

Noé/Noah died on the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof (60 miles west of Hanfeld) Sept. 30, 1828. His civil death entry said that he had been injured by a bull.

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[207] King Ludwig Wittelsbach II was also known as 'Mad King Ludwig.' He sponsored the composer Wagner and built fairytale castles. His administrative duties were removed June 10, 1886. After being declared insane by a government-appointed doctor, he was confined to Castle Berg on Lake Starnberg June 12, 1886. The following evening he and the doctor were both found drowned. The murders were probably political conveniences arranged by cabinet ministers to curb spending. His successor was Prince Luitpold, the same man who signed the Royal Bavarian Army discharge papers of Christian Sutter in 1845.

[208] The Egli family at Hanfeld did not emigrate. Abraham Egli was born circa 1763, a son of Martin Egli and his second wife Elisabeth Kaufmann. He married Susanna Hunzicker. According to Herbert Holly, they purchased one-quarter acre at Bachhausen (seven miles southeast of Hanfeld) April 17, 1804; the contract said they came from Steinach, Baden. They sold a farm May 30, 1806, and purchased a farm at Hanfeld Sept. 25, 1806. Both died at Hanfeld in 1834.

Marie died on the Streicherhof at Uffing, Bavaria (30 miles south of Hanfeld) Sept. 26, 1831.[209] Her civil death entry said that she had come from the Hertleshof estate, but had been living on the Streicherhof for a year and one-half.

Marie had a son named Jacob Hyser/Heisser. At Hanfeld Jacob was described as an *arbeiten beim Pfleger*, a medical assistant or care giver. For background on Jacob and his desendants see HEISER.

Children of Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger (#2) and his first wife Anna Müller born on the Canardière estate near Strasbourg include:

1. Barbe Augspurger/Augsburger was born circa 1783, and died at Strasbourg May 22, 1832. She married day laborer Joseph Augster. He was born at Raon-sur-Plaine in 1784, and died there June 11, 1832, a son of Christian/Chrétien Augster and Elisabeth Eymann. He also appears in Strasbourg documentation as Augstin, Eigst, and Eigsty. Barbe's civil death entry said that she was 49, born at Strasbourg, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Noé Augsburger and the deceased Susanna Müller; that she had been the wife of cultivator Joseph Augster, 49; and they had resided at *Maison No. 39* Le Hohwarth.
2. **Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger** (#3) was born on the Canardière estate at Strasbourg circa 1791.
3. Catherine Augspurger//Katharina Augsburger was born April 4, 1793, and died in House No. 5 at Hanfeld Oct. 15, 1850. Her civil birth entry created April 7 called her Catherine Augsburger, and described her parents as cultivator Nöé Augsburger, living on the Canardière estate near Strasbourg, and Anne Müller. It was witnessed by 29-year-old cultivator Michel Müller living at Neuhof (a district in the south part of Strasbourg), and 60-year-old day laborer Jean Müller of the Canardière estate. It was signed Noé Augsbŭrger, Michael Müller, and Hans Müller. She married minister Andreas Oesch/Esch. He was born at Sarre-Union, Lower Alsace in 1791, and died at Hanfeld April 30, 1869, a son of Christian Oesch and Katharina/Catherine Bürki. Their son Christian Oesch came to Tazewell County in 1848.
4. Anne Augspurger/Augsburger was born Sept. 22, 1795, and died on the Canardière estate May 29, 1799. Her civil birth entry created Sept. 23 described her parents as cultivator Noé Augsburger, living on the Canardière estate near Strasbourg, and Anne Müller. Witnesses included cutivator Michel Müller, 34, and Michel Gautsché, 36. It was signed Noe Augsbŭrger, Michael Miller, and Michael Gaŭtsche. Her civil death entry created May 30 called her Anne Augstburger, gave her age as three, and was witnessed by father and cultivator Noé Augstburger, 43, and uncle and cultivator Jean Rothacker, 36. It was signed Aŭgsbŭrger and Johannes Rothacker.

Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger (#3) was born on the Canardière estate at Strasbourg circa 1791.[210]

He married Elisabeth Eyer, a daughter of Jakob Eyer and Magdalena Birki (see background on this family in HEISER). She may have been born on the Stadelhof estate at Heinzendorf/Mindelheim, where her parents were living in 1807. Eyers later lived on the Stillerhof estate above Wessobrunn (14 miles southwest of Hanfeld).

A sales document for a parcel of land at Hanfeld [Ger. *Verkauf des halben Hofes*, 'sale of half a yard'] is dated Sept. 30, 1818. This may have provided part of 7,000 florins to purchase the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof Oct. 31, 1818.

Recall that Ellizabeth Holly, who had an illegitimate child with Joseph Augsburger in 1835, had lived with her parents on the Stadelhof estate at Heinzendorf/Mindelheim from 1818 to 1833.

Herbert Holly found a record of a foreclosure auction on the Hertleshof estate Dec. 7, 1825. Creditors who were paid 15 guilders included 'Noe Augsburger Jr.' When the estate was sold by someone else Feb 19, 1826, one document said that a court settlement in December 1825 had awarded the property to the seller. It had previously belonged to Noah Augsburger, described as 'the person who went bankrupt' [Ger. *Gantier*].

The Augsburgers may have felt the impact on all European markets made by the Panic of 1825. It began with a London stock market crash caused by massive over-speculation in Latin America. When the bubble burst, many investors were surprised to find that their stocks were worthless - including those of the Government of Poyais, which did not exist. This caused bank runs. The concept of central banking was created when the Bank of England stepped in with 400,000 pounds in actual bank notes to stem the panic. This was equivalent to four billion dollars in modern buying power. Nevertheless the English economy receded by 10 percent that year. With the temporary loss of England as a trading partner, overproduction caused layoffs of workers in France and Germany.

1825 was also the year of the death of Maximilian I Joseph, the Wittelsbach king of Bavaria who was extremely favorable to Amish Mennonite leaseholders. He was succeeded by his son Ludwig I.

The Hertleshof was sold to Daniel Unzicker Feb 19, 1826 for only 3,900 florins, or 56 percent of its value in 1818. The Augsburgers may have remained to work the property, and Noé/Noah (#2) died there in 1828.

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[209] The Streicherhof is still an active horse-breeding farm.

[210] His birth date is often found as 'circa 1792.' We did not find an entry in the Strasbourg civil registers, which begin in 1792, though we did find his sisters. Noé in French; Noah in German and English.

By the mid-1830s the Augsburgers were living in House No. 57 at Penzing (15 miles west of Hanfeld, on the northeast corner of Landsberg am Lech). As a minister Noé/Noah (#3) administered several baptisms there.

Elisabeth Eyer died of a stroke at Penzing March 30, 1837. A civil entry stated that the cause of death was apoplexy. Her husband Noé/Noah Noé (#3) died there one week later, on April 5, 1837. His entry stated that the cause was tuberculosis. Services at his burial April 8 were provided by his brother-in-law, minister Andreas Eyer of the Stillerhof estate.

Children of Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger (#3) and Elisabeth Eyer include:

1. Noé/Noah Augsburger was born at Hanfeld Feb. 24, 1817, and died there July 5, 1817.
2. Christian Augsburger was born at Hanfeld April 29, 1818.
3. **Noah Augsburger** was born in Bavaria Nov. 30, 1819, and died at Boynton July 17, 1903. Hanfeld and Heinzenhof records do not contain a relevant matching birth entry. However, a set of coincidences seemed to prove a match. He was born in Bavarian; once reported that he was born in Germany to a French father and German mother; was born and emigrated from Europe in the right time frame; his birthdate does not conflict with other children; the family had a 'Noah' naming tradition; and Noah came to Tazewell County. This does not preclude the possibility that his birth was entered elsewhere - it would have taken place just after the move from Hanfeld to Heinzenhof - or that he was taken into the family while Noah (#3) was ministering at Penzing..
4. Johannes Augsburger was likely born on the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof Nov. 11, 1820, died after one hour, and was buried there. According to Mary Ann Augsburger Eng, "This odd entry was inserted at a later date, in between the regular lines of the previous entries. The father's name was given as Noe Augsburger *senior*, with no name given for the mother. This is mysterious, since Noah II or at least his wife, would have been too old to be his parents [Noé/Noah #2 would have been 66 years of age]; and Noah III was referred to as *junior* again in the 1821 and 1823 birth records of his children."
5. Joseph Augsburger was born on the Hertleshof estate Nov. 1, 1821. His birth record indicates that he was "child number four." This actually supports the inclusion of Noah as child 3, since the birth and almost immediate death of Johannes was written in at a later date, and thus was not known to the clerk who made this entry.
6. **Jacob Augsburger** was born on the Hertleshof estate July 29, 1823. His birth record also says "child number four." We presume that the clerk was only counting living children.
7. Andreas Augsburger was born on the Hertleshof estate Jan. 3, 1825 (the birth entry says "child number five"), and died Jan. 8, 1825.
8. **Johannes/John Augsburger** was born in January 1826 (according to the 1900 census), and died in Arkansas after the 1900 federal census.
9. Daniel Augsburger was born at Penzing March 22, 1830.
10. Elise Augsburger was born at Penzing May 27, 1834, and died at Burgweinting Aug. 6, 1921. In 1868 she was working as a maid on the farm of Christian Güngerich at Possing, near Penzing; a newspaper article described an award she received for 20 years of service there. She was living at Arnstorf in 1900.
11. Magdalena Augsburger was born at Penzing Feb. 17, 1837.

Noah Augsburger

Noah Augsburger (#4) was born in Bavaria Nov. 30, 1819, and died at Boynton July 17, 1903. The 1860 census gives his age as 40; the 1880 census gives his age as 60; he self-reported a birth date of November 1819 on the 1900 census; and his headstone says that he died July 17, 1903, aged 83 years, 7 months, and 17 days, yielding the birth date Nov. 30, 1819.

Noah sailed from Le Havre on the *Gallia*, and arrived at New York Sept. 4, 1851. He appears on the passenger list as Noh Augsburger, 31; the names before his are Henri Roggi, 30, and Jacob Hochstatter, 45. He passed through Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Galena, Illinois; and Fremont, Illinois before settling at Hopedale in 1852.

On July 8, 1855 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Schrag/Schrock; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Bavaria March 24, 1824, and died at Boynton Nov. 9, 1914, a daughter of Christian Schrag and Elizabeth Bürki. See SCHROCK, THE SCHRAGS OF KÖSCHING for background on her family.

The 1860 census of Hopedale shows Neal Auxberger, 40, Germany; Magdaline Auxberger, 35, Germany; Christian, 7; Jacob, 4; and Jos. Auxberger, 2; all children born in Illinois. They appear on the 1880 census of Boynton as 'Noe Augsberger,' 60, a farmer born in Baden, with a father from France and a mother from Bavaria; and Magdalena, 55, born in Baden, with both parents from Baden; Jacob, 24; Joseph, 21; Barbaray, 18; and John, 14. The 1900 census of Boynton shows them as Noah Augsburger, 80, born in Germany in November 1819 to a French father and a German mother, immigrated 1851; Lena, 76, born in Germany in March 1824 to German parents; immigrated 1853.

Noah served as minister and elder of the Hopedale Amish Mennonite Church 1862-76, while running a 160-acre farm in Section 23 at Boynton.

He died at Boynton July 17, 1903. *Herald of Truth*, August 1903: "Pre. Noah Augsburger was born in Bavaria, Germany, Nov. 30, 1817; died near Hopedale, Tazewell Co., Ill., July 17, 1903, aged 85 Y., 8 M., 17 D. He was afflicted for some time with kidney trouble and other complications, incidental, in part, to old age. He labored in the ministry for many years, and after a well-spent life the Master called him to rest. He leaves his aged companion, three sons and one daughter to mourn their loss. Funeral services on the 19th at the Hopedale Amish Mennonite M.H. by Daniel Grieser and Daniel Roth in German and by Samuel Gerber in English. May God comfort the bereaved family and congregation in the loss they have sustained."

Gospel Herald, December 1914: "Magdalena (Schrock) Augsburger was born in Germany, Mar. 24, 1824; died at her home near Hopedale, Ill., Nov. 9, 1914; aged 90 y. 7 m. 15 d. She was married to Noah Augsburger, who preceded her in death July 17, 1903. She leaves to mourn her departure two sons, one daughter, 17 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and one brother. Funeral services were conducted at the Hopedale A. M. Church of which she was a member, by Bros. John Birkey of that place, E. S. Hallman, Goshen, Ind., and Samuel Gerber, Tremont, Ill."

They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

Children of Noé/Noah Augsburger and Magdalena Schrag born at Hopedale include:

1. Christian Augsburger was born July 15, 1853, and died July 26, 1910. On Feb. 3, 1878 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Sutter. She was born Sept. 31, 1858, and died Sept. 1, 1886, a daughter of Johann/John Sutter and Magdalena Guth/Good. Christian is found on the 1900 census of Boynton as Christian Augsburger, 46, born in Illinois in July 1853 to German parents; with children and a grandchild. They are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.
2. Jacob Augsburger was born April 25, 1856, and died Jan. 17, 1886. He is buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.
3. Joseph Augsburger was born Aug. 3, 1858, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Aug. 17, 1941. On Feb. 12, 1900 at Bloomington he married to Ella B. Naffziger. She was born at Delavan Dec. 30, 1867, and died April 7, 1941, a daughter of Valentine F. Naffziger and Elizabeth Steiger. Joseph was a hardware merchant at Hopedale. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Barbara Augsburger was born Oct. 17, 1861, and died at Groveland Feb. 6, 1917. She married Amos Roth. He was born at Morton Sept. 11, 1860, and died Jan. 5, 1945, a son of Daniel Roth and Catherine Ropp. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
5. John Augsburger was born Jan. 1, 1866. On Dec. 13, 1893 in Tazewell County he married Lizzie Litwiller. She was born Jan. 13, 1867, and died Feb. 11, 1899, a daughter of Joseph Litwiller and Mary Ropp. She is buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. On Nov. 27, 1904 at Wayland, Iowa John remarried to Fannie Wyse. She was born in 1870, a daughter of Christian Wyse and Fanny Roth. John died at Boynton March 25, 1917, a victim of the influenza pandemic. He is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

Jacob Augsburger

Jacob Augsburger was born on the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof, Bavaria July 29, 1823.[211]

THE THIRD WAVE OF IMMIGRATION in ROPP told the story of the German '48ers. A failed harvest in 1847 led to food shortages, rioting, and eventually a failed revolution. Jacob immigrated in 1847 or 1848.

On Aug. 7, 1848 at Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania he married Barbara Steinman, and she gave birth to their first child Oct. 2. Barbara was born in Bavaria June 16, 1829, and died at Morton March 21, 1911, a daughter of Jacob Steinman and Barbara Nafziger (see STEINMAN for the details of another two marriages). The 1900 census said that she immigrated in 1847.

They are found on the 1850 census of Paradise, Lancaster County as laborer Jacob Augusburges, 27, Germany; Barbara, 21, Germany; Magdaline, 1, Pennsylvania; and Noah, 6 months, Pennsylvania.

The family relocated to Groveland circa 1855. The 1860 census of Groveland shows them as Jacob Oxenberg, 35, Bavaria; Barbara, 30; Madaline, 12, Pennsylvania; Noah, 10, Pennsylvania; Christian, 8, Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, 6, Maryland; Catharine, 4, Illinois; and Andrew, 1, Illinois.

Jacob died in Tazewell County Feb. 21, 1869. He is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove, where his headstone says he was born July 25, 1824 (according to a reading for the cemetery book in 1980).

Widow Barbara and her children are found on the 1870 census of Elm Grove living next door to Peter Eiman: Barbara Alsberger, 38, Bavaria; farmer Joseph [Noah], 21; laborer Christian, 19; Elizabeth, 17; Catharine, 14; Andrew, 12; Anna, 7; Daniel, 4; and Veronika, 1; all children born in Illinois.

On April 15, 1873 in Tazewell County Barbara remarried to widower Christian Sutter. He was born on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria April 21, 1823, and died at Hopedale May 11, 1899. His first

[211] A family *Bible* said he was born in Bavaria July 25, 1824.

wife Magdalena Nafziger had died May 25, 1871. That household can be found on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer Christian Suter, 57, Bavaria; Barbara, 50, Bavaria; Annie Augsberger, 17, stepdaughter born in Illinois; Daniel, 13, stepson born in Illinois; and Fannie, 10, stepdaughter born in Illinois. Christian Sutter died at Hopedale May 11, 1899, and was buried next to his first wife in the Mennonite Cemetery there.

Widow Barbara is found on the 1900 census of Hopedale as Barbara Sutter, 71, born in Germany in June of 1829; mother of nine children, seven still living.

Barbara died March 21, 1911. She was buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery next to her first husband Jacob Augsburger, son Christian, Daniel, and her Sutter in-laws.

Children of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman include:

1. Magdalena/Madeleine Augsburger was born at Paradise, Lancaster County Oct. 2, 1848, and died Jan. 5, 1925. On Nov. 6, 1864 in Tazewell County she married Christian Zook; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Gingerich. He was born in Lancaster County Aug. 28, 1835, and died at Groveland May 19, 1911, a son of Bartholomew Zook Sr. and his second wife Barbara Neuhauser. See ZOOK for more on this couple.
2. Noah Augsburger was born at Paradise Feb. 18, 1850, died in Tazewell County Nov. 27, 1892, and is buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove. On Oct. 27, 1889 he became the second husband of Catherine 'Katie' Ringenberger. She was born at Elm Grove Dec. 29, 1851, and died at Limestone, Peoria County Jan. 6, 1836, a daughter of Peter Ringenberger and Sybilla Garber. For an account of her three marriages see RINGENBERGER.
3. Christian B. Augsburger was born in Maryland Feb. 17 (per family *Bible*) or 20, 1852, died at Elm Grove March 28 (per family *Bible*) or 31, 1872, and is buried with his parents in Landes Mennonite Cemetery. He appears on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as a farmhand for Christian Gerber and Barbara Roth.
4. Elizabeth Augsburger was born at Minier May 20, 1854, and died at Gridley, McLean County Jan. 4, 1936. On March 7, 1871 in Tazewell County she married Civil War veteran Christian Rinkenberger. He was born at Mackinaw Dells Sept. 28, 1846, and died at Gridley, McLean County March 28, 1924, a son of Jean Ringenberger/John Rinkenberger and Anna Garber. He had enlisted March 31, 1864 at Henry, Marshall County, and served as a private in Company C of the 65th Illinois Infantry. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
5. Catherine ‘Katie’ Augsburger was born at Minier in Sept. 10, 1856, and died at Pekin June 29, 1932. On Nov. 23, 1885 in Tazewell County she married Peter J. Ropp. He was born at Elm Grove July 31, 1854, and died in California Jan. 25, 1926, a son of Peter Ropp and Mary Ruh. They are found on the 1900 census of Tremont as Peter Ropp, 45, born in Illinois to German parents in July 1844; and Catherine, 42, born in Illinois to German parents in September 1857. In 1910 they were living at Pekin Ward 5. They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin, where their headstone calls her Katharina Augsburger.
6. Andrew Augsburger was born at Minier July 28, 1859, and died at Tremont Sept. 3, 1929. On Aug. 17, 1879 in Tazewell County he married Susanna Wittrig. She was born at Noble, Iowa Nov. 5, 1862, and died at Chenoa, McLean County July 3, 1947, a daughter of Joseph Wittrig and Anna Gascho. They are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery at Tremont.
7. Anna Maria/Anna Mary Augsburger was born at Tremont Feb. 23, 1863, and died at Deer Creek May 21, 1928. On Oct. 12, 1880 in Tazewell County she married widower Christian Zehr. He was born at Hopedale June 16, 1857, and died at Deer Creek Aug. 10, 1922, a son of George Zehr and Barbara Litwiller. His first wife was Anna Kauffman, who was born in 1856 and died Dec. 4, 1879. See AUGSPURGER for background on Anna Maria and Christian.
8. Daniel Jacob Augsburger was born at Tremont Nov. 9, 1866, and died at Bloomington, McLean County April 25, 1947. On Dec. 6, 1888 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Guth. She was born at Little Mackinaw Aug. 16, 1867, and died at Flanagan July 18, 1945, a daughter of Christian Guth/Good and Jacobine Ehresman. They lived at Waldo in 1910 and 1920, where he served on the building committee and as a trustee of the Waldo Mennonite Church. *Gospel Herald*, May 1947: "Augsburger. - Daniel Jacob, son of Jacob and Barbara (Steinman) Augsburger, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Nov. 9, 1866; died at the St. Joseph's Hospital, Bloomington, Ill., April 25, 1947; aged 80 y. 5 m. 16 d. He moved to the community of Flanagan, Ill., as a young man. His wife (Magdalena Good) preceded him in death on July 18, 1945. He was a member of the Waldo Mennonite Church. Surviving are four children (Elmer, and Mrs. Ida King, of Flanagan; Arthur, Middlebury, Ind.; and Mrs. George Cumrine, Morton, Ill), 21 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, one sister (Mrs. Fannie Egli, Kouts, Ind.), and a large number of other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Church, in charge of A. H. Leaman and J. D. Hartzler."
9. Veronica 'Fannie B.' Augsburger was born at Groveland Oct. 8, 1869, and died at Kouts, Indiana Dec. 7, 1947. On Feb. 19, 1888 in McLean County she married Christian Egli. He was born at Zurich, Ontario March 3, 1860, and died at Kouts, Indiana Aug. 22, 1944, a son of Johannes/Jean/John Egli and Magdalena Gascho. His parents brought him to Minier in 1867. Christian and Fannie are found on the 1900 census of Hittle as farmer Chris Egli, born in Canada in January 1860 to German parents, immigrated in 1870; Fannie B., born in Illinois in October 1869 to German parents; and two children born in Illinois. The 1920 census of Porter County, Indiana shows their household as Chris Egli, 59, Canada; Fannie Egli, 50; and Andrew Egli, 63. They are buried in Hopewell Mennonite Cemetery at Kouts, Indiana as 'Chris Egli' and 'Fannie Egli.'

Johannes/John Augsburger

Johannes/John Augsburger was born in Bavaria to French parents in January 1826 (according to the 1900 census), and died in Arkansas after June 1900. No birth entry has been identified. We initially resisted placing him in this family, only conceding the point when we saw the names of Augsburgers described as relatives in his son's obituary.

According to the *Karlskron Familienbuch*, he married Katharina 'Katie' Ingold in 1860. She was born at Probfeld, Bavaria Oct. 17, 1826, and died after June 1900, a daughter of Christian Ingold and Maria Oesch. Her mother was a sister to Christian Oesch, the foreman of the Sutter family's Forsthof estate who married Katharina Sutter. Thus she was a cousin to Maria Oesch (1837-1892) who married Daniel Augsburger and Jacob Steinman.

They sailed from Hamburg on the *Teutonia*, arriving at New York Aug. 29, 1861.[212] The passenger list shows farmer Joh. Augsburger, 34; Catha., 35, his wife; Chr., 5; Elisabeth, 3; Maria, 1; and farmer Jos. Ingold, 34.[213]

They appear on the 1870 census of Rook's Creek, Livingston County as farmer John Auxburger, 43, Bayern, Ger.; Katrina, 42; Christian, 14; and Elizabeth, 12. In 1880 they are found on the census of Indian Grove, Livingston County as farmer John Augsburg, 54, Germany, born in Bavaria to French parents; Catharine, 50, born in Bavaria to French parents; Christ, 25, born in Bavaria to Bavarian parents; and Lizzie, 21, born in Bavaria to Bavarian parents.

The 1900 census of Goldman Village, Morris Township, Arkansas (below Stuttgart) shows them as John Ausburger, 74, born in Germany in January 1826 to German parents, married 45 years; Katie Ausburger, 72, born in Germany in November 1827 to German parents, married 45 years; Christ, 43, born in Germany in September 1856 to German parents; and Lizzie E., 41, born in Germany in May 1858 to German parents; the entire family immigrated in 1861.

John served as a Mennonite minister at Stuttgart, Arkansas.

Children of Johannes/John Augsburger and Katharina 'Katie' Ingold include:

1. Christian Augsburger was born in Germany Sept. 26, 1856, and died at Olio Township, Woodford County July 5, 1944. He is found on the 1930 census of Stuttgart, Arkansas as Christ Augsburger, 72, single, immigrated in 1861. Chris Augsburger, 84, is found on the 1940 census of the Mennonite Home for the Aged at Eureka. He is buried in Olio Township Cemetery at Eureka under a headstone that lists two other residents of the retirement home. *Gospel Herald*, July 1944: "Augsburger. - Christian, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Augsburger, was born in Germany, Sept. 16, 1856; died at the Mennonite Home, Eureka, Ill., July 5, 1944; aged 87 y. 9 m. 9 d. He emigrated to this country with his parents and located near Flanagan, Ill. Later, the family moved to Arkansas, where they lived for a number of years. After his parents' death, he retired from farm work and entered the Home on May 16, 1932. He was never married and leaves only a few relatives to mourn his departure, among whom are Dan Augsburger [Daniel Jacob Augsburger, a son of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman] and Christian Ringenberg [married to Elizabeth Augsburger, daughter of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman], Flanagan, Ill.; Mrs. Dan King, Morton, Ill. [Laura Ringenberg, daughter of John Ringenberg and Lena Albrecht]; and Mrs. Joe Kennel, Roanoke, Ill. [Emma Ringenberg, daughter of Christian Ringenberg and Mary Ingold]. Death was due to hardening of the arteries and general debility. Funeral services were held on July 8 at the Mennonite Home, in charge of Ezra Yordy. Burial was made in the nearby cemetery."
2. Elizabeth E. 'Lizzie' Augsburger was born in Bavaria in May 1858. We could not follow her after the June 1900 census.
3. Maria Augsburger is found as a 1-year-old on the 1861 passenger list, but is not found on the 1870 census, suggesting she died young.

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[212] In *Immigrant America on the Eve of the Civil War*, Patrick Young estimates that in 1860, 19% of the population of Illinois had been born in the German states.

[213] Joseph Ingold was born in Bavaria Jan. 24, 1826, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Nov. 5, 1909, a son of Barbara Ingold. Joseph was brought to Barbara's marriage with Daniel Zehr (1803-1855). Barbara died in Bavaria; Daniel remarried and immigrated without stepson Joseph. In Illinois Joseph married Barbara Unzicker and Barbara Ernst. For information on his stepfather Daniel Zehr see ZEHR and SMITH.

Schick of Neuhausen

In German something that is *schick* is fancy or ornate.

On Dec. 26, 1818 **Joseph Schick** was born in Neuhausen, a borough [Ger. *Stadtbezirk*] of Munich, which is now the capital of the German state of Bavaria. His headstone says he was born in the *Rheinpfalz*, and died at Washington, Tazewell County June 6, 1898. At the time *Rheinpfalz* described everything in the Bavarian Palatinate west of the Rhine River; it was part of the Kingdom of Bavaria from 1815 to 1945.214

Neuhausen-Nymphenburg is less than a mile from the former cloister called Gern, associated with Birkys and Stalters.

Joseph departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Talma*, and arrived at New Orleans May 12, 1840. The passenger list shows him as farmer Joseph Schick, 22, Bavaria.

On March 3, 1844 in Butler County, Ohio he married Madeleine/Magdalena Augspurger. She was born at Bitschwiller-lès-Thann, Upper Alsace May 23, 1823, and died at Washington, Tazewell County April 11, 1893, a daughter of Nicolas 'Nigi' Augspurger and his second wife Elisabeth Schlabach. She had immigrated in 1836 (see AUGSPURGER for background).

They are found on the 1850 census of Lemon, Butler County, Ohio as farmer Joseph Shiek, 39, Germany; Magdaline, 27, Germany; Elizabeth, 5, Ohio; Barbra, 3, Ohio; Magdaline, 1, Ohio; and Elizabeth Augsperger, 65, Germany.

Joseph and Magdalena soon left Ohio and resettled at Washington, Tazewell County. The *Grantors Index* says that on April 5, 1852 Joseph paid Jacob Summaman [Zimmerman] and his wife $1,125 for 33 acres in Sections 18 and 26 of Washington.

History of Washington, Illinois, Sesquicentennial, 1825-1975: "...There was a house standing which on the second floor had a large room built for the purpose of serving as a Mennonite Church meeting place. Families attending there were Schrock, Augsburger, Schick, and Guth."

They appear on the 1860 census of Washington as farmer Joseph Shick, 42, Germany; Madaline, 36, Germany; Elizabeth, 15, Ohio; Barbaray, 13, Ohio; Madaline, 11, Ohio; Catharine, 9, Ohio; Joseph, 7, Illinois; Mary, 5, Illinois; Ann, 3, Illinois; and Frances, 2, Illinois. The households listed immediately before them was that of 'farmer Anna Schrock, 45, France' with six children; this was Anna/Anne Oyer, the widow of Andreas/André/Andrew Schrock who had died of cholera in 1855.

The 1870 census has farmer Joseph Shick, 52, Germany; Matline, 47, France; Elizabeth, 24, Ohio; Barbaray, 22, Ohio; Mary, 15, Illinois; farm laborer Joseph, 18, Illinois; Anna, 13, Illinois; Francis, 11, Illinois; Liddy, 8, Illinois; Fanny, 7, Illinois; and Rosa, 4, Illinois. The 1880 census shows farmer Joseph Schick, 61, Germany; Lena, 57, born in Alsace to parents from Switzerland and Alsace; Lizzie, 34, Ohio; Rosa, 13, Illinois; and Fannie, 16, Illinois.

The 1891 plat map of Washington shows J. Schick on four parcels of land totaling 233 acres.

Herald of Truth, May 1893: "On the 11th of April, 1893, Magdalena Shick, maiden name Augsperger, of near Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., aged 69 years 10 months and 28 days. Her sickness was inflammation of the bowels. She leaves an aged companion, 10 children, 34 grandchildren and four great grandchildren, one sister and many friends. Sister Shick was a faithful mother in Israel, and a member of the A.M. church since her youth. Accompanied by many friends her remains were conveyed to their last resting place on the 14th. Funeral services by Emanuel Hartman and Michael Kinsinger from *Rev. 14:13*."

They are buried in Holland's Gove Cemetery at Sunnyland. Joseph's headstone says he was "*Joseph Schick, geb. zu Rheinpfalz Baiern Dec. 26, 1818, gest Jan. 6, 1896*." Magdalena's says she was "*Magdalena, Ehefrau des Jos. Schick, geborne Augspurger, geb. zu Elsass Frankreich, gest. April 11, 1893, 69 Jahre 10 Mon. 28 Tage alt.*"

A *Schick Family Photographic Essay*, compiled by Aldine Zimmerman Combs and the late Steve Estes, can be found in the Winter 2000 issue of *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*.

Children of Joseph Schick and Magdalena Augspurger include:

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214 In 1992 two Munich boroughs merged to become Neuhausen-Nymphenburg. Nymphenburg was the site of the royal summer palace.

The clues to Joseph's birthplace have led to some creative guesses. One tempting miss is Neuhausen am Rheinfall. However, this location is in Canton Schaffhausen, Switzerland, and his federal census self-reports said Joseph was born in Germany.

1. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Schick was born in Butler County, Ohio Aug. 1, 1845, and died in the Mennonite Home at Eureka, Woodford County July 9, 1925.
2. Barbara Schick was born in Butler County, Ohio April 19, 1847, and died Dec. 8, 1908. On Jan. 5, 1875 in Tazewell County she married Christian Beck. He was born June 8, 1848, and died at Carlock, McLean County April 17, 1916, a son of Peter Beck and Katharina Güngerich/Catharine Gingery. See BECK for background on this couple.
3. Magdalena Schick was born in Butler County, Ohio Jan. 10, 1849, and died at Holdredge, Nebraska July 10, 1919. On Oct. 25, 1866 in Tazewell County she married Andrew Schrock; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Roth. He was born at Washington Dec. 9, 1842, and died at Sacramento, California Feb. 7, 1925, a son of Andreas/André/Andrew Schrock and Anna/Anne Oyer. Andrew was her next-door neighbor on the 1860 census. In 1868 they relocated to Lamar, Missouri. They separated in 1889, and Magdalena took her children to live at Holdredge, Nebraska. Andrew stayed behind at Lamar, later living in Nebraska, Oregon, and California. Magdalena is buried in Prairie Home Cemetery at Holdredge.
4. Katharine 'Katie' Schick was born in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 8, 1850, and died at Farmington, Fulton County, Illinois Aug. 11, 1925. On Dec. 30, 1869 in Peoria County she married Jacob Ingold. He was born in Bavaria Nov. 5, 1844, and died at Farmington Aug. 26, 1931, a son of August Jakob Ingold and Magdalena Sutter. See INGOLD for background on this couple.
5. Joseph Theodore Schick was born at Washington Nov. 9, 1852, and died at Eureka, Woodford County July 11, 1938. On March 9, 1876 in Butler County, Ohio he married Magdalena Imhoff. She was born at Trenton, Butler County, Ohio Jan. 1, 1855, and died at Deer Creek July 24, 1930, a daughter of Peter Imhoff and Catherine Augspurger. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
6. Mary A. Schick was born at Washington Oct. 22, 1854, and died at Jasper, Missouri Aug. 24, 1882. On March 11, 1875 in Tazewell County she married Daniel O. Kinsinger. He was born March 5, 1842, and died Dec. 15, 1922, a son of Michael Kinsinger and Magdalena Naffziger. On Nov. 4, 1884 in Tazewell County Daniel remarried to Mary Plank, a daughter of John Plank and Catharina Plank; the ceremony was performed by minister Peter Stuckey.
7. Anna Schick was born at Washington June 17, 1856. On Feb. 4, 1879 in Tazewell County she married Henry Tomford; the ceremony was performed by minister Peter Stuckey.
8. Frances Schick was born at Washington Oct. 1, 1858, and died at Tulare, California June 13, 1919. On Jan. 25, 1880 in Tazewell County she married Phillip Herman Bracht. He was born May 29, 1857, and died June 28, 1960, a son of Herman Bracht and Margaretta Steigner. They lived in Butler County, Kansas and in Tulare County, California.
9. Lydia Schick was born at Washington Aug. 14, 1861, and died there March 29, 1940. She is buried in Glendale Cemetery.
10. Fannie Schick was born at Washington Jan. 18, 1864, and died Dec. 21, 1943. On Jan. 29, 1885 in Tazewell County she married Louis Schantz; the ceremony was performed by minister Peter Stuckey. He was born at Congerville, Woodford County Jan. 20, 1863, and died at Washington April 23, 1925, a son of Jacob Schantz and Catherine Deis. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
11. Rosina 'Rose' Schick was born at Washington July 13, 1866, and died Dec. 6, 1942. On Jan. 27, 1887 in Tazewell County she married John Wenger. He was born in Germany Dec. 26, 1862, and died July 25, 1940, a son of John Wenger and Anna Marie Stauffer; the ceremony was performed by minister Peter Stuckey. They re buried in Glendale Cemetery.

Hauter of Pfalz-Zweibrücken

In the Bernese dialect a *Haŭeter* was a woodcutter. *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname include Langnau, Trub, Trachselwald, and Schlosswil (since 2018 part of Grosshöchstetten) in Canton Bern.

PFALZ-ZWEIBRÜCKEN
Amish Mennonites first settled in Pfalz-Zweibrücken after the expulsion from Alsace in 1712.
Recall from ROPP: "In many instances departing families accepted certificates of good character from Christian III of the house of Birkenfeld-Bischweiler-Pfalz-Zweibrücken. He was a member of the same Wittelsbach family that later ruled Bavaria, a count of Rappolstein, and a captain in the French army. He was responsible for the administration of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and was obliged to follow the dictates of the French king. The majority of Anabaptists who left Alsace chose locations that had been specifically allowed to them under older agreements and recommended by the count."
In 1731 Pfalz-Zweibrücken passed through inheritance from the Swedish to the Pfalz-Birkenfeld-Zweibrücken branch of the counts palatine, a branch of the House of Wittelsbach. Christian III, who had been Count Palatine of Zweibrücken-Birkenfeld, became the new duke of Pfalz-Zweibrücken. Upon his death in 1735, his son became Christian IV, an elector of the Holy Roman Empire until his death in 1775. Like his father he leased properties to Amish Mennonites, as well as employing them as farm managers and laborers.

Pfalz-Zweibrücken was occupied by France in 1797. When troops arrived, many Amish Mennonites migrated to the Pfalz. In 1801 it was annexed by France. When the French departments were created Nov. 4, 1797, it became part of the new department of Mont-Tonnére. In 1806 the last Pfalz-Zweibrücken duke became king of Bavaria. At the Congress of Vienna in 1815 it was awarded to Bavaria, while neighboring areas became part of Hesse-Darmstadt.

Pfalz is a German equivalent of the Latin *pallatium* (palace) and *palatinus* (of the palace). We have avoided expressions such as 'Palatinate-Zweibrücken.' It seems to awkward to call a region of Germany by something other than its German name, simply because of its populatity in English-language encyclopedias; *Pfalz* is used throughout Europe). Other awkward expressions are 'Duchy of Zweibrücken' (when it had a duke it was still Pfalz-Zweibrücken); and 'County of Zweibrücken' (when it had counts…). When just 'Zweibrücken' is given, it generally describes the city which was the location of the ducal palace.

The Hauters of Tazewell County

Johannes Hauter was born circa 1730, and died before 1791. He married Magdalena Schrag. She was born on the Ernstweilerhof estate near the city of Zweibrücken in 1735, a daughter of Ŭlrich Schrag and Elisabeth Meier.

In 1764 they were managing the Blumenauer Mühle [mill] at Brenschelbach. This little village was located in Hornbach, six miles south of the city of Zweibrücken. just above the border of the Duchy of Pfalz-Zweibrücken with the region of Lorraine. It is now the name of a road in Hornbach.

In 1776 they were working in a mill at Ixheim, a village one mile below the city of Zweibrücken. It is now a district on the edge of the city.

Children of Johannes Hauter and Magdalena Schrag include:

1. Christian Hauter married Elisabeth Dörr at Zweibrücken in 1791.
2. Andreas Hauter was born in 1754, and died in the mill at Ixheim Jan. 11, 1823. He married Katharina Imhoff.
3. **Joseph Hauter** was born at Walsheim circa 1758, and died at Zweibrücken Nov. 20, 1812.
4. Magdalena Hauter was born at the Ixheimermühle (a mill at Ixheim, now a district in the city of Zweibrücken) June 1, 1759, and died on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate Dec. 11, 1805. She married Christian Stalter. He was born at Francaltroff (in what is now Moselle) in 1750, and died on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate (four miles southwest of the city of Zweibrücken) April 12, 1831, a son of Heinrich Stalter and his first wife.

Joseph Hauter was born at Walsheim (10 miles southwest of the city of Zweibrücken) circa 1758, and died in the city of Zweibrücken Nov. 20, 1812. He married Magdalena/Madeleine Schertz. A census created in the city of Zweibrücken Aug. 30, 1796 described the household of Joseph Hauter, his wife, and six children. Joseph worked in the palace mill [Ger. *Schlossmühle*].215

Their children include:

[215] The mill was destroyed on the night of March 14, 1945, when more than 80 percent of the city was leveled by aerial bombing.

1. Joseph Hauter was born in Pfalz-Zweibrücken in 1784. On April 22, 1809 in the city Zweibrücken he married Barbara Schrag. She was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate in 1790, and died there April 16, 1819, a daughter of Johannes Schrag and Christine Esch. They were living on the Niederwurzbachermühle in 1814. Joseph remarried to his cousin Katharina Hauter. She was born at Ixheim in 1801, and died in the city of Zweibrücken in 1826, a daughter of Johannes Hauter and Maria Susanna Kinsinger.
2. Magdalena Hauter was born at Hornbach, Pfalz-Zweibrücken July 22, 1785, and died before 1827. She married Joseph Dettweiler, a son of Joseph Dettweiler and Magdalena Reidiger of Sundheim, Baden (adjacent to and below Kehl).
3. Katharina Hauter was born in Pfalz-Zweibrücken in 1786. She married Michel Philipp Kegel.
4. **Christian/Chrétien Hauter** was born in the city of Zweibrücken Nov. 30, 1788, and died there June 5, 1829.
5. Johannes Hauter was born in the city of Zweibrücken in 1791. He married Barbara Schertz, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Barbara Schertz of the Sarreck Mill at Oberstinzel, Moselle.
6. Elisabeth Hauter was born in the city of Zweibrücken in 1792.

Christian/Chrétien Hauter was born in the city of Zweibrücken Nov. 30, 1788, and died there June 5, 1829.

On May 12, 1812 at Diemeringen, Lower Alsace he married Catherine Dettweiler. She was born on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen April 16, 1792, a daughter of Chrétien Dettweiler and Anne Wagler (see DETTWEILER for more on her father, who was also from Pfalz-Zweibrücken). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a miller from Zweibrücken, and a son of miller Joseph Hauter and Madeleine Schertz.

Catherine died in 1814, and before the year ended 25-year-old Christian/Chrétien remarried to 17-year-old Katharina Güngerich. She was born on the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen (seven miles south of the city of Zweibrücken) in 1797, a daughter of Michel Güngerich and Barbara Hauter.

Two of their sons sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Sully*, arriving at New York July 15, 1845. They are shown on the passenger list as Joseph Hauter, 19, farmer, Bavaria; and Jacob, 21, farmer, Bavaria.

Jacob Hauter

Jacob Hauter was born in the city of Zweibrücken Nov. 9, 1823, a son of Christian/Chrétien Hauter and Catherine Dettweiler.

Jacob 'remained a short time' in New York before continuing on to Butler County, Ohio. From Butler County he was one of the few immigrants who were able to revisit Europe. He can be found on the passenger list of the *Radius* from Le Havre arriving at New Orleans Dec. 27, 1849, along with Morton resident Jacob Kennel and John Unzicker (who later spelled his surname 'Unsicker' at Morton).

On Feb. 25, 1853 in Butler County he married Marie/Mary Brenneman. She was born at Wohra, Hesse Feb. 24, 1829, and came to America on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832 with her parents Daniel B. Brenneman and Elizabeth Jutzi in 1832.

In 1854 the Hauters and Brenneman family relocated from Turtle Creek, Warren County, Ohio (adjacent to Butler County) to Tazewell County. This was the first year there was a full train connection.

History of Tazewell County, Illinois: "Jacob Hauter, farmer and stock raiser, sec. 9; P. O., Hopedale. Few have succeeded better in life than the genial gentleman whose name stands at the top of this column. He is a native of Germany, where he was born in 1824, and there passed his childhood, and grew to manhood. Attaining his majority he concluded to seek his fortune in the New World, and accordingly sailed for America, arriving during the summer of 1845 in New York city, where he remained a short time, and then proceeded to Ohio where he procured employment as a farm hand, and there married, in 1853, Miss Mary Brenneman, a daughter of Daniel Brenneman, a well-known resident of this township. For seven years Mr. Hauter worked in Ohio, and then plunging still further westward, he located in Putnam county, where he remained three years, when he moved and settled in Boynton Township, where, in 1858, Mr. H. made his purchase of land in Illinois, consisting of 160 acres, now the property of Jacob Brenneman, Esq. At the present writing Mr. H. is the owner of 245 acres of land unequaled in this Western country, on which he erected four years ago a handsome farm residence."

The 1860 census of Boynton shows farmer Jacob Houder, 54, Germany; Mary, 1, Germany; Eliza, 6; Arthur, 5: Emma, 4; Betty, 3; and May, 1 (all children born in Illinois).

Jacob is shown on an 8th District *Draft Registration* document created June 1863 as Jacob Hauter, 39, Germany, resident of Boynton.

They appear on the 1870 census of Boynton as farmer Jacob Hauter, 45, Bavaria; Mary, 41, Hesse-Darmstadt; Eliza, 16; Arthur W., 15; Emma E., 14; Bertha A., 12; Mary J., 11; Oscar E., 8; and Edgar S., 7 (all children born in Illinois).

The 1873 plat map shows a Hauter farm in the southwest quarter of Section 9 in Boynton. They were adjacent to Valentine Nafziger and one lot below Jacob Brenneman.

The 1880 census of Boynton shows Jacob Hauter, 55, Bavaria; Mary, 50, Hesse-Darmstadt; Bertha, 22; Arthur, 25; J. Mary, 20; Oscar, 19; and Edgar, 18 (all children born in Illinois).

Marie/Mary Brenneman died at Boynton March 15, 1882.

The 1900 census of Boynton shows Edgar Hauter, 37, born in Illinois in June 1862; wife Maria, 38, born in Germany in January 1862; Albert, born in Germany Feb. 19, 1881; Minnie, born in Germany July 13, 1886; and Jacob, 75, born in Germany in November 1824.

Jacob Hauter died at Delavan April 26, 1905. He and Marie/Mary Brenneman are buried in Orendorff Cemetery at Hopedale. Their children include:

1. Eliza Hauter was born in Putnam County Dec. 26, 1853, and died Nov. 14, 1923. On Jan. 26, 1875 in Tazewell County she married Gustavus Holly. He was born in Putnam County circa 1846, a son of Daniel Holly and Helena Bender. They can be found on the 1880 census of Granville, Putnam County as farmer Gustave Holly, 35, Illinois; Lizzie, 30, Illinois; Bertha, 5, Illinois; Edward, 3, Illinois; and farm hand John Kaiser, 24, Illinois. In 1894 they relocated to Republic County, Kansas.
2. Arthur William Hauter was born in Putnam County Feb. 12, 1855, and died at Pana, Shelby County March 20, 1926. On Dec. 27, 1881 he married Eliza Jane Sharbine. She was born in McLean County May 13, 1858, and died at Pana, Shelby County June 14, 1933, a daughter of John Sharbine [Scherbein] and Sophia Lape. In 1893 they relocated to Champaign County. They are found on the 1900 census of Fisher Village, Brown Township, Champaign County as farmer Arthur Hauter, 55, born in Illinois in February 1855 to German parents; Eliza, 41, born in Illinois in May 1859 to parents from Pennsylvania; and six children born in Illinois. The 1920 census of Shelby County shows Arthur W. Hauter, 64, Illinois; and Eliza S. Hauter, 62, Illinois.
3. Emma Helena Hauter was born in Tazewell County March 22, 1856, and died Dec. 22, 1934. On Feb. 4, 1880 in Tazewell County she married John E. Schwarzentraub. He was born in Bureau County Jan. 19, 1854. They appear on the 1900 census of Walnut, Bureau County as hardware dealer John E. Schwarzentraub, 46, born in Illinois in January 1854 to parents from Germany and France; Emma H., 44, born in Illinois in March 1856 to parents from France and Germany; and two children born in Illinois. The *Bureau County Directories* of 1902 and 1914 list J.E. Schwarzentraub as the owner of a Hardware & Stoves store at Walnut (population 791). They are also found on the 1920 census of Walnut.
4. Bertha Anna Hauter was born in Tazewell County Nov. 23, 1857, and died Dec. 4, 1906. On Sept. 15, 1881 in Tazewell County she married Gustave Augustus Nafziger. In 1892 they relocated to Fremont, Iowa, and in 1894 to Republic County, Kansas.
5. Mary Josephine Hauter was born at Boynton March 17, 1859, and died June 1, 1923. On Dec. 27, 1881 she married Fritz Michael Weis. He was born in LaSalle County April 26, 1857, a son of Joseph Weis and Marie Brenneman. They are found on the 1910 census of Eden, LaSalle County as Fritz M. Weis, 53, Illinois; and Mary J. Weis, 50, Illinois.
6. Oscar Edward Hauter was born at Boynton March 21, 1861, and died July 14, 1937. On Jan. 27, 1885 in Putnam County he married Helene/Helen Hirschy. She was born at Granville, Putnam County Feb. 7, 1861, and died in 1931, a daughter of Michael Hirschy and Jakobina Holly. They are found on the 1910, 1920, and 1930 censuses of Marion, Indiana. They are buried in Weston Cemetery at Rensselaer, Indiana.
7. Edgar Louis Hauter was born at Boynton June 21, 1862, and died at Delavan Nov. 4, 1917. On March 8, 1900 in Tazewell County he married Maria Theresa Longfohl. She was born Jan. 23, 1861, and died at Delavan May 15, 1916. The 1900 census of Boynton was mentioned earlier. They were living at Delavan in 1900. They are buried in Prairie Rest Cemetery at Delavan.

Joseph Hauter

Joseph Hauter was born in the city of Zweibrücken April 19, 1826, and died at Morton Jan. 30, 1907, a son of Christian/Chrétien Hauter and Catherine Dettweiler.

The 1850 census of Tremont shows blacksmith Joseph Houter, 23, Germany, in the household of blacksmith Frederick Dean, 49. He later worked as a blacksmith with his uncle Jacob Unzicker at Tremont, and then became a farmer at Morton.

On Nov. 25, 1851 he married Marie/Mary Belsley. She was born at St. Jean-Kourtzerode March 13, 1826, and died Dec. 20, 1904, a daughter of Michael/Michel Bältzli/Belsley and Catherine Schertz

They purchased land that straddled the boundary between Morton and Tremont, though they resided in Morton. It is found on the 1873 plat map as the southeast corner of Section 31, Morton, adjacent to Henry Berkey; and the northeast quarter of Section 6, Tremont, adjacent to Joseph Landes.

The 1860 census of Morton shows the household of Joseph Hauter, 35, Germany; Mary, 35, Illinois; Mary, 7, Illinois; Elizabeth, 2, Illinois; Jacob, 7 months, Illinois; and Catharina Beltzly, 67, Germany.

Joseph is shown on an 8th District *Draft Registration* document created June 8, 1863 as farmer Joseph Hauter, 36, Germany, resident of Morton.

In 1870 they appear as farmer Joseph Hauter, 44, Berne; Mary, 44, France; Mary, 18; Elizabeth, 17; Joseph, 6; Amelia, 6; and Benjamin, 5 (all children born in Illinois). In 1880, farmer Joseph Houder, 54, Germany; Mary, 54, France; Joseph, 16, Illinois; Amelia, 16, Illinois; and Benjamin, 15, Illinois.

The 1900 census of Morton shows farmer Joseph Hauter, 74, born in Germany in April 1826 to German parents, immigrated in 1845; Mary, 74, born France in May 1826 to French parents, immigrated 1837; and housekeeper Katie Lindown, 20, born in Germany in March 1880 to German parents, immigrated in 1890.

Joseph Hauter and Marie/Mary Belsley are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton. Their children include:

1. Mary Hauter was born March 6, 1853, and died at Morton March 11, 1915. On Dec. 8, 1872 in Tazewell County she married John Frank. He was born at Rettersberg, Germany June 15, 1847, and died at Morton June 1, 1916. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
2. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Hauter was born Oct. 3, 1858, and died Sept. 15, 1880. On Dec. 29, 1878 in Tazewell County she married David Musselman. He was born at Rindhof, Germany Oct. 3, 1852, and died at Morton Aug. 5, 1832, a son of David Musselman and Christina Hunzicker. He had immigrated in 1876. They are found on the 1880 census of Morton. David remarried to Elizabeth Yentes (September 1881) and Rosina Schlupp (February 1890). He is found on the 1920 census of Morton with Swiss wife named Rosina; and as a 77-year-old widower on the 1930 census of Morton.
3. Jacob Hauter was born circa November 1859. He is shown as a seven-month-old on the 1860 census, but is not found on the 1870 census.
4. Joseph Hauter (twin) was born Aug. 28, 1863, and died at Morton June 14, 1935. He married Emma Wittmer. She was born Jan. 24, 1864, and died June 19, 1959, a daughter of Jacob Wittmer and Mary M. Reusser. Joseph was a grain dealer. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
5. Amelia Hauter (twin) was born Aug. 28. 1863, and died at Morton April 30, 1944. On Dec. 12, 1887 she married John Getz. He was born at Dillon May 17, 1864, and died at Morton Aug. 17, 1925, a son of John Getz and Jacobine Sommer.
6. Benjamin Franklin Hauter was born Feb. 14, 1865, and died at Morton Jan. 28, 1939. On Nov. 3, 1888 in Tazewell County Benjamin married Louisa E. 'Lucy' Voelpel. She was born Dec. 14, 1868, and died Sept. 18, 1967. Benjamin was county treasurer at the time of his death. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.

Johannes Hauter

This is not about a Hauter who came to North America. It might instead be considered a lengthy footnote to describe the wealthiest Amish Mennonite in Europe.

His career clearly illustrates the odd relationship between Amish Mennonites and the military. During the Napoleonic wars he employed numerous members of the families already mentioned. They helped to breed and train horses for cavalry and army supply corps. Despite this, he was considered a highly respected leader of the Amish Mennonite community.

Nikolaus Hauter (senior) and Barbara Weis were the parents of **Nikolaus Hauter (junior)**. He was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof Jan. 26, 1741. This estate was just below the Wahlerhof at Mittelbach, and just above the Rinkweilerhof at Hornbach in Pfalz-Zweibrücken. He married Susanne Oesch, then remarried to Elisabeth Maurer.

In 1809 Nikolaus obtained a lease on the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen (six miles southeast of the city of Zweibrücken).

Children of Nikolaus Hauter (junior) and his first wife Susanne Oesch include:

1. **Johannes Hauter** was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace Oct. 25, 1771, and died on the Bruchhof at Homburg an der Saar March 20, 1846.
2. Christian Hauter was born in 1774, and died on the Neuhof at Pettersheim Jan. 5, 1841. He married Katharina Oesch, a sister to Johannes's first wife Barbara Oesch.
3. Elisabeth Hauter was born circa 1775, and died at Milford, Butler County, Ohio Dec. 17, 1861. She is buried as 'Elisabeth Hauter Unzicker,' aged 86 years, in Daartown Cemetery. She became the second wife of Daniel Unzicker [Sr.]. He was born at Wörth, Lower Alsace Nov. 11, 1773, a son of Johannes Unzicker and Veronika Hechler. For background on their marriage and details of his first marriage to Jakobea Holly see UNZICKER, BUTLER COUNTY UNZICKERS.
4. Barbara Hauter was born Nov. 13, 1777, and died on the Freudenbergerhof at Ernstweiler in 1864. She married Michael Güngerich/Michel Gingerich at Dietrichingen Oct. 25, 1798. He was born on an estate called Breitweise

and/or Pfalzhof at Dernbach near Eusserthal in the Pfalz Nov. 24, 1771, a son of Peter Güngerich and Marie Roggy. Together they had children Katharina (1797), Elisabeth (1799), Johannes/Jean (1808), and Marie (1811). According to Hermann and Gertrud Guth, one of the peculiarities of this family is that Michael/Michel and Barbara (#1) gave away their first son Johannes Güngerich, to be raised by a childless Hauter couple (her cousins, from families at Monbijou) on the Neuhof at Pettersheim (now Herschweiler-Petersheim, 100 miles to the south). Johannes inherited the estate from his foster mother in 1850, but under terms of the will the foster father maintained use of it until his own death in 1870 - and thus Johannes did not have full use of it until he was 62 years of age. Michel died on the Freudenbergerhof Nov. 22, 1813. According to information from Helmut Gingerich, Barbara then had two illegitimate children. A son Peter Güngerich was born Jan. 25, 1815. His birth was reported by a midwife, describing him as an illegitimate child [Ger. *unehelichen*]. Barbara Hauter (#2) was described the same way on her 1817 birth entry. Barbara Hauter (#2)'s half-sister Marie Güngerich (born 1811) married Georg Guth, He was later a deacon of the Amish Mennonite congregation at Ixheim (now part of the city of Zweibrücken). Georg and Marie were the great-grandparents of Hermann Guth. He was a younger brother to Peter Guth (1806-1886), who sailed as a servant on the *De Rham* in 1830, settled at Washington, Tazewell County, and married Susanne/Susan Oyer. See GUTH for background. Barbara (#2)'s half-sister Katharina Güngerich (born 1797) became the second wife of Christian Hauter. They were the parents of Jacob and Joseph Hauter, who settled in Tazewell County in 1845.

5. Josef Hauter was born circa 1780. In 1802 he married Magdalena Oesch of Dorst. In 1812 he died after falling from a horse. Magdalena remarried to Johannes Nafziger of Steinseltz.

- In addition to the children listed here and found in most sources, there *may* have been a daughter Katharina/Catherine Hauter born in 1780 or 1781. Either Susanne Oesch or Elisabeth Maurer may have been her mother. She married Johannes/John Stalter circa 1802-03 and they emigrated from Europe in 1831, later living in Tazewell County (see STALTER).

The child of Nikolaus Hauter (junior) and his second wife Elisabeth Maurer was:

6. Susanne Hauter was born on the Monbijou estate in 1787, and died there Nov. 11, 1820. On July 24, 1806 she married Josef Stalter [Sr.]. He was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof at Hornbach March 27, 1786, and died at Zweibrücken Jan. 25, 1853, a son of Christian Stalter and Magdalena Hauter. He remarried to Barbara Reidiger. For background see STALTER, THE STALTERS OF MONBIJOU.

Johannes Hauter was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace Oct. 25, 1771, and died on the Bruchhof at Homburg an der Saar March 20, 1846.

He married Barbara Oesch. She was a daughter of Abraham Oesch and Anna/Anne Koch.

They held a lease at Asswiller, Lower Alsace beginning in 1789. When the lease expired after nine years, Johannes spent a year at the horse-breeding farm Rosieres-aux-Salines at Lunéville, Meurthe-et-Moselle, which bred and trained horses for the French military.

In 1717 Duke Léopold of Lorraine set aside two pastures at Sarralbe for horse breeding. The Cassini map shows a Gros Haras (less than three miles below Sarralbe, and less than a mile north of Keskastel, Lower Alsace) and a Petite Haras (above Sarralbe).

Petite Haras had only a brief life, leaving only Gros Haras, which became known as Le Haras [the stud farm]. For a century it continued to be a place where horses were bought and sold, and young men were sent to learn animal husbandry.

In 1799 Johannes leased Le Haras. This was an extremely fortuitous time to build a fortune providing horses for the French military. He employed Amish Mennonites not only tending horses, but also as cultivators in his orchards (including a Salzman family from Bistroff). He sold the property in 1817.[216]

In the same year Johannes purchased the 618-acre Königreicherhof estate at Sankt Wendel (now in Saarland). Earlier it had belonged to the wife of Duke Christian IV. This estate had been leased in 1802 by Johannes's brother Christian Hauter and brother-in-law Daniel Unzicker, but neither had stayed there long.

Barbara had eight children before her death in 1821.

In 1822 Johannes remarried to Magdalena Stalter. She was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate in 1793, and died on the Bruchhof at Homburg an der Saar March 20, 1848, a daughter of Johannes Stalter and Magdalena Hauter. They had eight more children.

After Hauter left the property in 1817, he purchased the Königreicherhof at Sankt Wendel in what is now the Saarland.

[216] A salt works was constructed on Le Haras in 1844, and then the entire property slowly evolved into farmland. It is now an industrial park.

According to the Guths, this was sold in 1843 for four times what he had paid. In the same year he relocated to the smaller Bruchhof, about 15 miles to the southeast but only seven miles above the city of Zweibrücken.

In 1843 Johannes also feuded with his brother-in-law Josef Stalter (senior). Stalter was a minister, and directed those in his congregation in a very strict manner.

On Aug. 31, 1843 a fire set by a disgruntled farmhand destroyed two barns on the Stuppacherhof, a property owned by Stalter. The barns were insured, but their contents were not.

Hauter offered to make concessions, and invited outside ministers to come and arbitrate their family quarrel. But Hauter's fortunes had risen beyond any expectations, and Stalter was faltering. Perhaps Stalter felt he had to even things up with malicious rumors and innuendo.

In 1844 those sympathetic to Hauter constructed a new meetinghouse at Ixheim, and began to meet separately from Stalter's followers. The division was not mended until 1909.

. The fire had only begun a series of misfortunes that befell Stalter's family, culminating with two of his sons emigrating from Europe and resettling in Central Illinois (see STALTER, THE STALTERS OF MONBIJOU).

After his death, Johannes's widow Magdalena and 16 children each received equal shares of his estate. After taxes and expenses it was valued at the equivalent of 2.5-million dollars in modern buying power.

Stalter of Pfalz-Zweibrücken

There is no clear picture of the early history of this family. In early records we noticed a significant number of Stallders at Rüdiswil. But a number of villages called Stalden were located throughout the Swiss Confederation (the largest became part of Münsingen in 1933). In general, after looking at Amish Mennonite marriages, we tend to place the most weight on families named Stalder, generally found at Sumiswald and around the village of Spiez on the west shore of Lake Thun.

This story of the Stalters does not represent original research at this point, and might be thought of as a project under construction. No FHL microfilms of original documents were viewed. It is only meant to give background on Pfalz-Zweibrücken (also called Palatinate-Zweibrücken), and provide enough information to clarify dates and relationships with other families.

We were initially reluctant to take this on. We had seen dozens of online sites that ran the same error-ridden sets of Stalter information, put together from guesswork in the pre-computer era.

The French *état civil* system of record keeping was instituted by occupiers in Pfalz-Zweibrücken in 1797. This later caused obvious problems for genealogists looking at the Stalter family. On paper it often looked like someone was born in one place, lived at two or three others, then returned to the place of birth to die. And the error-ridden sets of information show this.

We also found emigration years that were guessed without really looking for the passenger lists.

Thus the problem was not what to put in - but recognizing the questionable information that should be left out. We have concentrated on the lines descending to Illinois settlers. A more extensive genealogy of the family in Europe can be found in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*.

A 1672 census of Griesheim (four miles west of Darmstadt) shows a Mennonite Barbe Stalte, 70 years and nine months of age. In *History of the Bernese Anabaptists* (1895) Ernst Müller suggested that her surname was Stalder. Some sources cite her as the first Anabaptist émigré from the Stalder/Stalter family.

The surname identified with Palatatinate-Zweibrücken was spelled 'Stalter.'

From 1483 to 1808 Pfalz-Zweibrücken was comprised of not only the area around the city of Zweibrücken, but also a number of extensive land holdings that were isolated as islands within other political entiries (also described as enclaves).

The population of Pfalz-Zweibrücken was decimated by the Thirty Years War (1618-48). To rebuild its villages and increase their tax base, the Swedish dukes of Pfalz-Zweibrücken invited Austrian and Swiss immigrants to settle on abandoned properties. In 1680 Pfalz-Zweibrücken was incorporated as a territory of the centralist French state (following its dictates, but outside its toll systems). On Oct. 17, 1680, the French government promised new settlers incentives that included cattle, goods, and money, in addition to a tax-free period of 10 years.

Amish Mennonites first settled in Pfalz-Zweibrücken after the expulsion from Alsace in 1712. Recall from ROPP:

> In many instances departing families accepted certificates of good character from Christian III of the house of Birkenfeld-Bischweiler-Pfalz-Zweibrücken. He was a member of the same Wittelsbach family that later ruled Bavaria, a count of Rappolstein, and a captain in the French army. He was responsible for the administration of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and was obliged to follow the dictates of the French king. The majority of Anabaptists who left Alsace chose locations that had been specifically allowed to them under older agreements and recommended by the count.
>
> Though it may seem like a violation of principle, many refugees chose employment on the estates of military officers. This was seen as honest work in a safe environment. They simply had no world political views or knowledge that might lead them to judge their employers. Employers and landlords often preferred them as tenants because they were politically neutral and socially stable. They committed as mutual guarantors on leases, and were likely to suggest their own replacements before moving on.

In 1731 Pfalz-Zweibrücken passed through inheritance from the Swedish to the Pfalz-Birkenfeld-Zweibrücken branch of the counts palatine, a branch of the House of Wittelsbach. Christian III, who had been Count Palatine of Zweibrücken-Birkenfeld, became the new Duke of the Duchy of Pfalz-Zweibrücken .

Our first firm links are Stalters found on the Gersbergerhof estate, one mile northeast of the city of Zweibrücken.[217] In 1742 it was the property of Duke Christian IV.

Leaseholders that year were Christian Stalter and a son, and **Hans Stalter**. Christian and Hans may have been brothers, and there may have been a third brother Josef as well. A second Hans Stalter was also present as a day laborer with two daughters.

The leaseholder Hans Stalter was married to Elisabeth Weiss. They are known to have had two sons and four daughters. Descendants of both sons came to Tazewell County in the 1840s and '50s.

Older son Johannes Stalter

Older son **Johannes/Hans Stalter** was born on the Kirschbacherhof at Dietrichingen Dec. 25, 1712, and died on the Offweilerhof estate at Contwig April 4, 1806.

He married Maria Weiss (also found as Weis on French-language documents). Johannes and his son Josef/Joseph were co-signers on the lease for the Offweilerhof estate at Contwig starting in 175---.

A civil death entry created at Contwig April 5, 1806 said that widower Jean Stalter, age 93 years, three months, and 10 days, had died on the Offweilerhof on the 4th. He was born on the Kirschbergerhof, a son of cultivator Jean Stalter and Elisabeth Weis. One witness was his son cultivator Joseph Stalter of the Offweilerhof.

Children of Johannes Stalter and Elisabeth Weiss include:

1. Elisabeth Stalter was born Dec. 25, 1739, and died Dec. 25, 1837. She married Ulrich Schrag. He was born on the Ernstweilerhof circa 1740, and died at Ingolstadt, Bavaria after 1812.[218] They were on the Gersbergerhof in 1759 and 1776, then on the Kapleineihof near the city of Zweibrűcken in 1804. They went with him to Ingolstadt in 1812.
2. Johannes/Hans Stalter was born circa 1750. Some sources say that Johannes (born 1712) was a deacon of the Zweibrücken congregation. The impression may spring from a letter translated by Ezra Kanagy. In it minister and elder Johannes/Hans Nafziger wrote that, "...In the Zweibrücken congregation there is no full minister of the book, but Hans Stalter is confirmed as deacon, and there are many people there." However, this was expressing the state of the congregation in 1787 or 1788, when Johannes Stalter would have been 74 or 75 years old. This was an advanced old age in the 1700s. (Nafziger, who considered himself unusually fit and was born in 1713, would die two or three years after writing the letter). It seems more likely that the deacon was his son Johannes Stalter, who was born circa 1750. Very little is known about him. Following the usual custom of Amish Mennonites, a deacon would have been a married man. Perhaps we can further assume that he died within a few years, before the advent of the *état civil* system of record keeping of life events initiated by French occupiers. This brings up a further question. A document created in 1781, often described as a manual for ministers, described assemblies of ministers and procedures for services. It was signed by Hans Stalter, Jakob Schenk, Hans Nafziger, Peter Schantz (son of elder Michel Schantz), Andreas Leyenberger, and Joseph Ringenberg (son-in-law of Andreas Leyenberger). It was then hand-copied and distributed among the congregations. Was the younger Johannes the signer? His age 31 would not have put him out of place; Peter Schantz was born in the same year.
3. Josef/Joseph Stalter was born in 1753. He married Barbara Leopold and became a leaseholder on the Offweilerhof at Contwig. A number of sources say Joseph Stalter died at Contwig April 20, 1817, but this was his wife Barbara Leopold. The civil death entry created April 21 described her as Barbara Leobuld, 61, born on the Kirschbacherhof and a resident of the Offweilerhof, the wife of Joseph Stalter and a daughter of Jacob Leobuld and Elisabeth Schrag. Witnesses included her husband Joseph Staldter, 64, and neighbor Johannes Stalter, 49, residents of the Offweilerhof. He was 67 when he witnessed his last civil entry at Contwig, but no death entry for him is found there.
4. Christian Stalter was born in 1755, and died Jan. 19, 1832. He lived on the Gersbergerhof.
5. **Heinrich Stalter** was born on the Gersbergerhof in 1767.

Heinrich Stalter was born on the Gersbergerhof estate in 1767. The Gersbergerhof is a mile north of Niederauerbach, which is midway between the city of Zweibrűcken and Contwig.

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[217] The Gersbergerhof is still an active farm where sheep are raised.

[218] Some sources say the wife of Ulrich Schrag who died at Ingolstadt was Maria Stalter, and another daughter named Elisabeth was married to Johannes Roggy. But we note the civil death entry of Johannes Schrag at Contwig Jan. 30, 1820. It described Johannes as a 64-year-old plowman born on the Kirschbergerhof [Gersbergerhof], a son of Ulrich Schrag who died at Ingolstadt and Elisabeth Stalter. Johannes Schrag had been married to Christiane Esch, and was the leaseholder on the Heckenaschbacherhof. It was witnessed by plowman Joseph Stalter, 67 [an uncle of the deceased], and plowman Johannes Eÿer [Joseph's son-in-law], 45, both of the Offweilerhof.

In *Amish Menonnites In Germany*, page 231, we see an impossibly long stretch. Elisabeth Stalter, supposed to have been a daughter of Johannes Stalter and Marie Weis, marries Johannes Roggy. (His father had been leaseholder a Neidenfels, and he was leaseholder of the Neuhof near Kaisheim, Bavaria in 1814). They have sons born in 1814 and 1816. We can only assume that the parents of this Elisabeth were misidentified.

He married Katharina Roggy. She was born at Neidenfels in the Pfalz, a daughter of Christian Roggy and one of his two wives (Magdalena or Veronika).

In 1804 they leased the Bergstettern estate at Donauwörth (30 miles north of Augsburg), Bavaria. After accumulating savings they purchased the Hemerten estate. It was located below the village of Münster, on the Lech River 13 miles south of Donauwörth.

Their oldest son **Jakob Stalter** was born on the Gersbergerhof estate May 23, 1798. Three or possibly four of his children came to Central Illinois. See THE STALTERS OF HEMERTEN.

Younger son Heinrich Stalter

Younger son **Heinrich Stalter** was born circa 1725.

His first wife could not be identified. They are known to have had one son together. He is thought to have been born in 1750 on the Tensch farm [Ger. *Tenscherhof*] between Linstroff [Ger. *Linsdorf*] and Francaltroff [Ger. *Altdorf*]. That area is now the French department of Moselle, but was then simply part of the region of Lorraine [Ger. *Lothringen*].219 Heinrich may have leased or labored on one of the large parcels of land in the region that were owned by the royal family of Pfalz-Zweibrücken.

According to historian Annette Marquard-Mois, from 1757 to 1760 Heinrich lived on the Kirschbacherhof estate with minister and elder Andreas Leyenberger. 220

Heinrich remarried to Katharina Imhof before 1770. She was born circa 1744. In 1770 they had a child on the Lingenhof farm at Sarralbe [Ger. *Saaralben*], 15 miles east of the Tensch farm in what is now Moselle.

Sometime in the 1770s Heinrich left Sarralbe to once again lease the Kirschbacherhof estate from the royal family.221

THE KIRSCHBACHERHOF ESTATE

This 420-acre estate at Dietrichingen, six miles southeast of the city of Zweibrücken, was initially purchased by the widowed Countess Palatine Caroline in 1737. She was acting as regent for her son Duke Christian IV, who did not come of age until 1742.

In 1762 the duke took over the estate from his mother. He entrusted it to his two sons. Because his wife had been a commoner, the sons could not succeed him, and had no hereditary right to the property. With his death in 1775 the new duke Karl II August von Pfalz-Birkenfeld-Zweibrücken took possession. He in turn presented it to his wife Maria Amalia/Marie Amalie, a daughter of the Elector of Saxony.

During the French Revolution the property was a target for anti-royalist vandals. Maria Amalia/Marie Amalie was a cousin to King Louis XVI of France.

Karl II August died childless in 1795. He was succeeded as the last duke of Pfalz-Zweibrucken by his brother Maximilian I Joseph. In 1797 all of the territory absorbed by France was formally organized into four new departments: Roer, Rhine-et-Moselle, Sarre, and Mont-Tonnèrre. Pfalz-Zweibrücken became part of Mont-Tonnèrre. The estate was nationalized. However, in February of 1799 Maximilian Joseph became Elector Maximilian IV Joseph of Bavaria. He interceded to have ownership returned to his sister-in-law Maria Amalia.

In 1809 Maria Amalia/Marie Amalie sold the property to chancellery director Friedrich Böhmer. After a 32-year absence, the property lease was restored to the Stalters when the Böhmers offered a lease to Josef Stalter [Sr.] in 1822 (see THE STALTERS OF HOTVILLER).

According to Marquard-Mois, livestock and clothing on the estate were confiscated, sequestered, and stolen by French, Prussian, and Austrian troops. Heinrich and Katharina moved their family north to live with their oldest son on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate.

Heinrich died on the Tensch farm in 1800.222 The story of widow Katharina's appeal for new properties in Bavaria is told in THE STALTERS OF GERN.

The child of Heinrich Stalter and his unidentified first wife was:

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219 The Tensch farm was the residence of Joseph Salzman and Barbe Litwiller 1807-12. Today Étang de Tensch [Tensch Pond] and the Parc de la Tensch [Tensch Park] are located between Linstroff and Francaltroff. Some sources give the location as Grostenquin; Linstroff is considered a hamlet of this village.

220 Andreas Leyenberger (circa 1721-1799) had first come to the estate as leaseholder in 1742 with his brother-in-law Daniel Ösch. Leyenberger represented the Zweibrücken congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779. Ösch (1704-circa 1765), born at Oberlangenegg, Canton Bern, later farmed on the grounds of the castle estate Gutenbrunnen, about five miles northwest of the city of Zweibrücken. His Esch descendants came to Tazewell County (see OESCH/ESCH).

221 Local land records were destroyed or transported to Sweden when French troops threatened in 1797.

222 We have not searched for his civil death entry, which may have been created at Francaltroff or Grostenquin.

1. Christian Stalter was born on the Tensch farm in 1750, leased the Bickenaschbacherhof estate (below Hengstbach, southwest of the city of Zweibrücken) before 1786, and remained there until his death April 12, 1831. He married Magdalena Hauter. She was born at Ixheim (above the city of Zweibrücken) in 1759, a daughter of Johannes Hauter and Magdalena Schrag. Their children include:
    a. Christian Stalter was born March 27, 1781, and died on the Wahlerhof at Mittelbach-Hengstbach (southwest of the city of Zweibrücken) June 16, 1868. On Nov. 18, 1804 at Mittelbach-Hengstbach he married Elisabeth Ringenberg/Rinkenberger. She was born June 2, 1783, and died Jan. 16, 1847, a daughter of Joseph Ringenberg and Marie Leyenberger, and the widow of Valentin Wagler. Christian was a minister, and became elder of the Zweibrücken congregation.
    b. **Josef Stalter [Sr.]** was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate March 27, 1786, and died on the Monbijou estate Jan. 25, 1853. Two of his sons, a daughter, and a grandson came to Central Illinois. See THE STALTERS OF MONBIJOU.
    c. Jakob Stalter was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate in 1790. He married Barbara Dettweiler, a daughter of Josef Dettweiler and Katharina Meyer. They lived at the Bickenaschbachermühle and on the Heidelbingerhof estate (above the Monbijou estate). Barbara was not Amish Mennonite, causing Jakob's exclusion from his family's congregation.
    d. Magdalena Stalter was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate in 1793, and died on the Bruchhof at Homberg an der Saar (seven miles above the city of Zweibrücken) March 20, 1848. She became the second wife of Johannes Hauter. He was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace Oct. 25, 1771, and died on the Bruchhof March 20, 1848, a son of Nikolaus Hauter and Susanne Oesch. His first wife was Barbara Oesch. See HAUTER for background on this couple.
    e. Johannes Stalter as born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate in 1794, and died in 1828. On Jan. 29, 1813 on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden he married Magdalena Reidiger (the marriage was recorded at the *Evangelische* church Feb. 7). She was born on the Ottenweierhof estate in 1793, a daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger and Magdalena Güngerich. They farmed on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate.
    f. Heinrich Stalter was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate May 24, 1800, and died there in 1872.
    g. Daniel Stalter was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate Dec. 5, 1805. At Kutzenhausen, Lower Alsace Jan. 22, 1831 he married Catherine Gingerich. She was born at Kutzenhausen March 8, 1815, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Gingerich and Magdalena/Madeleine Gerber. Their civil marriage entry described two of the witnesses as 45-year-old laborer Joseph Stalter, living at Mont Bischof, brother of the groom; and 43-year-old laborer Jacques Stalter, living at Heidelbing, brother of the groom. Daniel and Catherine farmed on the Karlsburgerhof estate at Homburg an der Saar.

Children of Heinrich Stalter and his second wife Katharina Imhof include:

2. Joseph/Josef Stalter was born on the Lingenhof estate near Sarralbe (in what later became the French department of Moselle) Aug. 10, 1770, and died at Munich in 1842. On June 3, 1800 he married Magdalena Egli. The ceremony was entered into records at Hengstbach and Kleinsteinhausen. Magdalena was born on the Obermönsheimerhof estate at Pforzheim, Baden in 1778, and died at Munich in 1852, a daughter of Martin Egli and Elisabetha Kaufmann. In 1814 they were on the dairy farm Wahl near Wolfratshausen, Bavaria; in 1831 they were living at Gern near Munich.
3. Catherine Stalter was born circa 1771, and died at Sarralbe, Moselle Jan. 14, 1794.
4. Jacob/Jakob Stalter was born circa 1776, and died on the Karlsbergerhof estate at Homburg an der Saar in 1851. He married Magdalena Hauter. She was born on the Gersbergerhof estate in 1776, and died at Homburg an der Saar in 1839. They farmed in Bavaria, then in 1819 on the Herrenhof estate at Niederbronn, Lower Alsace.
5. **Heinrich Stalter [Jr.]** was born circa 1776, and died in Tazewell County between 1852 and 1860. He brought his children to Central Illinois. See THE STALTERS OF GERN.
6. Elisabeth Stalter was born circa 1777, and died before Mary 17, 1831. On April 28, 1796 at Imling, Moselle she married André Ringenberg. The groom was described as a 26-year-old resident of Juling, Meurthe, a son of cultivator-miller Joseph Ringenberg, 48, and Anne Letvieler, 42. The bride was described as Elisabeth Stalter, 19, a daughter of cultivator Henry Stalter, 70, and Catherine Imhoff, 52, of the Tenthenhoff at Sarralbe, Moselle. They became millers at Rimling. See RINGENBERGER, THE BAVARIAN PETER RINGENBERGER for background on André's family and a son Joseph who went to Bavaria and married Magdalena Eichelberger.
7. **Johannes/John Stalter** was born circa 1780. See STALTER.
8. Magdalena Stalter. On Jan. 7, 1803 at Hengstbach she married Christian Rocke. Christian may have been a son of Christian Rocke/Roggy of Neidenfels.
9. Maria Stalter was born circa 1781, and died at Wilmot, Ontario in 1832. In 1810 she married Christian Nafziger. He was born in 1776 (obituary), a son of Christian Nafziger and Magdalena Güngerich. According to an unaccredited article in the Summer 1979 issue of the *Nafzger Heritage News*, Christian Nafziger "had gone after 1803 with the Stalter family to Bavaria, where he applied in vain to King Max I Josef, to whom the Stalters maintained good relations, for a tenement of a larger farm. Mr. [Hermann] Guth states that the letter can be found in the *Staatsarchiv*

in Munich..." Christian and Maria were managing the estate of Count von Gohren at Ebersberg east of Munich when Christian left for Canada (via Amsterdam and New Orleans) in 1821. Christian made the arrangement that procured the German Block of Wilmot Township, Ontario, and returned for Maria in 1823. She emigrated with him on the *Nimrod* in 1826. The passenger list shows her husband age 50, and she was age 45. Christian's obituary was published at Berlin (now Kitchener), Ontario May 5, 1836 and is reprinted in Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*.223 See ROPP for the story of their journey to Canada, and the Appendix, CHILDREN OF CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER AND MARIA STALTER.

The next few sections follow the descendants of Stalters who have already been mentioned in bold face.

The Stalters of Hemerten

Jakob Stalter was born on the Gersbergerhof estate May 23, 1798, farmed on the Hemerten estate, and died at Fürstenreid in Bavaria March 3, 1864.

On April 17 or 27, 1816 he married Katharina Stalter, who is thought to have been living at Gern. Thus she was a daughter of one of the brothers of 1842 immigrant Heinrich Stalter [Jr.], who owned the grounds of the St. Theresa cloister at Gern. Her parents were either Joseph Stalter (1770-1842) and Magdalena Egli, or Jakob Stalter (1776-1851) and Magdalena Hauter, who each lived at Gern for a few years. Jakob and Magdalena seem more likely because they remained in the area longer.

Jakob and Katharina farmed on the Hemerten estate located at Münster on the Lech River, 13 miles south of Donauwörth and 18 miles upriver from Augsburg.

Katharina died Jan. 17, 1847. In 1848 Jakob Stalter remarried to Barbara Güngerich of the Minoriten [minorities] estate at Wolfersdorf.

Their son Jakob/Jacob Stalter sailed with the *Minnesota* group in 1849 (more information about the voyage is given in EIGSTI). He appears on the passenger list as 24-year-old Jacob Stalder.

Their daughter Elizabeth Stalter immigrated as a 13-year-old in 1851, according to the 1910 census.

Their daughters Katharina/Catherine and Jakobina immigrated together in 1854. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Cumberland*, and arrived at New York June 5, 1854. They appear on the passenger list as Stalder Cathe., 21, female; Jacob. [Jakobina], 22, female; Daniel Koch, 27, male [Jakobina's husband]; and Gy. Stadler, 56, male. On the last entry the 'Gy.' usually stands for Germany. Fifty-six was the age of their father. Did he accompany them, and then return to Europe? Or did brother Christian accompany them, and the muddled passenger list entry was created because he was traveling on a family passport document issued to his father?

Father Jakob died at Fürstenried March 3, 1864. We found no explanation for his presence at this unusual location. Perhaps he was employed as an estate manager or groundskeeper.

FÜRSTENRIED

Fürsteinried was a hunting lodge built to look like a baroque palace. It was constructed for Elector Maximilian II Emanuel in 1715, bordering the Fürsteinried Wald (forest) on the southwest outskirts of Munich.

Over the years the lodge was occupied by Austrian Habsburgs and then members of the royal Wittelsbach family. At the time Jakob died there it was used as a guest house for visiting heads of state.

The location is best known for its subsequent royal resident. Otto von Wittelsbach of Bavaria, who was mentally ill, was confined to the palace under medical supervision in 1883.

The story of the drowning of Otto's older brother King Ludwig II ('Mad King Ludwig') in Lake Starnberg on June 13, 1886 was told in HEISER. Suspicion fell on his cabinet ministers. Otto became king of Bavaria by rightful succession. However, when the proclamation was formally read to him, he did not understand it. The cabinet ministers appointed his uncle Luitpold as prince regent to rule in his place. Otto died in confinement at the palace in 1916.

Fürsteinried is now a Catholic retreat.

Children of Jakob Stalter and his first wife Katharina Stalter include:

1. Magdalena Stalter was born on the Gersbergerhof estate in 1818, and died at Burgwalden near Augsburg in 1874. On June 29, 1847 on the Fuggerhof estate at Burgwalden she married Jacob/Jacques Nafziger. He was born at

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223 Nafziger's obituary should not be taken literally. It is written as a Christian pilgrimage story to demonstrate the rewards of an upright life, a style that was popular at the time. The parable of the sower from *Matthew 13:18-23*: "As for what was sown on good soil, this is he who hears the word and understands it; he indeed bears fruit, and yields, in one case as hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Gumbrechtshoffen, Lower Alsace Jan. 30, 1812, and died at Falkenberg, Germany Dec. 26, 1889, a son of Christian Nafziger and Catherine Hochstettler.

2. Jakob/Jacob Stalter (also found as Jacob N. Stalter) was born Sept. 12, 1823. His headstone says he was born in *Koenigreich* [the king's kingdom]. This could describe a variety of locations, including the kingdom of Bavaria. Barbara Birki/Birky was born at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria Feb. 17, 1824 (though her headstone count actually comes out to Feb. 19). Jacob may have met her while she was planning to emigrate. According to Hermann Guth, her emigration application described her as an unmarried resident of Kirchstockach who would travel with an infant son, Jacob, whose father was named as Thomas Luiderer of Putzbrunn. (These three locations are all located in the vicinity of Munich). Jacob and Barbara married April 30, 1849. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Minnesota* with her uncle Valentine Birky, arriving at New York Jan. 21, 1849. Because their emigration documents were prepared before their marriage, they appear separately on the passenger list (Barbara and her son Jacob, labeled 'Inf.' rather than given an age, are the very first names, on another page Jacob Stalder, 24).

   They are found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Jacob Stalder, 27, Germany; Barbara, 26, Illinois [Bavaria]; Jacob, 6, Illinois; and Mary, six months, Illinois. According to the *Grantors Index* Jacob Stalter paid Phillip Flagler $400 for property in Section 8, Township 24 (later Tremont) Feb. 27, 1851.

   They appear on the 1860 census of Tremont as farmer Jacob Stalter, 38; Barbara Stalter, 38; and six children including oldest son Jacob, 16.

   She died near Hopedale March 31, 1885. *Herald of Truth*, April 1885: "On the 31st of March, near Hopedale, Tazewell Co., Ill., of a lingering illness, Sister Barbara (Burkey), wife of Jacob N. Stalter, aged 61 years, 1 month and 12 days. The deceased was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church. She died in the full assurance of faith and was buried on the 1st of April, leaving a sorrowing husband, nine children and twenty-nine grandchildren. Three of the children died before her. Funeral services by Noah Augspurger, Daniel Grieser and Joseph Springer." She is buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.

   Jacob died in Livingston County June 8, 1898. He is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County. "*Herald of Truth*, July 1898: "On the 8th of June, 1898, in Livingston Co., Ill., of dropsy, Jacob Stalter, aged 74 years, 9 months and 20 days. Deceased was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1823, was married to Barbara Birky on the 30th of April, 1849; lived in matrimony 35 years. To this union were born six sons and six daughters; his wife, three sons and one daughter preceded him. Buried on the 10th of June, when a large concourse assembled to pay their last respects to a loved one. Funeral services by Chr. Zimmerman at the house, and by Stephen Stahly, Chr. Zimmerman and John P. Schmitt at the meeting house. Text: *Isa.38 :1-3*. Other ministers who were present also assisted, Joseph Kinsinger speaking from *1 Thess. 4 :13*. Deceased was a member of the Amish Mennonite Cong., and was highly respected. Besides his eight children he leaves 50 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, one brother and two sisters." (The one brother and two sisters could be Katharina/Catherine of Boynton, Maria in Germany, and the half-brother Georg in Germany).

   Children of Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birki/Birky include:[224]

   — Jacob, the son of Thomas Luiterer and Barbara Birki/Birky, emigrated with Barbara. He was brought up as a Stalter, but initially he seemed to disappear after the 1860 census. This is all the more odd because there are no contemporary notes saying he went away. Some sources have guessed that he returned to Bavaria as an adult. However, we suspect he moved no farther than Bureau County. He may be buried in Willow Springs Cemetery as Jacob Stalter, who was born Oct. 8, 1846 (headstone), and died July 10, 1912. He married Catherine Albrecht. She was born Nov. 8, 1845, and died Nov. 15, 1898, a daughter of John Albrecht and Mary Ackerman. There are clues for and against the idea. Joseph Stalter (born 1861) from this family is inexplicably buried in the same cemetery. Jacob raised prize hogs bred by Christian N. Sutter, who would have been his brother-in-law - an odd coincidence, since Jacob lived at Tiskilwa, and Christian lived at Minier.[225] An item against: the 1900 census of Tiskilwa says Jacob immigrated in 1860, though this information may have been erroneously provided by one of his family members and no record of a passenger with this name can be found in that time frame.[226] *Herald of*

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[224] The question of a son named Christian Stalter is somewhat of a mystery. He is supposed to have been born Feb. 9, 1834, and died at Hopedale Oct. 18, 1899. Some sources say he belonged to this family, but we could not verify this. Nor could we identify him on a census, find a record of his immigration, or find a headstone. If he truly was related and came to Illinois, he may have arrived after the 1880 federal census.

[225] The Poland-China hog breed was originally developed in Butler County, Ohio. *American Poland-China Record, Volume 31* for 1902 names two prize hogs: Chief's Pride and Big Chief were both bred by Christian N. Sutter of Minier, but raised by J. Stalter of Tiskilwa.

[226] The 1900 census of Tiskilwa shows farmer Jacob Stalter, 55, born in Germany in October 1844 to German parents, immigrated in 1860; Ida, 19, daughter, born in Illinois in April 1881 to a father from Illinois and a mother from Germany; John, 28, brother, born in Illinois in July 1871 to German parents; Henry, 23, brother, born in Illinois in June 1876 to German parents; and Solomon, 11, brother, born in Illinois in June 1888 to German parents. On the same page is the household of Jacob's son: farmer Andrew J. Stalter, 33, born in Illinois in May 1867 to parents from Illinois; and Sylvia, 32, born in Illinois in December 1867 to parents from Vermont and Indiana. Other household on this page are Christian Albrecht (1850) and his wife Fannie Stecker (1854) including mother-in-law Magdelena Staker (1830) (she was the wife of Nicholas Staker/Stakter); and Christian

Truth, January 1899: "On the 15th of November, 1898, near Tiskilwa, Bureau Co., Ill., Sister Catharine, wife of Jacob Stalter, aged 53 years and 8 days. Buried on the 17th in the Willow Springs graveyard. Funeral services by Joseph Buercky in German and by Pre. McCormick in English. The deceased leaves four sons and two daughters, beside many relatives and friends to mourn her death. Joseph Buercky."

a. Mary Stalter was born in Tazewell County July 22, 1850, and died at Gridley, McLean County Dec. 11, 1917. On March 5, 1871 in Livingston County she married Joseph Stalter. He was born on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller, Moselle March 31, 1840, and died at Waldo, Livingston County June 3, 1925, a son of Johannes/John Stalter and his first wife Elizabeth Reidiger. For more on this couple including her obituary see THE STALTERS OF MONBIJOU.

b. Elizabeth Stalter was born in Tazewell County Aug. 13, 1853, and died June 9, 1916. On Feb. 24, 1874 in McLean County she married Valentine Augstin [Eigsti]. He was born March 30, 1850, and died Jan. 17, 1936, a son of Valentine Augstin and his first wife Vèronique Bächer. They are found on the 1880 census of Nebraska Township, Livingston County as farmer Valentin Augstin, 30, France; Elizabeth, 26, Illinois; Christian, 5; Jacob, 4; Annie, 3; Simon, 2; and infant Barbra; all children born in Illinois. They are buried in Reedley Cemetery at Reedley, California.

c. Katharina/Catherine Stalter was born in Tazewell County March 20, 1855, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Dec. 20, 1918. On March 2, 1873 at Pike Township, Livingston County she married Daniel Stalter. He was born on Nassenwald farm July 14, 1843, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County April 2, 1930, a son of Johannes/John Stalter and his first wife Elizabeth Reidiger. See THE STALTERS OF MONBIJOU for more on this couple including her obituary.

d. Barbara Stalter was born at Tremont Feb. 2, 1857, and died at Toluca, Marshall County March 12, 1947. On Feb. 23, 1880 in Bureau County she married Christian Roggy. He was born at Granville, Putnam County Feb. 29, 1852, and died at Meadows, McLean County Nov. 21, 1919, a son of Peter Roggy and Magdalena Burkey. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County. See BIRKY/BIRKEY for their obituaries.

e. Fannie Stalter was born at Morton April 17, 1858, and died at Hopedale March 25, 1943. On Feb. 28, 1876 at Flanagan, Livingston County she married Christian N. Sutter. He was born at Morton Aug. 3, 1853, and died at Hopedale July 22, 1932, a son of Christian Sutter and Magdalena Nafziger. *Gospel Herald*, April 1943: "Sutter - Fanny, daughter of Jacob and Barbara Stalter, was born near Morton, Ill., April 17, 1858; died at her home in Hopedale, Ill., March 25, 1943; aged 84 y. 11 m. 8 d. While she was a small child her parents moved to the vicinity of Flanagan where she grew to womanhood. She was married to Christian N. Sutter, Feb. 28, 1876, and came to Hopedale, Ill., to make her home. Her husband preceded her in death ten years ago and one son Amos, eight years ago. To this union 13 children were born, twelve of whom survive (Christ, Kouts, Ind.; Sophia Dietz, Chenoa, Ill.; Louisa Zehr, Mackinaw; Julius J., Elwyn, Pa.; Cyrenius and Aaron, Manson, Ia.; Harvey, Peoria, Ill.; Edward, Eureka, Ill.; Barbara Zehr. Levi, Elmer, and Matilda, Hopedale, Ill.). She also leaves one sister, Barbara Roggy, Meadows; one brother Chris, Pontiac; 49 grandchildren, and 50 great-grandchildren. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained faithful to the end. Besides bringing up her large family, she spent many a night at the home of some sick friend or neighbor. Funeral services were held March 27 in charge of Bro. Simon Littler assisted by Bro. Ben Springer."

f. Joseph Stalter was born at Hopedale Feb. 7, 1861, and died in January 1889. He is buried in Willow Springs Cemetery at Tiskilwa, Bureau County, where his headstone gives his age as '28 y. 11 m.'

g. Andrew Stalter (also found as Andrew C. Stalter) was born in Tazewell County Dec. 17, 1865, and died at Waldo, Livingston County Sept. 6, 1931. On Sept. 30, 1888 in Bureau County he married Martha Zierlein. She was born in Wheatland, Bureau County circa 1867, a daughter of Christian N. Zierlein and Anna Burkey. Andrew is buried in Earl Cemetery at Earlville, LaSalle County.

h. Christian Stalter (also found as Christian B. Stalter) was born in Tazewell County Aug. 14, 1868, and died at Meadows Feb. 8, 1953. On Feb. 20, 1896 in Bureau County he married Magdalena Birky. She was born Nov. 29, 1871, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County June 12, 1948. They are found on the 1930 census of Waldo. They are buried in Memorial Park Cemetery at Pontiac, Livingston County.

— In addition, three children or grandchildren who died are mentioned in Barbara's 1885 obituary.

3. Katharina/Catherine Stalter was born on the Hemerten estate Jan. 9, 1832, and died at Hopedale Oct. 15, 1919. On March 2, 1856 in Tazewell County she married Josef Guth/Joseph Good; the ceremony was performed by minister minister Andrew Ropp. It is listed in the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as Jacob Gut and Catharine Statten. He was born at Burgwalden Jan. 19, 1831, and died at Hopedale Feb. 10, 1909, a son of Christian Guth and Barbara Christner. For background on this couple see GOOD.

4. Jakobina 'Phebe' Stalter was born on the Hemerten estate in 1833, and died at Hopedale Feb. 10, 1894. In 1854 she married Daniel Koch/Cook. He was born in Bavaria circa 1828, and died in 1895. They sailed together on the

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Albrecht (1850) including his father John Albrecht (1814). The next census page shows the household of John Albrecht (1849). The 1910 census of Arispie shows widower Jacob Stalter, 68, in the household of his son John.

Cumberland in 1854. Her passport issued at Burgwalden April 11, 1854 described her as age 23, brown hair, gray eyes, pointed nose, full face, mouth proportionate, chin round, complexion healthy, average height, no special marks. They were already living at Hopedale in 1855, according to a birthplace given on the death entry of one of their children. An 1865 non-population schedule census of Hopedale (an accounting of property used for tax purposes) shows Daniel Cook, Christian Zehr, Christian Nafziger, and August Unzicker on the same page. The 1870 census of Hopedale shows farmer Daniel Cook, 42, Bavaria; Phebe, 37, Bavaria; Kate, 15; Christian, 13; Eliza, 4; and Mary, 4; all children born in Illinois. The 1880 census of Hopedale has farmer Daniel Cook, 55, Prussia; Phebe, 46, Prussia; Kate, 24, 'numonia'; Christian, 23; Lizza, 17; and Mary, 14; all children born in Illinois. They appear on the census page one family removed from Christian Nafziger, 60, Bavaria, who was elder of the Hopedale congregation. Jakobina is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery as Pheobe Koch.

5. According to Guth, Maria Stalter was born on the Hemerten estate Nov. 18, 1836, and married a Renner in Bavaria.

- There may have been a son Heinrich Stalter who died young.[227]

The child of Jakob Stalter and his second wife Barbara Güngerich was:

6. Georg Stalter was born on the Hemerten estate Jan. 27, 1855. He married Anna Gascho, and became an estate manager at Burgwalden (35 miles south of the Hemerten estate).

The Stalters of Monbijou

Josef Stalter [Sr.] was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate March 27, 1786, a son of Christian Stalter and Magdalena Hauter. He lived there until his marriage to Susanne Hauter July 24, 1806. She was born on the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen in 1787, a daughter of Nikolaus Hauter and his second wife Elisabeth Maurer

Josef and Susanne farmed on the Monbijou estate. There they assisted her father, who was the estate manager and leaseholder. Josef was also ordained as a minister. Susanne died there Nov. 11, 1820.

On Feb. 3, 1822 on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden, Josef remarried to Barbara Reidiger. She was born on the Ottenweierhof estate Sept. 24, 1802, and died on the Monbijou estate May 4, 1867, a daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger (Jr.) and Magdalena Güngerich. (By this time a number of cross-marriages had merged the Stalter, Hauter, and Oesch families; the Reidiger family would be absorbed as well).

After his remarriage Josef leased the Kirschbacherhof estate at Dietrichingen. Sometime after 1822 he also came into possession of the Stuppacherhof estate near the city of Zweibrücken. This estate had once been owned by minister and elder Jakob Dettweiler.

In 1835 Josef assumed a lease on the Monbijou estate, adjacent to the Kirschbacherhof estate. He gave the lease on the Kirschbacherhof to his oldest sons Josef Stalter [Jr.] and Johannes. They were married to younger sisters of their stepmother Barbara Reidiger: Josef [Jr.] to Katharina Reidiger, and Johannes to Elizabeth Reidiger.

Initially Johannes worked with his older brother, but disagreements led him to go off within a year to labor with his wife's family on the Ottenweierhof estate.

A series of misfortunes drained the savings of Josef [Sr.]. In April 1841 he had to pay a substitute to serve an army term of enlistment for his son Jakob. Then his income dropped with a drought in the summer of 1842. The strain of farming losses led to tension between relatives.

In February of 1843 a dispute arose between Stalters, Reidigers, and Hauters over a case of illegal woodcutting in the Kirschbacher Wald. In May Josef [Sr.] refused to shake the hand of wealthy and well-known horse breeder Johannes Hauter at a public meeting. Outwardly this looked like a feud between the Stalters and Hauters. In fact they were brothers-in-law.

Eventually a group of Hauters and Oesches pulled away from Stalter's congregation, objecting to his strictness.[228] Then on Aug. 31, 1843 a fire caused by arson consumed a stable and two barns on the under-insured Stuppacherhof estate.

While Josef [Sr.] was coping with these trials, his son Josef [Jr.] was floundering on the Kirschbacherhof estate. Hermann Guth says he farmed 'inefficiently.' His problems were compounded because he misled creditors to cover up his difficulties. In January of 1848 a civil complaint by one creditor caused his arrest on a street in the

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[227] In *Amish Mennonites in Germany,* author Hermann Guth wrote that a daughter named Elizabeth Stalter married Anthony Colby. This may have been a note transcription error. Elizabeth Guth of Burgwalden is mentioned elsewhere in the same book as the wife of Anthony Colby. More accurately, Elizabeth Guth/Good and her husband Anton Kalbl were residing at Hopedale in 1860. See GOOD.

[228] The new moderate congregation constructed a church building at Ixheim, while Josef [Sr.]'s congregation continued to meet in homes.

city of Zweibrücken. His deeply embarrassed father paid off the debt, but this only encouraged others to press their own legal actions.

Josef [Sr.] had been a guarantor for his oldest son, and had a share in his debts. He was eventually obligated to sell the Stuppacherhof at auction. His wealth had dwindled by the time he died on the Monbijou estate Jan. 25, 1853.

Children of Josef Stalter [Sr.] and his first wife Susanne Hauter born on the Monbijou estate include:

1. **Josef [Jr.]/ Joseph Stalter** was born Sept. 15, 1807, and died at Arrowsmith, McLean County Oct. 22, 1888. See BROTHER JOSEF [Jr.]/JOSEPH STALTER.
2. Elisabeth Stalter was born May 9, 1808, and died Nov. 11, 1867. In 1828 she married Johannes Reidiger. He was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden in 1806, a son of Sebastian Reŭtiger and Magdalena Güngerich.
3. **Christian Stalter** was born Jan. 10, 1811. He married Elizabeth Kinzinger. She was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig circa 1816, a daughter of Johannes Kinzinger and Christina Schrag. See BROTHER CHRISTIAN STALTER OF BUTLER COUNTY.
4. **Johannes Stalter** was born Sept. 15, 1812, settled at Elm Grove, and died at Gridley, McLean County Sept. 15, 1897. See BROTHER JOHANNES/JOHN STALTER.
5. Jakob Stalter was born Nov. 19, 1819. On Jan. 19, 1840 at Sexau, Baden he married Veronika Zimmerman. She was born Dec. 6, 1818, a daughter of Michael/Michel Zimmerman and Veronika Roggy. They bred horses on the Ernstweilerhof estate near Zweibrücken.[229] In *Scattering Point: The World in a Mennonite Eye,* Jeff Gundy shows a photo of a tree [Linden of Peace, Ger. *Friedenslinde*] that Jakob planted there to honor Kaiser Wilhelm I and King Ludwig II. Their son **Jakob Stalter**, also known as Jacob Z. Stalter, emigrated from Europe in 1857 or 1866. See NEPHEW JAKOB STALTER

Children of Josef Stalter [Sr.] and his second wife Barbara Reidiger born on the Kirschbacherhof estate include:

6. Magdalena Stalter was born Dec. 28, 1822, and died at Eichelscheiderhof, Germany April 11, 1891. In August 1841 on the Monbijou estate she married Johannes Nafziger. He was born on the Ransbrunnerhof estate at Eppenbrunn in 1820, and died on the Kirchheimerhof estate (southwest of the city of Zweibrücken) June 10, 1856, a son of Peter Nafziger and Barbara Guth. Josef Stalter [Sr.] acted as guarantor when they leased the Kirchheimerhof estate in June 1842.
7. Katharina 'Käthchen' Stalter was born March 8, 1824, and died on the Monbijou estate Dec. 4, 1893. On Nov. 6, 1849 on the Monbijou estate she married Jakob Kinzinger. He was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig Nov. 8, 1822, and died at Solgne, France Dec. 23, 1904, a son of Johannes Kinzinger and Christina Schrag.
8. Daniel Stalter was born Oct. 10, 1828, and died on the Monbijou estate Dec. 4, 1893. In 1859 he married Anna Marie Wenger. She was born at Michelfeld, St. Louis, Upper Alsace March 12, 1827, a daughter of Joseph Wenger and Anne Marie Zimmerman. They farmed on the Wahlerhof estate at Hengstbach (southwest of the city of Zweibrücken), where Daniel became a minister and elder of the Zweibrücken congregation.
9. Barbara Stalter was born July 28, 1829. On June 5, 1847 at Dietrichingen she married Christian Wenger. He was born at Michelfeld, St. Louis, Upper Alsace April 1, 1825, a son of Joseph Wenger and Anne Marie Zimmerman.
10. **Jakobina Stalter** was born on Oct. 22, 1831, and died at Saybrook, McLean County Sept. 3, 1895. She married Josef Nafziger; accompanied her sister-in-law, nieces, and nephews from Hottviller on the *Zurich* in 1855; returned to Europe; and remarried to Joseph Dann before emigrating with him in 1870, settling in McLean County. See HALF-SISTER JAKOBINA STALTER.
11. Susanna Stalter was born July 13, 1837, and died Sept. 21, 1907. In 1860 she married Joseph Peterschmitt.

Brother Josef [Jr.]/Joseph Stalter

Josef [Jr.]/ Joseph Stalter was born Sept. 15, 1807.

On May 23, 1830 he married Katharina/Catherine Reidiger. She was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden April 5, 1808, and died at Arrowsmith, McLean County Jan. 1, 1877, a daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger and Magdalena Güngerich.

He assumed the lease on the Kirschbacherhof estate when his father leased the adjacent Monbijou estate in 1835.

[229] The Ernstweilerhof home is now situated in the neighborhood of Ernstweiler within the city limits of Zweibrücken.

After his arrest and release in January 1848 (the story told earlier) he fled to avoid creditors, and went to his younger brother Johannes on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller, Moselle.[230] Despite differences, the two brothers once again farmed together.

As the oldest son, Josef [Jr.] would have returned from Hottviller to be present at the deathbed of his father Jan. 25, 1853. He may have obtained his share of inheritance immediately to avoid legal attachments on the estate, because he departed within a day or two to emigrate from the port of Le Havre.

Josef [Jr.] made his rapid exit with his oldest son. We found records of four relevant voyages carrying Josef [Jr.], his wife Katharina/Catherine Reidiger, the widowed Johanes/John, and their children.

IDDO KIMBALL

This voyage departed from Le Havre and arrived at New York Feb. 22, 1853 - less than a month after the death of Josef Stalder [Sr.]. The passenger list shows Joseph Stalder, 46, Bavaria; and his son Joseph Stalder, 21, Bavaria.

SAMUEL L. FOX

This voyage departed from Le Havre and arrived at New York Aug. 23, 1853. The passenger list shows Bavarian farmer Jean Stalter, 40; and his son Jean, 18.

CAROLUS MAGNUS[231]

This voyage departed from Le Havre and arrived at New York Aug. 9, 1854. The passenger list shows Magdal. Staller, 21; Cath., 22; and Veronica, 16 - three daughters of Josef [Jr.] and Katharina/Catherine.

ZURICH

This voyage departed from Le Havre June 13, 1855, and arrived at New York July 23, 1855. The passenger list shows Staller Catha. [Katharina/Catherine Reidiger], 47, Prussia; Philipp, 26 [see HALF-SISTER JAKOBINA STALTER]; Elise, 12; Daniel, 18; Jacob, 14 [likely Jakobina/Jacobine, who was born in 1840]; Anna, 9; Jacob, 7; Susanne, 6; Nicolas, 2; Joseph, 15; and Elise, 11 [children from both marriages].

In addition, another brother Christian brought his family to America in 1854 or 1855. When his passenger list is identified it may have a bearing on this group.

At first Josef [Jr.]/Joseph took his family to Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio. He may have migrated to Illinois circa 1859 with his brother Johannes/John.

In McLean County he became a minister of the Rock Creek meeting. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* says, "The Amish churches at this time, instead of having one pastor, had a number of ministers to serve the congregation. This was true of the North Danvers church. In the year 1872, when the congregation began to worship in the new church, the following were the ministers: Bishop Joseph Stuckey, Rev. John Strubhar, Rev. John Stahly, Rev. Christian Imhoff, Rev. Joseph Stalter, Rev. Michael Miller, and Rev. Jacob Miller. These men represented the three orders of the Amish ministry: bishops, ministers, and deacons ... Rev. Joseph Stalter came from Butler County, Ohio in the 1850s and died in the '90s."

The 1865 state census shows Joseph Stalter as the head of a household at Normal, McLean County. The 1870 census of Normal, McLean county shows Joseph Stalter, 60, Baden; Catherine, 52, Baden; Nicolus, 18, Baden; and Susan, 20, Baden.

Gospel Herald, February 1877: "Jan. 1st 1877, in McLean Co., Ill., of dropsy, Catherine Stalter, wife of Joseph Stalter, aged 68 years, and eight months. She was the mother of 13 children, nine of whom survive her. On the 4th her remains were consigned to mother earth, at which opportunity remarks were made from *Rev. 14:13*, by Joseph Stuckey and Henderson."

The 1880 census of Arrowsmith, McLean County shows William Liser, 37, born in Illinois to parents from Prussia; Barbery, 44, Bavaria; Ann, 5, Illinois; Emmie, 2, Illinois; and father-in-law and retired farmer Joseph Stalter , 72, Bavaria.

'Joseph Stalter of Germany' was naturalized in the McLean County circuit court Nov. 1, 1881.

Josef [Jr.]/Joseph Stalter died at Arrowsmith Oct. 22, 1888. *Herald of Truth*, November 1888: "On the 22d of October, near Arrowsmith, McLean Co., Ill., of the infirmities of old age Joseph Stalter aged 81 years, 1 month and 7 days. He was buried on the 23d followed by his children and grandchildren and many relatives and friends. Service by Joseph Stucky and Pre. Hadfealt from *Heb. 7* and *Psa. 90*. Peace to his ashes."

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[230] Nassenwald farm is still active. The property is also an archaeological site, where fragments of Roman statuary have been found. Hottviller's present population is less than 700.

[231] Latin for the French *Charlemagne*.

Children of Josef [Jr.]/Joseph Stalter and Katharina/Catherine Reidiger include:

1. Joseph Stalter (also found as Joseph R. Stalter) was born on the Kirschbacherhof estate March 14, 1831 (the date April 1 is derived from his inaccurate obituary), and died at Gridley Sept. 1, 1893. He must have returned to Europe at least once. The clipper ship *Mary Ogden* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York July 18, 1856. The passenger list shows passengers 21-23 as farmer Michel Rinthaler, 17, Prussia [see RITTHALER]; farmer Daniel Oswald, 18, Prussia; and farmer Joseph Stalter, 23, *Etats Unis.* He may have been the 30-year-old Bavaria farm laborer Joseph Stalder found in the household of John Sommer and Barbe/Barbara Schertz on the 1860 census of Elm Grove. On March 22, 1866 in McLean County he married Christina Eicher. She was born March 25, 1842, and died in Livingston County Feb. 25, 1875. They appear on the 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer Joseph Stahlta, 39, Baden; Christiana, 29, France; Barbara, 3, Illinois; Jacob, 1, Illinois; and Barbara, 30, home, Baden. The 1880 census of Waldo shows farmer Joseph R. Stalter, 49, Germany; Barbra, 13; Jacob, 11; Joseph, 9; and John, 7; all children born in Illinois. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County. *Herald of Truth*, March 1875: "Feb. 25th, in Livingston Co., Ill., Christina Stalter, wife of Joseph Stalter, aged 32 years, and 11 months. The 28th her remains were laid in the grave, in the presence of a large concourse of relatives and friends. She was prepared to leave the world. A few hours before she died, she said she could not wait much longer, and at five o'clock she must depart, at which time she was released. She leaves a husband and four children to mourn their loss. Funeral services by Christian Schlagel, Joseph Gascho, and John P. Smith." *Herald of Truth*, October 1893: "On the 1st of September 1893, near Gridley, in Livingston Co., Ill., of stomach trouble and dysentery, Joseph Stalter, aged 62 years, 5 months. He suffered considerably during the last two weeks, but was very patient. His wife preceded him about 20 years, leaving him with four children whom he reared with care, and who now survive him. He was universally loved and respected and was a faithful brother in the Old Amish branch of the Mennonite denomination. Buried on the 3rd at which time the largest funeral assembled that was ever in the meeting-house of that place. Funeral services by D. Orendorff, J. Egly, Jos. Ackerman, John Schmitt and others." Children of Joseph Stalter and Christina Eicher born at Waldo, Livingston County include:
    a. Barbara Stalter was born Feb. 15, 1868, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County May 7, 1954. On Nov. 20, 1887 in Livingston County she married Peter Saltzman. *Gospel Herald*, November 1921: "Peter Saltzman was born near Lacon, Ill., Dec. 10, 1860; died at his late home near Spires Station, Ill., Nov. 10, 1921; aged 60 y. 11 m. He was united in marriage with Barbara Stalter Nov. 20, 1887. To this union were born two sons and five daughters. One son and one daughter preceded him in death. He leaves his loving companion, one son, and five daughters (Mrs. J. Roy Hartzler, Mrs. William Yordy, Mrs. Noah Eigsti, Clara, and Raymond), seven grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters, and many other relatives and friends. He united with the Mennonite Church in his youth and remained faithful to the end. Short services were held at the house by Bro. D. W. Slagel from *II Cor. 5:1* (who also opened the services at the Waldo Church by reading *I Cor. 15:35-58*), after which Bro. J. S. Shoemaker preached the sermon. Text, *Rev. 14:13*. Interment in the Waldo Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, May 1954: "Saltzman, Barbara, daughter of Joseph and Christina (Eicher) Stalter, was born Feb. 15, 1868, near Gridley, ill.; passed away at her home in Flanagan, Ill., May 7, 1954, after a lingering illness of more than three years; aged 87 y. 2 m. 22 d. On Nov. 10, 1887, she was united in marriage with Peter Saltzman, who preceded her in death Nov. 10, 1921. To this union were born seven children, two of whom preceded her death in infancy. The following survive (Mrs. Roy Hartzler, Minonk, Ill.; Clara, at home; Mrs. Will Yordy, and Mrs. Noah Eigsti, of Flanagan; and Raymond, of Minonk). Besides her children, she leaves 18 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and one brother (John Stalter, of Gridley). She became a member of the Waldo Mennonite Church in her youth, remaining a faithful member through life and having been a member of this church for about seventy years. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Mennonite Church in charge of J. D. Hartzler, assisted by E. J. Stalter. Interment was made in the Waldo Cemetery."
    b. Jacob Stalter was born May 30, 1868, and died at Peoria Dec. 19, 1917. *Gospel Herald*, January 1918: "Jacob Stalter was born in Livingston Co., Ill., May 30, 1869; died in the hospital at Peoria, Ill., Dec. 19, 1917; aged 48y. 7m. 20d. The cause of his death was pellagra. He leaves two brothers, one sister, five nephews, and nine nieces. Funeral services were held at the home of his brother John near Flanagan, Ill., and at the Waldo Church, by Bros. D.W. Slagel and Geo. Summer. Burial in the Waldo Cemetery."
    c. Joseph Stalter was born Nov. 23, 1870, and died in Mennonite Hospital at Bloomington, McLean County Feb. 1, 1848. On Sept. 13, 1891 in Livingston County he married Elizabeth Saltzman. *Gospel Herald*, March 1948: "Stalter - Joseph, son of Joseph and Christene Stalter, was born near Gridley, Ill., Nov. 23, 1870; passed away at the Mennonite Hospital, Bloomington, Ill.; aged 77 y. 2 m. 9 d. For a year or more he had been in failing health, and was confined to bed for the last four weeks of his life. On Sept. 13, 1891, he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Saltzman, who predeceased him. Surviving are five children (Mrs. Tillie Schertz, Metamora, Ill.; Edward and William, Gridley, Ill.; Ollie and Ethel, Flanagan, Ill.), 16 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, one brother (John, of Gridley), and one sister (Mrs. Barbara Saltzman, of Flanagan). One son (Arthur), three daughters (Edna, Mrs. Mattie Beller, and Mrs. Ella Rosehart), and two grandchildren preceded him in death. In his youth he accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and united with the Waldo Mennonite Church, of which he remained a member until

death. At the time of his passing, when all his surviving children were at the bedside, he left a bright testimony that he was going on to join the loved ones who had gone before. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Church, in charge of J. D. Hartzler. Interment was made in the Waldo Cemetery."

d. John Stalter was born Feb. 24, 1872, and died in Livingston County Aug. 5, 1958. On Oct. 16, 1901 in Woodford County he married Magdalena Teuscher. She was born in Woodford County Nov. 13, 1874, and died at Meadows, McLean County Sept. 16, 1907. *Gospel Witness*, October 1907: "Lena Stalter (Nee Teuscher) was born Nov. 13, 1874, in Woodford Co., Illinois; died at her home near Meadows, Ill., Sept. 16, 1907, at the age of 32 y. 10 m. 3 d. She was united in holy matrimony Oct. 16, 1901, with John Stalter. To this union were born two sons and two daughters. She leaves a sorrowing husband, four children, mother, four brothers and many friends to mourn her early departure. Father, four brothers and one sister preceded her to the spirit world. Funeral services conducted in German by Daniel Orendorff, from *Heb. 18:14*, and Christian Rediger, from *Rom. 6:23*, and D. W. Slagel in English, from *Isa. 35:10*." On Feb. 25, 1913 he remarried to Catherine 'Katie' Nafziger. She was born March 11, 1874, and died at Flanagan Aug. 29, 1940, a daughter of Joseph C. Nafziger and Magdalena Nafziger. *Gospel Herald*, September 1958: "Stalter, John, son of Joseph and Mary [Christina] Stalter; born Feb. 24, 1872, Gridley, Ill.; died Aug. 5, 1958, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Emery Cender. Married in 1900 to Lena Teuscher, who died in 1907. Two sons and two daughters were born (Elmer, who died in 1927; Aaron J., Gibson City; Sadie-Mrs. Roy Ingold, Ludlow; and Mattie-Mrs. Emery Cender, Gibson City). On Feb. 25, 1913, he married Katie Nafziger, who died in 1942. Survivors: one son and two daughters, 20 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, one brother (Christian, Gridley), and three sisters (Mrs. Albert DeWilde, Gridley; Mrs. Lizzie Rediger, Hesston, Kans.; and Lena Stalter, Upland, Calif.). Two brothers and one sister preceded him in death. Member of East Bend Church, where services were held Aug. 8, with Howard Zehr, Harold Zehr, and Joe Hartzler officiating. Burial in Waldo Cemetery."

2. Katharina/Catherine Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof Jan. 4 or Sept. 17 (death entry date), 1832, and died at Yellowhead, Kankakee County Dec. 12, 1921. She married David Werner. He was born in 1836, and died in 1915. In 1880 they were living at Anchor, McLean County; they also appear on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of Cheney Grove, McLean County. The 1900 census shows retired farmer David Werner, 64, born in Germany in July of 1836 to German parents, immigrated 1853; Catherine, 67, born in Germany in 1854 to German parents; and two grown children born in Illinois. Her death entry said that in 1921 they were residing at Grant Park, Kankakee County. They are buried in Greenwood Cemetery at Saybrook, McLean County.
3. Magdalena 'Lena' Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof Jan. 27, 1834, and died Jan. 14, 1911. On Feb. 28, 1860 in McLean County she married Peter Lehman. He was born April 12, 1834, and died March 11, 1899. They are found on the 1870 census of Nebraska Township, Livingston County as farmer Peter Lehman, 35, France; Magdalena, 36, Bavaria; Phebe, 12; Peter, 9; Joseph, 7; Elia, 5; Elizabeth, 2; all children born in Illinois; and farm laborer Christian Summer, 31, Bavaria. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.
4. Barbara Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof Sept. 5, 1835, and died in McLean County Nov. 15, 1908. It is possible that she was the Barbara Stalter, 32, who emigrated by sailing on the ship *Bremen* from Bremen, arriving at New York Sept. 23, 1867. On March 3, 1874 in McLean County she married William Leiser. He was born at Joliet, Will County Dec. 7, 1842, and died at Saybrook, McLean County Oct. 20, 1926, a son of John Leiser and Barbara Hickel. He had mined for silver in Utah from 1865 to 1871. They are found on the 1900 census of Arrowsmith, McLean County as landlord William Leiser, 57, born in Illinois in December 1842 to German parents; Barbra, 64, born in Germany in September 1835 to German parents (no immigration date given); and two children born in Illinois. William was Mennonite, and they attended the United Brethren Church at Saybrook. They are buried in Greenwood Cemetery at Saybrook.
5. Elizabeth Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof March 23, 1837, and died at Normal, McLean County Sept. 25, 1929. On March 28, 1871 in McLean County she married Christian Springer. Also known as Christian W. Springer, he was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle Oct. 25, 1828, a son of Christian Springer and Magdalena/Madeleine Engel. They are found on the 1880 census of Martin, McLean County as farmer C.W. Springer, 50, France; Elizabeth, 42, Germany; and four children born in Illinois.
6. Veronika 'Fannie' Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof April 7 or 8 (headstone), 1839, and died in McLean County Feb. 18, 1860. On March 20, 1859 in McLean County she married Joseph Kempf/Kamp/Camp. He was born in Butler County, Ohio June 16, 1838, a son of Christian Kempf and Magdalena Sommer. Veronika was the first of his three McLean County marriages within four years. Her headstone in Peter Maurer Cemetery (near County Road 75 N, southeast of Congerville on the Woodford-McLean county line) says she was 'Fannie, wife of Joseph Kamp, died Feb. 16, 1860, aged 20 y., 10 m., 8 d.' Joseph remarried to her younger sister Jakobina/Jacobine the following year, his second of three McLean County marriages within a four-year span.
7. Jakobina/Jacobine Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof Sept. 29, 1840, and died in McLean County Dec. 1, 1861. On Nov. 1, 1860 in McLean County she married widower Joseph Kempf/Kamp/Camp, becoming his second wife. She is buried in Peter Maurer Cemetery, where her headstone says she is 'Jacobine Kamp, wife of Joseph Kamp, died Dec. 1, 1861, aged 21 yrs. 2ms. 1d.'
8. Anna Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof April 5, 1842, and died at Normal, McLean County Sept. 16, 1934. O Feb. 23, 1865 in McLean County she married Peter Mohr. He was born Dec. 12, 1843, and died May 30, 1892.

They are buried in Troyer Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County. *Gospel Herald*, June 1892: "On the 29th of May, 1892, in McLean Co., Ill., from the effects of LaGrippe, Peter Mohr, aged 49 years, 5 months and 4 days. Bro. Mohr was married to Anna Stalton on the 3rd of February, 1865. This union was blessed with 10 children, of whom seven are living. The remains were laid to rest on the 31st in Troyer's burial ground. A large number of sympathizing friends attended the funeral. Appropriate remarks were made at the house from *Ps. 103*, and in the church at Yudan by Joseph Stuckey and Peter Shantz, from *John 11:28*. Bro. Mohr was a member of the North Danvers Mennonite church. Peace to his ashes. May God comfort the bereaved family and friends. Joseph Stuckey."

9. A boy was stillborn on the Kirschbacherhof March 11, 1844.[232]
10. Daniel Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof Feb. 8, 1845, and died Jan. 25, 1846.
11. Jakob/Jacob Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof Feb. 10, 1847, and died Nov. 28, 1903. On Jan. 17, 1878 in McLean County he married Amelia Haxel. She was born at Quincy, Adams County March 1, 1860, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Aug. 12, 1918. They are buried in Evergreen Memorial Cemetery at Bloomington.
12. Susanne/Susannah Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller, Moselle Jan. 29, 1949, and died in McLean County Sept. 14, 1892. On Jan. 16, 1872 in McLean County she married Hiram Troyer. He was born in Columbus, Ohio March 22, 1843, and died at Chicago Jan. 5, 1923, a son of Jonas Troyer and Elizabeth Miller. *Herald of Truth*, October 1892: "On the 14th of September, 1892, in McLean Co., Ill., Susanna Troyer, maiden name Stalter, very suddenly, of heart disease, aged 43 years, 7 months and 12 days. In her 16th year she united with the church at North Danvers, and was a faithful member. She lived in matrimony 21 years and leaves her sorrowing husband and four children. Buried on the 17th in Greenwood graveyard. Funeral services by Joseph Stuckey and I. Henderson. The funeral was very largely attended." On Dec. 12, 1894 in McLean County Hiram remarried to Eliza Guengerich. Susanne and Hiram are buried in Greenwood Cemetery at Saybrook, McLean County.
13. Nicolas/Nicholas Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm at Hottviler Dec. 8, 1852, and died at Decatur, Macon County May 23, 1930. He married Wilhelmina 'Minnie' Horn. She was born July 29, 1857, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Aug. 20 (death entry) or Aug. 23 (headstone date), 1923. They are buried in Park Hill Cemetery at Bloomington. Nicholas was a carpenter at Bloomington. They are found on the 1900 census of Bloomington as day laborer Nichols Stalter, 48, born in Sweden in December 1851; Minnie, 40, born in Missouri in November 1859 to German parents; and two children born in Missouri in 1878 and 1892. On the 1920 census of Bloomington they appear as Nicholas Stalter, 66, born in Missouri to German parents; Minnie, 62, born in Missouri to German parents; and Lester C., 19, born in Illinois.

Brother Christian Stalter

This portion of text is admittedly weak. We first found the family of Christian Stalter on the 1860 census of Lemon, Butler County, where they are listed as a 'Staller.' Had we not had our own relatives living in that community, we would not have found the entry and tucked it away in memory. It was positively identified by comparing the names and ages of children against online Hornbach birth entries. But we were unable to identify a passenger list or follow the later lives of Christian, his wife, or two of their sons. This would be a good project for further investigation in the archives at the Butler County Records Center and Archives at Hamilton (e.g. county cemetery and probate records).

Christian Stalter was born Jan. 10, 1811. He was a brother to Josef Stalter [Jr.] and Johannes/John Stalter, a half-brother to Jakobina Stalter, and an uncle to Jacob Z. Stalter.

Circa 1837 he married Elisabetha/Elizabeth Kinzinger. She was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig March 18, 1816, and died in Butler County, Ohio Nov. 19, 1886, a daughter of Johannes Kinzinger and Christina Schrag. In 1836 her older brother Johannes Kinzinger had married his cousin Katharina Stalter (she was a daughter of Christian Stalter and Elisabeth Ringenberg). In 1849 her younger brother Jakob Kinzinger would marry his younger half-sister Katharina 'Käthchen' Stalter.

They sailed from Le Havre on the *Masonic*, and arrived at New York July 1, 1854. The passenger list shows farmer Christi Stalter, 42, Bavaria, destination Ohio; Elisabeth, 36; Christine [Schrag], 58; Catherine, 32; Elise, 16; Joseph, 9; Christian, 8; Josephine [Johann/John], 6; and Emma [Katharina], 3.

They are found on the 1860 census of Lemon, Butler County, Ohio as Christian Staller, 50, Rim betz [perhaps meant to be Rhine Bayern/Rhenish Bavaria]; Elizabeth, 44; Joseph, 18; Christian, 16; John, 13; and Catharina, 9.

Elisabetha/Elizabeth is buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Trenton, Butler County.

Children of Christian Stalter and Elisabetha/Elizabeth Kinsinger born at Hornbach include:

1. Elisabetha/Elizabeth/Elise Stalter was born April 10, 1838, and died at Hanover, Butler County March 31, 1911. She was born in Germany April 10, 1838, and died in Butler County March 31, 1911. She is buried in Madison Township. On April 14, 1859 she became the second wife of minister Peter Kinsinger (the first was Catherine

[232] One database names this boy 'Totgeburt.' This may have come from an original entry. The German *Totgeburt* means the child was stillborn.

Augspurger). The ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Kinsinger was born at the Blumenauer mill at Brenschelbach in the Saarland (six miles southwest of Hornbach, on the present border of Germany and France) Jan. 28, 1827, and died in Butler County Sept. 7, 1888, a son of Johannes Kinzinger and Magdalena Oesch. According to Grubb's *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* he served the Augspurger congregation 1867-1888. The 1870 census of Hanover, Butler County shows farmer Peter Kinsinger, 43, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 32, Bavaria; six children born in Ohio; farm hand George Himmelsback, 30, Ohio; and domestic servant Phebe Schwartzentruber, 20, Ohio. The 1880 census of Hanover, Butler County has farmer Peter Kinsinger, 53, born in Bavaria to German parents; Elizabeth, 42, born in Bavaria to German parents; and eight children born in Ohio ranging from 2 to 26 years of age. Elizabeth is also found on the 1910 census of Hanover: Samuel S. Kinsinger, 42, Ohio; Elizabeth, 72, Germany, immigrated in 1851, mother; Katie, 48, Ohio, sister; Elizabeth, 45, Ohio, sister; Hannah, 32, Ohio, sister; and hired man Joseph Miller, 35, Ohio.

2. Jacob Stalter was born Feb. 3, 1840. He was not on the passenger list, and likely died young.
3. Joseph Stalter was born March 3, 1842. We could not follow him after the 1860 census.
4. Christian Stalter, also known as Christian K. Stalter, was born Dec. 21, 1843, and died in Kansas in 1925. He is found on the 1870 census of Posey, Indiana as farm worker Christian Stalter, 27, Bavaria, in the household of John Ingles. Circa 1877 he married Barbara. She was born in 1849 (headstone date) or November 1853 (per the 1900 census), and died in Kansas in 1942. They are found on the 1900 census of Charleston and Logan Townships, Kansas as farmer Christian K. Stalter, 57, born in Germany in December 1843, immigrated in 1854; Barbara A., 47, born in Germany in November 1853, immigrated in 1856; Carrie E., 22, born in Indiana in February 1878 to German parents; Oliver, 19, born in Kansas in September 1889 to German parents; and Burt, 17, born in Kansas in December 1882 to German parents. Christian and Barbara are buried in Washington Cemetery at Washington, Kansas.
5. Johann/John Stalter was born Nov. 24, 1846, and died at Hamilton, Butler County July 22, 1923. He is buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Trenton, Butler County. He is found living with his sister Katharina on the 1900 census of St. Clair, Butler County: laborer John Stalter, 53, born in Germany in November 1846, immigrated in 1855; and Katie, 49, born in Germany in March 1851, immigrated in 1855. The next three individuals on that census page were Joseph Kennel, born in France in June 1835; Catherine Sloneker, born in Ohio in April 1853; and her niece Fannie Hauter, born in Ohio in December 1871.
6. Katharina 'Katie' Stalter was born March 29, 1851, and died at St. Clair, Butler County Sept. 2, 1915.

Brother Johannes/John Stalter

Johannes Stalter was born on the Monbijou estate Sept. 15, 1812.

On Feb. 18, 1835 he married Elisabeth Reidiger. She was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden circa 1812, and died in Europe in or before 1853, a daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger and Magdalena Güngerich.

After arguing with his older brother Josef [Jr.] on the Kirschbacherhof, Johannes went off to his wife's home on the Ottenweierhof estate in 1836. In 1839 he obtained his own lease on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller, Moselle (12 miles south of the Monbijou estate). The land was still lightly forested, and required clearing before Johannes could plant crops. In return the contract should have permitted him to remain there for up to 20 years. He was joined there by his older brother in 1848.

History of McLean County says, "Mr. Stalter came to this country in 1853, after the death of his wife." The passenger list of the *Samuel L. Fox* was given earlier.

In America he became John Stalter. Like his older brother, he took his family to live in Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio. He remained there two years before they resettled at Elm Grove circa 1855.

Why Elm Grove? Johannes/John Kinsinger of Elm Grove was related by marriage (his brother Jakob Kinzinger married John's sister Katharina 'Käthchen' Stalter), and Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] of Groveland was his great-uncle. Perhaps the imminent war was a factor in their decision.

The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows farmer John Stalder, 48, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 38, Bavaria [we could not account for her]; John, 22; Joseph, 20; Eliz., 18; Daniel, 16; and Madaline, 13; all children born in Bavaria. The same census page shows Emanuel Garber, John Schrock, and Peter Unzicker. These three owned property on Allentown Road, and their lots are labeled on the 1860 plat map of Elm Grove. Yet John is not shown there, indicating that he did not own the land he lived on.

John Stalter is found in Elm Grove on the 1865 federal income tax record for District 8. In that year the family moved onto a farm at Waldo, Livingston County.

Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929: "'The region about Farnisville on the Mackinaw river was settled almost entirely by Germans, many of whom had been there for as long as twenty years (before 1858-1864). They were almost exclusively Mennonites (Amish, as they were usually called), who had immigrated from Bavaria, Rhenish Bavaria, Switzerland, Wuerttemberg, Baden, Alsace, and Lorraine. They were good farmers and otherwise fine people, most all of whom attained prosperity and many of whom became wealthy.... In the

vicinity of Gridley the situation was similar. In the township in the southwest corner of Livingston County, Waldo Township, the Germans were in the majority. Children of the German settlers around Farnisville moved here, and we find the same names here as there. For instance, Ehresman, Mueller, Ulrich, Neuhauser, Klopfenstein, Schlegel, Sommer, Rich, Farni, etc. This township was called 'the German township' at that time. New settlers from Germany also settled here, such as: George Wurst, Heinrich Otto, John Lukert, John Stalter (who had first lived for several years in Tazewell County), Joseph Cloudon, John, Christian and Jacob Koenig who came from McLean County, and many others."

On Jan. 28, 1868 in Bureau County John remarried to Jacobine Rediger.[233] We suspect but cannot prove that she was born as Jacobé Rediger at Bebing, Moselle April 26, 1808, a daughter of Andreas Reűtiger/André Rediger and Annette/Anne Ringenberg and cousin to his first wife Elisabeth.

The household appears on the 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer John Stahlta, 58, Bavaria; Josephine [Jacobine], 58, France; John, 34, Bavaria; Joseph, 28, Bavaria; Daniel, 24, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 27, Bavaria; farm laborer Jacob Zimmerman, 20, Bavaria; domestic servant Mary Stahlta, 22, Illinois; and Barbara Stahla, 14, Illinois.[234]

Jacobine died in Livingston County Feb. 13, 1877. The 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows farmer John Stalter, 67, Bavaria; John, 40, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 35, born in France to Bavarian parents, 'insane' ; and August Peplow, 27, Germany.

On Jan. 17, 1881 in Livingston County John married a third time to widow Catherine 'Katie' Schertz.[235] She was born Dec. 12, 1822, and died in Livingston County Dec. 28, 1895, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Elisabeth Hauter. Her first two husbands were Peter Unzicker and Christian Fuchs.

'John Stalter of Bavaria' was naturalized in the Livingston County circuit court May 26, 1887.

Herald of Truth, January 1896: "On the 30th of Dec. 1895, in Livingston Co., Ill., Catharine Schertz. She was born in the Palatine, Germany, on the 12th of Dec. 1822 and was thrice married; her first husband was Peter Unsicker; married Jan. 13th, 1850. He died on the 20th of March 1866; the second marriage was with Christian Fuchs in 1870. He died in 1879. Her last husband was John Stalter, married in 1881. He, together with 4 sons and a daughter by her first marriage, also 22 grandchildren survive her. She was a faithful sister in the Amish Mennonite church. Her age was 73 years, 18 days. Her remains were laid to rest on the 1st of January, 1896, followed by many relatives and friends. Funeral services by Andrew Werckler, Joseph Kinsinger, Christian Zimmerman and others. Texts *Isa. 38:1-3, Gen. 24:56* and *Heb. 4:9*." She is buried in Waldo Cemetery as 'Katharina Scherz, *ehrefrau vor* John Stalter.' She is buried T Cullum, Livingston County.

John died at Gridley Sept. 15, 1897, and is buried in Waldo Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, July 1897: "On the 18th of May 1897, in Livingston Co., Ill., of the infirmities of old age, Bro. John Stalter, aged 84 years, eight months and three days. Like a weary pilgrim, longing for home and rest with Jesus, our dear aged brother passed from us, and we think of him as having gone where his soul so often longed to go. Bro. Stalter was born in Monbijou in Rhenish Bavaria, Germany and was thrice married. Eight children blessed the first union, of whom two sons and two daughters remain. His youngest sister, widow Susanna Petter Schmitt, residing in Alsace, Germany, also survives. His oldest daughter has been a hapless invalid for over twenty years, which weighed heavily on him at times, yet he ever did what could be done for his child. God graciously provided ample means and faithful servants, so that their home was one of peace and plenty. His remains were laid to rest on the 20th in the Waldo graveyard. A large concourse of friends assembled to pay their last respects to the departed. Funeral services by Joseph Kinsinger at the house and by Chr. Zimmerman at the church, from *2 Tim. 4:7, 8* and by J.P. Schmitt from *Isa. 38:3*,

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[233] The original entry may have been illegible or inaccurate; it was transcribed into the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as a marriage between John Stalker and Jacabine Radiger.

[234] To narrow down the search for Jacobine, we looked at two families living at Waldo in 1870 who used the spelling 'Rediger' (rather than 'Reidiger'). The heads of household were Defenseless Mennonite minister Joseph Rediger, 42, and his brother Johannes/John Rediger, 41, lived next door to Joseph Stalter, the son born in 1840. Joseph Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim March 2, 1826, and died at Meadows, McLean County March 8, 1904. John/Johannes Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof Nov. 28, 1828, and died March 13, 1882. They were sons of Benjamin Rediger and Barbara Ehresmann, and had immigrated in 1849 (see REIDIGER). We did not find a candidate Jacobine in their family tree. This suggests the possibility that Rediger was not her birth surname, but the surname of a first husband.

[235] Catherine married Peter Unzicker in Butler County, Ohio Jan. 13, 1850. He was born at Altenbeuern, Germany Jan. 13, 1822, and died at Collinsville, Butler County, Ohio March 21, 1866, a son of Daniel Unzicker and Magdalena Kahn (see UNZICKER for background on this family). They farmed at Milford, Butler County. After his death she remarried to Christian Fuchs at Milford. Fuchs died Dec. 5, 1879. The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists them as John Stalter and Fuchs, Catharina Schertz (Mrs.).

and by D. Orendorff from *2 Cor. 5:10*, and from *1 Cor. 15:44* to end. Bro. Stalter was a faithful member in the Old Amish branch of the Mennonite church."

Children of Johannes/John Stalter and his first wife Elizabeth Reidiger include:

1. Johannes/John Stalter was born on the Kirschbacherhof March 1, 1836. We could not follow him after the 1880 census of his father's household at Waldo, when he was unmarried. He died before his father's obituary was created in 1897.
2. Jakob/Jacob/Jacques Stalter was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden Jan. 19, 1838, and died on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller July 17, 1850. His birth entry was recorded in the Protestant Reformed church at Ichenheim in accordance with Baden's laws. It names the parents of Jakob as Johann Stalter and Elisabethe Reidiger.
3. Joseph Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller, Moselle March 30, 1840, and died at Waldo, Livingston County June 3, 1925. He is found living next door to his cousin Joseph Stalter on the 1870 census of Waldo; the household of Anton Huser shows farm laborer Joseph Stelter, 30, Baden. On March 5, 1871 in Livingston County he married Mary Stalter. She was born in Tazewell County July 22, 1850, and died at Gridley Dec. 11, 1917, a daughter of Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birky. The 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows farmer Joseph Stalter, 40, Germany; Mary, 31, Illinois; John, 8; Mary, 7; Barbra, 3; and Elizabeth, 2; all children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Waldo shows farmer Joseph Stalter, 60, born in France in March 1840 to German parents, immigrated in 1857; Mary, 49, born in Illinois in July 1850 to German parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, December 1917: "Mary Stalter was born near Pekin, Ill., July 22, 1850; died Dec. 11, 1917; aged 67 y. 4 m. 19 d. She came with her parents to Livingston Col, Ill., in 1854. She was married to Joseph Stalter on March 5, 1871. They located near Meadows, at which place they still resided at the time of her death. They walked life's pathway peaceably together for nearly 47 years. To this union four sons and four daughters were born, two sons and one grandson preceded her. She leaves a loving husband and six children (John, Chris, Mrs. Henry Stalter, Mrs. Ed. Rediger, Barbara, and Lena); also 12 grandchildren. In early life she united with the A. M. Church and remained a faithful member. She suffered from Bright's disease for some time, but bore her affliction patiently until she quietly passed away. She had the privilege of seeing her children grown to manhood and womanhood and all members of the church of her choice. Services at the house by Bro. D. W. Slagel (Text *Jno. 14*) and at the Church by Bro. Dan Orendorff (*Phil. 1:21*). Bro. Geo. H. Summer (*Rev. 14:13*). Burial in the Waldo Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, July 1925: "Joseph Stalter, Sr., was born Mar. 31, 1840, in Alsace-Lorraine, France; entered into rest June 3, 1925, at his home near Meadows, Ill.; aged 85 y. 2 m. 2 d. At the age of 17 he came to America and located near Hamilton, Ohio, with his father and brother. Remaining there two years they moved near Pekin, Ill., where they lived seven years. In 1865 the family moved near Meadows, Ill. In 1871 he was united in holy matrimony to Mary Stalter and moved on the farm where he died, living there 54 years, with the exception of four months which he spent in St. Petersburg, Fla., last winter. To this union were born four sons and four daughters. His companion preceded him to the home beyond Dec. 11, 1917. Two sons died in infancy. He leaves two sons (John and Chris) three daughters (Mrs. E. A. Rediger, Barbara, and Lena), 13 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, one brother (Daniel), and one sister (Magdalena Rocke). He accepted Christ and united with the Mennonite Church in his youth, and remained faithful and loyal until God called him home. "Dearest Father, thou hast left us, How we miss thee everywhere; But we hope again to meet thee, On yonder heavenly shore." Funeral services were held at his late home June 7, by Bro. D. W. Slagel, and at the church by Bro. Joe Heiser, Fisher, Ill., who preached the funeral sermon. Text, *II Tim. 4:6-8*. Burial in the Waldo cemetery."
4. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm Nov. 15, 1841, and died at Peoria May 9, 1918. The 1880 census of Waldo described her as 'insane.' She is buried in Waldo Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, May 1918: "Elizabeth Stalter, daughter of John and Elizabeth Stalter was born at Nussenwalder Hof, Lorraine, France, died May 9, 1918, at the St. Francis Hospital, Peoria, Ill.; aged 76 y. 5 m. 24 d. She came to America with her parents in her youth, where she united with the A. M. Church at Hamilton, Butler Co., Ohio. Later they came to Illinois, first to Tazewell Co., then to Livingston Co. Her parents and three brothers preceded her. She leaves two brothers, Joseph and Daniel, and one sister Mrs. Magdalena Rocke, Meadows, Ill. She had been well taken care of at the hospital for nearly 21 years. Funeral services were held at the Waldo A. M. Church by Bro. Geo. Summer in English and Bro. Joe Kinsinger in German. Buried at the Waldo Cemetery."
5. Daniel Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm July 14, 1843, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County April 2, 1930. On March 2, 1873 at Pike Township, Livingston County he married Katharina/Catherine 'Katie' Stalter. She was born in Tazewell County March 20, 1855, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Dec. 20, 1918, a daughter of Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birky. 'Daniel Stalter of Bavaria' was naturalized in the Livingston County circuit court May 26, 1877. They appear on the 1900 census of Pike Township, Livingston County as farmer Daniel Stalter, 56, born in France in July 1843 to German parents, immigrated in 1855; Katie, 36, born in Illinois in March 1854 to German parents; and six children born in Illinois. Daniel donated 20 acres for the establishment of Meadows Mennonite Retirement Home. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, April 1930: "Daniel, son of John and Elizabeth Stalter, was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, July 14, 1843; died at the home of his son Simon, near Flanagan, Ill., April 2, 1930; aged 86 y. 8 m. 18 d. At the age of eleven years he came to America with his parents and located near Hamilton, Ohio, after two years they moved to Pekin, Ill. In 1865 they came to this vicinity where he spent the greater part of his life. On March 2, 1873, he was married to Katie Stalter. To this union 10 children

were born, four of whom died in infancy. His companion preceded him in death; also one son (John D.) and two daughters (Mary and Lydia, wife of Debolt Risser). He leaves two sons (Daniel D. and Simon D.) one daughter (Mrs. Sarah Roth), one sister (Mrs. Jacob Rocke), 30 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, besides many relatives and friends. He confessed Christ as his Savior and united with the Mennonite Church in his youth, and was a faithful member at the time of his death. His health had been failing for several years, but he was only confined to his bed for three days previous to his death. He was blessed with a clear mind up to the time when he peacefully passed away. Funeral services were conducted at the home by Bro. J. D. Hartzler and at the Waldo Mennonite Church by Bro. D. W. Slagel. Text, *Deut. 32: 29*. Interment in Waldo Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, January 1919: "Catharine Stalter was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Mar. 20, 1855; died of dropsy at St. James hospital, Pontiac, Ill., Dec. 20, 1918; aged 68 y. 9 m. In her youth she united with the A. M. Church and lived the life of a true Christian. Mar. 2, 1873, she was married to Daniel Stalter. This union was blessed with 10 children, six of whom preceded her to the better world. She leaves husband, two sons, two daughters, 25 grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters and many relatives and friends. One son living in Alberta and one daughter living in Oregon were permitted to visit with her before she died. But what made it sad was that nearly all the children and grandchildren were taken down with the influenza and could not attend the funeral services which were held Sunday, Dec. 22 at the Waldo Church by Bro. George Summer and Bro. D. W. Slagel. Buried in the Waldo cemetery."

6. Chrétien/Christian Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm July 10, 1845. He may have died as an infant.
7. Madeleine/Magdalena Stalter was born on Nassenwald farm July 31, 1847, and died at Waldo, Livingston County May 21, 1930. She married Jacob Rocke. He was born Dec. 1, 1844, and died at Chenoa, McLean County Nov. 19, 1924. They are found on the 1900 census of Waldo as farmer Jacob Rocke, 56, born in France in December 1844 to German parents, immigrated in 1866; Magdalena, 53, born in France in July 1846 to German parents, immigrated in 1856; and two children born in Illinois. They appear on the same census page as the household of her older brother Joseph Stalter. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.

— There may have been a second son Jacob born after July 1850 who died as in infant.

Half-sister Jakobina Stalter

The *Zurich* passenger named 'Philipp.', 26, was actually Jakobina Stalter, a half-sister to Josef [Jr.]/Joseph and Johannes/John, the brothers who lived on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller.

In Germany Philippine was an equivalent to Jakobina (the German version of the French Jacobine). The name Jacobine may have once honored the Jacobine party from the French Revolution, but in practice it was simply a feminine form of Jacob. The popular Americanized equivalent was Phoebe or Phebe.

Jakobina Stalter was born on the Monbijou estate Oct. 22, 1831 (headstone date), and died at Saybrook, McLean County Sept. 3, 1895.

Circa 1850 she married Josef Nafziger, a son of Peter Nafziger and Barbara Guth of the Faunerhof estate at Eppenbrunn (south of Pirmasens on the Germany-France border). In 1849 her sister Magdalena Stalter had married his brother Johannes Nafziger. The two couples farmed on the Kirchheimerhof estate (southwest of the city of Zweibrücken).

Presumably Jakobina accompanied Katharina/Catherine Reidiger on the *Zurich* in 1855 to help with the children, and then returned to Europe.

Her first husband Josef Nafziger died between 1860 and 1866. Circa 1866 in Germany she remarried to Joseph Dann. He was born in Germany Oct. 2, 1838 (headstone date), and died Feb. 19, 1920.

The *S.S. Paraguay* departed Le Havre and sailed via London to New York, where it arrived March 7, 1870. The passenger list shows farmer Joseph Dann, 30, Baden; Jacobine, 36, wife; Barbara Nafziger, 17, servant; Jakob, 16; Jacobine, 9 [Barbe, Jakob, and Jacobine were children from the first marriage]; Magdalena Dann, 3; and Daniel, 2 [Magdalena and Daniel from the second marriage].

Joseph was naturalized at the McLean County circuit court March 20, 1882. He was a farmer and served as treasurer of the McLean County Fair Association.

Herald of Truth, September 1895: "On the 3d of September 1895, near Saybrook, McLean Co., Ill., Sister Jacobina Dann, maiden name Stalter, aged 63 years, 10 months and 11 days. She was born in Monbijon, Rhenish Bavaria, Germany. She leaves her husband, one son and two daughters; two daughters and three sons preceded her. Buried on the 5th in Greenwood cemetery. Funeral services by Andrew Werckler, Michael Kinsinger and Pre. Schrag from *Psa. 90: 10* and *Rev. 14: 13*. Sister Dann was a faithful member of the church, and was greatly esteemed by a large circle of friends."

Joseph is found as a widower on the 1900 census of Arrowsmith, McLean County: Joseph Dann, 60, born in Germany in October 1839 to German parents, immigrated in 1870; Lena, 34, born in Germany in January 1866 to German parents, immigrated 1870; and farm laborer Christian O., 28, born in Illinois in 1872 to German parents.

Joseph and Jakobina are buried with three of their children under a joint headstone in Saybrook Cemetery: Lena E., Jan. 8, 1866-Oct. 23, 1921; Daniel, May 1, 1867-Oct. 29, 1888; and Christian O., April 15, 1871.

Presumably the headstone was purchased by Christian Oliver Dann with the expectation that he would be buried there. However, he died at Muskegon, Michigan Oct. 13, 1931 and is buried in Elmwood Cemetery at Cedar Springs, Michigan.

CHILDREN OF JAKOBINA'S FIRST MARRIAGE

— Barbe Nafziger, the oldest child of the first marriage, became Barbara in America. She was born Aug. 28, 1851, and died at Champaign, Champaign County April 9, 1923. In 1874 she married widowed minister John Albrecht. He was born Nov. 20, 1833, and died in Livingston County Feb. 12, 1900, a son of Jacob Albrecht and his first wife Katharina Ackerman. His first wife was Anna Gascho. For their obituaries see ALBRECHT in the Appendix.

— We could not account for Jakob Nafziger, the middle child of the first marriage. He would have been born circa 1854, and died before his mother's obituary was created in September 1895.

— Jacobine Nafziger, the youngest child of the first marriage, became Phoebe in America. She was born May 12, 1860, and died at Meadows, McLean County Oct. 19 (headstone date) or 20 (obituary), 1894. On March 12, 1885 in McLean County she married minister Joseph Kinsinger. He was born on the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen Sept. 30, 1855, and died at Peoria May 8, 1925, a son of Josef Kinzinger and Katharina Hauter. Joseph remarried Jan. 23, 1897 to Barbara Bertsche. *Herald of Truth*, November 1894: "Kinsinger - On the 20th of October, 1894, of dropsy of the heart, of which she suffered for several months, sister Phoebe Kinsinger, maiden name Nafziger, aged 34 y., 8 m. She leaves her bereaved husband and two children to mourn her early death. She suffered patiently looking forward to the time of her departure. Her remains were laid to rest on the 22d, followed by many friends. Funeral services by Andrew Werkler and Michael Kinsinger from *Is. 38:1* and *Jer. 31:3* in German and by Stephen Stahly and Simon Baechler in English from *Rev. 14:14-16*." Jakobina, Joseph, and Barbara are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

Nephew Jakob Stalter, also known as Jacob Z. Stalter

Jakob Stalter, also known as Jacob Z. Stalter, also known as Jake, was born on the Ernstweilerhof estate near Zweibrücken Oct. 20, 1840. He was a son of Jakob Stalter and Veronika Zimmerman, and a nephew to Josef [Jr.]/Joseph and Johannes/John, the brothers living on Nassenwald farm at Hottviller.

His father bred horses on the Ernstweilerhof estate.

One source says that he immigrated in 1857 to avoid military conscription; the 1900 census says he came in 1866. However, we suspect he was the 27-year-old German farmer Jac. Stalter found on the passenger list of the steamer *New York* as it arrived at New York from Bremen March 25, 1868.

On Feb. 11, 1872 in Livingston County he married Katharina/Catherine 'Kate' Grieser. She was born June 9, 1850, a daughter of Christian Grieser and Katharine Reidiger.

They are found on the 1880 census of Chenoa, McLean County as farmer Jacob Stalter, 39, Bavaria; Kate, 28, Baden; and three children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Pike, Livingston County shows farmer Jake Stalter, 60, born in Germany in October 1839 to German parents, immigrated in 1866; Katie, 49, born in Germany in June 1850 to German parents, immigrated in 1870; farm laborer Jacob, 22, born in Illinois in May 1878 to German parents; Joseph, 9, born in Illinois in July 1890 to German parents; and servant Lizzie Beller, 15, born in Illinois in September 1885 to a father from Germany and mother from Illinois, occupation kitchen work. The 1910 census of Pike, Livingston County shows Jacob Z. Stalter, 69, Germany; Katherine, 59, Germany; Jacob G., 31, Illinois; and Joseph R., 19, Illinois.

Gospel Herald, April 1922: "Stalter - Catherine Grieser was born in Bavaria, Germany, June 9, 1850; died at her home in Meadows, Ill., Aug. 15, 1922; aged 72 y. 2 m. 6 d. She came to America in 1870, and was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Jacob Stalter Feb. 11, 1872. They made their home in the vicinity of Meadows, Ill. To this union were born four sons and one daughter. Two sons and their daughter preceded her in death, leaving to mourn her sudden departure her deeply bereaved life companion, two sons, 10 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, three brothers, and many relatives and friends. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful and consistent member until death. Her last words were 'Come dear Jesus, I am ready.' Services were conducted by Bro. Joseph Kinsinger in German and Bro. D. W. Slagel in English. Interment in the Waldo cemetery."

Jacob died after having a heart attack while driving. *Gospel Herald*, January 1923: "Stalter - Jacob Stalter was born at Rheinpfalz, Germany, Oct. 20, 1840; died in Pontiac, Ill., at the St. James Hospital, Dec. 18, 1922; aged 82 y. 1 m. 28 d. He was married Feb. 15, 1872, to Catherine Grieser, at Bloomington, Ill. His companion died Aug. 15, 1922. To this union were born four sons and one daughter. Two sons and the daughter preceded him in death. He is survived by two sons (Henry and Joe of near Meadows, Ill.), 10 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, one brother, one sister, and many relatives and friends. He united with the Mennonite Church while yet a young man and remained faithful to the end. The greater part of his life was spent in the vicinity of Meadows, Ill. Funeral

services were held at the home of his son Henry (with whom he had his home since the death of his companion) and at the Waldo Church by the home ministers. Interment in the Waldo cemetery."

They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

The Stalters of Gern

In 1795 a Wittelsbach named Maximilian Joseph became duke. He was born as the Count of Rappolstein in Lower Alsace, and had been educated by French tutors. He had also been a major general in the French army, and was stationed at Strasbourg 1782-89 with his Royal Alsace Regiment. However, he actually turned against the French during their revolution, fighting with Austria from 1789 until the Peace of Amiens in 1802.

In February of 1799 Maximilian Joseph became Elector Maximilian IV Joseph of Bavaria. He proved to be a progressive administrator who relaxed restrictions on agriculture and commerce, and made the tax code more equitable. His edict of religious tolerance offered Mennonites full rights of citizenship. Though not exempt from conscription, Mennonites could hire substitutes to serve their military commitments. The elector also confiscated a number of Catholic properties and used their revenues for public education.

Recall the earlier story of **Heinrich Stalter,** who fled from French troops after they burned the buildings on the Kirschbacherhof estate at Dietrichingen. Heinrich died in Moselle in 1800.

His widow, Katharina Imhof, appealed to the new elector. She pointed out that his royal parents had often hunted on the Kirschbacherhof estate. She requested new properties for her sons, citing the role her deceased husband had played as host to the Wittelsbach family.

The elector knew of several nationalized cloister properties. The request was successful, and Katharina's sons did receive estates. They also invited other Amish Mennonite families to join them.

One of the first to migrate was her son **Heinrich Stalter [Jr.]**, who was born circa 1776. In 1802 he was awarded outright ownership of the cloister of St. Theresa at Gern near Munich.

The prefect of the Moselle region wrote in 1803: 'The emigration of these Anabaptist farmers would be disastrous, for they are the most competent, and in general they are very obedient to the law. Several families from the region of Zweibrücken have already been lured to Bavaria by the elector, their former ruler, and he is planning to bring as many as possible into his new state."

The Elector of the Pfalz had opposed the French Revolution and initially provided troops to fight against Napoleon. However, when war resumed in 1804, the elector changed allegiances and fought on the side of Napoleon and France. His troops helped Napoleon to defeat a numerically superior Austrian army at Austerlitz. He received the anticipated reward when the country of Bavaria was created from Wittelsbach family properties under the Treaty of Pressburg, and became King Maximilian I of Bavaria Dec. 26, 1805. When Austria challenged Napoleon again four years later, Bavaria once again fought as a French ally.

Circa 1806 Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] married Jakobina Stalter. Her family connections could not be identified.

In June of 1812 Napoleon marched his troops into Russia to head off a threat to Poland. The campaign was an unqualified disaster. During this time Bavarian troops were considered 'unreliable at best' on the battlefield. The king of Bavaria was beginning to reconsider his options.

Many Bavarian troops declined to take the field on behalf of the French on the eve of the 'battle of nations' at Leipzig, Oct. 16-19, 1813. Following the battle, Maximilian I made it openly known that he was going over to the allies. He met up with 13,000 Austrian units, and energetically moved his 17,000 troops to block the retreat path of the French at Hanau. Although the French succeeded in passing through his lines on Oct. 30, inflicting 9,000 casualties, the Bavarian king had made the point that he was prepared to sacrifice to aid the allies.

The French occupation ended in 1814. But through his political maneuvering Maximilian I managed to preserve his kingdom and sovereignty in the bargaining at the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

The kind treatment offered to Amish Mennonites in Bavaria by the Wittelsbach family caused many émigrés to remain there, and more to follow. However, the political landscape of Europe moved toward conservatism after the Congress of Vienna. Maximilian I struck up an alliance with the Vatican. The Catholic Church was reinstated in Bavaria in October of 1817, but the monarch reserved the right to restrict activities and approve appointments. A Catholic priest was chosen to tutor the king's son.

Despite the resurgence of the Catholic church in Bavaria, Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] and Jakobina Stalter remained on the former cloister property at Gern, where they raised cattle.

On the opposite side of the center of Munich was Berg am Laim, a mountain and brickworks. Daniel Zehr and Magdalena Unzicker had children there in 1810 and 1812.

Gern also had connections to the Hemerten estate. Owner Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] of Gern and owner Heinrich Stalter of the Hemerten estate were cousins, and there were several intermarriages between the two locations.

The story of the voyages of the *Granville* and *Alexandre Toussin* is given in YORDY. The *Granville* sailed from Le Havre in autumn of 1839, but its passengers arrived at New Orleans on the *Alexandre Toussin* Dec. 26. They included a very pregnant daughter Katharina/Catherine Stalter with two children; her soon-to-be husband Chrétien Jordi/Christian Yotty; her older brother Jacob Stalter acting as escort (he later returned to Europe); and her younger sister Magdalena Stalter.

Widower Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] is thought to have arrived at New Orleans in 1842.[236] He may have been accompanied by four or five of his children: Marie and her new husband Christian 'Harry' Burkey; Jakobina and possibly husband Jacob Sann (they married in 1842); Heinrich; Veronika; and possibly Joseph.

Daughter Elizabeth did not emigrate from Europe until 1851, sailing from Le Havre with her husband Christian Birki on the *Adhema*. They arrived at New York June 7, 1851.

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows Heinrich in the household of a son-in-law and daughter: farmer Christian Yeatty [Jordi], 40, Germany; Catharine [Stalter], 41, Germany; John, 16, Germany; Mary, 15, Germany; Henry, 10, Louisiana; Jos3eph, 4, Illinois; Catheraine, 1, Illinois; and [father in law] Henry Stalder, 74, Germany.

Heinrich died in Tazewell County between 1852 and 1860, and is thought to be buried in Birki Cemetery at Groveland near daughter Elizabeth Stalter. A partial headstone gives only the name Heinrich Stalter.

Children of Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] and Jakobina Stalter born at Gern include:

1. Jakob Stalter was born July 22, 1807. He accompanied his sister Katharina on her 1839 voyage to America, then returned to Europe. On April 23, 1841 at Munich he married Anna Bächer of Mosach. He was the only one of the children who died in Europe.
2. Katharina/Catherine Stalter was born circa 1809, and died in Woodford County Oct. 4, 1894. She married Christian Yotty. He was born circa 1811, and died at Olio, Woodford County Nov. 7, 1870. See YORDY, CHRISTIAN YOTTY for more on this couple.
3. Elizabeth Stalter was born Gern April 15 or 18, 1813, and died at Groveland Sept. 29, 1872. In 1844 in Tazewell County she became the second wife of Christian Birki. He was born March 14, 1789, and died at Groveland Jan. 14, 1866, a son of Christian Bürcky. See BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE BIG BIRKEYS for more on this couple.
4. Magdalena Stalter was born in 1815, and died at New Orleans Oct. 27, 1893. She arrived at New Orleans on the *Granville* Dec. 28, 1839. The passenger list gave her age as 24. She remained in New Orleans while her sister Katharina/Catherine went with Christian Yotty to Illinois. In 1840 she married gardener Christian Rupp, becoming his second wife. He was born in Germany in 1811 (passenger list) or 1813 (death entry age 52), and died at New Orleans June 29, 1865. He arrived in New Orleans on the *Platina* from Le Havre April 7, 1838; the passenger list shows Christian, 27; Barbara, 27; and Magdalena, 3 months. First wife Barbara died in 1840. Louisiana archives show five children born to Magdalena in New Orleans. The first was Heinrich 'Harry' Rupp, born Oct. 1, 1841, who fought for the Confederacy in the Chalmette Regiment of the Louisiana Militia. Others included Jacob (born July 25, 1843), Christoph/Christian (born April 26, 1845) who fought in the Union Second Regiment Infantry formed of volunteers from Louisiana; Michel (born March 31, 1849); and Catherine (born in October 1854). *The Times Picayune*, Oct. 29, 1893: "On Friday, Oct. 27, 1893, at 4:50 p.m., Magdalena Stalter, widow of -- (aged 75 years, -- months, and 17 days) a native of Bavaria, Germany, and a resident of this city for the past fifty-four years."
5. Jakobina Stalter was born in 1817, and died circa 1865. In 1842 she married Jacob Sann. He was born in Germany circa 1811, and died in 1880 or later. The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows Jacob Sing, 39, Germany; Jacobine, 31, Germany; Jacob, 8, Illinois; Christian, 6, Illinois; May [Mary], 1, Illinois; Fredericka [Veronika] Stalter, 20, Germany; laborer Henry, 23, Germany; and Lanie [Magdalena], three months, Illinois. They are found on the same census page as Benjamin Goldschmidt and Michael Zimmerman. The 1860 census of Tremont shows farmer Jacob Sonn, 49, Germany; Jacobin, 18, Illinois; Christian, 16, Illinois; Mary, 10, Illinois; and Jannas [John], 3, Illinois. The 1870 census of Chenoa, McLean County shows farmer Jacob Sann, 58, Biren [Bayern, or Bavaria]; Mary, 20, Illinois; Jacob, 27, Biren; and John, 12, Illinois; the 1880 census shows retired farmer and widower Jacob Sann, 68, Germany; son Jacob Sann, 35, Germany; daughter-in-law Annie [Neuhauser] Sann, 28, France; Mary, 9, Illinois; and Emanuel, 8, Illinois.[237]

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[236] A 'near miss' ship is misattributed in some sources. The *Albert* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New Orleans Dec. 20, 1843. The passenger list shows a family with some resemblances: Henrich Staltah, 62, washman from Damme, Germany; Maria, 56; Heinrich, 18; and A.M. [Anna Maria], 15.

[237] Their son Jacob Sann [Jr.] enlisted as a 17-year-old at Hopedale Jan. 27, 1865 by overstating his age as 22. The records say that he was a farmer born in Germany and a resident of Hopedale; he was 5-foot, 6-inches tall; he had brown hair, gray eyes, and a dark complexion. He was mustered in for a one-year term on Feb. 18, 1865. Serving as a private in Company D, 152nd Infantry, Jacob went via Nashville to Tullahoma, Tennessee. The officer in charge of the regiment was Colonel Ferdinand D. Stephenson of Groveland. Company D was mustered out at Memphis, Tennessee on Sept. 9-11, 1865, receiving their final pay

6. Maria/Mary Stalter was born March 3, 1820, and died at Raymond, Nebraska Jan. 3, 1916. In 1839 in Germany she married Christian 'Harry' Burkey. He was born in Bavaria Sept. 4, 1819, and died at Milford, Nebraska Nov. 8, 1890, a son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker. They immigrated via New Orleans. The 1900 census says she immigrated in 1842; her husband's obituary says he came via New Orleans in 1842; but her obituary says she came with her husband in 1843. See BIRKY/BIRKEY for more on this couple.
7. Heinrich 'Henry' Stalter was born in 1826. In September of 1850, 23-year-old 'Henry Stolder' from Germany was living with Jacob Sann and his sister Jakobina, along with his sister Frederika (Veronika) and her infant daughter, Magdalena, in Tazewell County. He may have died in 1852 and been buried in Birki Cemetery at Groveland.
8. Josef Stalter was born in 1828. He died before 1842.
9. Veronika 'Fanny' Stalter was born Aug. 7, 1831, and died at Hopedale Sept. 16, 1880. On Jan. 5, 1851 in Tazewell County she married George Eichelberger. He was born at Munich May 17, 1817, and died at Manson, Iowa July 3, 1902, a son of Johannes/Jean Echelberger and Elisabetha Unzicker. See EICHELBERGER for background on this couple.

John Stalter of Peoria and 'Other' Stalters

Heinrich Stalter Jr. (of the Stalters of Gern) had a younger brother named **Johannes/John Stalter**, who arrived in Central Illinois well before him.

Illinois biography notes say only that he was born in Rheinish Bavaria (the lands west of the Rhine River, the Pfalz, now called the state of Rheinisch-Pfalz) circa 1780. But like his older brother Heinrich Jr. he was born on the 420-acre estate at Dietrichingen, six miles southeast of the city of Zweibrücken, a son of Heinrich Stalter and Katharina Imhof.

In 1802-03 he was an applicant with Daniel Unzicker for leases on land at the Polling cloister, nine miles west of Lake Starnberg, 40 miles southwest of Munich, above Wellheim in Oberbayern in Bavaria. Daniel Unzicker has been described as his brother-in-law, though this needs confirmation. Because of this we may be able to identify Katharina/Catherine Hauter, the woman who married Johannes/John Stalter at around this time, and who accompanied him to America in 1831.

Recall from UNZICKER that Daniel Unzicker was born in 1773. His first wife was Jakobina Holly. His second wife was Elisabeth Hauter. Elisabeth Hauter was born circa 1775, and died Dec. 17, 1861, a daughter of Nikolaus Hauter and Susanne Oesch of the estate Monbijou near Zweibrücken. She is buried as 'Elisabeth Hauter Unzicker,' aged 86 years, in Darrtown Cemetery, Butler County, Ohio.

Thus Nikolaus Hauter and his first wife Susanne Oesch, or perhaps his second wife Elisabeth Maurer, *could* have been the parents of Katharina/Catherine. Or at the least, it is probable that she was closely related.

Johannes/John and Katharina/Catherine sailed from Le Havre in November of 1830 on the packet ship *Isaac Hicks*, and arrived at New Orleans Jan. 29, 1831. Their traveling party is found on the passenger list as J. Stalter, 49, male; C. Stalter, 49, female; C. Stalter, 24, female; M. Stalter, 21, female; E. Stalter, 18, female; J. Stalter, 7, male; farmer P. Hausenburg [Peter Herschberger, the husband of Catherine, 24], 28; J. Habecker, 31, male; B. Habecker [Stalter], 31, female; C. Habecker, 11, male; C. Habecker, 7, female; J. Habecker, 5, male; and P. Habecker, male, 3.

The second family was that of Johannes/John Habecker and Barbara/Barbe Stalter. Barbara/Barbe was born on the horse breeding farm Le Haras at Sarralbe, Moselle April 3, 1799, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Stalter and Barbe Imhof. Jacob/Jacques was described as a plowman at Drulingen, Lower Alsace when he died at nearby Ottwiller Dec. 25, 1810, age 56. Barbara/Barbe had married Habecker at Lembach, Lower Alsace April 18, 1823. They would have been coming from the area of Trippstadt below Kaiserslautern, and in American went directly to Butler County, Ohio. See HABECKER for background on this couple and their sons who came to Woodford, Tazewell, and McLean Counties.

The Stalters initially went to Pennsylvania, then Hamilton County, Ohio (encompassing Cincinnati, adjacent to Butler County). In *Eine populäre geschichte der stadt Peoria* (1905), Frederick Bodo Bess wrote that John Stalter arrived at Peoria in 1834, and later became the patriarch of the German community there.

Fort Clark was built on the west side of the Illinois River in 1813. The county of Peoria was established in 1825, and Fort Clark became the settlement of Peoria. In 1835 it was incorporated as a village. John ran the Upper Ferry on the Illinois River, between the docks at Peoria and what became East Peoria.

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and discharge letters, and reached Camp Butler, Illinois Sept. 19, 1865. Jacob Sann [Jr.] is later found in censuses from Holdredge, Nebraska (1910); and Liberty, Nebraska (1920).

They were likely the family found on the 1840 census of Tazewell County as the household of John Stalder: one male 60-69 years of age; one male 15-20; one female 60-69; and two females 20-29.

The 1850 census of Peoria shows John as a widower living in the household of daughter Catherine, who had become a widow. Her husband Peter had died of cholera at Peoria in 1849. They are found as widow Catharin [Stalter] Hershberger, 34, Germany; laborer Joseph [Herschberger], 18, Germany; saddler John [Herschberger], 16, Germany; Christian, 1, Illinois; Madilane, 14, Ohio; Catharine, 8, Illinois; Philapean, 4, Illinois; and labourer John Stalder, 70, Germany.

The 1860 census of the 4th Ward of Peoria shows farmer John Stalter, 81, Bavaria; butcher John Stalter Jr., 36, Switzerland; Madalina [Eyer], 37, Baden; Catherine, 9, Illinois; Henry, 6, Illinois; Louisa, 4, Illinois; Emily, 2, Illinois; and harness maker John Hershberger, 26, Ohio. (The 4-year-old daughter Louisa later married Samuel D. Ropp, a son of Jacob Ropp and Elizabeth Schlegel of Elm Grove; she is buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove).

The *1861 Peoria City Directory* shows Stalter, John, res. Gay. west side, 3rd house south Adams; and Stalter, John, jr., laborer, 272 South-Water, res. Gay, west side, 3rd house south Adams.

In 1873 a 93-year-old John Sr. slipped on icy stairs at a market on Washington and Fulton Streets in Peoria. A weathered headstone in Springdale Cemetery and Mausoleum at Peoria commemorates 'John Stalter, 1780-1873.'

Did Heinrich Jr. bring his children to Tazewell County in 1842 because his brother Johannes/John was already in the area?

Children of Johannes/John Stalter and Katharina/Catherine Hauter include:

1. Catherine Stalter was born circa 1807, and died Aug. 3, 1887. She appears on the passenger list as 'C. Stalter, 24, female.' In Bavaria she married Peter Herschberger. He was born in Bavaria circa 1803, and died of cholera at Peoria in 1849. They lived in Hamilton County, Ohio before resettling in Peoria County in 1841. The 1850 census of Peoria shows widow Catharine Herschberger, 34, Germany; Joseph, 18, Germany; John, 16, Germany; Christian, 5, Illinois; Madilane, 14, Ohio; Catharine, 8, Illinois; and Philapean, 4, Illinois. She is buried with her daughter Catharine/Kate/Katie in Springdale Cemetery and Mausoleum at Peoria. One of her children resettled in Tazewell County:
    a. Magdalena Herschberger was born in Ohio Nov. 5, 1837. She married Jacob Schlabach. They are found on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as farmer Jacob Schlabach, 38, France; Madelaine, 34, Ohio; John, 14, Illinois; 12, Illinois; Elizabeth, 4, Illinois; and William, 1, Illinois. She died of liver cancer at Elm Grove July 26, 1914. Her death entry described her as the widow Magdalena Slabaugh, 76, born in Ohio, lived 72 yrs. in Ill. Her parents were described as Peter Herschberger and Catherine Stalter. She is buried in Railroad Cemetery.
2. We could not account for 'M. Stalter, 21, female' on the passenger list. She may have been the Mataline Stalder [Magdalena Stalter?] who married Samuel Dalcher in Tazewell County Dec. 9, 1841. He died Dec. 5, 1862, and is buried under an illegible headstone in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin. If so, she died before the 1840 census. He is found on the 1840 census of Tazewell County; then on the 1850 census as farmer Samuel Dalcher, 50, Germany; and Amelia, 16, Illinois. The 1860 census of Dillon has farmer Samuel Dalcher, 58, Switzerland in the household of Christian Swarts.
3. Elizabeth Stalter was born in 1812 or 1813. She appeared on the passenger list as 'E. Stalter, 18, female.' There is a significant chance that she answers a question about an Elizabeth Stalter born in 1812 or 1813 who married Christian Zimmerman (1817-1887), a son of Michael Zimmerman and his first wife Barbe Roggy. If so, they married in Peoria County June 13, 1847. Christian and Elizabeth lived at Elm Grove; see ZIMMERMAN for background on this couple.
4. Johannes/John Stalter Jr. was born circa 1824. He appeared on the passenger list as 'J. Stalter, 7, male.' On June 24, 1849 in Peoria County he married Magdalena Eyer. She was born in Baden circa 1823. He drove a supply wagon during the construction of the 50-mile Peoria and Bureau Valley Railroad from May 1853 to January 1855.238 He also worked as a butcher and laborer.

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[238] Our three principal sources were *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois, Volume 2; Illinois Biographical Dictionary;* and *Portrait and Biographical Album of Peoria*. They contain a number of factual errors. *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois, Volume 2* on butcher Charles F. Weber: "...Mr. Weber married Kate Herschberger in Peoria, July 17, 1864. She was born in Tazewell County, January 24, 1843, a daughter of Pete and Kate (Stalter) Herschberger, who located in Peoria in 1836. They were natives of Germany, and the mother was a daughter of John and Katharine (Haeuter) Stalter. John Stalter was born in Rhenish Bavaria in 1780, and lived to be ninety-three. His wife Katharine was a native of Zweibrücken, Rheinpfalz, Old Bavaria, where she was born in 1804 [she was born circa 1780]. She died in 1887 [she died before the 1840 census]. John Stalter and family came to the United States in 1830 [1831]. After living in Pennsylvania for a time they came to Peoria, where he ran the Upper Ferry. He was a teamster and helped build the Bureau Valley Railroad [this was his son John Jr.]. Peter Herschberger and wife were married in Germany, came to America with her father's family, and settled in Ohio. Later they came to Tazewell County, and subsequently to Peoria, where Mr. Herschberger died, November 11, 1850 [before the 1850 census, thought to be 1849], a victim of cholera, aged forty years."

THE STALTERS OF TRIPPSTADT

Johann Adam Stalter and Anna Catherine Riessen were married at Lachen Nov. 24, 1728. There is no known tie-in to the Stalter family of Pfalz-Zweibrücken. Their son **Johann Peter Stalter** was born at Lachen April 17, 1738. He married Anna Margaretha Roth. Their son **Johann Peter Stalter** was born there Sept. 17, 1769. He married Anna Maria Sauter.

Their daughter **Magdalena Stalter** was born at Lachen in the Pfalz circa 1808, and died at Washington, Tazewell County after 1880

At Trippstadt in the Pfalz (20 miles west of Lachen, seven miles below Kaiserslautern, adjacent to Schmalenberg) Magdalena gave birth to three children. The family came to Central Illinois in the early 1850s.

She is last found in the 1880 census of Washington, Tazewell County as the 72-year-old mother in the household of Elizabeth Stalter Schmalenberger, her daughter.

Magdalena's children born at Trippstadt include:

1. Elisabetha/Elizabeth Stalter was born April 28, 1825, and died at Morton April 16, 1888. Only Magdalena Stalter was named as a parent on the birth entry. On Oct. 4, 1849 at Trippstadt she married Heinrich/Henry Schmalenberger. He was born at Trippstadt Dec. 5, 1825, and died at Farmdale Dec. 5, 1869, a son of Johannes Schmalenberger and Katharina Henriette Jung. Only Magdalena Stalter was named as a parent on the entry. They immigrated in 1851, and lived in Brooklyn, N.Y. for a few years. Henry Schmalenberger of Bavaria was naturalized in Peoria County Sept. 28, 1860. The 1860 census of Groveland has laborer H. Smallberry, 34, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 35, Bavaria; Eva, 10, Bavaria; Ann, 8, N. York; Laura, 2, Illinois; and Barbara, four months, Illinois. He is buried under a broken and prone headstone in Guth Cemetery at Washington as 'Henry Smallberry, aged 44' near a daughter 'Lena, dau. of H. & E. Smallberry, died April 25, 1872, aged 14 y. 6 m.' Widow Elizabeth's household appears on the 1880 census of Washington, Tazewell County as farmer Elizabeth Smallberger, 55, Bavaria; Andrew, 17, Illinois; Joseph, 12, Illinois; and Magdalena Stalter, 72, mother, Bavaria. Her headstone in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland says, 'Elizabeth Schmallenberger, *geb. im Jahre 1825, gest. 16 April 1888*.'
2. Barbara Stalter was born May 14, 1835, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Jan. 15, 1922. Magdalena Stalter was the only parent named on her birth entry. On May 19, 1859 in Tazewell County she married Abraham Ringenberger/Ringenberg; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania May 28, 1833, and died April 15, 1915, a son of Pierre Ringenberg /Peter Ringenberger and Anna/Anne Schrag/Schrock. They are found on the 1880 census of Fon du Lac as farmer A. Rinkenberger, 47, born in Pennsylvania to French parents; Barbara, 45, born in R. Biern [Bayern/Bavaria]; and eight children born in Illinois. They worshipped at the Defenseless Mennonite Church of Groveland. They are buried in Rinkenberger Cemetery.
3. Ludwig/Louis/Lewis Stalter was born Nov. 26, 1841, and died at Hanna City, Peoria County Oct. 15, 1914. Magdalena Stalter was the only parent named on his birth entry. On May 11, 1861 in Tazewell County he married Anna Schrock. She was born in Ohio in 1840, and died in 1874, a daughter of Andrew Schrag/Schrock and Anna Oyer. The 1870 census of Waldo shows farmer Lewis Stahlta, 29, Bavaria; Anna, 28, Illinois; five children born in Illinois; and farm laborer Joseph Garber, 32, Illinois. 1861. *Gospel Herald*, June 1874: "March 4th, in Livingston co., Ill., Anna Stalter**,** wife of Lewis Stalter, aged 34 years. Services by John and Joseph Rediger. She leaves a husband and 6 children to mourn their loss." On Dec. 3, 1874 in McLean County he remarried to Jakobina 'Phebe' Rediger. She was born at Ichenheim, Baden Feb. 2, 1845, and died at Gridley, McLean County March 7, 1922, a daughter of Christian Reidiger and Magdalena Stalter. They appear on the 1880 census of Morton. On Nov. 7, 1887 at Pekin he married a third time. The *Register of Marriages* entry, created from information obtained from Louis, described the groom as Louis Stalter, Pekin, Ill., Sheriff Tazewell County, 46, white, born in Germany, parents John Stalter and Magdalena Imhof, in his third marriage. The bride was described as Rosina Harrris or Rosina Dearth, Peoria, 36, white, born in McLean County, parents Rudolph Dearth and Elizabeth Fehrman, in her third marriage. This was Roseanna Dearth, the widow of Herman Kehr and Lemuel Harris. She was born in Woodford County Feb. 25, 1852, and died at Morton Oct. 22, 1927, a daughter of Randolph Dearth and Elizabeth Fuhrman. They appear on the 1900 census of Elmwood, Peoria County. Ludwig/Louis/Lewis served two terms as Tazewell County sheriff. He is buried as Louis Stalter under a joint headstone with his first wife Anna in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

The 1880 census of Peoria may be the origin of the misconception that there was a Katharina Hauter born circa 1804. One household shows butcher Geo. Weber, 38, born in Ohio to German parents; Kattie, 38, born in Illinois to German parents [Katie Herschberger, the daughter of Peter Herschberger and Catherine Stalter]; Willie, 15, born in Illinois to parents form Ohio and Illinois; Chas., 9, same; George, 4, same; Frank, 2, same; grandmother Kattie Stalder, 75, Germany; butcher Jno. Weber, 25, Ohio; and help Fred Brown, 21, Germany. Not only was 'Kattie Stalder' not a Katharina Hauter born circa 1804, but she was her daughter born circa 1807, and married Peter Herschberger in Bavaria.

JOHN STALTER OF FRANCE

John Stalter was born in France July 24, 1828, and died in Montgomery Township, Woodford County March 11, 1911. He immigrated in 1845, according to his 1900 census report.

On March 28, 1855 in Woodford County he married Mary Farney. She was born at Wilmot, Ontario Jan. 1, 1832 (headstone), and died March 26, 1908, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Farny and Anne Kempf. Her father, with her uncle Christian, were 'the Amishmen who hired Lincoln.'

They are found on the 1860 census of Olio Township, Woodford County as farm laborer John Stalter, 28, France; Mary, 27, France; and Annie, 4, Illinois. The 1873 plat map shows their farm as 80 acres overlapping Sections 19 and 20 in Montgomery Township. The 1900 census of Kansas and Montgomery Townships shows landlord John Stalter, 71, born in France in July 1828 to French parents, immigrated in 1845; Mary, 69, born in Canada in November 1830 to French parents, immigrated in 1840; and Joseph, 35, born in Illinois in March 1865 to parents from France and Canada.

Monon News, April 6, 1906: "Mary Farney Stalter was born in Canada, November 2, 1832, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Joseph Saltzman March 26, 1906, aged 73 years 4 months 24 days. When three year old she with her parents moved to Illinois which has been her home for seventy years, with the exception of the past nine months which she has spent with her daughter. In 1855 she was united in marriage to John Stalter who with two daughters, one son and fifteen grandchildren survive her. When sixteen years of age she united with the Mennonite church and lived a devoted Christian life until the summons came to meet the savior whom she had so long served. The deceased was a woman who made her religion her life study, always ready to go where duty called, and willingly and cheerfully doing what she found to do for her Master so that when she was called to her reward she could say with the psalmist, "Yea though I walk through the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

ANTON STALTER OF PEKIN

Anton Stalter was born circa 1822 (per a possible passenger list), in Switzerland in March 1824 (1900 census), or in Switzerland in 1827 (headstone and enlistment documents), and died at Peoria April 12, 1901, a son of Johann Stalter and Anna Stagman.[239]

The 1900 census says he immigrated in 1853. However, he may have been the Anton Stalter who sailed from Le Havre on the *Souter Johnny*, arriving at New York June 21, 1852.[240] The passenger list shows a 32-year-old farmer from Bavaria. If so, he may have underestimated his age to enlist in 1860 and remained consistent on census reports. The 1900 census says he immigrated in 1853.

On Dec. 2, 1855 in Tazewell County he married Rebecca Hanks. She was born in Virginia circa 1825, and died in Illinois in 1881. She was a daughter of Joshua Hanks and Mary, and a second cousin to Springfield lawyer Abraham Lincoln.[241] We can speculate that Lincoln visited his relative as he rode the Eighth Judicial Circuit.

Anton was naturalized in the county courthouse at Pekin Sept. 4, 1860.[242] The record was transcribed and typewritten, and the index card entry describes him as a 31-year-old who had arrived at New York March 2, 1856 (an obviously incorrect date which may be due to a faulty transcription). His birthplace was given as Lützen, Germany [in Saxony-Anhalt]. Witnesses were John O'Brian [possibly farmer John O'Brien of Groveland] and John Griffith.

He enlisted at Pekin July 1, 1861, and served with Company A of the 44th Illinois Infantry. His entrance documents describes him as a 34-year-old married farmer, height 5 foot-10, brown eyes, black hair, complexion dark, born in Switzerland.

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[239] Lucerne is the administrative center of Canton Lucerne. It is roughly 45 miles northeast of Lake Thun in Canton Bern.

[240] Souter Johhny is a 'drinking buddy' in the poem *Tam O' Shanter* by Robert Burns. "Ae market-night, Tam had got planted unco right; Fast by an ingle, bleezing finely, Wi' reaming swats, that drank divinely, And at his elbow, Souter Johnny, His ancient, trusty, drouthy crony; Tam lo'ed him like a vera brither-- They had been four weeks togither."

[241] The 1850 census of Marion, Marion County shows Mary Hanks, 63, Virginia; Elias, 35, Virginia; Rebecca, 25, Virginia; Solomon, 16, Ohio; and Elizabeth, 6, Ohio. We found one source that named the parents of Solomon as Joshua Hanks and Mary 'Polly.' This may have been the Joshua Hanks found on the 1820 and 1830 censuses of Grayson, Virginia. Joshua was born in Virginia circa 1762, and died circa 1835.

Thus Rebecca's parents were Joshua Hanks (circa 1762-circa 1835) and Mary; her paternal grandparents were Joseph Hanks (1725-circa 1793) and Ann 'Nancy' Lee (circa 1742-after 1794). Abraham's parents were Thomas Lincoln (1778-1857) and Nancy Hanks (1784-1818); his paternal grandparents were James Hanks (circa 1761-1785) and Lucy Shipley (circa 1761-circa 1826); and his paternal great-grandparents were Joseph Hanks and Ann 'Nancy' Lee.

[242] The brick courthouse at Pekin was constructed in 1849 and torn down in 1914.

He signed for a three-year term of enlistment. His company was mustered in at Chicago Sept. 13, 1861. They initially participated in engagements in Missouri. From there they pursued to the south, where they took part in a number of significant battles including the siege of Corinth, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and the siege of Atlanta. At the close of the war the company was garrisoned at Port Lavaca, Texas. They mustered out Sept. 25, 1865.

The 1870 census of Little Mackinaw shows farmer Anthony Statler, 45, Switzerland; Rebecca, 45, Virginia; Geo. W., 24, Illinois; Eliza, 11, Illinois; and Isabelle, 9, Illinois.

The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows farmer and housekeeper Rebecca Statler, 55, born in Virginia to parents from Virginia; farmer George, 23, born in Illinois to Swiss parents; Isabell, 18, born in Illinois to Swiss parents; and boarder David Hale, 14 or 19, born in Illinois to parents from Indiana, 'works on farm.'

We cannot account for the absence of Anton and his daughter Elizabeth. He may have had a disability, and been cared for in another household that is not apparent on the census. His veteran's pension documents said that he became an invalid in Illinois Feb. 13, 1886.

Rebecca died in Illinois in 1881. On June 10, 1890 in Tazewell County Anton remarried to widow Rachel Largent. She was born in Virginia in 1828, and died at Enid, Oklahoma June 2, 1918, a daughter of James Largent and Elizabeth Boxwell. She was the widow of John W. Williams, with whom she had 14 children. Williams had died at Peoria Sept. 11, 1879.

On Sept. 15, 1893 Anton entered the Soldiers and Sailors Home at Quincy, Riverside Township, Adams County. The 1900 census shows him as Anton Stalter, 76, born in Switzerland in March 1824, immigrated in 1853.

He died there June 28, 1909. He is buried as "Anton Stalter, Co. A., 44 Ill. Inf." in Sunset Cemetery at Quincy (formerly the Soldiers and Sailors Cemetery).

His second wife is buried as "Rachel W. Stalter, 1828-1918" in Enid Cemetery at Enid, Oklahoma.

Children of Anton Stalter and his first wife Rebecca Hanks born in Tazewell County include:

1. George Washington Stalter was born in August 1858 (1900 census) or in 1859 (headstone), and died at Rantoul, Champaign County Jan. 10, 1933. On June 15, 1893 in Champaign County he married Anna E. Burkhardt. She was born at Rantoul Dec. 15, 1871, and died at Urbana March 13, 1953, a daughter of John Martin Burkhardt and Maria. They are found on the 1900 census of Rantoul as farm laborer George W. Stalter, 41, born in Illinois in August 1858 to a father from Switzerland [no information for his mother]; Anna B., 27, born in Illinois in December 1872 to German parents; and three children born in Illinois. They are buried in Maplewood Cemetery at Rantoul.
2. Elizabeth 'Eliza' Stalter was born May 12, 1859, and died at Martinez Community Hospital, Contra Costa County, California (in the San Francisco Bay area) Sept. 19, 1944. Her death entry there called her Eliza Lintz, and named her parents as Stalter and Hanks. On July 17, 1900 at Fresno, California she married George Irving Hall. He was born circa 1865, and died in 1923. They are found on the 1910 census of Fresno as George I. Hall, 45, born in Connecticut to parents from the United States; Eliza, 51, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Maryland; Bert C. Hall, 8, California; and Charles B. Hall, 6, California. Between 1923 and 1930 she remarried to widower Joseph W. Lintz. He was born at Richmond, Iowa Sept. 28, 1865, and died at Contra Costa Sept. 10, 1942, a son of Franz 'Frank' David Lintz and Elizabeth Anna Holick. His had married his first wife Elizabeth E. Kodym at Richmond Oct. 29, 1889; she died in 1922.[243] The 1930 census of Martinez shows Joseph W. Lintz, 65, born in Iowa to parents from Czechoslovakia; Eliza [Stalter], 70, born in Illinois to parents form Switzerland and Virginia; and divorced son Bert C. Hall, 28, born in California to parents from Connecticut and Illinois. They appear on the 1940 census of Martinez as Joseph W. Lintz, 74, Iowa; and Eliza, 80, Illinois.
3. Isabella Stalter was born in 1862, and died in 1940. On March 6, 1881 in Tazewell County she married Charles Schmutz of Tremont. Schmutz was born in Germany, a son of Christian Schmutz and Louise Fredericka Spahr. He was naturalized in Woodford County in 1876. Isabella is found as widowed sister-in-law Esibel Schmutz, 58, born in Illinois to a father from Switzerland and a mother from Virginia, in the Peoria household of John Sommer in 1920. Sommer was vice president of the Keystone Steel and Wire Company of Peoria, founded by his father. He had married Eliza Schmutz, a sister to Charles.

HENRY STALDER

Heinrich/ Henry Stalder was born circa 1842. He was 20 when he enlisted at Spring Bay, Woodford County June 21, 1862. Entry documents describe him as Harry Stalder, a married farmer born in Germany, who had light hair and gray eyes, and stood 5-foot-6. He mustered in at Peoria Aug. 27, 1862, and served with Company F of the 85th Illinois Infantry Regiment.

They moved by train to Louisville, Kentucky Sept. 6. The bulk of the active Union forces were at Nashville, Tennessee under Major General Don Carlos Buell. When Confederate general Braxton Bragg's Army of the

[243] A headstone in Holy Trinity Cemetery at Richmond, Iowa says "Joseph W. Lintz, 1865-Elizabeth E. his wife 1861-1922."

Mississippi approached Louisville, Henry's company moved out to join troops confronting him. They pursued Bragg Oct. 1-6, and fought in the battle of Chaplin Hills west of Perryville, Kentucky Oct. 8. There the two sides fought to a standstill.

The engagement was considered part of the largest Confederate simultaneous offensive, and one of the bloodiest battles of the war. But the Union considered it a success, because it bought time for more new recruits to arrive. Two nights later Bragg withdrew to Tennessee. Buell added reinforcements. The Union retained control of Kentucky for the remainder of the war.

Henry returned to Louisville from the battle scene. He died there of typhoid Oct. 12, after only six weeks of service. Nine soldiers died from the impact of bullets or shells during the company's three years of service; Henry was one of 10 who died of disease. Over the course of the Civil War the entire Regiment lost four officers and 86 enlisted men to bullets or shells; one officer and 131 men succumbed to disease.

We could not identify his family relationships, passenger list, or place of burial.

Steinman: Steinmann of Pfalz-Zweibrücken

In the Bernese dialect a *Steinmann* cuts stone in a quarry. *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname include the villages of Lauperswil and Konolfingen in Canton Bern.

Steinmann is generally found where German is spoken; *Steinman* where French or English are spoken.

Recall from STAKER, "*The Joder Newsletter* cites *Document K-893* of March 9, 1580, which has recently been moved to the State Archives of Canton Bern. The deed describes land on the border of Steffisburg and neighboring Fahrni [now Fahrni bei Thun]. 'The brothers Caspar and Nicolaus Joder, sons of the deceased Caspar Joder, bought, together with the families Stücker, Steinmann, Blank, Roth, and Zimmerman related to them by marriage, a large part of the March [borderland] of Farni and jointly exploited it."

In a reconstruction of the 1732 census of Mennonites in Pfalz-Zweibrücken, Ernst Müller listed **Johannes Steinmann**. He was born in 1684, and had three children. Also listed were Jacob Weiss born circa 1710 and his wife; Hans Bachman born circa 1661; and Heinrich Bachmann born circa 1700 with two children.

The most prominent Amish Mennonite Steinmann in Pfalz-Zweibrücken was **Jakob Steinmann** (#1). He was likely born circa 1721. In 1742 he and Jacob Weiss leased the 1,680-acre Huberhof estate (now called Huberhof bei Pirmasens, six miles southeast of Contwig) from Johann Jacob Haberling.244 The prior leaseholder Johannes Bärr had emigrated to America. According to J. Virgil Miller's *Both Sides of the Ocean*, Weiss was a witness for Steinmann when he was baptized as an adult on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate in 1742.

He was ordained as a minister in 1753. In 1758 he became a co-leaseholder with Johann Schmitt on the Offweilerhof estate at Contwig, then renewed that lease with a Biery in 1767. Contwig is two miles east of the city of Zweibrücken.

The *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online*: "Hirschberg-Kirschbach was a Mennonite congregation in the Duchy of Pfalz-Zweibrücken, Germany, listed in the Dutch *Naamlijst* for 1784 with Jacob Dätweiler as elder (1760) and Johannes Steinmann (1753) and Jacob Bachmann as preachers. [In 1759 Johannes Steinmann and Ŭli Bachmann represented the Zweibrücken congregations in the assembly of ministers at Essingen]. It also appeared in the Naamlijst for 1769 with the names of additional ministers, Johannes Steinmann (1753), Andreas Leimberger (1753), and Jacob Thomas (1753). In the list of delegates at the Essingen Amish Mennonite Conference of 1779 this congregation is called the Zweibrücken congregation."

Hornbach is located nine miles south of Contwig, on the border of Germany and France. The village square is only one mile from the boundary. *Gerichtsbuch von 1853 bis 1790*, a compilation of lease contracts at Hornbach, indicates that in 1776 Mennonite residents included Jacob Steinmann and his 22-year-old son **Jacob Steinmann** (#2). (Despite this, it is more likely that Jacob was born circa 1745, as found on later records, and the age 22 was his age at the beginning of a nine-year lease - indicating that they arrived at Hornbach circa 1765.) They lived in the *Unterer Hof* (lower house) with Jacob Dettweiler. Leasers on the Rinkweilerhof estate included Jacob Bachmann senior and junior, and Jacob Dettweiler's father Johannes and brother Heinrich. The following year a contract describes "*Jacob Steinmann, Hof beständer auf dem untern Hof dahier, und dessen Ehefrau Barbara, geborhene Walschburgerin*" - Jacob Steinmann, leaseholder on the lower house, with his wife whose maiden name is Barbara Walschburger. This may describe the parents, or name the wife of their son.

Jacob was the father of Christian Steinmann, who was born circa 1771. Christian married Katharina/Catherine Stalter. They farmed on the Rinkweilerhof estate at Hornbach. Their children are entered in civil records there from 1801 to 1806: Christian, born Nov. 16, 1801; Johannes, born April 23, 1803; Henry, born Feb. 15, 1805; and Magdalena, born Aug. 1, 1806. The 1801 birth entry states that one witness was Jakob Steinmann *der alte* [senior], 56. Thus Christian must have had a brother, **Jakob Steinmann *der Jüng*** [junior] (#3).

The Illinois settler **Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman** (#4) was born circa 1802 (in 1801 Pfalz-Zweibrücken had become part of France, and was not placed in a department until 1797). According to the *Karlskron*

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244 The first Amish Mennonite Weiss in Zweibrücken may have been Elisabeth. She married Hans Stalter, and they became the progenitors of the prolific Stalter family of Zweibrucken. Their oldest son Johannes Stalter was born on the Offweilerhof at Contwig on Christmas Day 1712. He married Maria Weiss. Johannes became deacon of the Zweibrücken congregation. Jacob Weiss was listed on Ernst Müller's 'reconstruction census' as someone born circa 1710; he had a wife but no children.

Familienbuch he was born on or came from the Rinkweilerhof estate, though no civil entry is found there.[245] Thus it is not likely that Christian was his father. Perhaps the brother Jakob *der Jüng* is the most likely candidate.

See STALTER for an explanation of the migration of families from Pfalz-Zweibrücken, which became part of Bavaria in 1806, throughout Bavaria.

In February 1823 Jakob/Jacob married Barbara Nafziger on the monastery estate Baumgärtle [Ger. *Baumgärtle Kloster*] at Breitenbrunn, Bavaria.[246] Barbara was born on the lllbacherhof estate at Reinheim in the Darmstadt-Dieburg district of the state of Hesse, a daughter of Christian Nafziger (1763-1832) and Katharina Hochstettler (1771-1837). Her parents had lived at Gumbrechtshoffen, Lower Alsace for a few years before coming to Bavaria in 1814, then resettled at Breitenbrunn.

Breitenbrunn is only 5 miles northwest of the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof, the residence of Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger's family from 1818 to at least 1828. An entry describing the bankruptcy foreclosure auction of farm items Dec. 7, 1825 mentions "the Mennonite Steinmann" as a creditor. However, the writing is too unclear to make out an exact translation.

Jakob and Barbara had a son born at Unterdiessen (below Landsberg am Lech) in 1824, and sons born at Breitenbrunn in 1828 and 1831.

They must have been employed at Josephenburg near Karlskron (65 miles northeast of Breitenbrunn) at least briefly. Karlskron was the parish and district that encompassed Probfeld and Josephenburg, two *Donaumoos* villages that held Amish Mennonite Ackermann, Gascho, Güngerich, Hage, Ingold, Oesch, Springer, and Sutter families.

The *Karlskron Familienbuch* contains an entry for the family. It describes Jakob as someone born on or coming from the Rinkweilerhof estate, and Barbara as someone born on or coming from the Illbacherhof estate (the Hofgut Illbach at Reinheim, Hesse). It gives the month and year of their marriage, though not the place. It also lists three sons with birth dates but no birth places (suggesting they were born elsewhere). An extra note says that they were *mit Pachler* - living at Josephenburg with Joseph Pechler/Pachler/Pacher and Katharina Ingold.[247]

After 1836 they worked for Daniel Unzicker on the Stoffersbergerhof estate at Stoffersberg (adjacent to Landsberg am Lech, 6 miles north of Unterdiessen, 30 miles east of Breitenbrunn).[248]

We could not discern when Barbara Nafziger died, or when Jakob came to Illinois.

In Illinois he was known as Jacob Steinman. However, on the 1860 census of Tremont he appears as Jacob Stinman, 58, Germany. He was living in the household of his youngest son Daniel and daughter-in-law Katharina/Catherine Birky: Daniel Styman, 28, Germany; 24, Illinois; Mary, 4, Illinois; Barbara, 3, Illinois, and Catharina, 2, Illinois. The same census page shows the households of Daniel Augsburger and Maria/Mary Oesch; Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birkey; and Nicholas Stecker/Staker (found as 'Soker') and Magdalena, indicating that they were living along Allentown Road near the border of Elm Grove.

His headstone in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove says he died March 19, 1865, at 63 years of age.

Children of Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman and Barbara Nafziger include:

1. Christian Steinmann was born at Unterdiessen (6 miles south of Stoffersberg) Feb. 23, 1824, and was buried at Stoffersberg April 6, 1840.
2. **Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman** was born at Breitenbrunn June 1, 1828, and died at Gridley, McLean County March 3, 1908.
3. **Daniel Steinmann/Steinman** was born at Breitenbrunn May 1, 1831, and died at Waldo Township, Livingston County March 17, 1916.

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[245] Children of Chrétien Steinman/Christian Steinmann and Katharina/Catherine Stalter found in Hornbach civil records include Christian, born Nov. 16, 1801; Johannes, born April 23, 1803; Henry, born Feb. 15, 1805; and Magdalena, born Aug. 1, 1806.

[246] Baumgärtle Kloster is still in operation. Current photos can be found online on Panoramio.

[247] According to a *Karlskron Familienbuch* family entry, Joseph Pechler was a *Mennonit* who died April 17, 1834. He was married to Katharina Ingold, a daughter of Jakob Ingold and Elisabeth Baumann. After Joseph's death she remarried to Christian Schantz (found as Schanz).

Their oldest son Christian Baechler was born at Probfeld March 27, 1827, and died as Blake, Ontario Nov. 29, 1915. In 1848 he immigrated to Ontario as a single man. In 1852 in Huron County he married Barbara Oesch. She was born in 1829, and died in 1909, a daughter of minister and elder John Oesch and Barbara Schultz. Christian served as a minister in Huron County for 50 years. They are buried in Lakeview Conservative Mennonte Cemetery at Blake.

[248] According to a notation in the *Unterigling Familienbuch* found by Hermann Hage. Background on Daniel Unzicker is given in BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE BIG BIRKEYS.

Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman

Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman was born at Breitenbrunn June 1, 1828 (the 1900 census erroneously gave June 1824 and age 76).

Jacob Steinmann who is found on the passenger list of the *News Orleans.* It sailed from Le Havre, and arrived in New Orleans July 16, 1861.

On Sept. 7, 1862 in Tazewell County he married Maria/Mary Oesch, the widow of Daniel Augsburger, who had died in 1861. She was born on the Sutter family's leased estate, the Forsthof at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria on April 25, 1837, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Feb. 22, 1892. She was a daughter of estate foreman Christian Oesch and Katharina Sutter.

At the time of their marriage Maria/Mary was still living on a property on the north side of Allentown Road at Tremont. Her first husband Daniel Augsburger had purchased it just before the 1860 census. There was apparently no hurry to change the land title, because the 1864 plat map shows it as belonging to 'D. Augusberger.' Their neighbors were the 'Little Red Birkys' Valentine, John, and Andrew.

They are found on the 1870 census of Allin, McLean County as farmer Jacob Stineman, 45, Byre [likely meant to be Bayern/Bavaria]; Mary, 28; Byre; Daniel, 8 [from Maria/Mary's first marriage] ; Elizabeth, 9 [from Maria/Mary's first marriage]; Liddy, 6; Catherine, 5; Theodore, 5; Jacob, 2; and Christian, six months; all children born in Illinois; farm hand Peter Oxburger, 44, Byre [we could not identify him]; and ditcher Otto Bluhr, 58, Saxony. The place where the Steinmans lived would now be called Stanford within Allin Township.

They can be found in the 1880 census of Allin Township, McLean County as farmer Jacob Steinman, 54, Germany; Mary, 43, Germany; Lidda [Lydia], 16; Catherine, 15; Theodore, 13; Jacob, 11; Christian, 10; William, 7; Mary, 6; Emma, 5; Bertha, 1; and Daniel Augsburger, 18 [from Maria's first marriage].

Herald of Truth, March 1892: "On the 22d of February, 1892, in Livingston Co., Ill., suddenly of throat trouble, Maria Steinman, aged 54 years and 10 months. She was up quite late in the evening, and spent the time reading and meditating. The children had already retired, then she told her husband she would retire too, but was already breathing heavily. Soon after she called him saying she could not lie down. He hastened to her side, and in a few minutes she expired in his arms. She had been afflicted with the grippe, but had almost recovered. Her maiden name was Oesch. She was born in Forsthof, in Bavaria, on the 25th of April 1837, was married to Daniel Augsburger, Nov. 14, 1858, who died soon afterward. On the 7th of September 1862, she was married to Jacob Steinman, whom she now leaves with nine children to mourn her sudden death, but we rejoice that they need not mourn as those who have no hope. Sister Steinman was a faithful follower of Jesus in the Amish church. Funeral services by Joseph Ackerman from *2 Cor. 5*, and by Daniel Orendorff, Stephen Staehly and John P. Schmitt from *1 Cor. 15*. She was laid to rest on the 24th. A large number of friends and loved ones followed the remains to the grave.

The 1900 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows Jacob living with three of his single children. Their household appears as farmer Theodore Steinman, 33, born in Illinois in February 1867 to German parents; retired farmer Jacob, 76, born in Germany in June 1824 to German parents, immigrated in 1862, 38 years in the country; dress maker Emma, 24, born in Illinois in March 1876 to German parents; and Bertha, 21, born in Illinois in November 1878 to German parents.249

Jacob died at Gridley, McLean County March 3, 1908. *Gospel Witness*, March 1908: "Bro. Jacob Steinmann was born in Bavaria, Germany, and emigrated to this country while yet a young man; died near Gridley, Ill., Mar. 3, 1908: aged 82 y. 9 m. 3 d. He was united in marriage Sep. 7, 1862, with Mary Augsberger (nee Esh) who preceded him to the spirit world Feb. 22, 1892. To this union were born ten children, two having preceded him in death, leaving four sons and four daughters, two stepchildren, 23 grandchildren and one brother to mourn his departure. Deceased was a member of the A. M. Church. Services at the house by Bro. Geo. Summer from *Psalms 46* and at the church by Bro. Daniel Orendorff from *II Cor. 5:10* and Bro. D. W. Slagel from *Isa. 38:1*."

They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

Children of Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman and Maria/Mary Oesch born at what is now Stanford within Allin Townsip, McLean County include:

1. Lydia Steinman was born in 1864, and died March 5, 1895.
2. Catherine 'Katie' Steinman was born April 26, 1865, and died at Bloomington, McLean County May 2, 1930 (her death entry calling her Katie King erroneously named her parents as Jacob Steinman and 'Katherine Eash' and gave her birthplace as Stanford). On March 3, 1887 in McLean County she married Christian King. He was born in McLean County Dec. 13, 1864, and died at Peoria, Peoria County Oct. 28, 1920, a son of Christian R. King and

[249] On this census Steinman is written with an uncrossed 't'. At least one source has misread it to be 'Slimman.'

Maria Sommer Baechler. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, where their joint headstone calls her 'Katy Steinman 1865-1930.'

3. Theodore Steinman was born in February of 1867, and died in Indiana in 1940. In 1904 he married Clara Gurtner. She was born at Carlock, McLean County in 1878, and died in Indiana in 1968, a daughter of Swiss immigrants Christian Gurtner and Rosina Stahly of Carlock, McLean County. They are buried in Woodburn Mennonite Cemetery (formerly the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery) at Woodburn, Indiana.
4. Jacob Steinman was born Aug. 25, 1868, and died in 1951. On Feb. 17, 1892 at Danvers, McLean County he married Katie E. Unzicker; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born circa 1869, a daughter of Joseph Unzicker and Barbara of Pike, Livingston County. They are found on the 1900 census of Chenoa, McLean County as farmer Jacob Steinman, 31, born in Illinois in August 1868 to German parents; Kattie, 31, born in Illinois in February 1868 to parents from Ohio; Frida, 7, born in Illinois in June 1892; and Ervin R., 4, born in Illinois in December 1895. On March 28, 1905 at Carlock, McLean County Jacob remarried to Josephine Stuckey. She was born at Danvers, McLean County in August 1871, and died in Indiana in 1967, a daughter of Christian Stuckey and Magdalena Miller. The 1910 census of Chenoa shows Jacob Steinman, 42, born in Illinois to German parents; Josephine, 39, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Germany; five children born in Illinois; and Jesse Streid, 16, born in Illinois to a French father and a mother from Illinois. They are buried in Woodburn Mennonite Cemetery at Woodburn, Indiana.
5. Christian Steinman was born in 1870, and died in 1963. He married Adeline Imthurm, who was born in 1884, and died in 1970, a daughter of Gideon Imthurm and Amelia of Gridley. Their household is found on the 1910 census of Gridley, McLean County as Christine Steinman, 39, Illinois; Adaline, 25, Illinois; and three children born in Illinois; and on the 1920 census of Gridley as Christian Stienman, 49, Illinois; Annie, 35, Illinois; and seven children born in Illinois. The 1940 census of Maumee Township outside Woodburn City, Indiana shows farmer Chris Stienman, 69, Illinois; Vaddline, 55, Illinois; and farmer and son Orville, 20. They are buried under a joint headstone in Leo Memorial Park at Leo-Cedarville, Indiana.
6. William Steinman was born May 12, 1872, and died at Lower Hominy, North Carolina May 3, 1944. His household is found on the 1900 census of Gridley, McLean County as yard worker William Stineman, 28, born in Illinois in May 1873 to German parents; and his wife Tillie, 25, born in Illinois in January 1875 to parents from France and Ohio. William's death entry said that he was born at Stanford May 12, 1872, a son of Jacob Steinman and Mary, and husband of Matilda. At the time of his death he was a building carpenter living at Candler, North Carolina. He is buried in Greenhills Cemetery at Asheville.
7. Mary Steinman was born May 15, 1874. On Dec. 6, 1894 in Livingston County she married Samuel E. Baughman. He was born in Illinois in 1873, a son of Johannes/John Baughman and Catherine Nafziger. Their marriage entry called her 'Mary Steisman,' and said that she was the daughter of 'Jacob Steisman and Osch.' They are found on the 1910 and 1920 censuses of Gridley; on the 1930 census of Gridley as Samuel E. Baughman, 56, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio; and Mary, 55, born in Illinis to German parents; and on the 1940 census of Gridley as dry goods boxer Samuel E. Baughman, 67; and Mary, 65.
8. Emma Steinman was born in March 1876. She married G.E. Ehresman of Fort Wayne, Indiana.
9. Bertha Steinman was born Nov. 1, 1878, and died Feb. 13, 1965. On Jan. 16, 1902 at Bloomington, McLean County she married Jacob Ehresman. He was born Nov. 27, 1877, and died July 12, 1931, a son of John Ehresman and Catherine Sommer. They are buried under a joint marker in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

— One more child may have died as an infant (born and died between decade censuses). This would explain the count on father Jacob's obituary: two children had died before him (the unidentified child and Lydia), leaving four sons and four daughters in 1908. Taking into consideration the count in Mary/Maria's 1892 obituary ("...She now leaves him with 9 children to mourn her sudden death..."), and figuring in the two stepchildren, this unidentifed child must have died before her.

Daniel Steinmann/Steinman

Daniel Steinmann/Steinman was born at Breitenbrunn May 1, 1831 (the 1900 census erroneously gave his birth date is February 1830).

The 1900 census reported that Daniel had immigrated in 1844. He is thought to have come over with Birkys. He must have sailed from Le Havre on the *Baltimore* with Joseph and Maria Birky, children of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho, arriving at New York June 17, 1844, though his name is not found on the passenger list. He would have been 13 years old. His family had known the family of their uncle Joseph Gascho at Josephenburg. It would have been difficult for Daniel to obtain travel papers before participating in required military training at age 18; most exceptions were made for minors who were indigent, were traveling with their parents, whose father had died, or in the case that their father had already emigrated.

On Nov. 12, 1854 in Tazewell County he married Katharina/Catherine Birky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Bavaria in November 1834, and died in Livingston County Feb. 8, 1874, a daughter of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho.

They are found on the 1860 census of Tremont, living with Daniel's father Jacob on the north side of Allentown Road: Jacob Stinman, 58, Germany; Daniel Styman, 28, Germany; 24, Illinois; Mary, 4, Illinois; Barbara, 3, Illinois, and Catharina, 2, Illinois. Their next-door neighbors on the north side were Jacob Stalter and Barbara Birky, and on their south side Nicholas Stecker/Staker (found as 'N. Stecker') and Magdalena.

Just after the 1860 census the Tremont property was sold to Daniel Augsburger and Maria/Mary Oesch. Augsburger died in 1861, Maria/Mary remarried to Daniel's older brother Jacob, and the property returned to the Steinman family. In 1865 Daniel and Katharina/Catherine relocated to Flanagan, Livingston County. In 1870 Daniel was ordained as a minister of the Gridley Prairie congregation.

The 1870 census of Nebraska, Livingston County shows farmer Danl. Steinman, 39, with 'Byron" [Ger. *Bayern*] scratched out and Bavaria written in; Catharine, 34, Bavaria; Mary, 14; Barbara, 12; Catharine, 10; Melinda, 9; Elizabeth, 7; Anna, 5; Fannia, 2; all children born in Illinois; and farm laborer Peter, 22, Bavaria.

Gospel Herald, April 1874: "Feb. 8th, in Livingston Co., Ill., of nerve fever, Catharine Steinman, wife of Pre. Daniel Steinman, in the 40th year of her age. She admonished her children to be obedient to their father. She leaves a bereaved husband and eight children to mourn their loss. Appropriate remarks were made by Christian Schlegel, from Rev. *21:1-7*; and Joseph Gascho, from *Heb. 12:1-8*."

On Aug. 17, 1876 Daniel remarried to Catherine Wyse, the widow of Christian Stahley. She was born in October of 1829, immigrated in 1865, and died at Flanagan Feb. 9, 1905. She brought daughter Bertha from her first marriage.250

Daniel represented the Gridley Prairie congregation at assemblies of ministers in 1872, 1873, 1875, and 1878. In 1880 he was ordained as elder. The 1880 census of Nebraska, Livington County shows farmer Danial Stainman, 50, France; Catharine, 49, France; Lizzie, 17, Illinois; Anna, 14, Illinois; Fannnie, 11, Illinois; Daniel, 9, Illinois; Bertha Staila [Stahley], 7, Illinois; and farm laborer Joseph Greeser, 21, Germany.

The 1900 census of Nebraska, Livingston County shows Daniel Steinman, 70, born in Germany to German parents in February 1830, immigrated in 1844, 55 years in the country; and Catarine, 71, born in Germany to German parents in October 1829, immigrated in 1865, 50 years in the country. They were living next door to Daniel's son Daniel C. Steinman and his wife Jenny Stahly, and Daniel's daughter

Herald of Truth, February 1905: "Catherina Steinmann (nee Wise) was born in Lothringon [Lorraine], France, in 1827, and died at her home near Flanagan, Ill., Feb. 9, 1905; aged 78 years. She was united in marriage to Christian Stehly, Mar. 25, 1869, who preceded her to the spirit world. To this union was born one daughter. She was again united in marriage, Aug. 17, 1876, to Daniel Steinmann. She leaves her husband, one daughter, six step-children and one brother to mourn her departure. She was a true and faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church. Funeral services by Daniel Orendorff in Geman and Daniel W. Slagel in English from *Rev. 14:13*." She is buried as 'Catherine Steinman' in Waldo Cemetery under the dates 1827-Feb. 9, 1905.

Daniel died at Waldo Township, Livingston County March 17, 1916. He is buried at Flanagan. The birth date on his obituary was presumably taken off the 1900 census report.

G*ospel Herald*, March 1916: "Daniel Steinman was born in Germany in February, 1830; died Mar. 17, 1916; aged 86 y. 1 m. At the age of 10 he came to Ohio then on to Tazewell Co., Ill., with relatives; united with the Amish Mennonite Church in his youth and remained a faithful member to the end. Nov. 12, 1854 he was married to Catharine Birky. They made their home in Tazewell Co. for 11 years, then came to Livingston Co. near where the town of Flanagan now is. To this union were born seven daughters and one son. His wife died Feb. 8, 1874. Aug. 17, 1876 he was married to Catharine Stahley (widow) who died Feb. 9, 1905. In the spring of 1870 he was ordained to the ministry, and in 1885 he was ordained bishop [elder of the Gridley Prairie congregation]. These places he filled to the best of his ability. As long as his health permitted he was at his post. For many years he suffered with severe headaches and of late with heart trouble. The last years of his life he has been making his home with his daughter, Barbara (Mrs. Dan Eigsti). On the evening of March 16 he ate a hearty supper and before retiring said he feels real well. The next morning he was found dead in his room. He leaves to mourn his sudden departure six daughters, one son, one stepdaughter, 45 grandchildren, and 45 great-grandchildren. One daughter and six grandchildren preceded him. Short services were held at the house by Bro. John Birky, Hopedale, Ill. The services at the church were held by Bros. Dan Orendorff, Andrew Schrock and D. W. Slagel. Texts, *II Cor. 4:17, 18; Matt. 25:21* (1st clause), *Job 19:25* (1st clause). Buried in the Waldo graveyard."

Children of Daniel Steinmann/Steinman and Katharina/Catherine Birky include:

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250 Bertha Stahley was born in Tazewell County Aug. 28, 1872, and died at Flanagan June 29, 1953. On Dec. 30, 1889 at Flanagan she married Joseph A. Zehr.

1. Maria Steinman was born at Tremont Dec. 13, 1855, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County March 26, 1932. On Sept. 7, 1873 at Chenoa, McLean County she married Nicholas Schlegel. He was born in Tazewell County April 22, 1849, and died at Flanagan June 28, 1913, a son of Christian Schlegel and Salome Sommer.
2. Barbara Steinman was born at Tremont Sept. 22, 1857, and died at Flanagan March 19, 1937. On Feb. 28, 1876 in Livingston County she married Joseph Orendorff. He was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County July 4, 1853, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County June 25, 1884, a son of Daniel Ohrendorf/Orendorf and Katharina Albrecht. See ORENDORFF for his obituary. On Feb. 17, 1889 in Livingston County she remarried to widower Joseph Yoder. He was born in Pennsylvania Aug. 21, 1822, and died Feb. 12, 1908, a son of John Yoder and Susanna Stutzman. His first wife was Lydia Kurtz On Oct. 5, 1910 she remarried to Daniel Eigsti, the widower of her younger sister Elizabeth. He was born at Morton in Feb. 14, 1861, and died at Flanagan June 2, 1936, a son of Joseph Eigsti and Susan Nafziger. *Gospel Herald*, June 1936: "Eigsti. - Daniel, son of Joseph and Susan Eigsti, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Feb. 14, 1861; died at his home in Flanagan June 2, 1936; aged 75 y. 3 m. 19 d. He accepted Christ as his Savior and united with the Mennonite Church, and ever remained faithful. In the year 1882 he was united in marriage to Lizzie Steinman of near Flanagan. This union was blessed with six children- two daughters and four sons. The oldest daughter died in infancy. The children were quite small when the mother was taken to her eternal home on July 25, 1897. On Oct. 5, 1910 he was united in marriage to Mrs. Barbara [Steinman] Yoder, a sister of his former wife, who survives. Besides his companion he leaves one daughter (Susie, wife of Wm. J. Schertz), four sons (Sam and Will of Flanagan, Edward of Gridley, and Noah of El Paso), one brother (Samuel of Kansas), two sisters (Mary Kauffman, Manson, Ia.; Lydia Saltzman, Flanagan, Ill.), 15 grandchildren, besides a host of other relatives and friends. His seat at church services was seldom vacant when health and weather permitted. His quiet and congenial disposition won for him many friends. He had been ailing the past year, but was able to be up and around. He became suddenly ill on Tuesday evening with heart failure. Just before he passed away he said, "Just as well now as any time" and peacefully fell asleep. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Church conducted by Bro. D. W. Slagel and Bro. J. D. Hartzler. Burial in Waldo Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, April 1937: "Eigsti. - Barbara, daughter of the late Daniel and Catharine Steinman, was born Sept. 22, 1857, in Tazewell Co., Ill.; died at her home in Flanagan, Ill., Mar. 19, 1937; aged 79 y. 5 m. 22 d. After six weeks of illness she died of complications. At the age of nine years she with her parents moved to a farm near Flanagan, where she grew to womanhood. In the year of 1876 she was united in marriage to Joseph Orendorff, Sr., who died in 1884. To this union were born three sons (Daniel and Benjamin who died in infancy, and Joseph Jr. who survives and lives near Flanagan). In 1889 she was united in marriage to Joseph Yoder, who died in 1908. To this union was born one daughter (Ida Yoder Poser) who resides at Flanagan. In 1910 she was united in marriage to Daniel Eigsti who preceded her in death in 1936. She is survived by four grandchildren and one great-grandchild, three sisters (Mrs. C. Orendorff, Mrs. Anna Salzman, both of Wayland, Iowa, and Mrs. Henry Ingold, of Fisher, Ill.); one brother (D. C. Steinman), and a step-sister (Mrs. Bertha Zehr, Flanagan, Ill.). She was preceded in death by three sisters. In her youth she became a member of the Waldo Mennonite Church and remained a faithful member to the end. Her last days were of patient waiting for deliverance from the body of pain and suffering and on Friday evening the Lord granted dear Grandmother's release. Funeral services were conducted March 22, at the Waldo Mennonite Church by J. D. Hartzler and D. W. Slagel. Burial in the Waldo Cemetery."
3. Catherine 'Katie' Steinman was born at Tremont Feb. 23, 1859, and died at Wayland, Iowa Sept. 18, 1923. On Aug. 31, 1876 at Flanagan she married Benjamin Franklin Schlegel/Slagell/Slagel. He was born at Tremont Feb. 8, 1851, and died at Wayland, Iowa Nov. 10, 1922, a son of Christian Schlegel and Salomé 'Sarah' Sommer. See SCHLEGEL for more on this couple including her obituary.
4. Magdalena 'Lena' Steinman was born at Tremont Feb. 27, 1861, and died at Wayland, Iowa Jan. 29, 1948. On Sept. 19, 1878 at Flanagan she married Christian Orendorff. He was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County Oct. 22, 1856, and died at Wayland, Iowa April 30, 1843, a son of Daniel Ohrendorf/Orendorf and Katharina Albrecht. They relocated to Wayland, Iowa in 1902. *Gospel Herald*, February 1948: "Orendorff. - Lena, daughter of Daniel and Katherine (Burkey) Steinman, was born near Tremont, Ill., Feb. 27, 1861; passed away at the home of her son (D. W. Orendorff), Wayland, Iowa, Jan. 29, 1948; aged 86 y. 11 m. 2 d. As a girl she moved with her folks to Flanagan, Ill., where she grew to womanhood and united with the Amish Mennonite Church. On Sept. 19, 1878, she was married to Christian Orendorff. In 1902 they moved from Flanagan to Wayland, Iowa, and on April 30, 1943, her husband passed away. Surviving are three daughters (Amelia - Mrs. P. H. Conrad, East Peoria, Ill.; Lydia - Mrs. P. J. Roth, Wayland, Iowa; and Alice - Mrs. E. F. Gingerich, Iowa City, Iowa), two sons (Daniel W., Wayland, Iowa; and John R., Spencer, Iowa), one sister, Mrs. Fannie Ingold, Fisher, Ill.), one brother (Daniel, Danvers, Ill.), one stepsister (Mrs. Bertha Zehr, Flanagan, Ill), 17 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren, one foster grandchild, two great-great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends. One son (Samuel) preceded her in death in 1891. Funeral services were held Jan. 31 at the Sugar Creek Church, near Wayland, Iowa, in charge of Willard Leichty and Simon Gingerich. Interment was made in the cemetery nearby."
5. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Steinman was born at Tremont Feb. 16, 1863, and died at Flanagan July 25, 1897. On April 30, 1882 at Flanagan she married Daniel Eigsti. He was born Feb. 14, 1861, and died at Flanagan June 2, 1936. On Oct. 5, 1910 Daniel remarried to Elizabeth's older sister Barbara.
6. Anna Steinman was born at Flanagan Oct. 8, 1865, and died at Wayland, Iowa May 17, 1940. On Jan. 17, 1888 at Flanagan she married John Henry Saltzman. He was born at Lacon, Macoupin County Jan. 10, 1863, and died at

Burlington, Iowa Aug. 23, 1924, a son of Jacob Saltzman and Magdalena Beller. *Gospel Herald*, June 1940: "Anna Steinman Saltzman, was born in Livingston Co., Ill., Oct. 8, 1865; died at the home of her daughter (Mrs. Sam Wyse) near Wayland, Iowa, May 17, 1940; aged 74 y. 7 m. 9 d. She was married to John H. Saltzman Jan. 19, 1888. He preceded her in death 16 years ago. A daughter (Mattie) died in 1909. Four sisters have also preceded her in death. Those surviving are one daughter and four sons (Emma of near Wayland, Elmer of Farmington, Ia.; Eli, of Rock Island, Ill.; Alie of Castle Rock, Washington; and Edwin of Wayland); also 10 grandchildren, and two sisters (Mrs. Chris Orendorf of Wayland, and Mrs. Henry Ingold of Fisher, Ill.). She will be greatly missed in the home and the community for she was a woman with a kindly and lovable disposition. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Sugar Creek Mennonite Church of which she had long been a devoted member. Bro. Willard Leichty assisted by Bro. William Penner had charge of the services. Interment in the Sugar Creek Cemetery."

7. Veronica 'Fanny' Steinman was born at Flanagan May 4, 1868, and died at Gibson City, Ford County Aug. 14, 1958. On Feb. 28, 1888 at Flanagan she married Henry Ingold. He was born in Woodford County Aug. 4, 1864, and died at Urbana, Champaign County March 24, 1941, a son of Joseph Ingold and Barbara Unzicker. *Gospel Herald*, September 1958: "Ingold, Fannie, daughter of Dan and Catherine (Birky) Steinman; born May 4, 1868, Flanagan, Ill; died at the Hansen Nursing home, Gibson City, Ill., Aug. 14, 1958, after having been there 2 days; aged 90 y. 3 m. 10 d. Married Feb. 28, 1888, to Henry Ingold, who died March 24, 1941. An infant son, one grandson, one brother, and six sisters also preceded her in death. Survivors: three daughters and one son (Tillie - Mrs. Sam Heiser, Amelia - Mrs. J. B. Heiser, and Martha, all of Fisher; and Amos, Foosland, Ill.), eight grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. Church member at East Bend, where funeral services were held Aug. 17, with Harold Zehr and J. A. Heiser officiating. Burial in East Bend Cemetery."
8. Daniel C. 'D.C.' Steinman was born at Flanagan Sept. 23, 1870, and died at Danvers, McLean County July 7, 1954. On Jan. 24, 1893 in Livingston County he married Eugenia A. 'Jenny' Stahly. She was born at Neuchâtel, Switzerland Nov. 25, 1870, and died March 15, 1965, a daughter of Joseph Stahly and Anna Ducommun. The 1900 census of Nebraska, Livingston County shows them living next door to Daniel's father and stepmother as Daniel C. Steinman, 29, born in Illinois in September 1870 to German parents; and Jennie, 29, born in Illinois in November 1870 to Swiss parents. They are found on the 1920 census of Dry Grove; and the 1930 and 1940 censuses of Normal, McLean County. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.

Barbara Steinman

We expected to find that **Barbara Steinman** was a daughter of Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman and Barbara Nafziger. Barbara Steinman and Jacob are buried in the same cemetery, and both were linked to the Augsburgers. However, his *Karlskron Familienbuch* entry completed after 1831 shows only three sons. 251

Barbara was born June 16, 1829, and died at Morton March 21, 1911.

She reported on the 1900 census that she had immigrated in 1847. On Aug. 7, 1848 at Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania she married Jacob Augsburger. Presumably she had sailed from Europe with him. He was born on the Hertleshof estate at Heinzenhof, Bavaria July 29, 1823, and died at Elm Grove Feb. 21, 1869, a son of Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger and Elisabeth Eyer.

Barbara gave birth to her first child Oct. 2, 1848 (their children are listed in AUGSBURGER). They are found on the 1850 census of Paradise, Lancaster County as laborer Jacob Augusburges, 27, Germany; Barbara, 21, Germany; Magdaline, 1, Pennsylvania; and Noah, 6 months, Pennsylvania.

The 1860 census of Groveland shows them as Jacob Oxenberg, 35, Bavaria; Barbara, 30; Madaline, 12; Noah, 10; Christian, 8; Elizabeth, 6; Catharine, 4; and Andrew, 1.

Widow Barbara and her children are found on the 1870 census of Elm Grove living next door to Peter Eiman: Barbara Alsberger, 38, Bavaria; farmer Joseph [Noah], 21; laborer Christian, 19; Elizabeth, 17; Catharine, 14; Andrew, 12; Anna, 7; Daniel, 4; and Veronika, 1; all children born in Illinois.

On April 15, 1873 in Tazewell County Barbara remarried to widower Christian Sutter. He was born on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria April 21, 1823, and died at Hopedale May 11, 1899. His first wife Magdalena Nafziger had died May 25, 1871. That household can be found on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer Christian Suter, 57, Bavaria; Barbara, 50, Bavaria; Annie Augsberger, 17, stepdaughter born in Illinois; Daniel, 13, stepson born in Illinois; and Fannie, 10, stepdaughter born in Illinois. Christian Sutter died at Hopedale May 11, 1899, and was buried next to his first wife in the Mennonite Cemetery there.

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[251] Jakob Steinmann/Jacob Steinman had a sister Katharina Steinmann. According to Catholic entries at Bedernau (adjacent to Breitrenbrunn) she had illegitimate children there in 1821 and 1823. The father was Johan Georg Pfaff. The parents may have been married by an Anabaptist minister; the ceremony would perhaps not have been recognized by the recording scribe.

Widow Barbara is found on the 1900 census of Hopedale as Barbara Sutter, 71, born in Germany in June 1829; mother of nine children, seven still living; she reported that she had immigrated in 1847.

She was buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery with her first husband Jacob Augsburger, son Christian, Jacob Steinman, and her Sutter in-laws.

Christian Steinman of Wilmot

Chrétien/Christian Steinman was born at Barst-Marienthal (now in Moselle) circa 1791, a son of Jacques/Jacob Steinman and Barbe Kennel.

He married Veronika Eyer in Bavaria. She was born in Bavaria April 10, 1801, a daughter of Jakob Eyer and Magdalena Birki. She had two sisters who also figure in these pages. Magdalena Eyer was the second wife of Jacob Hyser/Heisser. Recall from HEISER that Magdalena was living at Dillon in 1850, died Oct. 19, 1851, and is buried in Railroad Cemetery or Landes Mennonite Cemetery. Elisabeth Eyer married Noé/Noah Augsburger (#3). Recall from AUGSBURGER that they were the parents of Augsburgers who are buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery and Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.

As told in ROPP, the family of Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann sailed from Le Havre, arriving at Philadelphia on the *Moss* July 22, 1826.

ROPP tells the story of the *Nimrod* voyage from Amsterdam, arriving at Philadelphia Aug. 18, 1826. Many of its Amish Mennonite passengers who figure elsewhere in these pages later settled at Wilmot, Ontario with the Ropps. These included Christian Steinman and his wife Veronika Eyer. They appear on the passenger list as "Christian Steinmann, 35; V., 34; Jacob, 4; Christian, 2; and Jacob, 75" (Christian's father).

> "The surviving records of Wilmot assessor John Hamacher mention Lot 8, Snyder's Road north side belonging to Andrew Rupp Sr.; and Lots 7, Snyder's Road north and south sides belonging to Andrew Rupp Jr. The obligatory improvements were completed on both lots by 1830.
>
> However, despite any relationships in Wilmot, the bitterness of Ontario winters and the dispute over remaining community land convinced the Ropps to move to Butler County in 1831-32. They saw no future in paying steep prices for further acreage in a cold climate with a short growing season....
>
> According to Hamacher's records, by 1834 'Lot 8, Snyder's Road north side' had passed from Andreas into the hands of Christian Steinman. Thus the site that Andreas improved can not only be pinpointed, but tied to a specific landmark. The place where the Steinmans lived was called Steinmann's Corner, and the Steinmann Mennonite Church was constructed there in 1884..."
>
> "After selling their lots to Christian Steinmann, the Ropps departed Canada with $1,100 from the sale of property and farm implements, equivalent to $25,350 in modern buying power. Butler County land was selling for $10 an acre (the 1833 equivalent of $230), and Illinois land for $1.25."

Christian Steinman and Veronika Eyer are found on the 1851 and 1861censuses of Wilmot. The first shows his family as Mennonite farmer Christian Steinmann, 60, Luderinger [Ger. *Lothringer*, or person from *Lothringen* - Lorraine}; Veronica, 52, Beier [Ger. *Bayern*, or Bavaria}; Christian, 26, Baden; Veronica, 22, Baden; carpenter Joseph, 22; Daniel, 20; and laborer Christian, 16 [not a son]. The second census shows Mennonite Christian Steinmann, 68, France; Veronica, 60, France; and Magdalena, 65, France [Christian's sister].

Christian died at Wilmot Nov. 10, 1865. Veronika died there March 13, 1883. They are buried in what is now the cemetery of Steinmann Mennonite Church.

Though we could not identify the location of Christian's marriage in Bavaria, it was possible to ascertain that one of his brothers lived with the families in the *Donaumoos* or Danube marsh. The surprising link was discovered by German genealogist Hermann Hage. Hage knew that a Peter/Pierre Steinman had come from Moselle to work in Bavaria from 1821 to 1826. He was a laborer with Hermann's ancestor Friedrich Hage at Josephenburg. 252 Friedrich will be recalled from SUTTER as someone who co-signed with Johannes Sutter a 12-year lease on the

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[252] Friedrich Hage's father Friedrich was born in 1739 at Guntersbuhl (now in Moselle), and died on the Forsthof at Neuberg an der Donau Nov. 17, 1817. He married Elisabeth Anna Schultz. Friedrich [Jr.] was born on the Bärenbrunnerhof at Busenberg in the Pfalz Jan. 25, 1794, and died in Holmes County, Ohio June 28, 1863, a son of Friedrich Hage and Elisabeth Anna Schultz. Circa 1818 he married Veronika Esch. The *Mennonite Church USA Archives* at Goshen College holds a certificate issued to him May 8, 1826, to show his time of service on the Josephenburg farm since March 29, 1821. It describes him as a full minister (Ger. *Pachter und Diener zum Buch*). The Hages sailed from *Hamburg* with Peter Steinman on the brig *Hibernia*, as noted. Friedrich served a minister and elder for the Martin's Creek congregation in Millersburg and Berlin, Holmes County.

Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, beginning in 1811. Hage also found the entry that describes the marriage of Johannes Steinmann and Barbara Nafziger at Breitenbrunn, Bavaria in a *Familienbuch* created at Karlskron. The marriage was noted at Karlskron because they were living at adjacent Josephenburg.

CHRISTIAN'S BROTHER PETER/PIERRE STEINMAN

Peter/Pierre Steinman was born at Barst-Marienthal (now in Moselle) circa 1790, and died at Clay, Miami County, Indiana Feb. 2, 1862.

Before it began to be drained, the *Donaumoos* (Danube marsh) was the largest bog in southern Germany. In 1790 the Bavarian elector Charles Theodor began to invite Mennonites to settle in the inhospitable 120-square-mile area area, offering incentives for reclaimation and cultivation. In 1802 over 120 Mennonite families were permitted to settle there, and many of the families remained until the '48er wave of emigration. Entries for Mennonite families in the *Donaumoos* such as Sutter, Oesch, and Ingold can also be found in Catholic records at Karlskron. Peter may have traveled to Bavaria specifically to work as a laborer there. This would have guaranteed him an exemption from military service.

Peter/Pierre Steinmann later emigrated from Europe with the Hages. They sailed from Hamburg on the brig *Hibernia*, arriving at Philadelphia Aug. 14, 1826. The passenger list shows Friedrich Hage, 35; Verona, 25; Elizabeth, 6: Mary, 4; and Peter Steinmann, 40; all from Bavaria, Germany.

Peter rejoined his brother, Christian, at Wilmot, Ontario. One source says he arrived there in 1826. His name is found on the 1830 surveyor's plat map of Wilmot, affixed to Lot 21 on the south side of Snyder's Road. The website of the Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario says that, "Peter, probably a brother [to Christian Steinman], settled first in Wilmot but moved to Sugar Creek, Ohio in 1837."

In Ohio Peter/Pierre married Veronica 'Fanny' Hochstetler. She was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania June 28, 1809, and died in Miami County April 17, 1885, a daughter of Benjamin Hochstettler and Catherine Miller. They lived in Holmes County, Ohio before resettling at Clay, Miami County in June of 1848.The household of Pierre/Peter Steinmann and Veronica can be found on the 1850 census of Clay, Miami County, Indiana as farmer Peter Stimon, 56, Ger.; Fanny, 40, P.; and Jonas, 4, O. The 1860 census of that community shows farmer Peter Stileman, 69, France; Fanny, 51, Pennsylvania; and Jonas, 14, Ohio.

A year after the death of Pierre/Peter, Veronica remarried to Philip Yoder. Their son Jonas kept his father's surname, with a spelling variation. *Herald of Truth*, October 1919: "Jones Stineman, son of Peter and Veronica Stineman, was born in Holmes Co., Ohio, March 13, 1846; died in Miami Co., Ind., Sept. 29, 1919; aged 73 y. 6 m. 16 d. In June, 1848, he, with his parents, moved to Miami Co., Ind., upon a farm which was his home until death. On November 25, 1869, he was married to Lydia Christner. To this union were born 7 children, two of them preceded him to the spirit world. His first wife died Aug. 19, 1882. One December 13, 1885, he was again united in marriage to Barbara Metzler; to this union was born one son, who died March 24, 1909. Brother Stineman was a life-long member of the Mennonite Church, and was a kind and devoted member possessing cheerful disposition. He leaves to mourn his departure his aged wife, 5 children, and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a host of friends. Funeral services at the Mennonite Church Oct. 1, conducted by N. M. Slabaugh and E. A. Mast from *II Kings 20:1*."

CHRISTIAN'S BROTHER JACOB STEINMAN

Jacob Steinman was born at Barst-Marienthal, Moselle Aug. 7, 1793, and died at Leacock Township, Lancaster County in February 1877.

He traveled from Neuberg an Donau to Amsterdam, then sailed on the *Osprey*, arriving at New YorkSept. 2, 1824. The same ship brought Johannes/Hans/John Oesch, who was mentioned earlier in a LITWILLER footnote. Oesch farmed at Probfeld, adjacent to Karlskron in the *Donaumoos*, until he departed Neuburg an der Donau June 1, 1824. At Wilmot Oesch was ordained as a minister in February 1829, and in September 1829 he replaced 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger as elder.

Jacob Steinman was living at Leacock with his wife Catherine Stoltzfus in 1850. She was born at Spring Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania March 13, 1783, and died March 13, 1879, a daughter of Christian Stoltzfus and Catherine Gerber. According to Lorraine Roth in her article *Documents Do Tell Stories*, Christian Stoltzfus held over 1,000 acres in Woolwich Township, Ontario.

Leacock is adjacent to Paradise; recall that Paradise was the site of the marriage of Barbara Steinman in 1848.

CHRISTIAN'S COUSIN PETER STEINMAN

A Steinman family settled at East Zorra-Tavistock, Oxford County after 1845. Discussing the Wilmot family, the website of the Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario says only, "At least one other Steinman family came to Canada and settled in the Tavistock area. This family came somewhat later and came from France."

The father was Peter/Pierre Steinman. He was born at Grostenquin, Moselle June 1, 1795, and died at East Zorra-Tavistock circa 1871, a son of Christian/Chrétien Steinman and Elisabeth Güngerich. On Aug. 23, 1823 at Imling, Moselle he married Anne Abresol. She was born in 1792, and died in 1845, a daughter of Jean Abresol and Barbe Zwalter. In 1852 in Ontario he remarried to Jakobina Ingold. They are not found on the 1861 or 1871 censuses.

Grostenquin, Diffembach-Hellimer, and Barst-Marienthal Grostenquin are all in Moselle. Grostenquin is only five miles southwest of Diffembach-Hellimer. Barst-Marienthal is only five miles north of Diffembach-Hellimer. Steinman was not a common surname in Moselle, particularly before the Napoleonic wars. Thus it is probable that the progenitors of

the two families - Jacob/Jacques Steinman born circa 1757, and Christian/Chrétien born circa 1761 - were brothers, and Peter Steinman of East Zorra-Tavistock was a cousin to Christian Steinman of Wilmot.

Cender: Zehnder of Eriswil

In Bernese dialect a *Zehnder* was a church tithe collector. The only *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname in Canton Bern is Eriswil, above Sumiswald.

Johannes Zehnter (as he signed his own name) and Elisabeth Retter were the parents of **Ulrich Zehnder**. Ulrich was born at Hohwald, Breitenbach, Lower Alsace circa 1762, and died at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace July 8, 1835. He variously signed his own name Ulrich Zender, Ulerich Zehender, and Ullerich Zender. The entries that bore these signatures had much more colorful varieties of spelling in the texts written by municipal clerks: Zehender, Zehnter, Zentner, Tzenter, Tzentner, Tzener, Zintner, Cehnder, and Cender.

Hohwald was a possession of several wealthy families until the French Revolution. In 1867 parts of Breitenbach, Erlenbach, Barr, Andlau, and Ottrott were combined to form the village of Le Hohwald.

He took Anabaptist vows with Barbara/Barbe Sommer on the Struthof at Natzwiller Dec. 13, 1785. An entry with full witnesses (suggesting a ceremony took place there for legal purposes) was made in the Catholic parish book at Schirmeck Dec. 22, 1785. (At the same time an entry was created for Barbara's brother Jean Sommer and Barbe Stucky). The groom was described as Ulric Zenter, a resident of Val d'Andlau, and a son of Jean Zenter and Elisabeth Retter. The bride was Johannes/Jean's sister Barbe Sommer, a resident of the Struthof, and a daughter of *Anabaptistes* Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerberin. Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Christian Sommer, *Anabaptiste*; Ulric Zenter of Val d'Andlau [he signed Ulrich Zehender]; and *Anabaptiste* Ulric Neuhauser of the Struthof [he signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate].

Barbara/Barbe Sommer was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller circa 1765, and died at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace Nov. 16, 1827, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Barbara Gerber.

Their children were born at Belmont, Lower Alsace between 1786 and 1807. There Ulrich was described as a cultivator. They were living at Niedernai (20 miles east of Belmont) in 1816, but by 1822 they were on a farm called La Hueb at Marckolsheim, 28 miles southeast of Belmont near the Rhine River, where they remained until Barbara's death in 1827.253

Barbara/Barbe's civil death entry from Marckolsheim described her as miller Barbara Sommere, 62, the wife of Ulrich Zhnter. She was born at Barrenbach, a daughter of deceased parents Chrétien Sommer and Barbara Gerber. It was witnessed by grandson and laborer Jean Lehmann, 27; and laborer Jacques Wagner, 47, a brother-in-law. Signatures looked like Lehman and Wagner.

Widower Ulrich witnessed the birth of a granddaughter Elisabeth Schlatter at Zellwiller, Lower Alsace (below Niedernai) July 21, 1831, and likely lived there with his daughter Elisabeth and son-in-law Nicolas Schlatter. He was considered a resident of Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace when he died there in 1835; he may have been living there with his daughter Marie and son-in-law Pierre Eymann.

Ulrich's civil death entry from Ribeauvillé described hi7m as cultivator Ulric Cehnder, 73, born at Hohwald and a resident of Ribeauvillé. He was a son of the deceased Nicolas Cehnder, and the widower of Barbe Sommer. It was witnessed by his grandson Jean Leymann, 24, and friend Pierre Sommer, 34. Signatures look like Lehmann and Sommer.

For the sake of clarity we use the spelling 'Cender' from this point (recall LITWILLER, where over 30 varieties of spelling had to be pared down to one to make the text understandable). Children of Ulrich Zehnder and Barbara/Barbe Sommer born at Belmont include:

1. **Christian Cender** was born Sept. 22, 1786.
2. Joseph Cender was born Aug. 22, 1788, and died at Belmont April 19, 1792. His death from smallpox [Fr. *la petite Vérole*] is found in the Protestant register for Waldersbach, which called him Joseph Zéhender. It described his parents as Anabaptist residents of Belmont Ulric Zéhender and Barbe Sommer. The father signed Ullerich Zendter. All Waldersbach entries were signed by minister Jean Frédéric Oberlin; see SOMMER for background on this tolerant and progressive clergyman.
3. Marie Cender was born March 2, 1792, and died at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace July 11, 1846. Her birth entry is found in the Protestant register for Waldersbach, which called her Marie Zéhender. It described her parents as Anabaptist residents of Belmont Ulric Zéhender and Barbe Sommer. The father signed Ullerich Zendter. On March 24, 1816 at Niedernai, Lower Alsace Marie married Pierre Eymann. He was born at Lubine, Vosges Jan. 13, 1785, and died at Soultz, Upper Alsace May 26, 1858, a son of Joseph Eymann and Barbe Goldschmitt/Goldschmid. Their civil

[253] La Hueb is still a working farm on Rue de la Hueb at Marckolsheim. A fine-dining restaurant, *Auberge de la Ferme Hueb*, opened in 2009.

marriage entry described the groom as Pierre Eimann, bo7rn on Près du Chêne at Lubine Jan. 13, 1785. He was a son of cultivator Joseph Eimann and Barbe Kolckmette. The bride was described as Marie Zéhnere, born at Belmont March 2, 1792, and a resident of Riethhoff at Niedernai. Her parents were cultivator Ulric Zéhnere and Barbe Sommer, both residents of Niedernai who were present and consenting. Marie and her mother Barbe signed with an 'x' and an 'o', indicating they were illiterate. Marie's civil death entry created at Ribeauvillé described her as Marie Zehnter, age 54 years and five months. It was witnessed by her husband cultivator Pierre Eÿmann, 57, a local resident; cultivator Joseph Lehman, 47, a resident of Selestat. She was born at Bellemont, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Ulric Zehnter and Barbe Sommer. Signatures looked like Peter Eiman and Lehmann.

4. Barbe/Barbara Cender was born Sept. 12, 1794. On Jan. 31, 1822 at Marckolsheim she married Jean Lehman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Jean Lehmann, born at Mussig Oct. 14, 1800, and a resident of Schneckenbühl farm at Selestat (a nine-mile line running from Selestat southeast to Marckolsheim near the Rhine River would run through the villages of Mussig, Heidolshem, and Ohnenheim; all five communities in Lower Alsace). His parents were the deceased laborer Joseph Lehmann and Elisabeth Sommer, a resident of Schneckenbühl. The bride was described as Barbe Zehnder, born at Belmont Jan. 21, 1797, a resident of the farm called Hueb at Marckolsheim. (This birthdate is a mistake; it was actually the date for younger sister Anne). Her parents were laborer Ulric Zehnder and Barbe Sommer of the farm called Hueb. Witnesses included Ulric Zehnder, father of the bride. Signatures looked like Jean Lehman, Barbara Cender, and Ullerich Cender.
5. Anne Cender was born Jan. 21, 1797, and died in 1856. On Nov. 28, 1822 at Marckolsheim she married Joseph Lehman (the brother of Jean). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Joseph Lehmann, born at Mussig Sept. 11, 1797, a resident of Schneckenbühl, Selestat. His parents were the deceased cultivator Joseph Lehmann, who had died at Schneckenbühl Feb. 11, 1814, and Elisabeth Sommer, who was present and consenting. The bride Ann Zehnder was born at Belmont May 31, 1799, and resided at Marckolsheim. (This birthdate is a mistake; it was actually the date for a younger sister Elisabeth who died in7 1800). Her parents were cultivator Ulric Zehnder and Barbe Sommer of the farm called Hueb, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included father-of-the-bride Ulric Zehnder and brother-of-the-groom and cultivator Jean Lehman. Signatures looked like Jean Lehman, Joseph Lehman, and Ullerich Cender; Anne signed with an 'O' and Elisabeth Sommer signed with a slash, indicating they were illiterate.
6. Elisabeth Cender was born May 31, 1799, and died at Belmont March 15, 1800.
7. Elisabeth Cender was born Feb. 22, 1801, and died at Foug, Meurthe-et-Moselle (adjacent to Écrouves) Feb. 10, 1841. On March 17, 1827 at Marckolsheim she married Nicolas Schlatter. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Nicolas Schlatter, born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace Jan. 23, 1802. He was a son of laborer Chrétien Schlatter and Anne Marie Roth, who were residents of Richwiller, and present and consenting. The bride was Elisabeth Zehnter, born at belmont Feb. 22, 1801, a resident of Marckolsheim. Her parents were farmer Ulric Zehnter and Barbe Sommer, residents of Marckolsheim who were present and consenting. Witnesses included laborer Jacques Zimmerman of Eschenswiller, 43; farmer Jean Lehman, 26, a brother-in-law of the bride; and laborer Jean Lehman, 33, a resident of Niederaspach [Fr. Aspach le Bas], Upper Alsace. Signatures looked like Nicklaŭs Schlatter, Elisabetha Cender, Ullerich Cender, and Lehman. Schlatter died at Ensisheim, Upper Alsace Feb. 12, 1837. On Dec. 18, 1837 at Ribeauvillé she remarried to Johannes Maurer. Their civil marriage entry described him as cultivator Jean Mour, 29, born at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 9, 1808, and a resident of Ribeauvillé for six months. His parents were the deceased cultivator Michel Mour, who had died at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines May 2, 1809, and the deceased Barbe Schlatter, who had died at Fertu [Fertrupt], Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 11, 1836. His paternal grandparents were the deceased cultivator Michel Mour and Anne Yansi [Jantzi], who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before the revolution of 1789. Witnesses included weaver Michel Murer, 35, a resident of Fertrupt and second cousin to the groom; and driver Jean Dellenbach, 43. Signatures looked like Elisabetha Cender, Johannes Dellenbach, and Micheal Mŭrer; the groom was illiterate. Elisabeth's civil deth entry created at Foug described her as Elisabeth Senzear, 29. It was witnessed by her widower, day laborer Jean Maurer, 34, who did not know how to sign.
8. Jean Cender (he signed his own name Johannes Zendner) was born Oct. 15, 1803, and died at Foug, Meurthe-et-Moselle Oct. 14, 1874. On Feb. 2, 1831 at Vaucouleurs, Meuse (adjacent to Rigny-la-Salle, and 11 miles southwest of Foug) he married Catherine Neyhouser [Neuhauser]. Catherine was born at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges March 21, 1805, and died at Foug Dec. 14, 1883, a daughter of Jean Neuhauser and Marie Augspurger/Augsbourger. The civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer Jean Tzentner, 26. His parents were laborer Ulric Tzentner, a resident of Zellwiller [in Lower Alsace], and the deceased Barbe Sommer. The bride was Catherine Neyhouser, 25, a servant. Her parents were the deceased Jean Neyhouser and7 the deceased Marie Ausbourg. Bride and groom were residents of Vaucouleurs. The groom signed Zendner. Their oldest son would come to Illinois.
    - — Christian Zendner was born at Écrouves (adjacent to Foug) May 22, 1831, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County March 28, 1885. On April 2, 1861 at Robécourt, Vosges he married Barbe Gerard. She was born at St. Ouen-lès-Pary, Vosges Feb. 23, 1840, and died at Thurman, Colorado April 4, 1920, a daughter of André Gerard (his family had earlier been Schrag) and Catherine Zer/Zehr. Her civil birth entry called her Barbe Gerard, and described her parents as miller André Gerard, 27, and Catherine Zer, 23. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer-cultivator Christian Zendner, 29, born at Écrouves Grand Ménil [Grand Ménil is an area on the west side of the village of Écrouves], living at the

soap maker's. He was a son of farmer-cultivator Jean Zendner, 56, and Catherine Neuser, 54, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Barbe Gerard, 21, born at St. Ouen-lès-Pary (formed from the merging of two villages in 1833), Vosges. She was a daughter of miller André Gerard, 48, and Catherine Zer, 44, residents of the mill Froid at Robécourt who were present and consenting. Witnesses included miller Jean Eymann, 31, a brother-in-law of the groom from Gironcourt [Gironcourt-sur-Vraine]; Nicolas Neuser, 57, a paternal uncle of the bride; miller Christophe Sommer, 43, a paternal uncle of the bride from Pagney-sur-Meuse; and miller Joseph Schweitzer, 36, a maternal uncle of the bride from Goncourt [in Haut-Marne]. The 1920 7census of Thurman says 81-year-old Mary Zendner immigrated in 1868. Christian is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery as "Christiann Zendner, died March 28, 1885, aged 54 yrs. 10 mons." Barbe's headstone in Thurman Cemetery in Washington County, Colorado says she was "Mary B. Zendner, Feb. 23, 1839, April 4, 1920" and gives an age count. When did they immigrate? The 1910 census of Thurman, Colorado says 71-year-old widow Mary Zendner immigrated in 1844.

9. Ulrich Cender died at Belmont May 18, 1807. He was eight days old.

Christian Cender was born at Belmont, Lower Alsace Sept. 22, 1786.

The battle of Waterloo was fought June 15, 1815. On June 22 Napoleon Bonaparte abdicated, then on June 28 was captured trying to escape; on Oct. 16 he would be exiled for the second time. On July 18 Louis XVIII re-entered Paris. Citizens were once again free to move about the country.

On Sep. 2, 1815 at Niedernai, Lower Alsace (17 miles southwest of Strasbourg) Christian Cender married Magdalena/Madeleine Eymann. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Christian Zentner, born at Belmont Sept. 22, 1786, and a resident of Niedernai. His parents were cultivator Ulric Zentner and Barbe Sommer, residents of Niedernai who were present and consenting. The bride was descibed as Madelaine Eumann, born at Lubine Nov. 20, 1789, and a resident of Neuhoff, Strasbourg. She was a daughter of deceased cultivator Jean Eumann, who had died at Lubine April 13, 1808, and Anne Goldschmitt, a resident of au Hang, Bourge Bruche. Signatures looked like Christian Cender, Ullerich Cender, and Magdalena Eiman.

From their marriage until 1832 they lived on the farm called Taüfferhoff within the farm Reidhoff or Reith at Niedernai. The owner of the Reidhoff was named Türckheim; sons Chrétien and Joseph Cender were born in his home. The location is now called the *Ferme Riedhof ou Tauferhof*.

There is no particular pattern to family birth entries found at Niedernai. The names of the cultivator father and his children were variously written as Zehnter, Zenter, or Cender.

From 1832 to 1835 they lived at Saverne, where Christian was described as a laborer. From 1836 until their emigration from Europe in 1855 they lived at Rigny-la-Salle, Meuse.

Descendants have a *Hausbuch* of home remedies that Christian possessed in Europe. On the first page he wrote, "This housebook is mine, Christian Cender. Whoever takes it is a thief, whoever brings it back is kind to me." This seems to be a nearly-standard phrase inscribed on German-language grammars.

They sailed from Le Havre on the *John Hancock*, and arrived 7at New York June 20, 1855. The passenger list shows farmer Christian Zender, 58, France; Madelaine, 58; Madelaine, 35; Barbara, 28; Jean, 25; Cathrine, 21; Madelaine, 9; farmer Christophe Gerard, 35; Elise, 34; Christian, 4; Cathrine, 2; Joseph, eleven months; and Joseph [Cender], 29. Note that most of the stated ages were nearly correct except for those of Christian and his wife Magdalena/Madeleine: they were stated to be 58 when they were actually 65 and 58.

In late summer the traveling party settled near Metamora. In Woodford County Christophe Gerard/Christian Schrock would have reunited with his sister Catherine, who had immigrated in 1842 with her husband David Schertz. He would also have met numerous Belsley relatives. Their mother Anne Pelsy [Baltzli] was born at Rhodes, Moselle Nov. 5, 1783, and died at Robécourt, Vosges Dec. 3, 1843, a daughter of Rudolf/Rodolphe/Rudolphe Baltzli and his second wife Catherine Zwalter.

It is obvious that they arrived in Central Illinois at a dangerous time. Recall from SMITH remarks in the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, April 1930: "...Then came next the worst and most extensive of all the local cholera outbreaks, that of July and August, 1855. The total number of deaths of this period will never be known, and can only be approximated."

Christian Cender died in Tazewell County March 22, 1861. His widow Magdalena/Madeleine Eymann died there Feb. 13, 1873.

For the sake of clarity we have called all the children Cender, though that spelling may not appear on some of the entries.

1. Barbe Cender was born at Niedernai Oct. 14, 1815, and died there Dec. 14, 1816.
2. Madeleine/Magdalena Cender was born at Niedernai Sept. 28, 1817, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Dec. 24, 1913. On June 28, 1857 in Woodford County she married Pierre/Peter Rediger. He was born at Bébing, Moselle

June 9, 1815, and died at Roanoke, Wooodford County Oct. 23, 1898, a son of André Rediger and Anne Ringenberg. For background on this couple see REDIGER.

3. Jean Cender was born at Niedernai May 25, 1819, and died at Niedernai July 11, 1830. His civil death entry gives the birthplace of his father as Schönenberg (the German name for Belmont), Lower Alsace, and the birthplace of his mother as Saales, Lower Alsace (tiny Lubine, Vosges is adjacent to Saales).
4. Elisabeth Cender was born at Niedernai June 24, 1821, and died in Woodford County April 26, 1892. On Dec. 9, 1844 at Dombrot-sur-Vair, Vosges she married Christophe Gerard/Christian Schrock. He was born at Deyvillers, Vosges Sept. 4, 1818, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Jan. 21, 1878, a son of Andreas/André Schrag and Anne Pelsy or Belzel [Baltzli]. See SCHROCK for background on this couple.
5. Chrétien/Christian Cender was born at Niedernai Jan. 11, 1824, and died at Abbeyville, Kansas Feb. 10, 1895. On Oct. 25, 1852 at Burlioncourt, Moselle he married Barbara Geny. She was born June 24, 1829, and died at Abbyville, Kansas Oct. 30, 1925, a daughter of David Geny and Madeleine Kennel. They immigrated in 1867 or 1868. 'Christian Zendner' was naturalized at Metamora Dec. 4, 1878; one witness was Peter Belsley. Christian is buried in Sterling Mennonite Cemetery at Nickerson, Kansas. *Gospel Herald*, January 1926: "Barbara Cender (nee Jenny) was born June 24, 1829, at Jetta, France; died Oct. 30, 1925 at the home of her granddaughter near Abbyville, Kans.; aged 96 y. 4 m. 6 d. When she was 15 years old she united with the Amish Mennonite Church at Grand Ancourt, France. She remained a faithful member in that faith unto the end. In 1852 she was united in marriage to Christian Cender at Grand Ancourt. To this union was born one son (Joseph). In 1867 they came to America and settled north of Peoria, Ill., her husband being a miller. In 1873 they moved to a farm near Roanoke, Ill., then in 1888 they moved near Abbyville, Kans. On Feb. 10, 1895, death called her companion and April 1, 1915, her son Joseph died. Grandma Cender stayed on the home place until a few years ago she moved to Hutchinson, Kans., to live with one of her grandchildren, but she moved back again to her home on the farm with her other grandchild where she passed away peacefully. She leaves one daughter-in-law (Mary Cender), two grandchildren (Matilda King and Emil Cender), and two great-grandchildren, besides a host of relatives and friends." The obituary of their son Joseph Cender: *Gospel Herald*, June 1915: "Joseph Cender was born in France, Oct. 18, 1855; died April 1, 1915; aged 59 y. 5 m. 14 d. He came to America with his parents in the year 1869. They lived in Woodford Co., Ill., till the year 1888, when they moved to Reno Co., Kan. Oct. 21, 1890 he was married to Mary Oyer, to which union two children were born. Bro. Cender's health has been failing for about seven years, and he was taking treatments at a sanitarium, where he also passed away. He leaves his wife, aged mother, a son, a daughter, a grandson, and many other relatives and friend to mourn their loss, but not as those who have no hope. He was saved and joined the Defenseless Mennonite Church, of which he was a faithful member for many years. Funeral services were conducted in the German language by Jacob Schmucker, and in English by D. M. Zimmerman. Text, *Eccl. 8:8*."
6. Barbe/Barbara Cender was born at Niedernai Sept. 5, 1825. We c7ould not follow her after her arrival in America.
7. **Joseph Cender** was born at Niedernai June 13, 1827, and died at Fisher, Champaign County Jan. 17, 1910.
8. Catherine Cender was born at Niedernai July 30, 1827, and died there Jan. 21, 1830. Her civil death entry gives the birthplace of her father as Schönenberg, Lower Alsace, and the birthplace of her mother as Saales, Lower Alsace. One witness was paternal grandfather Ulric Cender, 68, a resident of Niedernai.
9. Jean/John Cender was born at Niedernai Jan. 3, 1831. His household may be one that is found on the 1865 state census of Roanoke, Woodford County next to Peter Radiker [Rediger]: one male 30-39 years of age; one female 20-29; and one female 70-79. The entry is barely legible.
10. Catherine Cender was born at Saverne, Lower Alsace July 18, 1833. Her civil birth entry described her parents as laborer Chrétien Cender, 46, and Madeleine Eimann, 43. One source says she married Christian Schertz, and is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora as "Cath. Cender Schertz, 1833-1894." There is indeed a relatively recent marble headstone there with that inscription. But we found no record of such a marriage. A *genealogytrails.com* listing of burials from a survey in 2010 says that the Catherine Cender Schertz buried there was born Jan. 6, 1905, and died March 8, 1905. This needs another look.

Joseph Cender was born at Niedernai June 13, 1827, and died at Fisher, Champaign County Jan. 17, 1910.

He is found on the *John Hancock* passenger list as Joseph, 29, in the grouping with his sister Madeleine/Magdalena.

On Feb. 28, 1870 he purchased 80 acres of public land in Section 26 of Roanoke (Township 27N), Woodford County. The parcel cost $12 per acre, or $960.

On March 13, 1870 in Tazewell County he married Marie/Mary Rouvenacht. She was born at Guermange, Moselle March 28, 1842, and died at Fisher March 4, 1909, a daughter of Christian Rouvenacht and Marie Suisse/Schweizer (see ROUVENACHT, RUEWENACH for background on the parents).

The 1880 census of Roanoke shows them as Joseph Cender, 53, France; Mary, 38, France; Crist, 7, Illinois; Joseph, 6, Illinois; Lena, 4, Illinois; John, 3, Illinois; father-in-law Crist Reuvenack, 72, France; and mother-in-law Mary, 76, France. They were next door to the household of Peter Rediger and Joseph's sister Magdalena Cender.

The 1900 census of East Bend, Champaign County shows them as Joseph Centner, 72, born in Germany in June 1827, immigrated in 1854; Mary, 58, born in Germany in March 1842, immigrated in 1854; farm laborer John,

21, born in Illinois in August 1878; Mary, 20, born in Illinois in January 1880; and Peter, 18, born in Illinois in December 1881.

Gospel Herald, March of 1909: "Mary Cender (maiden name Rouvenac) was born in France, March 28, 1842; died of paralysis near Fisher, Ill., March 4, 1909; aged 66 y. 11 m. 6 d. She united with the A. M. Church in her younger years and remained a faithful member to the end. She was married to Joseph Cender and lived in this relation for nearly 39 years. To this union were born seven children. She leaves to mourn her departure an aged, mourning husband, three sons and two daughters. Funeral services were held at the house by Andrew Schrock of Metamora, Ill., in German and Samuel Gerber of Tremont, Ill., in English. Text *Psa. 103*; *Gal. 2:20*, and *I Cor. 15:22*."

Gospel Herald, February of 1910: "Jos. Cender was born in France, June 13, 1827; died near Fisher, Ill., Jan. 17, 1910; aged 82 y. 7 m. 4 d. He united with the A. M. church in his youth and remained a faithful member to the end. He united in marriage with Mary Rouvenac, Mar. 13, 1870. This union was blessed with seven children. He leaves three sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren, one sister and many friends to mourn his departure. Two children and his companion preceded him to the spirit world. Funeral services were conducted at the home by Bro. Peter Zehr from *Psa. 90:2*, and at the church by Bro. Samuel Garber in English from *Gal. 2:20*, and by Bro. Andrew Schrock in German from *II Tim. 4:7*. C.W. S."

They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher.7

Raeuber: Räuber of Hauingen

In German a *Räuber* is a thief, robber, or bandit – pronounced *ray-oobr*."[254]

Johann Sebastian Räuber (#1) married Anna Catharina Hassler. Their son **Johann Sebastian Räuber** (#2) was born at Hauingen, Baden Sept. 6, 1756, and died there March 17, 1832.

HAUINGEN AND RECHBERG

Hauingen (pronounced *how-in-jin*) was less than three miles northeast of Lörrach, and six miles northeast of the French trade city St. Louis.

Hauingen stretches north from the Wiese River to the heights of the Rottler Forest. A village has stood on the site since at least the fifth century. Its name appears on a document from 1038. The present church sits on a foundation dug in the 14th century, and wood cross-vault ribs also date from that time. Its bell tower was constructed in 1469, a date that is carved on one side.

One internet voice that purports to have a family *Bible* says that John Raeuber of Elm Grove was born at Rechberg [deer hill]. There was a Rechberg settlement north of the village, first mentioned in 1368. It sits on a plateau, surrounded by forest. In 1760 the hamlet was awarded to the village of Hauingen. There is still a Rechbergstrasse running two miles north out of Hauingen's center.

In 1975 Hauingen was incorporated as the most northernmost district in the municipality of Lörrach. It still has its own mayor, administrative offices, and a population of about 3,000.

On Jan. 28, 1783 at Rümmingen he married Magdalena Brombacher. She was born at Tegernau, Baden (nine miles northeast of Hauingen) Oct. 9, 1760, a daughter of Johannes Jacob Brombach and Barbara Beyer.

Their children born at Hauingen include:7

1. Anna Magdalena Räuber was born June 20, 1784, and died at Otlingen (four miles southwest of Hauingen) April 3, 1849. She married Jakob Friedrich Kiefer.
2. Johann Sebastian Räuber (#3) was born May 12, 1786, and died at Hauingen May 15, 1786.
3. Barbara Räuber was born July 7, 1788, and died at Hauingen the following day.
4. Johann Jakob Räuber was born Dec. 6, 1791, and died at Hauhingen Dec. 8, 1791.
5. Anna Catharina Räuber was born at Hauingen Sept. 13, 1794, and died there March 7, 1849. She married Martin Schöpflin, a son of Martin Schöpflin and Maria Katharina Scheurer.
6. **Johann Sebastian Räuber** (#4) was born at Hauingen June 30, 1797, and died there Nov. 4, 1857.
7. Anna Maria Räuber was born Feb. 25, 1800, and died at Hauingen June 27, 1850. She married Franz Ludwig Keller.

Johann Sebastian Räuber (#4) was born at Hauingen June 30, 1797, and died there Nov. 4, 1857. Before 1828 he married Margaretha Schöpflin, a daughter of Martin Schöpflin and Maria Katharina Scheurer.

Their son **Johannes Räuber/John Raeuber** was born at Rechberg, Hauingen April 3, 1828, and died at Elm Grove Nov. 11, 1926.

Was Johannes/John an Amish Mennonite? We know too little to define him. It is apparent that his family did not travel far from home to find marriage partners. But his proximity to Lörrach and Tegernau would have given him opportunities to meet Amish Mennonite Zimmermans and Neuhausers.

In Tazewell County he would marry the daughter of an Amish Mennonite minister/elder and become a faithful Defenseless Mennonite (a name devised during the Civil War for the denomination that would be called Evangelical Mennonite after 1908). It is surely not coincidental that they found their way to a Groveland congregation with Zimmermans from Baden.

According to the 1900 and 1910 censuses, he immigrated in 1849.

On Aug. 8, 1854 in Peoria County he married Barbara Farny.255 She was born in August of 1831, and died at Elm Grove May 9, 1912, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Farny (also found as Farni, Farney, and Forney) and Anne Kempf. She was born shortly after her family's arrival in America, during their transition from Pennsylvania to Ontario. Her birthplace appears as both locations on census reports.

The 1860 census of Mackinaw describes John 'River,' a 31-year-old carpenter from Germany; Barbara, 29, born in Illinois; John, 5; Joseph, 3; and May [M7ary], 2. The 1870 census of Deer Creek described them as John

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[254] This is not the same as the Bernese surname *Räber*, which was a description of someone who grows white turnips. German heraldic symbols (most 19th- and 20th-century inventions) have also adopted the much more dramatic raven for Räber.

[255] They are listed on the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as John Rauber and Barbara Forney.

Raeuber, a 42-year-old farmer from Baden; Barbary, 38, from Canada; Joseph, 14; Mary, 13; Barbaray, 8; Lidy [Lydia], 6; Susan, 4; and Emma, four months. The 1880 census of Deer Creek describes John 'River,' a 52-year-old farmer from Baden; Barbara, 49, born in Canada to parents from France; Joseph, 22; Barbara, 18; Lydia, 16; Susan, 14; Emma, 12; and John, 9. Despite these two censuses, we could not identify the Raeubers on the 1873 plat map of Deer Creek, indicating they were leasing property.

The 1891 plat map of Elm Grove has John Raeuber on 41.5 acres in the southeast corner of Section 2, Elm Grove. His farm was on the north side of Allentown Road just above Joseph Wagler, and just below George Ritthaler and John Kinsinger.

The 1900 census of Elm Grove describes th7em as retired farmer John Raeuber, born in Germany in February of 1827, immigrated in 1849; Barbara, born in Pennsylvania in August of 1831 to parents from Germany; Laydia, born in March of 1865; and Susan, born in Jan. or June of 1867. Both of the children's entries say their mother was born in Pennsylvania. The household of daughter Barbara is on the same page; those of daughter Mary and son John are on the next.

The 1910 census of Elm Grove describes John Raeuber, 82, born in Germany, immigrated in 1849; Barbara, 79, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Germany; and daughter Lydia. They are listed on the same page as daughter Anna Maria/Mary and her husband Christian Oyer, with daughter Susan as a guest in their home. The 1920 census of Groveland has widower John Rauber, 92, Germany, immigrated in 1849, naturalized in 1864; Susan, 52, born in Illinois to Germany parents; and Lydia, 55, born in Illinois to German parents.

The 1910 plat map shows J. Raeuber on the same 41.5 acres in the southeast corner of Section 2. Above him was Christian Oyer's 59.55 acres, on the west side Ben Birkey's 77.25 acres, and on the east side Nick Staker's 60 acres (with another 19.25 acres below the road holding a schoolhouse).

When John died, his *Bloomington Pantagraph* obituary published Nov. 12 described him as the oldest person in Tazewell County.

His death certificate erroneously called him John Reauber, and named his parents as John Sebastian Reauber of Baden, Germany and Margarette Scheffllin of Germany. It was witnessed by his daughter Susan of Groveland.

They are buried under a joint headstone in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland near six of their eight children.

Their children include:

1. Johannes/John Raeuber was born Sept. 15, 1854, and died in 1865. He may be buried in Slabtown Cemetery.
2. Joseph Raeuber was born at Elm Grove Oct. 18, 1856, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 8, 1929; he is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek. On April 22, 1885 in Tazewell County he married Mary Victorine 'Nellie' Serpette. They belonged to the Goodfield Mennonite Church, then the Morton Mennonite Church, and lived at Deer Creek.
3. Anna Maria/Mary Raeuber was born Sept. 16, 1858, and died at Elm Grove Dec. 28, 1931. She was the second wife of minister Christian Oyer. He was born June 28, 1862, and died Nov. l 2, 1954, a son of David Oyer and Susan Farney. He first married Jakobina 'Bena' King in Tazewell County Jan. 17, 1884, who died in 1888. Anna Maria and Christian are found on the 1910 census of Elm Grove, with sister Susan Raeuber living in their home. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Grovelan7d, where her headstone calls her Anna Mary Oyer.
4. Barbara Raeuber was born Oct. 27, 1862, and died Dec. 2, 1907. On April 17, 1889 she married James Monroe Habeck. He was born in Pennsylvania in June of 1858, and died July 8, 1916, a son of Adolph Habeck (recall Adolph as the operator of a general store with wooden slab sides, giving Slabtown its name). They appear on the 1900 census of Elm Grove as farmer James M. Habeck, 52, born in Pennsylvania to German parents in June of 1858; Barbara, 32, born in Illinois in October of 1862 to parents from Germany and Pennsylvania; Edwin, 4, Illinois; Esther, 2, Illinois; John, 10 months, born in Illinois in July of 1899; and boarder/team laborer Fred Ridallah [Ritthaler], 40, born in Illinois in October of 1860 to German parents (his father George and brother Henry lived next door; Barbara's parents are farther down the same page). In 1918 Barbara remarried to Deloss Bracken. He was born in Indiana June 5, 1863, and died at Morton May 4, 1937. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery.
5. Lydia Elizabeth Raeuber was born in March of 1865, and died Oct. 9, 1953.
6. Susan Raeuber was born Jan. 27, 1867, and died Nov. 24, 1953. She is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery.
7. Emma Raeuber was born Feb. 16, 1870, and died at Morton June 17, 1948. About 1888 in Woodford County she married Albert Alfred Habeck. He was born at Montgomery, Woodford County in 1861, a son of Adolph Habeck. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery.
8. John Sebastian Raeuber was born at Deer Creek Feb. 22, 1872, and died at Eureka, Woodford County Dec. 27, 1961. In 1897 he married Julia H. Humfrey. She was born in Illinois in 1874 to parents from Ohio and Illinois, and died at Deer Creek Sept. 18, 1940. They are found on the 1920 census of Deer Creek. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery.