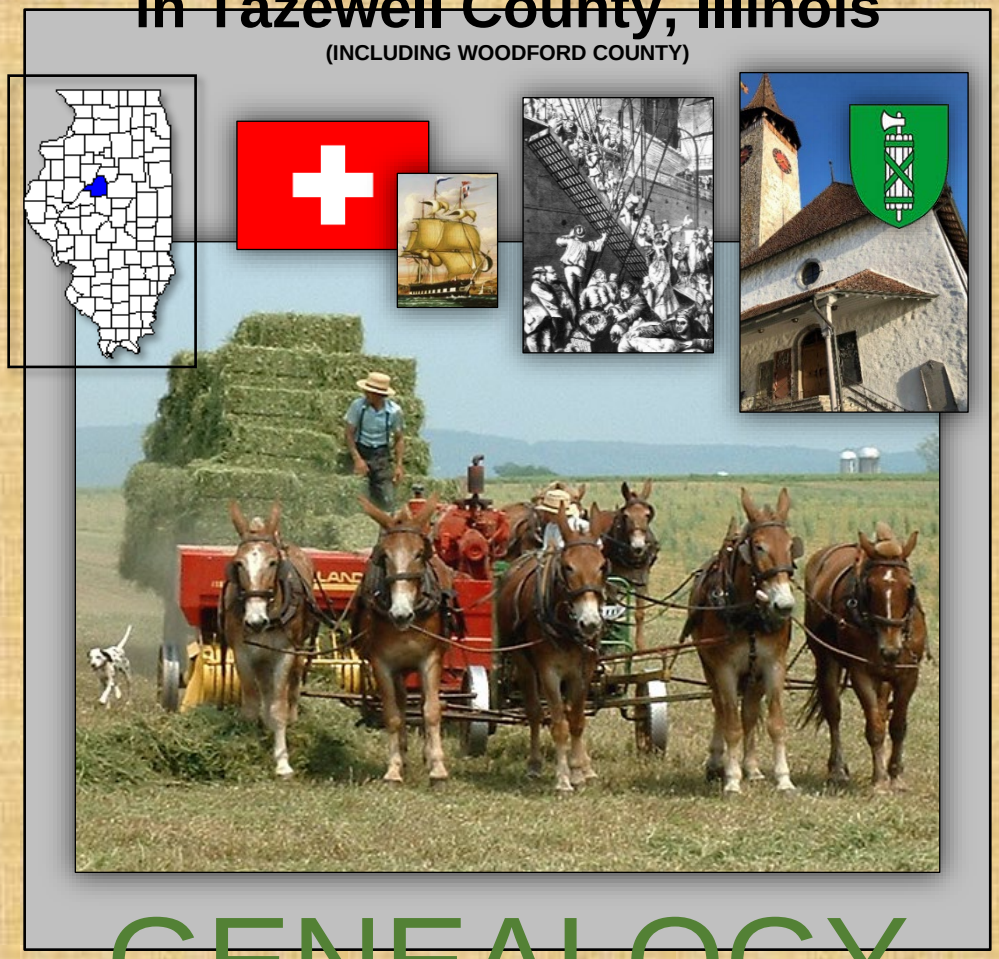
Amish Mennonites

in Tazewell County, Illinois

(INCLUDING WOODFORD COUNTY)



GENEALOGY

Part Four of Five

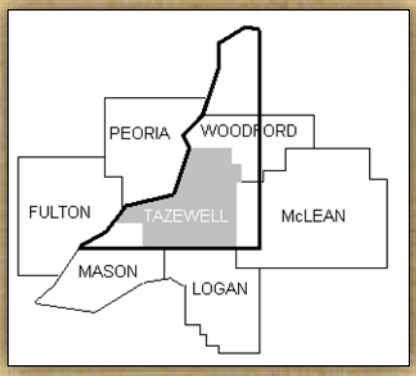
Compiled by Joseph Peter Staker

EHRESMAN - GOLDSMITH - GOOD - HOCHSTETTLER - KAUFFMAN - KING
KINSINGER - LANTZ - NEUHAUSER - OESCH/ESCH - PETERSMITH
PLANK - REDIGER - RINGENBERGER - SCHWARZENTRAUB
SMITH - STUTZMAN - YORDY - ZEHR - ZOOK

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

Above: The Christian Farny family *Bible*, photo courtesy of descendant Larry Ball.

On the cover, from left: Tazewell County, Illinois; the flag of modern Switzerland; a packet ship; and passengers embarking at Bremen circa 1848, as pictured in *Harper's Weekly* in 1874. Right, excavations in 1973 showed that the Protestant Reformed Church of Hilterfingen and bell tower stand over the ruins of previous structures from the 7th, 10th, and 14th centuries. The present bell tower was constructed in 1473. The Gothic church that stood beside it when it was constructed was dismantled in 1727, making way for the present rectangular structure. Photo by Jen Staker, November 2017. Above it, the arms of Canton St. Gallen, home of the Zogg family (later Zook of Elm Grove). Background, hay baling © copyright 2012 Terry Tabb, used by permission.



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

Amish Mennonites in Tazewell County, Illinois

(including Woodford County)

Part Four of Five

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PART FOUR OF FIVE

ZEHR	**Zehr of Reutigen and Struth**	**3**
	Ontario Zehrs	**18**
	Zehr of Lembach	**18**
YORDY	**Jordi of Wyssachengraben**	**23**
OESCH/ESCH	**Oesch/Esch/: Variations of Ösch**	**34**
	Christian Esch	**34**
	Christian Oesch	**37**
EHRESMAN	**Ehrismann of the Bärbelsteinerhof**	**42**
	The Ehresman Branch at Neuhausen	**58**
	Bureau and McLean Counties	**64**
HOCHSTETTLER	**Hostetler of Wahlern**	**69**
STUTZMAN	**Stŭtzman of Erlenbach**	**84**
LANTZ	**Lantz of Mifflin County**	**96**
KING	**König to King**	**104**
	King of Elm Grove	**106**
	König of Nimburg	**127**
	King Background	**138**
	A King-Ropp Connection	**138**
	Samuel's Henderson County Cousins	**139**
	Distractions	**140**
KAUFFMAN	**Kauffman of Mifflin County**	**143**
SCHWARZENTRAUB	**Schwartzentrŭber of Trub**	**153**
SMITH	**Schmitt of Linstroff**	**161**
	Schmitt of Zimming	**162**
	Schmitt of Bisping	**164**
PETERSMITH	**Peter of Gontenschwil**	**169**
NEUHAUSER	**Neuhaus of Rüderswil and Lützelflüh**	**177**
	Neuhauser of La Broque	**177**
	Neuhauser of Gosselming	**181**
	Neuhauser of Basel	**184**
ZOOK	**Zogg of Grabs**	**196**
GOOD	**Guth of Eppenbrunn**	**203**
PLANK	**Blank of Steffisburg**	**207**
GOLDSMITH	**Goldschmid of Richterswil**	**214**
REDIGER	**Reŭtiger of Boltigen**	**252**
KINSINGER	**Kŭnzi or Künzi of Buchholterberg**	**254**
	Daniel Kinsinger	**261**
RINGENBERGER	**Ringenberg of Fribourg**	**265**
	The Bavarian Peter Ringenberger	**265**
	The French Peter Ringenberger	**270**

Zehr of Reutigen and Struth

In the Bernese dialect a *Zehr* can be a boarder or tenant.

One *Heimatort* or place of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname is Aeschi bei Spiez. The village is located on a ridge between the Kander Valley [Ger. *Kanderthal*] and the southwestern shore of Lake Thun. There are few instances of the surname in records there before the mid-1700s; the decision to make it a *Heimatort* may have had something to do with its relatively larger size in comparison to adjacent small vi9llages that have more relevance.

The Zehr family that we will follow accounts for almost all of the known Anabaptist lines. However, there is a 'wildcard' that might lead to some Anabaptist descendants. A census of Anabaptist heads-of-household at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1703 lists Bäntz Zehr and Peter Zehr. They are absent from a similar census taken the following year.

A marriage entry created July 8, 1687 at Steffisburg said that **Peter Zehr** *von Räütingen* [Reutigen] had married Barbara Schütz *von Blŭmenstein* (a Schütz is a guard). Reutigen is inland on the western shore of Lake Thun, five miles south of that city; Blumenstein is six miles west of that city.

Peter's baptism entry has not been found. Reutigen, Blumenstein, Oberstocken, Niederstocken, and Pohlern were located in the Stocktal, a valley between the Stockhorn chain of alps and the ridge-plateau that holds Amsoldingen.[1] A Protestant Reformed church at Reutigen served Reutigen, Niederstocken, and Oberstocken. Thus the remark that Peter Zehr was *von Räütingen* may only have meant that he came from any of three villages in the parish of Reutigen.

The three oldest registers of baptism records for the parish of Reutigen covering the years 1550-1697 have been missing since before 1901.[2] Perhaps the baptisms of Peter and two of his sons were recorded there. There were still Zehrs in the congregation when a profile of Reutigen parish was created in 1861; they lived at Niederstocken.

It is also possible that he was the Peter Zeÿer baptized at Wimmis (adjacent below Reutigen) July 12, 1663, a son of Hans Zeÿer and Anni Wÿss.

It is thought that Peter and Barbara lived at Oberstocken after marrying. Family passdown said they departed from that location when they emigrated.

Children of Anabaptists Peter Zehr and Barbara/Bäbi Schütz include:

1. Anni Scher (as found) was baptized at Blumenstein March 16, 1690, a daughter of Peter Scher and Bäbi Schütz.
2. Johannes Schrag was born before 1698, and died at Struth, Lower Alsace April 21. On Aug. 19, 1718 at Hambach (since 1891 Waldhambach, three miles northwest of Struth) he married Anna Bürcki.
3. **Christian Zehr** was born before 1712.

Christian Zehr was born before 1712. At about that time the family traveled down the Rhine River to Struth in 'Crooked Alsace' (a part of Lower Alsace that projects into the region of Lorraine) to work as cultivators. Several unidentified brothers or Zehr families may have made the trip in the same time frame.

Circa 1733 Christian married Elisabeth Koch. Their children include:

1. Christian Zehr was born circa 1735, and died at Neuviller [now Neuviller-la-Roche] in 1786. He married Freni/Véronique Martin. One son, Johannes/Jean Zehr, married his cousin Barbe Zehr (below). A daughter Freni Zehr (also found as Françoise or Véronique Serre) married Jean Litwiller; see LITWILLER, ILLINOIS LITWILLERS for background on this couple. Some sources also attribute Michel Zehr as a son. Michel Zehr was born circa 1755, and died on Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching, Moselle June 1, 1813. He married Catherine Esch, Anne Marie Kohler, and Magdalena Farny. Their family resettled at Croghan, Lewis County, New York.
2. **Daniel Zehr** was born at Struth circa 1735.

Daniel Zehr was born at Struth circa 1735.

In 1777 he married Catherine Zehr. She was born at Struth circa 1750, and died there Dec. 24, 1805. Her German-language civil death entry describes her as age 55, and her husband Daniel as age 70.

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[1] Pohlern was part of the parish of Thierachern until 1922, when it became part of the parish of Blumenstein.

[2] In 2014 Oberstocken, Niederstocken, and Höfen bei Thun merged to become Stocken-Höfen.

Daniel died in the home of his son-in-law Johannes/Jean Springer at Struth May 21, 1819. His French-language civil death entry describes him as a cultivator, the 84-year-old widower of Catherine Zehr, and a son of Chrétien Zehr and Elisabethe Koch. It was witnessed by son-in-law and cultivator Jean Springer, 44 (he signed 'Johannes Springer'); and son and cultivator Joseph Zehr, 34.

Children of Daniel Zehr and Catherine Zehr born at Struth include:

1. Katharina/Catherine Zehr was born April 15, 1778. On Jan. 27, 1798 at Struth she married Johannes/Jean Springer. He was born circa 1776, a son of Daniel Springer and Marie Kohler. They migrated to Bavaria in 1819. Among their children was David Springer, who lived at Solln (a southwestern Munich suburb) and sailed with his wife Elizabeth Guth on the *Minnesota* in 1849. David was born at Struth Oct. 14, 1806, died at Hopedale April 16, 1884, and is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. See SPRINGER for background on this couple.
2. **Daniel Zehr** was born Feb. 8, 1782, and died at Farnisville in 1856.
3. **Joseph Zehr** was born in May 1784, and died at Worth (also found as 'near Metamora'), Woodford County April 17, 1872.
4. Barbe Zehr was born May 17, 1791. On Aug. 29, 1811 at Struth she married her cousin Johannes/Jean Zehr. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Zehr [he signed Johannes], 28, born at Neuviller Sept. 3, 1783, a son of the deceased cultivator Chrétien Zehr and his widow Véronique [Martin] Zehr. The bride was described as Struth resident Barbe Zehr, 20, born at Struth May 17, 1791, a daughter of cultivator Daniel Zehr of Struth, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Zehr. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Springer, 36, brother-in-law of the bride, and weaver Chrétien Ketzel, 29, both residents of Struth. They resided at Nitting, Moselle.

DANIEL ZEHR

Daniel Zehr was born at Struth, Lower Alsace Feb. 8, 1782, and died at Farnisville in 1856.

On June 3, 1802 at Windstein, Lower Alsace (28 miles east of Struth) he married Magdalena Unzicker. Their German-language marriage entry calls them 'Daniel Zähr' and 'Magdalena Hŭntzicker.' Witnesses included Joseph Zähr, 47; Christian Zähr of Sultzthal, 51; and Christian Bäch of Windstein, 35.

Magdalena was born at Windstein May 8, 1785, and died at Hanfeld, Bavaria Dec. 16, 1838, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Unzicker and Barbara Ullman.[3] She was a second cousin to Elizabeth Unzicker, the wife of Valentine Birky, and Daniel Unzicker, the husband of Magdalena Kahn.

In October 1803 the family entered a two-year lease on the dairy farm Abtsried, a property of the Wessobrunn monastery, about 34 miles southwest of Munich.[4] They lived at Berg am Laim 1810-17. This was a small mountain known for its brickworks, which is now a district on the east side of Munich. On Dec. 2, 1818, they purchased property at Mannried (27 miles northwest of Munich), which was sold Dec. 15, 1827. From 1828 they lived on the Manghof at Hanfeld (18 miles south of Munich), where Magdalena died Dec. 16, 1838.

Five of their children emigrated and stayed at least temporarily at Slabtown (now Congerville in Montgomery Township). In 1849 Daniel emigrated from Hanfeld as a 67-year-old widower with the family of his nephew David Springer.

Daniel and David joined a group departing from Bremen on the *Minnesota* (his traveling companions are listed in EIGSTI). They sailed via Liverpool to New York, arriving June 21, 1849. Many in the group traveled directly to Central Illinois.

Daniel reunited in Tazewell and Woodford Counties with his sons George (possibly immigrated 1835), Christian (immigrated 1839), Peter (immigrated 1844), and Jakob/Jacob (immigrated 1848), and possibly with daughter Magdalena. Oldest son Daniel followed in 1853, and only son Joseph remained in Bavaria.

Daniel died at the Farnisville home of son Christian in 1856, and is thought to be buried in Slabtown Cemetery.

Children of Daniel Zehr and Magdalena Unzicker include:

1. Daniel Zehr

Daniel Zehr 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.

On May 12, 1827 at Hilgertshausen-Tandern, Bavaria (27 miles east of Augsburg) he married Barbara Ingold. She was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof farm between Darstein and Münchweiler am Klingbach (about four miles

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[3] The *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Tazewell County* stated that Daniel Zehr's wife was Catherine Ringburk. However, many errors of fact connected with this family were also given; we could not identify their source.

[4] The dairy farm Abtsried was later leased by Daniel Unzicker and his second wife Elisabeth Hauter (see UNZICKER, BUTLER COUNTY UNZICKERS).

from Annweiler) in Nassau-Weilburg circa 1800, and died at Arzbach bei Dachau Aug. 5, 1831 (an entry was created at nearby Pellheim), a daughter of Joseph Ingold and Elisabetha Güngerich. She brought one child to the marriage. Joseph Ingold was born 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). See INGOLD for background on this 1861 immigrant who married in Tazewell County.

Children of Daniel Zehr and Barbara Ingold include:

a. Daniel Zehr was born at Söcking, Bavaria May 3, 1828, and died at Wolcott, Indiana May 20, 1915 (per the *Indiana Death Index*). On Dec. 13, 1855 in Tazewell County he married Anne Marie/Mary Wagler; the ceremony was perofrmed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace Nov. 28, 1834 (her birth entry called her Anne Marie Wagner), and died Feb. 14, 1894, a daughter of Jacob Wagler and Magdalena Röschli. They are found on the 1880 census of Gridley as farmer Daniel Zehr, 53, Germany; Mary, 48, France; Daniel Jr., 19; John, 16; Phoeba, 14; Reuben, 8; Lydia, 4; Mary, 12; and Priscilla, 10; all children born in Illinois. Mary Wagler is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Fairbury, Livingston County. The 1900 census of Indian Grove, Fairbury Township shows landlord Dan.l Zehr, 72, born in Germany in May 1828 to a father from France and a mother from Germany, immigrated in 1853; and daughter Lyddie Zehr, 22, born in Illinois in April 1877 to a father from Germany and a mother from France. A headstone in the Christian Apostolic Cemetery at Wolcott gives Daniel the dates 1829-1915. Nearby is the grave of his daughter Lydia and her husband; a joint headstone describes them as "Stortz, Lydia Z., 1877-1936, Phillip R., 1878-1944."[5]

b. Magdalena Zehr was born at Söcking Dec. 2, 1829, and died there in April 1830.

c. Christian Zehr was born at Mannried, Bavaria July 27, 1831 (per a civil entry, headstone says Aug. 1, 1831), and died at Providence, Bureau County Oct. 4, 1891. On June 5, 1859 in Tazwell County he married Jakobina/Jacobine 'Phoebe' Eigsti; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Pellheim, Bavaria Aug. 7, 1838 (headstone Aug. 1, 1838), and died at Tiskilwa, Bureau County Nov. 25, 1913, a daughter of Nicholas Augustin and Barbara Gascho. *Herald of Truth*, November 1891: "On the 4th of October, 1891, near Providence, Bureau County, Ill., Bro. and deacon Christian A. Zehr, aged 60 years, two months and four days. He lived in matrimony 32 years. His widow, nine children, and nine grandchildren mourn his departure. He was prepared for the great change. His affliction was in his stomach (gastritis). Buried in the Indiantown graveyard, on which occasion services were held by Joseph Springer, of Hopedale, Ill., and Joseph Buercky, of Tiskilwa. The deceased brother as well as his wife, whose maiden name was Eyste, were natives of Bavaria, Germany. He lived 10 years in Woodford Co., and three in Tazewell Co., before he settled here 24 years ago." They are buried in Willow Springs Cemetery at Tiskilwa.

On Nov. 6, 1832 Daniel remarried to Magdalena Müller. The entry created at Pellheim described the groom as Daniel Zehr, a resident of Arzbach House No. 10, born in June 1804, a son of Daniel Zehr and widower of Barbara Ingold. The bride was described as Magdalena Müller, a resident of Wellenburg bei Augsburg, born in 1806, a daughter of Christian Müller and Anna Schönbeck.

At Arzbach bei Dachau, Daniel was described as a castle carpenter/ builder with Christian Birki (of the 'Little Red Birky' branch). He became minister and elder in Bavaria.

On July 26, 1853 a public notice posted in *Neueste Nachrichten aus dem Gebiete der Politik* [Latest News from the Field of Politics] announced that farmer Daniel Zehr of Pettenbrunn (22 miles above Munich) intended to travel to North America with his family. He sold a Pettenbrunn property Sept. 1, 1853.

Gary L. Yordy found the passenger list of the *Germania* out of Bremen, which arrived at New York Nov. 19, 1853. It gives the family as Daniel Zehr, 50, farmer; Marie, 45; Christian, 22, farmer; Magdalena, 18; James [Jacob], 16; and Mary, 14; and their place of origin as Pettenbrunn. Son Daniel may have been accidentally omitted from this list, because his 1900 census report said he also immigrated in 1853.

The *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database* shows that Daniel Zehr of Woodford County purchased 91.2 acres of federal land at what is now Congerville for 25 cents per acre Dec. 15, 1854. Daniel's status within the Mackinaw meetings is uncertain, given the presence of Christian Farny and other senior ministers, but he was highly regarded in deference to his status as an elder in Bavaria.

The circumstances of Daniel's death are given in SMITH, THE SCHMITTS OF BISPING. Christian Smith died Aug. 2, 1855, and his wife Magdalena Aug. 4; Magdalena's brother Andrew Schrock and neighbors John Lantz and Jonas Kauffman died Aug. 5. As a minister and elder, Daniel was called to attend to the orphaned Smith children. He delivered the graveside eulogy at a funeral Aug. 10, spent the evening at home, and died there the following morning.

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[5] Phillip and Lydia, both born in Illinois, are found on the 1910 census of Wolcott. Daniel was not living with them at that time.

Daniel was buried in Slabtown Cemetery with many other cholera victims. Magdalena died Feb. 27, 1899, and is also buried in Slabtown Cemetery.

Children of Daniel Zehr and his second wife Magdalena Müller include:

d. Magdalena Zehr was born at Arzbach bei Dachau July 20, 1834 (headstone July 27, 1834), and died at Goodfield, Woodford County May 19, 1919. On April 8, 1856 in Woodford County she married Joseph Sutter (also found as 'Suttor').[6] He was born Oct. 10, 1829, and died Sept. 26, 1860, a son of Johannes/John Sutter and Barbara Oesch. Joseph's status as a deserter from Bavarian military training may explain why they do not appear on the federal census (see SUTTER). On Aug. 2, 1868 in Woodford County Magdalena remarried to widower Magnus Helderle. He was born Sept. 6, 1840, and died May 11, 1909. He had married his first wife Elizabeth Sommer in Woodford County June 8, 1864.[7] The blended family appears on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County as farmer Magnus Holderley, 39, Baden; Lena, 46, Baden; Mary Sutor, 23, Illinois; laborer John Sutor, 20, Illinois; Christian Holderley, 15, Illinois; Magdalena Holderley, 10, Illinois; Sarah, 8, Illinois; Emma, 6, Illinois; and Lydia, 3, Illinois. They resided next door to Magdalena's brother Jakob /Jacob Zehr and Anna Roth. Magdalena and Magnus are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville, Woodford County.

e. Jakob/Jacob Zehr was born at Arzbach bei Dachau July 25, 1837 July 25, 1836 death entry), and died at Indian Grove, Livingston County May 12, 1922. On Sept. 20, 1865 in Woodford County he married Anna Roth. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Sept. 29, 1844, and died in Livingston County Dec. 31, 1895, a daughter of Andrew Roth and Anna Zimmerman. They appear on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County as farmer Jacob Zehr 42, Bavaria; Annie, 36, born in Ohio to parents from France; six children born in Illinois; and Magdalena [Müller] Zehr, 75, Bavaria. They resided next door to the Helderles. They are buried in the South Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Fairbury, Livingston County.

f. Maria/Mary Zehr was born Feb. 15, 1839, and died May 3, 1903. On Sept. 11, 1864 in Woodford County she married Michael Miller.[8] He was born in Germany July 14, 1838, and died Oct. 7, 1882. They are found on the 1880 census of Gridley, McLean County as farmer Michael Miller, 39, born in Germany to a German father and French mother; Mary, 41, born in Germany to German parents; John, 15; Anna, 11; Benjamin, 10; and Samuel, 5; all children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Gridley Village shows landlord Mary Miller, 61, born in Germany in February 1839. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.

2. George Zehr

George Zehr was born on the Abtsried dairy farm, a property of the Wessobrunn monastery (34 miles southwest of Munich) circa Jan. 23, 1806.

George may have been the first of the Zehr family to emigrate from Europe. He is thought to have arrived in America May 26, 1835, though we could not determine the original source of this date found in several sources.

On Oct. 11, 1846 in Tazewell County he married Catharine Gundy. She was born May 5, 1817.

The family is found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County next door to brother Peter Zehr as brewer George Seers, 44, Germany; Catharine, 34, Germany; and Madeline, 1, Illinois.

The 1870 census of Gridley, McLean County shows farmer George Sears, 50, Beren [Bayern, or Bavaria]; Magdalena, 42, Beren [Catharine Gundy?]; Magdalena, 20, Illinois; Joseph, 18, Illinois; and Christian, 16, Illinois. They were living next door to the household of David Augspurger (found as 'Augesperger') and his second wife Elizabeth Schertz.

Catharine died at Flanagan, Livingston County Sept. 6, 1872. *Herald of Truth*, December 1872: "On the 6th of September, in McLean Co., Ill., of lung fever, Catharine Zehr, aged 54 years. A great number of relatives and friends followed her to the grave, to bestow the last tribute, of respect departed. She was beloved by all, and had been several years blind, but with her spiritual eyes she held to Him who is invisible as though she could see him. She bore her affliction with Christian resignation. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite church, and left a bereaved husband and three children to mourn their loss. Funeral services by Ch. Schlegel and John P. Schmitt, from *1 Cor. 15*." She is buried in Waldo Cemetery.

George is found on the 1880 census of Gridley, McLean County as a 74-year-old father-in-law from Anhalt living with farmer Jacob Augspurger, 32; his daughter Lena, 32; and a grandson Albert Augspurger, 2.

George Zehr died in Livingston County Feb. 3, 1886. He is buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington, where his headstone says he "died Feb. 3, 1886, aged 80 Yrs. 10 Ds."

Children of George Zehr and Catharine Gundy include:

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[6] Woodford County records list them as Joseph Sutter and Molitine Sear.

[7] Woodford County records list the first marriage as Magnus Holderle and Elizabeth Somer, the second as Magnus Holderly and Magdalena Sutor.

[8] Woodford County records list them as Michael Miller and Mary Behr.

a. Magdalena Zehr was born circa in East Peoria, Woodford County Feb. 24, 1849, and died at Richwoods, Peoria County Nov. 1, 1919. On Jan. 8, 1871 at Danvers, McLean County she married Jacob Augspurger; minister Joseph Stuckey performed the ceremony. Jacob was born in Butler County, Ohio Aug. 23, 1847, and died at Chenoa, McLean County Nov. 17, 1932, a son of David Augspurger and his first wife Magdalena Unzicker. They are buried in Springdale Cemetery at Peoria.

b. Joseph W. Zehr was born at Peoria Jan. 1, 1851, and died at San Diego Dec. 20, 1935. On Feb. 22, 1876 at Bloomington, McLean County he married Louisa Agley [Egli/Egly?] (some sources call her Louisa Martin). The 1920 census of San Diego shows Joseph W. Zehr, born in Illinois to French parents. The *California Death Index* lists him as Joseph W. Zehr, 84, born in 1851. *Gospel Herald*, January 1936: "Joseph W. Zehr was born at Peoria, Ill., Jan. 1, 1851; died Dec. 20, 1935; aged 84 y. 11 m., 20 d. He was married in 1876 to Louisa Agley, at Bloomington, Ill. Three children reside in California (Mrs. Mary Thomas, Paul, and Geo. Zehr). There are three grandchildren. Bro. Zehr had resided in California about 30 years. Funeral services, Dec. 30, in charge of Bro. P.A. Heller."

c. Christian H. Zehr was born at Slabtown, Woodford County Nov. 2 or 23, 1853, and died at Chenoa, McLean County May 12, 1926. On Nov. 23, 1882 at Danvers, McLean County he married Mary Magdalena Unzicker. She was born in Clark County July 24, 1862, and died at Chenoa Aug. 23, 1932, a daughter of Joseph Unzicker (a son of Daniel Unzicker and Magdalena Kahn) and Magdalena Schmucker. They are buried in Lexington Cemetery at Lexington, McLean County.

3. Joseph Zehr

Joseph Zehr was born at Bogenhausen (now a district on the east side of Munich, next to Berg am Laim) Nov. 29, 1807, and died there Dec. 9, 1807.

4. Joseph Zehr

Joseph Zehr was born at Berg am Laim Nov. 18, 1810, and died after a logging accident at Beigarten, Bavaria (12 miles east of Hanfeld) April 30, 1871.

On May 14, 1837 he married Katharina Oesch. She was born at Hanfeld May 8, 1814, and died at Walchstadt, Bavaria (eight miles southeast of Hanfeld) Oct. 25, 1856, a daughter of Andreas Oesch (son of Christian Oesch and Katharina/Catherine Bürki) and Katharina Augspurger/Augsburger.

On March 13, 1857 at Berg am Laim he remarried to Jakobina Miller. She was born at Wellenburg (a suburb of Augsburg) March 12, 1818, and died at Beigarten Jan. 13, 1890, a daughter of Christian Miller and Magdalena Oesch.

Joseph was the only son who chose not to emigrate from Europe. He is thought to have had a son and a daughter.

5. Christian Zehr

Christian Zehr was born at Berg am Laim Nov. 12, 1812, and died at Deer Creek Sept. 19, 1893.

He sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Rhone*, arriving at New York June 17, 1839. The passenger list shows Christ Zear, 26, Bavaria. His name appears three lines below that of Jacob Imhof, 24; and Peter Imhof, 23. Peter Imhof or Imhoff later became elder of the conservative Augspurger congregation in Butler County. Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman and Anna Müller also brought their family on this voyage.

On Sept. 5, 1841 in what became Woodford County Christian married Elizabeth Landes.[9] She was born in Ohio circa 1814. She was a daughter of Rudolph Landes and Nancy Plum, and a younger sister to Tazewell County pioneer settler Joseph Landes. She came to Illinois after the fall of 1833 (when she relocated with her family from Ohio to Carroll County, Indiana), likely accompanied by another brother Rudolph [Jr.]. For background on their family see the Appendix, LANDES.

Elizabeth died in 1843, shortly after giving birth to a daughter, Magdalena.

On Aug. 9, 1844 in Tazewell County Christian remarried to Marie/Mary Oyer; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born at Niderhoff, Moselle April 16 (April 23 headstone), 1823, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 22, 1893, a daughter of Joseph Oyer and his first wife Catherine Schrag.

The 1850 census of Woodford County shows farmer Christian Sears, 38, Germany; Mary, 28, France; Matlan [Magdalena], 8, Illinois; Joseph, 5, Illinois; Josephine, 2, Illinois; and Mattan [Magdalena] Stine, 14, Germany. They resettled at Deer Creek in 1852.

[9] A Woodford County transcription from the original handwritten record names them as Christian Sein and Elizabeth Landes.

Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Tazewell County: "The family has been known in this section since the spring of 1852, when the father...Christian Zehr...settled on Section 25, Deer Creek Township, where he engaged in the general farming and stock-raising business on a scale exceeding that of his neighbors, and raising expectations in the popular mind which were more than realized...and in time became the owner of 900 acres of land, the greater part being valuable and productive. As his children became of age he apportioned farms to them, thus giving them a start in life to which his own youth had been a stranger."

The 1860 census of Mackinaw shows them living next door to brother Peter Zehr as farmer Christian Zears, 48, Germany; Mary, 37, Germany; and six children born in Illinois. They are also found on the 1870 census of Deer Creek as farmer Christian Zehr, 57, Bavaria; Mary, 47, France; Elizabeth, 16, Illinois; Christian, 14, Illinois; Liddy, 8, Illinois; and Samuel, 6, Illinois (son Joseph Zehr, 24, lived next door; brother Peter Zehr, 52, is found on the same page). They are also found on the 1880 census of Deer Creek as farmer Christian Zehr, 68, Bavaria; Mary, 58, France; Lydia, 17, Illinois; and Samuel, 13, Illinois.

Herald of Truth, October 1893: "On the 19th of Sept. 1893, in Tazewell Co., Ill., of general debility, Bro. Christian Zehr, aged 81 y., 7 m. He leaves his wife and six children. Funeral services by Joseph King and Joseph Stuckey in German and English from *Psa.90*." *Herald of Truth*, December 1893: "On the 21st of November, 1893, in Tazewell Co., Ill., of the infirmities of old age and epilepsy, Mary, maiden name Oyer, widow of Christian Zehr who died two months ago. Her age was 71 years and 7 months. She leaves six children, who were present at her funeral on the 23d. Funeral services by Joseph Stuckey, at the house, and at the Deer Creek M.H. by him and Solomon Yoder from *John 11* and *2 Cor. 5*. Sister Zehr longed for the end and we have reason to believe she is at rest." They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.

The recollections of Christian's daughter Elizabeth, written in the 1930s:

> *"I was born in 1854 in a log cabin which contained only two rooms and no floors. The roof was made of clapboards. This cabin was situated along the Mackinaw River which was only two jumps wide. It is now about 80 feet wide. There were fourteen log cabins in the community where I was born. I was the last one born in the long [sic] house, for soon after that my father made his own bricks out of clay and built a brick house.*
>
> *My father's wagon was made out of logs with broad axe and saw and not one pound of iron in it. I saw him work in the field with that wagon and three yoke of oxen a great number of times. He also built a log barn - 70 ft. by 40 ft. My father made his own plow out of wood. This was a one-horse plow and it took one row for one round.*
>
> *We always went to church in the wagon. The church was twenty-five miles away. In those days church services were held in houses, while now it is held in buildings used for that purpose only. In years after, we rode in spring wagons. Now automobiles are used almost entirely, and if it rains we can't get there.*
>
> *My father put the wheat and grain on the barn floor and threshed it out with clubs. Now all farmers have threshing machines. He put the corn on the barn floor and stamped it out with horses, fanned it, put it in sacks, and took it to market. Now corn shellers are used. He cut his grain with a cradle and one of us had to follow with the garden rake and make bundles, another to bind it. They now have a machine which does both cutting and threshing.*
>
> *It always seemed that my father was blessed, for he was never too tired or busy for family worship. God blessed him with six children. My father was born in 1812 and was always a hardworking man. He died when he was 82 years of age....*
>
> *I think the old days were a blessing and a comfort. The times now are so different that they are hard to get used to. I think the automobiles and high ways of living spoil things. Then the neighbors helped each other without pay; now it is pay for every quarter of an hour. During the years 1861, '62, and '63, the Civil War was fought. Two of my uncles were drafted but my father bought substitutes for them. The Civil War and also the World War are sad memories.*
>
> *I was married in 1873 to Mr. Andrew Ulrich. We lived with my folks for two years and then moved in 1875 to Harlen farm, a mile and a half east of Deer Creek. From the Harlen place, we moved to Deer Creek. We raised four children. I have fourteen grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. My husband died February 13, 1919. Since then I have lived alone. Up to this time I have made 168 quilts.*
>
> *God blessed me and still does, for he keeps me well. My wish is that God may bless the whole relationship."*

The child of Christian Zehr and his first wife Elizabeth Landes was:

a. Magdalena Zehr was born in Illinois March 21, 1843, and died at Manson, Iowa July 28, 1914. On July 28, 1863 in Woodford County she married her second cousin Andreas/Andrew Zehr, a son of Joseph Zehr and Catherine Kohler. See his notes in DESCENDANTS OF JOSEPH ZEHR.

Children of Christian Zehr and his second wife Marie/Mary Oyer include:

b. Joseph Zehr was born in Woodford County Jan. 22, 1846, and died at Aurora, Nebraska March 19, 1920. On Sept. 8, 1867 in McLean County he married Elizabeth Yoder. She was born at Pleasant, Ohio Dec. 11, 1847, and died at Aurora May 12, 1916, a daughter of Joel Yoder and Lydia K. Yoder. They are buried in Aurora Cemetery.

c. Josephine 'Phoebe' Zehr was born in Woodford County Feb. 11, 1849, and died at Deer Creek April 16, 1897.[10] On Aug. 20, 1874 in Tazewell County she married Christian King. He was born at Liberty, Butler County, Ohio Oct. 13, 1840, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 23, 1924, a son of Michael King and Elizabeth Barnett. They are buried in Stumbaugh Cemetery at Goodfield, Woodford County. See KING for details of his three marriages.

d. Elizabeth Zehr was born at Deer Creek Sept. 28, 1854, and died Aug. 1, 1948. On March 6, 1873 in McLean County she married Andrew Ulrich. He was born at Peoria June 5, 1848, and died Feb. 18, 1919, a son of Peter Ulrich and Anna Oyer. They are buried in Stumbaugh Cemetery at Goodfield, Woodford County.

e. Christian Zehr was born at Deer Creek March 12, 1857, and died at Olio, Woodford County Oct. 12, 1926. On Feb. 5, 1878 at Roanoke, Woodford County he married Magdalena 'Malinda' Roeschley. She was born at Washington March 29, 1858, and died in McLean County April 17, 1899, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Roeschley and Elizabeth Salzman. Christian and Malinda are found next door to his parents on the 1880 census of Deer Creek as Christian Zehr, 23, Bavaria; and Malinda, 22, Alsace. On April 29, 1900 in McLean County he remarried to Mary Almeda Imhoff Miller. She was born at Washburn, Woodford County Oct. 17, 1874, and died at Peoria Oct. 10, 1940, a daughter of Joseph Imhoff and Emma Jane Webber. She is buried in Parkview Cemetery at Peoria.

f. Barbara Zehr was born at Deer Creek in 1859. She does not appear on the 1870 census.

g. Lydia 'Liddy' A. Zehr was born at Deer Creek March 29, 1863, and died there Oct. 9, 1935. She is found as a 17-year-old living with her parents on the 1880 census of Deer Creek. On July 22, 1880 in Tazewell County she married Jacob D. Roeschley. He was born at Washington in March 1857, and died in 1909, a son of Johannes/Jean Roeschley and Elizabeth Salzman. They are found on the 1900 census of Montgomery as Jacob Roeschley, 42, born in Illinois in March 1857 to French parents; Lydia, 38, born in Illinois in March 1862 to parents from Germany and France; and six children born in Illinois. They are buried in Mount Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.

h. Samuel Zehr was born at Deer Creek Jan. 8, 1867, and died at Chenoa, McLean County June 30, 1940. He is found as a 13-year-old living with his parents on the 1880 census of Deer Creek. On June 16, 1887 in McLean County he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Lehman. Their household appears on the 1900 census of Waldo, Livingston County as Samuel Zehr, 33, born in Illinois in January 1867 to German and French parents; Lizzie, born in Illinois in April 1869 to French and German parents; and three children born in Illinois. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.

6. Magdalena Zehr

Magdalena Zehr was born at Berg am Laim March 12, 1816.

She may have been the 'M. Zehr, 32, farmer, Germany' on the passenger list of the *Virginia*. That ship departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York July 2, 1849.

She married Christian Oesch in Tazewell County June 17, 1851. He was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Dec. 5, 1819, and died at Elm Grove Oct. 12, 1908, a son of Andreas Oesch and Catherine/Katharina Augspurger. She died before 1860 (see OESCH/ESCH for a list of their children). On May 8, 1860 in Woodford County Oesch remarried to Marie Aversol/Mary Aversoll.

7. Peter Zehr

Peter Zehr was born at Hilgerthausen-Tandern (adjacent to Mannreid) Dec. 30, 1818, and died at Slabtown April 6, 1886.

Peter sailed from Le Havre on the *Baltimore,* arriving at New York June 17, 1844 (other *Baltimore* passengers are identified in BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE LITTLE RED BIRKYS). He appears on the passenger list as Peter Zerr, 25.

On Aug. 12, 1845 (exactly one year after his brother Christian's remarriage to Marie/Mary Oyer) in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth/Lise/Eliza Oyer. The ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Niderhoff, Moselle April 23, 1828, and died at Foosland, Champaign County March 21, 1896, a daughter of Joseph Oyer and his second wife Magdalena Litwiller - and a half-sister to Marie/Mary.

In Illinois Peter and his older brother George became brewers. They are found as next-door neighbors on the 1850 census of Tazewell County. Peter's household appears as Peter Seers, 32, Germany; Elizabeth, 21, France; and Daniel, 1, Illinois.

In 1856 Peter and Elizabeth moved from Farmdale to the Rocky Ford area on the Mackinaw River. By 1860 they were farther southwest on the river, nearer to Mackinaw. They appear on the 1860 census of Mackinaw next

[10] The 1860 census erroneously switched 'Phoebe' (found as a 5-year-old) and Elizabeth (found as an 11-year-old).

door to brother Christian Zehr as farmer Peter Zears, 40, Germany; Elizabeth, 32, Germany; Daniel, 11; Peter, 8; Elisabeth, 5; and John, 1.

The *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database* shows Peter Zehr purchasing 40 acres in Section 36 between Deer Creek and Mackinaw at $10 per acre on April 30, 1867. They are found on the 1870 census of Deer Creek as farmer Peter Zehr, 52, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 42, France; with seven children born in Illinois. They are also found on the 1880 census of Deer Creek as farmer Peter Zehr, 62, Bavaria; Lizzie, 53, France; Mary, 17; David, 15; Phoeba, 13; and Samuel, 11; all children born in Illinois.

Peter is buried in Slabtown Cemetery. Elizabeth is buried in East Bend Mennonite Cemetery, where her headstone describes her as, "Elizabeth, wife of Peter Zehr Sr., died Mar. 21, 1896, aged 68 yrs. 11 ms."

Children of Peter Zehr and Elizabeth/Lise/Eliza Oyer include:

a Magdalena Zehr was born at East Peoria Sept. 15, 1846, and died as an infant.

b. Joseph Zehr was born at East Peoria Oct. 28, 1847, and died Sept. 30, 1848.

c. Daniel Zehr was born in East Peoria March 9, 1849, and died at Morton June 5, 1942. On Jan. 13, 1874 he married Katharina Heiser. She was born at Pekin May 1, 1854, and died at Deer Creek May 15, 1911, a daughter of Jacob Heiser and Catherine Wagler. *Gospel Herald*, June 1911: "Sister Catharine Zehr (nee Heiser) was born near Pekin, Ill., May 1, 1854; died of heart failure, at Deer Creek, Ill., May 15, 1911; aged 17 y. 14 d. She was united in marriage to David Zehr, Jan. 13, 1874. This union was blessed with seven children. She leaves a sorrowing husband, seven children, 22 grandchildren, six brothers, two sisters and many friends to mourn her departure. Her father, mother, one brother and three sisters preceded her to the spirit world. Sister Zehr united with the A. M. Church in her youth and remained a faithful member until death. Funeral services were held by Christ King at the home in German (text, *Psa.90*), and at the church by Dan Nafziger and John C. Birkey in German and A. A. Schrock in English. Texts, *I Cor. 15:1-23; John 5:28, 29*. Buried at Mount Zion Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, June 1942: "Daniel, son of Peter and Elizabeth (Oyer) Zehr, was born March 9, 1849, at East Peoria, Ill.; died June 5, 1942, at the home of his son (Peter Zehr, near Morton, Ill.); aged 93 y. 2 m. 26 d. His illness was of short duration, caused by a paralytic stroke, which occurred about 12 hours before his death. His passing was just as he lived. Calmly and quietly he passed into his eternal rest. He was united in marriage to Katherine Heiser Jan. 13, 1874. She preceded him in death May 15, 1911. His oldest son (Jacob) also preceded him in death. He is survived by the following children: Mrs. Elizabeth Oyer, Peter, Amos, and Matilda, all of near Morton; Mrs. Ida Birkey and Daniel, both of Fisher. He is also survived by 43 grandchildren and 33 great-grand-children, one brother, Samuel of Fisher, Ill., one sister, Mrs. Phebe Zehr of Manson, Iowa, and a host of other relatives and friends. In his youth he confessed Christ as his Saviour, was baptized and became a member of the Mennonite Church of which he has been a faithful member until death. He was ordained to the ministry in 1895 at the Goodfield Mennonite Church, in which capacity he served until recent years when he retired from active service. Though not able to preach any longer he has always attended church up to the last Sunday he lived and taken a great interest in his Master's service. The greatest part of his time during recent years was spent in reading the *Bible* which seemed to be his greatest treasure. He had a meek and quiet spirit and always showed great interest and love for his family and for his fellow men, manifesting a friendly spirit to everyone he met. Funeral services were held June 8 at the Morton Mennonite Church in Morton, Ill., in charge of Bros. J. D. Hartzler of Gridley, Ill., and Simon Litwiller, Minier, Ill. Interment in Mt. Zion Cemetery near Deer Creek, Ill."

d. Peter Zehr [Jr.] was born in Tazewell County Aug. 24, 1851, and died at Foosland, Champaign County March 14, 1922. On June 8, 1876 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Heiser. She was born Nov. 1, 1857, and died at Foosland Nov. 16, 1934, a daughter of Jacob Heiser and Catherine Wagler. *Gospel Herald*, March 1922: "Bishop Peter Zehr was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Aug. 24, 1851; died at his home near Fisher, Ill., Mar. 14, 1922; aged 70 y. 6 m. 18 d. He suffered from a complication of diseases. He bore it very patiently. He was married to Barbara Heiser of Morton, Ill., June 8, 1876. To this union were born five children (Mrs. Catharine Cender, Dan P. Zehr, Mrs. Lizzie Cender, Mrs. Amelia Birky, and Joseph A., who preceded his father in his infancy). He leaves 15 grandchildren, three brothers, and three sisters. Five brothers and one sister preceded him to eternity. He united with the Mennonite Church in his youth. June 10, 1883 he was ordained to the ministry in Deer Creek, Ill. In 1893 he was ordained bishop in charge of the East Bend congregation near Fisher. He was known for his heart concern for the flock. His last prayers were for her welfare. The funeral was held Mar. 17, 1922, conducted by Bros. Samuel Gerber, C. F. Derstine, and Bros. Ezra B. Yordy. Text, *I Thes. 4:14; II Cor. 5:1*." *Gospel Herald*, December 1934: "Barbara, daughter of Jacob and Katherine Heiser, and wife of Bishop Peter Zehr, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Nov. 1, 1857; died Nov. 16, 1934, at the home of her daughter (Mrs. Alvin R. Birkey of Foosland, Ill.); aged 77 y. 15 d. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful member until death. She was united in marriage with Peter Zehr, June 8, 1876. To this union were born five children, three of whom are now living... Her husband also preceded her in death, having died March 14, 1922. She leaves 19 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Two grandchildren have gone on before her. She also leaves one sister (Mrs. Fanny King of Fisher, Ill.) and five brothers (Christian of Goodfield, Ill.; Peter of Foosland, Ill.; Isaac of Fisher, Ill.; Samuel and Daniel of Morton, Ill.). Four sisters and two brothers preceded her in death. She leaves a large host of relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the East Bend Mennonite Church with Bro. Harold Zehr of Fisher, Ill., and Bro. Ezra

Yordy of Eureka, Ill., in charge. Text, *Job 5:26*. Interment in East Bend Cemetery." They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher.

e. Christian Zehr was born in Tazewell County Nov. 1, 1853, and died there Jan. 3, 1854.

f. Elizabeth Zehr was born in Tazewell County Feb. 2, 1855, and died at Goodfield Jan. 29, 1933. On Feb. 25, 1877 at Goodfield she married Christian W. Heiser. He was born at Allentown, Tazewell County in 1854 (per his headstone), and died at Goodfield Dec. 12, 1938, a son of Jacob Heiser and Catherine Wagler. They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.

g. Jacob Zehr was born at Mackinaw July 15, 1857, and died there Nov. 16, 1857.

h. John Zehr was born at Mackinaw Nov. 22, 1858, and died there Nov. 21, 1860.

i. Andrew Zehr was born at Mackinaw Aug. 15, 1860, and died five days later.

j. Mary Zehr was born at Mackinaw Aug. 6, 1861, and died Jan. 18, 1937. In 1886 she married Joseph Baecher. He was born March 31, 1853, and died at Fisher, Champaign County June 30, 1931, a son of John Baecher and Barbara Ulrich. They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher.

k. David Zehr was born at Mackinaw April 21, 1864, and died at Manson, Iowa Feb. 7, 1924. On Dec. 28, 1886 he married Elizabeth M. Zehr. She was born in Woodford County April 12, 1866, and died at Manson, Iowa April 12, 1924, a daughter of Andrew Zehr and Magdalena Zehr. *Gospel Herald*, February 1924: "Bro. David D. Zehr was born at Deer Creek, Ill., April 4, 1864; died Feb. 7, 1924; aged 59 y. 9 m. 16 d. He died of injuries sustained in a railroad accident. He lived in the neighborhood of his birthplace until manhood. On Dec. 28, 1886, he was married to Lizzie, daughter of Andrew and Magdalena Zehr. He lived in Fisher, Ill., 2 years and at Flanagan, Ill., 6 years. In the spring of 1897 he moved with his family to Manson, Iowa, where he resided until God called him. Those who remain of his family are his wife and five children as follows: Martha E., Mrs. Rosa Roth, Silas P. Zehr, Alvin W. Zehr (who is suffering from the effects of the accident, but is doing nicely at present), and Anna L., wife of Clyde Garber, all residing in this vicinity. The following brothers and sisters survive: Elizabeth, wife of C. W. Heisey, Mary, wife of Joseph Baecher, Phoebe, wife of Christian Zehr, Daniel Zehr, and Samuel Zehr. He united with the Mennonite Church in his early youth and in his early manhood was much interested in Sunday school and church work. He was of the number who helped to organize the Sunday School at Fisher, Ill., and served as superintendent while living there. He was among the first ones to move to this neighborhood and was active in the organization of this congregation. He was the second ordained minister in this congregation and was ordained May 19, 1902, and ordained to the office of bishop May 16, 1909, serving as minister 22 years and as bishop 15 years. The last few weeks of his earthly life he would say about every night, "I wish Jesus would come." Just before he left his home on the night of the accident he was reading in our church paper, and said, "I wish I were well so I could go and do more or could get the young people together so they could do more." Funeral services were held at the Manson Mennonite Church in charge of Bro. J. W. Hess. Text, *II Cor. 5:1*. There were about 500 people present who had come to pay their last tribute of respect to our departed brother. Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery."

l. Phoebe Zehr was born at Mackinaw Dec. 3, 1866, and died at Manson, Iowa Sept. 25, 1949. On March 30, 1886 in Tazewell County she married Christian S. Zehr. He was born May 18, 1864, and died at Manson May 17, 1938, a son of Andrew Zehr and Magdalena Zehr. *Gospel Herald*, October 1949: "Phebe, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Zehr, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Dec. 3, 1866; passed away at her home in Manson, Iowa, Sept. 25, 1949; aged 82 y. 9 m. 22 d. She was the last surviving member of a family of thirteen children. Even though she carried the heavy responsibility of raising a large family, she was always in relatively good health until the last two years, when she was bedfast most of the time. On March 30, 1886, she was united in marriage to Christian Zehr, who preceded her in death eleven years ago. They lived in Illinois the first twelve years of their married life, after which they moved to Manson, Iowa. One son (Emanuel) passed away five years ago. Surviving are 9 children (Bertha - Mrs. Will Birkey, Arthur, Ben, Ada - Mrs. Ray Sutter, John, Lena - Mrs. Aaron Sutter, Clarence, Elmer, and Cora, all of Manson, Iowa), 22 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and a large number of other relatives and friends. In her youth she accepted Christ as her Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, of which she was a faithful and consistent member until death. As a mother in the home she was devoted to her task. During her illness she was patient and appreciative of the care given by her daughter (Cora) and other members of her family. Funeral services were held Sept. 27 at the Manson Mennonite Church, with Nick Stoltzfus in charge, assisted by Ed Birkey. Interment was made in the Rose Hill Cemetery."

m. Samuel Zehr was born at Deer Creek Feb. 24, 1870, and died at Fisher, Champaign County March 31, 1943. On Sept. 27, 1892 in Champaign County he married Magdalena 'Lena' Unzicker. She was born in 1870, and died March 1, 1939, a daughter of Christian Unzicker and Maria Gingerich. *Gospel Herald*, April 1943: " Samuel S., son of Peter and Elizabeth (Oyer) Zehr, was born near Goodfield, Ill., Feb. 24, 1870; departed this life March 31, 1943, at the home of his son, Sam M., near Fisher; aged 73 y. 1 m. 7 d. He had been in failing health for the past 18 months and for the last 10 months has been bedfast. He lived in this vicinity for the past 53 years. In his early youth he accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite church, of which he was a faithful and consistent member until the time of his death. He was united in marriage to Lena Unzicker Sept. 27, 1892, who preceded him in death March 1, 1939. He was the youngest of a family of thirteen, one sister Pheobe Zehr, Manson, Iowa, surviving him; also three sons (Aaron E., Foosland; Sam M., Fisher; and Albert R., Foosland) and six grandchildren. He was ordained to the office of deacon June 1906 at the East Bend Mennonite Church in which capacity he served in the Church, also assisting in the ministry until his health failed and he asked to be relieved from

this responsibility. Funeral services were conducted at the home of his son by Bro. Harold Zehr, and at the East Bend Mennonite Church by Bro. J.A. Heiser. Text, *Job 14:15*. Burial in the East Bend Cemetery. The room is quiet, all is still; the place is vacant, 'tis God's will. Soon long you have waited for your rest, our blessed Lord knows what is best."

8. Jakob/Jacob Zehr

Jakob/Jacob Zehr was born at Mannried, Bavaria Sept. 17, 1825, and died at Goodfield Feb. 22, 1898.

According to *Auswanderung*, Jakob Zehr, a serving farmhand at Hanfeld, emigrated from Bavaria in 1848 bound for Illinois with 400 florins in hand.

He went directly to Slabtown, and purchased land in the Zimmerman Ford area on the Mackinaw River. .

On April 21, 1850 in Woodford County he married Elizabeth Ehresman.[11] She was born in Germany Sept. 11, 1830, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 27, 1902, a daughter of Christian Ehresman and Elizabeth Barnett.

They are found on the 1850 census of Woodford County living next to older brother Christian: Jacob Sears, 25, Germany; and Eliza, 20, Germany.

Jacob was ordained as a minister by the Mackinaw meeting June 12, 1859, and later served the Roanoke Mennonite Church and Goodfield Mennonite Church. He became elder May 20, 1863. He attended assemblies of ministers in 1866, 1871, 1872, 1875, and 1878, despite suffering severe migraine headaches.

They appear on the 1880 census of Montgomery as farmer Jacob Zehr, 42, Bavaria; R. Annie Zehr, 36, Ohio; with six children born in Illinois, and Magdalena [Müller] Zehr, 75, Bavaria.

Herald of Truth, March 1898: "Montgomery Township, Woodford County, Ill., lost one of its oldest and most respected citizens on Tuesday morning of Feb. 22nd, 1898 by the death of Pre. Jacob Zehr, at his home in Mackinaw valley, near Zimmerman's Ford. Deceased was born in Bavaria, Germany, Sept. 17, 1825 and immigrated to America in the spring of 1848. On April 21st, 1850, he was married to Elizabeth Ehresman and settled on the farm upon which he died. This farm he entered from the government and by hard labor succeeded in making it a comfortable home, leaving his family well provided for. His family consisted of four sons and five daughters of whom one son and two daughters preceded him to the grave; his wife, six children and eighteen grandchildren survive him. Bro. Zehr united with the Amish Mennonite Church in early youth and remained a faithful member to the time of his death. On the 12th of June 1859, he was chosen by the above named church as minister of the *Gospe*l, and on May 17th, 1863 ordained as bishop. It was ever his highest aim to fill this charge according to God's ordinances as long as He gave him power and health to do so. He was a sufferer from nervousness or sick-headache more or less for nearly forty years, which wore on him so that for the last four or five years his health has been so poor that he was unable to preach. This seemed to be his greatest sorrow in his declining years; yet by his patience in his sufferings and his trust in his Master he was ever setting a good example to others who visited him, and to his family. About four months ago he was partly paralyzed and from that time was confined to his bed and as helpless as a child, patiently awaiting his Master's call to come up higher. His life on earth was an exemplary, upright, humble one, highly respected by all who knew him. While the sorrow of his death is general, yet it is mitigated by the knowledge that after a long and useful life a good man has gone to the home he so longed for."

They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.

Children of Jakob/Jacob Zehr and Elizabeth Ehresman born at Slabtown, Montgomery Township, Woodford County include:

a. Magdalena Zehr was born Nov. 26, 1855, and died April 4, 1890. On Oct. 28, 1875 in McLean County she married Jacob Wolber. He was born on the Johannistalerhof at Königsbach, Baden (above Pforzheim, now called Königsbach-Stein) Feb. 13, 1849, and died at Deer Creek Oct. 17, 1931, a son of Christian Wolber and Susanna Hochstettler (according to his death entry). He had an aunt Catherine Wolber who married Daniel Ehresman/Ehresmann at Königsbach July 26, 1840; this couple came to Woodford County circa 1852-58. See The Appendix, WOLBER for earlier generations of the family. Jacob Wolber sailed from Bremen on the steamer *New York*, and arrived at New York March 25, 1868. He appears on the passenger list as Jac. Walber, 20, farmer, Germany. The 1880 census of Deer Creek shows farmer Jacob Wolber, 31, Germany; Magdalen, 24, Illinois; daughter Elizabeth, 3, Illinois; daughter Susan, 1, Illinois; and brother/farmer Christian Zehr, 20, Illinois. Following Magdalena's death Jacob may have remarried to her younger sister Phoebe Zehr. He is found on every census of Deer Creek 1880-1920. A passport application he submitted at the Pekin Courthouse May 13, 1913 stated that he was naturalized at Pekin Oct. 23, 1880, and described his immigration voyage as Bremen to New York, departing March 7, 1868. He described himself as a farmer at Deer Creek. He also stated that he intended to return from

[11] The marriage entry lists Elizabeth Ehresman as 'Eliza Anersman.'

Europe within four months. Jacob's death entry stated that he was buried at Deer Creek, but did not name a cemetery; it named his wife as Phoebe Wolber.

b. Katharina/Katharine 'Katie' Zehr was born April 2, 1858, and died at Fisher, Champaign County April 14, 1921. On Aug. 27, 1876 she married Christian Oyer. He was born at Washington May 23, 1852, and died at Fisher, Champaign County May 20, 1929, a son of Joseph Oyer and Anne/Anna Peter Schmitt Roth. See OYER for background on this couple including their obituaries.

c. Christian J. Zehr was born March 3, 1860, and died in Los Angeles Feb. 19, 1946. On Feb. 26, 1890 in Tazewell County he married Jesse Ann Foster. She was born at Deer Creek July 6, 1870, and died at Los Angeles Feb. 26, 1958, a daughter of Michael Foster and Eliza Ann Myers. The 1940 census of Los Angeles shows Christ Zehr, 80, Illinois; Jessie A., 70, Illinois; and sister Minnie Good, 72, Maine. The *California Death Index* names his parents as Zehr and Ehrisman. They are buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery at Glendale, California.

d. John Zehr was born April 21, 1862, and died at Normal, McLean County June 30, 1919. On Dec. 28, 1890 in Tazewell County he married Lydia Springer. She was born at Hopedale July 7, 1867, and died at East Bend Township, Champaign County Aug. 3, 1945. They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher, Champaign County.

e. Phoebe Zehr was born June 9, 1864, and died at Deer Creek Oct. 21, 1939. In 1891 she may have married Jacob Wolber, who had been married to her older sister Magdalena until 1890. Their obituaries give the date Jan. 1, 1891, but we could not identify a civil marriage entry in Illinois. The 1900 census of Deer Creek shows them as farmer Jacob Wolber, 51, born in Germany in February 1849, married 24 years; Phebe, 34, born in Illinois to German parents in June 1865, married 24 years; Emma V., 17, born in Illinois in August 1882; John R., 15, born in Illinois in December 1883; Christian A., 8, born in Illinois in April 1892; Mary M., 4, born in Illinois in December 1895; and Jessie E., 2, born in Illinois in August 1898. Twenty-four years would have expressed the time since Jacob's marriage to older sister Magdalena. In 1910 they amended the number, reporting that they had been married 19 years. *Gospel Herald*, November 1931: "Jacob, son of Christian and Susan Wolber, was born in Koenigeback, Baden, Germany, Feb. 13, 1849; died at his home near Deer Creek, Ill., Oct. 17, 1931; aged 82 y. 8 m. 4 d. He came to America at the age of 19 years, and lived in this community the remainder of his life. On Oct. 28, 1875, he was married to Magdalene Zehr, who preceded him in death 41 years ago. To this union four children were born. On Jan. 1, 1891, he was married to Phoebe Zehr and to this union were born four children. In his youth he united with the Mennonite Church and remained a faithful and active member until death. He enjoyed good health until two months ago, when he was stricken with an illness from which he never recovered. During this time he suffered much but bore it all patiently. He was resigned to the will of God and had morning worship with his family until the day preceding his death. He leaves his wife, and the following children: Mrs. Elizabeth Zehr, Mrs. Susan Heiser, Mrs. Otto Guengerich, John, Alvin, Lena (a patient at the Oak Knoll Sanitarium), and Esther. One daughter, Ada, preceded him in death in 1902. He also leaves two sisters and one brother in Germany, 17 grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends. Funeral services were held from the church at Deer Creek, Oct. 19, in charge of Bro. E.B. Yordy, Ellison and J.D. Hartzler." *Gospel Herald*, November 1939: "Phoebe, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Zehr, was born in Woodford Co., Ill., June 9, 1864; died at her home in Deer Creek, Ill., Oct. 21, 1939; aged 75 y. 4 m. 12 d. At the age of 15 she united with the Goodfield Mennonite Church, and remained a faithful member until her death. Jan. 1, 1891 she was married to Jacob Wolber, who preceded her in death Oct. 17, 1931. She had been in poor health for the past three years, failing more rapidly in the past six months. All through her life and even during her sickness she was always thinking of doing for others rather than herself. She was ready for the Lord's call and expressed a desire to be with Him. She leaves to mourn her departure Lena and Esther at home, Susan Heiser of Morton, Emma Guengerich of Deer Creek, John of Peoria, 19 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, one sister (Lizzie Werner of Gibson City), two brothers (Chris Zehr of Los Angeles and Jacob Zehr of Fisher, Ill.), and a host of relatives and friends. Those who preceded her in death were her husband, an infant daughter (Ada), a son (Alvin), and a daughter (Lizzie Zehr). "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Funeral was held Oct. 23, in the Deer Creek Baptist Church with Brethren C. Warren Long of Peoria and Harold Oyer of Goodfield in charge."

f. Elizabeth Zehr was born Nov. 17, 1869, and died at Gibson City, Ford County Nov. 28, 1946 (the *Illinois Statewide Death Index* identifies her as Elizabet Werner). She married Joseph Werner (likely after 1900). He was born in Illinois Nov. 11, 1867, and died April 25, 1957. The 1940 census of Drummer Township, Ford County shows Joseph Werner, 72, Illinois; Elizabeth, 71, Illinois; and daughter and music teacher Fern, 38, Illinois; and that on April 1, 1935 they had been living at Fisher, Champaign County. Joseph and Elizabeth are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher.

g. Jacob E. Zehr was born Aug. 8, 1872, and died in Champaign County Aug. 11, 1950. Circa 1897 he married Emma Miller. She was born in Illinois March 25, 1876, and died Oct. 23, 1955, a daughter of Christian Miller and Rachel Sharp. They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher.

JOSEPH ZEHR

Joseph Zehr was born in May of 1784, and died at Worth (also found as 'near Metamora'), Woodford County April 17, 1872.

On June 7, 1806 at Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Anne Verly [*Swiss* Werli or Wehrli, also found in French as Verle]. She was born circa 1772 (marriage entry) or 1778 (1860 census), and died at Metamora, Woodford County after 1870, a daughter of the deceased Ulrich Verly and Magdalena Steiner, who was present and consenting. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by Christianne Verly, 29, brother of the bride from La Frimbolle [found as La Frimbonne]; and Christianne Kerbre [he signed 'Christian Gerber'], 53, cousin of the bride from Harcholin, Cirey [Harcholin is a forest between Cirey-sur-Vezouze and La Frimbolle]. The groom signed 'Joseph Znhr' (with the old style Swiss-German 'n' for an 'e'), and the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.

They raised a family in House No. 37 at Struth, Lower Alsace, while Joseph worked as a miller.

With their children already in America, they emigrated from Europe after 1852 and before 1860.

The 1860 census of Worth shows them in a Schertz household: farmer Joseph Schertz, 48, France; Anna [Zehr], 29, France; Christian, 15, Illinois; Peter, 10, Illinois; Mary, 9, Illinois; Anna, 7, Illinois; Catherine, 5, Illinois; Joseph, eight months, Illinois; Joseph Zehr, 80, France; and Anna, 83, France. They were occupying a farm that had been in the name of their son Pierre/Peter, who had died there in 1849.

We could not identify the parents or first husband of Joseph's second wife Anna Zehr, 1826-1902. Zehr may have been the surname she was born with, or that of her first husband. See SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF OBERSTINZEL FOR BACKGROUND.

Joseph Zehr is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. It is assumed that Anna is also buried there.

Children of Joseph Zehr and Anne Verly include:

1. Magdalena/Madeleine Zehr was born at Struth Sept. 1, 1807, and died in Woodford County Aug. 20, 1850. On Jan. 8, 1831 at Schalbach, Moselle (10 miles southwest of Struth) she married Pierre/Peter Schertz. He was born circa 1807, and died at Worth, Woodford County April 2, 1861, a son of Joseph Schertz and his first wife Marie Hirschi. They immigrated in 1838 (after her sister Anne Marie). For more on this couple see SCHERTZ, THE SCHERTZ FAMILY OF OBERSTINZEL.
2. **Joseph Zehr [Jr.]** was born at Struth April 29, 1809, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County June 10, 1883. His civil birth entry described his father as a 25-year-old landowner and plowman [Ger. *Burger und Ackermann*]. He immigrated in 1857.
3. Anna Catharina Zehr was born at Struth Oct. 20, 1810. She may have died before another daughter Anna was born in 1826, though no death entry is found at Struth.
4. Anne Marie Zehr was born at Struth Nov. 16, 1813. According to her obituary in the August 1896 issue of *Herald of Truth* (given in HOUSEHOLDER), Marie/Maria/Mary Zehr was born in Lorraine Sept. 25, 1816 (though the family was still living at Struth at that time). She died at Eureka June 28, 1896. On May 8, 1838 in the log structure called Burry's Church at New Sewickley, Pennsylvania she married Thiebaut/Debold Haushalter, later called Householder. It appears that her age was 'adjusted' around the time of her marriage, making her younger than her husband. They appear on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Debolt Householder, 35, France; Mary, 34, France; Henry, 10, Pennsylvania; Frederic, 8, Kentucky; Anne, 6, Illinois; and Mary, 4, Illinois; they were farming next door (at least adjacent on the census page) to brother Pierre/Peter Zehr and Catherine Springer, and in the adjacent section to Anne/Anna Zehr and her husband Joseph Schertz [Jr.]. See HOUSEHOLDER for background on his couple.
5. Pierre/Peter Zehr was born at Struth June 1, 1819. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Joseph Zehr, 38, and Anne Verlé, and noted that he was born in House No. 37. On Dec. 9, 1849 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Springer. She was born at Solln near Munich in 1829, a daughter of David Springer and Elisabeth Guth. Peter and Catherine may have died from cholera within weeks of the ceremony. Catherine's headstone in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora describes her as, "Catharine Springer, *Ehefrau des Peter Zehr gest. 1849*." Peter's headstone says he was "Peter Zehr *gest. 1849*." Despite the headstone date 1849, some sources maintain that Peter did not die until August 1850. The misunderstanding may spring from the 1850 federal census of District 56 (Woodford County). It shows Peter Zehr, 30, France; Madalane, 25, France; and Anna, 65, France. It reflects the right location; the entry immediately before them on the census page is the Householder household. This suggests that the census taker did not actually visit the residence because of the cholera epidemic.

Joseph Zehr [Jr.] was born at Struth April 29, 1809, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County June 10, 1883.

On Feb. 25, 1834 at Schalbach, Moselle he married Catherine Kohler. She was born at Rahling, Moselle Jan. 2, 1815, and died at Flanagan Oct. 31, 1884, a daughter of Andreas/André Kohler and Anne Birki.

Children born in 1841, 1844, and 1853 were likely born at Châlons-sur-Marne, though no civil entries are found there. Châlons-sur-Marne was the capital of the French department of Marne.[12] A child born in 1856 was documented on a civil entry at Fagnières, an adjacent village.

On Jan. 8, 1852 Joseph [Jr.] wrote a letter to his father at Struth. He proposed sending his 16-year-old oldest son Christian to Struth to learn the mill trade.

Son Christian did spend time with his grandfather at Struth, where he may have caught 'American fever.' Or, with respect to the ongoing Crimean War, he simply found it prudent to emigrate from Europe before reaching the age of eligibility for mandatory military training. He departed his home Dec. 22, 1855, and boarded the *Mercury* at Le Havre Dec. 30. When the ship arrived at New York Feb. 22, 1856, its passenger list named "Christian Zerr, 21, farmer, Baden."

His father Joseph [Jr.] and the others followed, sailing from Le Havre on the *Vision*. They arrived at New York Jan. 2, 1857. The passenger list shows Joseph Zehr, 46, France; Catherine, 41; Anne, 16; Andreas [later Andrew], 15; Catherine, 14; Babette [later Barbara], 8; Pierre [later Peter], 7; Elisabeth, 5; Jean [later John], 3; and Joseph, 11 months.

Coincidentally, on Aug. 30, 1857 a 24,710-acre military training area called Camp de Châlons (now called Camp de Mourmelon) opened 14 miles north of Châlons-sur-Marne.

The 1860 census of Washington shows Joseph Sears, 52; Catherine, 45; Peter, 13; Joseph C., 6; Barbara, 15; Elizabeth, 11; and John C., 8; all from France. The 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County has farmer Joseph Zehr, 61, France; Catharine, 55, France; John, 18, France; Joseph, 16, France; and Valentine, 7, Illinois. And they appear on the 1880 census of Waldo as farmer Joseph Zehr, 70, France; Katherinna, 65, France; and Valentine, 15, Illinois.

Herald of Truth, September 1883: "July 22nd, in Livingston County, Ill., of dropsy, Joseph Zehr, aged 74 years. Buried the 23rd. Many relatives and friends met to pay the last tribute of respect. Two daughters and a son of Seward County, Neb., came to see him a few days before his death, which gave him much satisfaction. During his sickness he suffered much from difficulty of breathing, yet he patiently bore it all. He set his housed in order, and had peace with God and man, and was prepared to die. He was a brother in the Amish Mennonite Church. He leaves an aged and bereaved wife, five sons, three daughters, and many grandchildren. Funeral sermons by Christian Schlegel and John P. Schmitt."

Herald of Truth, December 1884: "On the 31st of October, in Livingston Co., Ill., Catharine, widow of Joseph Zehr (deceased), aged 69 years, 9 months and 29 days. Funeral services by Christian Rediger, William Egly, Christian Shlegel, and John P. Schmidt. Sister Zehr had to suffer much but she bore all her afflictions with patience and submission to the Lord. She expressed her desire to depart and to be with Jesus. She was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church."

Joseph and Catherine are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.

Joseph left a handwritten family register that failed to mention some birthplaces. Children of Joseph Zehr [Jr.] and Catherine Kohler include:

1. Chrétien/Christian Zehr was born March 6, 1835, and died at Milford, Nebraska Dec. 14, 1907. On Jan. 31, 1861 in Woodford County he married Catherine Roth. She was born in Ohio Oct. 1, 1841 (headstone date, though Oct. 10 is also found), and died at Meadows, McLean County June 1, 1910 (headstone date, though June 27 is also found). The 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows them as farmer Christian Zehr, 45, France; Katherine Zehr, 38, born in Ohio to French parents; Joseph, 13; N.E. (male), 9; John, 3; Peter, 1; Barbara, 15; and Katherine, 17; all children born in Illinois. They are found on the 1900 census of Precinct J, Seward County, Nebraska as farmer Christian Zehr, 65, born in France in March 1835, immigrated in 1856; Catherine, 58, born in Ohio to German parents in October 1841; son and farm laborer John, 23, born in Illinois in September 1876; Peter R., 21, born in Illinois in March 1879; and grandson Christian Birky, 12, born in Illinois in January 1888 to parents from Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, February 1908: "Christian Zehr was born in Lotringen [Lorraine], France, on March 6, 1835; died Dec. 14, 1907; aged 72 Y., 9 M., 8 D. He was united in marriage with Catherina Roth, Jan. 31, 1861. To this union were born thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters. He leaves a wife, four sons, two daughters, thirteen grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren; also five brothers and three sisters. Two sons and five daughters preceded him to the spirit world." The 1910 census of Chenoa, McLean County has widow Catherine back in Illinois, living in the household of a daughter: Peter Rocke, 54, Germany, married 31 years, immigrated in 1879; Anna, 48, Illinois, the mother of four living children, parents from France and Ohio; and mother-in-law Katherine Zehr, 68, born in Ohio to German parents, the mother of 13 children of whom six were living. Christian is buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford, Nebraska. Catherine is buried in Waldo Cemetery.

[12] In 1997/98 Châlons-sur-Marne was renamed Châlons-en-Champagne. It is still the capital of the French department of Marne.

(Obviously it is easy to confuse Christian Zehr and his wife Catherine Roth with Catherine Zehr and her husband Christian L. Roth - doubly so because the Catherines were born and died in the same years.

2. Anne/Anna Zehr was born May 17, 1837, and died at Worth, Woodford County April 2, 1870. On Feb. 10, 1857 in Woodford County she married Christian Schertz. He was born in 1832, and died in 1889. They are found on the 1860 census of Worth, Woodford County as farmer Christ Schertz, 29, France; Anna, 23, France; Madeline, 11 months, Illinois; Joseph [illegible]hauser, 16, Bavaria; and Elizabeth Zehr, 11, France. The 1870 census of Worth shows farmer Chris Schirtz, 38, France; Catharine, 8. Illinois; Annie, 4, Illinois; domestic servant Elizabeth Zehr, 21, Illinois; and farm hand Samuel Casper, 21, Ohio. The 1880 census of Worth has farmer Christ Schertz, 48, Illinois; Catherine, 47, Illinois; Catherine, 18, Illinois; and Anna, 15, Illinois. Anne/Anna and Christian are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora as 'Anna Zehr Schertz, 1837-1870' and 'Christian Schertz, 1832-1889.'
3. Andreas/Andrew Zehr was born June 9, 1839, and died at Manson, Iowa June 10, 1915. He was permitted to emigrate in 1857 because he was considered too short for military service. On July 30, 1863 in Woodford County he married his second cousin Magdalena Zehr. She was born in Woodford County March 21, 1843, and died at Manson July 28, 1914, a daughter of Christian Zehr and his first wife Elizabeth Landes. They were given a farm by her father. They are found on the 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer Andrew Zehr, 32, France; Magdalene, 29, Illinois; and four children born in Illinois. They appear on the 1900 census of Lincoln, Iowa. The 1910 census of Lincoln shows farmer Magdalena Zehr, 67, born in Illinois to German parents, married 48 years; Andrew, 70, France (and marks to show that Andrew was inadvertently placed second); daughter Emma, 24, born in Illinois to French. They resided next door to a son David D. Zehr and a daughter Barbara E. Zehr. *Gospel Herald*, February 1914: "Magdalena Zehr was born in Woodford Co., Ill., March 21, 1843; died Feb. 17, 1914, in Calhoun Co., Ia; aged 70y. 10m. 27d. She was united in marriage to Andrew Zehr, July 28, 1863. To this union were born 11 children. Two children and one grandchild preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves to mourn her departure husband, 9 children, 36 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. She united with the A.M. Church in her youth, and remained faithful until her death. She endured many trials and much suffering through her life. The last eight months of her life she was confined to her bed the greater part of the time. Her last illness was dropsy. She had a great longing to go home and be at rest. Funeral services at the home Feb. 19, and at the Cedar Creek Church at Manson. Opening by Bro. Jos. Egli. Text, by Bro. A.H. Leaman of Chicago, *Gen. 5:24*. Interment in the Rose Hill Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, July 1915: "Andrew Zehr was born in France June 9, 1839; died June 10, 1915; aged 78 y. 1 d. He came to America with his parents in December, 1855, and settled in Woodford Co., Ill. He united with the Mennonite Church in his youth of which Church he was a faithful member at the time of his death. He was united in marriage to Magdalena Zehr July 28, 1863. This union was blessed with 11 children. His wife and two children preceded him to the spirit world. Nine children, 36 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, four brothers, one sister, and a large circle of friends remain to mourn his death. Bro. Zehr's desire was to be at home in glory. The funeral was held at the Mennonite Church in Manson, Iowa, June 13. Bro. A. H. Leaman of Chicago, assisted by Bro. Risser of Eureka, Ill., conducted the services. Text, *II Tim. 4:8*. Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery.
4. Katharina/Catherine Zehr was born Oct. 5, 1841 (per family register), and died at Milford, Nebraska April 20, 1910. On March 12, 1861 in Woodford County she married Christian L. Roth. He was born in Ohio April 20, 1840, and died in Seward County Aug. 2, 1903. *Herald of Truth*, September 1903: "On the 2nd of Aug. 1903, in Seward Co., Neb., Christian Roth, aged 63 years. Buried on the 4th. He had been in poor health for sometime, but had improved considerably, when he was suddenly overtaken with a paralytic stroke, which speedily ended his life. He leaves his wife and ten children, also many relatives and friends to mourn his death." *Gospel Herald*, May 1910: "Katherine Roth (nee Zehr) widow of C.L. Roth, was born in Chalon, France, Oct. 15, 1841; died after a long sickness of diabetes near Milford, Neb., April 20, 1910; aged 68 y. 6 m. 15 d. She was united in marriage with C.L. Roth, March 12, 1861. To this union were born eleven children, seven sons and four daughters. Her husband and two sons preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves five sons, four daughters, 46 grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her departure, but not as those who have no hope. Sister Roth was a faithful member of the A.M. Church from her youth. She lived a consecrated Christian life to the end. May the good Lord comfort the bereaved with His Word. Bro. N.E. Roth, one of her sons, is bishop of our church. Sister Roth was laid to rest in the East Fairview burial ground, April 22. Funeral services were held by the brethren David Zehr from Manson, Ia., Joseph Schlegel, and Joseph Witaker."
5. Barbara Zehr was born May 1, 1844, and died at Milford, Nebraska Dec. 30, 1922. In 1866 she married John Reil. He was born April 10, 1830, and died April 7, 1913. They are buried in East Fairview Cemetery, Milford, Nebraska. *Gospel Herald*, January 1923: "Barbara Reil (nee Zehr) was born May 1, 1844, in Salo, France; died Dec. 30, 1922; aged 78 y. 7 m. 29 d. She came to America in her youth, locating at Gridley, Ill. At the age of 22 years she married John Reil. In 1876 they moved to Nebraska, locating on a farm near Milford, where she lived until the end came. This union was blessed with 10 children - eight sons and two daughters. Her husband, two sons and one daughter preceded her in death. She leaves six sons, one daughter, 36 grandchilden, with great-grandchildren, two brothers, and many relatives and friends to mourn her departure."
6. Peter Zehr was born Jan. 5, 1847, and died at Quatama, Oregon Jan. 24, 1918. He is buried in Riverside Cemetery at Albany, Oregon where his headstone identifies him as 'Father Peter Zehr.' His wife is identified as 'Barbara E. Zehr, 1846-1924.' On June 2, 1864 in Livingston County he married Barbara Neuhauser. *Gospel Herald*, February 1918: "Peter Zehr was born in Alsace Lorraine, Germany, Jan. 5, 1847; died Jan. 24, 1918, of heart failure near Quatama,

Oreg.; he attained the ripe old age of 71 y. 19 d. At the age of 10 years he with his parents emigrated to the state of Illinois where he grew to manhood. At the age of 15 years he joined the A.M. Church near Metamora, Ill. He was married to Barbara Ellen Neuhauser June 2, 1872, lived in matrimony 45 y. 7 m. 22 d. To this union were born four sons and four daughters; one son and two daughters preceded him to the spirit world. He leaves a loving wife, three sons, two daughters, seven grandchildren and a host of friends and neighbors to mourn his departure. Funeral services were conducted at the home by Wm. Graf (Text, *Heb. 9:27*) and at the Mennonite Church by Mose Brenneman of Albany, Oreg., and by Sanford Yoder of Kalona, Iowa, Text, *Jas. 4:14*. The remains were buried in the Riverside Cemetery at Albany, Oreg."

7. Elizabeth Zehr was born May 4, 1849, and died April 14, 1921.
8. Johannes/Jean/John Zehr was born Oct. 12, 1851, and died at Flanagan Nov. 2, 1916. On Dec. 28, 1875 in Livingston County he married Barbara Burkey. She was born in Illinois June 19, 1856, and died at Flanagan Nov. 20, 1943, a daughter of Joseph Burkey and Anna Ringenberg. They farmed at Waldo/Flanagan, and are buried in Center Cemetery there. John's death entry described him as a laborer.
9. **Joseph Zehr** (also found as Joseph B. Zehr) was born at Châlons-sur-Marne Oct. 3, 1853 (per the family register, but no civil entry found), and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Jan. 1, 1840.
10. Maria Zehr was born at Fagnières Aug. 25, 1856 (per the family register and a civil entry), and died there Sept. 5, 1856.
11. Valentine Zehr was born at Washington Dec. 20, 1862 (per the family register and headstone), and died at Flanagan Village, Livingston County March 19, 1948. On Oct. 18, 1885 in Livingston County he married Elizabeth Ann Stahly. She was born in Livingston County Feb. 28, 1868, and died at Flanagan Dec. 7, 1928, a daughter of minister Étienne/Stephen Stahly and Barbara Schantz. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. *Gospel Herald*, December 1928: "Lizzie Anna (Stahly) Zehr, oldest daughter of Pre. Stephen and Barbara (Schantz) Stahly, was born near Flanagan, Ill., Feb. 28, 1868; passed away at her home in Flanagan, Dec. 7, 1928; aged 60 y. 9 m. 9 d. On Oct. 18, 1885, she was united in marriage to Valentine Zehr. To this union were born 12 children, four preceding her in death in infancy. She leaves to mourn her departure five daughters and three sons (Bertha Eigsti, Flanagan; Barbara Slagel, Pompeii, Mich.; Katie Ulrich, Flanagan; Edward, Meadows, Ill.; Stephen, Gridley, Ill; Valentine Jr., Flanagan; and Elizabeth and Nettie at home), 26 grandchildren, one brother, and seven sisters. Early in life she accepted Christ as her Savior, united with the Mennonite Church, and remained true and faithful until death, ever willing to sacrifice for the sake of others. Although failing in health for a number of years, she was able to attend to her home duties until about 19 months ago when she became confined to bed. She had many dark days but was a kind, patient, and loving mother. She always bore her trials and afflictions patiently. She was deeply interested in her family, all of her children having accepted Christ. She will be greatly missed by all. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Mennonite Church Dec. 9, conducted by Valentine Strubhar of Washington, assisted by Emanuel Troyer and George Gundy. Interment in Waldo Cemetery."

Joseph Zehr (also found as Joseph B. Zehr) was born at Châlons-sur-Marne Oct. 3, 1853 (per the family register, but no civil entry found), and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Jan. 1, 1940.

On Nov. 18, 1879 in Livingston County he married Phoebe King. She was born at Waldo March 9, 1862, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Jan. 28, 1930, a daughter of Jacob King and Anna Neuhauser.

They farmed at Flanagan. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* (1926): "Joseph B. Zehr was born in Alsace-Lorraine October 3, 1853. His grandfather was Joseph Zehr and his grandmother was Verley. His father's name was Joseph Zehr and his mother's Catherine Kohler. His parents came to America in 1857 and settled near Metamora, Woodford County, Illinois. In 1867 he came to Livingston County, Illinois, near Flanagan. He united with the Amish church in 1869, and was baptized by Rev. Christian Ropp. He was married to Phoebe King, the daughter of Jacob King, November 18, 1879. The marriage was performed by Rev. Joseph Stuckey. Before his ordination he served as church trustee, secretary of the church, Sunday school teacher, and Sunday school superintendent. Joseph Zehr was ordained to the ministry in 1887 and to the office of bishop by Joseph Stuckey October 19, 1890. He is at present bishop of the Flanagan Mennonite Church. He served on the Home Mission Board when the Chicago and Peoria Missions were established. He is one of the oldest ministers of the conference."

The 1910 census of Nebraska Township, Livingston County shows farmer Joseph B. Zehr, 44. born in France in October 1855, immigrated in 1858; Pheby, 38, born in Illinois in March 1862 to German parents; Emma, 19, born in November 1880; Walter, 13, born in May 1887; Chester, 8, born in March 1892; Pearl, 5, born in August 1894; Edna, 3, born in December 1897; and Ruben, nine months, born in August 1899; all children born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Illinois. The family is also found at Waldo in 1910 and Pontiac in 1930 (where the 76-year-old widower gave his year of immigration as 1856 and his occupation as 'minister - Mennonite Ch.').

Joseph served as elder of the Flanagan Mennonite Church from Oct. 9, 1890 until 1934.[13]

[13] In 2001 Flanagan Mennonite Church merged with Waldo Mennonite Church to become Prairieview Church.

Joseph's death entry described him as a retired minister. He and Phoebe are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan as 'Phoebe Zehr, mother, 1862-1930' and 'Joseph B. Zehr, father, 1853-1940.'

Ontario Zehrs

A splinter from the Zehr families of Struth migrated from Alsace-Lorraine to Ontario. Though none of their descendants came to Central Illinois before 1856, they were familiar with families that did.

Joseph Zehr and Barbe Eymann were the parents of **Joseph Zehr**. He was born at Ottwiller (adjacent to Struth, on its southwest corner) Dec. 31, 1784, and died at Woolwich Township, Ontario Jan. 29, 1845.

On April 22, 1817 in the Oderfang mill at St. Avold, Moselle Joseph married Anne Beller. She was born at Pontpierre, in what later became Moselle April 6, 1774, and died from complications of childbirth at St. Avold Jan. 7, 1818, a daughter of Pierre Beller and Barbe Hirschi.

On Jan. 23, 1819 at St. Avold Joseph remarried to Barbe/Barbara Kennel. She was born at Hellimer June 9, 1789, and died at Wilmot Township, Ontario Sept. 26, 1877, a daughter of Christian Kennel and Anne Hirschi.

Joseph and Barbe/Barbara sailed from Amsterdam on the *Margaret*, and arrived at New York Aug. 18, 1825. The passenger list shows miller Joseph Swier or Snier, 36; Babary, 34; Joseph, 7; Catharine, 4; and Susannah, 2.

In Pennsylvania they befriended other new arrivals who were planning to resettle on land in Wilmot Township, Ontario. Lots in Wilmot Township were reserved for Amish Mennonite immigrants with little or no income. The Zehrs had substantial savings from the sale of a farm in Europe. They opted to purchase land in adjacent Woolwich Township from minister Johannes/John Stoltzfus and minister Christian König/King of the Mill Creek congregation in Lancaster County.

The following summer they joined an Amish Mennonite group traveling to Ontario. Their companions included Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eiman, Christian Farny, John Erb and his wife Veronica Schwarzentruber, and Michael Schwartz.

The household of widow Barbe/Barbara is found on the 1851 census of Woolwich as farmer Zehr, 63, widow, Mennonite; Susan, 24, Germany; Barbara, 22, Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, 20, Canada; Barbara, 20, Canada; Christian, 20, Canada; and Peter, 18, USA.

Present day Zehrs in Ontario are descendants of **Joseph Zehr**. He was born in the Oderfang mill at St. Avold Dec. 31, 1817, and died at Wilmot Township July 25, 1905, the only son of Joseph Zehr and his first wife Anne Beller. Anne died only a week after giving birth.

On March 16, 1841 at Wilmot Township he married Anne Marie Liechti/Lichty. She was born at Largitzen, Upper Alsace (the last European home of the Ropps) Aug. 19, 1819, and died at Wilmot Township Sept. 20, 1900, a daughter of Christian Liechti and Madeleine Litwiller.

They are found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as farmer Joseph Zehr, 34, Mennonite; Mary, 32; Magdalena, 10; Joseph, 8; Barbara, 6; Mary, 4; Anna, 2; and Christian, 1; all children born in Canada.

They are buried in Steinmann Mennonite Cemetery at Wilmot.

Zehr of Lembach

Windstein is 30 miles northeast of Struth. While the village of Struth is only four miles from the Lower Alsace [Fr. *Bas Rhin*] departmental border with the department of Moselle, the village of Windstein is only four miles below the present day border of Lower Alsace with Germany.

Peter Zehr was born circa 1730, and died in 1790. He married Anna Zwalti. They leased farming privileges on the Sulztalerhof above Windstein.

Amish Mennonites farmed on two Windstein properties: the Gunstalerhof immediately above the village, and the Sulztalerhof above that and thus closer to the border. Both were owned by the wealthy Dietrich family, who also owned the Jaegerthal foundry below Windstein (see YORDY).

Windstein civil records generally described the two farming operations as hamlets [Fr. *cense*]. It is unlikely that they would be described this way now; because of its out-of-the-way location, the entire community of Windstein has a present day population of fewer than 200, while the adjacent community Lembach has a present day population of 1,800.

Children of Peter Zehr and Anna Zwalti include:

1. Joseph Zehr was born circa 1759, and died in 1804. He married Catherine Beck (also found as Bäch and Boeck). She was born at Windstein circa 1759, and died there Feb. 18, 1810.
2. **Christian Zehr** was born circa 1757, and died at Lembach April 13, 1818.
3. Barbara Zehr was born circa 1758, and died on the Zellerhof at Petite Tenquin, Moselle April 23, 1800. She married Christian Oesch. He was born at Hellering, Moselle Dec. 24, 1756, and died at Hombourg-Haut, Moselle July 14, 1818, a son of Hans Oesch and Katharina Zwalti. On Jan. 30, 1801 at Petit Tenquin he remarried to Barbe Esch. They relocated to the Oderfang mill at St. Avold, Moselle - an odd coincidence, because the mill also provided employment for the 'Ontario Zehrs.'

Laborer **Christian Zehr** was born circa 1757, and died on the Reislerhof April 13, 1818.

Circa 1782 he married Barbara Sommer. She died on the Reislerhof Dec. 16, 1818.

They had also farmed on the Sulztalerhof at Windstein, and at Lembach (adjacent to Windstein) in Lower Alsace. A general description of Lembach can be found in HABECKER.

According to Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, the farmhouse on the Sulztalerhof has a widow lintel where Christian carved his name in 1786.

Also according to Guth, they relocated onto the Reislerhof in 1808. The Forsthaus [forest house] Reislerhof was located in Ludwigswinkel adjacent to Dahn (now Fischbach bei Dahn) about two miles within the Bavaria side of the border with Lower Alsace. It was 10 miles northwest of Windstein and Lembach. After 1789 it was occupied by French nobility as a haven from the French Revolution. In this time frame the village of Ludwigswinkel grew up around it.[14]

Their children include:

1. Peter Zehr was born circa 1783, and died in 1810.
2. Magdalena Zehr was born on the Sulztalerhof at Windstein circa 1785 (her marriage entry says 1792), and died in 1804. On Sept. 5, 1812 at Lembach she married Christian/Chrétien Jordy. He was born on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt in the Pfalz circa 1790, and died on the Fleckensteinherhof at Lembach March 18, 1833, a son of Jakob Jordy and his second wife Veronika/Véronique Habecker.
3. Barbara Zehr was born in 1786, and died at Lembach June 4, 1836. She married Georg Steiner, a son of Daniel Steiner and Madeleine Beck.
4. Christian Zehr was born circa 1788. He married Elisabeth Rocke. She was born on the Lauberhof below Trippstadt, but was living on the Reislerhof at the time of their marriage.
5. **Johannes/Jean Zehr** was born at Lembach in 1792, and died there March 27, 1842.
6. Georg Zehr was born at Lembach May 19, 1800. On April 6, 1832 at Lembach he married Jacobine Steinmann. She was born on the Pfalzhof at Eusserthal Aug. 31, 1809, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Steinmann and Catherine Uhlmann. One witness on their civil marriage entry was laborer George Steiner, 47, brother-in-law of the groom. The groom signed 'Georg Zahr.' They farmed on the Fischwoogerhof near Dahn (16 miles north of Lembach).
7. Elisabetha Zehr was born at Lembach April 12, 1804, and died on the Fischwoogerhof in 1862.
8. Catherina Zehr was born at Lembach Jan. 8, 1807, and died in 1842.
9. Josef Zehr was born on the Reislerhof circa 1809, and died on the Fischwoogerhof in 1862.

Cultivator **Johannes/Jean Zehr** was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace in 1792, and died there March 27, 1842.

On Feb. 9, 1825 at Lembach Alsace he married Magdalena/Madeleine Stepp.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Zehr, born in the hamlet Sulzthal [Fr. *Soultzthal]* at Lembach [actually in Windstein] in 1792, and a resident of Sulzthal. He was the son of the deceased cultivator Chrétien Zehr, who had been a resident of the hamlet Reisler Hoff, and the deceased Barbe Sommer, who had also been a resident of the hamlet Reislerhof; pre-marriage documents show the Rieslerhof as a location in Bavaria. The bride was described as Madeleine Stepp, the widow of cultivator Jean Bernard; born at Altenstatt [Altenstadt, on the east side of Wissembourg, on the present border of Lower Alsace and Germany] in 1793, a daughter of cultivator Henry Stepp and Anne Litty [found on other entries as Lith and Litt], who were present and consenting.[15] She was a resident of Pfaffenbrunn, Lembach. They signed 'Johannes Znhr' (old-style letter 'e') and 'Magdalena Stepp.'

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[14] The Reislerhof family farm was established in 1783. It is now owned by the Forestry Commission.

[15] The Stepps had another daughter who married an Amish Mennonite. On June 24, 1919 at Lembach Elisabeth Stepp married Christian Christner. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christian Christner, born at Windstein March 1, 1794, a son of cultivator Peter Christner and Madeleine Guth, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Elisabeth Stepp, born at Derstein July 29, 1793, a daughter of Henry Stepp and Anne Litt, and a resident of Pfaffenbrunn. One witness was father of the groom and cultivator Pierre Christner, 53. The Christners later migrated to Burgwalden, Bavaria. In 1828 Christian and Elisabeth traveled to Wilmot, Ontario. Christian died there after an accident in

Their children born at Lembach include:

1. **Georges/George Zehr** was born Sept. 21, 1825, and died at Minier April 16, 1904. His civil birth entry described his parents as Jean Zehr, 23, a cultivator in the hamlet Pfaffenbrunn, and Madeleine Stepp.
2. Madeleine Zehr was born March 29, 1827.
3. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Zehr was born Nov. 1, 1828, and died at Hopedale April 28, 1900. On Aug. 12, 1851 in Tazewell County she married Christian Nafziger; their ceremony was conducted by minister Andrew Ropp (the county register calls them Christel Nafziger and Eliza Zaer). He was born at Unterweilbach circa May 6, 1819 (headstone calculation), and died at Hopedale March 6, 1899, a son of Christian Nafziger and Fröny Bürcky/Veronica Burkey; he became a minister and later elder at Hopedale. See NAFZIGER, THE NAFZIGERS OF HOPEDALE for background on this couple.

Georges/George Zehr was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace Sept. 21, 1825 (headstone September 1825), and died at Minier April 16, 1904.

Despite a number of contradictions in *History of Tazewell County* (1879), it appears that Georges/George departed from Le Havre on the *Caspian*, and arrived at New York with Eglis April 3, 1847. The passenger list shows Jacques Egli, 37; Barbara Ros [Roess], 30; Catherine, 9; Barbara, 7; Jacques, 31 (should have been 3); Jacques Shirts, 40 [perhaps servant Jacob Streidt]; Jean Egli, 25; Bergman [Benjamin Egli], 16; Georg Zehr, 21; Catharina Stevan or Hevan, 28; and Catharina Schertz, 26. Benjamin Egli would later farm at Deer Creek, and Jean Egli would later minister at Minier and Hopedale, where he would eventually speak at George's funeral; see EGLI for background on this family.

On Jan. 12, 1851 in Butler County, Ohio he married Barbara Litwiller. Their ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger.[16]

Barbara was born at Milford, Butler County, Ohio Sept. 25, 1831, and died at Hopedale June 12, 1899, a daughter of Joseph Litwiller and Barbe/Barbara Ulrich. Her family had arrived at New York in May 1831, and traveled directly to Milford (see LITWILLER).

History of Tazewell County (1879): "George Zehr, farmer and stock raiser, sec. 2; P.O. Hopedale. George was born in Germany in an early day, probably about 1813. He crossed the Atlantic for the New World, and first located in New York State. Afterwards he moved to Ohio, where he was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Lytwiler, a daughter of Joseph Lytwiler. In 1846 he located in Green Valley, Tazewell Co., whence removed to Hopedale township, where he rented farm property. He is now the owner of over 300 acres, and takes a leading position among the farmers of the county. Of the marriage above referred to five children are living - Joseph, Christopher, Malinda, Barbara and Peter. Christopher, who has passed the years of his live in this county, was born in 1855; married in 1877, Miss Anna Kaufman, a daughter of Christian Kaufman, of Germany."

Despite the date 1846 given above, it is probable that George and Barbara came to Tazewell County following their marriage in Ohio in 1851. They may have accompanied Barbara's widowed father Joseph and her siblings, who came in that year. Joseph's brother Peter and his wife Marie/Mary Mosiman has resettled from Milford to North Pekin (in a part that is now Groveland) in 1849.

Mennonite Church History (1905) by J.S. Hartzler and Daniel Kauffman, in a table called 'Amish Mennonite Congregations in Western District Conference, ' lists the first settlers of Hopedale as 'Joseph Litwiller, George Zehr, and others' and the first minister as Christian Nafziger.

The 1860 census of Hopedale shows farmer George Yeare, 38, France; Barbary, 28, Ohio; [and at the top of the next page] Joseph Litwiller, 9, Illinois; Elizabeth, 5, Illinois; Christian, 3, Illinois; Magdalena, 1, Illinois; and John Orm, 25, Germany. In 1870 they are found there as farmer George Cear, 45, France; Barbara, 39, Ohio; Joseph, 18, Illinois; Christian, 13, Illinois; Madalena, 11, Illinois; Barbara, 9, Illinois; and Peter, 5, Illinois.

The 1880 census of Boynton has farmer George Zere, 54, France; Barbaray, 50, Ohio; and Peter, 15, Illinois.

Herald of Truth, August 1899: "On June 12, 1899, near Hopedale, Tazewell Co., Ill., Barbara Littwiller, wife of George Zehr, aged 67 years, 8 months and 17 days. She leaves her husband, four children, twenty-one grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She lived in matrimony forty-eight years, was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church and well-liked by all who know her. She always admonished her children to do good, and tried to do good herself. She always had hopes and was glad to go to Jesus. She was buried on the 14th. Funeral services were conducted by John Egli, J. Littwiller, J. Egli, and J. C. Birky."

1836. Widow Elisabeth and all of her children then resettled in the United States. She died at Wayland, Iowa in 1862, and is buried as Elizabeth Christner in Sommers Cemetery in Washington County, Iowa.

[16] The minister's handwritten list was transcribed into Grubb's *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* as George Care and Anna Litwiler.

Herald of Truth, June 1904: "George Zehr died April 16, 1904, at the home of his son, Christian Zehr, near Minier, Ill., at the age of about 78 years. He had been sick quite a long time, but was very patient in his affliction. His hope was built on Jesus' blood and righteousness. He was a member of the A. M. congregation at Hopedale, Ill. Buried April 17, in the A. M. burying ground near Hopedale, Ill. Funeral by John Egli, Sr., in German and Samuel Gerber in English."

1. Joseph Zehr was born in Tazewell County Dec. 24, 1851, and died at Hopedale Feb. 26, 1882. On July 23, 1871 in McLean County he married Eliza Saltzman. She was born in New Orleans Sept. 21, 1849, and died at Gridley, Livingston County Feb. 17, 1920, a daughter of Michael Saltzman and Elizabeth Schrag/Schrock. *Herald of Truth*, April 1882: "On the 26th of February, in Hopedale Twp., Ill., very suddenly, Joseph Zehr, aged 30 years and two months." The 1900 census of Hopedale shows landlord Eliza Zehr, born in Louisiana in April 1849 to parents from France and Germany; farmer George, 23, Illinois; Fanny [married to George], 21, born in Iowa in September 1878 to parents from Canada and Germany; Esther M., eight months, born in Illinois in November 1899; and Michael Saltzman, 83, born in France in March 1816. Joseph's younger brother Peter Zehr is found on the same page. On June 11, 1907 at Hopedale Eliza remarried to widower Valentine Neuhauser. He was born at Lorquin, Moselle April 2, 1841, and died at Gridley, Livingston County July 1, 1922, a son of Valentin Neuhauser and Barbe Schertz. On Oct. 19, 1867 in Woodford County he had married Anna Ropp. She was born at Farnisville, Woodford County June 23, 1845, and died at Waldo, Livingston County Aug. 25, 1903, a daughter of Christian Ropp and Magdalena Schertz. Valentine is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County. *Gospel Herald*, March 1920: "Neuhauser - Eliza Salzman was born Sept. 21, 1849, at New Orleans, La.; died of heart failure at Gridley, Ill., Feb. 17, 1920; aged 70 y. 4 m. 27 d. On July 23, 1871, she was married to Valentine Neuhauser of Gridley, Ill. She leaves a sorrowing husband, two sons, two brothers, one half-sister, 10 grandchildren, and four step-grandchildren. She was a faithful member of the Mennonite Church from her youth and was loved by all who knew her. Funeral services were held at the Hopedale Mennonite Church the 19th with Bros. Dan Slagel of Flanagan and J.C. Birky of Hopedale, in charge." *Gospel Herald*, June 1922: "Valentine Neuhauser was born in Lorraine April 2, 1841; died at his home near Gridley, Ill., July 1, 1922; aged 81 y. 2 m. 29 d. In 1853 he came with his parents to the vicinity of Peoria, Ill., where they remained about 10 years when they removed to Livingston Co., Ill. He was married to Anna S. Ropp of Hudson, Ill, in 1867, where they resided until 1872 when they came to the farm near Flanagan, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his life. To their union four children were born (Rosina, Emilia, Emil and Louisa) all of whom with the mother preceded him, she having passed away Aug. 15, 1903. He was married to Eliza Zehr at Hopedale, Ill. June 11, 1907, who died Feb. 17, 1920. In his youth he united with the A.M. Church of which he was a faithful member until called to his reward. He leaves one son-in-law, one daughter-in-law, four grandchildren, two step-sons and a number of step-grandchildren. Funeral services, July 3, at the house and Waldo Church by the home ministers and Bro. D.D. Miller. Text, *Acts 7:66*, latter clause. Internment in the Waldo Cemetery."
2. Elizabeth Zehr was born in Tazewell County circa 1855. We could not follow her after the 1860 census of Hopedale, suggesting she died young.
3. Christian Zehr was born at Hopedale June 16, 1857, and died at Deer Creek Aug. 10, 1922. On Oct. 3, 1876 he married Anna Kauffman.[17] She was born in 1856, and died Dec. 4, 1879, a daughter of Christian Kauffman and his first wife Anna Zook; she is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. On Oct. 12, 1880 in Tazewell County Christian remarried to Anna Maria/Anna Mary Augsburger. She was born at Tremont Feb. 23, 1863, and died at Deer Creek May 21, 1928, a daughter of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman. The 1920 census of Deer Creek shows dairyman Christian Zehr, 62, born in Illinois to a father from Alsace-Lorraine and a mother from Ohio; Anna M., 56, born in Illinois to Bavarian parents; and Alta B., 30, born in Nebraska to parents from Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, August 1922: "After a lingering illness of six months, Christian Zehr passed away August 10, 1922, at his home in Deer Creek, Ill. He was born June 16, 1857, at Hopedale, Ill. On October 3, 1876, he was married to Anna Kaufmann, who died December 4, 1879. On October 12, of the following year he was united in marriage to Anna Augsburger and to this union was born one daughter, Alta Barbara. In 1884 Bro. Zehr moved to Arapahoe, Neb., where he remained until 1893, at which time he returned to Pekin, Ill. Later he moved to Hopedale and then to Deer Creek, where he lived for the last twenty years. He was aged 65 y. 1 m. 25 d. In early youth he became a member of the Mennonite Church. He leaves to mourn his death a wife, one daughter, an adopted son, Leslie Stamm, two sisters, Mrs. Mike Saltzman and Mrs. Barbara Wallace, and a host of relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the home August 13, conducted by Brethren Jacob Zehr and Jonas Litwiller. Texts *Psa. 90*, and *Job 14:14,15*. Burial in cemetery near Hopedale, Ill." *Gospel Herald*, July 1928: " Zehr. - Anna Maria Augsberger was born at Tremont, Ill., Feb. 23, 1863; died at her home in Deer Creek, Ill., May 21, 1928; aged 65 y. 2 m. 28 d. Her husband, Christian Zehr, preceded her in death six years ago. One daughter (Alta) her only child survives. Besides her daughter she leaves two brothers, three sisters, and a host of relatives and friends. She was a faithful member of the Mennonite Church near Goodfield, Ill., and was greatly respected by all who knew her. She was afflicted for over three years, being confined to her home most of the time. She bore all her sickness patiently, always looking on the

[17] This may be a marriage found on the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as William Zears and Anna Kaufman in Tazewell County Dec. 3, 1876.

bright side, trusting in her Savior. Funeral services were conducted by J. A. Heiser, Jacob Zehr, and H. C. Smith. Texts, *John 14:1-3; Psa. 116:15*. Interment in Hopedale Cemetery."

4. Magdalena/Malinda/Lena Zehr was born at Hopedale May 18, 1859, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Sept. 30, 1948. On Jan. 26, 1873 in Tazewell County she married Michael Saltzman. He was born at New Orleans Nov. 1, 1851, and died at Hopedale July 17, 1920, a son of Michael Saltzman and Elizabeth Schrag/Schrock. They are found on the 1880 census of Boynton as farmer Michael Saltzman, 28, with lung fever, born in Louisiana to parents from France and Bavaria; Magdalena, 21, born in Illinois to parents from France and Ohio; and four children born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, November 1948: "Saltzman - Lena, daughter of George and Barbara (Litwiller) Zehr was born in Hopedale, Ill., May 18, 1859; passed away at the Bloomington, Ill. Mennonite Hospital, Sept. 30, 1948; aged 49 y. 4 m. 12 d. In her youth she united with the Hopedale Mennonite Church, remaining a member until death. In 1873 she was united in marriage with Michael Saltzman, who preceded her in death on July 17, 1920. Surviving are five daughters (Mrs. Lizzie Unsicker, Minier, Ill.; Mrs. Andrew Sutter, Mrs. Barbara Naffziger, Mrs. Val Nafziger, all of Hopedale, Ill.; and Mrs. W.T. Eash, Flanagan, Ill.), one son (Raymond, Varna, Ill.), 13 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren. Two daughters predeceased her. Funeral services were held at the Hopedale Mennonite Church on Oct. 2, conducted by Simon Litwiller and P.E. Frey. Text: *Ps. 23*. Burial was made in the Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery."
5. Barbara Zehr was born in Tazewell County circa 1861. She married a Wallace, and was still living in 1922, according to the obituary of her brother Christian.
6. Peter Zehr was born in Tazewell County Sept, 6, 1864. On Feb. 23, 1886 in Logan County he married Christiana Sharpf. According to her death certificate she was born at Gronau, Germany Aug. 6, 1864, and died at Morton June 28, 1922, a daughter of Andreas Scharpf and Rosine Schilppe. Shortly after marriage they relocated to join Peter's older brother Christian Zehr and Anna Mary Augsburger at Arapahoe, Nebraska. In 1890 the two brothers were listed in the *Nebraska State Gazeteer Business Directory and Farmer List.* Their children were born at adjacent Holbrook. Christian and Anna Mary returned to Tazewell County in 1893. Peter and Christiana returned between 1896 and 1900. The 1900 census of Hopedale shows implement salesman Peter Zehr, 35, born in Illinois in September 1864; Christiana, 35, born in Germany in August 1864, immigrated in 1882; Barbara C., 13, born in Nebraska in 1887; Henry W., 12, born in Nebraska in June 1888; Peter C., 11, born in Nebraska in May 1889; Freda, 8, born in Nebraska in December 1891; Rosa, 5, born in Nebraska in July 1894; and George A., 3, born in Nebraska in October 1896. They are found on the same page as Peter's widowed sister-in-law widow Eliza Saltzman Zehr, born in November 1849, in a household that included her father, Michael Saltzman, born in France in March 1816. They also appear on the 1910 census of Washington: Peter Zehr, 45, born in Illinois to parents from France and Ohio, commercial trader - implement, Christina, 46, Germany, farmer - fruit farm; Henry, 22, farm laborer - home farm; Peter, 20, Nebraska, laborer - working out; Rose, 15, Nebraska; and George, 13, Nebraska. We cannot account for Peter after 1912. On June 5, 1917 at Washington their son Henry W. Zehr registered for the military draft. Henry's registration card said he was born at Holbrook, Nebraska Jan. 16, 1888; that he was single; and that he requested exemption on the grounds that he was the sole support of his mother. It was signed by registrar Chris Strubhar.[18] The 1920 census of Washington was supposed to show each household as it stood on January 1. At the top of each page the census taker was supposed to give the date the households were actually enumerated. On a page enumerated January 15 there is a household consisting of Henry Zehr, 31, farmer, born in Nebraska to a father from Illinois and a mother from Wittenburg, mother tongue German; Anna [Henry's wife Anna Schuck], 29, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; Florence, six months, born in Illinois to parents from Nebraska and Illinois; and Christian [Henry's mother Christiana], 55, immigrated in 1882, naturalized in 1887, Wittenburg, Germany, mother tongue German, widowed. However, an article published in the Bloomington newspaper *The Pantagraph* after the census enumeration - on July 30, 1920 - announced that, "Mrs. Christina Zehr of Washington has filed suit for divorce from Peter Zehr, whom she avers deserted her eight years ago." The obituary of Peter's brother Christian Zehr who died Aug. 10, 1922 indicated that Peter did not survive him. Peter is not named as a husband on Christiana's 1922 death entry. Nor does his death appear on the *Illinois Statewide Death Index*, suggesting that it took place before 1916 or, if later, outside the state.[19] Christiana is buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.

[18] His younger brother Peter C. Zehr had already registered May 28, 1917. His card says he was born at 'Holdbrook', Nebraska May 9, 1879. He described himself as a student at North-Western College at Naperville. He asked for an exemption citing nearsightedness.

[19] The *Broderbund* database gives his date of death as Dec. 10, 1928, calling him by his son's name, Peter C. Zehr. We could not determine its reliability or the original source.

Yordy: Jordi of Wyssachengraben

See the preface to ZIMMERMAN *for new information about the genetic background of the Jordi/Jordy/Yordy family.*

The information in this portion leans heavily on the research of Gary L. Yordy and Carol Yotty Heilman. In December 2007 Gary found the key to the puzzle when he discovered his family's association with Jaegerthal.

The Jordis and Joders may have indirectly taken their name 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.[20] It might also be observed that abandoned newborns were generally christened with the names of saints.

Recall from the preface to ZIMMERMAN that the Jordis - a family linked genetically with the Joders, and having arrived in the area at about the same time - has always been much more populous and widespread in Canton Bern. Americans tend to think of the Yoders (derived from Joder) as a very large family, and the Yordys (derived from Jordi) as a very small one. In Canton Bern the Joder-Jordi balance was the opposite, well before emigration altered the numbers.

The Jordis thrived in rural foothill areas north and west of Steffisburg.

The earliest Jordis in Canton Bern may have lived in the scattered farmhouses that made up Wyssachengraben, which was then a part of the parish of Eriswil. Their records were kept at the Protestant Reformed Church of Eriswil. Over time the communities separated. In 1908 Wyssachengraben became Wyssachen. It now has its own church. In 1904 genealogist-historian Julius Billeter published the 164-page book *The Jordi Family of Wyssachengraben-Eriswil, Bern, Switzerland*. It culled details from dozens of Jordi marriages at Eriswil in the 1670s and 1680s.

Johannes/Hans Jordy and Verena Lang are known to us from the civil marriage entries of their children. Their family appears on at least two Palatine census lists. In 1752 a census shows Johannes Jordi, wife, two children, and a farmhand living on property of the treasury office of the administrative district of Hohenecken, four miles southwest of Kaiserslautern. It was noted that Johannes had been a resident there for 18 years. In 1759 the same family appeared on a census of Kaiserslautern that described them as Hans Jordi, temporary tenant with Franz Dellmuth on the Bremerhof; wife; two sons (8½ and 2½ years old); and two daughters (15 and 5).

In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth states that in 1765 the family was living on the Eselsfürth estate, now a district on the north side of Kaiserslautern. They relocated before 1773.

Children of Johannes/Hans Jordy and Verena Lang include:

1. Anna Jordy was born circa 1744. She married Jakob Müller of the Münsterhof at Dreisen. His first two wives had been Elisabeth Schenk and Anna Brenneman. He was one of the original three Anabaptist co-leaseholders of the Münsterhof in 1764, and they lived the remainder of their lives there.
2. **Jean Jordy** was born in the Pfalz circa 1750, and died before 1816.
3. Verena Jordy was born circa 1754. In 1785 she married Christian Eyer. He was born in 1757, and died on the Johannistalerhof at Königsbach, Baden-Württemberg in 1812, a son of Rudolf Eyer and Veronica Kurtz. Their children include:
    a. Catherine/Katharina Eyer was born at Mattstall, Lower Alsace March 11, 1785 (Mattstall was absorbed into Lembach in 1972), and died at Königsbach, Baden May 9, 1848. On Feb. 4, 1815 at Riedseltz, Lower Alsace she married Christian Wolber. He was born at Riedseltz, Lower Alsace Oct. 31, 1792, a son of Joseph Wolber and Catherine Esch. Their daughter Catherine Wolber married Daniel Ehresman and settled in Illinois (see the Appendix, WOLBER).
    b. Daniel Eyer was born in 1792, and died Feb. 7, 1812.
    c. Jakobine Eyer was born Sept. 9, 1793. In 1818 she married Jakob Egli.
    d. Jean Eyer was born in 1802. He may have married Jacobine Rediger.
4. Jacob Jordy was born at Eselsfürth circa January 1758. In 1781 he married Magdalena Imhof. She was born on the Langensohlerhof farm at Trippstadt (seven miles south of Kaiserslautern) circa 1760-63, and died Sept. 17, 1787, less than two months after giving birth to her son Jakob. She was a daughter of Peter Imhof and his first wife Veronika

[20] It might also be observed that goose-quill handwriting has its own peculiarities. Words that are not found in text, standing independently – such as the signatures on legal documents – often ended with a flourish that could be easily mistaken for an 'e' or an 'i.' And this sometimes passed into common useage. The flourish was added to 'taper out,' so that the last letter of the name would not be blotted or filled in by excess ink from the quill tip.

Rocke/Veronica Roggy. They farmed on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt. Children of Jakob Jordy and his first wife Magdalena Imhof include:

a. Johannes/Johann/Jean Jordy was born Dec. 23, 1784, and died at Trippstadt in 1807. On March 24, 1805 at Trippstadt he married Veronika Habecker. She was born at Hofstätten Sept. 19, 1786, a daughter of Johannes Habecker and Elisabeth Imhof of Hofstätten. On April 7, 1809 at Trippstadt she remarried to Johannes Roggy (found on the civil entry as 'Jean Rocke'), a son of Johannes Roggy and his first wife Barbara Jutzi of the Lauberhof below Trippstadt.

b. Elisabeth Jordy was born in 1785. On Dec. 26, 1806 at Trippstadt she married Jakob Unzicker. He was born at Graveneck in 1781, a son of Peter Unzicker and Katharina Holly. This couple leased the Offenthal estate at Sankt Goarshausen after 1813. See UNZICKER for a list of their children including Peter Unzicker of Morton.

c. Jakob/Jacob Jordy was born on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt March 13, 1787, and died at Windstein, Lower Alsace Jan. 29, 1828. On July 29, 1806 at Windstein he married Catherine Zehr. Their civil marriage entry called them Jacob Jordi and Catharina Zährin. Witnesses included Peter Christner, 40; Peter Hirschberger, 37; and Christian Zähr *der alt* [senior], 50, of Soultzthal. Catherine was born at Windstein May 1, 1787, and died there Jan. 19, 1838, a daughter of Joseph Zehr and Catherine Beck of the Sulztalerhof. His civil death entry described him as Jacques Jordi, 43, a cultivator who was born at Willstein, a son of cultivator Jacques Jordi. It was witnessed by cultivator Chrétien Steiner, 53, a resident of Windstein. Her civil death entry created described her as a 51-year-old shopkeeper, born at Windstein as a daughter of the deceased Joseph Zehr and the deceased Catherine Boeck. One witness was her son laborer Chrétien Jordy, 26. They lived in Windstein while Jacob's cousin Jacob was living at nearby Jaegerthal, and civil entries for both families are found at Windstein. Their children born at Windstein include:

1) Madeleine Jordi was born at Windstein Aug. 1, 1809 (per her marriage entry, though no birth entry is found there). On Aug. 29, 1829 at Windstein she married Chrétien Beck. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Beck. He was born at Windstein Oct. 7, 1805, a son of the deceased Chrétien Beck and Catherine Steiner, a resident of Sulzthal who was present and consenting. The bride was born at Windstein Aug. 1, 1809, a daughter of the deceased Jacques Jordi and Catherine Zehr, who was present and consenting.
2) Catherine Jordé (as found) was born Feb. 28, 1811, and died at Windstein March 1, 1811, age 24 hours. Her birth entry describes her parents as cultivator Jaques Jordé, 27, a resident of Windstein, and Catherine Zerr. He signed 'Jordi.'
3) Chrétien Jordi was born Jan. 30, 1812, and died at Windstein Dec. 11, 1852. His entry describes his parents as cultivator Jaques Jordi, 29, a resident of Windstein, and Catherine Zerr. He signed 'Jacob Jordi.' On Aug. 11, 1838 at Windstein he married Barbe Eyer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Chrétien Jordy, born at Windstein Jan. 30, 1812. The bride was described as Barbe Eyer, 28, a resident of Schweix, Bavaria (Schweix and Trulben are adjacent, both below Pirmasens). She was born at Trulben March 30, 1810, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Eyer, a laborer who died there May 17, 1829 at age 77, and Anne Elisabeth Stalter, 67 or 73, a shopkeeper at Schweix who was present and consenting. One witness was brother-of-the-bride and laborer Daniel Eyer, 21, of Trulben.
4) Caterine Jordy (as found) was born March 29, 1814. Only her father was described, as cultivator Jaques Jordy, 29, a resident of Windstein. He signed 'Jacob Jordi.' The 10-year index of Windstein civil entries lists one for a Catherine Jordy June 9, 1817, but no full entry is found.
5) Jacques Jordy was born Jan. 22, 1817. His parents were described as farmer Jaques Jordy, 32, a resident of Windstein, and Catherine Zehr.
6) Pierre Jordy was born July 25, 1819. His civil birth entry actually describes him as Pierre Jorg, a son of tailor Jacques Jorg, 35, and Catherine Zehr, 30. One witness was cultivator Jacques Jordÿ, 36, a resident of Windstein. On Sept. 17, 1842 at Windstein he married Marie Anne Eyer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Pierre Jordy, 23. He was born at Windstein July 25, 1819, a son of the deceased laborer Jacques Jordy, who was 43 years of age at his death Jan. 29, 1828, and the deceased Catherine Zehr, who was 51 at her death Jan. 19, 1838. The bride Marie Anne Eyer, 27, was a resident of Trulben. She was born there Feb. 26, 1815, a daughter of the deceased Chretien Eyer, a laborer who had been 70 yeas of age at his death at Trulben March 17, 1829, and Elisabeth Staler, 67, a resident of Trulben who was present and consenting. One witness was brother-of-the-groom and laborer Chrétien Jordy, 30.
7) Anne Marie Jordi was born Jan. 18, 1825.
8) Jean Jordi was born April 4, 1827. On Feb. 23, 1858 at Windstein he married Jacobine Detweiler. Their civil marriage entry describes the bride as Jacobine Detweiler, 25. She was born at Contwig, *Canton de Deux-Ponts, Bavière* [Zweibrűcken, Bavaria] Nov. 20, 1832.

She was a daughter of Jean Detweiler, 58, a laborer at Contwig, and Madeleine Gerber, 59, both present and consenting.

After Magdalena Imhof's death, Jakob Jordy remarried to Veronika/Véronique Habecker. She was born at Hofstätten circa March 1765, and died on the Fleckensteinerhof at Lembach Dec. 22, 1827, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Habecker and Katharina/Catherine Schantz. Between 1790 and Aug. 1, 1797 Jacob took up the lease on the Frönsburgerhof at Lembach, Lower Alsace. The name Jacob Jordÿ, described as a "*bestander auf dem Frönsburger hoff*," is found as a witness on the civil death entry of Carolatha Häberlin at Lembach on that date. His age was given as 39 and one-half years. He signed 'Jacob Jordÿ *erbestander*.' An *Erbbeständer* is a property owner with ownership rights that can be passed down by descendants as long as conditions of the overlord are met. At the same time Veronika/Veronique's brother Johannes/Jean Habecker and his wife Katharina/Catherine Schantz were living in the nearby Katzenthal, a valley outside the village but within the boundaries of Lembach.

d. Christian/Chrétien Jordy was born on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt in the Pfalz circa 1790, and died on the Fleckensteinherhof at Lembach March 18, 1833. On Sept. 5, 1812 at Lembach he married Magdalena/Madeleine Zehr. She was born on the Sulztalerhof at Windstein in 1792, and died at Lembach Dec. 25, 1856, a daughter of Joseph Zehr and Catherine Beck. Their marriage entry stated that Jacob Jordy was deceased *("Jacque Jardy décédé, fermier a la cense de Willstein prés Trippstatt, Departement du Mont Tonnerre"*), and Véronique Habecker was present and consenting. Witnesses included farmer Jacques Jordy, 27, of Windstein; and farmer Valentine Nafziger, 28, of Fleckenstein. The Jacques Jordy at Windstein was his cousin Jakob/Jacob Jordy, married to Katharina/Catherine Zehr, who was a sister to Christian's bride. Christian's civil death entry described him as a 43-year-old laborer born on the 'Willstnhoff" in Bavaria [the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt], a son of the deceased 'Ferone Habecker' and an unknown father. Their children born on the Fleckensteinerhof at Lembach include:

1) Catherine Jordé (as found) was born Aug. 1, 1813. On April 2, 1837 at Lembach she married Jean Roggy. He was born at Trippstadt Aug. 25, 1811, a son of Valentin Roggy and Catherine Habecker. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as 25-year-old Jean Roké, a laborer at Ramberg. He was born at Trippstadt Aug. 25, 1822, a son of the deceased Valentin Roké who had died at Trippstadt May 23, 1836, and cultivator Catherine Habecker, 60, a resident of Ramberg who was present and consenting. They signed Johannes Racke and Katharina Jordÿ.
2) Elisabeth Jordé was born May 24, 1816.
3) Jacques Jordé was born May 31, 1818.
4) Chrétien/Christian Jordé was born Aug. 31, 1820, and died at Bitche, Moselle June 23, 1869. On July 4, 1846 at Lembach he married Catherine Guth. She was born at Eppenbrunn, Bavaria Jan. 8, 1826, and died at Bining, Moselle June 10, 1885, a daughter of Jean Guth of Busenberg and Barbara Nafziger. They signed Christian Jordy and Katharina Guth.
5) Jean Jordé was born April 23, 1822.
6) Pierre Jordé was born Dec. 12, 1825, and died at Lembach in 1905. On May 4, 1858 he married Catherine Guth. She was born at Sturzelbronn April 30, 1837, a daughter of Chrétien Guth and Madeleine Steiner.
7) Joseph Jordy was born April 17, 1828. On Nov. 14, 1854 at Lembach he maried Barbara Guth. She was born at Sturzelbronn Feb. 12, 1834, and died at Lembach Nov. 29, 1871, a daughter of Chrétien Guth and Madleine Steiner.
8) Madeleine Jordi was born July 30, 1831. According to Lorentz, she married Peter Zehr. He was born in 1822, and died in 1916, a son of Joseph Zehr and Barbara Steinmann.

As a widow Veronika/Veronica Habecker remarried to Peter Nafziger at Lembach, Lower Alsace April 10, 1802. The civil marriage entry called her the widow of 'Jacob Yartÿ.' One witness was her stepson, Katzenthal estate leaseholder [Ger. *Beständer*] Johannes Habecker, 25. Peter was born on the Fleckensteinerhof Sept. 26, 1762, a son of Peter Nafziger and Magdalena/Madeleine Schantz. Veronika/Veronica died at Lembach Dec. 22, 1827. Her civil death entry described her as 62 years and nine months of age, born at Hochstätt [Hofstätten]; the widow of the deceased Jacques Jordi in her first marriage; the widow of the deceased Peter Nafziger in her second marriage; and a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Habecker and the deceased Fronique Imhoff. It was signed by her son, 34-year-old cultivator Chrétien Jordi.

5. Magdalena Jordy was born at Eselsfürth in 1764, and died on the Wahlerhof at Mittelbach-Hengstbach near Zweibrücken July 24, 1814. She married Johannes Imhof. He was born on the Aschbacherhof at Trippstadt circa 1763, and may have died March 30, 1812 (this date, found in several sources, coincides with the death of his father elsewhere), a son of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy. They farmed on the Wilensteinerhof. The 1800 census of Trippstadt shows her as Magdalena Jorde, 36, farmer's wife.

a. Elisabeth Imhof was born on the Wilensteinerhof circa 1791, and died on the Wahlerhof Oct. 13, 1857. On June 18, 1809 at Trippstadt she married Jean Güngerich. He was born at Höffstaten circa 1779, and died on the Wahlerhof Oct. 13, 1857 (note the same date), a son of Michael Güngerich and Barbara Habecker.

Jean Jordy was born in the Pfalz circa 1750, and died before 1816. He married Barbara/Barbe Esch (also found in the German feminized form Eschin). Their children include:

1. **Jacob/Jacques Jordi** (also found as Jordÿ) was born at Reichshoffen circa 1778.
2. Madeleine Jordi was born circa 1779, and died at Windstein Dec. 22, 1816. Her civil death entry said she was born in Allemagne [Germany] and was 37 years of age, a daughter of Jean Jordy and Barbe Eschen.

Jacob/Jacques Jordi (also found as Jordÿ) was born at Reichshoffen, Lower Alsace circa 1778.

On Jan. 31, 1803 at Reichshoffen he married Catharina Schanz. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jacob Jorde, 24, born at Reichshoffen, a son of Johannes Jorde and Barbara Eschin. He had resided on the Lautenbacherhof estate at Reichshoffen for three years. The bride was Catharina Schanz, 25, born on the Diefenbacherhof estate at Riedseltz, a daughter of Johannes Schanz and Magdalena Stutz. She had resided on the Lautenbacherhof for seven years. Witnesses included Christian Hochstettler, 64; Isaac Hochstettler, 58; and Peter Hochstettler, 48; all three residents of the Lautenbacherhof. Signatures looked like Jacob Jorde, Christian Hostller, Isaac Hochstettler, and Peter Hochstettler. Catharina was illiterate and signed with an 'x.'

Christian Hochstettler, born in 1738, was an older brother to Isaac Hochstettler, born in 1740. Peter was one of Isaac's sons, born in 1770. Isaac's third marriage had been to Katharina/Catherine Schanz, a cousin of the bride.

Jacob was described as a resident of Katzenthal at Lembach in 1803, and in 1806 he was a leaseholder of the Katzentalerhof.

They were on the Raderhoff at Dambach, Lower Alsace (seven miles northwest of Reichshoffen) in 1809 and 1811. (This Dambach is a town in the township of Niederbronn-les-Bains, and is on the west side of Windstein; not to be confused with Dambach-la-Ville, 64 miles to the south).

Circa 1814 they resettled at Jaegerthal, below Windstein.

THE JAEGERTHAL VALLEY

From 1602 to 1885 the Jaegerthal valley below Windstein was the site of an iron foundry.

Industrialist Jean Dietrich (1719-1795) purchased the foundry in 1685. After purchasing the foundry Jean Dietrich obtained contracts to provide weapons for the French army, gaining favor with the Catholic king. This provided a modest start to the family's later fortune. They helped finance the War of Austrian Succession (1741-48) and the Seven Years War (1756-63). In 1761 the family became nobility, changing their surname to 'de Dietrich.'

Much of the land around the Jaegerthal foundry was owned by a competing family, and eventually the de Dietrichs established foundries in other locations that could ensure plentiful supplies of wood. By 1789 they directly or indirectly supported 3,000 workers, and owned more land than any other family in Alsace.

Philippe-Frédéric de Dietrich, a son of Jean, became the Royal Commissioner of Mines and the first mayor of Strasbourg before meeting the guillotine in 1793. Despite that reversal, family fortunes revived under Napoleon. They later expanded into railroad construction, automobiles, manufacturing, and chemicals as the conglomerate De Dietrich & Cie.

The original foundry is now a ruined brick shell, and Jaegerthal is part of Windstein.

Circa 1819 Jacob/Jacques and Catherine relocated to a site 'about 20 miles south of Munich.' This may have been Söcking or Hanfeld - adjacent villages about 18 miles south of Munich. Son Pierre/Peter's immigration traveling companions came from these villages.

Children of Jacob/Jaques Jordi and Catherine Schanz include:

1. Elisabetha Jordi was born at Niedersteinbach, Lower Alsace Nov. 22, 1803. Her civil birth entry described her as Elisabeta Jeorte, and her parents as Jacob Jeorte, a resident farmer of Katzenthal, and Catarina Shantz. One witness was Johannes Habecker, 38, a resident of Katzenthal. [Though it was not mentioned, he was an uncle to the new mother]. Signatures look like Jacob Jorde and Johannes Habecker. An index list after the entries calls her Elisabetha Jorde.
2. Catharina Jordi was born at Niedersteinbach April 5, 1806. Her civil birth entry described her as Catharina Jorde, and her parents as Jacob Jorde, leaseholder at Katzenthal, and resident there, and Catharina Shantz. One witness was Johannes Habecker, 37, a resident of Katzenthal. Signatures look like Jacob Jordte and Johannes Habecker.
3. **Christian Jordi** was born at Dambach, Lower Alsace March 7, 1809. His birth entry calls him Christian Jardin, and describes his parents as Jacob Jardin, a plowman on the Raderhoff, and Catarina Shanzin. It was signed 'Jacob Jordi.'
4. **Jacob Jordi/Jordy** was born at Dambach, Lower Alsace June 3, 1811. His birth entry calls him Jaque Jordé, and describes his parents as agriculturist Jaques Jardé, 36, and Catherine Schantz. It was signed 'Jordi.'

5. **Pierre Jordi/Peter Jordy/Peter Yordy**. His civil birth entry created at Windstein (adjacent on the east side of Dambach) states that he was born at midnight July 26, 1815. It describes his parents as Jacques Jordy, 30, and Catharine Schanin, living at Jaegerthal.
6. **Jacquée Jordi** was born at Windstein June 28, 1818. A civil birth entry created the following day describes her parents as cultivator Jacques Jordy, 40, a resident of Jaegerthal, and his wife Catherine Schantz.

Christian Yotty

Chrétien Jordi or Christian Yotty was born at Dambach March 7, 1809, and died at Olio, Woodford County Nov. 7, 1870.

He sailed from Le Havre on the *Granville* in the autumn of 1839, but arrived at New Orleans on the *Alexandre Toussin* Dec. 26.

Gary L. Yordy: "The passengers on the *Granville* are also listed as passengers on the ship *Alexandre Toussin*, which arrived in New Orleans two days earlier. In order to clear up the mystery, I went to the Maritime Museum at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. The following information was obtained from varied documents found there. Both the *Granville* and *Toussin* embarked from Le Havre, heading for New Orleans in the fall of 1839. The *Granville* (primarily a passenger ship) was to sail directly to New Orleans. The *Toussin* (carrying a few passengers and cargo) was scheduled to stop in Havana on its way to New Orleans. For unknown reasons, the *Granville* made an unscheduled stop at Havana on or about December 19, 1839. The steerage passengers on the *Granville* were then transferred to the *Toussin* to make the crossing of the Gulf of Mexico, arriving in New Orleans on Dec. 26. The *Granville* did not arrive until Dec. 28. The passenger manifest from the *Granville* had been copied in Havana and given to the captain of the *Toussin*. Thus both ship's lists show the same steerage passengers."

The *Granville* passenger list actually shows Bavarians Jacob Staller [Stalter], 34; Christ Jady [Jordy], 28; Catharina Staller, 30; Magdalena, 24; Johann, 5; and Maria, 3.

- 'Jacob Staller' was Catherine's brother born at Gern July 22, 1807; after this voyage he returned to Europe, marrying Catholic Anna Bächer at Munich April 23, 1841.
- 'Christ Jady' was later known as Christian Yotty.
- 'Catharina Staller' was a very pregnant Katharina/Catherine Stalter. She was born circa 1809, and died at Olio Oct. 11, 1894. She was a daughter of Heinrich Stalter (junior) and Jakobina Stalter, the owners of an estate at Gern, Bavaria.
- 'Magdalena Staller' was Magdalena/Madeleine Stalter, her sister. She was born in 1815, and died at New Orleans Oct. 27, 1893. She remained there while her sister 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. His first wife Barbara had died in 1840.
- Johann and Maria were children of Kaharina/Catherine Stalter.

Katharina/Catherine Stalter gave birth to a son Henry at New Orleans Dec. 29. Thus she brought three children north to Illinois:

1. Johann/John Yotty (also known as John B. Yotty) was born in Bavaria May 2, 1834, and died at Eureka Aug. 26, 1916. On Nov. 28, 1871 in Tazewell County he married Josephine Phillip. She was born in 1846, and died in 1894. Josephine was admitted to the Woodford County almshouse in 1889, according to the *Woodford County Almshouse Registers*.[21] *Peoria Journal*, August 29, 1916: "The death of John Yotty, one of Eureka's respected German residents, occurred at his home in this city Saturday evening, after a short illness with something like blood poison. He was born in Bavaria, Germany May 2, 1834, but since he was 4 years of age Woodford County has been his home. Mrs. Yotty died many years ago.... One sister and brothers also are left – Mrs. Mary Klopfenstein and Joseph Yotty of Eureka and Jacob Yotty of Iowa. Funeral services will be held from the residence at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning and from the Mennonite church, near Roanoke, at 1 o'clock."
2. Maria/Mary Yotty was born in Bavaria April 3, 1836, and died at Eureka Jan. 24, 1926. On Feb. 26, 1856 she married butcher and hotel keeper Joseph Klopfenstein. He was born at Belfort, Franche-Comté July 31, 1829, and died at Eureka Nov. 12, 1909, a son of John Klopfenstein and Catherine Klopfenstein. See KLOPFENSTEIN for more on this couple.
3. Henry Yotty was born at New Orleans Dec. 28, 1839, and died at Kearney, Nebraska Feb. 9, 1886. He enlisted in Company K (his name appears as Henry 'Yoty' with the Peoria and Tazewell County company) Aug. 28, 1862,

[21] The registers are presently located at the *Illinois Regional Archives Depository* at Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.

then was transferred to Company E (a Woodford County company) of the 108th Illinois Infantry Regiment. He mustered out as a private Aug. 5, 1865. The regiment participated in the siege of Vicksburg and the capture of Fort Hindman. On March 18, 1869 in Champaign County he married Mary Alice Hoover. She was born in Fairfield, Indiana Sept. 17, 1848, and died at Kearney, Nebraska May 22, 1914, a daughter of Levi Hoover and Lydia Nicewander (she appears as Mary A. Hoover, 1, on the 1850 census of Fairfield). They appear on the 1870 census of Urbana, Champaign County as farmer Henry Yotty, 29, born in Louisiana; and Mary A., 22, born in Illinois [an error]. They also appear on the 1880 census of Somer, Champaign County as farmer Henry Yotty, 40, born in Indiana to parents from Indiana [an obvious error]; Mary Yotty, 30, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio [another error]; and five children all born in Illinois. Mary is found as a widow on the 1900 census of Kearney City, Nebraska. The detailed census shows that she was born in Indiana in September 1847, to parents from Ohio; she lived with daughters Emma, born in Illinois in September 1872 to a father from Louisiana and a mother from Indiana; and Bessie, born in Nebraska in June 1889 to a father from Louisiana and a mother from Indiana. However, Bessie's birth date June 20, 1889 indicates that she was not a natural daughter of Henry Yotty.

They arrived on Black Partridge Creek (later Germantown Hills) west of Hanover/Metamora in 1840, and became members of the Partridge Creek meeting. At the time the area was still considered part of Tazewell County; the following year it became part of Woodford County..

'Christian Yorty' appears on the 1845 livestock tax census of Tazewell County. The household appears again on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Christian 'Yeatty,' 40, Germany; Catharine, 41, Germany; John, 16, Germany; Mary, 15, Germany; Henry, 10, 'Louisanna'; Joseph, 4, Illinois; Catheraine, 1, Illinois; and [father-in-law] Henry Stalder [Heinrich Stalter], 74, Germany.

Before 1860, Christian purchased 163 acres at Olio. The family appears on the 1860 census there as farmer Christian Yottea, 57, Baden; Catherine, 52, Baden; John, 25, Baden; Henry, 20, Baden; Joseph, 15, Baden; Jacob, 7, Illinois; Catherine, 10, Illinois; farm laborer Christian Christner, 35, Bavaria; and farm laborer Augustus Smith, 16, Bavaria. The value of their real estate was listed as $200, and their personal property as $400. These were extremely low figures for the county.

Within a few years Christian fell into financial difficulty. On March 15, 1867, Peter Yordy (who we suspect was his younger brother) co-signed on a note borrowing money from Worth farm laborer Jacob Gangloff. The note promised to repay $800 principal plus 10 percent interest.

Christian Yotty's household was presumably listed on 3-4 pages that are known to be missing from the original 1870 census of Olio.

Christian died on the Olio farm Nov. 7, 1870. His estate documents show that the $800 note was still unpaid with accrued interest. Christian and Katharina/Catherine are buried in unmarked graves in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery, near their youngest child Jacob C. Yotty.

Their children include:

1. Joseph Yotty was born in Woodford County Nov. 27, 1847, died at Eureka April 11, 1932, and is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. He appears on the 1830 census of Olio as an 83-year-old born in Illinois to German parents.
2. Catherine Yotty was born in Woodford County in February of 1850, and died in Iowa in 1912. In 1870 she married Christian Ehrisman. He was born in Baden in 1844, and died at Manson, Iowa Aug. 21, 1920, a son of Daniel Ehresman and Catherine/Katharina. They are found on the 1880 census of Danvers as farmer Christian Ehrisman, 35, born in Baden to a father from Württemberg and a mother from Baden; Catharine, 31, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Bavaria; with four children born in Illinois and Christian's younger brother Daniel Ehrisman, 17, born in Illinois.
3. Jacob C. Yotty was born in Woodford County April 27, 1853 and died at Kalona, Iowa Aug. 23, 1920. On Jan. 26, 1882 at Cazenovia he married Anna 'Annie M.' Bachman. She was born at Cazenovia Dec. 3, 1858, and died at Kalona, Iowa Dec. 18, 1933, a daughter of Jacob Bachman and Jakobina 'Phoebe' Zook. They are buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. *Peoria Journal*: ".... Funeral services were held at the residence at one o'clock Friday afternoon and the body was then taken to the Roanoke A.M. church where final services were held. Bishop Sam Garber was in charge of the services. There was a large attendance of former neighbors and friends at the services. The body was laid to rest in the cemetery near the church. Jacob Yotty was born in Woodford County, Ill., April 27, 1853, and died at his home west of Kalona, Iowa, Aug. 23, 1920 aged 67 years, 3 months and 26 days...Early in life he united with the Mennonite church, of which he was a member until death. On Jan. 26, 1882, he was united in marriage with Annie Bachman. To them were born four children; two sons, Chris H. and Bartholomew J., and two daughters, Elizabeth A. wife of John Speas and Jacobina C. wife of Jake Speas. All are living and with their mother, were present at the bedside at the time of death. Beside these he is survived by one brother and one sister, both of Illinois, and five grandchildren, who with a host of friends mourn his departure. Father, and mother, two brothers and two sisters preceded him to the great beyond. Funeral services were held at the East Union Mennonite church north of Kalona, Iowa, conducted by Bishop S.C. Yoder, after which remains were taken to Iowa City, and shipped to the old home of deceased at Cazenovia, which he left six years ago last March to make a new

home for himself and family in Iowa. His body was laid to rest beside the graves of his father and mother in the cemetery near Roanoke."

Jacob Jordi/Jordy

Jacob Jordi/Jordy was born at Dambach, Lower Alsace June 3, 1811, and died on the Pentlhof at Zeitlarn (above Regensburg) after Aug. 18, 1874. On that day Jacob reported the birthdates of his children to inquiring municipal officials.

In 1841 at Grossprüfening (now a neighborhood within Regensburg) Jacob married Magdalena Schantz.[22] German genealogist Hermann Hage provided much of what we know about this couple.[23]

Magdalena Schantz was born at Rimling, Moselle Aug. 16, 1813, and died in 1856. She was a daughter of Christian Schantz, born at Nehwiller-près-Woerth in 1762, and his second wife Anna Imhoff. She was also a half-sister to Grossprüfening leaseholder Caspar Josef Schantz (whose mother was Marie Bürki); and a granddaughter of Jean Georges/Johann George Schantz and Catherine/Katharina Bürki of Nehwiller-près-Woerth (the location has also been found as nearby Niederbronn-lès-Bains).

From 1841 to 1853 they lived as tenant farmers [Ger. *Ökonomie Pachter*] under the Neuffert family on the Eichenhofen estate at Nittendorf, a village seven miles west of Regensburg, Bavaria. From 1856 until 1874 widower Jacob lived on the Pentlhof estate at Zeitlarn (five miles north of Regensburg).

Children of Jacob Jordy and Magdalena Schantz born on the Eichenhofen estate at Nittendorf include:

1. Maria Jordy was born Jan. 8, 1842.
2. Elisabetha Jordy was born Sept. 15, 1844, and lived at Karlstein (15 miles north of Regensburg). She married a Gascho.
3. Magdalena Jordy was born Sept. 25, 1845, and died Oct. 16, 1918. On March 9, 1873 at Grünthal she married Josef Unsicker.
4. Anna Jordy was born Feb. 16, 1849. She lived at Karlstein.
5. Jakob/Jacob Jordy was born Oct. 5, 1852. He embarked at Bremen on the maiden voyage of the steamship *Ems*, arriving at Castle Garden, N.Y. July 14, 1884.[24] He may be the Jacob Jordy, born in Germany, who was naturalized at the Tazewell County Courthouse in Pekin March 23, 1896. Gary L. Yordy proposes that he is also shown on the 1900 census of Cincinnati, Tazewell County as Jacob Yordy, a boarder in the home of Charles Bailey. He is described as a 45-year-old farm laborer, born in Germany in September 1854, whose parents were born in Germany, and who immigrated in 1884.
6. Barbara Jordy/Yordy was born Dec. 14, 1853, and died at Morton Sept. 20, 1894. Her headstone gives no birth date, but only her age at death, 42. She became the third wife of Christian Eigsti. As Gary L. Yordy discovered, 'Jacob Jordy' and 'Magdalena Shants' were named as the parents of Barbara Yordy in *Book 1* of the *Woodford County Marriage Registry*. Her 1888 marriage ceremony took place in the Roanoke home of Peter Yordy, who was thought to be her uncle. For more on this couple, see EIGSTI.

Pierre Jordi/Peter Jordy/Peter Yordy

Pierre Jordi/Peter Jordy/Peter Yordy was born at Windstein July 26, 1815 (though his headstone gives the date June 12, 1815). He died in Woodford County July 2, 1897, and is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.

Peter accompanied Andrew Burcky and Joseph Heiser on the packet ship *Charles Carroll* from Le Havre to New York, arriving Sept. 17, 1838. The two came from Söcking and Hanfeld – adjacent villages about 18 miles south of Munich. On the passenger list, the name immediately after that of 'Joseph Heser' falls on a crease. The National Archives and FHL reproduction microfilms appear to say 'Peter Jodte,' age 23.

A family story says that Peter worked on the Mississippi River before coming to Illinois. According to Harry Weber in *Centennial History of the Mennonites in Illinois*, he arrived on Partridge Creek in 1839.

On Feb. 9, 1847 in Tazewell County Peter married to Maria Birki/Mary Birkey in the Dillon Creek meeting; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Bavaria April 8, 1816, a daughter of

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[22] Grossprüfening became part of Prüfening district. During World War II a Prüfening factory produced the Messerschmidt Bf-109 aircraft, and the entire area was heavily bombed from high altitude.

[23] German genealogist Herbert Holly discovered a document that suggests Jacob may have been the father of an illegitimate son. Peter Jordi was born at Josephenburg, Bavaria (below Ingolstadt) Aug. 8, 1834. The alleged father was Jakob Jordi, an unmarried Mennonite from the Freindorfer Hof near Mitterfels (70 miles to the northeast of Josephenburg, and 37 miles to the east of Zeitlarn). The mother was Katharina Ringenberg. She was born on the Samhof at Friedrichshofen, but was residing at Josephenburg. The child was baptized as a Catholic in 1871.

[24] The *Ems* was launched Feb. 27, 1884. It was listed with the same company as his sister Barbara's immigration ship, Norddeutscher Lloyd.

Christian Birki and his wife Mary. She arrived at New York on the ship *Baltimore* June 14, 1844, with her son from a previous relationship, Johann Horn (later known as John Birkey Yordy).[25]

Mary can be found as an 84-year-old widow on the 1900 census of Roanoke, living with children Peter, 44, and Barbara, 39. The census stated that she was born in Germany of French parents, and that she came to America in 1847. She died May 13, 1903, and is also buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.

1. Johann Horn/John Birkey Yordy was born in Bavaria Oct. 23, 1839, and died at Milford, Nebraska. Dec. 31, 1906. On Jan. 5, 1862 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Martha' King; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Magdalena was born at Salem, Marion County in December 1843 and died Feb. 11, 1927, a daughter of Samuel King and his first wife Magdalena Kurtz. In 1863 Peter Yordy purchased John's exemption from Civil War military service for $100. They moved to Seward County, Nebraska in 1885, to Colorado in 1889, to Kansas in 1896, and then returned to Seward County in 1898. *Gospel Herald*, January 1907: "After an illness of about eight months, Bro. John Yordy passed away at his home in Milford, Neb., Dec. 31, 1906; aged 68 y. 2 m. 17 d. Funeral services were held at the home and concluded at the Amish Church where he was laid to rest in the Fairview Cemetery on Thursday afternoon. Bro. Yordy was born in Germany, Oct. 23, 1839, and came to America with his parents who settled in Illinois when he was six years old. He united with the Amish Mennonite church in his early years, to which he remained faithful to his death. He was married to Magdalena King Jan. 5, 1863. To this union were born thirteen children, four of whom preceded him to the spirit world. He leaves a sorrowing wife and nine children, but they need not mourn as those who have no hope. His disease was ulcers and gall stones. He suffered greatly at times but bore it all patiently to the end." See KING for background on Magdalena's later marriages to Jacob Sutter and John Plank.

The family is found on the 1850 census of unincorporated Tazewell County as farmer Peter Yatty, 35, Germany; Mary, 34, Germany; John, 12, Germany; Christian, 2, Illinois; and Mary, 1, Illinois. The proximity of neighbor Uriah Crosby suggests their first homestead was in the northern half of Morton.

According to the *Grantors Index*, Peter paid Abner Hodgson $1,400 for 154 acres of land Jan. 30, 1852. The land came in three parcels: two totaling 85 acres in south-central Groveland, and another 70 acres in north-central Elm Grove.[26]

The household of Peter and Mary can be found on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as farmer Peter 'Yarty,' 54 [he was actually 45], born in France; Mary, 49 [she was actually 44], born in Bavaria; John, 21, born in Bavaria; Christian, 11, Illinois; Mary, 10, Illinois; Jacob, 7, Illinois; Elizabeth, 4, Illinois; Philip [Peter Jr.], 3, Illinois; and Joseph, 2, Illinois. Their neighbors (Joseph Heiser, Joseph Ropp, Samuel King, Peter and Christian Gerber) indicate that they probably lived on the north side of Allentown Road, across from Joseph Heiser. The property must have been sold before 1864; the plat map published in that year does not show a Yordy property.

On Feb. 10, 1865, Peter purchased 80 acres of land at Nebraska (later Flanagan), Livingston County. The farm was cultivated by John Birkey Yordy 1865-71, then occupied by daughter Mary and her husband Daniel Orendorff, while John moved to Lombardville, Stark County.

In 1867 the family moved onto a 200-acre farm on Panther Creek at Roanoke, Woodford County. It was located about 3.5 miles north of Christian's farm. The household is found on the 1870 census of Roanoke as farmer Peter 'Yottey,' 54, Bavaria; Mary, 53, Bavaria; Christian, 22, Bavaria [Illinois]; Mary, 20, Bavaria [Illinois]; Jacob, 17, Ohio; Elizabeth, 16, Ohio; Peter, 14, Ohio; Joseph, 12, Illinois; and Barbara, 7, Illinois. Peter joined the Roanoke Mennonite Church, but also attended services at the nearby Panther Creek Church of the Brethren.

The 1880 census of Roanoke shows them as 'Peter Yordie,' a 65-year-old farmer born in France, of parents born in France; and Mary, 64, born in Bavaria, of parents born in France. Children living with them include Elisabeth, 25; Peter, 24; Joseph, 23; and Barbara, 19. Mary can be found as an 84-year-old widow on the 1900 census of Roanoke, living with children Peter, 44, and Barbara, 39. On that form Mary (or someone in her stead) stated that she was born in Germany of French parents, and that she came to America in 1847.

In about 1883, Peter and Mary's Roanoke farmhouse was also occupied by their son Christian and his family. They temporarily moved to the home of their daughter Mary and her husband Daniel Orendorff at Flanagan, then returned to Roanoke the following year when a new, smaller house was built on the farm to accommodate them. They were shortly joined at Roanoke by their [presumed] niece, Barbara Jordy, and her son Christian H. Yordy, recently arrived from Bavaria.

Children of Peter Yordy and Mary Birkey include:

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[25] According to Gary L. Yordy, the father of Johann Horn/John Birkey Yordy was a German army officer. "It is possible that John B. Yordy's relationship to Peter Yordy as a foster son would have remained a family secret, were it not for the fact that John's daughter, Fannie Yordy, decided to marry Peter Yordy's nephew, Joseph Yeackley."

[26] Peter sold 25 acres of the land in Groveland to John Ackerman for $300 April 17, 1854.

1. Christian Yordy was born at Elm Grove July 29, 1848, died at Roanoke July 10, 1922, and is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. On Oct. 4, 1874 in Livingston County he married Salome 'Sally' Slagel, who was born near Pekin Sept. 6, 1855, died at Roanoke Feb. 21, 1938, and is also buried at Roanoke; she was a daughter of Christian Slagel and Salomé Sommer.[27] They can be found on the 1900 census of Roanoke living next door to his mother Mary. *Gospel Herald*, October 1922: "Christian Yordy, son of Peter and Mary Yordy was born near Pekin, Ill., July 29, 1848; died at his home near Roanoke, Ill., July 10, 1922; aged 73 y. 11 m. 11 d. Oct. 4, 1874, he was joined in the holy bonds of matrimony to Salomé Slagel of Livingston Co., Ill. Ten children were born to them, of whom four died in infancy. He leaves his sorrowing companion, two sons, and four daughters (Amos, Joel, Salome Woodward, Leah Armstrong, Laura Bryant, and Lizzie). All were present at his death except Salome. He also leaves 18 grandchildren, two brothers, three sisters and many nieces and nephews. At the age of 19 he united with the A. M. Church and remained faithful to the end. In his younger years he was active in church work. Funeral services were held at the home by Bro. Peter Garber and at the Roanoke Church by Bros. C. S. Shertz and A. A. Schrock. Interment in the cemetery nearby." *Gospel Herald*, March 1938: "Yordy. Salome, daughter of Christian and Solome (Sommer) Slagel, was born Sept. 6, 1855, near Pekin, Ill.; died at her home east of Roanoke, Ill., Feb. 21, 1938; aged 82 y. 5 m. 16 d. In her girlhood her parents moved to north of Chenoa, Ill. She united with the Mennonite Church in October, 1870, in which faith she remained until death. Oct. 4, 1874, she was married to Christian Yordy. To this union were born 10 children, four dying in infancy and Laura Bryant on June 1, 1929. Those living are Salome Burchey, Tiskilwa; Leah Armstrong, Secor; Joel of Heyworth; Amos of Roanoke; and Lizzie at home. There are 24 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, 1 brother (D. W. Slagel, Flanagan, Ill.), one sister (Lydia Smith, Goshen, Ind.), many nephews and nieces and friends to mourn her death. Funeral services were held at the home and at the Roanoke Mennonite Church, conducted by John L. Harnish and Ezra B. Yordy. Text, *Job 14:14*. Interment in the adjoining cemetery."
2. Mary Yordy was born at Elm Grove Oct. 19, 1849, and died at Flanagan Feb. 8, 1923. She married Daniel Orendorff [Jr.], who was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County Jan. 11, 1848, and died at Flanagan Jan. 14, 1916, a son of Daniel Orendorff and Katharina Albrecht. See ORENDORFF for more on this couple.
3. Magdalene Yordy was born at Elm Grove in 1851, and died there in 1854.
4. Jacob K. Yordy was born at Elm Grove March 8, 1853, and died at Flanagan Nov. 29, 1930. On Feb. 3, 1878 in Livingston County he married Catherine 'Katie' King. She was born Oct. 19, 1858, and died Feb. 2, 1918. They are found on the 1910 and 1920 censuses of Nebraska, Livingston County. *Gospel Herald*, December 1930: "Yordy. – Jacob K., son of Peter and Mary Yordy, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., March 8, 1853; died at the home of his son Amsa near Flanagan, Ill., Nov. 29, 1930; aged 77 y. 8 m. 21 d. He spent his entire life in Tazewell, Woodford and Livingston counties. On Feb. 3, 1878, he was united in marriage to Kathryn King of Livingston Co., Ill. To this union were born five sons and nine daughters. The surviving children are Edward, Noah, William, Raymond, Amsa, Mrs. S. A. Albrecht, Mrs. Simon Beller, Mrs. Albert Durre, Mrs. Elmer Augsburger, Mrs. Ray Slagell, Mrs. William Stalter, and Mrs. Arthur Guth. The children are all residents of this community with the exception of Mrs. Beller of Wesloco, Tex., and Raymond, of Iowa City, Ia. He also leaves 58 grandchildren and one sister (Barbara Yordy). Those of the family who have preceded him in death are his companion (who died Feb. 2, 1918), also two daughters and four grandchildren. He accepted Christ as his personal Savior in his youth and remained faithful until death. Funeral services were held Dec. 1 at the Waldo Church, conducted by the home ministers, D. W. Slagel and J. D. Hartzler. Burial in Waldo Cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, February 1918: "Yordy - Catherine King was born Oct. 19, 1858; died suddenly at her late home at Eureka, Ill., Feb. 2, 1918; aged 59y. 2m. 14 d. At the age of 17 she united with the A.M. Church and remained faithful to the end. She was united in marriage with Jacob K. Yordy Feb. 3, 1878. To this union were born five sons and nine daughters. Two daughters and two grandsons preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves to mourn her sudden departure a deeply bereaved husband, 7 daughters, 5 sons, 21 grandchildren, an aged mother, seven brothers, two sisters and many relatives and friends. Funeral services at the house of her son-in-law, S.A. Albrecht, near Flanagan, Ill., by D.W. Slagel and at the Waldo A.M. Church by C.F. Derstine. Text, *"Man goeth to his long home"* (*Eccl.12:5*). Burial in Waldo Cemetery. Sister Yordy was one of the committee that looked after the sewing circle ever since it has been in existence until they moved to Eureka about four months ago. May the bereaved ones look to Him who alone can comfort."
5. Elizabeth Yordy was born at Elm Grove Dec. 6, 1854, died at Cazenovia Jan. 28, 1928, and is buried in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery at Metamora. On Jan. 16, 1881 at Roanoke she married Christian Bachman. He was born at Cazenovia March 7, 1857, died at Cazenovia Sept. 19, 1934, and is buried in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery, a son of Jacob Bachman and Jakobina 'Phoebe' Zook.
6. Peter Yordy [Jr.] was born at Elm Grove Feb. 29, 1856, and died in Woodford County June 4, 1909. He is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. Peter Jr. and his younger sister Barbara had learning disabilities. In 1901 Peter Jr. became the ward of his brother-in-law Christian Bachman. Court documents described him as 'distracted.' *Gospel Herald*, June 1909: " Peter Yordy was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Feb. 29, 1856. He came to his death near his home in Woodford Co., Ill., by a stroke of lightning, June 4, 1909. He united with the A. M. Church in his youth. He was

[27] Salome 'Sally' Slagel was a granddaughter of Christian Schlegel (1792-circa 1863) of Belfort and Catharina Ernst (1794-before 1860). See SCHLEGEL and ERNST.

never married. He leaves three brothers and three sisters. Services were held at the house by Peter D. Schertz from *Matt. 24:44*, and at the church by Peter Zimmerman from *Luke12:40* in German, and John Switzer in English. Surely life is uncertain, and it behooves us to heed Christ's warning recorded in *Matt.24:44*."

7. Joseph P. Yordy was born at Elm Grove Nov. 7, 1857, and died at Eureka Feb. 19, 1925. On Jan. 1, 1882 at Roanoke he married Elizabeth Roeschley. She was born at Spring Bay July 20, 1862, and died at Eureka Feb. 3, 1953, a daughter of John Roeschley and Elizabeth Salzman. They are buried at Roanoke. *Gospel Herald*, March 1925: "Yordy. Joseph, son of Peter and Mary Yordy, was born near Pekin, Ill., Nov. 7, 1857; died at his home in Eureka, Ill., Feb. 19, 1925; aged 67 y. 3 m. 12 d. In boyhood he moved with his parents to Roanoke, Ill. On Jan 1, 1882, he was married to Elizabeth Roeschley. To this union were born three daughters (Ella, Anna, and Mrs. Josephine Schrock), and six sons (Aaron, Ezra, Walter, Jonas, Alvin, and Lewis). After his marriage he lived one year near Roanoke, fifteen years near Flanagan, twelve years near Fisher, and the remaining years in Woodford county. In his early manhood he united with the Mennonite Church and had a ringing Christian testimony to the end. He served the Church as a faithful deacon since 1920. Singing always found a great place in his life, and he always took an active part in worshiping God in song. Although never very strong physically, yet he had a strong faith in the living God and lived a stable consistent Christian life. Since Christmas he suffered much. Often during the last few months he longed for eternal rest. He was conscious to the last, although unable to speak, and showed great calmness the last hours of his life on earth. His desire is fulfilled now, for he has gone where "there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, not crying, neither shall there be any more pain." He leaves his wife, nine children, nine grandchildren, one brother (Jacob, of Flanagan), two sisters (Barbara, of Eureka, and Mrs. Chris. Bachman of Cazenovia), many relatives and friends. Funeral services at the Roanoke Mennonite Church Feb 22, 1925, conducted by Brothers A.A. Schrock and H.R. Schertz. Text *John 11:25*. Interment in cemetery nearby." *Gospel Herald*, March 1953: "Yordy. – Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Saltzman) Roeschley, was born near Spring Bay, Ill., July 20, 1862; passed away Feb.3, 1953; aged 90 y. 6 m. 14 d. On Jan. 1, 1882, at the Roanoke Mennonite Church, she was united in marriage to Joseph Yordy, who preceded her in death in 1925. Surviving are three daughters (Ella, Anna, and Mrs. Josephine Schrock, Eureka, Ill.), five sons (Aaron, Peoria, Ill.; Ezra, Eureka, Ill.; Walter, Chicago, Ill.; Jonas, Eureka, Ill.; and Alvin, Denver, Colo.), 15 grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren. One son (Lewis) also preceded her in death. In her youth she united with the Mennonite Church and for many years taught a German Sunday-school class. Funeral services were in charge of John L. Harnish and J. D. Hartzler, with burial in the church cemetery."
8. Barbara Yordy was born at Elm Grove Dec. 18, 1860, and died in Woodford County Sept. 20, 1943. She was mildly autistic, and was cared for by her brother Christian. She is also buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. *Metamora Herald*, October 1943: "Barbara Yordy was born in Tazewell County, Illinois, December 18, 1860 and died about midnight September 20, 1943, at the age of 82 years, six months, three days, at the Mennonite Home at Eureka. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Yordy. She was also the last member of a family of eight, all of whom preceded her in death a number of years ago. She leaves a number of nieces and nephews in different states to mourn her departure. Barbara Yordy entered the Old People's Home August 17, 1922, being one of the first members to enter the Home. She is the last one of the early members to pass away. Her life was spent mostly at the Yordy home east of Roanoke, Illinois, with the exception of a few years at the Brethren Home at Girard, Illinois, just previous to entering the home at Eureka. She became a member of the Mennonite church in her early years. Services were held at the Roanoke Mennonite Church in charge of Rev. John Harnish at 2 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 23. Burial was in the Church cemetery."

Jaquée Jordi/Phillipine Yordy

Jacquée Jordi was born at Windstein June 28, 1818.

Her name seems to have evolved into 'Pena' (usually derived from Jakobina) or the more fashionable 'Jacobine,' and eventually to Phillipine. (Her daughter Jacobine or Bina would evolve into the even more fashionable American equivalent 'Phoebe').

With Johan George Yeackley [Jäckle], a Catholic, she sailed from Le Havre on the *Governor Davis*, arriving at New Orleans Jan. 5, 1842. The passenger list describes John Jeckle, 28, and Jacobina Jeckle, 24. This suggests that their travel documents were obtained as a married couple.

Jacobine delivered her first child 12 days later. They were married in a civil court in Woodford County April 26, 1842. The ceremony was performed by Justice of the Peace Thornton Parker. Marriage documents list them as 'Geo. Yeckley' and 'Jacobina Yerkey.'

Their household can be found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer George 'Ackerly,' 35, Germany; Pena, 30, Germany; Catharine, 7, Illinois; Elizabeth, 5, Illinois; Joseph, 4, Illinois; and Pena, 3 months, Illinois. The Yeackley children were raised as Catholics. When George died Feb. 28, 1854, Peter Yordy (who we believe to be Pena's older brother) was appointed administrator of the estate and legal guardian of the children.

Children of Phillipine Yordy and her first husband Johan George Yeackley include:

1. Catherine 'Kate' Yeackley was born at New Orleans Jan. 17, 1842, and died Dec. 16, 1883. She married Adam Hoffman. He was born in 1836 and died in 1897.

2. Henry Yeackley. Descendant Elaine Wampler has found a baptismal certificate for this hitherto unknown child.
3. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Yeackley was born March 7, 1845, and died June 30, 1931. She married Louis Winkel. He was born in 1834, and died after 1900. They appear on the 1870 census of Second Ward, Pekin as butcher Louis Winkel, 36, Saxony; Elizabeth, 24, Illinois; and Frederick, 4, Illinois.
4. Joseph Yeackley was born Feb. 15, 1848, and died at Milford, Nebraska Jan. 18, 1940. He can be found on the 1880 census of Pekin as farmer Joseph Yackley, 32. On Sept. 7, 1884 in Tazewell County he married Fannie Yordy. She was born April 5, 1863, and died at Milford, Nebraska Oct. 31, 1955, a daughter of John Birkey Yordy and Magdalena King. They can be found on the 1910 census of Precinct O, Seward County, Nebraska (now Milford, Grover/East Milford, West Mill, and Camden) as farmer Joseph Yeackley, 63, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; Fanny, 47, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Illinois; and six children.
5. Emma Yeackley was born in 1850, and died in 1851.
6. Jacobine 'Phoebe' Yeackley was born June 3, 1852, and died Dec. 14, 1933. She married Joseph C. Bishop. He was born in 1850, and died Sept. 20, 1896. Their household can be found on the 1880 census of Groveland as farmer Joseph Bishop, 29, born in Illinois to parents from Bavaria and Ohio; Phebe, 27, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; Ella E., 6, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; and William H., 1, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois. Jacobine and Joseph are buried in Craft Cemetery at Groveland.
7. Peter Yeackley was born in 1853, and died in 1854.

On July 12, 1854 in Tazewell County Phillipine remarried to Henry Raab. Henry bought the land that had been owned by George Yeackley for $8.50 per acre. When he died unexpectedly in early 1860, Phillipine was left with an unpaid mortgage. Peter Yordy purchased the property for the price of the mortgage ($620). He then sold the farm to August Knoll for $2,000, and purchased a home on the corner of Sixth and Ann Eliza Streets in Pekin from Knoll for $700.[28] Phillipine and her children moved into this house.

The child of Phillipine Yordy and her second husband Henry Raab:

8. Henry Raab Jr. was born in 1855, died Dec. 10, 1933, and is buried in Craft Cemetery at Groveland as 'Henry Rapp, 1933.'

Phillipine married a third time to Christian Krug Aug. 14, 1862. He was born at Hanseldorf, Bavaria Aug. 1, 1825 (the location appears on his headstone), and died at Groveland Oct. 31, 1890. The 1870 census of Pekin describes their household as farmer Christian Krug, 44, Bavaria; Philippine, 40, Bavaria; Joseph Jeckel, 22, Illinois; Jacobine, 15, Illinois; Henry Krug, 13, Illinois; and Louis, 3, Illinois. They also appear on the 1880 census of Groveland as farmer Chr. Krug, 55, Albiren [Altbayern, the administrative district surrounding Munich]; Bena, 55, Albiren; Louis, 12, Illinois; and stepson Henry Rabb, 21, born in Illinois to Prussian parents. Jacobine died at Groveland Dec. 16, 1883, and was buried in Craft Cemetery as 'Phillippine.' Christian Krug died at Groveland Oct. 31, 1890, and is buried beside her.

Louis Krug was born at Pekin Aug. 30, 1868 (his mother age 50), and died at Groveland Nov. 13, 1943. On Oct. 5, 1893 at Pekin he married Anna J. Hagney. She was born in October 1877, and died March 5, 1902. On Nov. 24, 1904 at Pekin Louis remarried to Anna Maria Dully. She was born at Groveland March 13, 1870, and died there April 18, 1948. She was the widow of Carl B. Wubben, who she had married at Pekin March 3, 1890; he died Oct. 22, 1902. She was also a daughter of Michael Dully and Magdalena Wageman. Louis and his second wife are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

[28] August Knoll was a passenger on the *Minnesota* in 1949, on a voyage from Liverpool to New York. His group included Valentine Birky, Daniel Zehr Sr., George Ritthaler, David Springer, Christian Eigsti and others. He was born in Bavaria circa 1819 (the passenger list says he was 30, and the 1870 census of Pekin says 1820), married Barbara Ehrlicher, and died at Tripp, South Dakota in 1908. His son August Louis Knoll was born June 9, 1853 in Tazewell County and died at Crete, Nebraska July 3, 1942.

Oesch/Esch: Variations of Ösch

In Canton Bern an Ösch is an ash tree, and the word occurs relatively frequently in place names. Surname variations include Oesch, Esch (found most often in France), Eash (found most often in Pennsylvania), Asche, and Ash. Two Ösch descendants became prominent in Tazewell and Woodford Counties. One came to America in 1837 and became an elder of the Partridge Creek meeting. The other immigrated with Bavarian Forty-Eighters and became a farmer at Elm Grove.

Christian Esch

Worth, Woodford County

Michel Ösch of Langenegg, Canton Bern married Anna Müller of Worb, Canton Bern. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Anna Ösch was baptized June 13, 1630.
2. **Christ Ösch** was baptized Sept. 25, 1631.
3. Michel Ösch was baptized Oct. 13, 1633.
4. Barbli Ösch was baptized Jan. 15, 1637.
5. Ŭli Ösch was baptized May 20, 1638.
6. Elsbeth Ösch was baptized Aug. 25, 1639. Her baptism entry identified her parents as natives of Langenegg and Worb.
7. Peter Ösch was baptized Sept. 6, 1640.
8. Elsbeth Ösch was baptized March 20, 1642.

Christ Ösch was baptized at Steffisburg Sept. 25, 1631.

On March 21, 1656 at Steffisburg he married Elsbeth Mŭri. The entry called them Christen Ösch and Elsbeth Mŭrri. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. **Christen Ösch** was baptized March 22, 1657.
2. Anna Ösch was baptized April 22, 1660.
3. Michel Ösch was baptized March 30, 1662, and died as an infant.
4. Michel Ösch was baptized July 12, 1663.
5. Babi Ösch was baptized Oct. 7, 1667.
6. Elsbeth Ösch was baptized Oct. 11, 1668. The entry said her parents were living at Oberhofen.
7. Hans Ösch was baptized July 9, 1671.
8. Magdalena Ösch was baptized Nov. 16, 1673.
9. Cathrin Ösch was baptized April 15, 1677.

Christen Ösch was baptized at Steffisburg March 22, 1657.

On Nov. 19, 1694 at Schwarzenegg he married Elsbeth Stŭtzman.[29] Their children's baptism entries describe Christen as a *Küfer* [barrel maker] at Thörberg. This may have been *Schloss* or castle Thörberg at Krauchthal, 27 miles north of Schwarzenegg by a roundabout route that first went into Steffisburg. At the time former monastery buildings there were used as a hospital and prison. It is now a prison.

Children of Christian Ösch and Elsbeth Stŭtzman include:

1. Michel Ösch was baptized at Steffisburg June 6, 1697. The entry described his parents as Christen Osch of Schwartzneck *Kilchori* [congregation] and Elsbeth Stŭtz.
2. Christen Ösch/Christian Oesch was baptized at Mühlethurnen Nov. 19, 1699, and died before 1761. His baptism entry said his parents were from Riggisberg (adjacent to Mühlethurnen, 14 miles west of Schwarzenegg, and likely Elsbeth's hometown). He went to the state-administered Steinischhof between Königsbach and Langensteinbach, Baden-Durlach with his younger brother Hans, where he became elder of a congregation. He attended the assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in 1759 with Peter Rothaker, Hans Steiner, and Benedikt Eyer.
3. Anna Ösch was born at Steffisburg, but baptized at both Steffisburg and Schwarzenegg July 2, 1702. The Steffisburg entry said her father Christen was a resident of 'Schwartzneck.'

[29] Ten Ösch couples were either married or had children baptized at Schwarzenegg between 1693 and 1722.

4. **Daniel Ösch** was baptized at Schwarzenegg Oct. 7, 1704, and died before 1761.
5. Petrus Ösch was baptized at Schwarzenegg Oct. 16, 1707.
6. Elisabetha Ösch was baptized at Schwarzenegg May 25, 1710. A probate document in the State Archives of Canton Bern created in 1761 said that Elsbeth Oesch of Oberlangenegg testified that her brother Daniel and the children of her two deceased brothers Daniel and Christen "had left the country as Anabaptists many years ago…at present at Girschhausen."[30]
7. Hans Ösch/Oesch was baptized at Schwarzenegg in January of 1715, and died after 1761. In 1742 he is found as co-leaseholder of the Steinischhof, married to Maria Eyer, a daughter of Benedikt Eyer. She was born before 1724. In 1759 they were employed in a glassworks at Mattstall, Lower Alsace, 48 miles to the west .

Daniel Ösch was baptized at Schwarzenegg Oct. 7, 1704, and died before 1761.

Daniel married Barbara Leyenberger. He and his brother-in-law Andreas Leyenberger leased the Kirschbacherhof (between Hornbach and Contwig) in Pfalz-Zweibrücken in 1742.

Daniel and Barbara later farmed on the grounds of the castle estate [Ger. *Schloss Gut*] Gutenbrunnen in the Gutenbrunnen valley between Würschweiler and Bierbach, about five miles northwest of the city of Zweibrücken. The castle was constructed in 1723. It was owned by the royal family, and at one time housed a porcelain factory. Daniel died on the estate circa 1765. In 1793 the castle was largely destroyed, and the property around it was nationalized and auctioned off by French occupiers.

Their children and grandchildren saw their surname spelled 'Esh' or 'Esch' in most French documentation. It is not clear whether this was their conscious decision, the result of their own illiteracy, or the whim of municipal clerks. It may also have been an attempt by well-meaning municipal clerks to help them assimilate by 'Gallicizing' their surname.

A son **Josef Esch** was born circa 1740, and died on the Wahlerhof at Mittelbach-Hengstbach near Zweibrücken June 30, 1813.

He married Magdalena Schertz, a daughter of Nikolaus/Nicolas Schertz and Barbara Birki of the copper mill at Hambach, Moselle. They lived at Lorentzen, Lower Alsace, and then in 1779 relocated onto a farm property attached to Château Gentersberg [Ger. *Gendersbergerhof*] at Hanviller, Moselle. Magdalena died there.

After 1788 Josef lived on the Dorst farm [Ger. *Dorsterhof*] at Walschbronn. Walschbronn is a border station across from Vinningen in the Pfalz. In the early 1800s it was in the most remote, wooded corner of Moselle.[31]

Children of Josef Esch and Magdalena Schertz include:

1. Barbara Esch was born in 1761, and died on the Horterhof at Heiligenmoschel in the Pfalz in 1839. She married Georg Unzicker of Wörth, Lower Alsace, who died on the Horterhof in 1849, a son of Joseph Unzicker and Maria Stauffer. They lived on the Château Gentersberg property until 1804, when they purchased the Horterhof.
2. Josef Esch was born at Lorentzen circa 1771, and died on the Wahlerhof March 2, 1846. On July 26, 1798 at Walschbronn he married Magdalena/Madeleine Nafziger (the entry called them Joseph Eche and Magdelaine Natzer). She was born circa 1774, and died on the Wahlerhof March 28, 1838, a daughter of Peter Nafziger and Barbara Leyenberger.
3. Nikolaus/Nicolas Esch was born at Lorentzen Sept. 28, 1779, and died at Walschbronn in September 1867. On Nov. 0, 1801 at Walschbronn he married Katharina Hauter (the entry called them Nicholas Eche and Catherine Hauder). She was born on the Peltzmühle (later called the Blumenauermühle) at Brenschelbach, Pfalz-Zweibrücken July 22, 1786, and died at Walschbronn March 5, 1860, a daughter of Jakob Hauter and Magdalena Ulmann. They lived on the Dorsterhof after 1788.
4. Magdalena/Madeleine Esch was born on the Château Gentersberg property at Hanviller Jan. 7, 1784. On April 19, 1802 at Walschbronn she married Josef Hauter. He was born April 7, 1782, and died at Walschbronn June 11, 1812, a son of Nicolas Hauter and Suzanne Oesch. On March 25, 1813 at Walschbronn she remarried to Johannes/Jean Nafziger. He was born at Niederbronn-lès-Bains, Lower Alsace circa 1783, and died at Hanviller Dec. 23, 1859, a son of Valentin Nafziger and Anna Esch of Gentersberg.
5. **Christian Esch** was born on the Château Gentersberg property at Hanviller in 1788, and died on the Dorst farm at Walschbronn July 15, 1824.

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[30] The Gershäuserhof estate at Braunau, Waldeck was leased by Schlabachs. The presence of Oesches there reflects their association with Brennemans (Wohra is 16 miles to the southwest) and Schwartzentrubers (Waldeck is 13 miles to the north).

[31] Nearby Eschviller [Ger. *Eschweiler*], now a farm and museum at Volmunster, has no connection to the Esch family. A complex of buildings grew around a grain mill and sawmill where, presumably, ash wood boards were manufactured. Christian Roggy (see ROGGY) worked at the Eschviller sawmill for the Creutzer family 1821-30.

Christian Esch was born on the Château Gentersberg property at Hanviller, Moselle in 1788, and died on the Dorst farm at Walschbronn, Moselle July 15, 1824.

On Sept. 13, 1813 at Waltembourg, Moselle he married Magdalena/Madeleine Nafziger. She was born at Waltembourg in 1792, and died at Walschbronn Sept. 19, 1824, a daughter of Christian Nafziger and Katharina/Catherine Sommer.

Their children orphaned in 1824 include:

1. Magdalena Esch was born Dec. 3, 1814, and died April 21, 1900. On Jan. 28, 1835 at Rolbing (five miles northwest of Walschbronn) she became the second wife of Jakob Kinzinger. He was born in the Blumenauermühle at Brenschelbach in the French occupation department of Mont-Tonnére Nov. 2, 1805, and died at Bebelsheim, Saarland in 1873, a son of Peter Kinzinger and Magdalena Hauter. He first married in 1832 to Magdalena's cousin Barbara Oesch, a daughter of Joseph Oesch and Magdalena Nafziger of the Wahlerhof.
2. Katharina Esch was born Sept. 19, 1816, and died Aug. 27, 1861. She married Johannes Schmitt.
3. **Christian Esch** was born on the Dorst farm at Walschbronn Aug. 26, 1819, and died at Worth, Woodford County May 25, 1888.
4. Josef/Joseph Esch was born June 10, 1822, and died on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt Dec. 25, 1893. In October 1846 at Trippstadt he married Elisabeth Güngrich. She was born on the Wilensteinerhof Oct. 1, 1818, and died there Oct. 15, 1892, a daughter of Johannes Güngrich and Elisabeth Imhof.

Son **Christian Esch** (also known as Christian E. Esch) was born on the Dorst farm at Walschbronn, Moselle Aug. 26, 1819. He died at Worth, Woodford County May 25, 1888.

He was orphaned as a 5-year-old, and may have been raised by Nafzigers or Guengerichs at Bourscheid, Moselle.

He sailed from Le Havre on the *Marengo*, arriving at New Orleans Nov. 25, 1837. The *Marengo* was the same ship that had brought minister Christian Engel's son Joseph to New Orleans in 1836. He traveled with the family of minister Jean/John Nafziger and Anna Marie Gerber. The customs list includes these passengers from steerage: Jean Nafziger, 35; Anna [Gerber], 29; Pierre, 4; Catherine, 2; Catherine Murer, 57 (Catherine Maurer, widow of Christian Nafziger 1775-1829 and mother of Jean Nafziger); Madelaine Nafziger, 25; Catherine, 19; and Christian Esch, 18. (See NAFZIGER, THE NAFZIGERS OF WASHINGTON).

Family notes say that Christian's first stop in Woodford County was the farm of minister Christian Engel. Before purchasing his own farm at Worth, he lived on the Hanover (later Metamora) farm of Johannes Güngerich/Gingerich and Barbara Gerber.

On Aug. 30, 1846 in Woodford County he married Anne Gerber, also known as Anna Garber or Nancy Garber; the ceremony was performed by minister André Bachmann/Andrew Baughman.[32] She was born in the hamlet Gensbourg at Oberhaslach, Lower Alsace Aug. 10, 1827, and died at Worth May 17, 1898, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Gerber and Magdalena Gingerich. She was a granddaughter of Nicholas Gerber and Magdalena/Madeléne Bechler, who had died of Yellow Fever on their way to Tazewell County in 1840 (see GERBER AND GARBER, THE GERBERS OF METAMORA AND WASHINGTON for more on her grandparents).

For several winters Christian worked at a flour mill near Pekin, returning to his home on weekends. He cultivated his own crops in summer. His household appears on the 1850 census of Woodford County as farmer Christian Ash, 30, France; Ann, 24, France; and Peter, 2, Illinois.

Christian was ordained as a minister of the Partridge Creek meeting in 1852. The 1860 census of Worth shows farmer Christian Esch, 41, France; Ann, 36, France; Peter, 12, Illinois; and Joseph, 8, Illinois.

In 1867 Christian was ordained elder of the Partridge Creek meeting. His bound ledger of sermons from 1849-82 is now in the archives of Goshen College.

The 1870 census of Worth shows farmer Christian Ash, 44, France; Annie, 43, France; farm hand Peter, 25, France [Illinois]; farm hand Joseph, 19, France [Illinois]; and Meary, 9, Illinois. The 1880 census of Worth shows farmer Christian Esch, 62, Bavaria; Annie, 56, Bavaria; and Lena, 18, Illinois.

Christian Esch and Anne Gerber (as 'Anna') are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. Their children born at Worth include:

1. Peter Esch was born Dec. 29, 1847, and died at Washington Dec. 31, 1912. On Feb. 6, 1872 in Woodford County he married Catherine Schertz. She was born at Peoria Oct. 29, 1848, and died at Metamora April 7, 1924. They are found on the 1910 census of Worth as farmer Peter Esch, 62, born in Illinois; Katina, 61, born in Illinois; and

[32] The papers may have been drawn Aug. 20, a date given by the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*. Her name appears on the marriage license as Nancy Garber.

Benjamin, 22, born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, June 1913: "Peter, son of Christian and Anna Esch, was born in Woodford Co., Ill., Dec. 29, 1847. Thirty-two years ago he moved with his family to the home from which he passed away, two miles north of Washington, Ill. On Dec. 12, 1912, he was taken down with and attack of la grippe and rheumatism which ended in his death on the last day of the year. At the time of his death he was sixty-five years and two days of age. He leaves to mourn his departure his wife, four children – Mrs. Peter Springer, Mrs. Henry Schertz, Solomon Esch, and Benjamin Esch – nine grandchildren, a brother, Joseph Esch, and a sister, Mrs. Peter Schertz. He was for many years a member of the Amish Mennonite Church at Metamora, Ill. Funeral services were conducted by the brethren, Geo. J. Lapp of India, and Valentine Strubhar of Washington. Text, *Rev. 7:9-17*." See SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF BISTROFF for Catherine's obituary.

2. Joseph Esch was born July 16, 1851, and died there Aug. 28, 1927. On March 3, 1874 in Woodford County he married Elizabeth Bachman, who died Sept. 26, 1889. On Feb. 25, 1891 he remarried to Lizzie Stauffer. She died in October of that year. On Sept. 26, 1893 he married a third time to Hattie Schertz. Hattie Schertz was born July 11, 1855, and died Nov. 1, 1934; she and Joseph are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington. *Gospel Herald*, September 1927: "Joseph, son of Christian and Anna Esch was born July 16, 1851 in the township where he resided through life. Last winter he passed through a severe sickness from which he never fully recovered, although he was able to be about until a few days before his death on Sunday, Aug. 28, 1927; aged 76 y., 1 m., 12 d. He accepted Christ as his Savior in early life and remained faithful to his Christian vows until the end. His church membership was with the Partridge Mennonite Church, near Metamora, Ill. He was united in marriage to Elizabeth Bachman on March 3, 1874. To this union six children were born; (Henry, Samuel, Christian, Martha, Joseph J., and Peter D.). On Dec. 29, 1889, his wife was called by the angel of death. He was again united in marriage Feb. 25, 1891, to Lizzie Stauffer of Tiskilwa, Ill. In October of the same year this second union was broken by the death angel. On September 26, 1893, he was married to Hattie Schertz. To this union two children were born Frieda and Raymond. Brother Esch was a successful farmer. He met with many discouragements and bitter experiences. All these he bore patiently, exemplifying a true Christian spirit. The ruggedness of his life journey developed in him worthy characteristics. He was always sympathetic towards others, especially toward those in need. He was a faithful husband and a devoted father. He leaves his devoted wife, four children. (Samuel, Joseph, Peter, and Mrs. Frieda Grove), one sister (Mrs. Peter Schertz), six children, and other relatives. He was preceded in death by one brother (Peter Esch). Dec. 1912, and by four of his children. Funeral services at the Calvary Mennonite Church conducted by Valentine Stubhar and Ezra B. Yordy."
3. Magdalena Esch was born Sept. 6, 1861, and died at Metamora July 16, 1946. On Jan. 20, 1881 in Woodford County she married Peter Schertz. He was born at Washington Jan. 16, 1857, and died April 3, 1932, a son of Christian Schertz and Katharina/Catherine Engel. Peter was ordained as a minister in 1888. *Gospel Herald*, August 1946: "Magdalena, daughter of Christian and Anna Esch, was born in Woodford County, Ill., Sept. 6, 1861; died at her home south of Metamora, Ill., July 16, 1946; aged 84 y. 10 m. 10 d. Early in life she accepted Christ as her Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, remaining true to the end. On Jan. 20, 1881, she was united in marriage to Peter Schertz, who preceded her in death on April 3, 1932. One daughter (Edna Lucile) also preceded her in death as an infant. Surviving are seven children (Manuel D. and Mrs. Edwin R. Schertz, both of Washington, Ill.; Henry R., of Metamora; Mrs. Peter R. Schertz, Roanoke, Ill., William J. and Mrs. Walter Smith, Eureka, Ill,; and Mrs. Walter Yoder, Goshen, Ind.), 24 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and other relatives and friends. She was a quiet, unassuming, gentle woman, interested in the welfare of her family and the church. Funeral services were conducted by A. C. Good, assisted by Ezra Yordy and Ben Esch." They are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. See SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF BISTROFF for Peter's obituary.

Christian Oesch

Elm Grove

Abraham Oesch was descended from the family at Oberlangenegg, though his connection has not been identified. He was born circa 1730, and died before Aug. 14, 1836.

In 1755 he settled at Hagenau, Lower Alsace (14 miles east of Ingwillller). He married Anna/Anne Koch, who died before him, a daughter of Ingwiller minister and elder Nikolaŭs Koch. Abraham became a minister on the Rauschenbourg estate at Ingwiller (in the 'Crooked Alsace' part of Lower Alsace), where his father-in-law was elder.

Their children born on the Rauschenbourg estate at Ingwiller include:

1. **Christian Oesch** was born circa 1755, and died at Hanfeld, Bavaria March 29, 1834.
2. Magdalena Oesch/Madeleine Eash was born circa 1755, and died at Bourscheid, Moselle Jan. 18, 1807. In 1779 she married Christian Bächler/Bechler. He was born circa 1753, and died at Bourscheid Sept. 14, 1809. See BECHLER/BECKLER for background on this couple.
3. Barbara Oesch died at Gilchenbach, Bavaria Sept. 7, 1821. She married Johannes/Jean Hauter. He was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace Oct. 25, 1771, and died on the Bruchhof near Homburg in the Saarland March 20, 1846, a son of Nicolaus Hauter and Susanne Oesch. For background on this couple see Hauter.

4. Catherine Oesch married Christian Hauter. He was born in 1774, and died on the Neuhof estate at Herschweiler-Pettersheim in the Pfalz Jan. 5, 1841, a son of Nicolaus Hauter and Susanne Oesch.
5. Nicolas Oesch/Esch was born circa 1762, and died at Bourscheid Dec. 17, 1813. Circa 1789 he Madeleine Bächler. She was born circa 1769, and died at Bourscheid April 12, 1805, age 36, a daughter of Michel Bächler and Marie Mosimann. Their children include:
    a. Catherine Esch was born in 1789, and died at St. Médard, Mosaelle May. 1, 1866. On May 25, 1809 at Bourscheid she married André Springer. He was born at Sarrebourg Hof June 15, 1788, and died at St. Médard May 2, 1861, a son of Georges Springer and Madeleine Vercler.
    b. Anne Marie Esch was born circa 1792, and died at Bourscheid July 30, 1794, age two.
    c. Madeleine Esch was born at Bourscheid May 11, 1793, and died there May 27, 1814.
    d. Anne Esch was born at Bourscheid July 1, 1795, and died there July 26, 1822.
    e. Barbe Esch was born at Bourscheid Jan. 27, 1797, and died at Viviers le Gras, Vosges Dec. 23, 1875.
    f. Véronique Esch was born at Bourscheid April 28, 1800, and died there June 9, 1800.
    g. Nicolas Esch died at Bourscheid April 4, 1805, age 20 days.
6. Anna Oesch/Esch was born in 1763, and died on the farm property attached to Château Gentersberg [Ger. *Gendersbergerhof*] at Hanviller, Moselle Aug. 14, 1836. She married Valentin Nafziger. He was born at Steinseltz, Lower Alsace Sept. 28, 1757, and died at Urbach, Moselle Sept. 25, 1827 (recorded at nearby Epping the following day), a son of Stefan/Steffen Nafziger and Magdalena/Madeleine Güngerich. They lived on the Ingolshof at Niederbronn, the Hollenhof at Guntershofen, and at Hanviller.

Christian Oesch was born on the Rauschenbourg estate at Ingwiller, Lower Alsace circa 1755, and died at Hanfeld, Bavaria March 29, 1834.

Christian married Catherine/Katharina Bürki. She was born on the Waderhof at Lorentzen in 'Crooked Alsace' in 1764.

Who was she? We can make a reasonable guess, though the information is lacking. She may have been a sister to Johannes Birky or Bircki ('Little Red Birkys'), who was born circa 1748. His son Andreas/André/Andrew owned property at Söcking, which is now part of Hanfeld.

Several of their children may have been born at Saarbrückenheim. This community was 32 miles north of Lorentzen.[33] It was occupied by French troops in 1793, and annexed by France in 1797.

In 1803 the couple and seven children relocated from Saarbrückenheim to Hanfeld near Lake Starnberg, Bavaria (Söcking, where Andrew Burkey lived, is now part of Hanfeld). The property where they lived has been identified as the 'zum Streicher' estate (this sounds remarkably similar to the Streicherhof at Uffing, 30 miles to the south).

Catherine/Katharina died at Hanfeld March 6, 1829. According to Rudolf Ingold and Hermann Guth, the Mennonite tenants at Hanfeld fell into a disagreement with local Catholic clerics, and were obliged to bury their dead in a meadow.[34] When Catherine/Katharina Bürki died, one priest asked for a death fee. Christian and his son Andreas refused, and the priest complained to the local administration. He was told that he could take the matter to court, but no action was taken.

Their children include:

1. Jean/Johann Oesch was born on the Waderhof at Lorentzen in 1783. On May 7, 1809 he married Barbara Oesch. She was born at Erbes-Büdesheim in the Pfalz, a daughter of Christian Oesch and Jacobine Güngerich.
2. Magdalena/Madeleine Oesch was born at Saarbrückenheim in 1786, and died at Beigarten, Bavaria (six miles east of Hanfeld and Starnberg) Jan. 27, 1859. She married Christian Miller. He was born in 1774, and died in 1853.
3. Christian Oesch was born Oct. 15, 1789, and died on the Forsthof at Neuberg an der Donau, Bavaria June 23, 1844. In 1819 he married Katharina Sutter, and became a laborer and farm manager on the Forsthof.
4. **Andreas Oesch** was born in 1791, and died at Hanfeld April 30, 1869.
5. Joseph Oesch was born in 1794, and died Nov. 30, 1866.
6. Barbara Oesch was born June 23, 1799, died at Morton Sept. 10, 1884, and is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery. On Oct. 31, 1819 at Hanfeld she married Johannes/John Sutter.
7. Marie/Maria Oesch was born at Saarbrückenheim Feb. 5, 1802, and died on the Klinghof at Probfeld, Bavaria Jan. 30, 1870. On Sept. 6, 1820 she married Christian Ingold. He was born on the Lindelbrunnerhof farm between Darstein and Münchweiler am Klingbach in Nassau-Weilburg April 22, 1794, and died at Klingenhof, Bavaria Oct. 10, 1870, a son of Josef/Joseph Ingold and Elizabeth Güngerich. After marriage they were tenants on the Oberhaunstadt castle estate (now a neighborhood of Ingolstadt).

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[33] In 1909 Saarbrückenheim merged with St. Johann and Malstatt-Burbach to become the city of Saarbrücken. It is now the capital of the German state of Saarland.

[34] Their article *The Oeschs of Hanfeld and Forsthof* can be found in *Mennonite Family History*, July 1999.

8. Veronica/Véronique/Veronika Oesch was born at Polling, Bavaria in 1804, and died at Hanfeld, Bavaria in 1829. She married Daniel Springer. He was born at Struth, Lower Alsace in 1801.
9. Anna Oesch was born in 1806, and died Dec. 8, 1869.

Minister **Andreas Oesch** was born in 1791, and died at Hanfeld, Bavaria April 30, 1869.

He married Catherine/Katharina Augspurger. She was born on the Canardière estate at Strasbourg Jan. 4, 1793, and died Oct. 15, 1850, a daughter of Noé Augspurger/Noah Augsburger and his first wife Anna Müller. See AUGSPURGER for more on her family.

Andreas became a 'minister of the book' in 1835 or 1836. He remained on the estate until his death.

Their children born at Hanfeld include:

1. Katharina Oesch was born Aug. 7, 1814, and died at Walchstadt (five miles southeast of Starnberg and Hanfeld) Oct. 25, 1856. On May 14, 1837 she married Josef Zehr, a son of Daniel Zehr and Magdalena Unzicker. He was born at Berg am Laim (now a district of Munich) near Munich May 18, 1810, and died after a logging accident at Beigarten April 30, 1871, the only member of his family who did not go to Butler County.
2. Andreas Oesch was born Sept. 19, 1816, and died at Hanfeld Jan. 18, 1817.
3. Barbara 'Babette' Oesch was born Jan. 24, 1818. She emigrated in 1848 with her younger brother Christian.
4. **Christian Oesch** was born Dec. 4, 1819.
5. Andreas Oesch was born Dec. 26, 1821. In 1849 he emigrated from Europe on the *Minnesota* with Christian Eigsti, Valentine Birky, George Ritthaler, Daniel Zehr, David Springer, and others.
6. Magdalena Oesch was born Oct. 22, 1823. On Dec. 14, 1845 she married Andreas Eichelberger. He was born at Kleinbach circa 1821.
7. Maria Oesch was born Sept. 29, 1828, and died at Fisher, Champaign County Aug. 10, 1896. She married Georg Eichelberger in Bavaria. He was born March 23, 1823, and died June 4, 1863, a son of Christian Eichelberger and Magdalena Birki. She remarried to Georg Gűngerich. He was born June 5, 1832, and died at Fisher March 6, 1906. They immigrated in 1893. They settled at Fisher in the southeast corner of East Bend Township, Champaign County, and are buried in East Bend Cemetery.
8. Josef Oesch was born Aug. 2, 1830.
9. Elisabeth Oesch was born June 17, 1832.
10. Jakob Oesch was born May 24, 1835.
11. Jakobine Oesch was born May 24, 1835 and died Feb. 24, 1846.
12. Johann Oesch was born May 2, 1840, and died on the Bartelstock farm near Ingolstadt May 27, 1886. In 1863 he married Babette Ringenberg. Johann was a minister of the Ingolstadt congregation.

Christian Oesch was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Dec. 4, 1819, though Dec. 19, 1818 appears in his obituary and on his headstone.[35] Since Christian died at almost 90 years of age, 24 years after the death of his second wife, the incorrect dates are understandable.

Christian is mentioned in Friedrich Blendinger's profile of Munich-area emigrants *Die Auswanderung nach Nordamerika aus dem Regierungsbezirk Oberbayern in den Jahren 1846-1852*. It describes Christian Oesch as a farmhand who emigrated from Starnberg, Bavaria, bound for New York in 1848. He sailed with Babette [Barbara] Oesch, a serving maid who departed at the same time. This was presumably Christian's sister Barbara Oesch, who was born Jan. 24, 1818. They each carried 1,000 florins. The *Bavaria* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York Oct. 6, 1848; its passenger list names farmer Christian Osh, 26, Bavaria; and Barbara Osh, 27, Bavaria.[36]

On June 17, 1851 in Tazewell County Christian married Magdalena Zehr. It is likely that she was a daughter of Daniel Zehr and Magdalena Unzicker, and was born at Berg am Laim, Bavaria March 12, 1816 (see ZEHR).

Their children include:

1. Magdalena/Madelaine Oesch was born at Dillon Oct. 7, 1852, and died Dec. 31, 1939. On Oct. 5, 1873 she married Michael Maurer, who was born in Canton Argau Aug. 28, 1842, and died Jan. 12, 1928. They lived at Pekin. He had been a barber in St. Louis, and a farmer at Pekin. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.
2. Christian Oesch was born at Pekin May 30, 1854, and died at Dillon Jan. 15, 1890. He is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. On the 1880 census of Dillon he is found as a 26-year-old laborer living in the household of his brother-in-law Christian Oberlander. On Feb. 2, 1882 at Pekin he married Katharina 'Katie' Kinsinger. She was born at Elm Grove Dec. 27, 1862, and died at Deer Creek Oct. 7, 1903, a daughter of Johannes/John Kinzinger and Barbara Wagler. The *New York Times*, Oct. 5, 1886: "(Pekin, Ill.) – A disease resembling hog cholera has killed

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[35] Dec. 4 has been confirmed by German genealogists Hermann Hage and Herbert Holly.

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows an entry for farmer Christian Ish, 40, Germany; and S(blank), 38, male farmer, Germany. The entry was discontinued without explanation.

[36] Passenger list ages were often transcribed from travel documents, which may have been obtained years in advance.

eight cattle out of a fine herd owned by Christian Oesch, in this county. When an animal is taken sick matter discharges from the nose, the head swells badly, and death ensues very quickly. The neighbors of Oesch will appeal to the Livestock Commission for aid." In 1901 Katharina remarried to Christian King.

3. John Oesch was born circa 1856, and is only found on the 1870 census.

Christian submitted a *Delaration of Intent for Naturalization* at Pekin Oct. 17, 1857. It described him as a 38-year-old from Germany, and stated that he arrived at New York Oct. 20, 1848.

Magdalena Zehr died before 1860. On May 8, 1860 in Woodford County, Christian remarried to Marie Abersol/Mary Aversoll. She was born at Xouaxange, Moselle Oct. 11, 1839, and died at Elm Grove April 29, 1884, a daughter of Pierre Abersol and Catherine Pelsy (see ABERSOL for her connection to relatives in the area). She is buried in Railroad Cemetery as 'Maria, wife of Christian.' The headstone says she died April 29, 1884 at 44 years, 6 months, 18 days of age.

Obvious misreports are readily apparent on the census of 1860. Gary L. Yordy pointed out the coincidences in a census entry from Dillon in 1860 that may or may not show this family: farmer Christian Arsk, 35, Bavaria; Mary, 21, France; Madalene, 8, Illinois; Christian, 7, Illinois; and Martin, 30, Hanover.

The family purchased their Elm Grove farm before 1864; it appears clearly labeled on the plat map published that year. They are listed on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as farmer Christian Oesch, 43, Bavaria; Mary, 30, France; Madelaine, 18; Christian, 16; John, 14; Catharine, 11; Joseph, 7; Barbara, 3; and Mary, 1 (all children born in Illinois).

The final entry of the 1880 census of Elm Grove is marked with a phrase that looks like, "found on early Thursday." This entry is so full of errors that it is obvious the clerk did not visit the family. It describes them as farmer Christ Oesch, 56, born in Germany to German parents; Mary, 49, born in Germany to German parents; Christian, 19, 'working farm'; Joseph, 18; Mary, 16; Henry, 14; Lena, 12; Kate, 10; and Barbra, 8.

Christian last appears on a federal census in an error-ridden report for Elm Grove in 1900. The household of son-in-law Frederick Rowell and daughter Leah Oesch: Frederick Roll, 33, born in Iowa in June 1866 [1867]; Leah, 37 [29], born in Illinois in February 1873 [1871] to German parents; Frank, 7, born in Illinois in August 1892; Edward, 5, born in Illinois in July 1894; Elmer, 2 [3], born in Illinois in August 1896; Frederick, 1, born in Illinois in December 1898; and father-in-law Christian Oesch, 79, born in Germany in December 1820 [1819]. Christian's year of immigration is given as 1848.

Christian died at Elm Grove Oct. 12, 1908, and is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, November 1908: "Christian Oesch was born in Germany, Dec. 19, 1818; died Oct. 12, 1908; aged 89 y. 9 m. 24 d. He was married twice, first to Magdalena Zehr; to this union were born three children; then to Mary Ebersole; to this union were born 10 children. He leaves to mourn his departure, three daughters [Magdalena, Maria, and Leah], one brother, 36 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Andrew Schrock; text, *I Cor. 15: 21,22*, and Samuel Gerber, text, *Phil. 1:21*."

Children of Christian Oesch and his second wife Mary Aversoll:

4. Catharine 'Katie' Oesch was born March 15, 1861, and died March 26, 1886; she is buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Tremont. On Feb. 24, 1880 in Tazewell County she married Christian Ludwig Oberlander. He was born in 1850, and died June 15, 1905. They are found on the 1880 census of Dillon as farmer Chris Oberlander, 30, from Württemberg; Catharine, 19, born in Illinois to parents from Berne and France; Ephraim, 2, born in Illinois; and laborer Christian Oesch, 26, born in Illinois to a father from Berne and a mother from France. After Catharine's death Christian remarried. On the 1900 census of Morton: Christian Oberlander, 50, factory worker born February 1850, immigrated in 1860 from Germany; wife Emilie, 45, born June 1854, born in Switzerland. immigrated in 1884; Theophile, 19, born December 1880 in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Illinois; David, 11, born May 1889 in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Switzerland. Emilie Oberlander is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery, June 9, 1854-Feb. 25, 1947, with her second husband Peter Habeger 1840-Sept. 4, 1917.
5. Joseph Oesch was born Oct. 21, 1863 (calculation from headstone) and died Feb. 18, 1886, at 22 years, 3 months, 27 days. He is buried in Railroad Cemetery.
6. Daniel Oesch was born Oct. 7, 1864 and died within a year.
7. Barbara Oesch was born Aug. 2, 1867, and died in 1907. On Oct. 5, 1886 in Tazewell County she married Fred Graf. He was born in 1858 and died in 1928.
8. Maria/Mary Oesch was born at Tremont July 16, 1869, and died at Foosland, Champaign County Dec. 21, 1928. On May 3, 1887 in Tazewell County she married Julius K. Unzicker. He was born at Morton July 1, 1864, and died March 21, 1961, a son of Peter Unzicker and Katharina Kennel. *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 5 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, 5 sons, 9 grandchildren, 2 sisters besides many relatives and friends. Six brothers and 4 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."

9. Leah Oesch was born Feb. 12, 1871, and died March 14, 1947. On Feb. 21, 1891 in Tazewell County she married Frederick Rowell. He was born in Iowa June 20, 1867 and died June 2, 1934. They are found on the 1910 census of Elm Grove as farmer Fred Rowell, 48, born in Illinois to parents from Iowa; Leah, 38, born in Illinois to German parents; and six children born in Illinois. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Tremont.
10. Bena Oesch was born July 16, 1873, and died April 19, 1901. On Sept. 19, 1893 in Tazewell County she married Henry Stamm. They are found on the 1900 census of Hopedale as farmer Henry Stamm, born in Illinois in September 1871 to German parents; Bena, born in Illinois in June 1874 to German parents; and four children born in Illinois. She is buried as 'Benia Oesch, wife of Henry' in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Tremont. 39-year-old Henry is found on the 1910 census of Hopedale with a new wife Lydia, 25, and seven children.
11. Aaron Oesch was born Feb. 16, 1876, and died June 7, 1894. He is buried in Railroad Cemetery.

Ehresman: Ehrismann of the Bärbelsteinerhof

The oldest Swiss record of the surname Ehrismann comes from Schlossrued and Gontenschwil in the district of Kulm, in the area west of Lake Hallwilersee in Canton Aargau, where it is found in the early 1500s.

In 1844 Christian Ehresman settled on a farm at Montgomery, Woodford County. His doorstep was about 50 yards over the boundary line with Tazewell County. Though everyone knew of him, he is better known by his 15 children who grew to adulthood (four did not). They raised families and left hundreds of descendants throughout the area. Some Ehresman descendants may even be surprised to find a connection with Ayersman neighbors.

In addition, Christian had an older sister Barbara and a younger brother Daniel who settled in Tazewell County. A nephew Rudolph arrived later and also established a considerable family in Woodford County.

For all this, the Ehresman record lapsed until descendant Viola Zurlinden made an attempt to re-create it for a family reunion in 1968. Zurlinden's mimeographed handout is dotted with question marks and blank spaces, and tells us almost nothing about the family in Europe. Yet it was an invaluable aid.

Der alte **Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann** was likely born before 1676. (In English *der alte* would be 'senior,' in the sense that he had a son of the same name; when translated literally as 'the elder' it may be confused with a church position).

In 1711 or shortly after he entered into a shared lease with Ŭlrich Nafziger, who may have been his brother-in-law. They farmed the grounds below the ruins of Berwartstein Castle at Erlenbach bei Dahn in the Pfalz, about six miles north of the border with Alsace. These grounds were known as the Bärbelsteinerhof.

The foundations of Berwartstein Castle were carved into a sandstone hilltop in the 12th century. The rubble was then shaped into blocks to form the castle walls. Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa awarded it as a gift to the prince-bishop of Speyer in 1152. In the 1400s the castle and adjoining estate became the home of Hans von Trodt and his 'robber knights.' They feuded with the abbot of Wissembourg, about six miles away.[37] Von Trodt was the model for Hans Trapp, a German folklore figure who roams through villages with the Christ Child on Christmas Day. Hans Trapp threatens children with a stick before they receive their presents. The castle was struck by lightning in 1591, causing damage that made it uninhabitable. This probably allowed it to avoid destruction during the Thirty Years War of 1618-48.

The Treaty of Westphalia that concluded the Thirty Years War held a number of provisions parceling out fiefs to noble families. In Article XXVII the Holy Roman Emperor assigned properties including Berwartstein Castle to the Baron Gerrard of Waldenburg, also known as 'Schenck-heeren.' Amish Mennonite leaseholders negotiated with a local administrator representing the Schenck family.[38]

After 1712 Hans 'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich lived between Niedersteinbach and Lembach on the Alsace-Pfalz border, about eight miles from Berwartstein Castle. He leased grounds near *le Château de Froensbourg*, a ruined sandstone castle that had been used for artillery practice by French troops in 1677. The land was exempt from Alsatian expulsion orders because it belonged to Pfalz-Zweibrücken Wittelsbachs. Thus there was a direct line of influence from Jacob and Ulrich Amman, to Hans *der alte*, to those on the Bärbelsteinerhof.

In 1715 Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann and Ŭlrich Nafziger negotiated an early termination of their lease arrangement. However, even after leaving the Bärbelsteinerhof, both families continued to be associated with the location. Christian Feischert [Fischer] held the lease for the next three years until his death. Minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly of Kŭrzenberg, Canton Bern picked it up in 1718. A list of the marriages he performed there was maintained with Catholic parish records at Niedershlettenbach (two miles below Erlenbach bei Dahn, and two miles above the border with Lower Alsace). It includes a marriage in 1728: "Nicholas Cünzli [Küntzi?], son of Ulrich Cünzli, Anabaptist, married Barbara Ehrismann, daughter of Joannis [Johannes] Ehrismann, Anabaptist." Christian Holi/Holli/Holly also created an entry for the marriage of his daughter Barbara to Ŭlrich Nafziger's son Johannes/Hans Nafziger in 1729. Johannes/Hans Nafziger acted as guarantor for Amish Mennonite leasers of the

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[37] Coincidentally, there was a Catholic Ehrismann family at Seebach, about six miles below Wissembourg.

[38] In this account the noble Schenck family can be easily confused with the Bernese Schenk families. Genealogist Julius Billeter published one detailed genealogy of the Schenk family of Langnau, Canton Bern, and another on the Schenk family of Signau and Röthenbach, Canton Bern. Ŭlrich Nafziger's daughter Barbara married Jacob Schenk [Sr.]. They became co-leasors of the Dalberg estate at Essingen with Ŭlrich's oldest son Johannes/Hans Nafziger. Jacob Schenk [Jr.] married a daughter of Johannes/Hans Nafziger, Katharina Nafziger, who was also his cousin. He was later ordained as an Amish Mennonite minister. He lived on the Dalberg estate with his father-in-law Johannes/Hans Nafziger as late as 1788.

Bärbelsteinerhof as late as 1783.[39] Further background information on the Bärbelsteinerhof will be given in HOCHSTETTLER.

On March 5, 1715, *der alte* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann and Ŭlrich Nafziger leased the Rodenhof at Annweiler, a property of the Cistercian Eusserthal Abbey 12 miles north of Erlenbach bei Dahn. It may seem odd for an Amish Mennonite to rent from a Catholic order, but church properties were actually administered from an 'administration of ecclesiastical estates' organized by the Elector of the Pfalz at Heidelberg. Nafziger negotiated with a local representative of this office. The agreement identified them both as *Wiedertäufer* [Anabaptists]. "Today...appears the aforementioned tenant Nicklas Jung to announce that he intends after agreement with the administrator to cede his lease, just renewed for nine years, against forfeit money to Ŭlrich Naffzier and Hans Jakob Erismann, both Anabaptists residing at B. This transfer has been agreed to by the administrator under the condition that if both of the Anabaptists should be expelled because of their religion before the expiration of the nine-year lease, the following tenants shall compensate the forfeit money as well as those things which they have ameliorated in buildings and/or cultivation. Signed at Eusserthal, the 5th of March, 1715."

Nafziger left Annweiler in 1728 to go to the Obergut at Essingen, another property of the Eusserthal Abbey 11 miles to the east.

A 1743 census of Palatine Mennonite heads of households lists 'Jacob Christmann' – *der alte* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann – among the dozen *Mennoniten* individuals in the category *Oberampt Germersheim Pflege Eusserthal*, properties of the Eusserthal Abbey. He was living on the Laubertal at Lauberwald, near Eusserthal. This was the last time he was mentioned on a census, either because he died or just gave up his lease before 1783.

The older son of *der alte* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann became a leaseholder on the Mechtersheimerhof farm below the city of Speyer. The site would now be described as part of a neighborhood in the village of Mechtersheim in the municipality of Römerberg. Mechtersheim is about four miles from the city of Speyer. The 'early settlers' who came there from Erlenbach bei Dahn are commemorated by a street aptly named *Berwartsteinstrasse*; a few of the original houses still exist.

The nearby city of Speyer has a unique place in Anabaptist history that was certainly known to all of the residents of Mechtersheim.

SPEYER

In 1521 the princes of the Holy Roman Empire held an assembly called the Diet of Worms. They summoned Martin Luther and listened to a partial apology for his writings. After leaving the diet Luther had to be abducted by a friendly prince and hidden in a castle for his own protection from the wrath of the Holy Roman Emperor.

However, in the next few years the German states began to feel threatened from both sides: the French on the west, and the Turks of the Ottoman Empire on the east. A more conciliatory diet met at Speyer in 1526. When many of the princes confessed more sympathy for Lutheranism than Catholicism, the Lutheran minority were labeled 'Protestants' (the origin of the term). The Catholic majority grudgingly conceded that they could be tolerant for the sake of political unity. However, many felt that they had endorsed heresy and harbored bitter feelings.

Catholic clergy expressed their frustration to Emperor Charles V. On Jan. 4, 1528 he published a mandate recommending a death sentence for the crime of Anabaptism, which was considered to be Protestantism carried to its extreme. The Elector of the Pfalz Louis V published his own mandate of condemnation March 5, 1528.

At a third diet at Speyer in 1529, both Catholics and Lutherans fell in line behind their emperor. Together they passed an ecclesiastical mandate that said, "...Every Anabaptist and rebaptized person of either sex should be put to death by fire or sword, or some other way." This resulted in the execution of 350 local residents. As a result many citizens of Speyer grew more sympathetic to the victims and their families.

Anabaptist farmers did not settle on the Mechtersheimerhof until shortly after the War of Palatine Succession (1688-97). A village that stood on the spot had been completely destroyed, and the land was owned by the Eusserthal Abbey. They were pleased to find any tenants who might reclaim the land for agriculture.

Land records preserved at the state archives at Karlsruhe name the leaseholders. In 1738 they were Johannes/Hans Höffli, Jakob Kurtz, Johannes/Hans Nafziger, and Christian Stauffer. In 1743 Christian Bürki, Abraham Kurtz, Christian Nafziger, and Christian Schowalder/Schowalter were added as co-leaseholders. In 1753 Höffli is the sole leaseholder (found as 'Johannes Hoff') with a wife and four children. In 1759 he is still there, sharing the lease with Jakob Müller.

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[39] We notice an unusual convergence of surnames at Gossau, Canton Zurich prior to 1800: Egli, Ehrismann, Fischer, Künzli, and Maurer. Gossau is 4 miles west of Hinwil, in the district of Hinwil. This does not suggest early Zurich connections for the families on the Bärbelsteinerhof. However, it may imply that family members who remained in Switzerland took an interest in this location which is strongly identified with events in early Anabaptist history.

JOHANNES/HANS HÖFFLI (1738).

The spelling of this surname has a number of variations. He may be the Hans Hoff who was later a miller at Mörlheim, a property about 14 miles southwest of Mechtersheim. He was listed there as a tenant on a property owned by the Eusserthal Abbey. A document dated March 12, 1759 found with Mennonite census lists stated his intention to lease the Drehentalerhof at Otterberg (six miles above Kaiserslautern, 12 miles below Dörrmoschel). This property belonged to the Cistercian abbey-church at Otterberg, which came under the Bishop of Speyer and was affiliated with the Eusserthal Abbey. "Oberamt Kaiserslautern: Johannes Hoffle of Hochstetten [Hofstätten], born at Heddesheim on the Counts of Leiningen's territory, requests along with his married son the temporary tenancy of the Heydtweiler glassworks at Drehental for six years, and for a protection certificate." He was almost certainly 'Hans Hofli,' who represented the Hofstätten/Trippstadt congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779. The 1759 census shows him as 'Johannes Hoefli' on the Drehentalerhof with wife Magdalena, son Christian, and daughters Barbara and Magdalena; he is also found there in 1768 as 'Johann Hoefli.' In 1773 he is found in two census reports: on the Drehentalerhof as 'Johannes Hoefli,' with a wife, one son, and four daughters; and as the father in the home of son Christian Höffli at Eselsfürth (now a neighborhood on the northeast corner of Kaiserslautern). In a letter written in 1790 Johannes/Hans Nafziger noted that minister 'Hans Höfflÿ' once lived on the Mechtersheimerhof.

JAKOB KURTZ (1738). See KING.

JOHANNES/HANS NAFZIGER (1738).

Johannes/Hans Nafziger was a son of Ŭlrich Nafziger and Maria Magdalena Güngerich. (In English *der alte* would be 'senior,' in the sense that he had a son of the same name; when translated literally as 'the elder' it may be confused with a church position). He was likely born on the Bärbelsteinerhof circa 1712. He helped to establish the Amish Mennonite rules of faith by organizing the ministers assemblies at Essingen in 1759 and 1779. In 1779 he and Christian Ehrismann were two of the four ministers representing the Essingen congregation. See NAFZIGER for further background.

CHRISTIAN STAUFFER (1738).

Because Christian Stauffer had a name that was very common among Swiss émigrés, it is difficult to separate his information from others. It is likely that he was the person who married Katharina Schantz at Erlenbach bei Dahn Feb. 20, 1727, in a ceremony performed by minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly. It is also likely that he was the Christian Stauffer who sailed from Rotterdam on the *Phoenix* with Abraham Kurtz and Christian Schowalder/Schowalter, arriving at Philadelphia Sept. 15, 1749. He was naturalized with Christian Schowalder/Schowalter the same day at the Philadelphia courthouse. He died at Lebanon (now Annville), Lancaster County May 27, 1782.

CHRISTIAN BŬRKI (1743).

Christian was born circa 1720, a son of Johannes/Hans Bürki and Barbara Güngerich. He married one of the daughters of Johannes/Hans Nafziger and Barbara Holly. In 1768 'Christian Bürcki' and d*er jünge* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann appeared on a list of those who paid the six-guilder fee required from religious minorities for government protection. 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 they moved 22 miles to the southeast, across the Rhine River to the Stift Odenheim estate (*Stifterhof* or 'convent estate') at Tiefenbach in Baden-Durlach. (See BIRKY/BIRKEY).

ABRAHAM KURTZ (1743). See KING.

CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER (1743).

A younger brother of Johannes/Hans Nafziger. He was born circa 1717, and married Elisabeth Linder from Windstein. He and his brother Peter represented the Darmstadt congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779. Several of his great-grandchildren are buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers. (See NAFZIGER).

CHRISTIAN SCHOWALDER/SCHOWALTER (1743).

Christian Schowalter's surname was derived from *Schonwalder* or 'beautiful forest.' His great-grandfather Johan Schonwalder was baptized at Strengelbach near Zofingen in what is now Canton Aargau June 25, 1620. His grandfather Jakob was born at Strengelbach June 18, 1648, and died at Schafbush near Wissembourg, Lower Alsace in April 1731. His father was either Jakob or Ulrich Schowalter. Christian was born at Hanachusheim in the Pfalz circa 1709.[40] Hanachusheim is located about five miles east of Mannheim and the Rhine River, and about three miles north of the university town Heidelberg, which was then the capital of the Pfalz. Christian married Katharina Anna Lehman circa 1735. Land records preserved at the state archives at Karlsruhe name the leaseholders on the Mechtersheimerhof farm below the city of Speyer. In 1738 they were Johannes/Hans Höffli, Jakob Kurtz, Johannes/Hans Nafziger, and Christian Stauffer. In 1743 Christian Bürki, Abraham Kurtz, Christian Nafziger, and Christian Schowalder/Schowalter were added as co-leaseholders. Schowalter sailed from Rotterdam on the *Phoenix* with his wife and children, and arrived at Philadelphia Sept. 15, 1749. A list from the *Oath of Abjuration* at the Philadelphia courthouse names him as 'Chrisian Showalter.' Other names on the list include Abraham Kurtz and Christian Stauffer. Schowalter and Kurtz have been called "the first Amish church leaders in Lancaster County."

[40] Sources that say Christian was born at Schafbush near Wissembourg, Lower Alsace are simply guessing from the known location of some relatives. Hanachusheim is noted in his family *Bible*.

Like so many similar claims, it is doubtful that this is true or would even be provable considering that at the time services were simple meetings in private homes. On Nov. 12, 1750 Christian purchased land on Conestoga Creek, Earl Township, Lancaster County. He remarried to Anna circa 1751. By 1771 they owned 274 acres at Earl Township. Christian kept up a transatlantic correspondence with influential minister Johannes/Hans Nafziger that lasted from his arrival in 1749 until 1788. It is thought that they were the organizers providing information to would-be emigrants. Christian's will was written at Earl Township June 15, 1796, and proven March 16, 1799. His male children were noted as John and Jacob; Jacob was appointed executor of his estate. Some sources say he was buried in a family cemetery at Martindale, Earl Township; others that he was buried at Whitehall Township, Northampton County by his brother Jacob. His original home made from river stone is still standing in Earl Township. (See DELLENBACH for a footnote on his brother Jacob Mathias Schowalter).

JAKOB MÜLLER was a co-leaseholder with Johannes/Hans Höffli in 1759, but did not extend in 1768.[41] He was born circa 1720. We had placed him as a son of Nikolaus Müller, who is found as a tenant at Mühlhofen as early as 1714. However, in *Both Sides of the Ocean* J. Virgil Miller places him as a son of Johannes Müller, a brother to Nikolaus. The Müller family at Mühlhofen came from Münsingen, Canton Bern. In 1753 Jakob appeared on a Mennonite census of Mörzheim (three miles north of Mühlhofen) with a wife (Elisabeth Schenk) and three sons ages 7, 4, and 2. A note to the report said, "Jakob Müller moved here eight years ago from the Pfalz-Zweibrücken village of Mühlhofen onto Velten Petermann's orphans' estate. He will be leaving soon, because the Petermann children wish to farm." From Mörzheim Jakob traveled 16 miles northeast to Mechtersheim. In 1767 he became a co-leaseholder of the Münsterhof at Dreisen (40 miles northwest of Mechtersheim) with Hans Kennel (a stepson of Niclaŭs Brönniman) and David Holly (a son of minister-leaseholder Christian Holi/Holli/Holly of the Bärbelsteinerhof, he married Susannah Fischer, who was a daughter of Benedict Fischer and niece to Ulrich Fischer). At Dreisen Jakob remarried to Anna Brenneman and Anna Jordy. There were multiple marriage connections between families on the Münsterhof, Mechtersheimerhof, and Pfalzhof. (There is no known connection between this family and the Hochburg family in MILLER).

It has already been noted that *der alte* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann had a daughter. Barbara Ehrismann married Nicholas Cünzli [Künzli] at Erlenbach bei Dahn in 1728. The ceremony was performed by minister-leaseholder Christian Holi/Holli/Holly, and the marriage was recorded in the parish register at Niederschlettenbach. Nicholas was described as a son of Anabaptist Ulrich Cünzli.

The older of his two sons was *der jünge* [the younger] Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann. He may be found listed as 'Hans Christmann,' steward at Rodenbach, on the 1743 census of the of the Eusserthal land trusteeship [Ger. *Oberampt Germersheim Pflege Eusserthal*]. While his father had moved over to the Lauberthal estate, he had assumed the Rodenhof lease and become head of household there. The census of 1753 again shows him on the Rodenhof at Annweiler as 'Hans Christmann,' with an annotation that he had a wife and five children, and had been in residence there since before 1744 (indicating that he was in a second nine-year lease, which would have accorded him greater privileges). A list in 1759 shows him only as a tenant of Eusserthal trusteeship property, presumably still the Rodenhof (since Höffli and Müller are mentioned specifically as Mechtersheimerhof tenants).

In 1768 'Johannes Ehrismann' and 'Christian Bürcki' are found as co-leaseholders on the Mechtersheimerhof. In the same year they appear on a list of those who paid the six-guilder fee required from religious minorities for government protection. On a census in 1773, the Mechtersheimerhof is described not as property of the Eusserthal Abbey but as *Kellerei Speyer*, a municipal property of the nearby city of Speyer. The household is described as subtenant and widower Johannes Ehrismann; two sons; one daughter; five farmhands; and three maids.[42]

The nearby cathedral at Speyer was in a ruined state. French soldiers had burned out most of its furnishings in 1689. Restoration was begun in 1758 and mostly completed by 1778.[43] Perhaps we can assume that the two sons of *der alte* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann were given generous lease terms by the municipality. It was in its interest to bring new farmers into the area to provide foodstuffs for the many workmen who were drawn to Speyer.

The tolerant bishop-prince of Speyer once sided with the Amish Mennonites on the Mechtersheimerhof over the interests of a wealthy landowner.[44] The case revolved around the issue of rebaptism. See NAFZIGER for the details of *Dalberg versus Nafziger*.

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[41] He is easy to confuse with another Jakob Müller who leased at nearby Hilsbach (also a property of the Eusserthal Abbey) in 1759 and is also found there in 1768.

[42] Two of his daughters married the same man. Johannes/Hans Nafziger's brother Peter Nafziger (circa 1710-1803) had wives named Maria Schenck and Barbara before remarrying to Elisabeth Ehrismann (children in 1766 and 1769); and then to Barbara Ehrismann (a child in 1779). See NAFZIGER.

[43] The Romanesque cathedral at Speyer was constructed 1030-1061 A.D. Eight emperors and kings and four queens were buried under its center aisle. French soldiers damaged it a second time in 1794, but in 1846-53 it was restored again.

[44] The bishop-prince of Speyer from 1770 to 1800 was Damian August Philipp Karl, count of Limburg-Vehlen-Stirum. His bishopric encompassed 28 square miles on both sides of the Rhine River. The left bank was taken from him by occupying

In 1780 documents pertaining to this legal case listed the two sons of *der alte* Johannes/Hans Jakob living on the Mechtersheimerhof. It was stated that they were members of Nafziger's congregation at Essingen (11 miles west of Mechtersheim).[45]

Circa 1788 Johannes/Hans Nafziger wrote a letter to Christian Schowalter in Pennsylvania saying [Guth's translation], "Further also to report a little about your old home Mettersheimer Hoff, there are now mostly Reformed people living on it. Jacob Ehresman, our cousin, lived there on Herr Sander's farm for a while, recently though, he died, and his widow is now still on it but we don't know for how long, as reports are that the owners of the land want to make a town out of it."

The younger brother of *der junge* Johannes/Hans Jakob Ehrismann was **Christian Ehrismann** (the older). It was traditional for a deacon or minister to be a married man, but his wife has not been identified.

He was one of four deacons or ministers who represented the host congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779 (with Johannes/Hans Nafziger, Christian Nafziger, and Jakob Ullmann).

Before 1787 he relocated about 30 miles west to the area of Dirmstein and Weisenheim am Berg. These villages are within Rheinhessen, a region made up of grain fields and vineyards that grow grapes to make white wines such as *Riesling* and *Liebfraumilch*.

In 1787 the Dutch *Naamlyst* shows ministers Christian Ehresman and Hans Schwarzentruber serving the congregations of Weisenheim am Berg, Eisenberg, and 'Minster' (the Münsterhof at Dreisen). He died before 1790.

It is easy to discern that parents and children from prosperous families tended to head up Amish Mennonite congregations. The position was only viable for those who could take time away from planting and harvesting. New ministers also tended to be the sons of ministers because they were literate – a rare commodity in their culture.[46]

With only the evidence of surviving documents, we can tell something about the personalities of the early Ehrismanns. They chose to be in two unique locations: the first, the Bärbelsteinherhof, where literate individuals with strong religious convictions came together. The second, the Mechtersheimerhof, could be thought of as a staging ground for those who would minister not only in Europe but in America as well.

Christian Ehrismann (the older) certainly had a son Christian, and may have had a younger son Jakob.

- Jakob Ehrismann was born on the Mechtersheimerhof. He married Barbara Höffli. Their son Jakob Johannes Ehresmann established a branch of the family at Neuhausen near Worms. See THE EHRESMAN BRANCH AT NEUHAUSEN.

1. **Christian Ehrismann** (the younger) was likely born before 1746.

Christian Ehrismann (the younger) was likely born before 1746.

He married Barbara Joder/Jotter. She was born in 1746, and died at Dörrmoschel Jan. 20, 1820, a daughter of minister Christian Joder/Jotter of Kleinkarlbach (between Dirmstein and Weisenheim am Berg).[47]

Christian (the younger) and Barbara farmed at Dirmstein (seven miles northeast of Weisenheim am Berg). He died there circa 1789.

French troops in 1792, and a French administration held jurisdiction until 1814. The right bank was occupied by imperial troops of Baden in 1792. It became a permanent part of Baden when national boundaries were redrawn at the Congress of Vienna in 1815. The Congress gave Speyer to the Kingdom of Bavaria as compensation after Salzburg was given to the Austrian government.

[45] The most famous native of Essingen was Johann Georg Nicolay, who became John George Nicolay in Illinois. He was born Feb. 26, 1832, and immigrated with his father in 1837 or 1838. He attended school at Cincinnati, then went to Pike County, Illinois. After editing a newspaper in Pittsfield he became assistant to the secretary of state of Illinois. In 1861 President Abraham Lincoln appointed him as his private secretary. He served throughout the Civil War, then took a post as ambassador to France. From 1872 to 1877 he was marshal of the Supreme Court. He published *The Outbreak of Rebellion* in 1881. From 1886 to 1900 he co-authored a series of biographical pieces on Lincoln; these were later published as 10 volumes. He died Sept. 26, 1901.

[46] Those who could read generally kept no more than *Bible*s, hymnals, almanacs, bookkeeping sheets, and journals for farm notes and home remedies.

[47] Christian Joder/Jotter was described in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany* as a son of Caspar Joder and Magdalena Güngerich of Erbes-Büdesheim, thus a grandson of Caspar Joder and Verena Hoffin. He leased property on the Rosenthalerhof at Kerzenheim (six miles northwest of Weisenheim am Berg). There he became a minister and held services at adjacent Eisenberg. In 1767 he was serving as elder of the congregation at Weisenheim am Berg, the position later held by Christian Ehrismann (the older). In 1778 he relocated to become co-leaseholder on the Ripperterhof at Ramsen (adjacent to Kerzenheim and Eisenberg). He and Christian Gungerich attended the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779 as representatives of the Münsterhof at Dreisen. Joder/Jotter died at Ramsen in 1785.

Before 1804 widow Barbara relocated to Dörrmoschel (30 miles west of Dirmstein) and remarried to Christian Egli. He was born circa 1748, and died at Dörrmoschel July 5, 1822, a son of Jacob Egli and his first wife Anna Kennel.. At Dörrmoschel they resided on the Oberhof, then in House No. 35.

Children of Christian Ehrismann and Barbara Joder/Jotter, presumably all born at Dirmstein, include:

1. Barbara Ehresmann was born circa 1773, and died in House No. 1 at Dörrmoschel Feb. 25, 1846.
2. **Johannes Ehresmann** (#1) was born July 12, 1774, and died on the Gutes Obermönsheim at Wimsheim, Württemberg Nov. 17, 1838. In 1796 he married Veronika Egli/Veronica Egly.
3. Maria Elisabeth Ehresmann was born circa 1775, and died in 1846. On July 19, 1804 at Dörrmoschel she married Georg Güngerich. He was born in February 1769, a son of Georg Güngerich and Veronica Joder.
4. **Christian Ehresmann** was born circa 1779, and died at Dörrmoschel Feb. 16, 1837. In 1806 he married Elisabeth Egli.
5. Jakobina/Jacobine Ehresmann was born March 12, 1780, and died after 1822. On Jan. 10, 1807at Obermönsheim she married Heinrich Egli, who succeeded his father as leaseholder on the Lärchenhof farm at Wimsheim. He was born May 10, 1786, and died on the Lärchenhof Sept. 20, 1841, a son of Jakob Egli and Magdalena Frei. According to the Wimsheim *Familien Register*, they had eight children on the Lärchenhof.
6. Magdalena Ehresmann was born circa 1782, and died in House No. 1 at Dörrmoschel Oct. 31, 1853. On Aug. 15, 1816 at Dörrmoschel she married Andreas Egli. He was born in 1779, and died at Obermönsheim Sept. 26, 1819, a son of Jacob Egli and his second wife Anna Magdalena Brenneman.
7. **Jacob Ehresmann** (as he signed his given name, rather than the German 'Jakob') was born circa 1786, and died in Woodford County after 1864. He married Veronica Eyer.
8. Anna Katharina Ehresmann was born circa 1788, and died in Butler County, Ohio Sept. 4, 1870. On Nov. 24, 1811 she became the second wife of Joseph Imhoff. See IMHOFF for background on this couple.

- In earlier versions of this text we wrote that a Johannes Ehresmann born circa 1789 may have belonged to this family, though we could not explain his redundant first name. Helmut Gingerich proposes that he was instead a son of Johannes Ehrismann and Marie Jungerich (see ERISMANN IN BUREAU COUNTY).

Johannes Ehresmann

Johannes Ehresmann was born was born July 12, 1774, and died on the Gutes Obermönsheim at Wimsheim, Württemberg Nov. 17, 1838.

On Aug. 10, 1796 he married Veronika Egli/Veronica Egly. She was born on the Obermönsheim estate at Wimsheim, Württemberg (50 miles southeast of the Mechtersheimerhof) in October 1776, and died there March 2, 1829, a daughter of Martin Egli and his second wife Elisabetha Kaufmann.

Wimsheim is in the Heckengäu, a region characterized by small farms tucked between rolling hills, with orchards and hedges as natural boundaries. In medieval times the village was protected by the barons Phull-Rüppurr, who lived in their castle Schloss Obermönsheim, adjacent to the Lärchenhof farm. The castle was constructed before 1340 A.D., and expanded in 1650. The property surrounding the castle was called the Gutes [estate] Obermönsheim. Although some of the grounds are still farmed, a portion has returned to forest, and another portion has become the home of the Stuttgarter Golf Club. The castle burned after artillery bombardment in 1918, but still appears on the city flag of Mönsheim.

After the Holy Roman Empire was dissolved in 1806, Württemberg became a kingdom with Stuttgart as its capital. Stuttgart is about 20 miles southeast of Wimsheim. Although close to the capital, Wimsheim was also within walking distance of Württemberg's border with Baden (the nearby city of Pforzheim, seven miles to the west, was actually in Baden). In 1809 the village became part of the administrative district of Leonburg, Württemberg.[48] The kingdom joined the Germanic Confederation in 1815.

Before a civil system of recordkeeping was established in Württemberg, village churches often recorded the life events of *Wiedertäufer* or *Mennoniten* on behalf of local administrators. Ehrismann births, deaths, and marriage entries are found in the *Familienbuch Register* kept at the *Evangelische* church at Wimsheim. The register also indicates that oldest daughter Barbara and oldest son Christian were not baptized until 15 years of age. In the column *'Confirmation oder Einste Communion*, ' Barbara *'wurde getauft Marz 1812'* while Christian *'wurde getauft im Jahr 1814.'* [49] Presumably this demonstrated that legal obligations were met and the family was indeed *Mennonit* (as noted elsewhere on the page), and no notations were entered for later children.

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[48] In present day Wimsheim lies in the district of Enz, in the region of Heckengäu, in the German state of Baden-Württemberg. It is on the southwest side of Mönsheim, and is easy to confuse with Wiernsheim, a village only 4 miles to the north that touches Mönsheim's north side.

[49] *'Getauft'* can also mean 'christened,' since baptism and christening were one event performed upon a newborn in the Catholic and *Evangelische* churches. But in this event it clearly refers to an adult baptism.

Children of Johannes Ehresmann and Veronika Egli/Veronica Egly born at Wimsheim include:

1. Barbara Ehresmann was born Aug. 27, 1797, and died in Tazewell County Aug. 31, 1861. On July 20, 1820 she married Benjamin Rediger. He was born circa 1799, and died at Wimsheim on or before Feb. 3, 1848, a son of Jakob Reŭtiger and Jacobea/Jakobina Güngerich. Although Benjamin came to Illinois with the two children from an earlier marriage in 1834, Barbara came as a widow with her children in 1849. For background on this couple see REDIGER.
2. **Christian Ehresmann/Ehresman** was born March 16, 1799, according to the Wimsheim *Familien Register*. However, when he died Aug. 11, 1874, his obituary said he was "aged 74 years, 4 months and 25 days." His headstone in Slabtown Cemetery also says, "Christian Ehresman died Aug. 11, 1874 aged 74 Y. 4 M. & 25 D." This erroneous calculation would yield a birth date of March 16, 1800.[50]
3. Elizabeth Ehresmann was born June 6, 1802, and died Dec. 21, 1804.
4. Magdalena Ehresmann was born Feb. 22, 1804, and died at Wimsheim Dec. 22, 1837.
5. Jakob Ehresmann was born May 20, 1806, and died on the Johannistalerhof at Königsbach May 23, 1853. He married Katharina Eyer in Baden. She was born in 1800, and died at Muhlhausen May 1, 1860, a daughter of Daniel Eyer and Barbara Detweiler. Their son Rudolph Ehrisman and his wife Veronika Reidiger/Veronica Rediger settled at Linn, Woodford County in 1869. [51]

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[50] Headstone calculations were usually not literal but figurative; they assumed each month to be 30 days.

[51] Königsbach is a village above Pforzheim and 17 miles northwest of Wimsheim. Nearby Anabaptist meeting places included the Johannistalerhof, Remchingen, and the Katharinentaler Hof. *The Global Anabaptist Encyclopedia Online*: "After the Thirty Years' War, Swiss Mennonites settled in Königsbach. On Aug. 24, 1661 these Mennonites requested that the margrave of Baden confirm their former 'privileges.' A congregation was organized; a church book has been preserved, giving information dated 1766, besides entries on births, weddings, and funerals for the period 1815-1869. Of frequent occurrence are the names Ehrismann, Kempf, Täuscher, Wagner, and Wolber; there are references to families by the name of Egli, Eyer, Funk, Katz, and Oesterle."

Fortunately, the village church maintained a special book for the marriage, birth, and death entries called *Familien Register der Wiedertäufer auf dem Johannisthalerhof*. It has been preserved by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on FHL microfilm. The book indicates that Christian Ehresman's two younger brothers Jakob (married to Katharina Eyer) and Daniel (married to Catherine Wolber) farmed the Johannistalerhof estate. (The Johannistalerhof has kept its name, but is now a golf course).

The entries also answer a longstanding Woodford County genealogy question: who was Linn farmer Rudolph Ehrisman? We now know that Rudolph was born Nov. 21, 1842, a son of Jakob Ehresmann and Katharina Eyer.

On No. 12, 1865 at Königsbach Rudolph married Veronika Reidiger/Veronica Rediger. Minister Christian Egly of Mönsheim performed the ceremony. The bride was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden Jan. 10, 1842 (the date given on her marriage entry; her obituary says Feb. 7), a daughter of Jacob Reidiger/Rediger and Magdalena Schrag.

Two more entries found at Königsbach document the death of a son and the birth of a daughter. Emil Ehrismann (born in another community) died Sept. 23, 1867. Eliza (later found as Elise) was born on the Johannistalerhof estate Oct. 7, 1867; she married William Ropp in Tazewell County. In the July 2014 issue of *Mennonite History Magazine*, Neil Ann Stuckey Levine and Duane L. Egle identify three more children: a stillborn male who was delivered Sept. 2, 1865, before their marriage; Heinrich, who was born and died in July 1868, and a stillborn female delivered July 31, 1869.

According to the *Baden Emigration Index*, Rudolph Ehrisman of Königsbach applied to emigrate in 1869 with his wife and daughter. They sailed from Bremen on the *Cimbria*, arriving at New York Sept. 24, 1869. The passenger list describes them as Rudolf Erismann, 27; Veronika, 27; and Elise, 11 months. They farmed at Linn, Woodford County, where Rudolph died Nov. 19, 1895. Veronika/Veronica died at Hopedale Dec. 4, 1922, and is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, December 1922: "Veronica (Rediger) Ehrisman was born in Baden, Germany, Feb. 7, 1842, and died Dec. 4, 1922, at the home of her daughter Mrs. Simon Litwiller near Hopedale, Ill., where she had made her home. She with her husband Rudolph Ehrisman, who preceded her in death Nov. 19, 1895, came to America 54 years ago, locating in Woodford Co., Ill. To this union were born nine children - five sons and four daughters. Five sons and one daughter preceded her in death. She leaves three daughters, 19 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, four brothers, and two sisters. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her youth and remained in that faith. Funeral services were held Dec. 6 near Hopedale, Ill., conducted by Samuel Gerber assisted by home ministers. Text, *Heb. 4:9*."

Eliza or Elise Ehrisman married William Ropp in Tazewell County Feb. 13, 1890. He was born Dec. 30, 1866, and died at Tremont April 18, 1935, a son of Joseph W. Ropp and Catherine 'Kate' Ropp Gerber (see ROPP). Elise died at Tremont March 8, 1939. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, March 1939: " Ropp. - Elise, daughter of Rudolph and Veronica Rediger Ehrisman, was born Oct. 7, 1867, in Baden, Germany; died at her home near Tremont, Ill., March 8, 1939; aged 71 y. 5 m. 1 d. On Feb. 13, 1890, she was united in marriage with William Ropp, who preceded her in death almost four years ago. One daughter (Mrs. Etta Roth, Morton, Ill.) and one son (William, Jr., Tremont), survive her, together with three grandchildren and two sisters (Mrs. Joseph Zimmerman, San Diego, Calif., and Mrs. Simon Litwiller, Minier, Ill.), and a host of relatives and friends. She accepted Christ in her youth uniting with the Mennonite Church of which she remained a faithful member until her end. She was always a kind mother, exercising a Christian spirit to all. Services were held from the

6. Johannes/John Ehresmann was born May 5, 1808, and died at Remchingen .Jan. 6, 1835.
7. Heinrich Ehresmann was born Sept, 19, 1810, and died at Wimsheim May 1, 1816. The death entry identifies his father as a *Wiedertäufer* leaseholder at Obermönsheim.
8. Peter Ehresmann was born Feb. 14, 1812, and died at Mühlhausen Jan. 19, 1873,. On Feb. 25, 1840 at Wimsheim he married Magdalena Müller. She was born at Monsheim in August 1809, and died at Muhlhausen Jan. 10, 1868, a daughter of Peter Müller and Barbara Krehbiel. Peter became leaseholder on the Gutes Obermönsheim.
9. Elizabetha Ehresmann was born Oct. 10, 1814, and died at Wimsheim Jan. 20, 1835.
10. Daniel Ehresmann/Ehresman was born June 29, 1818, and died in Illinois before 1870. On July 26, 1840 on the Johannistalerhof at Königsbach he married Catherine Wolber. She was born there Jan. 13, 1820, a daughter of Christian Wolber and Catherine/Katharina Eyer. The details of the marriage were also recorded at Wimsheim. See the Appendix, WOLBER for background on her family. Daniel brought his family to America from Königsbach circa 1852-58. His household is shown on the 1860 census of Montgomery, on the census page before his older brother Christian: farmer Daniel Ayrsman, 42, Baden; Catherine [Wolber], 40, Baden; Elizabeth, 18, Baden; Christian, 15, Baden; Susan, 12, Baden; Magdalene, 12, Baden; Veronica, 10, Baden; Jacob H. [Jacobine], 8, Baden; and Barbara, 1, Illinois. We suspect that father Daniel died before 1870, when the same family appears on the census of Deer Creek: farmer Christian Ehrisman [the oldest son], 25, Baden; Fany, 20, Baden; Phoeby, 18, Baden; Barbaray, 12, Illinois; Daniel, 7, Illinois; and Catherine Ehrisman [the mother Catherine Wolber], 50, Baden, 'insane.' We speculate that Catherine Wolber was the same person as Catharine Ehrisman, a patient admitted from Tazewell County, who died at the Illinois Central Hospital for the Insane at Jacksonville July 25, 1870. She was likely buried without a headstone on former hospital grounds that now hold the Prairieland Heritage Museum. In 1880 sons Christian and Daniel appear on the census of Danvers: Christian Ehrisman, 35, born in Baden to parents from Württemberg and Baden; Catharine, 31, born in Illinois to parents from France and Bavaria; John H., 8, Illinois; Albert J., 5, Illinois; Mary E., 3, Illinois, and William D., 7 months, Illinois; and Daniel, brother, 17, works on farm, born in Illinois to parents from Württemberg and Baden. The children of Daniel Ehresman and Catherine Wolber used the spelling 'Ehrisman' in adulthood. All but their last two children were born on the Johannistalerhof:
    a. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Ehrisman was born Jan. 21, 1842, and died in McLean County June 13, 1903. On Nov. 9, 1862 she married Jonathan J. Lantz. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio Aug. 5, 1839, and died Dec. 23, 1918, a son of Jonathan Lantz and Anna Yoder. Jonathan became a farmer and lawyer at Smithfield, Nebraska. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
    b. Katharina Ehrismann was born Nov. 21, 1843.
    c. Christian Ehrismann (later known as Christian D. Ehrisman) was born Dec. 19, 1844, and died at Manson, Iowa Aug. 21, 1920. In 1870 in Woodford County he married Catherine Yotty. She was born in Woodford County in February 1850, and died in Iowa in 1912, a daughter of Christian Yotty and Katharina/Catherine Stalter. They are found on censuses at Danvers in 1880 (see above), and Concord, Nebraska in 1910. Christian is found on the Manson census in 1920. They are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery at Manson.
    d. Jakobina Ehrismann was born May 9, 1846, and died there March 6, 1848.
    e. Susanna/Susan Ehrisman (twin) was born Feb. 3, 1848. She is found living with her twin sister Magdalena on the 1880 census of Dry Grove.
    f. Magdalena Ehrisman (twin) was born Feb. 3, 1848, and died in McLean County April 13, 1916. On Nov. 29, 1869 in Woodford County she married Joseph E. Gerber. He was born Sept. 28, 1844, and died in McLean County Aug. 14, 1897, a son of Joseph Gerber and Magdalena Sommer. They are found on the 1880 census of Dry Grove as farmer Joseph Gerber, 35, born in Illinois to parents from France and Switzerland; Magdalene, 32, born in Prussia to parents from Prussia; four children born in Illinois; Susan Ayersman [Ehresman], 33, housekeeper born in Prussia to parents from Prussia [Magdalena's sister]; and farmhand Fred Burkey, 21, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
    g. Veronika/Veronica 'Fanny' Ehrisman was born July 28, 1849, and died in McLean March 9, 1872. She is buried in Imhof Cemetery at Danvers.
    h. Jakobina/Jacobine 'Phoebe' Ehrisman was born July 13, 1851, and died in McLean County April 9, 1875. She is buried in Imhof Cemetery at Danvers.
    i. Barbara Ehrisman was born in Illinois circa 1858-59.
    j. Daniel Ehrisman was born in Illinois June 18, 1862, and died in McLean County March 10, 1942. On March 28, 1899 at Danvers he married Magdalena Augspurger; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born Oct. 3, 1864, and died Oct. 15, 1948, a daughter of

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home in charge of Bro. Jonas Litwiler, and from the Pleasant Grove Mennonite church in charge of the brethren, H. R. Schertz and Leland A. Bachman. Burial in church cemetery."

There is one more note of significance to the Ehresman connection with the Johannistalerhof estate at Königsbach. By the time the Ehresman brothers arrived there, the estate was populated by the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Benedikt 'Benz' Eyer. The sixth child of Benedikt was Hans Jakob Eyer, also known as 'Hans Oyer *der alte*,' or as we put it Johannes/Hans Oyer. There were to be many marriage connections between Ehresmans and Oyers in Central Illinois.

Christian Augspurger and Anna Mosiman. They are found on the 1930 census of Normal, McLean County as Daniel Ehrisman, 67, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; and Magdalena, 65, born in Illinois to a father born in the United States and a mother born in Ohio. They are buried in Imhof Cemetery at Danvers.

Christian Ehresman probably left Wimsheim as a young, single farm laborer. The Ehrismann and Egli families on the Obermönsheimerhof and Lärchenhof already accounted for 25 children in his generation; the acreage would not have sustained many more.

Young males generally found employment in their immediate community, or a community where their family may have lived earlier. They sought brides in well-to-do families, so that they could start married life with a dowry (often given in the form of land) and raise their family sharing the maternal family's assets. They also found matches in the families of new arrivals to their community (they had a general sense of the problems of intermarriage), or looked for brides at distant locations where the congregations had ties to their own.

Christian married three times, each time to a sister from the same family. They were daughters of Johannes/John Barnett and Katharina Güngerich. The Barnetts came from the Rhein-Neckar 'Kreis' or county of the District of Karlsruhe, Baden via Butler County, Ohio.[52]

First wife Magdalena Barnett had six children in Germany, and died there in 1834.

1. **Jacob 'Jake' Ehresman** was born July 30, 1825, and died at Drummer, Ford County March 12, 1899; he is buried in Drummer Township Cemetery as 'Jacob Ayresman.'
2. Johann/John Ehresman was born at Gailingen am Hochheim (six miles east of Schaffhausen) May 12, 1828, baptized there May 15, and died at Gridley Dec. 13, 1891. His baptism entry described him as Johann Baptist Ehrismann, a son of Christian Ehrismamn and Magdalena Bernit. On Nov. 16, 1858 he married Catherine 'Katie' Sommer. She was born at Montgomery in 1838, and died Jan. 26, 1913, a daughter of Peter Sommer and Catherine Schertz. The Sommers were neighbors to the Ehresmans at Montgomery. They are found on the 1870 census of Waldo as farmer John Ehrsman, Baden; Catherine, 31, Illinois; Peter, 10, Illinois; Barbara, 8, Illinois; and Joseph, 4, Illinois. They are listed on the same page as John's cousins Joseph and John Rediger. Their household can be found on the 1880 census of Waldo as farmer John Ehreesman, 52, born in Baden to a father from Württemberg and a mother from Baden; Katherine, 43, born in Illinois to parents from Alsace; and five children born in Illinois. In 1875 John and Katie donated land that was used for a meeting house. On July 23, 1898, Katie and her children provided the land that was used for the Salem Defenseless Christian Church (later the Salem Evangelical Mennonite Church) at Gridley.
3. Elisabetha 'Lizzie' Ehresman was born at Gailingen am Hochheim Sept. 11, 1830, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 27, 1902. On April 21, 1850 she married Jakob/Jacob Zehr, who became minister and elder of the Mackinaw meeting. He was born at Mannried, Bavaria Sept. 17, 1825, and died at Deer Creek Feb. 22, 1898, a son of Daniel Zehr and Magdalena Unzicker. They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.
4. Magdalena Ehresman was baptized at Gailingen am Hochheim Oct. 15, 1831, and died there Dec. 30, 1831.
5. Christian Ehresman was born at Gailingen am Hochheim Oct. 13, 1832, and died Feb. 14, 1893. His baptism entry described his parents as Christian Ehrismann and Magdalena Bernet. On Aug. 30, 1857 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Wagler; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Ropp. She was born in Alsace Jan. 13, 1831, and died at Pike, Livingston County Dec. 7, 1870, a daughter of Jacob Wagler and Magdalena Röschli (found as Reschly and Roeschley). *Gospel Herald*, February 1871: "On the 7th of December, in Livingston county, Ill., Magdalena Erisman, daughter of Jacob Wagler, in the 42nd year of her age. She was buried on the 9th. Funeral sermons were preached by Chr. Schloegel and John P. Schmitt from *I Cor. 15*. The deceased leaves her aged parents, a deeply afflicted husband and seven children to mourn her sudden departure. She bore her affliction with patience and asked her friends to forgive her if she in any way wronged them, and committed her soul into the hands of her Creator saying, 'The Lord's will be done - I am prepared to die.' Dear reader, let us reflect upon these words. J.P. Schmitt." The 1880 census of Pike shows farm laborer Christian Ehresman, 47, in the household of August Bauman; he was born in Württemberg to parents from Württemberg. In about 1888 Christian remarried to Mary Oyer. She was born at Farmdale Feb. 27, 1859 (and thus was younger by 27 years), and died Feb. 22, 1890, a daughter of John Oyer and Anna Farney. This may be the marriage entry recorded in Livingston County Aug. 4, 1888 for 'Christian Ehrsman' and 'Marg Oyer.' Her headstone in West Fairview Mennonite Cemetery at Beaver Crossing, Nebraska says, "Mary Ehresman, wife of Christian Ehresman, died Feb. 22, 1890 aged 31 years," while the *Herald of Truth*, March 1890 issue published this obituary: "On the 24th of February, near Milford, Seward county,

[52] Very little is known about this couple. Johannes/John came to Butler County, Ohio, then ministered briefly to the Mackinaw meeting before his death in 1846. His daughters Magdalena, Anna, and Veronica Barnett successively married Christian Ehresman. Phoebe Barnett married Christian König/King (they settled in Dry Grove), and Elizabeth Barnett married his brother Michael König/King (they settled in Dry Grove and Montgomery). See KING, THE KÖNIGS OF NIMBURG. The surname Barnett may have been derived from the Bernese 'Bernert'; it is also found as 'Barnhardt.'

Nebraska, of consumption, wife of Christian Erisman, aged 31 years, three months and nine days. She was a member of the Egli church. She was buried in John Stehley's graveyard. Services by Chris. Yeckley and Joseph Rediger. *Text 2 Tim. 1:7-10*."

6. Jacobina 'Phoebe' Ehresman was born at Gailingen am Hochheim March 11, 1834, and died May 2, 1902 (headstone date). Her birth entry describes her as Jacobina Ehrismann. At Little Mackinaw in 1858 she married Christian Guth/Good. He was born at Burgwalden, Bavaria Feb. 4, 1833, and died Sept. 26, 1889 (headstone date), a son of Christian Guth and Barbara Christner. Their household appears on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer Christian Gutt, 47, Bavaria; Phoebe, 46, born in Württemberg to parents from Württemberg; and seven children born in Illinois. They are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale. *Herald of Truth*, May 1903: "On May 4, 1903, at her home near Milner [Minier], Ill., of diabetes, Jacobina Good, nee Erisman, aged 69 Y., 1M., 15D. The last few weeks of her life she suffered greatly. She leaves seven children and 38 grandchildren to mourn her loss, but not as those who have no hope. She was loved by all who knew her and was a true pattern of Christianity. Her life companion preceded her to the spirit world fourteen years ago. Funeral services on the 6th at the A.M. meeting house, where a large concourse of friends assembled to pay a last tribute of respect. Services by Bish J.C. Berky, Pre. Dan Zehr in German, and Pre. Samuel Gerber in English."

Magdalena died shortly after giving birth to Jacobina. Her sister Anna Barnett may have married Christian within a few months. One of their first decisions of married life must have involved the question of emigration.

The mid-1800s saw a rush of emigrants departing Germany to go to North America. This was part of an overall trend, as the entire lower-middle class of farmers were being squeezed out of the economy and social structure.

Overpopulation was reaching a level where it was difficult for sons to find the generous lease terms on out-of-the-way estates that their parents and grandparents had found. It was also much less likely that they would find forest that could be cleared, swamps that could be drained, or spent land that could be reclaimed over a few years by fertilization.

However, they could use their savings to emigrate, then purchase uncultivated land in America for as little as $1.25 (the standard price for public land in Central Illinois in the 1830s). Land on the American prairies kept this price as late as the late 1850s, when the self-cleaning plow invented by John Deere made it practical to till through the sun-hardened crust.

Industrialization accelerated the waves of emigration. Once young men and women realized that others were leaving their family farms to go to the cities, it was easier to take the alternative step and emigrate. They often journeyed with extended families and formed new American congregations with others from their region.

The ship *Troy* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York City Nov. 10, 1836. The Ehresmans are found on the passenger list in a group of travelers from Baden: Christian Ehresman, 36; Anna, 22; Jacob, 10; Johann, 7; Elisabeth, 4; Christina [Christian], 3; Jacobina, 2; and Daniel, 1. According to the *Troy* passenger list, Daniel died at sea Oct. 26, 1836.

The *Troy* passenger list also included Johann Bernett, 67, Christian's father-in-law; and Veronia [Veronica Barnett], 12, who would later become Christian's third wife. A portion of the list is given in KING, THE KÖNIGS OF NIMBURG.

The Ehresman family initially settled in Ohio. It is thought that they lived in Butler County, but this could not be confirmed.

'Christian Herisman' is found on the 1840 census of McLean County (before the establishment of Woodford County). His household appears as one male 40-49 years oa age; two males 10-14; two males under 5; one female 20-29; two females 5-9; and one female under 5.

Anna died in Ohio before March 1843. Her children include:

7. Daniel Ehresman was born in Germany in 1836. According to the *Troy* passenger list he died at sea Oct. 26, 1836.
8. Peter Ehresman was born in Ohio March 5, 1837 (his headstone says 1836), and died at El Paso, Woodford County Dec. 2, 1893.[53] On May 31, 1863 at Slabtown he married Barbara Sommer. She was born in Montgomery Township March 2, 1844, and died at Gridley Jan. 29, 1914, a daughter of Peter Sommer and Catherine Schertz. The *Illinois Public Domain Land Sales Database* shows Peter Ehresman as the purchaser of 39.64 acres at Gridley May 31, 1869, at $14 per acre. They are found on the 1880 census of Gridley as farmer Peter Ehresman, 42, born in Ohio to parents from Württemberg; Barbara, 33, born in Illinois to parents from France; and nine children born in Illinois. They had 12 children. The family worshipped at the Salem Defenseless Mennonite Church, where Peter became a deacon in 1883. While transporting lumber for a new barn, a train startled his horse team, and Peter was thrown from his

[53] According to Zurlinden and other sources, Peter Ehresman was born in Ohio March 5, 1836. However, this conflicts with the *Troy* passenger list, which was not known to her. It is probable that he was born the following spring.

buggy. Complications from the injuries caused him to develop pneumonia, and he died in the Clifton House at El Paso. They are buried under a joint headstone in Waldo Cemetery at Gridley.

9. Fanny Ehresman was born in Ohio in 1838, and died in 1862 or 1863. On Feb. 7, 1860 in Woodford County she married Johannes König, also known as John R. King. He was born in Baden Sept. 16, 1825, and died April 25, 1895, a son of Johannes König and Jakobea Rediger. They are found on the 1860 census of Dry Grove, McLean County. See KING for more on John and his second marriage to Maria/Mary Ringenberg.
10. Maria/Mary Ehresman was born in Ohio Nov. 30, 1839, and died at Washington May 8, 1894. On March 5, 1861 in Woodford County she married John Guth. He was born at Washington May 10, 1840, and died there Oct. 8, 1896, a son of Peter Guth and Susanna/Susan Oyer. They appear on the 1880 census of Washington as John Guth, 40, born in Illinois to a father from Bavaria and a mother from France; Mary, 40, born in Ohio to a father from Bavaria and a mother from France; and nine children born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, June 1894: "On the 8th of May 1874 near Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., sister Maria Ehresman, wife of John Good. Buried on the 10th in the Washington cemetery. Sister Maria was married on the 5th of March 1861. The union was blessed with 10 children. There are also 14 grandchildren. She was a beloved mother and wife and a faithful follower of Christ in our denomination. Funeral services by the writer and Pre. Koenig of the Deer Creek Cong. and Emanuel Hartman from *Isa. 18* and *38:12, 13*. A large concourse of friends followed her remains to the grave. Michael Kinsinger." John Guth remarried Oct. 15, 1895 to Catherine Schlegel, widow of John Gascho, but John is buried in Glendale Cemtery with Maria/Mary.
11. Anna 'Nancy' Ehresman was born in Illinois Feb. 22, 1841, and died at Hopedale April 11, 1909. On March 8, 1864 in Tazewell County she married Peter Litwiller; the ceremony was performed by minister Jacob Zehr. He was born at Milford, Butler County Sept. 9, 1839, and died at Hopedale June 28, 1900, a son of Joseph Litwiller and Barbe/Barbara Ulrich. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, May 1909: "Died near Hopedale, Ill., on April 11, 1909, Sister Anna Litwiller, maiden name Erisman, after an illness of about two months from dropsy; aged 68 y. She leaves to mourn her departure one son, two daughters and 12 grandchildren. Sister Litwiller was an exemplary Christian. She had many trials and sorrows in her life but remained patient and faithful to the end. We feel assured that all is well with her. Funeral April 14, conducted by Andrew Schrock and Sam Garber."

Third sister Veronica 'Fannie' Barnett was born in Baden July 20, 1824, and died at Goodfield, Woodford County Nov. 24, 1895. The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* indicates that 'Christian Aresman' and 'Franey Barnett' were married in McLean County March 18, 1844. Zurlinden wrote, "The story is commonly told that when he [Christian] married his first wife, he was carrying his third wife in his arms."

According to Steve Estes in *A Goodly Heritage: A History of the North Danvers Mennonite Church*, the Ehresman family resettled in Illinois in 1844. They purchased a farm on the Woodford County side of Deer Creek. The household appears on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Christian Aysman, 50, Germany; Fany, 26, Germany; John, 22, Germany; Christian, 15, Germany; Phebe, 16, Germany; Peter, 13, Germany; Fany, 12, Ohio; Mary, 11, Illinois; Nancy, 8, Illinois; Madalene, 5, Illinois; Barbary, 4, Illinois; and Catharina, 2, Illinois.

According to the obituary of son Joseph, his childhood recollections included seeing lawyer Abraham Lincoln stopping at their home to water his horse. Lincoln was traveling between the 8th Circuit courts on his way from Bloomington to Metamora.

They can be found on the 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County living next door to Christian Oyer: Christian Ayresman, 60, farmer, Stuttgart; Frana, 35, Baden; Peter, 23, farm laborer, Ohio; Mary, 20, Ohio; Nancy, 17, Illinois (all remaining children born in Illinois); Magdalene, 16; Barbara, 13; Catherine, 11; Susan, 7; Joseph, 9; Lydia, 3; and Samuel, 4 months. The Ehresman family also appears on a federal list of excise tax collected in Division 6, District 8 in 1865. On Feb. 16 Christian Ehresman of Farnisville (Farnisville was at the center of Montgomery Township) paid five percent tax on $303.50 amounting to $15.15.

We initially overlooked the household on the 1870 census of Montgomery, until Terry Bowen brought it to our attention: farmer Christian Emson, 70, Baden; Fannie, 60, Baden; Catharine, 20, Baden; Barbara, 21, Baden; Susan, 16, Illinois; Liddy, 13, Illinois; Jacob, 7, Illinois; farm hand Samuel, 12, Illinois; farm hand Joseph, 19, Illinois; and farm hand Henry Shaw, 21, Illinois. The 1873 plat map of Montgomery shows the 200-acre property of 'C. Ehrismann.'

Christian died at Montgomery Aug. 11, 1874. *Gospel Herald*, September 1874: "Aug. 11th, in Woodford Co., Ill., of dropsy of the heart, Christian Erisman, aged 74 years, 4 months and 25 days. He leaves a bereaved wife and 15 children, who were all present before his death. Remarks suitable to the occasion were made by Joseph Stuckey, from *1 Peter 1:24*. - Peace to his ashes." He is buried in Slabtown Cemetery.

Widow Veronica's household appears on the 1880 census of Montgomery as Fannie Ehresman, 53, born in July in Germany to German parents; Katie, 29, born in April in Illinois to parents from Germany; Samuel, 20, born in December in Illinois to parents from Germany; and Jacob, 18, born in Illinois in August to parents from Germany.

Veronica died at Goodfield Nov. 24, 1895, and was buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek. Her headstone says she was the wife of 'C. Ehresmann.' *Herald of Truth*, December 1895: "Veronica Ehrisman was born on the 20th of July, 1824, in Baden, Germany. She came with her father to America in 1837, and was married to Christian Ehresman in 1843. This union was blessed with nine children. Eight children and 24 grandchildren survive. Sister Ehresman died of heart disease on the 24th of November, 1895, at her home near Goodfield, Woodford Co., Ill. Although suffering of heart disease for sometime her sudden death was unexpected by the family. Her remains were laid to rest on the 27th in Mt. Zion graveyard. Funeral services by Michael Kinsinger from *2 Cor. 5*, Peter Shantz and others from *2 Kings 20:1* and *1 Cor. 15*. Sister Ehresman was a faithful member in the Amish Mennonite church. Michael Kinsinger."

Veronica's children were all born in Illinois.

12. Benjamin Ehresman was born circa 1844, and lived only nine months. This would strongly suggest that Veronica was pregnant at the time of her marriage to Christian in McLean County. It may explain why her obituary moves the marriage date from 1844 back to 1843, and might further suggest motivation for the move from Ohio.
13. Magdalena Ehresman was born circa 1845, and died Feb. 25, 1925 (the *Illinois Statewide Death Index* says Lena Ehresman died in McLean County Aug. 7, 1924). On Feb. 20, 1866 at Danvers she married Christian Strubhar; minister Joseph Stuckey conducted the ceremony. Christian was born at Danvers June 13, 1844, and died April 19, 1919, a son of John Strubhar and Anna Schertz. See STRUBHAR for more on this couple.
14. Barbara Ehresman was born in 1846, and died in Woodford County in 1937. On Oct. 12, 1875 at Danvers she became the second wife of Danvers minister Christian Imhoff Jr.; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Christian was born in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 31, 1838, and died at Danvers May 31, 1881, a son of Christian Imhoff and Barbe/Barbara Schertz. See IMHOFF for more on Christian including his first marriage to Mary Strubhar and his obituary.
15. Catherine 'Katie' Ehresman was born April 30, 1848, died at Olio Oct. 30, 1928, and is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek. She is found living with her younger brother Samuel on the 1900 census of Montgomery and the 1910 census of Mackinaw. She spent the last five years of her life in the Eureka Home for the Aged.
16. Joseph Ehresman was born in April 9, 1851, died at Gibson City Feb. 18, 1943, and is buried in Gibson City Cemetery. On Sept. 7, 1876 in McLean County he married Anna Salzman. She was born in Butler County, Ohio in 1847, and died in McLean County Jan. 19, 1938, a daughter of Christian Salzman and Marie Imhof. Their household appears on the 1880 census of Montgomery, next to that of his mother Veronica, as farmer Joseph Ehresman, 28, born in Illinois in April to German parents; Anne, 29, born in Ohio in June to German parents; and Charles O., 2, born in Illinois. They appear on the 1900 census of Anchor, McLean County as farmer Joseph Ehresman, 49, born in Illinois in April 1847 [1852] to German parents; Annie, 52, born in Ohio in June 1847 to a father from France and a mother from Germany; and a son Walter L. born in Illinois in July 1880. Married son Charles lived next door. *Gibson City Courier*, 1943: "Ehresman, Joseph - 91, died at 5:30 a.m. Monday, 2-18-1943 at Mrs. Belle Williams' nursing home in Gibson City where he had been ill for several months. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Lamb Funeral Home in Gibson City with the Rev. A.H. Flagge officiating. Burial will be in the Gibson City Cemetery. He was born 4-9-1851 near Goodfield, Ill., and he married Miss Anna Saltzman in 1876, who preceded him in death in 1938. He had lived around Gibson City for the last 35 years. He was a retired farmer. He sold his home 10 years ago and made his home with his sons in Gibson City. Surviving are two sons; Walter and Charles of Gibson City; two brothers, Jacob of Piper City and Sam of Washington; seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren."
17. Susan or Susanna (the spelling found on her headstone) Ehresman was born May 9, 1855, and died in Tazewell County March 26, 1937. On Jan. 14, 1875 at Danvers she married Joseph B. Garber; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born Nov. 17, 1847, and died Nov. 25, 1910. Their household appears on the 1880 census of Washington as farmer Joseph B. Garber, 32, born in Illinois to parents from France; Susan, 25, born in Illinois to parents from Bavaria; and three children born in Illinois. They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.
18. Lydia Ehresman was born in 1857, and died at Washington Feb. 14, 1925. On March 21, 1878 in Woodford County she married William Mason Small. He was born at Deer Creek Oct. 22, 1854 (headstone date), and died at Washington Oct. 19, 1934, a son of John Small and Nancy Ramsey. On the 1870 census of Deer Creek he can be found as a 16-year-old in the household of John Small, 51, farmer from Kentucky, and Nancy, 43, from Ohio. Their household can be found on the 1900 census of Deer Creek as William Small, 46, born in November 1853; Lydia, 42, born in March 1856; and four children born in Illinois. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
19. Samuel Ehresman was born in December 1859, and died at Limestone, Peoria Sept. 25, 1943. In adulthood he dropped 4-6 years from his age on census reports. The 1900 census of Montgomery shows farmer Samuel Ehresman, born in Illinois in December 1864 to German parents; and sister Catherine, born in Illinois in April 1848 to German parents. His household is found on the 1910 census of Mackinaw as farmer Samuel Ehresman, 45, born in Illinois to German parents; and sister Kate, 62, born in Illinois to German parents. According to Zurlinden, Samuel "married late in life and subsequently divorced." The 1920 census of Medina, Peoria shows Samuel Ehresman, 56, born in

Illinois to German parents; Martha, 43, born in New York to English parents; and Lorene E., 9, born in Illinois. They are also found on the 1930 census of Peoria. After his divorce Samuel lived at Washington.

20. Jacob Ehresman was born Oct. 12, 1862 (though the 1880 census of Montgomery gives his birth month as August), and died at Piper City, Ford County Dec. 14, 1947. On Dec. 20, 1885 at Danvers he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Strubhar. She was born at Danvers May 6, 1867, and died at Piper City, Ford County Dec. 21, 1946, a daughter of Valentine Strubhar and Barbara Guingrich. Their household is found on the 1900 census of Brenton, Ford County as farmer Jacob Ehresman, born in Illinois in October of 1862 to parents from Germany and Switzerland; Elizabeth A., born in Illinois in May 1867 to parents from France; and six children born in Illinois. Jacob appears in the *1917 Ford County Business Directory* as a commissioner of highways.

Oldest son **Jacob 'Jake' Ehresman** was born July 30, 1825, and died at Drummer March 12, 1899. He is buried in Drummer Township Cemetery as 'Jacob Ayresman.'

Jacob is found as a 10-year-old on the 1836 passenger list. Yet his later life has been a minor mystery. There was no Ehresman family memory of his birth date, death date, or spouse when Viola Zurlinden collected information in 1968. She gave him a 'question mark' on first reference. On second reference she attributed two children, Steve and Will.

We can speculate that a family dispute led to his estrangement. Perhaps he grew weary of helping to support his father's large brood. Perhaps he was too progressive for the restrictions of an Amish Mennonite environment; this is suggested by the names he gave his children. And it must have been awkward to see his former playmate become his stepmother. She was only one year older.

Jacob consistently appeared on federal censuses as 'Jacob Ayersman' (some of his children later modified this spelling to 'Ayresman'). He married Juliana/Julia Ann Mack at Danvers Sept. 19, 1853. She was born in Indiana March 22, 1836, and died at the age of 91 at Gibson City, Ford County April 16, 1927.

They appear on the 1860 census of Mackinaw as farmer Jacob Ayersman, 34, Germany; Julia, 23, Indiana; Wm., 6, born in Illinois; Emma, 4, born in Illinois; and Stephen, 1, born in Illinois. They are shown on the 1870 census of Danvers on the same page as the Schoenbecks and Jacob Naffziger, brother of 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger: teamster Jacob Ayersman, 45, Baden; Julia A., 34, Indiana; Wm. H., 15, Illinois; Emma E., 14, Illinois; Stephen A. D., 12, Illinois; Albert P., 10, Illinois; Alanson C., 8, Illinois; Thomas R., 6, Illinois; Jacob L., 4, Illinois; and Julia's brother Asa H. Mack, 45, born in Indiana. In 1880 they were living at Holland, Shelby County: farmer Jacob Ayersman, 54, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Julia A., 44, born in Indiana to parents from Ohio; Albert P., 19; Alarison [Alason] C., 16; Thomas R., 14; and Franklin E., 7, all children born in Illinois.

The children of Jacob Ehresman and Julia Ann Mack are found as 'Ayersmans' and 'Ayresmans.' Several worshipped with Methodist congregations. The misplaced branch of the Ehresman family includes:

1. William H. Ayersman was born circa 1854, and died at Gibson City Jan. 11, 1934. On March 4, 1880 he married Nancy J. Fawver. She was born in Ohio circa 1857, a daughter of Solomon Fawver and Sarah Smith. They appear on the 1910 census of Drummer as W. H. Ayresman, 56, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Indiana; Nancy, 54, born in Ohio to a father from Virginia and a mother from Ohio; and three children born in Illinois.
2. Emma E. Ayersman was born circa 1856.
3. Stephen A. D. Ayresman. Although he was known as 'Steve,' the full name appears on his headstone. It is likely he was named after Illinois presidential aspirant Stephen A. Douglas. He was born in 1859, died at Drummer April 1, 1935, and is buried in Drummer Township Cemetery. The 1880 census of Drummer shows him as a 21-year-old farm laborer, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Indiana. He lived in the household of Wesley Hammen. On Dec. 29, 1886 in McLean County he married Emma Fawver. She was born in Ohio in 1858, and died at Drummer Oct. 10, 1935, a daughter of Solomon Fawver and Sarah Smith. She is also buried in Drummer Township Cemetery as 'Emma F. Ayrsman.' On the 1910 census of Drummer they have two children at home; in 1930 they appear as Steve Ayresman, 70, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; and Emma, 71, born in Ohio to parents from Virginia.
4. Albert P. Ayersman was born in April 1861, died at Coal City, Grundy County Sept. 9 or 13, 1937, and is buried in Drummer Township Cemetery as 'Albert Ayresman.' On Dec. 12, 1886 at Gibson City, Ford County he married Kathryn P. 'Katie' Simon. She was born in Ohio in July of 1862, and died at Coal City Feb. 13, 1935. They appear on the 1900 census of Braceville, Coal County, Gundy County as railroad switchman A.P. Ayrsman, born in Illinois in April 1861 to German parents; his unnamed wife, born in Ohio in July 1862 to Irish parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are shown on the 1920 census of Coal City as Albert Ayersman, 58, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Indiana; Katherine, 57, born in Ohio to a father from Indiana and a mother from Ireland; and four children born in Illinois. They also appear on the 1930 census of Braceville.
5. Alason C. Ayrsman (the spelling on his headstone) was born in 1864, died in 1909, and is buried in Drummer Township Cemetery. On Dec. 29, 1886 in McLean County he married Rossaline 'Rossy' Garrett. She was born

circa 1856 at Kiddville, Kentucky, and died at Gibson City Oct. 15, 1924, a daughter of Lewis L. Garrett and Nancy M. Elkin.

6. Thomas R. Ayersman was born circa 1866. He may be the Thomas Ayesman who died at Evanston July 1, 1928. He appears on the 1920 census of Ogden, Champaign County as Thomas R. Ayresman, born in Illinois to German parents.
7. Franklin 'Frank' E. Ayersman was born circa 1873. He appears on the 1900 census of Drummer as a 27-year-old barber living with his mother. On July 1, 1900 at Gibson City he married Maude M. Rhodes. She was born in Illinois, a daughter of Newton Rhodes and Maggie Castile.

Christian Ehresmann

Dörrmoschel is a tiny village about 40 miles northwest of the Mechtersheimerhof, and 18 miles north of Kaiserslautern. Before the French Revolution Dörrmoschel and its adjacent sister village Teschenmoschel were properties of the von Hunolstein family. It was once considered part of Hesse-Darmstadt, but is now in the German state of Rheinisch-Pfalz.

The village was occupied by French troops after the Battle of Kaiserslautern Nov. 28-30, 1793. Before the occupation, *Mennoniten* had been barred from the nearby city of Kaiserslautern. Now even non-citizens were treated as equals. (French tolerance for Anabaptists had been heartily encouraged since the Directory of Robespierre, who saw it as a slap at Catholic interests). In 1798 the area was incorporated as *canton Kaiserslautern*, one of four cantons in the *arrondisement du Mont Tonnere* in the *département du Mont Tonnere* [Ger. *Donnersberg*]. The troops remained there until 1814, a period when the *Mennoniten* enjoyed unprecedented freedoms under the *Code Napoléon*. After 1814 the entire Pfalz became part of Bavaria.

The period of French occupation was also a period of relative prosperity. The area provided soldiers for the French army, and the local economy was boosted by employment on the construction of the *Kaiserstrasse*, a wide paved highway from Kaiserlautern to Frankfurt.[54]

Ehresmann entries are found in the Protestant Reformed register at Dörrmoschel as early as 1797.

Christian Ehresmann was born circa 1779, and died at Dörrmoschel Feb. 16, 1837. He married Elisabeth Egli. She was born circa 1779, and died at Dörrmoschel Jan. 25, 1833, a daughter of Jacob Egli and Magdalena Frei. They were the parents of two daughters who married Ehresman brothers from Neuhausen.

Children of Christian Ehresmann and Elisabeth Egli include:

1. Jacob Ehresmann was born Feb. 5, 1806, and died at Dörrmoschel March 31, 1876. On March 18, 1832 at Wilferdingen, Baden he married Jacobine Eyer. She was born at Wilferdingen Dec. 27, 1804, and died at Dörrmoschel April 14, 1887, a daughter of Daniel Eyer and Barbara Detweiler.[55]
2. Katharina Ehresmann was born Aug. 8, 1807. On Oct. 11, 1829 at Neuhausen she married Johann Jakob/Jacob Ehresman of Neuhausen. (More on this couple will follow with the NEUHAUSEN branch).
3. Christian Ehresman was born Oct. 1, 1808, and died at Dörrmoschel June 5, 1810.

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[54] Elector Maximilian IV Joseph became Maximilian I of Bavaria Dec. 26, 1805. His troops fought as allies of France until 1813. See BIRKY/BIRKEY.

[55] A 'German school' taught the German language and traditions, but also taught English. Immigrant children typically attended for a few hours a day 2-3 days a week, supplementing public school.

In 1857 Jakob/Jacob Brenneman (1827-1887) and his wife Jacobine/Jakobina Iutzi made a return trip to Europe. Jacob's father Daniel Brenneman had taught a 'German school' in his Ohio home when he first arrived in America. When son Jacob and Jacobine/Jakobina returned from Europe, they brought with them a man who became a 'German school' teacher in Woodford County.

The *Agnes* departed from Bremen, and arrived at New York April 21, 1857. The future schoolteacher is found on the passenger list as farmer Christian Eresmann, 22, Hessen, destination Peru, Ill.

He is found on the 1860 census of Palestine, Woodford County as farmer Christian Ehrman, 25, Germany, in the household of farmer Tobias Cable, 31, Pennsylvania. He lost an arm before 1870. In 1870 and 1871 his classroom was located east of Roanoke on the farm of Peter Yordy. He became a member of the Hessian Amish congregation (later called the South Danvers Mennonite Church).

Gospel Witness, December 1905: "Bro. Christian Erisman was born April 27, 1835. Died on Tuesday evening, Dec. 5, 1905, at the Mennonite Old People's Home, Rittman, Ohio, aged 70 y., 7 m., 8 d. By profession Bro. Erisman had been a German schoolteacher, having formerly come from the old country. For some time he lived in Illinois and taught school. He made his temporary abode at the Home as early as Dec., 1902, but in June, 1904, he came here to stay the remainder of his life. He expressed a readiness and a desire to depart from this life. Funeral was held at the Home on Friday, Dec. 8, the brethren, D. C. Amstutz and C. Z. Yoder officiating. Text, *Psalms 17:15*. Burial in Crown Hill Cemetery." His headstone in Crown Hill Mennonite Cemetery also identifies him as 'Christian Erisman, died Dec. 5, 1905, aged 79 Y. 7 M. 8 D.'

4. Magdalena Ehresmann was born Dec. 1, 1812. When she married, the Dörrmoschel civil administration provided a document certifying her birth there as 'Madelaine Ehrensmann.' On Sept. 9, 1832 at Dörrmoschel she married Jakob Nafziger. He was born on the Ludwigsburgerhof at Seelbach, Nassau-Weilburg Sept. 10, 1802, and after 1818 lived on the Obergladbacherhof at Runkel (68 miles north of Neuhausen). Jakob Nafziger was the youngest son of Peter Nafziger and his first wife Katharina Nafziger (they married at Hochheim in 1771). Katharina Nafziger was a younger sister to Valentine Nafziger. Valentine Nafziger and Magdalena Spring were the parents the family in NAFZIGER. Magdalena Spring's mother's second husband was Jacob Stähli of Enkenbach. This chain of relationships suggests that the Nafziger/Naffziger of Hochheim and Fränkisch Crumbach, Ehresmann of Dörrmoschel, Ehresman of Neuhausen, and Stähli of Enkenbach families were all represented in the Amish Mennonite congregation at Hochheim. At Dörrmoschel on Feb. 21, 1860 widow 'Magdalena Ehresmann Nafziger' obtained a document to emigrate to Rogersville, Ohio (now called Ragersville, Tuscawaras County, it is located just below the large Mennonite community at Sugar Creek). Her travel documents were approved by a representative of the Bavarian consulate onboard the *James L. Bogart* at Le Havre May 3, 1860, but we could not identify her date of arrival in America.[56] She reunited with her younger brother Christian at Trenton, Butler County.
5. Elisabeth Ehresmann was born circa April 5, 1815. On Oct. 5, 1836 at Dörrmoschel she married Johann Karl Geib. He was born circa May 1812, a son of Adam Geib and Elisabeth Stephan.
6. Jacobine Ehresmann was born at Dörrmoschel March 5, 1819; the civil birth entry called her 'Jacobine Ehrensmann.' In 1854 at Dörrmoschel she married Christian Amman, 31, a son of Christian Amman and Charlotte Fink of Schulhofen. The entry described her as a 34-year-old daughter of Christian Ehresmann and Elisabeth Egle, and a resident of Dörrmoschel.
7. Veronika/Veronica 'Fanny' Ehresmann (twin) was born at Dörrmoschel Sept. 14, 1821, and died at Edna Mills, Indiana April 9, 1880. She married Johannes/John Ehresman of Neuhausen. (More on this couple will follow with the NEUHAUSEN branch).
8. Christian Ehresmann (twin) was born at Dörrmoschel Sept. 14, 1821, and died at Trenton, Butler County Sept. 27, 1867. Circa 1838 he emigrated to avoid military service. He was naturalized at the Hamilton Courthouse in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 9, 1843; his sponsors were 'John Yutze' and 'Christian Yutze' [Iutzi]. The 1850 census of Lemon, Butler County shows farmer Peter Hawley [Holly], 58; Catharine, 56; Catharine, 25; Eliza, 20; laborer Christian Ayresman, 28; and laborer John Unsicker, 35; all born in Germany. On June 14, 1852 he married Maria Iutzi. She was born at Felsberg, Hesse circa 1827, and died in Butler County in 1906, a daughter of Christian Iutzi and Maria Sommer. Christian Iutzi will be recalled from STAKER as the wealthiest passenger on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832 (daughter Maria appears as a 5-year-old on the passenger list). He scouted land in Illinois, but returned to Butler County to purchase 195 improved acres of Madison for $25 per acre. He then built a substantial home, calling it the 'Mittelhof' after the European home he had left behind. They settled at Trenton in Butler County. Trenton is a village bordered on north, east, and south by Madison, and on the west by St. Clair and Wayne; it was often counted in the Madison census. As their family grew, they decided to build a bigger house in 1867. Christian died during construction of the new house. The first house was torn down in the 1980s; the second house is still standing. *Gospel Herald*, November 1867: "On the 27th of September, near Trenton, Butler Co., Ohio, Christian Ehrisman, aged 46 years and 14 days. Funeral sermon was preached by Jos. Augspurger from *1 Thess. 4:13-14*, in the German language and by West from *Acts 8:2* in English. J. A. S." The household is found on the 1870 census of Madison as Maria Eheresman, 48, Hesse-Darmstadt; Otto, 16, Ohio; Jacobina, 14, Ohio; Bertha, 12, Ohio; Maria, 10, Ohio; Louisa, 4, Ohio; Maria's sister Elizabeth Iutzi, 44, Hesse-Darmstadt; and farm laborer Christian Iutzi, 63, Hesse-Darmstadt. In 1880 they appear at the same location as Mary Ehresman, 52, Hesse; Otto, 26, Ohio; Bertha, 22, Ohio; Maria, 20, Ohio; Louisa, 14, Ohio; Elizabeth Iutzi, 54, Hesse; and Jos. Saltzman, 18, Ohio. Children of Christian Ehresmann and Maria Iutzi born at Madison include:
    a. Otto Iutzi Ehresman was born on the Iutzi farm Feb. 4, 1854, and died in 1933. He was only 13 at the time of his father's death, but farmed the acreage behind the Trenton house with the help of his Mennonite neighbors. On Jan. 20, 1885 in Butler County he married Mary Ann Deuscher, a daughter of Henry P. Deuscher and Ella Ball.[57] Mary Ann was born Feb. 9, 1855, and died Nov. 26, 1938; she is buried in Miltonville Cemetery. They farmed at Gratis in adjacent Preble County for five years, then returned to Butler County, where Otto become manager of his wealthy father-in-law's five-acre foundry at Hamilton. Otto also operated the O.I. Ehresman General Store at 130 East State Street in Trenton for

[56] A *Cornelia* passenger list for a New York arrival July 5, 1860 may be a 'near miss.' It names Mayores Ehresmann, 45, designated as a male. Elsewhere on the same list is Elisabeth Egelie, 22.

[57] The surnames Deuscher and Teuscher are both found in Canton Bern. Henry P. Deuscher was born in 1829, and died in 1903. He was a native of Wessingen, Baden. His parents Michael Deuscher and Christiana Scheurer brought their four children to New York in 1832. *Memoirs of the Miami Valley* says they spent a year there, and another in Lancaster County, before resettling in Butler County in 1834, while *A History and Biographical Cyclopedia of Butler County* says they spent four years in Lancaster County, and arrived in Butler County in 1836. Henry recruited Company G, 83rd Ohio Volunteer Infanty and served as a captain for eight months during the Civil War. He went from being a butcher to owning a malthouse and two distilleries, then purchased a foundry to produce farm equipment. It was destroyed by fire in 1910, but was rebuilt and remained active until 1990.

13 years, while he lived at 119 North First Street. After their deaths, both Henry P. Deuscher and Otto Iutzi Ehresman were held up as 'rags to riches' stories because of their modest beginnings and strong work ethics. Deuscher's house and Ehresman's farm are on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

b. Jakobina 'Bina' Ehresman was born Aug. 16, 1855, and died in 1941; she is buried in Mound Cemetery at Monroe as 'Bina Ehresman.' On May 30, 1878 at Monroe she married William Bender Jotter. He was born in Butler County Aug. 8, 1847, and died in 1924, a son of Peter Jotter and Marie Bender. He and his parents are also buried in Mound Cemetery. Bina and William can be found on the 1880 census of Monroe as wagon maker William B. Jotter, 32, born in Ohio to a father from Bavaria and a mother from Hesse; Jacobina, 24, born in Ohio to a father from Württemberg and a mother from Hesse; and Ernst, 1, born in Ohio. Their farmstead in the northeast corner of Section 17, Monroe still exists.

c. Bertha Ehresman was born in 1857, and died in 1947. She lived at 103 North Second Street, Trenton with her sister Amelia. They worked together as designer-seamstresses.

d. Maria/Marie Ehresman was born March 6, 1860, and died Aug. 6, 1947. She married William Hebel. He was born Aug. 16, 1862, and died Dec. 5, 1944. They appear on the 1900 census of Hyde Park, Chicago as railroad clerk William Hebel, born in Ohio in August 1861 to parents from Germany and Ohio; Marie, born in Ohio in March 1862 to parents from Germany; and two children born in Illinois.

e. Emelie/Amelia Ehresman was born in 1863, and died in 1937.

f. Louisa/Louise Ehresman was born in 1865, and died in 1883.

Jacob Ehresmann

Jacob Ehresmann was born circa 1786, and died in Woodford County after 1864. He married Veronika Eyer. They initially resided at Dörrmoschel.

As a widower Jacob brought his children to America. They sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Oneida*, and arrived at New York Sept. 20, 1841.[58] The passenger list shows Jacob Ehresman [the letter 'n' in Ehresman is mounted by a line, indicating doubling], 55 or 56; Johannes, 22; Jacob, 21; Magd., 19; Jacobina, 16; Catharina, 52 [Jacob's sister Anna Katharina Ehresmann, the widow of Joseph Imhof]; and Johannes, 17 [her illegitimate son, who would be known in America as John Gingerich; see IMHOFF].

Jacob was living in Butler County, Ohio on Dec. 3, 1843. A European letter he received from his nephew Jacob, son of his older brother Christian, survives.

Jacob may be found on the 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County as Jacob Ayresman, 63, farmer, Germany; Jacob, 28, Germany (with $6,000 worth of property); Phebe, 32, Germany; and John Poach, 5, Ohio.

According to Helmut Gingerich, children of Jacob Ehresmann and Veronika Eyer include:

1. Magdalena Ehresmann was born at Dörrmoschel in 1816, and died there in 1818.
2. Barbara Ehresmann was born in 1818, and died in 1819.
3. Johannes Ehresmann was born at Dörrmoschel circa 1819.
4. **Jacob Ehresmann/Ehresman** was born at Sippersfeld April 19, 1822.
5. Magdalena Ehresmann was born at Sippersfeld April 9, 1824. She may have been the Magdalena Ehresman who married 'John Bount' in Butler County, Ohio March 26, 1848. That ceremony was listed first on notes that minister Nicholas Augspurger created; it was found in his pocket after his death. We could not identify John Bount; this may be one of many misspellings on the list. She may also have married Christian Engel in Woodford County Nov. 7, 1861, and died in 1879.[59] If so, she died in McLean County May 5, 1879; their headstone in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock gives the dates 1824-1879. See the Appendix, ALBRECHT OF BUREAU COUNTY for background on this couple.
6. Jacobine Ehresmann/Phoebe Ehresman was born at Sippersfeld Dec. 11, 1825, and died at Deer Creek July 14, 1907

Son **Jacob Ehresmann/Ehresman** was born at Sippersfeld April 19, 1822, and died at Deer Creek Sept. 9, 1899.

Circa 1850 he married Elizabeth Staker, who was also a resident of Fairfield. She was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Dec. 15, 1831, and died at Deer Creek April 3, 1900, a daughter of Jean Stecker/John Staker and Barbe/Barbara Schertz.

They moved to Illinois in 1857. They appear on the 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as Jacob Ayresman, 38, from Bavaria; Elizabeth, 28, born in Pennsylvania; Anna E., 4, born in Ohio; Phoebe, 2, born in Illinois; Jacob Ayresman, 69, born in Bavaria [Jacob's father]; Phoebe A., 34, domestic; [Jacob's sister]; and farm hand John Pouch.

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[58] The packet ship *Oneida* was constructed in New York and launched in early 1841. The September 1841 arrival was the return from her second voyage to Le Havre. The *Oneida* sank in the English Channel Dec. 19, 1849.

[59] They are found in Woodford County records as Christian Engle and Magdalena Ehresmann.

The household appears on the 1870 census of Deer Creek as Jacob Ehrisman, 40, farmer from Bavaria; Elizabeth, 30, born in Pennsylvania; Eliza, 14, born in Ohio; Phoeby, 12; Magdalena, 11; Catherine, 7; Mary, 5; and Barbaray, 3. (Deer Creek straddles the boundary of Woodford County and Tazewell County).

The 1880 census of Deer Creek lists Jacob 'Ayrseman,' 59, farmer from Bavaria; Elizabeth, 48, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Lorraine; Phoebe, 22; Lena, 19; Catherine, 17; Mary, 14; and Barbara, 12.

The 1900 census of Deer Creek, Tazewell County holds a household consisting of the five daughters and an aunt. It shows Lenna Ehresman, 49, born in Illinois in January 1851 [Lena was actually born in 1861]; sister Pheobe, 42, born in Illinois in February [actually January] 1858; sister Kate, 36, born in Illinois in June [actually February] 1863; sister Mary, 34, born in Illinois in August 1865; sister Barbara, 32, born in Illinois in April 1868 [all born to a father from Germany and a mother from Pennsylvania]; and aunt Pheobe Ehresman, 74, born in Germany to German parents in January 1926 [actually Dec. 11, 1825], immigrated in 1839 [actually 1841].

Jacob and Elizabeth are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.[60]

Jacob's sister Phoebe Ehresman is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County, where her headstone says she was, 'Phoebe Ehresman, May 10, 1825-July 14, 1907, Our Aunt.'

Children of Jacob Ehresman and Elizabeth Staker include:

1. Anna Elizabeth Ehresman was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio Feb. 3, 1856, and died at Elmwood, Peoria County May 13, 1933. On Oct. 30, 1870 in Tazewell County she married Eri Huxtable. He was born Jan. 9, 1854, and died at Elmwood Nov. 18, 1931, a son of George Huxtable and Anna. They are found on the 1900 census of Deer Creek as farmer Eri Huxtable, 46, born in Illinois in January 1954 to parents from 'Egland' and Germany; Anna E., 44, born in Ohio in February 1856 to parents from Germany and Pennsylvania; and two children born in Illinios. On later censuses they are found at Elmwood. They are buried in Elmwood Township Cemetery.
2. Phoebe Ehresman was born at Fremont, Illinois Jan. 28, 1858, and died at Deer Creek Sept. 13, 1928. She is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery.
3. Magdalena 'Lena' Ehresman was born in Woodford County Jan. 11, 1861, and died at Normal, McLean County Aug. 7, 1924. She is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery as 'Lena Ehresman.'
4. Catherine 'Kate' Ehresman was born at Deer Creek Feb. 20, 1863, and died Normal Sept. 16, 1942. She was a school teacher at Normal. She is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek as 'Katherine Ehresman.'
5. Mary E. Ehresman was born at Eureka, Woodford County Aug. 23, 1865, and died at Normal March 21, 1929. Her death entry described her mother as Elizabeth Sticker, born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Mary is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery.
6. Barbara Ehresman was born April 19, 1868, and died Sept. 11, 1924. She is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery.

The Ehresman Branch at Neuhausen

While not particularly relevant to Central Illinois, knowledge of this family was useful to sort out the Amish Mennonite Ehrismann/Ehresmann branches in America.

Jakob Johannes Ehresmann was born at Diemerstein circa 1782, and died at Frankenstein June 23, 1826, a son of Jakob Ehresman and Barbara Höffli.

Circa 1804 he married Barbara Fischer. She was a daughter of Jakob Fischer and Anna Maria Oesch of Hochheim.

When one of their sons married, his supporting documentation said he was from Neuhausen, the village next to Hochheim. Both villages are now neighborhoods in the city of Worms, and within walking distance of Dirmstein (touching the southwest corner of the city).

Before 1806 the area was part of the Landgraviate of Hesse-Darmstadt, a state of the Holy Roman Empire. It was occupied by French troops in 1792 and again in 1801 until the end of the Napoleonic wars. On July 12, 1816 the Treaty of Vienna made it part of Canton Pfeddersheim in the region of Rheinhessen in the Grand Duchy of Hesse.[61] In 1898 Neuhausen and Hochheim were incorporated into Worms; since then their administrative independence has been restored. In 1947 the area became part of a new German state, the Rheinisch-Pfalz.

The three children of Jakob Johannes Ehresmann and Barbara Fischer include:

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[60] The death entry of their daughter Barbara Francis Ehrisman stated that she was born at Viralis, Woodford County April 19, 1868; died at Deer Creek Sept. 11, 1923; and was buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery. Her parents were described as Jacob Ehresman, born in Baden, Germany; and Elizabeth Stacker, born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

[61] The Grand Duchy of Hesse lasted from 1806 to 1918.

1. **Johann Jakob Ehresman** was born at Neuhausen April 7, 1806, and died at Ross, Clinton County, Indiana Aug. 7, 1894.
2. **Maria Magdalena Ehresman** is thought to have been born at Pfiffligheim (adjacent to Neuhausen) circa 1809, and died at Nappanee, Elkhart County, Indiana Dec. 1, 1879.
3. **Johannes/John Ehresman** was born April 12, 1812, and died at Ross, Clinton County, Indiana Dec. 5 or 15, 1903

Johann Jakob Ehresman

The first brother Johann Jakob Ehresman was born April 7, 1806, and died at Ross, Clinton County, Indiana Aug. 7, 1894.[62] In October 1829 at Dörrmoschel he married Katharina Ehresmann. She was born Aug. 8, 1807, and died at Ross Feb. 28, 1868, a daughter of Christian Ehresmann and Elisabeth Egli.

In April 1838 at Neuhausen the family completed an application requesting emigration. They applied again in January 1840. The civil entry includes Jacob E. Ehresman, linen weaver, 32 and 33; Catharina Ehresmann, 32 in 1840; Jacobina, 7 and 8; Christian, 5 and 6; and Catharine, 3 and 4.

The brig *Traub* sailed from Rotterdam, and arrived at Boston Aug. 10, 1840. The passenger list includes Jacob E. Ehresman, 33, weaver, Dukedom Hesse; Catherine Ehresman, 30; Jacob [Jakobina] Ehresman, 8; and C. Ehresman, 6.

'Johann Jacob Ehresmann' filed a *Letter of Intent to be Naturalized* at the Hamilton Courthouse in Butler County, Ohio in the September 1844 term.

They appear on the 1850 census of Ross as farmer Jacob Ayreson, 45, Germany; Catherine, 42, Germany; Christopher, 18, Germany; Catherine, 16, Germany; Mary, 10, Ohio; and Fanny, 5, Ohio. They are found on the 1860 census of Ross as farmer Jacob Ehresman, 43, Germany; Catherine, 52, Germany; Mary, 19; Fanny, 15; and Nicholas [Corwin], 6 (Susan Clawson suggests that Corwin may have come off one of the orphan trains that occasionally passed through). The 1870 census shows them as farmer J. Ayersman, 64, Darmstadt; Fannie, 24, Ohio; and farmhand Nick Corwin, 15, New York. At some point Jacob joined the Defenseless Mennonite Church (Egly Amish). The 1880 census of Ross shows widower and retired farmer Jacob Ehresman, 74, born in Germany to parents from Hesse-Darmstadt; and daughter Fanny Ehresman, 35, born in Ohio to parents from Hesse. Jacob and Katharina are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Edna Mills.

Children of Johann Jakob/Jacob Ehresman and Katharina Ehresmann include:

1. Jakobina Ehresman was born Sept. 19, 1830, and died at Gridley, McLean County Jan. 12, 1900. On June 10, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Pierre/Peter Oyer; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Niderhoff, Moselle Oct. 15, 1818, and died June 14, 1890, a son of Joseph Oyer and Catherine Schrag (Catherine died when Peter was five years old, and Joseph remarried to Magdalena Litwiller; they immigrated in 1830 and resettled at Farmdale, Tazewell County in 1838. Peter and Jakobina appear on the 1860 census of Ross with four children; then on the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Pike, Livingston County.
2. Christian Ehresman (also found as Christopher) was born Oct. 15, 1832, and died in Tippecanoe County, Indiana Feb. 1, 1908. On Dec. 10, 1857 at Perry, Tippecanoe County he married Marie/Mary Salzman. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Oct. 15, 1840, and died at Woodburn, Indiana Oct. 10, 1923, a daughter of Christian Salzman and Marie Imhof. They are found on the 1880 census of Perry as farmer Christian Ehresman, 47, born in Hesse-Darmstadt to parents from Hesse-Darmstadt; Mary, 40, born in Ohio to a father from France and a mother from Hesse-Darmstadt; and eight children born in Indiana. They are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Edna Mills.
3. Catherine 'Katie' Ehresman was born at Neuhausen Nov. 16, 1834 (according to her family *Bible*), and died in Carroll County, Indiana May 21, 1903. On Feb. 10, 1858 at Trenton, Butler County she married Johannes Güngerich, who was known in America as 'John Gingrich..' The ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. See IMHOFF for background on this couple.
4. Mary Ehresman was born in Butler County, Ohio Nov. 21, 1840, and died at Edna Mills Dec. 20, 1891. On Nov. 8, 1863 in Clinton County she married Joseph Neyhouser/Neuhauser/Newhouser. He was born at Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace June 8, 1836, and died at Edna Mills Nov. 22, 1881, a son of Pierre/Peter Neyhouser/Neuhauser and his first wife Elisabeth Gerig. The 1870 census of Ross shows them as farmer Jos. Newhouse, 33, France; Mary, 27, Ohio; and four children born in Indiana. They are buried in Edna Mills Mennonite Cemetery, on land that they had donated Sept. 20, 1876.
5. Fanny Ehresman was born in Butler County, Ohio March 6, 1845, and died at Meadows, McLean County (the location of a Mennonite retirement home) April 29, 1942. She is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. On May 19,

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[62] His headstone in Mennonite Cemetery at Edna Mills says, "Jacob Ehresman died Aug. 7, 1894, aged 88 ys. & 4 ms."

Many of the references to Ross Township are given here as they were found. Ross Township was established in the northwest corner of Clinton County, Indiana in 1830; Rosseville was incorporated as a town within that township in 1870. For practical purposes the two are identical.

1903 in Adams County, Indiana she became the second wife of John Schoenbeck (also found as 'Schenbeck'). He was born Jan. 22, 1837, and died Feb. 19, 1916, a son of Johannes/John Schönbeck and Katharina Oesch. His first wife had been Barbara Huser; she was born in Adams County, Indiana Nov. 1, 1846, they were married Jan. 24, 1865, and she died March 24, 1899, a daughter of Philip Huser and Verena Moser.

Maria Magdalena Ehresman

Maria Magdalena Ehresman was born at Pfiffligheim (now absorbed into Worms, it was adjacent to Neuhausen) circa 1810.

On July 19, 1834 at Frankenstein she married Heinrich Stahli. He was born on Sankt Germannshof in the Pfalz Jan. 22, 1810, a son of Heinrich Stähli and Barbara Summer. The birth was registered at nearby Weiler, Lower Alsace.

What might have brought someone from Sankt Germannshof to the area of Neuhausen? As noted in NAFZIGER, Heinrich's uncle Jakob Stähly of Enkenbach (a younger brother to the older Heinrich) was a step-grandfather to Naffziger children at Hochheim. These included the young Peter Naffziger, who later became the minister called 'Apostle Peter.' Peter lived on Klostergasse ('monastery lane') at Hochheim from 1798, when he was 11 years old, until his emigration in 1826. His family farmed with the Fischers on the Liebenauerhof, leased cloister grounds at Osthofen (six miles above Worms). This was the family of Christian Fischer, who was a son of Benedict Fischer and a nephew of Ulrich Fischer of the Mechtersheimerhof, and Margarete Hoff.

Their marriage entry described the groom as Heinrich Stahlÿ, aged 24 years and five months, born at Germannshof. The bride was Marie Magdalena Ehresmann, aged 24 years and nine months, born at Pfiffligheim but a resident of Nauhausen

At the time of their marriage Maria Magdalena was about two months pregnant by another man. She delivered a son Johannes Stahli Jan. 16, 1835. Family tradition holds that she was widowed by a man named Johnson, but he has not been identified.

One of Heinrich Stähli 's brothers had emigrated in 1830. Heinrich and Maria made the same decision soon after marrying. Their traveling group left Kaiserslautern in August 1835 to begin the journey to North America. They sailed from Le Havre on the ship *France*, arriving at New York Oct. 27, 1835. The passenger list names Christian Egele [Egli], 32; Catharine [maiden name Catherine Stahli, Heinrich's sister], 25; Barbara, 4; Henry Staehle [Heinrich Stähli], 25; Magdalena, 26; John, 6 months; Jacob Staele [Heinrich's brother], 26; Christian, 15; and Barbara Staehle, 57 [their widowed mother].[63] It was indicated that the Eglis came from France, and the Stähli family from Bavaria (often this only meant that the most recent travel documents were obtained in those places).

They spent the first winter in Stark County, Ohio. In the spring they continued to Milton, Wayne County, Ohio, where Henry found work as a weaver. The 1840 census shows head of household 'Henry Staley' with a wife, two male children 5 or under (John and Christian), and two female children 5 or under (Barbara and May 'Polly').

In Ohio Heinrich became 'Henry Stahly.' Maria's first son ('John' on the passenger list) took the name 'John Johnson.'

In 1846 Henry and Maria resettled in Elkhart County, Indiana, where Henry became a farmer. The 1850 census of Union shows them as farmer Henry Staly,38, Germany; Martha [Magdalena], 35, Germany; John, 15, Ohio [Germany]; Barbaray, 14, Ohio; Polly [Mary], 12, Ohio; Christian, 10, Ohio; Martha [Magdalena], 8, Ohio; Henry, 5, Ohio; and Peter, 4, Indiana. They lived next door to Henry's brothers Jacob and Christian. On the 1860 census of Union they appear as farmer Henry Staley, 50, Germany; Madalena, 50, Hesse-Darmstadt; farm laborer

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[63] Christian Egli married Katharina Stahli at Frankenstein June 26, 1830. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Christian Eglÿ, age 27 years and three months, born at Dörrmoschel. His was a son of Martin Eglÿ and Elizabetha Lùtzenberger. The bride was Catherine Staly, aged 21 years and six months, born at Sankt Germannshof.

Christian Egli was born at Dörrmoschel March 24, 1803 (according to some sources that calculate from his obituary count), but no birth entry is found there. He died at Marion, Indiana July 3, 1879. *Gospel Herald*, August 1789: "July 3rd, at the residence of Jonas Stineman in Miami Co., Ind., of injuries received from a fall from the cars, at Marion, Ind., on the 26th of June, Christian Egly, aged 76 years, 3 months and 9 days. He was buried in the burying ground on the farm of Benjamin Hershberger, on the 4th of July. Services by Daniel C. Miller. He was a member of the Amish Church, and was on his way to visit his grand-daughter. Peace to his ashes."

Catherine Stähli/Stahly was born at Enkenbach Nov. 10, 1808, and died at Clinton Township July 5, 1893. *Herald of Truth*, August 1893: “On the 5th of July, 1893, in Clinton Twp., Elkhart Co., Ind., of the infirmities of old age, Catharine Egli, aged 84 years, 7 months and 25 days. She united with the Amish Mennonite denomination in her youth and remained faithful to the end. Services in German by P.Y. Lehman, from *Rev. 14:13*, and in English by D.J. Johns, from *Rev. 20:12-15*." Their family can be found on the 1850 and 1870 censuses of Clinton Township, Elkhart County (under 'Christian Eagle' and 'Christian Egeley').

Christian, 20, Ohio; Madalena, 18, Ohio; Henry, 15, Ohio; Peter, 13, Indiana; Simon, 13, Indiana; and Daniel, 4, Indiana. They still lived next door to brother 'Christian Staley.'

On Dec. 6, 1874 a train from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad ran through Union on newly-laid tracks. On Dec. 12, Henry and two other farmers combined their land to plat a town around the site where a platform called Locke Station would be constructed. The surveyed area had only seven homes. When railroad officials objected to the name Locke, someone suggested the Indian name Napanee. This was later used for the post office, a second 'p' was added, and the town received its present name. Locke is now the next town to the north.

Until this time Amish Mennonites in the area had met in homes every second Sunday. They finally moved into an expanded schoolhouse in 1878.

Maria Magdalena Ehresman Stahly died at Nappanee Dec. 1, 1879. *Herald of Truth*, January 1880: "Dec. 1st, near Nappanee, Elkhart Co., Ind., Sister Magdalena Stahly, wife of Henry Stahly, at the age of 70 years. She was a faithful sister in the Lord. A husband and six children are left to mourn her death. She was sick only two days. Funeral services by Jonathan Smucker."

In 1880 Henry was living with his youngest son at Locke. He died at Nappanee Dec. 14, 1894. His will left a half-share to his stepson John Johnson, calling him "my wife's son."

Herald of Truth, January 1895: "Near Nappanee, Ind., of dropsy, Henry Stahly, died Dec. 14, 1894, aged 84 years, 10 months. He was united in marriage to Magdelena Erisman in 1834, lived in matrimony 45 years. His wife preceded him to the spirit world 15 years ago, the first of this month. He was born in Kaisers Lautern, Germany, Feb. 1810. Emigrated to America in 1835 and settled in Wayne Co., Ohio; came to Elkhart Co., Ind. in 1846. He has resided here 48 years, has seen his children and grandchildren grow to manhood and womanhood, and the dense forest that once covered this beautiful country fall before the pioneer's axe. He was a consistent brother in the Amish Mennonite denomination, and while we pay the last tribute to him we realize that his seat will be vacant in church and at home. The surviving members are one brother, five sons, one daughter, 36 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Buried at the Brick church on the 16th. Funeral services by Jas. H. McGowen in English and David Burkholder in German, from *Job. 14: 14*."

Children of Henry Stahly and Maria Magdalena Ehresman include:

1. Barbara Stahly was born at Milton, Wayne County, Ohio Jan. 28, 1836, and died after a horse riding accident at Union (the same location became Nappanee) Feb. 13, 1869. Circa 1855 she married minister John Ringenberg. He was born in February 1827, and at Locke June 27, 1871. After her death, their six children were raised by her siblings. *Herald of Truth*, July 1871: "On the 27th of June, near Locke, Ind., of rheumatism and dropsy, Pre. John Ringenberg, aged 44 years and 4 months. The deceased was a minister of the gospel in the Omish Mennonite Church, of a meek and quiet spirit, and sought to promote the interest of the kingdom of Christ by his christian walk and conversation, as well as by the discharge of his ministerial duties. May our loss be his eternal gain. His wife died over two years since. Thus are left six orphan children. May the God of the fatherless bless, and protect them through the wilderness of this world. Funeral services by D. Hochstetler, J.M. Christophel, Jonas Troyer and D. Brenneman, from *John 5:24-28, Luke 2:29*."
2. Mary 'Polly' Stahly was born at Milton, Wayne County Feb. 1, 1838, and died at Nappanee June 8, 1925. On May 24, 1857 in Elkhart County she married Tobias Yoder. He was born in Holmes County, Ohio June 29, 1832, and died in Elkhart County Jan. 20, 1892, a son of Elias Yoder and Rachel Troyer. They can be found on the 1880 census of Jefferson, Kosciusko County (just below Elkhart County) as farmer Tobias Yoder, 48, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania and Canada; Mary, 43, born in Ohio to parents from Germany; and five nieces and nephews born in Indiana. She remarried to Christian Lantz. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 1, 1834, and died in Howard County, Indiana Nov. 6, 1919, a son of Stephen Lantz and Anna Kauffman. He was buried in the Schrock Cemetery at Plevna, Indiana. His first two wives were Barbara Eash and Anna Schrock. *Gospel Herald*, June 1925: "Polly Lantz, daughter of Henry and Magdalena Stahley, was born in Wayne Co., Ohio, Feb. 1, 1838; died at her home near Nappanee, Ind., June 8, 1925; aged 87 y 4 m. 7 d. In April, 1857, she was married to Tobias Yoder, with whom she lived until 1892, when this union was severed by the death of her husband. In November, 1897 [his obituary says October 1891], she was united in marriage to Christian Lantz of Howard Co., Ind., and this union was again severed by the death of her husband on Nov. 4, 1919. During her second marriage she lived with her husband in Howard Co., but after his death she returned to her home near Nappanee, Ind., where she remained until her death. Sister Lantz had no children of her own, but she was foster mother of six, all of whom she took to raise. They were May Ellen Reed, Mrs. Ed Pinninger, Henry Ringenberg, Mrs. Levi Schrock, Ezra Bleile, and Mrs. S. G. Moyer. She also leaves two brothers (Simon Stahley and Daniel Stahley). She united with the Mennonite Church when a young woman and remained faithful until death. Funeral was held June 10 at the North Mennonite Church in Nappanee, conducted by Ezra Mullet and Silas Yoder. Burial at the Union Cemetery near Nappanee."
3. Christian Stahly was born at Milton, Wayne County April 9, 1840, and died at Nappanee Nov. 24, 1921. On Dec. 27, 1864 at Goshen, Indiana he married Mary Souder. She was born in Fulton County, Ohio Jan. 14, 1845, and died at Nappanee April 12, 1926. They are buried at Union Center Cemetery at Nappanee. *Gospel Herald*, December 1921:

"Christian H. Stahly was born in Wayne Co., O., Apr. 9, 1840; died in Nappanee, Ind., Nov. 24, 1921; aged 81 y. 7 m. 15 d. He united with the A. M. Church in 1863, was baptized by Bishop Jonas Troyer at the Clinton Church near Goshen, Ind., and has since lived a faithful and consistent Christian life, always longing and praying for peace to reign supreme. He was united in marriage to Mary Souder of Archbold, O., Dec. 27, 1864. To this union were born 11 children. Funeral services were held Nov. 27 at Nappanee West Market Street Church by Everet Pippin (devotional), J. H. McGowen (Text, *Rev. 14:13*), and (closing) Daniel Wysong..."

4. Magdalena 'Martha' Stahly was born at Milton, Wayne County Aug. 28, 1843, and died at Nappanee Aug. 5, 1876. On June 20, 18689 in Elkhart County she married Andrew Bliele. He was born in December 1846. After her death her child was raised by her siblings. Bliele later remarried and lived at Jefferson, Iowa.
5. Henry H. Stahly was born in Milton, Wayne County May 1, 1845, and died at Nappanee Oct. 21, 1921. In 1866 he married Mary Wickey. She died in 1872. On Oct. 25, 1874 he remarried to Barbara Weber. *Gospel Herald*, November 1921: "Henry H. Stahly, aged 76 y. 5 m. 20 d., passed away at his home east of Nappanee, Ind., on Friday noon, Oct. 21, from a sudden attack of heart disease. He was apparently enjoying usual good health and his sudden demise is a severe shock to his family and the entire community. Bro. Stahly was born in Wayne Co., Ohio, May 1, 1845. His parents moved to Elkhart Co., Ind., when he was but one year old and has resided here all his life. In 1866 he was united in marriage to Mary Wickey. Three children were born to this union (Emanuel, Lavina Slaybaugh, and Malinda Wysong). This union was severed by the death of Sister Stahly in 1872. Bro. Stahly was again united in marriage to Barbara Weber on Oct. 25, 1874. To this union four children were born (Charles, Vernon, Mabel, who preceded him in death, and another daughter who died in infancy)...Two daughters, two brothers, and two sisters preceded him in death. Bro. Stahly was a faithful member of the W. Market St. Mennonite Church. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Oct. 25, from the W. Market St. Church, conducted by E. S. Mullett and Silas Yoder. Interment in the Union Center Cemetery."
6. Peter H. Stahly was born at Union Nov. 24, 1847, and died at Nappanee (the same location renamed) Nov. 26, 1915. On Nov. 12, 1872 he married Catherine Yoder. She was born at Smithville, Wayne County Aug. 29, 1846, and died in Elkhart County June 16, 1877, a daughter of Joseph Yoder and Mariah Farmvald [Vordemwald]. On Nov. 3, 1878 he remarried to Veronica 'Fannie' Yoder, a sister to his first wife. She was born Feb. 5, 1849, and died at Nappanee. They are buried in Union Center Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, December 1915: "Peter H. Stahley was born Nov. 24, 1847; died Nov. 26, 1915; aged 68 y. 2 d. Born and reared on his father's farm on what is now the Northeast quarter of Nappanee, Ind. ... He united with the A. M. Church while a young man and continued as an active and consistent member until death. He will be remembered by many as an efficient visiting brother for a number of years... Nov. 12, 1872, he married Kathryn Yoder of Wayne Co., Ohio. To this union were born two children, Franklin and Ida May, wife of Geo. Hartman. This wife and both children preceded him to the spirit world. Nov. 3, 1878, he married Fannie Yoder, sister to his first wife. To this union were born four children...He located on his farm one mile north of town in the year 1876 and lived there until six years ago when he retired from active farm work and moved to his present home. Funeral was held Nov. 29 at the Nappanee West Church where Bro. J. E. Hartzler preached from *Job 14:14* to a large and attentive audience."
7. Simon H. Stahly was born at Union Sept. 13, 1850, and died at Nappanee (the same location renamed) Sept. 18, 1937. In 1873 he married Jane Pearman. She was born Jan. 19, 1850, and died Jan. 1, 1880. On Feb. 27, 1881 he remarried to Elizabeth Miller. She was born in Holmes County, Ohio, Jan. 29, 1851, and died at Nappanee Aug. 17, 1946, a daughter of Eli S. Miller and Mary Kaufman. They are buried in Union Center Cemetery. Simon is found on the 1880 census of Locke as farmer Simon Stahley, 29, born in Indiana to parents from Bavaria, in the household of Jacob Mann, 29, who worked in a saw mill. *Gospel Herald*, November 1937: "Simon, son of Henry Stahly, was born in Nappanee, Ind., Sept. 13, 1850; died Sept. 18, 1937; aged 87 y. 5 d. The Stahly family originally came from Germany, and settled as pioneers in Nappanee. The northeastern part of Nappanee was the old Stahly farm, and the house where Simon was born is still standing in a remodeled condition. In 1873 he was married to Jane Pearman. To this union were born 2 children (Dan I. Stahly of Nappanee and Mrs. Simon Albrecht of Sycamore, Ill.). His companion passed away at the birth of the last-named child in 1879. On Feb. 27, 1881, he was married to Elizabeth Miller, who with the 2 children, 6 grandchildren, and many relatives remain to mourn the loss of a kind husband, father, and friend. He was the last surviving member of a family of nine children. In early life he united with the Mennonite Church and remained faithful to the cause until the Lord celled him home. Funeral services were held Sept. 20 at the North Main St. Mennonite Church in Nappanee, conducted by Homer F. North. Burial in the Union Center Cemetery."
8. Daniel H. Stahly was born at Union March 26, 1856, and died at Nappanee (the same location renamed) April 30, 1931. He married Sarah Schmucker. They are found on the 1880 census of Locke as farmer Daniel Stahley, 23, born in Indiana to parents from Bavaria; Sara, 23, born in Indiana to parents from Indiana and Ohio; retired farmer Henry Stahley, 69, born in Bavaria to parents from Bavaria; and Noah Ringenberg, 12, born in Indiana to parents from Bavaria and Indiana.

Johannes/John Ehresman

Johannes/John Ehresman was born April 12, 1812, and died at Ross Dec. 5 or 15, 1903.

He married Veronika/Veronica 'Fanny' Ehresmann of Dörrmoschel, who was a younger sister to Jakob/Jacob's wife. She was born Sept. 14, 1821, and died at Edna Mills, Indiana April 9, 1880.[64] They had their first child in Ohio in November 1840.

'John Aresman' signed a *Declaration of Intent* for naturalization at Hamilton, Butler County in September 1840. It described him as a 28-year-old native of Darmstadt.

They appear on the 1850 census of Ross as farmer John Ayresman, 38, Germany; Fanny, 29, Germany; Christopher, 10, Ohio; John, 8, Ohio; Jacob, 6, Ohio; and Augustus, 3, Ohio. They are found on the 1860 census of Ross as farmer John Ehresman, 49, Germany; Fanny, 39, Germany; Christian, 18, Ohio; Jacob, 16, Ohio; Augustus, 13, Ohio; Catharine, 7, Indiana; and Henry, one month, Indiana. In 1870: farmer Jno. Ayersman, 58, Darmstadt; Fannie, 48; Catherine, 17; and Henry, 9. In 1880 widower John Ehresman is at Ross in the house next to his brother as an 86-year-old father-in-law [he was 68] in the household of farmer Christian Garver [Gerber], 31, born in Ohio to parents from Germany; Catherine, 27, born in Indiana to parents from Hesse, and Jesse, 1, born in Indiana.

John Ehresman appears on the 1900 census of Ross as an 88-year-old German reired farmer in the household of Christian Gerber and his second wife Josephine Zimmerman. His birth date is given as April 1812. No year of immigration is stated.

Johannes/John Ehresman and Veronika/Veronica 'Fanny' Ehresmann are buried in Peters Mennonite Cemetery in Ross Township. They had eight children; three died before 1913.

1. Christian E. Ehresman was born in Ohio Nov. 21, 1840, and died Aug. 29, 1911. He married Mary Imhoff. She was born at Madison, Butler County Jan. 27, 1845, and died at Edna Mills Nov. 21, 1922, a daughter of minister Peter Imhof/Imhoff and Catherine Augspurger. The 1870 census of Madison shows farmer Christian Ehersman, 29, Ohio; Mary, 25, Ohio; Catharine, 2, Ohio; Peter, 1, Ohio; and farm laborer Augustus Ehersman, 21, Ohio [his younger brother]. The two also appear as next door neighbors on the 1880 census of Lemon, Butler County: Chris. Ehresman, 38, born in Ohio to parents from Hesse-Darmstadt; Mary, 34, born in Ohio to a father from Hesse-Darmstadt and a mother from Ohio; Catherine, 12, Ohio; Emma, 9, Ohio; and Fanny, 3, Ohio. They are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Edna Mills.
2. John Ehresman was born in Ohio circa 1842.
3. Jacob B. Ehresman was born in Ohio April 27, 1844, and died at San Dimas, California June 9, 1927. On Aug. 27, 1864 in Clinton County he married Elizabeth Blickenstaff. She was born in Indiana Sept. 5, 1844, and died at San Dimas May 17, 1813, a daughter of Joseph Blickenstaff and Hannah Ulrey. The 1880 census of Ross shows his household as farmer Jacob B. Ehresman, 35, born in Ohio to parents from Germany; Elizabeth, 35, born in Indiana to parents from Ohio; and five children born in Indiana. In 1901 they relocated to Lordsburg (now LaVerne) and San Dimas, California, where they worshipped at the Church of the Brethren at Lordsburg and owned San Dimas Livery. They are buried in Laverne Cemetery.
4. Augustus Ehresman was born in Ohio 1847, and died in 1929. He married Catherine 'Katie' Imhoff, who was born at Madison, Butler County in 1851, and died in 1928, a daughter of minister Peter Imhof/Imhoff and Catherine Augspurger. They farmed at 6331 Sycamore Road, Trenton and at Lemon, Butler County. The 1880 census of Lemon shows them next door to Christian/Christopher Ehresman and Mary Imhof: August Ehresman, 32, born in Ohio to parents from Hesse; Catherine, 29, born in Ohio to a father from Hesse and a mother from Ohio; Theo, 6, Ohio; and Simon, 3, Ohio.[65] They retired to a home at 107 North Second Street, Trenton. That address was only a few doors from the address of his cousins Bertha and Emelie, and only a street removed from cousin Otto (more on them a little later).
5. Catherine 'Katie' Ehresman was born at Ross Aug. 4, 1853, and died Jan. 26, 1892. On Feb. 18, 1873 in Clinton County she married minister-farmer Christian Gerber. He was born in Butler County, Ohio April 21, 1847, and died at Edna Mills March 10, 1931, a son of Christian Gerber and Ann Roth. Christian grew up at Elm Grove. He became a minister in the Defenseless Mennonite Church, and was likely the Defenseless Mennonite 'Christian Gerber of Illinois' mentioned by Delbert Gratz in *The Bernese Anabaptists* as a minister in the Rossville-Buck Creek area of Indiana, where services were "altogether in German." On July 23, 1893 in Tippecanoe County he remarried to Josephine Zimmerman. She was born in Germany in September 1853, and died at Edna Mills March 9, 1931, a daughter of John Zimmerman and May Slegel. The 1900 census of Ross shows Christian Gerber, born in Ohio in April 1847; Josephine, born in Germany in September 1853; and two children born in Indiana. Susan Yost Clawson found the circumstances of their coincidental deaths: their obituaries say that within 13 hours she died of "an attack of heart trouble," and he died of pneumonia. They are buried in Edna Mills Mennonite Cemetery.
6. Henry Ehresman was born at Ross in 1860, and died in Butler County, Ohio Sept. 28, 1878.

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[64] Fanny's headstone at Edna Mills Mennonite Cemetery identifies her as the "frau von Johannes Ehresman" who died "9 Apr 1880 58y 6m 25d."

[65] Other near-neighbors at Lemon included minister Peter Schrock, 70, and his second wife Magdalena Rediger, 50; and Christian A. Augspurger, 43, his wife Catherine Schertz, 40, and his mother-in-law Catherine Schertz, 76.

Bureau and McLean Counties

As noted earlier, the genealogy of the Ehresman family of Montgomery, Woodford County was largely neglected over the years. It was difficult to track the later lives of Christian's many children, where the spelling of their surname took so many forms.

In some instances we found their information entangled with two nearby families from Waldeck and Hesse that had Amish Mennonite backgrounds. Our research on these families was limited. *Mennoniten* records for Waldeck and Hesse are scarce.

There is an obvious connection (via the Stähli family) between the family in Bureau County and the family at Neuhausen.

In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth briefly mentions **Christian Ehrismann**. In 1744 Christian co-leased an estate at Ludwigseck, Wittgenstein with Amish Mennonite minister David Eckhardt. He remained there from 1745 to 1753.

Guth links Christian with a probable son who lived at the hamlet Gershäusen in Hesse. It was located below Braunau, Hesse; it is now part of that community. They are situated in the valley of the Eder river [Ger. *Edertal*], which now surrounds the Edersee reservoir.[66]

Johannes Ehrismann died at Gershäusen Jan. 6, 1810.[67] He had been the leaseholder [Ger. *Conduktor*] on the Gershäuser Hof. His widow died there in 1814. Other families at Gershäusen in this time frame included Schwarzentruber, Jüngerich [Güngerich], Schlabach, and Kempf.

Johannes and his widow were the probable parents of **Johannes Ehrismann**. According to Helmut Gingerich, he was born circa 1783.

He married Marie Jüngerich. She was a daughter of Peter Jüngerich and Katharina Schwarzentruber, who became co-leaseholders of the Gershäuser Hof after 1810.

Johannes and Marie lived at the Gershäuser Mühle [mill]. Johannes's father-in-law Peter Jüngerich and Peter Schlabach both filed for bankruptcy on the Gershäuser Hof in 1821. This may have played a part in the Ehrismanns' move to Schrecksbach at about this time.

Schrecksbach is 22 miles southeast of Gershäusen. The river Schwalm runs alongside the tiny village, and Johannes may have continued to work as a miller there.

Johannes Ehrismann and Marie Jüngerich may have been the parents of **Peter Ehrismann**. He was born Jan. 21, 1804.

Peter marred Magdalena Stähly. She was born on the Obertraisa estate at Fränkisch Crumbach, Hesse Sept. 7, 1806. She was a daughter of Jakob Stähly (born at Enkenbach, the same person who was involved with the Naffziger family of Hochheim) and his second wife Elisabeth Brenneman. She was also a cousin to Heinrich Stähly/Henry Stahly, who married Maria Magdalena Ehresman of the Neuhausen family.

STÄHLI/STÄHLY/STAHLY

The earliest mention we found of the surname 'Stähli' was at Hilterfingen on Lake Thun in Bern, where several families lived in the early 1500s. Kasper Stehli and Anabaptist Magdalena Schedeberger sold their farm at Sigriswil (three miles down shore from Hilterfingen) in 1713. By 1718 they were farming at Trippstadt, seven miles below Kaiserslautern in the Pfalz. In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller draws a direct line of descent from Kasper and Magdalena to the Stähli family at Enkenbach.

Magdalena's father Jakob Stähly [Stähli] was born at Enkenbach in the Pfalz July 25, 1752, and died on the Obertraisa estate in Fränkisch-Crumbach July 26, 1822. He first married Elisabeth, the widow of Johannes Spring. This made him step-grandfather to the children described in NAFZIGER. He later remarried to the much younger Elisabeth Brenneman. She was born Dec. 9, 1776, and died on the Albacherhof May 3, 1851, a daughter of Nikolaus Brenneman and his second wife Magdalena Unzicker. They may have assumed the lease at Obertraisa, where they had five children 1805-15.

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[66] A dam constructed 1908-14 blocks the Eder River. The Edersee reservoir raised the water level over several villages where Amish Mennonites once leased farms, such as Berich. The dam was bombed May 17, 1943, releasing a 20-foot wave through the Edertal (inspiration for the movie *The Dam Busters*). It was rebuilt within months.

[67] The Gershäuser Hof below Braunau, and the one-time hamlet of Gershäusen, are easy to confuse with Gershausen below Kirchheim, which is about 35 miles to the southeast.

According to Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, there are entries for the Gershäuser Hof kept in parish records at Braunau. The parish records are not found in the FHL microfilm system, so we could not verify them. It is possible that additional information would be found in the *Ortsippenbuch* (family lineage book) of Braunau, held by the Family History Library at Salt Lake City (943 B4do ser. Av. 219).

Magdalena's older sister Barbara was born Jan. 22, 1805, and died at Danvers Fe. 19, 1898. She married Johann Christian Nafziger. His birth was registered at Reinheim, Hesse Jan. 16, 1803; he died at Danvers March 8, 1893, a son of Peter Nafziger and Jakobine Fischer. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Empire*, arriving at New York Nov. 19, 1853. The passenger list shows them as Christian Nafziger, 50, Barbara, 48, and eight children traveling from Hesse to New York. The 1880 census has them as Christian Naffziger, 76, Hesse-Darmstadt; and Barbara, 74, Hesse-Darmstadt. See NAFZIGE for his obituary.

Magdalena's younger brother Peter was born circa 1812. He married Catherine Gingerich. She was born Feb. 12, 1813, and died in December 1892, a daughter of John P. Gingerich (as he was known in Iowa) and Fredricka Schlabach.

Peter and Magdalena sailed from Bremen on the *Janet Ridston* and arrived at New York June 24, 1852.[68] The passenger lists describes them as Peter Erizman, 48; Magdalena, 46; Catrin [Katharina], 17; Jacob, 16; Elisabeth, 14; Anna, 14 [we cannot account for her after this voyage]; Frederick [Fredricka], 12 [mistakenly indicated to be a male]; Elen [Helen], 9; Christiana, 7 [mistakenly indicated to be a female]; Wm. Erisman, 5; and Maria, 3.

Magdalena's younger brother and his family sailed with them: Peter Stahli, 38; Cath., 37; Elisabeth, 10; Mglin, 7; and Wm., 5.

Both families settled in Bureau County. Peter Ehrismann and Magdalena Stähly lived at Bureau. Bureau Township was also known as 'Bureau Junction,' because it held a railroad switching yard. From this point forward Peter's surname is usually found as 'Erismann' but occasionally 'Erisman.'

Their household appears on the 1860 census of Bureau as farmer Peter Erisman, 56, Germany; Helena [Hessian immigrants saw this as a short form of Magdalena], 54, Germany; Jacob, 24, Germany; Frederica, 20, Germany; Christian, 16, Germany; and William, 13, Germany. 'Peter Erismann' of 'Bureau Princeton' appears on an excise tax list in 1865, owing $5 on income of $825. The 1870 census of Bureau shows Peter, 54, and Hellen, 61, living in the household of son and farmer Wm. Erisman, 23, Germany. Others in the household include Fredrica Naffziger, 39, Germany [daughter Fredricka]; Ellen Erisman, age illegible, Germany [daughter Helen]; C., 25 [Christian Nafziger, Frederick'a husband?]; Marie Naffziger, 5, Illinois; Bertha, 3, Illinois; and Edmund or Edward, 1, Illinois.

The household of Magdalena's younger brother can be found on the 1860 census of Dover, Bureau County: farmer Peter Staley, 48, Darmstadt; Catharine, 48, Darmstadt; Helena, 15, Darmstadt; and William, 13, Darmstadt.

Peter Ehrismann died before 1880. As a widow, Magdalena is found on the 1880 census of Bureau: Magdalena Erismann, 73, born in Hesse-Darmstadt to German parents; Kate, 45, born in Germany to German parents; William, 33, born in Kurhessen to a father from Kurhessen and a mother from Hesse-Darmstadt; Mary, 31, born in Kurhessen to a father from Kurhessen and a mother from Hesse-Darmstadt; and farm laborer Thomas Grubb, 20, born in Pennsylvania to parents form Pennsylvania. Their next-door neighbors included John Schwarzentraub, 59, born in Hesse-Darmstadt and his family; J.E. Schwarzentraub, 26, and his wife Emma; John Naffziger, 54, and his family; Nicholas P. Roggy, 30, and his family; and Joseph Engle [Engel], 75, and his wife Kate.[69]

The children of Peter and Magdalena were all born in Germany. The third child, Elisabeth/Elise/Eliza, is known to have been born at Schrecksbach, Hesse. Several census reports gave their birthplace as the state of Kurhessen, which would be consistent with Schrecksbach. They include:

1. Katharina 'Kate' appears on the *Janet Ridston* passenger list and the 1880 census of Bureau as someone born circa 1835. She was living at Princeton in 1911, when she was mentioned in Fredricka's will as a sister.
2. Jacob Erismann was born March 31, 1836. On June 23, 1869 in Tazewell County he married Anne/Anna Jantzi. She was born at Macheren, Moselle June 25, 1844, and died at Hickman, Nebraska Dec. 28, 1928, a daughter of Michel Jantzi and his second wife Catherine Nafziger. In 1867 Jacob was listed as a qualified voter in Brownsville District, Nemaha County, Nebraska. In 1900 and 1911 he was living at Hickman.
3. Elisabeth/Elise/Eliza Erismann was born at Schrecksbach January or June 23, 1838, and died before 1911. On June 5, 1858 in McLean County she married Joseph Brenneman. He was born at Turtle Creek, Ohio May 7, 1833, and

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[68] The same voyage brought Daniel Schwarzentraub, who later lived at Morton (see SCHWARZENTRAUB). Another name on the list is Daniel Gingerich, age 20. This may be the individual who appears on the 1880 census of El Paso, Woodford County as saloon keeper Dan Gingrich, 48, born in Hesse-Darmstadt to parents from Hesse-Darmstadt.

[69] This was the Johannes/John Schwarzentraub born in Hesse-Darmstadt in 1820, who lived at Turtle Creek, Ohio for many years. He is mentioned in SCHWARZENTRAUB. Joseph Engel and his wife Catherine 'Kate' Roggy can be found in ENGEL; Nicholas P. Roggy was Catherine's nephew. John Naffziger, 54, was Johannes Nafziger, who was born at Illbach March 25, 1826, and died in 1899, a son of Valentin Nafziger and Elisabeth Imhof. He immigrated in 1849. John's wife Eliza, 53, was Elise Bender. She was born on the Schmitthof in Hesse-Darmstadt Sept. 26, 1826, came to America on the Hessian Mennonite' voyage of 1832, and died Nov. 9, 1908, a daughter of Johannes Bender and Marie Brenneman (see BRENNEMAN).

died July 9, 1914, a son of Daniel Brenneman and Elizabeth Jutzi. 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.

3. Anna Erisman appears as a 14-year-old (like her sister Elisabeth) on the *Janet Ridston* passenger list.
4. Fredricka/Fredericka Erismann was born circa 1840, and died at Princeton, Bureau County in March 1911. On Feb. 7, 1864 in McLean County she married Christian Naffziger. He was born in 1834, son of Johann Christian Nafziger and Barbara Stähly. Her household is found on the 1880 census of Princeton as Fredricka Naffziger, 40, born in Prussia to Prussian parents; and daughter Minnie, 15, born in Illinois to Prussian parents. Her will said that all three of her children had died before 1911. At the time of her death she owned land in Livingston and McLean Counties as well as her home at Princeton.
5. Helen Erismann was born circa 1843. She married Augustus/August Nafziger, who was born at Koblenz Dec. 7, 1836, and died at Narka, Kansas Aug. 9, 1912, a son of Jacob Nafziger and Katharina/Catharine Nafziger (see NAFZIGER, JACOB AND THE ROCKES).
6. Christian August Erismann was born Aug. 16, 1844, and died before 1911. In 1877 he was listed in *The Voters and Taxpayers of Bureau County, Illinois* as the renter of 240 acres in Section 10, Princeton. He married Helen Shettler [Schöttler]. They are found on the 1880 census of Saltillo, Lancaster County, Nebraska as C.A. Erisman, 35, Germany; Helen, 21, Illinois; and Wm. Stailey, 32, boarder-farmer from Germany. C.A. Erisman appears in the 1890 *Nebraska State Gazetteer* business directory as a farmer-resident of Hickman (six miles below Saltillo).
7. Wilhelm/William Erismann was born circa 1847. In 1877 he was listed as a co-renter with his brother Christian August in *The Voters and Taxpayers of Bureau County, Illinois.*
8. Marie/Mary Erismann was born circa 1849.

We assume that the Erismans in McLean County were related to the Erismanns in Bureau County.

Johannes Ehrismann was born in Europe circa 1789.

As a widower, he sailed from Bremen on the brig *Venus*, and arrived at New York Oct. 31, 1838. The passenger list has entries for Joh. Ehresmann, 48, and Christian Ehresmann, 18. They were described as farmers from Hesse. Their destination was stated to be Hamilton. This may have been either of two locations: the county seat of Butler County, Ohio, or the county below it, where Cincinnati is located.

Johannes Ehresmann died at Overpeck in Butler County May 6, 1851. According to Neil Ann Stuckey Levine *Transplanted German Farmer*, the diary of Christian Iutzi has an entry for May 7: "Laid our friend John Ehresmann to rest." He is buried as Johannes Erismann in Hickory Flat Cemetery at Overpeck. The age on the headstone is obscured, but appears to be 62 years.

His son **Christian Ehrismann/Erisman** has been described as someone born at Edertal, Waldeck Nov. 14, 1819. The Edertal is the valley that now surrounds the eastern end of the Edersee reservoir; encompassing Braunau. This is the basis for our assumption that he and his father were in some way related to the Gershäusen Ehrismann family whose descendants lived in Bureau County.

On Oct. 21, 1855 at Danvers, McLean County he married Barbara Donner. She was born in Butler County, Ohio March 13, 1833, and died June 3, 1912. She was a daughter of Peter Donner and Barbara Naffziger (sister to minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger). Peter Donner and Barbara Naffziger may be recalled from Part One as passengers on the *Nimrod*. That ship sailed from Amsterdam to New York in 1826. Their party was coordinated by second cousin Christian Nafziger, who brought them to settle at Wilmot, Ontario.

Christian died at Allin, McLean County March 14, 1870. The 1870 census of Allin shows his widow Barbary Ayersman, 35, Illinois; Rinehart, 14, at school, Illinois; John, 13, at school, Illinois; Henry, 11, Illinois; Elizabeth, 6, Illinois; Kate, 4, Illinois; Christian, 2, Illinois; and Barbary Donner [Barbara Naffziger Donner], 67, "lives at Ayersmans." (In 1867 Mosquito Grove became Allin. Stanford was a railroad stop at Allin. One would now say that Stanford is a town within Allin Township, on the west side of McLean County bordering Tazewell County).

On Aug. 30, 1872 at Stanford Barbara remarried to Jacob Erisman. He was born at Wetzlar, Hesse (10 miles west of Giessen, 50 miles below Edertal) May 26, 1828, and died Sept. 14, 1898. He may have been the 'Jacob Erissman' who appears on the 1852 *Janet Ridston* passenger list near the family of Barbara's brother-in-law Peter Ehrismann and his wife Magdalena Stähly. There his age, 29, was obviously altered with a superimposed number to become 24. He had traveled with Barbara, 29, and Wm., 9.

Their blended household appears on the 1880 census of Allin as farmer Jacob Erisman, 52, born in Germany; Barbra, 43, born in Ohio to German parents; stepson Henry, 19, born in Illinois to a father from Ohio and a mother from Germany; daughter Elizabeth, 16, born in Illinois to a father from Ohio and a mother from Germany; daughter Catharine, 14, born in Illinois to a father from Ohio and a mother from Germany; and son Christian, 12, born in Illinois to a father from Ohio and a mother from Germany.

Barbara is found as a 67-year-old landlord living with her son Henry on the 1900 census of Allin.

Barbara Donner, her first husband Christian Erisman, and her second husband Jacob Erisman are all buried in Brooks Grove Cemetery at Stanford.

Children of Christian Ehrismann/Erisman and Barbara Donner born at Stanford include:

1. Rhinehart Erisman was born in January 1857, and died at Delhi, Indiana Dec. 5, 1921. He appears on the 1880 census of Allin as Rineheart Erisman, a 22-year-old laborer on the farm of Christian Leitfritz. On Dec. 28, 1892 at Dawson, Nebraska he married Marcella May Bennett. She was born at Delhi, Iowa Oct. 3, 1874, and died there Dec. 7, 1921. Rhinehart was one of the initial organizers of Delhi Lodge No. 94, Modern Brotherhood of America (Odd Fellows), established at Delhi Oct. 13, 1897.
2. John Erisman was born Dec. 29, 1958, and died at Stanford Oct. 14, 1932. On Oct. 12, 1887 at Stanford he married Elise/Eliza Christine Bauer. She was born at Danvers Aug. 24, 1866, and died at Stanford March 20, 1936.
3. Henry Erisman was born July 6, 1860, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Jan. 24, 1948. He was living with his mother on the 1900 census of Allin, which states that he was born in Illinois in July 1860. His household appears on the 1930 census of Bloomington as Henry Erisman, 69, born in Illinois, described as a janitor in a bakery; and his wife Ida Mae, 60, born in Illinois to parents from Virginia and Indiana.
4. Barbara Erisman was born in 1863, and died at Stanford the same year. She is buried in Brooks Grove Cemetery at Stanford.
5. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Erisman was born Jan. 11, 1864, and died at Stanford Oct. 17, 1949. On Feb. 12, 1885 at Stanford she married August Nafziger. He was born at Stanford Aug. 1, 1859, and died at Bloomington Dec. 17, 1951, a son of Christian P. Nafziger and Catherine Nafziger.
6. Katharina 'Katie' Erisman was born Nov. 22, 1865, and died at Gothenburg, Nebraska Jan. 28, 1934. On Jan. 27, 1887 at Stanford she married Daniel Gingerich. He was born at Danvers Dec. 27, 1862, and died at Gothenburg April 26, 1922. He was a son of Maria Katharina Güngerich/Mary Gingerich and an unidentified father. After Daniel's mother married Jacob Nafziger at Danvers in 1868, Daniel became his stepson but kept the surname Gingerich. Daniel ran a harness shop at Gothenburg after 1890.
7. Christian Erisman was born Dec. 19, 1867, and died at Stanford Oct. 16, 1898. He is buried in Brooks Grove Cemetery.

The next four families passed through the Northkill Creek settlement at what is now Upper Bern, Berks County, Pennsylvania. We have placed one set of 'shared history' and geography notes in HOCHSTETTLER.

Hochstettler: Hostetler of Wahlern

(now Schwarzenburg)

Peter Hochstettler was a member of the Dillon Creek meeting until he left Pleasant Grove to become a minister and elder of the Egly Amish Church. The Egly Amish Church became the Defenseless Mennonite Church of Groveland, and later the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Groveland. Historically, he bridged the immigrant generations and the generation that has just passed away (our great-aunt Ethel Marie Staker, born in 1913, recalled Peter as the retired elder of her church and her Sunday school teacher).

Hostetler/Hochstettler males are Y-DNA haplogroup R-M269, subgroup U106, indicating descent from the Franks. See STAKER, BARBARIANS for background on this genetic identification.

In Canton Bern an orchard near a house is called a *Hostatt*, pronounced 'hostet.' *Hostet* is also the German word for 'hosts.' As in many of the other families in this genealogy, the surname took on other forms when it was removed from its original location and its original meaning was no longer known. The form *Hochstettler* appears later, and describes someone who comes from a high place.

This family may have lived at Winterkraut, though we found no evidence in the early church records we viewed. Winterkraut is 20 miles south of the city of Bern. It was within the community boundaries of Guggisberg until 1860; it is now within the community boundaries of Rüschegg. Local tour guides have conveniently determined that the oldest house in Winterkraut must be the ancestral home of this family. Its storage compartments have been relabeled as 'Anabaptist hiding places' for curious visitors.

In the 1600s the nearest Protestant Reformed church to Winterkraut was at Wahlern, a village less than four miles to the west. Winterkraut was within its parish. From the church at Wahlern one could walk four miles north to find a hamlet called Hostettlen within the community boundaries of Ueberstorf. Four miles to the south there is also a hamlet called Hostetten within the community boundaries of Guggisberg. These hamlets originated around the 14th century as farms called Hostet.

To give an idea of the tangle in Wahlern records, 16 Hostetler/Hostettler couples had 40 children baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church between 1660 and 1670 alone.[70] The spellings Hostetler and Hostettler were used indiscriminately to describe the same couples.

The municipality of Schwarzenburg was created Jan. 1, 2011 by the merger of Wahlern and adjacent Albligen. Before that Schwarzenburg denoted a castle and estate.

On Feb. 16, 1652 at Wahlern **Hans/Hannys Hostettler** married Barbli/Barbara Marti. Their children baptized there include:

1. Hans/Hannys Hostetler/Hostettler (*fils*) was baptized Feb. 20, 1653.
2. Ŭli Hostetler/Hostettler was baptized Feb. 5, 1655.
3. Bäbi Hostetler/Hostettler was baptized Sept. 25, 1660.
4. Anna Hostetler/Hostettler was baptized Oct. 12, 1662.
5 Heinrich Hostetler/Hostettler was baptized April 9, 1665.
6. Barbara Hostetler/Hostettler was baptized May 22, 1667.
7. **Jacob Hostetler/ Hostettler** was born at Winterkraut, and baptized at Wahlern May 15, 1670. His parents were described as Hans/Hannys Hostettler and Barbli/Barbara Marti, and witnesses included Peter Hostettler and Elsbeth Hostettler.
8. Bendicht Hostetler/Hostettler was baptized Dec. 23, 1674.

Jacob Hostetler/Hostettler was born at Winterkraut, and baptized at Wahlern May 15, 1670.

On Sept. 9, 1695 at Abligen Jacob married Christini/Stini Kŭntzi. The entry describes the groom and bride as Jacob Hosteltler and Stini Kŭnzsch. Other Hostettler weddings that took place at Abligen around this time include

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[70] Two other Hostetler/Hostettler families had Jacobs baptized at Wahlern between 1640 and 1680. Jacob Hostettler was baptized at Wahlern Feb. 7, 1669. His parents were Ŭli Hostettler and Anna Beÿeler. They also had Hans, baptized Aug. 31, 1651; Ŭlrich, baptized May 25, 1654; Elsi, baptized in March of 1662; Christ, baptized April 23, 1665; and Michel, baptized Feb. 11, 1672. Jacob Hostettler was baptized at Wahlern Oct. 15, 1671. His parents were Christ Hostettler and Maria Roli, and witnesses included Christ Hostettler and Hannys Hostettler. They also had Ŭli, baptized in 1659.

We also found many entries for Hostetler/Hostettlers at nearby Guggisberg, but no Jacobs.

Elsbed [Elsbeth] Hostettler and Hans Zahnd Aug. 1, 1695; and Hans Hostettler and Bendichta Hostettler Feb. 6, 1702.

Jacob arrived at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Lower Alsace in 1697. Censuses of Anabaptist heads-of-households and unattached adults show Jacob, but also show other Hostetler/Hostettlers as well:

1697	Jaqui Hochstettler, Christen Hochstettler, and Hans Hochstettler *fils* [junior]
1703	Jacob Hostetler, Christen Hostetler, and Hans Hostetler
1704	Jacob Hostetler, Christen Hostetler, and Hans Hostetler
1708	Jacob Hochstetler, Christen Hochstetler, Hans Hochstetler *père et fils* [father and son], and Peter Hochstettler

THE 'OTHER' HOSTETLERS AT STE. MARIE AUX-MINES

The names on thee censuses likely represent the households of Jacob, his older brother Hans, and two of Hans's sons named Christen and Hans. (We were unable to pin down Hans's wife and all children from church records; between 1675 and 1687 five grooms named Hannys married at Wahlern).

Documents from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines describe Christ/Christen/Christian and Hans *le jeun* [the younger] (married to Elsbeth Farni/Elisabeth Farney) as brothers, with a father named Hans *le vieux* [the elder]. Christ/Christen/Christian married Marguerite Gerber, and Hans *le jeun* married Elsbeth Farni/Elisabeth Farney. By 1713 the two brothers were living in the hamlet *sur Citté* at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines; their father was living at Fertrupt.

According to J. Virgil Miller in *Both Sides of the Ocean*, they were thought to have come from Nydegg. This hamlet was within Wahlern, four miles northwest of Winterkraut. It would now be described as a road in Schwarzenburg.

Financial documents indicated that 'Christe' and his father Hans *le vieux* sold possessions July 23, 1712. Their names also appear on a document involving transport created March 6, 1713. Nine days later the name Hans Hochstedler *le jeun* appeared on a similar document.

In 1715 Hans Hochstettler *le vieux* was living at Clairegoutte, 87 miles southwest of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and 20 miles west of Belfort (now in the department of Haute-Saône). Christ Hochstettler was living at adjacent Étobon. They were both living at Clairegoutte in 1723. Hans *le jeune* and Elsbeth Farni were working on an estate at Wangen near Tiengen, Freiburg in Breisgau, Baden (38 miles southeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) by 1722. There they worshipped with the Hochburg congregation. A story about their daughter Barbara Hochstettler's marriage in 1729 is told in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. They were accompanied by Christen Linder, a son of Caspar Linder and Cathrin Roth from Échery.

On July 3, 1707 Jacob rented property at La Petite Lièpvre (two miles southwest of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, now within its community boundaries). In 1709 he was living in the hamlet Echery, between Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and La Petite Lièpvre.

According to a census found by Erwin Hochstättler, in 1711 he purchased a shelter in the lower hamlet La Petite Lièpvre for 900 *livres*, becoming the next door neighbor of Jacob Amman. In 1712 a property inventory report said he owned a house, eight cows, four calves, three goats, and a pig. It also showed his next-door neighbors as Amy Jacquy [Jacob Amman] living in the home of his nephew Hans Volff [Hans Wolff]. Financial records indicate that Jacob sold this house in October of 1712.

A document involving transport created Oct. 25, 1713 names Jaqui Amen [Jacob Amman], Samuel Cotte [Condi], Jean [Hans] König, and Jacqui Hochstedler.

In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, author J. Virgil Miller wrote that Jacob was living at La Cense du Prey du Raue in 1714. If so, he had not traveled far. From La Petite Lièpvre he had only to go north to Echery, then southeast on a path that would have taken him to Prey du Raue in the small valley Rauenthal. This would have put him over a mountain, but only a few miles removed from his last home. The valley is even within the present boundaries of the municipality of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Despite the expulsion orders, a handful of Amish Mennonite families were permitted to remain at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. A letter of recommendation [Fr. *certificat de attestation*] was signed by a representative of Christian III and the mayor of Echery Nov. 8, 1715 for 'honest Niclaus Blank' [Fr. original *honneste Nicola Blanc,* this was a son of minister and elder Niclaus/Nigi Blank], his brothers Michel and Pierre, their brother-in-law Henry Hyser [Heinrich Hüser], brothers Christe and Anthony Kropf, David Chertzer [Schörtz and later Schertz], and Michel Mourer [Maurer], 'all of the Anabaptist religion.' They were obligated to leave the kingdom [Fr. *Ils sont obligé de se retirer hors du Royaume*]. It attested to the quality of their 'conduct, life, and manners' over 'many years they have lived in this vicinity.' All of those listed except Peter Blank are found on a list of Anabaptists created at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1732.

It is thought that Jacob returned to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1718. On June 6, 1719 a letter was written to Christian III asserting that those who had remained after 1713 had been unaware that they were supposed to pay a protection tax [Ger. *Schutzgeld*]. They asked that six years of requested fees be reduced to three years, since some

of the present residents had been away at least part of the time. It was signed by minister and elder Niclaus/Nigi Blank and others including Jacob. By then the number of families had more than doubled as older sons married.

A court document from Thun, Canton Bern dated March 6, 1720 described 'Jacob Hofstetter' as a *Taüfer Lehrer* – an Anabaptist teacher. It stated that he was born at Winterkraut near Guggisberg, and had been living at Maria-Kirch [*Markirch* or Ste. Marie-aux-Mines]. He had returned to Canton Bern, where he was arrested. He told authorities that he was trying to help Anabaptist women atempting to leave the canton. After paying the cost of his detention, and promising not to return, he was released from prison. On Sept. 11, 1720 a number of women and children from the Lake Thun area were permitted to depart, presumably heading toward Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Some sources have taken the expression *Taüfer Lehrer* a step farther and assumed Jacob was a minister. The expression may only have meant that on the trip to Canton Bern he proselytized Anabaptism, which was expressly prohibited by law.

Amish Mennonites were traditionally reluctant to swear to any oath that might have later ramifications – such as demonstrating that they had exercised the rights of a citizen, and thus obligating them to be eligible for military conscription. In this instance Jacob would not have been released without signing a legal document called a *Hafturfehde* or *Urfehde*. This was the promise of a released prisoner not to re-enter the land from which he had been expelled, and not to seek revenge on its inhabitants, under penalty of death.

A notarial record from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines states that 'Jacqui Hochstedler' had been a resident of La Petite Lièpvre, and had borrowed 600 *livres* on March 12, 1713. This was the same week the Hostetler/Hostettlers from Nydegg had made arrangements to depart. On Feb. 10, 1720 Jacob repaid 600 *livres* to either minister and elder Niclaŭs/Nigi Blank (born in 1646) or his son of the same name (born in 1681).

This is the last evidence of Jacob's life, and it has been assumed that he died shortly afterward – though there is no particular reason to believe this. In 1721 he would have been approximately 51 years of age. He was gone from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines by 1723, but may still have been living 'just over the mountain.'

All Hostetler/Hostettlers were gone from the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before a 1732 census.

Children of Jacob Hostetler/Hostettler and Christina/Stini Kŭntzi include:

1. Peter Hostettler was baptized at Wahlern Feb. 7, 1697; the entry was witnessed by Peter Zandt, Simon Bingeli, and Elsbeth Hostettler. In 1730 a 'Pierre Hochstette' migrated from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to Breisach am Rhein, Baden. A list of the possessions he transported was found in a tax report calling him 'Pierre Hochstette.' The *Rue de Ste. Marie-aux-Mines* leads in the general direction of the Rhine River and Breisach am Rhein on the opposite shore. Along the 35-mile route lay a number of locations later identified with Amish Mennonite families including Ribeauvillé [Ger. *Rappoltsweiler*], Ostheim, Bennwihr [Ger. *Bennweier*], Sigolsheim, Colmar, Andolsheim, Volgelsheim, and Kunheim.
2. Elisabeth Hostetler was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1706. She married Michael/Michel Blank. He was baptized at Steffisburg July 31, 1687, and died near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 24, 1755, a son of minister and elder Niclaŭs/Nigi Blanck and Barbara Im Hoof. He came to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines before 1697.
3. **Jacob Hochstetler** was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines (one family source says Echery) circa 1712, and died at Bernville, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania in February of 1776.
4. **Johannes Hostetler/Hochstättler/Hochstettler** was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1710 or 1714, and died before 1769.
5. Verena Hostetler was born circa 1716 (in a period when her parents were living away from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines), and died single, at the age of 25, at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 20, 1741, after an illness of 14 weeks. Her death entry identifies her as 'Vrena Hochstettlerin,' and mentions that she had been living with brother-in-law Michel Blank. She was buried at Fertrupt [Ger. *Forbach*] near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Jacob Hostetler

The details in the following information should be taken with a grain of salt. Jacob Hochstetler resources disagree on almost every biographical point. Only the general story of the Pennsylvania settler is consistent.

Jacob Hostetler was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1712, and died at Bernville, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania in February 1776.[71]

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[71] When *The Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler, the Immigrant of 1736* was published by descendant Harvey Hochstetler in 1912, he incorrectly believed that the Amish Mennonite Jacob had arrived at Philadelphia on the *Harle* Sept. 1, 1736. A number of false assumptions sprang from this. There was also confusion over land warrants and ages.

The Jacob Hochstedtler/Hochstadtler/Hofstedler who arrived on the *Harle* was not Amish Mennonite. He was born July 25, 1701, and died in Lancaster County circa 1750. He married and was accompanied on the *Harle* by Maria Eva Trautmann. They appear on the *Harle* passenger list as 'Jocob Hochstettler, 32' and 'M Eva Hochstettlerin, 28.' Another *Harle* passenger was 'Johannes Lorents, 32,' the cause of a misassumption that our Jacob's wife was a Lorentz. 'Jacob Hoofstettler' warranted

In 1738 Jacob, his wife, and their children emigrated from Europe on the *Charming Nancy.*

Europe's longest river, the Rhine, flowed south-north from the Swiss Alps to Rotterdam in what was then the Dutch Republic. It was fed by the Aare, Neckar, Main, Moselle, and Ruhr Rivers. In the 1700s this made the Rhine waterway a natural route for emigrants. The Dutch city became not only the largest port on the North Sea, but also the busiest natural port in Europe.

Ste. Marie-aux-Mines was only 25 miles west of a Rhine River landing at Diebolsheim, Lower Alsace.

The *Charming Nancy* had been registered by the Stedman family in 1736. The voyage was captained by the ship's co-owner Charles Stedman. He had a contract with Amsterdam port authorities. Each year no competitor could load passengers for North America until the Stedmans had loaded 2,000 on their ships at Rotterdam. This arrangement existed until 1755.

Jacob was following the example of Amish Mennonites who had sailed on the ship a year earlier. A group had departed from Rotterdam, but stopped at London before continuing and arriving at Philadelphia Oct. 8, 1737. Among them were Jacob Beiler [Beÿeler] and Jacob Mast, who are thought to have come from the area of Wahlern; and Christian Burki, who would be a neighbor to Jacob. [72]

The *Charming Nancy* sailed from Rotterdam via the tax station at Cowes and arrived at Philadelphia Nov. 9, 1738. [73] The passenger list shows only males over 16 years of age, describing 'Jacob Hostedler, 26.' Lists were created at the city hall that day for the customary oaths of allegiance and abjuration required of colonial immigrants under English law (see OATHS in the Appendix). They described him as 'Jacob Howstetter' and 'Jacob Hochstadler'; both lists indicate he signed with an 'x'.

The name listed immediately following Jacob's was 'Abraham Kunzigh' [Kŭntzi], who was 24 years of age. He appears on the secondary documents as Hunter Zincie and Abraham Kuntzy; both lists say he signed with an 'x'.

Bern Township, Lancaster County was established in 1738. The Northkill Creek ran north-and-south passing through Shartlesville, well within Bern Townhip. The Northkill Creek settlement was the earliest identified Amish Mennonite settlement in the new world.

The first Amish Mennonite settler at Northkill Creek had been Hans Sieber. He had arrived in America on the *Princess Augusta* in 1736. He was joined by fellow passenger Melchior Detweiler. In 1737 the *Charming Nancy* brought Jacob Beiler, who purchased land jointly with Sieber, and Christian Bürki. In 1742 the *Francis and Elizabeth* brought brothers Johannes and Christian Zug, their cousin Moritz Zug, Jacob Kurtz, Christian and his son 'Schweitzer Christian' Yoder, and 'Strong Jacob' Yoder (the oldest son of a father who was lost at sea). Abraham Kurtz returned from Europe on the *Phoenix* in 1749, accompanied by Christian Fischer, Christian Schowalter, and Martin Ritter. Elder Jacob Hertzler also came over on the *St. Andrew* that year. *Muscliffe Galley* passengers from 1749 at the Northkill Creek settlement included Samuel König/Koening, and Hans and Stephen Kurtz.

In 1742 the residents of the Northkill Creek settlement petitioned the Provincial Assembly for naturalization rights. This would allow them to purchase and register land. This was a dangerous proposition. Bern Township was situated just below Blue Mountain, a ridge that runs 150 miles from Maryland across Pennsylvania to New Jersey. The land was inexpensive, but poorly situated for defense. It would be on the extreme western edge of the American frontier until Aug. 22, 1749. On that day William Penn's sons Thomas and Richard Penn paid combined tribes 500 pounds for additional land north of Blue Mountain.

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200 acres at 'Middle Muddy Creek' June 15, 1738. The *Harle* couple later belonged to the Muddy Creek Church, a Lutheran and Reformed congregation at Cocalico Township, Lancaster County.

[72] Recall from BIRKY/BIRKEY: The various arrival lists have Christian Burki as Christian Burkie married to Catrina, Christian Burcki, and Christian Bürcki; it appears Anglicized as 'Berkey' in Pennsylvania sources. Some sources say he was born at Saales (9 miles south of La Broque) circa 1715; J. Virgil Miller placed 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.

Why is Christian relevant here? Because some sources say that when Christian applied for a land warrant, he asked for property near Jacob Hostetler. This is the only bit of information we found that might indicate why some sources assert that Jacob's first wife was a Burki. Online records of Lancaster County land warrants do not show one issued to Christian Burki or Berkey in the relevant time frame. They do show one for a son, who is found as Jacob Berkey. On May 10, 1738 he warranted 250 acres at Bern Township in what is now Berks County, on the South Northkill River – more than a year before Jacob Hostetler's warrant was issued. Thus the father Christian Burki would already have been living just across the Northkill River when Jacob Hostetler/Hostettler warranted his land in 1739.

[73] On June 15, 1838 'Jacob Hoofsteetler' obtained a warrant from Lancaster County for 200 acres on Middle Muddy Creek. This has caused some confusion, but it is apparent that the warrant was issued before Jacob Hotetler's arrival.

The only fortification near the Northkill Creek settlement was Fort Northkill at Upper Tulpehocken. It was a 32-by-32 foot log cabin about a mile south of Blue Mountain. It was so simple that it had a hearth but no chimney, so that it could not be occupied during cold months. It was more of a gathering place than a resource for defense.

LAND WARRANTS

Recall from YODER that in early Pennsylvania a land warrant made a claim on a parcel of land. This was a request to purchase unclaimed land from the provincial government, and it was submitted at the county seat. Administrators had a grace period to consider competing claims before granting the land for free or accepting full payment. But the claimant could work the land in expectation of owning it. Usually two entries were placed in county records: the first when the land warrant was issued, and the second when it was returned showing that the land was surveyed, boundaries determined, and no objections had been filed. In some cases ownership or occupation of the property passed through several families in the interim.

In some cases there were drastic differences between the acreage on the initial warrant and the acreage after surveying. This was generally because the original estimate was drawn from a map without sighting the property. Later, only the useful or productive pasts were considered by the surveyor (for example, a granite mountain would be deducted from the original estimate). The acreage total could also rise or fall when valleys flooded, lakes were drained, or rivers were diverted.

On Oct. 25, 1739 'Jacob Hooshteedler' obtained a warrant for 100 acres in 'Tulpehocken Twp. on the North Kill.' It was registered as Number 214 on page 90 of the Lancaster County register. North Kill Creek was actually in Bern Township. An additional 25 acres at 'Bern Township on the Northkill' was warranted by 'Jacob Hostedler' May 8, 1747; then, an additional 50 acres at West Penn Township was warranted Jan. 30, 1755 (entries after April 14, 1752 are found in the Berks County register). [74]

On March 11, 1752 Berks County was created from parts of Chester, Philadelphia, and Lancaster Counties. Initially it was much larger than it is today. Berks was an abbreviation of Berkshire, the English county where the Penns had lived. The Hochstetlers and their neighbors the Stutzmans now found themselves in the newly-established Berks County.

THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

The French and Indian War in North America was an extension of the Seven Years War fought in Europe. It began with of a series of small escalations in 1754.

Generally speaking, there were initially more than two million British colonists in North America. They opposed only 60,000 French colonists and their Native American allies. But the situation became much more complicated as many Native American nations allied with the English. The fighting eventually reached from Virginia to Newfoundland.

The first battle was considered to have been the Battle of Jumonville Glen in Fayette County, Pennsylvania May 28, 1754. It concerned the right to settle near what is now Pittsburgh. The victor was Lieutenant Colonel George Washington of the Virginia militia, though he was forced to surrender a short time later.

In 1755, 500 German-speaking residents of Berks County marched into Philadelphia. A sheriff was sent to discourage them. He was 'captured' and made to guide them to the residence of the governor. That night a special session of the Provincial Assembly passed a bill to create a militia.

At the time Quakers held the majority in the Provincial Assembly. They made sure that there was a clause in the new bill exempting Quakers, conscientious objectors, indentured servants, and minors from military service and from any taxes raised for militias. They also restricted anyone from serving in a campaign that lasted more than three days. The Lutheran and Protestant Reformed churchgoers of Berks and Chester Counties were so upset by their meddling that the Quakers lost their traditional majority, and Presbyterians took their place. Only Anabaptists and other conscientious objectors continued to ally themselves with the Quakers.

British general Edward Braddock was fatally wounded in the Battle of the Monongahela July 9, 1755. Follow-up operations over the next two years all failed.

However, the American colonies were reinforced with men and supplies after William Pitt became prime minister in 1757. The British rallied and ultimately captured the colony of Canada. France ceded all territory east of the Mississippi River.

In the aftermath of the war the American colonies would become increasingly concerned with increased taxes resulting from a doubling of England's national debt

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[74] The first warrant was turned in and the land was 'patented' after it was paid off in full by Frederick Degler Feb. 26, 1790. By then it had been surveyed and shown to be 171 acres. The second warrant was turned in and the land was 'patented' after it was paid off in full by John Degler March 26, 1821. It had been surveyed and shown to be 82 acres. The third warrant was patented by Frederick Degler Feb. 26, 1791. It had been surveyed and shown to be 112 acres. Frederick Degler was born at Wittenburg, Mecklenburg (48 miles east of Hamburg) circa 1729, and died at Tulpehocken Township in 1808; John Degler was a son. Frederick was a Lutheran who likely purchased the land warrants from Jacob's heirs.

The Northkill Creek settlers dispersed to the south and southeast around the time of an incident that came to be known as the Hochstetler Massacre.

The Hochstetler family lived about a mile west of present day Shartlesville in Bern Township;. Late at night on Sept. 19, 1757, their cabin was surrounded by 10 Delaware and three French scouts. Son Jacob answered a knock at the door, and was shot in the leg before slamming it shut.

Grown children John and Barbara had married and lived nearby.

The family waited out the attack overnight in the root cellar, though guns and ammunition were on hand. But in the early morning the cabin was set afire. Jacob's wife and two of their children were killed and scalped. Father Jacob and two of his sons were taken prisoner. Son John (maried to Catherine Hertzler) witnessed events from a distance, and daughter Barbara (married to Christian Stutzman Sr.) also lived nearby.

Jacob escaped in the spring. A letter from Colonel Henry Bouquet to General John Forbes dated March 29, 1758: "I had a German peasant brought here who was taken prisoner last year, and taken to Venango, etc.[75] I am enclosing his deposition. The man is very stupid, and speaks only rude German. I did not think it necessary to send him to you. He is almost dead of hunger, having lived on grass for several days." A letter from James Burd to William Denny at Camp Carlisle dated the following day explains Jacob's reappearance: "About five minutes before I march'd from Augusta, I observed a white man floating down the west branch on a piece of bark. I sent and took him up, he proved to be a Dutchman that was taken prisoner last Fall nigh to Reading and had made his escape from an Indian town above Vanango. I brought him with me to this place and Col. Bouquet took his deposition and sent it to the General to which I begg leave to refer your Honour."

Jacob had walked and floated roughly 260 miles to make his escape. From Carlisle he would have traveled another 80 miles to return to his home in Berks County.

By 1760 the French and Indian War in North America was winding down. On Aug. 13, 1762 Jacob petitioned the Pennsylvania colonial governor to request the release of his sons. His letter was signed with an 'x.' On Feb. 10, 1763 the kingdoms of Great Britain, France, and Spain signed the Treaty of Paris formally ending the war. Son Joseph came home on his own in 1763 or 1764. Son Christian returned in the summer of 1765.

Depending on who was telling the story of the 'Hochstetler Massacre,' it became either a note of admonition or one of inspiration to those who practiced nonresistance.

BERKS COUNTY AND THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

At the outbreak of hostilities King George III of England arranged for the services of up to 30,000 German-speaking troops. Almost 17,000 were provided by Landgrave Frederick II of the principality of Hesse-Kassel. These regular soldiers were given a living allowance and promised 500 silver *talers* at the end of their terms of service. In America about one-in-four loyalist soldiers spoke German.

At the Battle of Saratoga in 1781 approximately 5,800 German-speaking soldiers surrendered to the patriots. At first they were marched to Virginia, but there were too many to support there. The Continental Congress had no taxing authority and a lean budget. A significant number were marched again to Lancaster. After a brief stay it was decided that they could create their own living environment in forests near Reading, Berks County, where at least free wood and water were available.

On the south side of Mt. Penn overlooking Reading they felled trees and constructed long houses for shelter. Only about 80 patriot soldiers were assigned to guard them. This meant that at any given time only 40 were on duty. Still, this was sufficient. The prisoners were weak from malnutrition, and would have to cross the 10-mile long Oley Valley and pass through patriot lines to rejoin the British army. At the end of the journey they might be hung or shot as deserters.

At first the prisoners were allowed to walk off to obtain work at neighboring farms. They reported back twice a month for roll calls. But in July of 1782 this practice ended and the able-bodied were indentured to farmers on three-year contracts. They generally fared better than those in confinement, who were often too sick to work. Even wealthy Hessian officers were squeezed; they had to pay hard specie for food, at the inflated rate of continental paper money.

At the conclusion of the war in 1783 the remaining Hessian prisoners were simply released into the community. The majority returned to Europe, some were arrested as vagrants and pressed back into indenture, and the remainder found new lives in the new world.

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[75] Venango is found in the northwest corner of the state, 28 miles south of Erie. It is on the west side of French Creek in Crawford County. During the French and Indian War there was a French stockade fort there. Carlisle Barracks was established in 1757 as an outpost manned by British troops. The following year General John Forbes used it as a staging area for an attack on French Fort Duquesne (now Pittsburgh). In 1794 General George Washington used it to stage troops that put down the Whiskey Rebellion. During the Civil War the barracks were set afire by the cavalry of Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart on his way to Gettysburg. The Carlisle Indian Industrial School attended by future Olympian Jim Thorpe was located there. It is now the home of the U.S. Army War College.

Reading also supported a supply depot for the Continental Army. It is thought that patriot Generals Gates, Mifflin, and Conway formed their 'Conway Cabal' while waiting for supplies in a Reading tavern. This was nothing more than a group of disgruntled officers. However, a courier copied one of their letters calling Washington a 'weak general.' The letter reached the Continental Congress. There it was political poison, because Washington had been the choice of indispensable ally France. The careers of the three generals might have advanced further if the incident had not occurred.

Jacob's descendants are documented in two immense volumes called *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler* and *The Descendants of Barbara Hochstedler and Christian Stutzman.*

Children of Jacob Hostetler and his unidentified wife include:

1. John Hochstetler was born circa 1730, and died April 11, 1805. He married Catherine Hertzler. She was born in 1731, and died in 1800, a daughter of minister Jacob Hertzler and his second wife Catherine Roggy. They moved to Summit Mills, Somerset County, Pennsylvania in 1784. After her death John remarried to Anna Christner, the widow of Ulrich/Uli Schrock. She was born in Canton Bern in 1745, and died April 7, 1824, a daughter of Christian Christner and Barbara Burckhardt. John, Catherine, and Anna are buried in the Old Joel Hershberger Farm Cemetery at Elk Lick, Somerset County, Pennsylvania.
2. Barbara Hochstedler was born circa 1732, and died at Shartlesville, Berks County in 1787. In December of 1753 she married Christian Stutzman Sr. He was born before 1732, and died at Shartlesville Nov. 17, 1770, a son of Johann Jacob Stutzman and Magdalena.
3. Jacob Hochstetler was born circa 1734, and died in the 'Hochstetler Massacre' of 1757.
4. An unidentified daughter died with older brother Jacob in 1757.
5. Joseph Hochstetler was born in the Northkill Creek settlement (now in Upper Bern, Berks County) in August of 1742, and died at Mifflinville, Columbia County Aug. 24, 1812. Circa 1767 he married Anna Blank. She was born circa 1744, and died at Mifflinville in 1812, a daughter of physician Hans Blank and Magdalena. They settled in Heidelberg. In 1806 they relocated to Mifflinville, where they are buried in Mifflinville Cemetery.
6. Christian Hochstetler was born in the Northkill Creek settlement Feb. 13, 1746, and died near Dayton, Ohio April 2, 1814. He is buried in Union Cemetery at Somerset, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. In 1769 he married orphan Barbara Rupp. She was born circa 1746, and died at Dayton, Ohio in 1814. She is buried near her daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Christian Leatherman in an unmarked grave in Trowbridge Cemetery at Hillsdale, Indiana. Christian and Barbara settled in Somerset County, Pennsylvania in 1784, where Christian became a Dunker minister. They later lived near Dayton, Ohio.

Johannes Hostetler/Hochstättler/Hochstettler

Johannes Hostetler/Hochstättler/Hochstettler was born in 1710 or 1714, and died before 1769.

He married Anna Wagler from Muesbach near Ribeauvillé, who was born circa 1710. One of their children was born in the Markirch Valley (the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Ribeauvillé) circa 1738.

In 1746 they were living on the slopes of Climont [Ger. *Weinberg*], a peak above the Val de Villé [Ger. *Weilerthal*] eight miles north of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Some records of Anabaptist deaths were kept by Protestant Reformed ministers at the nearby village Urbeis (three miles southeast of Climont) and Catholic priests at Villé (three miles east of Urbeis) This was necessary because Anabaptists were permitted burial in their cemeteries. Maria Anna Hochstettler was born at Climont in 1746, and died as a six-month-old. An entry created for Catholic burial records at Villé Jan. 15, 1747 stated that an Anabaptist child had died at Weinberg [Climont]: "*...Mortua est Maria anna Joannis Hochstetler et Anna Waglere Annabaptistarum in Weinberg filia et infans...*" It was witnessed by "*...Christiani Eber* [Ebele?] *Anabaptists in Weinberg et Jacobo Lorscher* [Jacob Lörtscher] *Anabaptista ibidem...*"

No later records in this area are found for this couple. They may have resettled near Asswiller. Asswiller is located about 60 miles north of Villé. The area was purchased by religious benefactor Sebastien de Fouquerolles in 1703, and had served as a tolerant haven for Catholic, Jewish, Lutheran, Protestant Reformed, and Anabaptist refugees.

It is also possible that they resided on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen (40 miles north of Climont). The lease there was held by Anna Wagler's nephew Johannes/Jean Wagler and Anna Bürki. (For more on the family of Johannes/Jean Wagler and Anna Bürki and their descendants in Illinois, see BIRKY/BIRKEY, THE CROOKED ALSACE CHAIN). Daughter Elisabeth Hochstettler and her husband Christian Kempf had a child there in 1766 (see below).

Children of Johannes Hostetler/Hochstättler/Hochstettler and Anna Wagler include:

1. Johannes/Jean Hochstettler was born before 1737. He married Christina Wittmer. In the 1780s he served as a minister and worked in Katzenwangen Mill [Ger. *Katzenwangenbrückmühle*] at Bennwihr, then relocated to Ostheim, Upper Alsace (Bennwihr and Ostheim are only three miles below Muesbach, the birth place of Anna Wagler). It is

possible that his mentor was minister Jean/ Johannes Roggy. Roggy represented the Strasbourg congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759. His sons Christian Roggy (who married Sarah Detweiler) and Johannes Roggy (who married a daughter of Johannes/Jean and Christina) were operators of Katzenwangen Mill. Children of Johannes/Jean Hochstettler and Christina Wittmer include:

a. Johannes/Jean Hochstettler was born circa 1760, and died at Ostheim March 19, 1789. He married Elisabeth Lidviller. She was born at Schupfholz, Baden circa 1763, and died at Ostheim (32 miles west of Schupfholz) Dec. 18, 1818, a daughter of Christian Leutweiler and Elisabeth Wagner.[76] His Latin death entry called him 'Joannes Hochstettler annabaptista'; witnesses were Melchior Rees (1721-1802) and his son Johannes (1761-1795), found as 'Reiss.'[77] She was living on the Schoppenweir estate at Ostheim when she remarried to Conrad Schweitzer there April 10, 1793. He was born at Bad Bergzabern (near Mühlhofen) in the Pfalz Aug. 2, 1767, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace May 24, 1827, a son of Conrad Schweitzer and Madeleine Eyer. Conrad and Elisabetha's German-language civil marriage entry described Elisabetha's father as Christian Leutweiler of Schupfholz (spelling both the surname and location accurately) and her mother as Elisabeth Vagner [Wagner] born in Mŭβbach [Mussbach, Baden]. The bride signed her name 'Elisabetha Wagner,' and there was no mention of her first marriage. (To say that her parents were married or that she had been married might have required documentation from Baden). Like first husband Jean Hochstettler's death entry, Elizabeth's second marriage entry was witnessed by Johannes Reiss. A son, Conrad Schweitzer [Jr.], married his cousin Elisabeth Zehr at Arracourt Dec. 27, 1827. She was a daughter of Christian Zehr and Catherine Litwiller. One child of Johannes/Jean Hochstettler and Elisabeth Lidviller was:
    — Chrétien Hochstetler was born at Bennwihr circa November of 1784, and died at Contwig May 10, 1805. His civil death entry said he was a miller and resident of Contwig, and gave his age as 20 years and seven months. His parents were the deceased Jean Hochstaltter and Elisabeth Leitweiller, a resident of Bennwyr. It was witnessed by miller Chrétien Hauter of Contwig.

b. Barbara Hochstettler was born circa 1760, and died at Bennwihr Nov. 9, 1796. Her civil death entry said she was 36 years of age. It was witnessed by miller Peter Ulrich of the Katzenwangen Mill, 36.

c. Christian/Chrétien Hochstettler was born at Katzenwangen Mill in 1763, and died at Pfaffenheim Mill at Ostheim Oct. 11, 1841. He married Barbe Rogi. She was born at Pfaffenheim, a daughter of Christian Rogi and Sara Detweiler. Christian and Barbe were farming near Katzenwangen Mill in 1788. Christian lived with a son at Eckbolsheim in 1809. Their children include:
    1) Jean Hochstettler was born at Bennwihr March 8, 1788 (the entry was signed by his father).
    2) Christian Hochstettler's birth was recorded at Bennwihr July 29, 1790.
    3) Marie Madeleine Hochstettler was born at Ostheim Sept. 18, 1794.
    4) Barbe Hochstettler was born at Ostheim Jan. 23, 1796. On Jan. 18, 1820 at Ostheim she married Jean Roggy. He was born on the Waderhof between Lorentzen and Diemeringen, Moselle April 7, 1797 and died at Pfaffenheim Mill April 3, 1861, a son of Valentin Roggy and Barbara Schertz. See ROGGY, ROGI OF OSTHEIM for speculation that Barbe and Jean were second cousins.
    5) Johannes Hochstettler was born at Ostheim July 16, 1799. His parents were described as miller Chrétien Hochstettler, 36, and Barbara Rogy, 30.
    6) Maria Hochstettler was born at Ostheim Dec. 28, 1800, and died the same day.

d. Anna Maria Hochstettler was born circa 1765, and died in Katzenwangen Mill at Bennwihr Oct. 17, 1794. She married Jean Rogi/Johannes Roggy.[78] He was born circa 1762 (documents vary considerably), a son of Christian/Chrétien Rogi and his first wife Sara Detweiler. Her civil death entry gave her age as 29, named her parents, and was witnessed by her husband miller Johannes Rogi, 30. On April 13, 1795 at Ostheim Jean married to Anne Marie Dettweiler. She was born circa 1769. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Jean Rogi of Katzmans Brück, 30, a resident of Bennwihr. He was a son of cultivator Chrétien Rogi, 60, residing at Strasbourg, and the deceased Sare Dettweiller. The bride was described as Anne Marie Dettweiler, 26, the widow of Jean Riss and a resident of Ostheim. She was a daughter of the deceased Joseph Dettweiller and Anne Sommer, who had lived in *pay d'Autriche dit Beisgau* [we suspect this was not Austria but the area of Baden called Breisgau, centered around Freiburg im Breisgau, which may have been occupied by Austrian troops at the time].

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[76] There were earlier connections between the Hochburg congregation and the village of Ostheim. Benedict 'Benz' Stucki/Stucky (circa 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 Neuhauser lived on the the Schoppenwihr estate at Bennwihr. Their daughter Barbara Stucki married Johannes Zimmerman of 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.

[77] The Rees family had originally lived at Pforzheim, Baden before moving to Ostheim.

78

One witness was miller Chrétien Hochstettler, 32, brother-in-law to the groom. Jean was described as a cultivator at Strasbourg on the 1806 death entry of his stepmother.

e. Maria Barbara Hochstettler was born circa 1767. She married Peter Ŭlrich, and died at Bennwihr Nov. 9, 1796. Her civil death entry calling her Barbara Hochstättler was reported by her husband miller Peter Ulrich of Katzenwangenbruck, 36. On Jan. 9, 1797 at Ostheim Peter Ulrich of Katzenwangenbruck, 34, remarried to Marie Magdalena Gering [the 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 his sister-in-law; this was a description of the witness.

2. Chrétien/Christian Hochstettler was born in the Markirch Valley in 1737, and died on the Ingelshof (also called the Engelshof or Höllenhof) at Gumbrechtshoffen, Lower Alsace Feb. 4, 1811. His civil death entry created at Gumbrechtshoffen described him as cultivator Chrétien Hoffstettlerthe, age 73 years and six months, husband of Madelaine Naffziger. It was witnessed by his son-in-law Chrétien Naffziger, 44, and neighbor Peter Jaggi, 48. His birthplace was described as "*Markirch thal dit Wingart*," Wingart farm at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in the Markirch valley. He married Barbara/Barbe Nafziger in 1766 (we could not identify her). After she died on the Lauterbacherhof at Reichshoffen (per marriage entry of son Christian), Christian remarried to Magdalena/Madeleine Nafziger. She was born at Niedersoultzbach, Lower Alsace in 1738, a daughter of Johannes/Hans Nafziger and Anna Güngerich, who later lived with their three leaseholder sons on the Steinbacherhof at Durstel, Lower Alsace. Chrétien/Christian and Magdalena/Madeleine held leases on the Ingelshof and the Lauterbacherhof at various times. His children include:

   a. Christian Hochstettler was born on the Ingelshof Dec. 15, 1775 to Barbe Nafziger. He first married Katharina Habecker, who died on the Herfingerhof near Dreisen Feb. 12, 1812. On May 17, 1814 at Nehwiller-près-Woerth he remarried to Barbara Unzicker. Witnesses on their civil marriage entry include Christian's brother-in-law farmer Chrétien Nafziger, 48, of Gumbrechtshoffen; farmer Chrétien Habecker, 25, of the Katzenthal estate at Lembach; and laborer George Holli, 49, of Nehwiller-près-Woerth. Barbara Unzicker was born at Nehwiller-près-Woerth June 17, 1787, a daughter of Nehwiller-près-Woerth mayor Joseph Unzicker and Barbara Holly (the entry calls him 'Chrétien Hochstaedter'). After marriage they resettled at Stepperg, Bavaria.[79]

   b. Katharina Hochstettler married Christian Nafziger. He was born at Steineltz circa 1767, a son of miller Johannes Nafziger and his second wife Madeleine Schantz of the Katzenthal estate at Lembach. His family moved onto the Katzenthal estate when he was two years old. Christian and Katharina lived on the Lauterbacherhof (birth entries are found at nearby Gumbrechtshoffen-Oberbronn); at Gros-Réderching, Moselle; and after 1814 at Biburg, Bavaria (a suburb west of Augsburg).

   c. Magdalena/Madeleine Hochstettler was born in 1778. On Feb. 14, 1796 at Reichshoffen, Lower Alsace she married Johannes/Jean Ringenberg. He was born circa 1770, a son of Jean Ringenberg and Marie Engel of the farm La Forge below Imling, Moselle. For background on this couple see RINGENBERGER, THE BAVARIAN PETER RINGENBERGER.

3. **Isaak/Isaac Hochstettler** may have been born circa Jan. 21, 1840.

4. Anna Hochstettler was born at Le Climont circa 1744. She may have lived with her brother Isaac while he leased the Bärbelsteinerhof near Niederschlettenbach (six miles north of the border between the Pfalz and Lower Alsace). In 1769 she applied to the Catholic clergy at nearby Gossersweiler for permission to marry Joseph Stettleman. Stettelman had been a laborer on the Bärbelsteinerhof. A marriage entry at Niederschlettenbach says that she was born at Weinberg, a daughter of Johannis Hochstättler and Anna Wagler; and that she was baptized as a 13-year-old at Asswiller in 1757.

5. Elisabeth Hochstettler was born at Le Climont circa 1745, and died at Neuenkirch-lès-Sarreguemines, Moselle March 6, 1800. According to J. Virgil Miller in *Both Sides of the Ocean*, the parish book of Königsbach, Baden-Durlach holds an entry for the birth of a child Johannes to Christian Kempf, Anabaptist, and 'Elisabeth Hochstädlerin' dated Jan. 16, 1766. The entry stated that the father was farming at Johannisthal, and the child had been born on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen. A census of the Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching, Moselle taken in 1780 shows Christian Kempf, 52; Elisabeth Hochstetler, 44; Christian Kempf, 24; and other children. Christian Kempf died at Willerwald, Moselle (near Sarralbe) Jan. 28, 1811.

6. Maria Anna Hochstettler was born at Le Climont in 1746, and died as a six-month-old.

■ Barbara/Barbe Hochstettler, born circa 1748, may belong here. She was the wife of minister Hans Rupp, also known as 'Jean Ropp.' They were the parents of Andreas Ropp, the patriarch of the Illinois family. Hans was living in the flour mill Mattenmühle at Sigolsheim about 15 miles southeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines when he died Nov. 26, 1788. Johannes/Jean Hochstettler, who would have been Barbara/Barbe's oldest brother, performed Hans's burial

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[79] In 1795 Maria Leopoldine of Austria-Est became the second wife of the Bavarian Elector Karl Theodor. She was 18, he was 70. In 1799 he suffered a stroke and died. In 1801 she purchased the Stepperg Castle near Neuberg an der Donau and a brewery at adjacent Rennertshofen. Christian Hochstettler and his brother-in-law Johannes/Jean Ringenberg became tenant farmers on the grounds of the estate.

service at Bennwihr. Barbe is not mentioned on his death entry, and a family history suggests that she had already died, describing their children as 'orphaned' by the death of the father. See ROPP for more on this couple.

Isaak/Isaac Hochstettler may have been born circa Jan. 21, 1740 (civil death entry), or circa 1743 (other documents), and died in *Maison No. 1* on the Neuhof at Niederlautenbach, Lower Alsace March 29, 1817.

Circa 1764 Isaac moved 27 miles to the west onto the Lauterbachenhof farm at Reichshoffen, Lower Alsace. The Lauterbacherhof dates from the 15th century; it was originally within the town limits of Gundershoffen. *Ruisseau Lauterbach* is a creek running through the area. The area is 60 miles north of Le Climont peak and near to the border with the Pfalz. The Protestant de Dietrich family not only owned the Lautenbacherhof, but owned a foundry at Reichshoffen until the French Revolution of 1789. The farm probably provided wood for the foundry before it was completely cleared for cultivation.[80]

Isaac married four times. His first wife, Maria Siegel, is only known through the death record of son Jakob Hochstettler (circa 1765-1857) created at Dreisen. The entry names Isaak Hochstettler and Maria Siegel as Jakob's parents. Some genealogists looking for an Anabaptist Siegel family have presumed that she was a daughter of Ulrich Siegel and Anna Lehmann of the Elschbacherhof a few miles west of Kaiserslautern. If they were married in 1765, she may have died in childbirth or left their congregation, because Isaac married again in 1766.

At this point the Bärbelsteinerhof communal farm at Berwartstein castle (mentioned in EHRESMAN) becomes relevant again. Isaac would become leaseholder through a series of fortuitous events.

In 1743 Hans/Jean Ringenberg of the castle estate Ketzing (near Gondrexange in what is now Moselle) married Magdalena Holly, a daughter of leaseholder-minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly. Christian died in 1748, followed by his daughter the following year. This left Ringenberg as sole leaseholder.

Ringenberg remarried to Anna Rupp. When he died circa 1763, she continued on the estate with Tobias Kiefer as her co-leaseholder. Kiefer had been a co-leaseholder of the Steinbacherhof at Durstel, Lower Alsace, with his brother Jacob Kiefer and Christian Nafziger (a son of Christen Naffzger/Christian Nafziger and Madlena Margreth Dietrich).[81] Perhaps he introduced widower Isaac Hochstettler to widow Anna; Isaac and Anna married in 1766. Anna is thought to have had three children from her first marriage, though they could not be identified.

In 1770 Isaac was ordained as a minister serving the Wissembourg-Froensbourg congregation with members on both sides of the poorly defined Alsace-Pfalz border.[82] In 1772 he signed a full 12-year lease on the Bärbelsteinerhof, with minister Johannes/Hans Nafziger of Essingen as guarantor.

Working the stone and root-strewn farmland of the Bärbelsteinerhof must have been discouraging, because Isaac made at least one request to shorten the term of his lease. During this time he continued to travel to and from the Lauterbacherhof to visit relatives.

Isaac represented the Wissembourg-Froensbourg congregation at the Essingen assembly of ministers in 1779 with minister Michel/Michael Schantz of Katzenthal/Lembach and minister Christian Joder of Salzwoog. In 1783 he finished out the lease on the Bärbelsteinerhof and returned to the Lauterbacherhof. (In present day Berwartstein Castle has become a popular tourist attraction - it is the only castle in the region that has been rebuilt and is inhabited - and the Bärbelsteinerhof has reverted to forest).

Anna Rupp died in 1784. Circa 1785 Isaac remarried to Katharina/Catherine Schantz. She was born circa 1765, a daughter of Johann Georg Schantz and Katharina Bürki.

A Kanagy and Hoover translation of Johannes/Hans Nafziger's circa 1788 letter says, "In the Weissenburg [Wissembourg] congregation Isaac Hochstettler of Lauterbach is ordained as a full minister of the book and Christen Eösch at the Flecksteinerhof is also confirmed as a deacon."

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[80] In presentday the Lauterbacherhof at Reichshoffen is called the Millemann Farm. It is easy to confuse with the Lutterbacherhof, the home of Birkys whose descendants came to Tazewell County. The Lutterbacherhof is located at Voellerdingen, and many entries (with a number of spelling variations) appear in Diemeringen records.

For more on the de Dietrich family, see YORDY.

[81] As noted, in the 1750s the Steinbacherhof at Durstel, adjacent to Asswiller, was leased by Tobias Kiefer, his brother Jacob Kiefer, and Christian Nafziger. Tobias would become co-leaseholder of the Bärbelsteinerhof with Anna Rupp, the widow of the prior leaseholder, who remarried to Isaac Hochstettler in 1766. In this time frame the couple Peter Hochstetter and Maria Minnau lived on the Steinbacherhof. Protestant records at Durstel show entries for their children: Maria Elisabeth (born July 7, 1749, died May 6, 1750); Anna Ottilia (born Feb. 28, 1751); Maria Margaretha (born March 7, 1754); and Johann Peter (born July 21, 1756). Was this a 'soundalike' coincidence? Did Protestant working for Anabaptists invite their Anabaptist relatives to join them? Or did Johannes Hochstettler find work near his home for Protestant relatives?

[82] A letter survives where minister Johannes/Hans Nafziger mentions the Wissembourg congregation. Most authors have chosen to call it the Froensbourg congregation.

Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler tells the story of Issac's declining fortunes, tied to the disastrous devaluation of the French *assignat*. In 1789 the revolutionary government issued promissory notes called *assignats*. They were supposed to be backed by the value of properties seized from the clergy and royalty. The new notes lost the confidence of the public, and within a year the government offered to convert them into *livres*. In 1796 the *assignat* was withdrawn from circulation, and by the following year they were worth only 1/17th of original face value.

Contributor Peter Hochstettler of Groveland was unaware that his great-grandfather may had a first wife Maria Siegel when he provided the information for the book.

> "The first wife of Isaac Hochstettler, maiden name Rupp, was from Canton Bern, and at one time had notice of an inheritance there, but Isaac would not claim it, as at that time he thought he had money enough. He was able to have bought the land on which he lived, but as the family in Switzerland had been driven from their lands, he thought it safer to have his possessions in money. Later the government took his money, giving him paper in exchange which afterwards proved worthless. In his poverty he wished to secure the money from Switzerland which was offered through his first wife, but that [sum] had [already] been given to her heirs. He gave his older children good sums of money to start in life, but the younger ones had to share his poverty...This note and practically all that is given of the family is furnished by Peter Hochstettler, Groveland or Pekin, Ill."

Katharina/Catherine Schantz died at Reichshoffen Jan. 29, 1799. The entry describes the deceased as 'Catrina Shanzin,' and gives her age as 33. Her husband was described as *burger* Issac Hochstettler, age 56.

Isaac remarried to Anna Holly at Steinseltz, Lower Alsace July 18, 1799. She was a daughter of minister Jacob/Jakob Holly and his second wife Maria Kurtz of Mühlhofen, and the widow of minister Christian Güngerich of Steinseltz (a great-grandson of minister Hans 'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich).

The marriage would have been mutually beneficial. Isaac gained a mother for his children. Anna may have gained legal rights not accorded to single women in 1799, allowing her to retain the lease or title on her home. (For an Anabaptist, the *état civil* entry was a legal requirement tied to inheritance and citizenship issues; they were occasionally arranged months or even years after couples were married within the church).[83]

On June 19, 1808 Isaac was one of 22 ministers from nine congregations meeting on the Bildhäuserhof at Rosheim, Lower Alsace to discuss a plea for exemption from military service. The delegates sent representatives Christian Engel and Christian Güngerich to Paris to request Amish Mennonite service in the transportation corps.[84]

In 1809 Isaac relocated 27 miles east to live with his son Peter on the Neuhof estate at Niederlauterbach. This location is nine miles southeast of Wissembourg, in the northwest corner of Alsace near the borders with the Pfalz and Württemberg, four miles west of the Rhine River. It is probable that the move to the extreme northeast corner of Lower Alsace to help his son Peter avoid military conscription. The 250-acre Neuhof estate had belonged to the noble Riessenbach family until it was confiscated by French troops in the French Revolution of 1789.

Isaac represented the Wissembourg-Froensbourg congregation when the assembly of ministers reconvened at Rosheim June 1, 1811. Fifteen ministers from six departments signed a petition and chose another set of delegates to Paris, once again including Christian Engel. Their efforts were fruitless; over the next few years French soldiers assigned to engineering and artillery transport were required to bear arms.

A civil death entry created at Niederlauterbach March 30, 1817 said that cultivator Isack Hochstaettler had died there a day earlier. His parents were not known. He was born at Niederlauterbach [this seems unlikely], and his age was 77 years, two months, and eight days, equating to Jan. 21, 1740. His age on numerous documents from other locations suggests a birth circa 1743.

The three Ringenberger children that Anna Rupp brought to her second marriage have not been identified. The eight Güngerich children that Anna Holly brought to her second marriage are listed in Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*.

The child of Isaac Hochstettler and his first wife Maria Siegel was:

1. Jakob Hochstettler may have been born on the Lauterbacherhof at Reichshoffebn circa 1765. In 1792 he married Barbara Holly on the Münsterhof at Dreisen in the Pfalz, and took up permanent residence there. Barbara was born at Mühlhofen in 1776, and died April 4, 1841, a daughter of David Holly and Susanne Fischer (David Holly was one

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[83] The online records provided by the department of Lower Alsace omit 1799 marriage record images that might show their civil marriage entry from Steinseltz July 18, 1799. Those who have seen the entry say it names the bride as 'Anna Hollin,' 47, and the groom as 'Jean Hochstatttler' of Reichshoffen, 56. Isaac would have been 59. There is no signature or 'x' for Johannes, but instead Isaac's full signature. The municipal clerk and his assistant both signed as witnesses, along with Chrétien Roggy, 37, of Riedseltz, described as a friend of the groom.

[84] The details of Christian Engel's efforts can be found in *Love God and Your Neighbor, The Life and Ministry of Christian Engel* by Steven Estes.

of the three – with Hans Kennel and Christian Güngerich – who first leased the Münsterhof at Dreisen in 1767; Susanna Fischer was a daughter of minister Benedict Fischer, and a niece of Ulrich Fischer, mentioned as a tenant on the Mechtersheimerhof in EHRESMAN). Jakob served as a minister at Dreisen 1798-1815, then as elder until his death. He died Dec. 12, 1857. Their children born on the Münsterhof include:

a. Daniel Hochstettler was born in 1793, and died on the Münsterhof in 1866. On March 2, 1824 he married Elizabeth Hirschberger, a daughter of Johannes Hirschberger and Magdalena Nafziger.
b. Jakob Hochstettler was born in 1796, and died on the Münsterhof in 1885. He married Barbara Spring of the Neuhof near Hattenheim, a daughter of Peter Spring and Katharina Nafziger of the Rosenthalerhof at Kerzenheim in the Lower Pfalz.
c. Peter Hochstettler was born in 1798. In 1821 at Weisenheim am Berg he married Veronika Kinsinger, a daughter of Jakob Kinzinger and Elisabeth Roggy.
d. Johannes Hochstettler was born in 1799, and died on the Münsterhof in 1846.
e. Elisabeth Hochstettler was born in 1801. She married Johannes Spring, a son of Peter Spring and Katharina Nafziger of the Rosenthalerhof estate.
f. Christian Hochstettler was born in 1803, and died on the Münsterhof in 1813.
g. Susanne Hochstettler was born in 1806. She married Andreas Kinzinger, son of Peter Kinzinger of the Blumenauermühle. They lived at Eisenberg.

Children of Isaac Hochstettler and his second wife Anna Rupp include:

2. Anna Hochstettler was born circa 1767. In 1787 at Niederflörsheim in the Pfalz (eight miles west of Worms) she married Christian Holly. He was born circa 1760, and died at Niederflörsheim March 8, 1814, a son of David Holly and Susanne Fischer of the Münsterhof at Dreisen. Christian Holly and Anna Hochstettler had a son Peter Holly who was on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832, and traveled to Butler County, Ohio that year.
3. **Peter Hochstettler** was born circa 1768, and died at Meringerau near Augsburg, Bavaria Dec. 12, 1822.

Children of Isaac Hochstettler and his third wife Katharina/Catherine Schantz include:

4 Elisabeth Hochstettler was born circa 1785. On Jan. 27, 1809 at Reichshoffen she married Nicolas Augspurger. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Nicolas Augsburger, 34, widower of Madeleine Goldschmitt, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 25, 1806. The bride was described as Elisabethe Hochstettler, 24, a daughter of Isaac Hochstettler, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Schantz. Elisabeth signed her name 'Elisabetha Hochstättler,' while her father signed 'Isaac Hoschstettler.' Nicolas Augspurger was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 6 or 10, 1768, and died there Oct. 8, 1809, a son of Nicolas Augspurger and Barbe Fongond. His civil death entry described him as Nicolas Augsbourger, 38, and mentioned his widow Elisabeth Hochstetler; it was witnessed by former brother-in-law Christian Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt, 37. Elisabeth gave birth to a son Isaak at Niederlauterbach less than three months after the death of her husband. The civil birth entry dated Jan. 1, 1810 said that, "...the infant was born to Elisabeth Hochstettler, widow of the deceased Nicolas Augsburger, who in life was a farmer at Kleinhoe near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines." [85] It was witnessed by grandfather Isaac Hochstettler. Isaak married Marie Güngerich, a daughter of Jakob Güngerich and Magdalena König. They lived as 'Augsburger'at Wellenburg near Augsburg, Bavaria. Isaak died at Triftlfing (now Aufhausen, 15 miles southeast of Regensburg) June 7, 1871.
5. Catharine Hochstettler was born circa 1788. Her civil death entry created at Reichshoffen Aug. 25, 1803 described her as a 15-year-old daughter of Isaac Hochstetler, 60, and Catharina Shantzin of the Lautenbacherhof.
6. Barbara Hochstettler was born circa 1791. On Sept. 20, 1809 at Niederlauterbach she married Christian Habecker. For more on this couple see HABECKER.
7. Johannes Hochstettler was born Sept. 21, 1793. *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler* says he later "died in old age at Augsburg, Bavaria leaving a son and four daughters."
8. Magdalena Hochstettler was born Feb. 9, 1796. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Isaac Hochstettler, 52, plowman; and Catarina Shantzin, 30. Witnesses included Christian Hochstettler (Isaac's older brother signed his name 'Cristian Hostettler'), 58; and Christian Nafziger, 30. On July 15, 1813 at Niederlauterbach Magdalena married Jean Fritz. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Fritz, born at Gutenhausen, Rosheim, Lower Alsace June 24, 1793, a son of cultivator Joseph Fritz and Anne Schanz, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Madeleine Hochstaettler, born at Reichshoffen Feb. 9, 1796, a daughter of cultivator Isaac Hochstettler who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Schanz. The entry was witnessed by Pierre Hochstettler, 45, uncle of the bride. *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler* says that Johan Fritz was born at Hüttenhausen near Ingolstadt.

[85] 'Kleinhoe' may also have been *Kleinleberau*, the German name for La Petite Lièpvre (now Lièpvre) on the southwest corner of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. This may also account for sources that say Nicolas farmed at Wisembach, Vosges, a village adjacent to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines on its west side.

9. Georg Hochstettler was born at Reichshoffen June 30, 1798. His civil birth entry described his parents as Isaac Hochstettler, 50 [he was closer to 58]; and Catharina Schantz, 32. Georg died single in Bavaria.

Peter Hochstettler was born circa 1768 to Isaac Hochstettler and his second wife Anna Rupp, and died at Meringerau near Augsburg, Bavaria Dec. 12, 1822.

The history of his family has become snarled in confusion. Three contributors: 1) Difficulty converting the dates of the Republican Calendar used in Alsace civil entries between 1792 and 1806. In most cases the individuals who came to America could not give an accurate Gregorian calendar date for their own births.[86] 2) Failure to distinguish two similar-sounding locations. Hochstettlers lived on the farm Lautenbacherhof at Reichshoffen from 1764 to 1809, then on the Neuhof/Neuhoff estate at Niederlauterbach (27 miles to the east) from 1809 to 1817. And, 3) From 1817 until their emigration from Europe they lived at Meringerau, Bavaria. A number of genealogists have identified the location only by its modern name, Siebenbrunn.

On Aug. 18, 1795 at Nehwiller, Lower Alsace Peter married Magdalena Unzicker. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Peter Hofstatter, 27, son of plowman Isack Hochstettler of the Lauterbacherhof; and the bride as Magdalena Ŭnzickerin, 18, a daughter of Joseph Unzicker and Barbara Hollin. Witnesses included Peter Ŭhlmann and Georg Hollÿ. Magdalena was born at Reichshoffen March 9, 1778, and died in 1839, a daughter of Nehwiller-près-Woerth mayor Joseph Unzicker and Barbara Holly.

In 1809 Peter and Magdalena left Reichshoffen with father Isaac to live on the Neuhof estate at Niederlauterbach.[87] It is probable that Peter made this move to the extreme northeast corner of Lower Alsace to avoid military conscription.

Peter and Magdalena made at least one trip to visit Peter's older brother, minister Jakob Hochstettler. In 1816 they attended the wedding of Magdalena's brother Johannes Unzicker and Barbara Eyer, the widow of Josef Wagler, on the Münsterhof estate at Dreisen in the Pfalz. Peter served as a witness for the civil marriage entry created at adjacent Göllheim. He was described as brother-in-law of the groom Peter Hochstättler, 45, living at Neuhof, *Kreis* [district of] Wissembourg.

In 1817 Peter and Magdalena moved 166 miles to the north, leaving behind the stagnating economy of Lower Alsace. They resettled at Meringerau, Bavaria, an open area below the city of Augsburg. '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.

Peter died at Meringerau Dec. 12, 1822.

Children of Peter Hochstettler and Magdalena Unzicker include:

1. Catharina Hochstettler was born at Reichshoffen Dec. 24, 1796. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Peter Hochstettler and Magdalena Untziger, 20, *auf dem Lauterbacher Hof*. Catharina died as an infant.
2. **Joseph Hochstettler** was born at Reichshoffen Feb. 5, 1798, and died at Pekin April 29, 1854.[88]
3. Barbara Hochstettler was born at Reichshoffen March 4, 1800. Her civil birth entry identified her parents as Peter Hochstettler, 22; and Magdeleine Unzicker, 20; it was signed by father Peter Hochstettler and maternal grandfather Joseph Unzicker. Barbara married Joseph Schantz, and died at Regensburg, Bavaria.
4. Elizabetha/Elise Hochstettler was born at Reichshoffen Jan. 12, 1802. The entry was witnessed by father Peter Hochstettler; paternal grandfather Isaac Hochstettler, 57; and maternal grandfather Joseph Unzicker, 43. She died on the Stillerhof estate at Wessobrunn, Bavaria in 1854. In 1822 she married Andreas/André Schantz. He was born circa 1800, and died at Triftlfing Feb. 20, 1859, a son of Christian Schantz and his first wife Marie Birki.

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[86] The French National Convention created a new calendar Oct. 6, 1793. It was retroactive to Sept. 22, 1792, the day the Republic was established. The seven-day week was replaced by a 10-day week (called a decade). Every 30 days a three-week month passed. At the end of the year, five days were tacked on to synchronize with the lunar cycle, and every leap year one day was added. The days of the week and the months received new names. These changes caused prolonged confusion for a number of reasons: merchants trading over national boundaries had to convert dates between two systems; and history and even current news from other countries had to be 'adapted.' Some backtracking took place when the Roman Catholic Church was recognized as an official institution by the *Concordat of 1801*, which took effect April 8, 1802. The days of the week returned to the names from the Gregorian Calendar (Monday, Tuesday...), and Sunday was agreed upon as a day of rest. This calendar was abolished Sept. 9, 1805, and a new Gregorian calendar began again Jan. 1, 1806. A corresponding plan to decimalize time gave each minute 100 seconds, each hour 100 minutes, and each day 10 hours. It was abandoned as early as 1795.

[87] Neuhof's homes and farm buildings were torn down in 1932.

[88] *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler* was likely the original source of the errant birth date Dec. 3, 1798.

5. Catharina Hochstettler was born at Reichshoffen Dec. 14, 1803, and died at Dechbetten (now part of Regensburg) in 1826. Her civil birth entry identified her parents as Peter Hochstettler and Magdaline Imsinger [Unzicker] *auf dem Lauterbacher Hof.* It was witnessed by father Peter Hochstettler and paternal grandfather Isaac Hochstettler, 60. She married Joseph Schantz. He was born at Schönhof, Germany March 9, 1798, and died in 1872, a son of Christian Schantz and his first wife Marie Birki. They lived on the Hölzhof at Regenstauf (above Regensburg, Bavaria) and at Grossprüfening (now a neighborhood on the west side of Regensburg) until her death at Dechbetten (north of Regensburg) in 1826. Schantz later remarried to Marie Unzicker and Magdalena Unzicker.
6. Jacob/Jacques Hochstettler was born at Reichshoffen June 11, 1806. His civil birth entry named his parents as Pierre Hochstettler and Madeleine Unzicker of *la cense dite Lauterbacher Hoff;* witnesses included father Peter Hochstettler and paternal grand-uncle Chrétien Hochstettler, 68, described as a cultivator at Lauterbach. He died at Meringerau in January 1826 following a wagon accident.
7. Magdalena Hochstettler was born May 9, 1809, and died at Sarching (east of Regensburg) in January 1860. She married Christian Nafziger. He was born on the Lauterbacherhof in January 1796, and died at Burgwalden (southwest of Augsburg) Jan. 15, 1850, a son of Christian Nafziger and Katharina Hochstettler (Katharina's parents were Christian Hochstettler and Barbara/Barbe Nafziger; thus Magdalena and Christian had a shared great-grandfather and were second cousins).
8. Marie/Maria Hochstettler was born on the Neuhof estate at Niederlauterbach Aug. 20, 1810. She married Peter/Pierre Schantz. He was born at Rimling, Moselle Sept. 16, 1811, a son of Christian Schantz and his second wife Anna Imhof.
9. Anne/Anna Hochstettler was born on the Neuhof estate at Niederlauterbach May 28, 1812, and died at Thierlstein (34 miles northeast of Regensburg) Sept. 1, 1880. In 1844 she married Jakob Güngerich. He was born at Wellenburg (southwest of Augsburg) in 1812, and died at Thierlstein July 24, 1879, a son of Jakob Güngerich and Magdalena König. According to Guth they are buried at Untertraubenbach (adjacent to Thierlstein).
10. Peter Hochstettler was born July 20, 1814, and died at Wolfring June 12, 1884. On Feb. 8, 1842 at Hardt (below Neuberg an der Donau, west of Ingolstadt) he married Maria Hage. She was born at Josephenburg (below Ingolstadt) Dec. 8, 1817, and died Jan. 5, 1897, a daughter of Josef Hage and Maria Ackermann of Kaisheim (15 miles west of Neuberg an der Donau) and Josephenburg.
11. Jacqueline Hochstettler was born on the Neuhof estate at Niederlauterbach Jan. 11, 1818. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Pierre Hochstaettler, *Anabaptiste,* 47; and Madeleine Unzicker. Her father signed 'Peter Hochstättler.'
12. Susanna Hochstettler was born at Meringerau March 22, 1822, and died at Burgweinting (southeast of Regensburg) May 31, 1908. According to *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler* she married a Griesser.

Joseph Hochstettler was born Dec. 3, 1798 (perhaps on the Lauterbacherhof, though no civil entry is found there). He died at Pekin (likely in the part that had become Elm Grove) April 29, 1854, and is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove.

Circa 1823 at Meringerau Joseph married Jakobina 'Phoebe' Gingerich. She was born circa June 15, 1803 (her marker at Landes Mennonite Cemetery gives her date of death and her age as 52 years, 5 months, 22 days), and died in Tazewell County Dec. 7, 1856. She was a daughter of Jakob Güngerich and Magdalena König of Wellenburg, Bavaria.

They sailed from Le Havre on the *Peter Marcy*, and arrived at New York Aug. 11, 1849. The passenger list shows a 'Hochstaetler' family: Joseph, 51; Jacobin, 45; Jacob, 19; Magdalen, 17; Peter, 15; Joseph, 13; Jacobine, 9; and Christian, 7.[89]

According to *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929,* they settled at Dillon Creek before the year ended. This is proven by the *Grantors Index*, which says that Joseph Hockstettler paid Milton Lindley and his wife Mary $2,000 for land in Sections 17 and 30 Oct. 26, 1849.

The 1850 census of Pekin shows Joseph Hostatler, 53; Jacobine, 46; Magdaline, 18; Jacobine, 11; farmer Jacob, 30; farmer Peter, 16; Joseph, 14; and Christian, 9; all from Germany. They are found on the same page as the households of brothers Andrew, Peter, and Jacob Ropp, indicating that they were living along Allentown Road in what had only recently become Elm Grove (although it was technically established in December 1849, it took a while for the new name to come into common use; and at the time Allentown Road was still known as the Old State Road or Old Stage Road).

> *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler*: "About the year 1850, Mrs. Susan Zook of near Bloomington, Illinois, heard of a Hochstetler family living near Groveland, Illinois. As she was a granddaughter of Joseph Hochstetler, the captive, she concluded to learn whether the new family was akin to her. So she paid a visit to the family of Joseph Hochstetler, and learned that the family had but recently come from Germany and of course were not any kin-folk, as she had expected to find.

[89] Farther down the page were Jacobine Gingerich, 21, and Elisabeth Jordi, 45.

But in the course of conversation she told the story of the Indian attack on the farm of her great-grandfather, and of her grandfather being made captive by the Indians. This narrative instantly captured the attention of Joseph Hochstetler, who inquired closely as to the number of the family killed and the number made prisoners.

Then he told of having seen in his boyhood, in the home of his mother and father, a carefully cherished letter written from America. It told of the attack of the Indians upon the family of his grandfather's uncle. The names and number in the family of our ancestor at the time of the massacre corresponded to the recollection of Joseph Hochstetler, as he recalled the letter in the possession of his mother, from his grandfather, Isaac Hochstetler.

These two immediately recognized the relationship between them. The Indian massacre established very clearly the relationship between our family and that of Isaac Hochstetler.

The conversation above noted was communicated in several letters by Peter Hochstettler, Pekin, Illinois, a son of Joseph Hochstetler."

(Did Peter Hochstettler know that a sister of Isaac Hochstettler, Barbara Hochstettler, was the mother of Andreas Ropp? Apparently not. *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler* added, "He says also that Isaac had one brother at least and possibly other brothers and sisters.")

The 1870 census of Elm Grove shows the Hochstettlers on the same page as Joseph Ropp, Peter Gerber, and Joseph Heiser, indicating they still lived along Allentown Road.

Their children include:

1. Jacob Hochstettler was born at Meringerau Jan. 3, 1825, and died at Elm Grove March 8, 1884. On April 12, 1857 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Ropp; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Ropp. She was born Oct. 27, 1837, and died Sept. 16, 1881, a daughter of Andrew Ropp and Jacobine Vercler. The 1860 census of Elm Grove describes him as 'Jacob Hostetler,' a 30-year-old Bavarian farmer. His household included Elizabeth, 22; Jacobine, 2; and Daniel, seven months. They are buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove.
2. Magdalena 'Mary' Hochstettler (twin) was born at Meringerau Feb. 7, 1829, and died at Garden City, Missouri May 28, 1888. On December 10, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Birkey; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Jacob was born May 4, 1826, and died at Garden City July 4, 1883, a son of Christian Birki (the 'Big Birkeys').
3. Jakobina Hochstettler (twin) was born at Meringerau Feb. 7, 1829, and died there in 1830.
4. **Peter Hochstettler** was born at Meringerau Feb. 2, 1834.
5. Jakobina 'Phoebe' Hochstettler was born at Meringerau Nov. 7, 1835 (one source gives July 21, 1838), and died at Tremont April 30, 1896. On March 15, 1858 at Pekin she married John Birkey. He was born at Gern near Munich Jan. 1, 1835, and died at Peoria March 28, 1925, a son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker.
6. Joseph Hochstettler was born at Meringerau Feb. 3, 1836, and died at Washington July 4, 1896. On July 6, 1862 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Unzicker; the ceremony was performed by minister Andew Ropp. She was born Aug. 28, 1839, and died Aug. 10, 1920, a daughter of Jacob Unzicker and Marie Krehbiel. They are found on the 1880 census of Morton as farmer Joseph Hoxhstettler, 44, born in Bavaria to Bavarian parents; Elizabeth, 40, born in Illinois to parents from Nassau; with eight children born in Illinois. They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton.
7. Mary Hochstettler was born at Meringerau Feb. 28, 1837, and died before 1842.
8. Christian Hochstettler was born at Meringerau March 8 or June 16 (passport application), 1840, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Jan. 2, 1896. 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.' He applied for a passport at Pekin April 24, 1865. The documentation stated that he was a naturalized citizen who had lived in Tazewell County for 16 years, having turned 24 on June 16, witnessed by Joseph Ropp. He was described as 5 foot-8 tall; brown hair; brown eyes; fair complexion; roman nose; and medium mouth. He married Mary Unzicker at Pekin Feb. 9, 1868. She was born Nov. 26, 1844, and died Feb. 24, 1940, a daughter of Jacob Unzicker and Maria Krehbiel. The 1870 census of Elm Grove shows them living next door to the Unzickers as Christian Hochstettler, 27, Bavaria; Mary, 25, Illinois; and Louise, 1, Illinois.
9. Mary Hochstettler was born at Meringerau May 29, 1842, and died there in November 1844.
10. George Hochstettler was born at Meringerau Jan. 7, 1844, and died there Jan. 28, 1844.

Peter Hochstettler was born at Meringerau near Augsburg, Bavaria Feb. 2, 1834.

On March 14, 1858, Peter married Barbara Birky of the 'Little Red Birkys,' who had also come to America in 1849. Barbara was born at Gern near Munich Jan. 9, 1840, one of 13 children of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker.

Their household can be found on the 1870 census of Morton as farmer Pete Hastettler, 36, Bavaria; Barbara, 30, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 11, Illinois; Lydia, 9, Illinois; Catharin, 7, Illinois; and farm laborer Frederick Delabaugh, 19, Switzerland. The 1880 census of Morton shows them as Peter Hochstettler, 46; Barbara, 40; and seven children born in Illinois.

In 1883 Peter attended the first annual conference of what became the Defenseless Mennonite (later Evangelical Mennonite) Church with Joseph Rediger. The conference was organized and led by minister Henry Egly.

About this time Peter and Barbara purchased a farm in Groveland, which can be located on the 1890 plat map approximately one mile north of the town center. The 1910 census of Groveland lists Peter's occupations as farmer and preacher. Peter was 76, and Barbara 70; their children living with them included Lydia, 49; Susanna, 36; and Mary A., 28. Son Joseph, 39, lived nearby. They last appear on the 1920 census of Groveland, when Peter was 85, and Barbara 79. Their children living with them include Elizabeth, 58; Susan, 46; Amos, 41; and Mary, 38.

Peter died at Groveland Jan. 20, 1924, and Barbara died July 28, 1924. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Their children born at Morton include:

1. Elizabeth Hochstettler was born Feb. 17, 1859, and died July 4, 1931. On Aug. 2, 1896 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Stucky. He was born Aug. 20, 1865, and died at Groveland March 7, 1958, a son of Magdalena Peterschmidt from a marriage before her second to Peter Zehr. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. See ZIMMERMAN for background on Catherine Goldschmitt's family.
2. Lydia Hochstettler was born Jan. 11, 1861, and died March 6, 1948. She is buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
3. Katharine 'Katie' Hochstettler was born March 28, 1863, and died March 4, 1942. On March 18, 1894 in Tazewell County she married Samuel P. Wagler. He was born March 15, 1871, and died March 19, 1951. They are found on the 1900 census of Groveland as Samuel P. Wagler, 29, born in Illinois in March 1871 to a father from Ohio and a mother from Illinois; and Kate, 37, born in Illinois in March 1863 to German parents. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
4. John William Hochstettler was born Oct. 27, 1866, and died May 9, 1869.
5. Joseph B. Hochstettler was born March 31, 1871, and died April 25, 1955. In 1902 he married Emma Springer. She was born March 20, 1876, and died May 27, 1910. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
6. Susan/Susanna Hochstettler was born April 22, 1873, and died April 30, 1962. She is buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
7. Edward F. Hochstettler was born June 7, 1876, and died March 6, 1900. He is buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
8. Amos Hochstettler was born Dec. 28, 1878, and died June 25, 1962. He is buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
9. Mary Ann Hochstettler was born June 20, 1881, and died Dec. 22, 1949. She is buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Stutzman: Stŭtzman of Erlenbach

Shared history and geography notes relevant to Berks County can be found in HOCHSTETTLER.

The immigration story of this Pennsylvania family has been hopelessly garbled over the years. Recently one version after another had been peeled back and disproven. What is certain is that a great-great-grandson of a 1727 immigrant came to Woodford County as a 20-year-old farm laborer in 1849, then settled in McLean County the following year. There he married a daughter of conservative minister and elder Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder.

Stŭtzman is a geographical surname. In Canton Bern a *Stŭtz* was a slope. Both Stŭtzman and the surname Am Stŭtz described someone who lived on an incline.

Heimatorte or legal points of origin for Seiss citizenship rights for this surname in Canton Bern include Uebeschi in Műhlethurnen parish, Homberg in Steffisburg parish (now Hombourg bei Thun), and Spiez. Spiez was chosen as a *Heimatort* not because Stŭtzmans were found there in 1672 – they were not – but because nearby Erlenbach in Niedersimmental parish (now Erlenbach bei Simmental) lacks the means to provide assistance. Erlenbach im Simmental is eight miles inland from the western shore of Lake Thun; from the lake one would pass through Spiez and Wimmis to reach it.

For many years the identity of the 1727 immigrant was obscured by the wide dispersion of this family from Erlenbach circa 1666. Matches from Y-chromosome DNA testing have shown that Canton Bern had distinct clusters of Stŭtzmans who were not related. Taken together, these two factors caused confusion among family historians. Before the mid-1970s they tended to think of the Stutzmans as one small family, and often assumed that every Stutzman in the states of Pennsylvania and Ohio was related.

The village church of Saint Michael at Erlenbach bei Simmental has existed since at least 1228 AD. Peter Kŭtnz, a friend of Martin Luther and supporter of the Reformation in Canton Bern, served as minister 1517-1535. He later became the principal minister in the Bern Minster [Ger. *Berner Műnster*], the Gothic-style cathedral in the city of Bern.

The oldest baptism register entry that has been preserved was created Nov. 15, 1590. Earlier records may have been destroyed during a fire that raised much of the village in 1765.

Recall that Jacob Amman was born at Erlenbach in 1644. But Amman's family moved to Oberhofen in the parish of Hilterfingen (on the eastern shore of Lake Thun) in 1655, and he formed his religious principles there. He went to Alsace in 1680.

Only four marriages of Stŭtzman males took place at Erlenbach before 1654.

Innkeeper **Petter Stŭtzman** and his first wife Madlena Meier may or may not have married at Erlenbach before 1590. Their children born and baptized there include:

1. Hans Stŭtzman was baptized in October of 1591, and died before Aug. 19, 1599.
2. Eva Stŭtzman was baptized Feb. 6, 1593. On Jan. 8, 1613 at Erlenbach she married Niclaŭs Schnÿder On June 21, 1624 at Erlenbach she remarried to Jacob Flogerzi.

On Nov. 21, 1596 at Erlenbach Petter remarried to Barbli Liechti.
After 1614 he was described as a W*eibel* in the church of Saint Michael.
Petter died at Erlenbach Sept. 3, 1622.
Children of Petter Stŭtzman and his second wife Barbli Liechti born and baptized there include:

3. Elsbeth Stŭtzman was baptized Nov. 27, 1597.
4. Hans or Hanns Stŭtzman was baptized Aug. 19, 1599. He married Elsbeth In Der Műli, though the ceremony was not recorded at Erlenbach. She was a daughter or granddaughter of Heinrich In Der Műli, the Protestant Reformed minister at Erlenbach 1599-1607.
    a. Peter Stŭtzman was baptized July 1, 1621. He was occasionally described as *der junge*, though it only meant he was younger than his grandfather and uncle, both church ushers. He married Christina/Stÿna Käler/Keller, though it was not recorded at Erlenbach. Their children baptized at Erlenbach include:
        1) Hans Stŭtzman was baptized Oct. 5, 1645, and died before Nov. 12, 1654. He was baptized on the same day as his cousin Christina, a daughter of Peter's younger brother Hans Stŭtzman and Madlen Bettler.
        2) Magdalena Stŭtzman was baptized Jan. 10, 1647.
        3) Barbli Stŭtzman was baptized Dec. 2, 1649. She died before Aug. 6, 1651.
        4) Barbli Stŭtzman was baptized Aug. 6, 1651. She may have been the Barbli who married Jacob Höltzer at Erlenbach Feb. 7, 1679.

5) Hans Stŭtzman was baptized Nov. 12, 1654.
6) Jacob Stŭtzman was baptized July 26, 1657.
7) Christen Stŭtzman was baptized Feb. 15, 1661, and died before Dec. 18, 1664.
8) Christen Stŭtzman was baptized Dec. 18, 1664.
9) Margreth Stŭtzman was baptized Nov. 16, 1666. Margreth was the last Stŭtzman baptism in the Protestant Reformed Church at Erlenbach.

b. Heinrich Stŭtzman was baptized Dec. 28, 1623.
c. Hanns Stŭtzman was baptized Feb. 1, 1625. He may have been the Hans Stŭtzman who died at Boltigen June 5, 1693, reported as age 74 (and thus born circa 1619). He is found as Hans Stŭtzman on a house tax list for the hamlet Schwarzenmatt at Boltigen in 1653.[90]
    1) Christina Stŭtzman was baptized Oct. 5, 1645. She was baptized on the same day as her cousin Hans, a son of Hanns's older brother Peter Stŭtzman (*der junge*) and Christina/Stÿna Keller. In the place for her mother's name an illegible first attempt was lined out, then Madlen Better was inserted below it.
d. Ba[illegible], presumably Barbli Stŭtzman was baptized July 9, 1626.
e. Anna Stŭtzman was baptized Jan. 13, 1628, and died at Erlenbach Dec. 28, 1693. On Dec. 12, 1653 at Erlenbach she married David Strÿffeler.
f. Niclaŭs Stŭtzman was baptized Feb. 6, 1629, and died at Erlenbach Feb. 10, 1706, described as age 77. On Oct. 9, 1653 at Erlenbach he married Dichtla Bŭrginer. He may also have been the Niclaŭs Stŭtzman of Erlenbach who married Anna Fŭrstenberg of Steffisburg at Speiz Feb. 18, 1698.
    1) A baptism entry was created for Barbara Stŭtzman at Erlenbach Jan. 27, 1656. The father was identified as Niclaŭs Stŭtzman, though no mother was identified. On Dec. 6, 1678 at Erlenbach Barbara married Heinrich Räber.
g. Barbli, Stŭtzman was baptized Sept. 19, 1630.
h. Jacob Stŭtzman was baptized Jan. 1, 1632.
i. Michel Stŭtzman was baptized March 23, 1634, and died at Erlenbach May 9, 1702; the entry says age 70.
    1) Barbli was baptized at Erlenbach April 26, 1657; the entry said her parents were Michel Stŭtzman (the younger) and Madlena Karlen; no marriage entry is found at Erlenbach. She may have been the Barbli who married Jacob Höltzer at Erlenbach Feb. 7, 1679.
j. David Stŭtzman was baptized Aug. 23, 1635, and died before Sept. 14, 1636.
k. David Stŭtzman was baptized Sept. 14, 1636.
    1) A baptism entry was created for Madlena Stŭtzman at Erlenbach Feb. 17, 1656. Her father was identified as David Stŭtzman, though no mother was identified.
l. Christen Stŭtzman was baptized in September of 1637, and died before Sept. 2, 1639.
m. Christen Stŭtzman was baptized Sept. 2, 1639.
n. Elsbeth Stŭtzman was baptized Nov. 15, 1640.
o. Madlena Stŭtzman was baptized Oct. 9, 1642

5. Madlen Stŭtzman was baptized in 1600. Her baptism entry did not name her mother. On Dec. 6, 1624 she married Jacob Jŭtzeler.
6. Anni/Annely Stŭtzman was baptized Sept. 2, 1602, and died at Erlenbach May 7, 1612.
7. Peter Stŭtzman was baptized Nov. 11, 1604, and died before June 2, 1615.
8. Barbli Stŭtzman was baptized July 5, 1607.
9. Barbli Stŭtzman was baptized Feb. 13. 1610.
10. **Peter Stŭtzman** was baptized June 2, 1615. Witnesses included Anthony Abbull, Ŭlli Gŭber, and Dorothea Ibach.

Innkeeper **Peter Stŭtzman** was baptized at Erlenbach June 2, 1615.

He was generally described as Peter *der junge*, and was a church usher like his father. On Jan. 3, 1631 at Erlenbach he married Cathrina Bŭrginer.

Children of Peter Stŭtzman and Cathrina Bŭrginer born and baptized at Erlenbach include:

1. Peter Stŭtzman was baptized Sept. 6, 1635, and died before July 16, 1637.
2. Peter Stŭtzman was baptized July 16, 1637, and died before June 14, 1640.
3. Christen, Stŭtzman was baptized Feb. 24, 1639, and died before Aug. 25, 1647.

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[90] Boltigen in the Obersimmental district is the ancestral home of the Reŭtiger/Rediger family. *St. Mauritius Evangelisch Reformierte Kirche* at Boltigen was destroyed by a fire in 1840, causing the loss of four register books. It was rebuilt within two years. Many Boltigen church records have been preserved since 1553. However, the four register books destroyed in the 1840 fire included *Taufrodel 1627-1709* (baptisms), *Eherodel 1627-1661* (marriages), *Eherodel 1752-1814* (marriages), and *Totenrodel 1627-1682* (deaths). Zweisimmen is adjacent below Boltigen, 24 miles inland from Lake Thun. It is the ancestral home of the Janzi/Jantzi family. Information on Boltigen and Zweisimmen can be found in REDIGER.

4. Peter Stŭtzman was baptized June 14, 1640, and died at Erlenbach April 3, 1712, age 74. He married Johanna Lischer.
5. Hans Stŭtzman was baptized March 3, 1644. On April 22, 1667 at Fenetrange, Moselle [then called Finstingen] he married Ursula Leŭenberger. She was born at Wangen an der Aare Feb. 28, 1647, and died at Hinsbourg, Lower Alsace Jan. 21, 1729, a daughter of Jacob Leuenberger.
6. Margreth Stŭtzman was baptized May 18, 1645.
7. Christen Stŭtzman was baptized July 25, 1647. On Jan. 9, 1680 at Erlenbach he married Christina Dűrler.
8. **Hans Jacob Stŭtzman** (#1) was baptized March 24, 1650. Witnesses included Hans Jacob, Michel Ragetz, and Madlena Karlen.
9. Cathrina Stŭtzman was baptized March 28, 1652.
10. Madlena Stŭtzman was baptized Sept. 4, 1654.
11. Michel Stŭtzman was baptized in July of 1657.

Hans Jacob Stŭtzman (#1) was baptized at Erlenbach March 24, 1650.

Many Bernese who would have relocated or emigrated could not afford to do so. But the Stŭtzmans at Erlenbach were prosperous. This was reflected by the handful of baptisms that had been witnessed by district governors and officials from other parishes. Stŭtzmans could move when it suited them, and they dispersed in 1667.

We suspect that at least some who departed went to Steffisburg and Mŭhlethurnen parishes.[91]

Presumably the first place Hans Jacob settled outside Canton Bern was Geislautern. It would now be described as a village in the Saarland, less than three miles northwest of Petite Rosselle and the border with Moselle, France. Other nearby communities are Freyming-Merlebach and Forbach.

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[91] STEFFISBURG PARISH The first Stŭtzman groom recorded in Steffisburg parish was an Ulli, in 1653; the first Stŭtzman groom in Thierachern parish was a Christen, in 1653. Neither came from the Erlenbach family. Seven marriages of Stŭtzman males took place in Steffisburg parish between 1653 and 1697. The baptisms mentioned here also took place there.

Nov. 4, 1653	Ulli Stŭtzman and Elsbeth Simon of Amsoldingen.
May 24, 1657	Hans Stŭtzman and Anna Farni.
March 7, 1662	Hans Stŭtzman and Anni Glaŭz of Zweisimmen (adjacent to Boltigen).
Jan. 18, 1675	Christen Stŭtzman and Barbara Bűchler. 1. Hans, Jan. 30, 1681; 2. Peter, Dec. 23, 1683, died before March 1, 1691; 3. Jacob, Sept. 11, 1687; and 4. Peter, March 1, 1691.
Feb. 1, 1678	Hans Stŭtzman and Magdalena Bűchler. 1. Christen, Feb. 5, 1682; 2. Hans, March 9, 1684; 3. Anna, May 6, 1688; and 4. Margretha, at Schwarzenegg May 25, 1702.
May 31, 1689	Hans Stŭtzman and Anna Wenger. 1. Hans, Dec. 7, 1690.
Nov. 3, 1697	Christen Stŭtzman of Thierachern and Elsbeth Schmid.

THIERACHERN PARISH In addition, seven marriages of Stŭtzman males took place in adjacent Theierchern parish between 1650 and 1697. The baptisms mentioned here also took place there.

May 23, 1653	Christen Stŭtzman married Margreth Strÿff.
April 18, 1659	Michel Stŭtzman married Anna Eggey.
Dec. 8, 1664	Heinrich Stŭtzman married Barbli Wenger.
Feb. 5, 1668	Rŭff Stŭtzman married Maria Pfister.
Jan. 20, 1670	Peter Stŭtzman married Barbara/Barbli Schorer. 1. Bendicht, September 1680; and 2. Joseph, March 1683.
April 14, 1670	Bendicht Stŭtzman married Verena Műller.
1675	Christen Stŭtzman married Barbli Marpach.
April 1687	Christen Stŭtzman married Anni Massli. 1. Peter, Dec. 8, 1695; 2. Jacob, 1698; and 3. Elsbeth, Feb. 21, 1704.
April 1689	Hans Stŭtzman married Christina Christen. 1. Christen, March 1691; and 2. Ullrich, April 2, 1693.

These children were baptized at Thierachern, though their parents were not married there.

January 1690	Peter, son of Peter Stŭtzman and Margreth [illegible]
March 1689	Johannes, son of Rŭdolph Stŭtzman and Anna Brŭnner
April 19, 1696	Christen, son of Rŭdolph Stŭtzman and Anna Brŭnner
Feb. 27, 1698	Magdalena, daughter of Rŭdolph Stŭtzman and Anna Brŭnner
May 14, 1702	Jacob, son of Rŭdolph Stŭtzman and Anna Brŭnner
Feb. 18, 1704	Christen, son of Peter Stŭtzman and Madlena Bäler/Bäller
July 20, 1706	Peter, son of Peter Stŭtzman and Anna Bäler/Bäller
Oct. 9, 1709	Peter, son of Peter Stŭtzman and Madlena Bäler/Bäller
Feb. 23, 1710	Quirinius, son of Peter Stŭtzman and Anna Bäler/Bäller[91]
Oct. 8, 1711	Hans, son of Peter Stŭtzman and Madlena Bäler/Bäller

MÜHLETHURNEN We also found Stŭtzmans at Mühlethurnen, where many Joders lived (see YODER). They may have been descendants of Bendicht Stŭtzman and Elsbeth Fischer, who were a married couple there as early as 1606. This husband may also have been the Bendicht married to Elsy Feller, living there in 1609.

Hans Jacob Stutzman (#1) died on the Einschiederhof at Birkenfeld (40 miles northeast of Geislautern) April 6, 1685.

Hans Jacob Stutzman (#2) was baptized at Geislautern Oct. 2, 1676. Their records were destroyed in World War II. Treinen and Weiter's *Die Einwohner von Völklingen-Geislautern von 1680-1900* (1902), a collective genealogy of inhabitants of Geislautern, now an incorporated district of Völklingen, Rhineland, Germany, does not identify his parents.

The Thirty Years War (1618-1648) decimated the village of Konken (18 miles southeast of Birkenfeld) which at that time was in the County of Pfalz-Zweibrűcken. After 1648 the area was resettled by Swiss and Austrian immigrants. The widow of Hans Jacob (#1) and all but one of their children relocated there in the mid-1680s.[92]

On Nov. 29, 1696 at Ohmbach (five miles south of Konken) Hans Jacob (#2) married Elisabeth Regina, the widow of Michael Műller. An entry was created at adjacent Krottelbach. It identifies the groom as Jacob Stŭtzman, son of Jacob Stŭtzman; and the bride as Elÿsa Regina, Michael Műller's [widow] from Stinewyl [Steinwenden].

From there Hans Jacob (#2) and Elÿsa/Elisabetha went to Bad Durkheim, 45 miles to the east. Bad Dűrkheim was the residence of the counts of Leiningen-Hardenburg from 1697 until the French Revolution of 1789.

Hans Jacob (#2) died at Friedelsheim Sept. 6, 1739. Friedelsheim is adjacent on the east side of Bad Dűrkheim.

Hans Jacob Stutzman (#3) was born on the Weilach estate at Bad Dűrkheim Jan. 1, 1706, and baptized in the *Evangelische* (Lutheran) church at Kallstadt (two miles to the northeast of the estate) Jan. 5.[93] The entry described his parents as Johann Jacob Stutzman, the steward for the lord of the estate at Weilach, and Lesy Regina.

Thus Hans Jacob Stutzman would have been 21 years of age when he came to America.

On Sept. 14, 1727 the Pennsylvania Provincial Council adopted a resolution "...Holding shipmasters to a strict accountability and ordering an examination into the matter of bringing aliens into the Province." A passenger list and oaths of allegiance and abjuration became mandatory for the first time. Only one ship carrying German immigrants had arrived at Philadelphia earlier that year; by the close of the year five more would arrive. (See OATHS in the Appendix).

The *Adventure* sailed from Rotterdam via Plymouth, and arrived at Philadelphia on the morning of Oct. 2, 1727. That afternoon male passengers 16 years of age or older were required to sign an oath of allegiance to the king of Great Britain and an abjuration of loyalty to other rulers. Their immigration vessel was described as the Palatine ship *Adventure Galley*. Johann Jacob Stutzman was capable of signing (rather than an 'x'), and his signature was witnessed.

'ALTERNATIVE HISTORIES'

A fictitious story of the 1727 immigration voyage was told in H. Frank Eshleman's *Historic Background and Annals of the Swiss and Pioneer Settlers* (1917).

In 1710 the Council of Bern was still encouraging emigration by poor residents. On March 18, 1710 about 56 Anabaptists were escorted from prison in the city of Bern to a boat on the Aare River. Their voyage along the Rhine River to the Netherlands is recounted in REDIGER. Another exile boat, the *Oberlander*, departed from the city in 1711.

According to Eshleman, the *Oberlander* carried a married couple named Christ Stutzman [Stŭtzman] and Magd. Stuck [Stŭcki]. Christ was a 34-year-old farmer from Spiez, and Magdalena was 37.[94] Only Magdalena was an Anabaptist. It all sounds like a son Johann Jacob Stutzman could have been born to this couple, and would have been living in Holland before he boarded the *Adventure* at Rotterdam in 1727.

This prompted further embroidery that the parents of Johann Jacob Stuzman were Christian Stŭtzman and Magdalena Steck. They had two minor sons named Johann and Jacob.

In *Descendants of Barbara Hochstedler and Christian Stutzman (1938)*, Harvey Hostetler attributed more details to R.H. Tower City, Schuykill County.

He wrote that Christian and his two sons sailed on the *Adventure* in 1727. Christian was not accounted for on the arrival passenger list because he was not picked up for indenture, and thus could not repay his fare. He indentured both his sons with separate families, then immediately sailed back to Europe. Garbled versions beyond these have Steck (from Stŭcki in the first story?) as the surname of Johann Jacob's wife Magdalena, and one son left with an Amish family, the other left with a Lutheran family.

But the stories have problems:

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[92] Konken would remain in the county of Pfälz-Zweibrűcken until the French Revolution of 1789. In 1816 it became part of the new Kingdom of Bavaria.

[93] The Weilach estate a mile northwest of Bad Dűrkheim village would be looted and burned by French soldiers in 1790. A plaque and memorial stone now marks the location of the *Hofruine Weilach*.

[94] No Stŭtzman was baptized at Spiez within five years on either side of 1676.

- The Christian and Magdalena in the *Oberland* story did not bring children to Holland in 1711. Eschleman noted the children of other couples, but none for them. And the Johann Jacob Stutzman at Philadelphia in 1727 was at least 16 years of age (in fact 21), thus born before 1711.
- Father Christian's name is not found on the lists created at the Philadelphia city hall on the day of the *Adventure*'s arrival. They attested to the customary and mandatory loyalty oath and oath of abjuration required of colonial immigrants for all immigrant males 16 and over under Colonial law (even when someone said they were returning to Europe).
- A passenger who could not pay the full fare, and did not have a pre-arranged term of indenture waiting, would be detained aboard ship in the harbor. There he or she would negotiate with agents sent specifically to make contracts for farm labor and household servants. It is doubful that the father would arrive in the morning and give up all hope of indenture before the afternoon. And after making the dangerous crossing that a father would find homes for two children, then make a snap judgement to abandon them in America.
- Only the name Johann Jacob Stutzman is found on the lists. There would be no circumstances where the name of two minors would be combined to manufacture an adult. The oath of abjuration list indicated that Johann Jacob Stutzman was literate and signed (rather than 'x'), which was witnessed.

Circa 1731 tailor Johann ('Hans') Jacob Stutzman married Magdalena. A number of efforts to identify her further have proven fruitless, and left hopeless tangles in online databases.[95]

Up to this point we can only guess at the religious inclinations of Stutzmans. They appear to have lived the typical quiet lives of *Pfälzisch* farmers, registering family events in *Evangelische* (Lutheran) churches in accordance with law. No record notations indicated that they were Anabaptist or *Wiedertäufer*.

On June 6, 1747 'Hans Studsman' obtained a warrant for 50 acres at Bern Township, Lancaster County. This parcel was later surveyed as 77 acres.[96] The land was near the Hochstetlers.

A tax list for Bern Township, Berks County created Dec. 20, 1752 listed Jacob Stutsman and Christian Stutzman. This would have been the tailor Johann Jacob and his son, later known as Christian Stutzman Sr. Christian Stutzman was still single, but would have been listed if he was 21 years of age and had purchased property. They were named again in 1754. The complete lists are found in a footnote to LANTZ.

On Aug. 8, 1754 Jacob Stutzman [tailor Johann Jacob Stutzman] obtained another warrant for 25 acres at Bern. Township. It adjoined a parcel already warranted to his son. The parcel was later surveyed as 150 acres.

Christian Stutzman (Sr.) was born before 1732, and died at Shartlesville, Berks County Nov. 17, 1770.

On Jan. 17, 1853 he obtained a warrant for 100 acres at Bern Township; this parcel was later surveyed as 197 acres. As just noted, a little more than a year later his parents obtained a warrant for land next to his.

In December of 1753 he married Barbara Hochstedler. She was born circa 1732, and died at Shartlesville, Berks County in 1787, a daughter of Jacob Hostetler and his unidentified wife (see HOCHSTETTLER).[97] They are the subjects of Harvey Hostetler's *Descendants of Barbara Hochstedler and Christian Stutzman* (1938). This was a sequel to a first volume on Jacob Hochstetler. It took 25 years to research and organized 15,000 names.

Christian Sr. and Barbara sold their land in 1756. They may have joined other families moving south when conflict seemed imminent. See HOCHSTETTLER for the story of the trials of Barbara's family after their home was surrounded on Sept. 19, 1757; her mother and two siblings were killed and scalped, while her father and two brothers were kidnapped.

According to the late J. Virgil Miller's *Both Sides of the Ocean*, Paul V. Hostetler found that the land parcel warranted by Johann Jacob Stutzman in 1747 was sold by his son Christian Sr. to Johannes Lantz in 1761. Christian Sr.'s mother Magdalena was mentioned in the transaction. This suggests that husband-and-father Johann Jacob Stutzman had died at age 55.

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[95] Suggestions that there was another wife named Hannah only reflect confusion with a mid-century immigrant named Jacob Stutzman who likely never passed through Berks County. Y-Chromosome DNA testing has shown that Stutzmans in Berks County were not related to Stutzmans in York or Cumberland Counties.

[96] Some of the older genealogies struggle with a character called Magdalena Maudlin Stutzman, who supposedly obtained a land warrant at Bern, Berks County in 1738. This was a distraction that caused unnecessary confusion. There was no Berks County before 1752. The land register of Lancaster County shows an entry for Mandlin Stuedsmann. It is written with a 'u' above the 'n' in Mandlin, so it was likely meant to signify Magdalena. The land warrant was for 50 acres at Tulpehocken, adjacent to Bern on its west side, dated Feb. 19, 1738. It was patented (paid off and received) by Henry Conrad Sept. 28, 1789, after being surveyed as 116 acres. However, there was a Lutheran Stutzman family living at Tulpehocken in 1790, and another unrelated Stutzman family living on the north side of Blue Mountain.

[97] A deed signed Feb. 17, 1776 names Christian Sr.'s widow as Barbara Stutzman, a daughter of Jacob Hochstetler of Berks Co, Pa., and says that she joined with her brothers John, Joseph, and Christian in the sale of their father's farm for 400 English pounds. Harvey Hostetler cited this proof of relationships as the basis for his second book.

Another warrant for 40 acres at Bern Township was issued to Christian Stutzman April 30, 1765; this parcel was later surveyed as 25 acres.

On April 30, 1765 Christian Sr. obtained another warrant for land in Berks County.

According to Berks County probate records, his will was created Sept. 5, 1770, and proven March 15, 1770. A county abstract sums it up: "Wife Barbara to have estate until youngest child is 14, when eldest son Christian should have the place at valuation; and maintain wife Barbara, and pay the other children their equal shares." The executors were Christian Yoder and Christian Kiner; witnesses were Johannes Hochstedler and Ludwig Lupp [Lapp]. Widow Barbara is shown on Bern tax lists from 1771 to 1782.

According to Harvey Hostetler, their house was torn down in 1908. It was about 24-by-28 feet, two stories on a stone foundation. The lower floor was eight feet high, while the upper floor was six-and-a-half. It faced the Northkill Creek about 300 feet to the west.

Recall from HOCHSTETTLER that in 1789 half of Bern became Upper Bern, though they continued to be administered together. Both Stutzman and Hochstetler families were now in Upper Bern. This community would not be truly independent until 1820, when it first collected taxes on its own.

Even before Upper Bern was created in 1789, some Amish Mennonite families were looking for new land in southwestern Pennsylvania.

SOMERSET COUNTY

Originally most of southwestern Pennsylvania was in Cumberland County. As settlers took up claims it proved too large to administer, and in 1771 it was divided into Cumberland and Bedford Counties. In 1787 Bedford County was divided into Bedford County and Huntingdon County. On April 17, 1795 Somerset County was carved out of Bedford County. In 1804 its norther half became Cambria County.

The earliest European immigrant settlement in what is now Somerset County was called Turkeyfoot. In the southwestern corner of the county, it was populated after 1770 by pioneers from Essex and Morris Counties in New Jersey.

Within two years Amish Mennonites from the Northkill Creek settlement were arriving to scout land, invest, or resettle. But a far greater number arrived after the Treaty of Fort Stanwyx was signed at Rome, New York Nov. 5, 1784. The Six Nations of Iroquois tribes conceded all land east of the Ohio River to British settlement.

Three of the children went to Somerset County, then after 1809 migrated again to resettle on the Sugar Creek in Tuscawaras County, Ohio. Today Holmes, Wayne, and Tuscawaras Counties are considered one Old Order Amish settlement, the largest in the country.

Children of Christian Stutzman Sr. and Barbara Hostedler born at Bern Township, Berks County include:

1. Magdalena Stutzman was born circa 1753, and died at Shanesville (founded in 1814, now part of the village of Sugarcreek), Tuscawaras County, Ohio April 19, 1825. In 1772 at Johnstown, Cambria County, Pennsylvania she married Johann Yoder. He was born at Tilden, York County (now in Berks County) circa 1753, and died in Tuscawaras County April 19, 1821, a son of Christian Yoder and Barbara Beiler. They were living at Stonycreek, Somerset Count in 1800, but about 1813 moved to Tuscawaras County. They are buried in Yoder Cemetery at Sugarcreek, Tuscawaras County.
2. Anna Stutzman was born April 12, 1755, and died at Shanesville Marcy 27, 1814. In 1778 in Somerset County, Pennsylvania she married Jacob Miller. He was born at Bern, Berks County in August of 1754, and died at Sugarcreek, Tuscawaras County, a son of John/Hannes Miller and Magdalena Lehman. In 1800 they were living at Elk Lick, Somerset County. They are buried in Miller-Mast Cemetery in Tuscawaras County.
3. Mary Stutzman was born in 1756, and died at Meyersdale, Somerset County March 13, 1838. In 1779 at Summit, Somerset County she married Peter Miller. He was born in Berks County in 1756, and died at Summit Nov. 1, 1818, a son of John/Hannes Miller and Magdalena Lehman. In 1800 they were living at Brothers Valley Township, Somerset County. They were originally buried on their farm at Meyersdale, then reburied in Union Cemetery there.
4. **Christian Stutzman (Jr.)** was born in Berks County Jan. 8, 1758, and died at Derry, Miffllin County, Pennsylvania Dec. 6, 1825.
5. Jacob Stutzman was born Jan. 25, 1760, and died at Shanesville, Tuscawaras County in 1820. He married Anna Yoder. She was born in Berks County in 1761, and died at Shanesville in 1807, a daughter of Christian Yoder and Barbara Beiler. On Jan. 17, 1785 Jacob's uncle Christian Hochstettler obtained rwo land warrants at Brothers Valley, Bedford Couny: 'Christian Houghstadler' for 250 acres and 100 acres, later surveyed as 421 acres. Jacob Stutzman and Anna Yoder moved onto Christian's smaller parcel. Christian was able to pay off both and obtained patents June 7, 1785. Jacob's household is found on the 1810 census of Brothers Valley, Somerset County: one male under 10, one male 10-15, one male 45 and over, one female under 10, one female 16-25, and one female 45 and over. Jacob and Anna went to Ohio circa 1812. By 1817 they owned 900 acres at Walnut Creek, Tuscawaras County, Ohio. One of their children was '*Der Weiss* Jonas' (White Jonas) Stutzman (1788-1871), who became an eccentric preacher. A religious vision spurred him to wear white clothing for the remainder of his life. In 1853 he predicted that Christ was soon returning to earth, and even constructed an outsized cane chair to support him on visits to Holmes County (it is

now in the Behalt Museum at Berlin, Holmes County). His belief that wheels were unpleasing relics of Roman power led his mourning procession to carry his coffin several miles to a burial ground. Jacob and his son Jonas were both buried in the James Jaberg Cemetery at Walnut Creek, but their graves were later plowed under. Their farm at Walnut Creek was originally in Tuscawaras County, but fell in the eastern portion of Homes County after new boundaries were established in 1825.

6. Elizabeth Stutzman was born Sept. 15, 1762, and died at Meyersdale in 1795. She married Johannes/John Gnaegi. He was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania in 1763, and died at Meyersdale Sept. 19, 1845, a son of Christian Gnagey and Anna Seiler. The 1790 federal census has John Negey at what is now Elk Lick, Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795). Johannes/John remarried to Elizabeth Miller. They are buried in Gnagey Burial Ground at Summit, Somerset County.
7. Veronica/Fanny/Franey Stutzman was born in 1764, and died at Davidsville, Somerset County in 1807. In 1789 she married Nicholas Keim. He was born in Berks County Feb. 2, 1768, and died at Saint Paul, Somerset County Oct. 18, 1830, a son of Johan Peter Keim. In 1790 they were living at Quemahoning, Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795). They had seven children. Nicholas remarried to Veronica Hochstetler and Catherine Eash, and had 17 more children.
8. John Stutzman was born in 1766, and died at Brothers Valley, Somerset County Sept. 10, 1833 after falling from a horse. Circa 1787 in Somerset County he married Anna Speicher. She was a daughter of Christian Speicher Sr. and Christina Mischler. They are found on the 1800 census of Brothers Valley, Somerset County: two males under 10, one male 10-15, one male 26-44, two females under 10, and one female 26-44. A number of sources say he was the John Stutzman on the 1820 census of Brothers Valley, but that shows the oldest male in the household as 16-26 years of age. He may have had a son there, but returned to Tulpehocken, Berks County: one male 10-16, one male 26-45, one male over 45; one female 26-45, one female over 45.
9. David Stutzman was born in 1767.
9. Susanna Stutzman was born Feb. 1, 1768, and died at Salisbury, Somerset County in 1808.

Christian Stutzman (Jr.) was born at Bern, Berks County Jan. 8, 1758, and died at Derry, Mifflin County Sept. 12, 1825.

Christian Jr. was listed as a 'single freeman' on the Berks County tax list in 1782. The following year he was described as a married man.

Susanna Műller/Miller was born in Berks County Oct. 17, 1767, and died in 1802, a daughter of Christian Műller/Miller and Freny Mischler. Legal documents indicate that she was Christian Stutzman Jr.'s wife at least as early as 1786.[98] We assume that his two children born before 1786 were Susanna's.

Christian Jr. obtained a warrant for land at Bern, Berks County Aug. 19, 1785. In that year he is found on the tax list of Bern as the owner of 100 acres with two horses and two cattle.

He is found at Bern on the federal censuses of 1790, 1800, and 1810. In 1790 Chrisn Stutzman's household has one male who was 16 years of age or older; four males under 16; and two females.

In 1792 he acted as an executor for the estate of Joseph Reno (also found as Renno) with Christian Hertzler and Reno's widow Elisabeth; John Zug and Christian Zug acted as witnesses. In 1795 he acted as an executor for the estate of Jacob Hertzler with Jost Joder; David Yoder and Steffen Kauffman acted as witnesses.

In 1800 Christ.n Stutzman has a household with three males under 10, two males 10-15, one male 26-44, one female under 10, one female 10-15, one female 16-25, and one female 45 or older. In 1810 his household is one male under 10, three males 10-15, one male 45 and over, one female under 10, one female 16-25, and one female 26-44.

Children of Christian Stutzman Jr. and his first wife Susanna Műller/Miller include:

1. Elizabeth Stutzman was born in Berks County Jan. 25, 1783, and died at Mcveytown, Mifflin County April 21, 1817 or Sept. 12, 1825. In 1802 in Lancaster County she married Christian Schmucker. He was born in Berks County

[98] Although Harvey Hostetler named Christian Jr.'s first wife as Elizabeth Steiner, no evidence has been found over the past 82 years to support this. The county abstract of the will of Joseph Renno had been translated from German into English. It actually named the executors as, "Friends Christian Stutzman, and Christian Hertzler and wife Elisabeth." It was well known that Christian Hertzler's wife was not an Elisabeth. Did someone assume that Elisabeth was the wife of Christian Jr.?

We also note that there was another Christian Stutzman living in Berks County at least as early as 1790, and he had a wife named Elisabeth. Christian Stutzman and Elisabeth were the parents of a son Gottfried baptized in the Altalaha Evangelical Lutheran Church at Rehersburg, Berks County June 6, 1790. This church was only 11 miles west of our family of interest.

In 1810 another Christian Stutzman is found on the federal census at Lower Mahantongo, Berks County (north of Blue Mountain, it is now in Schuykill County). Both he and his wife were age 45 or older. They lived next door to Peter Stutzman: two males under 10, one male 16-25, one female 10-15, and one female 16-15. These were Christian Stutzman (before 1763-before 1826) and Katrina Eckert, and their son Peter Stutzman (1787-1867) and Elizabeth Artz. Peter was a hotel keeper.

Feb. 11, 1775, and died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio April 21, 1857, a son of John Schmucker and Barbara Stoltzfus. The Schmuckers relocated to Mifflin County in 1812 or 1813. In 1817 in Somerset County he remarried to widow Freni/Frances Livengood [Liebengut] Beachy. She was born in Pennsylvania March 3, 1794, and died at Smithville Feb. 4, 1884; she is buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Smithville. Her first husband was Abraham Beachy. Christian Schmucker is buried in Amish Plank Cemetery at Wooster, Wayne County.

2. John Stutzman was born at Bern, Berks County Nov. 17, 1785, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Nov. 29, 1864. On Feb. 12, 1808 he married Barbara Hertzler. She was born at Bern, Berks County June 24, 1788, and died at Pleasant, Fairfield County, Ohio March 24, 1867, a daughter of Jacob Hertzler and Barbara Yoder. In 1808 they relocated to Delaware Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania. In April of 1835 they moved again to Fairfield County, Ohio. They are found on the 1850 census of Richland, Fairfield County as John Stutzman, 62, Pennsylvania; Barbaray, 60, Pennsylvania; Daniel, 16, Pennsylvania; John, 25, Pennsylvania; S.J., 22, Pennsylvania; Solomon, 29, Pennsylvania; Lydia, 28, Pennsylvania; Joseph, 2, Ohio; David, eight months, Ohio; Barbaray King, 30, Pennsylvania; Nancy King, 4, Ohio; B. Schlabugh, 4, Ohio; and weaver Thomas Baine, 45, Pennsylvania. *Herald of Truth*, May 1867: "On the 24th of March, in the same county (Fairfield], Barbara Stutzman, widow of John [Stutzman, decd., aged 78 years and 9 months. Funeral sermon by Jonathan Zook from Phil. 1:21. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church."
3. Abraham Stutzman was born at Bern May 15, 1787, and died at Ligonier, Indiana May 15, 1867. In 1815 in Berks County he married Catherine Yoder. She was born in Berks County July 9, 1795, and died at LaGrange, Indiana June 17, 1865, a daughter of Joseph Yoder and Elizabeth Jutzi. They are found on the 1850 census of Berne, Fairfield County, Ohio: farmer Abraham Stutzman, 63, Pennsylvania; Catharin, 56, Pennsylvania; Mary A., 18, Pennsylvania; laborer Jonathan, 31, Pennsylvania; Lydia, 20, Pennsylvania; and Elizabeth Reif, 12, German. Farther down that page was a household with the widow and children of Abraham's younger brother Henry. They are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery at LaGrange.
4. Michael Stutzman was born at Bern Sept. 29, 1788, and died at Goshen, Elkhart County, Indiana Oct. 25, 1864. On March 29, 1812 in Mifflin County he married Hannah Yoder. She was born in Berks County Oct. 3, 1791, and died in childbirth in Mifflin County Oct. 3, 1824, a daughter of Joseph Yoder and Elizabeth Jutzi. On Oct. 25, 1825 in Mifflin County he remarried to Elizabeth Blough. She was born in Somerset County June 3, 1799, and died in Elkhart County, Indiana May 26, 1868, a daughter of David Bough and Elizabeth Weaver. On March 30, 1827 they purchased land in Wayne County, Ohio. In 1850 they were living in Clinton Township, Elkhart County, Indiana. They are buried in Clinton Union Cemetery.
5. David Stutzman was born at Bern, Berks County April 19, 1790, and died at Pleasant, Fairfield County, Ohio Sept. 25, 1855. He married Sarah Miller. She was born in Somerset County Feb. 7, 1799, and died at Elkhart, Indiana May 25, 1882, a daughter of Christian Miller and Anna Herschberger. He is buried in Amish Mennonite Cemetery at Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio. She is buried in Little Pine Cemetery at Elkhart. *Herald of Truth*, June 1882: "May 25th, near Bristol, Elkhart Co., Ind., of dropsy and old age, Sarah Stutzman, aged 83 years, 3 months and 18 days. She was the widow of David Stutzman, decd., who died in Fairfield county, Ohio, many years ago. She united with the Amish Mennonite church at the age of 15 years, and continued a faithful sister to her last. Funeral services by Jos. Yoder in German, and George Neff in English. Text, Rev. 14:13."
6. Esther Stutzman was born at Bern Jan. 4, 1792.
7. **Henry Stutzman** was born at Bern March 25, 1793.
8. Susanna Stutzman was born at Bern July 4 or 14, 1796, and died at Colfax in 1837. Circa 1814 she married John Yoder. He was born in Berks County Sept. 9, 1786, and died at LaGrange, Indiana Dec. 17, 1861, a son of Joseph Yoder and Elizabeth Jutzi. They first lived at Lewistown, Mifflin County.
9. Daniel Stutzman was born at Bern May 30, 1799, and died at Colfax Dec. 27, 1847. He married Sarah King. She was born in Lancaster County June 19, 1795, and died in Elkhart County, Indiana Dec. 10, 1879, a daughter of Christian King and Catherine Kurtz. He is buried in Amish Mennonite Cemetery at Lancaster, Fairfield County. *Herald of Truth*, January 1880: "Dec. 10th, in Clinton Twp., Elkhart Co., Ind., of old age, Sarah D. Stutzman, widow of Daniel Stutzman, who died in Fairfield Co., Ohio, about 32 years ago; her age was 84 years, 5 months, and 21 days. She was a consistent member of the Amish Church about sixty-five years, beloved by all who knew her. She has long had a desire to depart and be with Christ. She has four children living, who were all present when she died. Funeral services by Benjamin Schrock. She was a constant reader of the *Herald of Truth*, and it was a great consolation to her, especially in her later years." She is buried in Thomas Cemetery at Goshen, Elkhart County, Indiana.
10. Samuel Stutzman was born at Bern Oct. 27, 1801, and died at Virgil City, Missouri Feb. 1, 1881. He married Frances Landis. She was born May 15, 1808, and died at Virgil City Dec. 22, 1880. Frances had been indentured under a 10-year contract as a servant to Samuel's older brother Michael since May 15, 1816. In 1836 they were living in Wayne County, Ohio. They are buried in Vigil City Cemetery.

Circa 1802 Christian Stutzman Jr. remarried to Maria/Mary Beiler. She was born in Lancaster County Oct. 12, 1769, and died in Mifflin County May 23, 1820, a daughter of Christian Beiler and his first wife Elizabeth Yoder. They purchased land at Derry, Mifflin County in 1810, and sold it in 1816.

Harvey Hostetler wrote that Mary died in Mifffllin County Sept. 12, 1825, and Christian Jr. died there Dec. 6, 1825. But it appears that Christian Jr. died on the earlier date. In November of 1825 an inventory was made of the goods of 'Christian Stutzman, deceased' in Mifflin County. Sons Abraham and Daniel were administrators of his estate (estate 4116).

Children of Christian Stutzman Jr. and his second wife Maria/Mary Beiler King include:

11. Joseph Stutzman was born circa 1804. His household is found on the 1870 census of Clinton Township, Elkhart County, Indiana as farmer Joseph Stutzman, 66, Pennsylvania; Martha, 53, Pennsylvania; carpenter J., 24 [male], Indiana; Urias, 19, Indiana; Lydia, 17, Indiana; and Caroline, 15, Indiana.
12. Anna/Nancy Stutzman was born circa 1805, and died in Mifflin County in 1831 or 1832. In 1825 in Mifflin County she married Solomon Lantz. He was born in Mifflin County Jan. 14, 1806, and died at Noble, Indiana April 4, 1870, a son of Christian Lantz and Barbara Kurtz. After Anna's death he remarried to Hannah Riehl. Solomon and Hannah are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery at Topeka, Indiana.
13. Mary Stutzman was born circa 1807.

Henry Stutzman was born at Bern, Berks County March 25, 1793, and died at Colfax, Fairfield County, Ohio Sept. 22, 1845.

In 1821 he married Magdalena Lantz. She was born in Mifflin County April 26, 1803, and died in McLean County Feb. 21, 1864, a daughter of Christian Lantz and Barbara Kurtz.

Circa 1837 they relocated from Mifflin County to Berne, Fairfield County, Ohio, where they rented land until Henry's death.[99]

Henry is buried in the Amish Mennonite Cemetery at Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio. His headstone says, "In memory of Henry Stutzman, died Sep. 22, 1845, aged 52 years, 5 months and 28 days."

Widow Magdalena is found on the 1850 census of Berne, Fairfield County: farmer Joel Stutzman, 25, Pennsylvania; Magdeline, 50, Pennsylvania; laborer Moses, 18, Pennsylvania; laborer Isaac, 17, Pennsylvania; David, 15, Ohio; Jonathan, 13, Ohio; and Lydia, 9, Ohio. On the same page is the household of Abraham Stutzman and Catherine Yoder.

The 1860 census of Normal, McLean County shows farmer Moses Stutzman, 28, Pennsylvania; Isaac, 26, Pennsylvania; David, 24, Pennsylvania; domestic Magdalena, 57, Pennsylvania; and Sara Zook, 15, Ohio. The next door households were those of her son Samuel (with Sarah Lantz) and daughter Lydia (with Eli Lantz).

Magdalena is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County. Her headstone describes her as "Magdelena Stutzman, died Feb. 21, 1864, age 61 Y."

Children of Henry Stutzman and Magdalena Lantz include:

1. Joel Stutzman was born at Delaware, Juniata County or in Mifflin County Feb. 3, 1822, and died at Salem, Champaign County Nov. 19, 1902. On Aug. 3, 1857 in Fairfield County he married his niece Barbara Stutzman King. She was born in Juniata County circa Jan. 13, 1817, and died in Fairfield County Jan. 17, 1889, a daughter of John Stutzman and Barbara Hertzler. She was also the widow of Henry King. They had married circa 1839; he was born in Mifflin County circa Aug. 16, 1819, and died at Lancaster, Fairfield County Aug. 11, 1845, a son of Christian King and Mary Detweiler. Barbara is buried in Amish Mennonite Cemetery at Lancaster, Fairfield County, where her barely legible headstone describes her as, "Barbara wife of Joel Stutzman, died Jan. 17, 1889, age 72 y 4 m." Joel is buried in Huber Cemetery at Lancaster. *Herald of Truth*, December 1902: "Joel Stutzman was born in Mifflin Co., Pa,. Feb. 3, 1822. He moved with his parents to Fairfield Co., Ohio, in March 1834, and in Sept. 1857 was married to Barbara King, who died Jan. 16, 1888. Bro. Stutzman moved to Champaign Co., Ohio, March 17, 1891, and died Nov. 19, 1902, aged 80 Y., 8 M., 20 D. Funeral on the 22d at the Oak Grove M. H. Sermon by C. K. Yoder and Abednego Miller. Buried in the Hooly graveyard on the Ludlow Road. He was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church, where his place was seldom vacant." He is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Kennard, Champaign County.
2. Samuel Stutzman was born in Mifflin County Oct. 15, 1823, and died in McLean County Oct. 10, 1901. He married Sarah Lantz. She was born Jan. 16, 1830, and died July 25, 1910, a daughter of John Lantz and Sarah Hostetter. The 1860 census of Normal, McLean County has farmer Samuel Stutzman, 32, Pennsylvania; Sarah, 30, Pennsylvania; Thomas, 11, Ohio; Melville, 9, Ohio; Amos, 7, Ohio; Isabel, 8, Ohio; Isaac, 3, Ohio; and laborer David Burns, 21, Pennsylvania. They appear on the 1880 census of Normal as farmer Samuel Stutsman, 56, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Sarah, 52, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; farmer and son Amos, 26, Ohio; daughter-in-law Nancy, 19, born in Illinois to parents from Kentucky and Ohio; grandson Willis, 1, born in

[99] They are easily confused with another Henry Stutzman who lived at Green Township, Wayne County in the same time frame.

Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois; and adopted daughter Louisa, 6, born in Illinois. Samuel is buried in Hudson Cemetery in McLean County.

3. **Solomon Stutzman** was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania Oct. 16, 1829, and died at Carlock, McLean County March 10, 1902.
4. Moses Stutzman was born in Mifflin County Oct. 8, 1831, and died at Assumption, Christian County in May 26, 1912. In December of 1866 in Shelby County he married Sarah Jane Gorsline. She was born March 16, 1845, and died in October of 1905. They are found on the 1880 and 1900 censuses of Assumption They are buried under a joint headstone in Greenwood Cemetery at Assumption: "Moses Stutsman, born Oct. 8, 1831, died May 26, 1912; Sarah J., wife of M. Stutsman, born March 6, 1845, died Dec. 3, 1905."
5. Isaac Stutzman was born in Mifflin County in 1833, and died in McLean County Jan. 13, 1916. He married Helena Brenneman. She was born in Fairfield County Oct. 14, 1839, and died at Galesburg, Illinois July 9, 1859, a daughter of Christian Brenneman and Mary Miller. Her family is found next door to the Stutzmans on the 1850 census of Berne, Fairfield County, where she was an 11-year-old. On Nov. 6, 1860 in McLean County he remarried to Catharine Burns. She was born in 1833, and died in 1906 or August 1890. They are found on the 1870 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as farmer Isaac Stutzman, 37, Pennsylvania; Catherine, 32, Pennsylvania; Henry D., 9, Illinois; Jacob B., 7, Illinois; Nancy L., 5, Illinois; Louis G., 3, Illinois; and a male child, 1, Illinois. In 1880 they appear on the Danvers census with nine children.
6. David Stutzman was born in Fairfield County, Ohio in 1834, and died in Mclean County June 14, 1912, He married Belle Wolf . She was born in Ohio Nov. 29, 1932, and died in McLean County Jan. 23, 1926. They lived at Bloomington. They are buried under a joint headstone in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock.
7. Jonathan Stutzman was born in Fairfield County May 29, 1838, and died in McLean County March 11, 1874. In 1860 he was living in the household of his brother Solomon at Dry Grove, McLean County. On Jan. 14, 1863 in McLean County he married Anna Frey. She was born in 1838, and died in 1874. *Herald of Truth*, April 1874: "March 11th, in the same place (McLean Co., Illinois), of Consumption, Johathan Stutzman, aged 35 years, 9 months, and 12 days. Discourse by John Stahly and Christian Imhoff."
8. Lydia Stutzman was born in Fairfield County May 24, 1841, and died in Lincoln County, Nebraska Jan. 9, 1888. On Jan. 5, 1860 in McLean County she married Eli Lantz. He was born in Pennsylvania Dec. 5 1838, and died at MacClenny, Florida Aug. 21, 1896, a son of John Lantz and Sarah Hostetter. The 1860 census of Normal, Mclean County has farmer Eli Lantz, 22, Pennsylvania; Lydia, 21, Pennsylvania; Sarah, 45, Pennsylvania; Melinda, 7, Illinois; laborer David Yoder, 30, Pennsylvania; and laborer Crist Kennedy, 25, Pennsylvania. They are buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Lexington, Nebraska.

Solomon Stutzman was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania Oct. 16, 1829, and died at Carlock, McLean County March 10, 1902.

In December of 1849 Solomon traveled the Farnisville home of the married couple Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder, who were each other's fourth cousins.

In 1847 the Yoders had departed from Milford, Juniata County, Pennsylvania. In 1848 they had resettled at Farnisville. Farnisville became part of Montgomery Township, Woodford County in 1851, and is now called Mackinaw Dells. They are found on the same page of the 1850 census as Peter and Christian Farny ('the Amishmen who hired Abraham Lincoln'), Jacob Zehr, and Christian Smith. Leah was a sister to McLean County minister and elder Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and 'freethinker' Joseph Yoder/Joder, mentioned in STAKER.

The following spring Solomon used money he had earned in an Ohio distillery to rent land at Dry Grove, McLean County. At about that time 24-year-old Sarah Yoder arrived in McLean County. She was born at Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Dec. 7, 1826, and died at Danvers Dec. 23, 1896, a daughter of Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner and niece to Leah Yoder.

They were married within their congregation in 1852, then married in a civil ceremony at Danvers Jan. 1, 1853.

The 1860 census of Dry Grove shows farmer Solomon Stutzman, 31, Pennsylvania; Sarah, 34, Pennsylvania; Joseph, 4, Illinois; Simeon, 5, Illinois; Irena, 3, Illinois; Abrahm, 2, Illinois; and Jonathan, 22, Ohio [Solomon's younger brother]. Their next door neighbors were Solomon's in-laws famer Jonathan Yoder, 65, Pennsylvania; Magdelene, 62, Pennsylvania; Ann, 20, Pennsylvania; Asa, 25, Pennsylvania; and Emanuel, 21, Pennsylvania.

The 1870 census of Danvers has them as Solomon Stutzman, 40, Pennsylvania; and Sarah, 43, Pennsylvania.

Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County (1886):

> Solomon Stutzman, a worthy representative of the substantial and reliable Pennsylvania farmer, transferred his residence from the Keystone State to Illinois in December, 1849, while he was yet a young man, and is now operating as a successful farmer of Danvers Township, on section 2. Mr. Stutzman was born in Juniata County, Pa., in 1829, being the son of Henry and Magdalena (Lantz) Stutzman, both natives of the same State and born in 1797 and 1795, respectively. They [Henry and Magdalena] were married in their native state in 1821, and followed farming there for about twelve years afterward.

They then removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, where the father of our subject operated on rented land until his death, which occurred Sept. 22, 1845. The mother survived him a number of years and died about the 1st of March, 1866.

The record of their children is as follows: Joel is married and residing in Fairfield County, Ohio; Samuel married Miss Sarah Lantz, and they are now living in Hudson, in this county; Solomon of our sketch was the third child; Moses married Miss Garland [Gorsline], and lives in Christian County, Ill.; Isaac married Miss Catherine Barnes [Burns], and is a resident of this county; David married Miss Belle Wolf, and is a resident of Bloomington; Jonathan married Miss Anna Fray [Frey]; he died in about 1876, leaving a wife and six children; Lydia became the wife of Eli Lantz, and lives in Nebraska. The parents were members of the Mennonite Church, and in politics Henry Stutzman was an old-line Whig.

Solomon Stutzman remained at home until the death of his father and then served four years in a distillery. He came to Illinois in December, 1849, stopping over winter in Woodford County, and in the spring came to McLean County, where for three years following he farmed on rented land, he then purchased 120 acres, to which he subsequently added, and is now the owner of 280 acres, all improved and under a good state of cultivation. His attention is mostly devoted to the raising, buying, and selling of cattle...

Mr. and Mrs. Stutzman have become the parents of five children, as follows: Joshua H. married Miss Miller, and is a resident of this county; Simeon married Miss Tillie Lantz; Abraham also married a Miss Lantz, and Irene is the wife of C. C. Habecker; Jonathan Y., who also married a Miss Lantz, lives in McLean County, Ill.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Jonathan and Magdalena (Wagoner) Yoder, both natives of Schuylkill County, Pa. Jonathan Yoder, a carpenter, followed his trade for a number of years in his native State, and later purchased a large farm, upon which he removed and occupied it until the spring of 1852, when he came to Illinois and purchased forty acres of land in Dry Grove Township, this county, where he passed the remainder of his days. The mother departed this life in 1865, and Mr. Yoder then resided with one of his daughters until his death, in 1868. His marriage took place in 1817, and they became the parents of eleven children, as follows: Leah, Joash, Elias, Elizabeth, Sarah, Amos, Jonathan (who died Jan. 10, 1833), Magdalena (who died Dec. 17, 1832), Asa, Catherine and Anna.

Mr. and Mrs. Y. were members of the Mennonite Church, of which he was a minister for many years... In politics Mr. Stutzman is a stanch Republican.

Herald of Truth, Feb. 1, 1897: "On the 23d of December, 1896, in North Danvers, McLean Co., Ill., suddenly of paralysis, Sarah Stutzman, maiden name Yoder, aged 70 years and 16 days. She was for several years partly paralyzed, but still got about, until the afternoon of the 23d when she fell as she was going upstairs, and in a short time she was a corpse. Her remains were laid to rest on the 25th in Simon Lantz's graveyard. She leaves her deeply bereft husband and four children to follow her to the grave. Deceased was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of Bro. Jonathan Yoder for many years a bishop in the Amish church. The family came to Illinois Jan. 2d, 1853, where Sister Sarah was married to Bro. Solomon Stutzman. She leaves an aged and invalid brother in Wayne Co., Ohio, one in McLean Co., Ill., and one sister is Missouri. Another brother lives in Oregon. She was a faithful sister in the Amish church, a beloved mother, and we believe she is now at rest. Funeral services in the North Danvers M.H. to a large congregation of friends, by Joseph King and Peter Schantz from Psa. 90.

Woodford County Journal, March 13, 1902: "At 1:20 Monday afternoon at his home five miles west of Carlock, occurred the death of Solomom Stutzman, one of the pioneers of this locality. The death followed an illness of one week with lung fever. Mr. Stutzman was born in Pennsylvania October 16, 1829. He came with his parents to Ohio when 6 years of age and when 21 years old settled in Dry Grove township and has since lived in that vicinity. He was married to Miss Sarah Yoder, who died a few years ago. Three sons and one daughter survive. They are Simon, Abraham, and John Stutzman and Mrs. C.C. Habecker, all of Carlock. There are also surviving three brothers, Joel of West Liberty, O; David of Assumption; and Isaac of Normal. The funeral was held from the Mennonite Church near Danvers Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock."

Solomon Stutzman and Sarah Yoder are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock.

Children of Solomon Stutzman and Sarah Yoder include:

1. **Joash H. Stutzman** was born at Carlock Oct. 16, 1853, and died there Sept. 19, 1891.
2. Simon L. Stutzman was born at Danvers Aug. 7, 1855, and died at Carlock in 1931. On Feb. 7, 1884 at Danvers he married Glotilda/Tillie Lantz. She was born at Congerville, Woodford County June 25, 1862, and died in McLean County in 1933, a daughter of Solomon Lantz and Magdalena Yoder. They are found on the 1900 census of White Oak, McLean County. They are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock.
3. Irene Stutzman was born at Danvers Nov. 26, 1857, and died there Dec. 8, 1945. On March 11, 1881 at Danvers she married Christian C. Habecker; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Christian was born at Groveland Sept. 24, 1855, and died at Danvers Feb. 26, 1922, a son of John Habecker and Magdalena Roth. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.
4. Abraham Lincoln Stutzman was born at Danvers March 27, 1859, and died at Oskaloosa, Iowa Oct. 6, 1961. On Jan. 31, 1886 in McLean County he married Nancy Caroline Lantz. She was born at Carlock, McLean County Nov. 7, 1862, and died at Union Mills, Mahaska County, Iowa Jan. 22, 1913, a daughter of Simeon Lantz and Mary Plank. They are buried in Union Mills Cemetery.

5. Jonathan Yoder Stutzman was born at Carlock Dec. 2, 1864, and died at Danvers Sept. 27, 1933. On Dec. 12, 1886 at West Liberty, Ohio he married Emma Isabel Lantz. She was born in Logan County, Ohio May 18, 1864, and died at Bloomington, Mclean County Jan. 14, 1941, a daughter of John Lantz and Sarah Plank. He is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Carlock.

Joash H. Stutzman was born at Carlock Oct. 16, 1853, and died there Sept. 19, 1891.

On Sept. 16, 1880 at Danvers he married Magdalena Birckelbaw Miller; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born Oct. 8, 1852, and died at Danvers March 1, 1928, a daughter of Christian K. Miller and Elizabeth Birckelbaw. Her parents can be found on the 1900 census of White Oak, McLean County, one household removed from Joash's brother Simon Stutzman and Tillie Lantz.

In 1882 Joash was ordained as a minister with Peter Schantz by minister Joseph Stuckey, and served the North Danvers Mennonite Church until his death.

Harry F. Weber's *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929* (1931): "Rev. Joash Stutzman was born October 16, 1853, in McLean County, Illinois. His father was Solomon Stutzman, born in Pennsylvania, October 16, 1829. His mother was Sarah Yoder, the daughter of Rev. Jonathan Yoder born December 7, 1827, in Pennsylvania. Solomon Stutzman came to Fairfield County, Ohio, when a boy and from there to McLean County, Illinois, in about 1850. Sarah Yoder Stutzman came to McLean County from Pennsylvania in 1851. They were married in. 1852. Joash's mother died December 23, 1896, and his father March 10, 1902. Joash Stutzman was educated in the district schools in McLean County. He united with the Rock Creek Church in his early youth. He married Magdalene Miller, a grandchild of Rev. Michael Miller, September 16, 1880. They had four children. He was ordained to the ministry in the North Danvers Mennonite Church in 1882 by Bishop Joseph Stuckey. Rev. Stutzman's ministerial career was very short. He died September 19, 1891."

Widow Lena B. Miller is found on the 1910 and 1920 censuses of Bloomington, McLean County. In 1910 she was described as Lena Miller, 59, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and West Virginia. She lived with her son farm laborer Joseph E. Stutzman, 26, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois. In 1920 she was described as Lena B. Miller, 69, born in Illinois to parents form Illinois and North Carolina. She lived with her son laborer William D. Stutzman, 38, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois.

They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery

'Shared history' and geography notes relevant to Berks County can be found in HOCHSTETTLER.

Lantz of Mifflin County

To visualize some of the Pennsylvania locations mentioned in the following text, imagine the present day communities of Upper Bern (Berks County), Penn (Berks County), Heidelberg (Berks County), Spring (Berks County), Brecknock (straddling the Berks and Lancaster County line), and Caernarvon (straddling the Berks and Lancaster County line) as a 36-mile chain running north to south. The Heidelberg that is relevant here was located about 20 miles west of Caernarvon, on the Lancaster-Lebanon County line.

Lantz descendants in Illinois are generally associated with McLean County. But the family initially came from Pennsylvania to arrive by steamboat at Pekin. They established a farm at Congerville, Woodford County that thrived for six years. Then the head of the family succumbed to the Asiatic Cholera epidemic that peaked in July and August of 1855 (see SMITH, THE SCHMITTS OF BISPING for background on the sudden deaths in the area).

According to Delbert Gratz, Lantz is derived from *Landbold,* or place of birth. *Heimatorte* or legal points of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname include Eriswil, Huttwil, and Rohrbach in Canton Bern.

The first relevant occurrence of the surname was the appearance of an Anabaptist named Simon Lantz at a debate between 23 Anabaptist leaders and representatives of the Protestant Reformed Church at Zofingen, Canton Bern July 1-9, 1532.

Johannes/Hans/John Lantz was born in Europe before 1728. A number of his associations suggest that he was associated in some way with the Amish Mennonite congregation that met on the Katharinentaler Hof in Baden-Durlach (see KING for background on this location). He died at Heidelberg or Caernarvon, Lancaster County Dec. 26, 1789.

Circa 1848 in Europe he married Anna Maria Kreybill (she is found as both 'Anna' and 'Anna Maria' in his will). She was born circa 1730. Kreybill is derived from the German Krehbiel, which was derived from the Swiss Krayenbühl.[100]

They departed from Rotterdam on the *Phoenix,* sailing via the tax station at Cowes to reach Philadelphia on Friday, Sept. 15, 1749.[101] The voyage may be recalled from KURTZ as one that brought Abraham Kurtz; or from EHRISMAN as one that brought Christian Schowalter and Christian Stauffer; or from STRUBHAR as one that brought Hans Straubharr (see STRUBHAR for more surnames from the passenger list).

Typically three lists of arriving passengers were created in colonial ports after 1727: one kept by the captain, one from the oath of allegiance to the sovereign created the day of arrival, and one from the oath of abjuration to the pope created the same day. Pennsylvania genealogists tend to call these the A, B, and C lists. In this instance only the last list has been preserved. 'Johannes Lans' appears on an *Oath of Abjuration to the Pope* list that was created that day at the courthouse.[102]

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[100] Some sources say Anna Maria was a Sieber. We found nothing to support this, and one retraction from a writer who may have originated the idea. Hans Sieber and Melchior Detweiler were the first Amish Mennonite settlers along Irish Creek and Northkill Creek in 1836.

[101] Another Johannes Lantz departed from Rotterdam on the *Samuel*, and arrived at Philadelphia Aug. 11, 1729. Also, Johannes Lantz, 30, arrived at Philadelphia from Rotterdam via Leith, Scotland on the *Patience and Margaret* Oct. 25, 1748. There is nothing to support ideas on their final destinations, or that either was or was not Amish Mennonite.

The story of the Lantz family has been garbled by mistaken guesswork from the pre-computer era, when items were not so easy to cross-check. Someone who knew about the 1729 arrival, but not the 1749 arrival, assumed that the Johannes who came in 1749 must have arrived as a 3-year-old son in 1729. A number of mistaken assumptions have spun off this.

[102] Another name on the *Phoenix* list naming only males over 16 years of age was 'Peter Crapy,' who may have been a Krehbiel. He is thought to have been the Peter Krebiel listed as a head of household at Bern Township in 1754 (and thus a neighbor to Johannes/Hans/John Lantz).

The galley *St. Andrew* sailed from Rotterdam via Cowes, arriving at Philadelphia Aug. 18, 1750. Among the passengers was Jacob Kraybill. Jacob was born before 1735 (he was at least 16 when he signed the loyalty oath in 1750), and died at East Donegal, Lancaster County Dec. 27, 1810; he is known as 'the founder of the Kraybill family in North America' (see DELLENBACH).

JACOB HERTZLER

Recall from KING that the Katharinentaler Hof was located six miles north of Pforzheim. In present day it would be described as part of the community of Neulingen adjacent to Göbrichen in the German state of Baden-Württemberg.

In 1728 Hans Hürzler and Jakob Kurtz [Sr.] partnered in a lease agreement. The estate became the central meeting place for Amish Mennonites in Baden-Durlach. Hürzler functioned as a minister, while Kurtz served as his deacon (just as two of his sons would later serve as deacons in Pennsylvania).

While Hans did not emigrate from Europe, his son Jakob Hürzler did.

He was born in the Old Swiss Confederacy in 1703. He married twice. His son John and daughter Catherine were born to an unidentified first wife. His second wife was Catherine Ruegy or Gnägi/Knegy, who was born in the Old Swiss Confederacy circa 1709. They had Jacob, Christian, and Veronica/Fanny.

The family arrived at Philadelphia only six days before Johannes/Hans/John Lantz. Their ship, the galley *St. Andrew*, had departed from Rotterdam and sailed via Plymouth to dock on Saturday, Sept. 9, 1749. Christian Stauffer was also a passenger on this voyage (see EHRISMAN).

In Pennsylvania Jakob would be known as Jacob Hertzler, as his name appears on a loyalty oath list created at the courthouse later that day.

The Hertzlers arrived at the Northkill Creek settlement in Bern Township at the same time as the Lantzes. Upon his arrival there Jacob Hertzler became the first Amish Mennonite elder in America.

On Jan. 9, 1750 Jacob obtained a warrant for 182 acres along Irish Creek in Upper Bern Township (in a part that was carved out in 1887 to become Tilden Township, Berks County). He called his farm 'Contentment.' This was followed by warrants in 1752, 1765, 1766, and 1778 for a combined holding of 404 acres. The land was divided between his children Aug. 30, 1773.

Catherine died over the 1773-74 winter. Jacob died in 1786. They are buried in the Amish Congregation Burying Ground at Hamburg, Berks County, adjoining the former site of their family farm. Their wooden markers no longer exist.

They left numerous Hertzler and Hartzler descendants in Berks County.

On April 20, 1750 Johannes Lantz obtained a land warrant for a 59-acre parcel in Bern Township, Lancaster County. He called his farm 'Perseverance.'

It is likely that the Amish Mennonite community there had cooperated to construct one or two large log dwellings as temporary quarters for new arrivals. These were generally divided into two rooms, segregated by gender. The Lantzes do not appear on a 1752 tax list, suggesting that they were still living in such quarters while working to construct their own dwelling.[103]

The Lantzes presumably moved south to Lancaster County circa 1756, the first year of the French and Indian War. They returned to their 50 acres in Berks County circa 1763, the last year of the war, but eventually turned that land over to a new resident. The final payment would be made by John Mast May 24, 1808. At that time its true extent after survey was found to be 291 acres.

THE JOHANNES/HANS/JOHN LANTZ-JACOB HERTZLER LETTER

Two articles in the magazine *Mennonite Family History* may be relevant here.

The first, *The Jacob Kauffman Bible*, was published in October 1990. It told about five items that had once been collected and inserted into an heirloom Bible.[104] It was uncertain at the time whether one authors or several authors were involved; only translated copies survived.

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[103] A Dec. 20, 1752 tax list of heads of household at Bern Township omits Johannes/Hans/John Lantz, but includes Jacob Boiler, John Burkey, John Fisher, Jacob Good, John Herschburger, John Holly, Jacob Kafman, Christian Kaufman, John Kaufman, Christian King, Samuel King, Jacob Kofman, John Miller, Nicholas Miller, Adam Rickback, John Sever, John Sieber, Henry Steely, Jacob Stutsman, Christian Stutzman, Christian Yoder, Christopher Yoder, and John Zimmerman.

A 1754 tax list of heads of household at Bern Township includes Hans Lantz, Jacob Bayler, Jacob Burkey, Jacob Burkee Jr., Christian Byler, Hans Curtz, Christian Fisher, Jacob Good, Jacob Hartzler, Jacob Hochshitlar, John Holly, Christian Kerschberger, Christian Kaufman, Isaac Kaufman, Jacob Kaufman, Christian King, Samuel King, Peter Krebiel, Christian Kurtz, Stephen Kurtz, Jacob Mast, Jacob Mayer, Jacob Miller, John Miller, Nicholas Miller, Nick Miller, Adam Rickenback, John Sieber, Henry Staly, Christian Stutzman, Jacob Stutzman, Christian Yoder, Christian Yoder Jr., Jacob Yoder, John Yoder, Hans Zimmerman, Christian Zoog, and Maritz Zoog.

[104] Murray assumed that the fifth item was written by minister Jacob Hertzler to express his political position at the commencement of the Revolutionary War: "To him our King George III, to give all just obedience, to live in harmony, faithfulness, love, honor, and taxes, and benevolence, and to pray for him to God according to the Scriptures in the *New Testament* (*Matt. 2-21*; *Romans 13:1-7*; *Titus 3:1-2; 12:13-16*; and *Timothy 1-2*). I also hate and despise with all my heart, treachery, rebellion, and assassination, as might be made against our King and his government, be it by Pope, Protestant, or others. I am also hereby disposed (as much as is granted to me by God and it behooves me) to prevent such as much as possible, at the same time I wish and pray that God will give to our King a wise and sensible heart and a willing mind to live cheerfully and faithfully in all commandments and laws of God, that he may manage right and justice, and thus his throne might be well

The second article was a follow up, John F. Murray's *An Old German Letter Interpreted*, published in April 2007. Murray proposed that all of the items were copies or records kept by minister Jacob Hertzler; perhaps they were intended as 'pass down' for his successor as elder.

Item number four may have been a letter dictated by Johannes Lantz to Hertzler, meant to be hand-carried to his relatives by someone returning to Europe. (Although return trips were unusual, they did take place. When Abraham Kurtz arrived at Philadelphia with the Lantzes on the *Phoenix* in 1749, he was making his fifth crossing).

Murray estimated the date of the letter as 1763, the last year of the French and Indian War, but it may also have been written a year or two earlier.

"A friendly greeting from me, Hans Lands, and Mrs. Anna Landria to my father and mother and also to my brothers and sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and all friends and acquaintances we greet heartily.[105] We also beg of you that you would remember us in your prayers and that you will beg the Lord to give us strength of mind. Also greetings from myself, Hans Lands, to my father-in-law, Michael Kreybill.

We want to let you know that we have been obliged to flee from our place on account of the war, but the war has subsided again. The English have gained the upper hand. They have fought the French back, and the Indians have again made peace and so we are back again on our place.

We have no want in temporal food. We have also had no want because of the war. Further we have six sons. They are, God be thanked, healthy.

I am much grieved on account of my brother Christian Lands for I have heard that he has married a Church Woman and has joined worldly people. I would like to wish you, my dear brother, and your wife which you have taken to yourself that God may give you grace to turn around like the Prodigal Son."

Prior to 1771 Johannes purchased 150 acres at Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County. John Hertzler, the oldest son of minister Jacob Hertzler, also farmed at Caernarvon 1759-73 and 1785-95.

The alms book of deacon Abraham Kurtz shows Hans Lantz as a contributor in 1774. Abraham farmed in the townships of Earl and Salisbury in Lancaster County; he had been a passenger with Lantz on the *Phoenix* in 1749.

Although he now owned land at Caernarvon, Johannes purchased an additional 100 acres at Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County in 1776. Some sources erroneously say this was Heidelberg in Berks County, but taxes on the property were paid to Lancaster County in 1779 and 1782, long after the establishment of Berks County. This indicates the land was located farther west, in what would now be called Elizabeth Township, Lancaster County; or in Heidelberg, Jackson, or Mill Creek in adjoining Lebanon County (part of that county was carved out of Lancaster County in 1813). [106]

In 1778 he relocated to the farm at Heidelberg, leaving the operation of the Caernarvon home to his son Jacob.[107]

Johannes died at Heidelberg or Caernarvon Dec. 26, 1789. He had created a German-language will at Caernarvon March 1, 1789. We have only seen a translated abstract. It names him as 'John Lantz,' and mentions his wife Anna Maria, and children Christian, John, Jacob, Samuel (who had died), Peter, and Henry, as well as sons of Samuel named John and Samuel. The widow was left 2,000 English pounds (the equivalent of $296,000 in modern buying power); son Jacob was given support for life. The executors were his son Jacob Lantz and John Gneagey [derived from Gnägi].

Anna Maria Kreybill is found on the 1790 census of Caernarvon as 'widow Lanch.' Her son 'Jacob Lanch' and 'John Kneaky' are also found there.'[108]

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fortified with fairness and be handed down, so that he may have an eternity for his faithful service and have his reward from God."

[105] We suspect that 'Mrs. Anna Landria' was originally written as *Ehefrau Anna Landsin*. *-in* is a German grammatical device; the suffix is added to a surname to indicate that the bearer is female.

[106] *Provincial Papers: Proprietary and State Tax Lists of the County of Lancaster* (1898) shows Johannes/John as the owner of two properties in the county. The Caernarvon property: in 1771 John Lance paid on 100 acres, two horses, and four cows; in 1772 Jno. Lance paid on 130 acres, four horses, and three cows; in 1773 John Lance paid on 100 acres, four horses, and three cows; in 1779 John Lance paid on 100 acres, four horses, 12 cows, and 10 sheep; and in 1782 Jno. Lance paid on 159 acres, four horses, and five cows. The Heidelberg property: in 1779 John Lans paid on 100 acres, four horses, and two cows; in 1782 Jno. Lantz paid on 150 acres, four horses, and three cows.

[107] The 1782 tax list shows Jno. Lance paying 17 pounds on the Caernarvon property, while his son Jacob Lance paid three pounds, and another resident named Cope Lance paid five pounds. We could not identify which son was nicknamed 'Cope.'

Historical Papers and Addresses of the Lancaster County Historical Society (1922) : "In 1793 there were in Caernarvon the following families: 2 Davies, 12 Evans, 5 Goheens, 6 Hudsons, 1 Hughes, 5 Jenkins, 1 Morgan, 4 Northamers, 5 Olds, 1 Lantz, 1 Lapp, 1 Martin, 1 Myers, 2 Neuswangers, 2 Oberholzers, 1 Biler, 1 Ranck, 4 Stoffers, 2 Shirks, 1 Stire, 2 Weavers, 2 Wilsons, 2 Wert, and 3 Yoders. This shows 41 Welsh, 23 Mennonite, and 37 scattered."

[108] He is found elsewhere in this time frame as John Kenagy and John Gnagy.

On April 14, 1797 Jacob and his wife Magdalena Kurtz sold the family farm at Caernarvon before relocating to Huntingdon County. *Book B, Deeds and Patents, Lancaster County* holds this entry: "Deed. Jacob Lantz *et ux* to Andrew Weiler for 180 acres and allowance. No. 1723. Signed by Jacob Lantz and Magdalene Lantz (mark)."

Children of Johannes/Hans/John Lantz and Anna Maria Kreybill include:

1. **Christian Lantz** was born in the Northkill Creek settlement at Bern Township in 1751.
2. John Lantz was born in the North Creek settlement in 1753, and died in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania circa 1813. He married Freni 'Fanny' Beiler. She was born in Berks County Nov. 6, 1754, and died in Lebanon County May 8, 1794, a daughter of Christian Beiler and Elizabeth Yoder. In 1806 John was living at Mattawana, Bratton Township, Mifflin County. He is found as a head of household on the 1800 enumeration of Union Township, Mifflin County.
3. Jacob Lantz was born in the Northkill Creek settlement in 1754, and died at Henderson, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania in 1816. He married Magdalena Kurtz. She was born in Berks County June 4, 1756, and died in Huntingdon County circa 1816, a daughter of Stephen Kurtz and Freni Yoder. Jacob assumed operation of the home at Caernarvon when his father moved to Heidelberg in 1778. He paid three pounds as tax at Caernarvon in 1782, though his father paid 17 pounds on the same property. On March 6, 1820 the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed an act clarifying the ownership of the land he left behind in Huntingdon County. John Beiler had purchased a third of the acreage from the estate, though it was intended for three Lantz sons. It began, "Whereas it appears upon the petition of John Pyler [Beiler], Christian Ditwelier [Detweiler], Sarah Lantz, widow of Christian Lantz, deceased [presumably Jacob's brother], Christian King and Abraham Kurtz, executors of the testament and last will of Jacob Lantz, late of Henderson township, Huntingdon county..." It also named Jacob's children and their guardians. His sons were described as "...out of the society commonly called Ammisch." It also mentioned "the lunacy of Jacob Lantz," and upheld the legitimacy of Beiler's purchase.
4. Samuel Lantz was born in the Northkill Creek settlement or at Caernarvon, Lancaster County 1755-1758, and died at Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County Nov. 29, 1781. Circa 1778 at Heidelberg he married Elizabeth King. She was born in 1755, and died in Lancaster County in 1823, a daughter of Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder. Samuel's will calling him 'Samuel Lanz' was created at Heidelberg Nov. 29, 1781. It named his wife as Elizabeth Lanz, and his sons as John and Samuel. Executors were Christian Lanz and Christian Beyler. In 1784 Elizabeth remarried to Christian Stoltzfus. He was born in the Pfalz Aug. 10, 1749, and died in Lancaster County July 28, 1832, a son of Nicholas Stoltzfus and Anna. He married his first wife Catherine Gerber May 4, 1774; she died in Berks County May 18, 1783. He is buried in Myers Cemetery.
5. Peter Lantz may have been born at Caernarvon, Lancaster County in 1760, and died at Heidelberg, Lancaster County circa 1818. He married Elizabeth Zimmerman/Carpenter. She was born in Pennsylvania circa 1759.
6. Henry Lantz was likely born at Caernarvon before 1764. His father's 1789 will indicated that he was still living as the youngest of the six sons. We found a great deal of inaccurate or contorted information meant to support a description of Henry, but nothing reliable.

Christian Lantz was born in the Northkill Creek settlement at Bern Township in 1751, and died in Mifflin County in 1810.

The alms book of deacon Hans Kurtz shows Christian Lantz as a contributor in 1777. Kurtz farmed in the village of Womelsdorf, Heidelberg Township, Berks County.

In Berks County circa 1777 Christian married Barbara Kurtz. She was born there April 26, 1749, and died before 1789, a daughter of Hans Kurtz and Elizabeth Rickenbach.

Children of Christian Lantz and his first wife Barbara Kurtz born at Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County include:

1. Anna 'Nancy' Lantz was born Feb. 1, 1778, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Feb. 11, 1868. Circa 1802 she married David Zook. He was born in what is now Mifflin County March 2, 1780 (it was not formed until 1789), and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Aug. 8, 1863, a son of Christian Zook and Catherine Kurtz. He may have been the David Zook on an enumeration of heads-of-household at Union, Mifflin County in 1821. They are buried in the Amish Mennonite Cemetery at Lancaster, Fairfield County, where his headstone says he was aged 83 years, four months, and 14 days, and hers has the age count 90 years, 10 days.
2. Christian Lantz was born Nov. 12, 1781, and died Dec. 21, 1859. In 1803 in Mifflin County he married Maria/Mary Hertzler. She was born in Berks County May 24 or 25, 1783, and died Dec. 13, 1857, a daughter of John Hertzler and Anna Rickenbach. He may have been the Christian Lantz on an enumeration of heads-of-household at Union, Mifflin County in 1810. His name also appears there in 1821. They are buried in the Weesaw Baptist Church Cemetery at Denver, Indiana, where his headstone says he was aged 78 years, one month, and nine days, and hers says she was aged 74 years, six months, and 19 days.

3. Jacob Lantz was born July 25, 1784. Circa 1813 he married Anna/Nancy. He may have been the Jacob Lantz on an enumeration of heads-of-household at Union, Mifflin County in 1821. They are found on the 1830 census of Union Township, Mifflin County. Until at least 1836 they were living in Mifflin County, where they had at least nine children. Jacob Lantz, 74, and Nancy Lantz, 64, both born in Pennsylvania, are found on the 1860 census of Hocking, Fairfield County, Ohio. They were living in the household of Adam Stutzman, 40, Pennsylvania; and Barbaray [their daughter Barbara Lantz], 36, Pennsylvania.

Circa 1790 Christian remarried to Freni 'Fanny' Rickenbach.[109] She was born circa 1751, and died in or before 1793, a daughter of Hans Adam Rickenbach.

They may be shown on the 1790 census of Heidelberg, Berks County. The tally of the household of Christian Lantz shows one male above 16 years of age, two males below 16 years of age, and three females. They lived next door to Jacob Kurtz.

Christian Lantz and his second wife Freni 'Fanny' Rickenbach had one child:

4. Freni/Fanny/Veronica Lantz was born in Berks County July 22, 1791, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Nov. 4, 1868. In 1822 she married David Hertzler/Hartzler. He was born in Berks County March 1, 1789, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Feb. 23, 1855, a son of Jacob Hertzler and Anna Yoder. *Gospel Herald*, January 1869: "On the 4th of November, 1868, in Fairfield Co., Ohio, Fanny Hertzler, widow of David Hertzler deceased, aged 77 years, 3 months, and 13 days. About nine weeks before her death she fell and injured her hip. She was a sister in the Omish Mennonite church." They are buried in the Amish Mennonite Cemetery at Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, where their joint headstone says he was aged 65 years, 11 months, and 22 days, and she was called 'Frances' and aged 77 years, three months, and 12 days.

In 1793 Christian married a third time to Catherine/Katharina (a name given by a number of sources) or Sarah (as named in a legislative act regarding his brother Jacob's property). They resettled in Mifflin County.

Beginning in 1791 many of the first Amish Mennonite settlers of the Kishacoquillas Valley (or Big Valley) in the northern end of Mifflin County relocated from what is now Somerset County, on the southwestern border of the state. As they thrived more settlers came from Lancaster County. Lewistown was incorporated as the county seat 1795.

.In 1798 Christian became a public overseer of the poor in Mifflin County.

An 1800 enumeration of Union Township, Mifflin County shows head of household Christian Lantz, as well as his brother John. The 1800 federal census of Lewistown, Mifflin County may show the crowded household of Christian Lantz, though his handwritten name looks like 'Christian Sarles.' The tally has one male 45 years of age or older; one male 16-25 years of age; two males 10-16 years of age; two males under 10 years of age; one female 45 years of age or older; one female 26-45 years of age; one female 10-16 years of age; one female under 10 years of age; and one non-slave 'other.' [110]

On April 12, 1804 Jacob King and his oldest son John made an extraordinary land acquisition. Together they purchased 1,710 acres of the Mifflin County 'Sharron tract' for 10,000 English pounds. This sum was equivalent to the modern buying power of $888,000. Part of the acreage was sold to Chris Allen in 1806, and became the village of Allensville. Some of the remainder was sold to other Amish Mennonite families. Their numbers increased so much that in January of 1837 the southern part of Union Township that contained Allensville was reincorporated as Menno Township, named for Menno Simons.

Christian died in 1810 after a tree limb fell on him. He was buried on a farm by the village of Airydale in Huntingdon County, just across the southern border of Mifflin County.

Children of Christian Lantz and his third wife, Catherine/Katharina or Sarah, born at Union Township, Mifflin County include:

6. Barbara Lantz was born July 2, 1794, and died at Danvers, McLean County April 27, 1860. In 1816 she married John Plank. He was born in Lancaster County July 3, 1793, and died at Danvers County April 20, 1868, a son of Christian Plank and Barbara Yoder. John is found as a 66-year-old widower from Pennsylvania on the 1860 census of Danvers. He is buried in North Danvers Mennonite Church Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, June 1868: "On the 20th of April in Danvers Township, McLean County, Illinois, from infirmities of old age, John Plank, aged 74 years,

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[109] She is also found as Veronica Rickenbach, but it is unlikely she was known by this during her lifetime.

[110] They lived next door to the household of John Lance [Lantz]: one male 16-25 years of age, and one female 16-25 years of age. This may have been a nephew.

seven months, and 16 days. His body was buried on the 22d. A funeral sermon was delivered by Pre. Joseph Stuckey in German, and by Pre. Laren in English from John 17."

7. **John Lantz** was born June 26, 1797.
8. Samuel Lantz was born Aug. 20, 1799, and died at Salem, Champaign County, Ohio March 11, 1870. Circa 1819 in Mifflin County he married Magdalena 'Martha' Plank. She was born in Berks County Sept. 25, 1794, and died at West Liberty March 10, 1891, a daughter of Christian Plank and Barbara Yoder. They are found on the 1860 census of Salem, Champaign County, Ohio as Samuel Lantz, 61, Ohio; Magdalene, 65, Pennsylvania; and Isaac, 20, Pennsylvania. Samuel is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Kennard, Champaign County, Ohio, where his headstone has the same age count as his obituary. *Gospel Herald* April 1870: "On the 11th of March, in Champaign County, Ohio, Samuel Lantz, aged 70 years, 10 months, and 20 days." *Herald of Truth*, April 1891: "Died March the 10th, near West Liberty, Logan Co., Ohio, Martha Lantz, widow of Samuel Lantz, at the advanced age of 96 years, four months, and 13 days. Grandmother Lantz was born Sept. 25th, 1793, in Berks Co., Pa. She was the daughter of Christian and Barbara Plank, she being the second or third oldest of the family of six sons and two daughters, and has outlived all the others... The subject of this notice lived with her parents in Berks and Lancaster counties, until about the year 1818, when they moved to Mifflin Co., Pa. Martha early united with the Amish branch of the Mennonite church, and remained an earnest adherent to its principles until her death. About the year 1819, she married Samuel Lantz with whom she was permitted to live a little over fifty years. Under the blessing of God they brought up a family of ten children to man and womanhood, of whom eight survive their mother. They live in Pa., Ill., Mo., and Kansas. In 1851 they moved from Mifflin Co. to Champaign Co., Ohio. Here by patient industry and economy they succeeded in securing for themselves a beautiful early home, where they both exchanged time for eternity. After the death of her faithful companion in 1870, mother Lantz lived with her son Levi Z. on the homestead. She suffered much physically in her declining years, and most intense the last few days of her life, but she bore her afflictions with Christian meekness, relying only on God for help. Death claimed his victim, but the victory was hers through the Lord Jesus Christ in whom she had a living faith to the end. For the last seven years grandmother Lantz was deprived of the use of her lower limbs... Her sister Barbara frequently told the writer that they used to go to church on a cart. But not a fancy cart like the ones used in our day and time for both business and pleasure, but an old fashioned dump cart. Her remains were laid away on Mr. 13th, 1891. Services were conducted by J.C. Yoder and A. Miller. Her descendants number 33 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren. D." Martha is also buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, where her headstone says she was, "Martha, wife of Samuel Lantz Sr., died March 10, 1891, aged 96 Y., 5 M., & 15 D."
9. Catherine Lantz was born Feb. 15, 1801, and died at Carlock, McLean County Jan. 1, 1863. In 1825 at Mifflin County she married Joseph Yoder/Joder. He was born in Berks County Sept. 17, 1797, and died in McLean County Dec. 31, 1887, a son of David Yoder and Jacobina Eash. See STAKER for background on this couple.
10. Magdalena Lantz was born April 26, 1803, and died in McLean County Feb. 21, 1864. In 1821 she married Henry Stutzman. He was born in Berks County Jan. 24 or March 25, 1793, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Sept. 22, 1845, a son of Christian Stutzman Jr. and his first wife Susanna Műller/Miller. See STUTZMAN for background on this couple.
11. Solomon Lantz was born Jan. 13, 1806, and died at Perry Township, Lagrange County, Indiana April 4, 1870. In 1826 he married Anna/Nancy Stutzman. She was born circa 1805, and died in Mifflin County circa 1831, a daughter of Christian Stutzman Jr. and his second wife Maria/Mary Beiler. He remarried to Hannah Riehl. Hannah was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania in 1813, and died in Lagrange County Sept. 6, 1861, a daughter of Jacob Riehl and Freni Zug/Zook. His eleven children were born in Mifflin County 1826-37, then in Fairfield County, Indiana 1840-49. Solomon and Hannah are buried in Maple Grove Cemetery at Topeka, Lagrange County. His headstone gives his age count as 64 years; hers gives her age count as 48 years. *Herald of Truth*, May 1870: "On the 4th of April, in Noble Co., Ind.., of quick consumption, Solomon Lantz, aged 64 years, two months, and 21 days. He was buried on the 5th at the Omish Mennonite burying ground. Funeral services by Isaac Schmucker and Daniel Brenneman in English and German, from *Luke 12:40*. The deceased was for many years a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite church."

John Lantz was born at Union Township, Mifflin County June 26, 1797.

In 1822 he opened the first store at what would now be called White Hall, about four miles east of Allensville. The location is now in Menno Township.

In 1823 at Belleville, Union Township, Mifflin County he married Magdalena Yoder. She was born in Berks County April 23, 1799, and died in Mifflin County circa 1834. She was a daughter of David Yoder and Jacobina Esh/Eash, and a sister to future Central Illinois settlers Leah Yoder (see YODER), Joseph Yoder/Joder, and minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder (see STAKER for background on these two).

On Aug. 22, 1823 John obtained a warrant and made full payment (thus obtaining the ownership patent) on 77 acres near the village of Allensville in Union Township.[111] His household is found on the 1830 census of Union

[111] The area that contained Allensville was successively part of Derry, Armagh, Union, and finally Menno.

Township, Mifflin County: one male 30-39 years of age; two males under five; one female 20-29; and one female 5-9. John's older brother Jacob Lantz is found on the page before his.

Children of John Lantz and his first wife Magdalena Yoder born in the village of Allensville in Union Township (Allensville is now in Menno Township), Mifflin County include:

1. Lydia Lantz was born Dec. 15, 1824, and died at Allensville, Mifflin County July 18, 1890. Lydia did not come to Woodford County with her family in 1849. In 1852 she married future minister David Peachey, in a ceremony performed by minister Solomon Beiler. Peachey was born at Allensville, Union Township, Mifflin County Jan. 27, 1828, and died at Menno, Mifflin County March 21, 1890, a son of Abraham Peachey and Magdalena Zook. He was ordained Nov. 6, 1864. They are buried in Allensville Mennonite Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, April 1890: "On the 21st of March, in Menno Twp., Mifflin county, Pa., David Peachey, aged 62 years, one month and 25 days. Brother Peachey served as a minister in one of the Amish Mennonite congregations, in Kishacoquillas valley, Pa., for many years, although he was almost disabled the last few years, on account of failing sight and bodily infirmity. An attack of the grippe broke him down, and this was followed by sickness which finally ended his earthly sufferings and, we hope, admitted him to the home of the redeemed in Christ." *Herald of Truth*, August 1890: "On the 18th of July, at Allensville, Mifflin Co., Pa., Lydia Peachey, aged 65 years, seven months, and three days."
2. Joseph P. Lantz was born Dec. 16, 1827, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County July 30, 1861. On Sept. 7, 1851 in Woodford County he married Catherine Kistler. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Dec. 19, 1833, and died in McLean County Dec. 6, 1904, a daughter of minister Johann (or John) Michael Kistler and Elizabeth Naffziger. On Dec. 11, 1864 in McLean County Catherine remarried to widower Amos Yoder. He was born at Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Dec. 17, 1828, and died May 25, 1912, a son of minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner. His first wife had been Catherine Donner. Joseph and Catherine are buried in Lantz Cemetery.
3. Simeon Lantz was born July 16, 1829, and died after falling from a load of hay at Carlock Sept. 30, 1895. In 1856 he married Mary Plank. She was born at Wooster, Ohio Sept. 16, 1834, and died in McLean County Dec. 22, 1899, a daughter of David Plank and Anna Kurtz. *History of McLean County* (1878) says Simeon came to McLean County in 1853. On Nov. 15, 1860 Simeon purchased 80 acres of federal land in Section 4 of Township 24N (Dry Grove), for $12 per acre. He later held offices as supervisor (three terms 1875-78) and overseer of highways of Dry Grove, and eventually farmed 320 acres there. One of their children was state senator Simon Everett Lantz (1872-1952). Lantz Street at Congerville is named for him. *Herald of Truth*, November 1895: "On the 1st of October 1895, near Carlock, McLean Co., Ill., Bro. Simeon Lantz, aged 66 years and 15 days. Deceased was engaged in hauling hay, when he fell from the load and sustained injuries which he survived but 24 hours. His wife and eldest son who were on a visit in Cass Co, Mo., were telegraphed for, but did not arrive until after his death. It was a heavy blow for the family, yet they mourn not as those who have no hope. He was loved and respected as a Christian citizen. Buried at North Danvers M.H. Funeral services to a large concourse of people by Joseph Stuckey and Valentine Strubhar."
4. Leah Lantz was born Aug. 28, 1831, and died in Woodford County March 17, 1868. On Oct. 26, 1851 in Woodford County she married Jacques/Jacob Sommer. He was born on Zellerhof farm near Dossenheim, Lower Alsace May 29, 1826, and died at Ashtabula, Ohio Feb. 24, 1892, a son of Joseph Sommer and Anne Marie/Mary Göerig. 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 widow Anna Kathryn Steiner. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Feb. 21, 1841, and died at Mansfield, Ohio Sept. 21, 1923, a daughter of John Steiner. She had been married to Jacob Michelfelder.
5. Magdalena 'Martha' Lantz was born Feb. 17, 1834, and died at Sterling, Wayne County, Ohio Feb. 13, 1912. On March 18, 1862 she married Solomon Beiler Hartzler. He was born at Belleville, Mifflin County Nov. 22, 1835, and died at Sterling Oct. 8, 1921, a son of Yost Hartzler and Elizabeth Beiler. *Gospel Herald*, March 1912: "Martha Hartzler, nee Lantz, was born Feb. 17, 1834, near Allensville, Pa., died near Sterling, O., Feb. 13, 1912; aged 77 y. 11 m. 26 d. She was united in marriage to Solomon B. Hartzler Mar. 19, 1862. To this union were born five sons, two daughters. One son preceded her to the spirit world in infancy. She united with the Amish Mennonite church in her young years, but after her marriage felt that she could serve her Lord and Master better by joining another church called the Apostolic church, which she did, and remained true to her calling. She lived peaceably with her neighbors wherever she lived. She leaves a sorrowing husband, four sons, two daughters, and 21 grandchildren to mourn her departure. She took sick on Friday morning with a very severe pain in her stomach, and her death was caused by what the doctor called cancerous hernia. The funeral services took place at the house on Friday morning by the ministers, Robert Bowman and Benj. Maybrough." *Gospel Herald*, October 1921: "Solomon B. Hartzler was born in Mifflin Co., Pa., Nov. 22, 1835; died at his home in Wayne Co., Ohio, Oct. 8, 1921; aged 85 yr. 10 m. 16 d. His wife, Martha (Lantz) Hartzler, died in February, 1912. Shortly before his death he made some requests with reference to his burial. In his youth he united with the Mennonite church, remaining very faithful and zealous in his devotion to his church and to his Creator to the end of his live."

Circa 1837 in Pennsylvania John remarried to Sarah Hostetler She was born in Juniata County May 23, 1815, a daughter of Jacob Hostetler and his first wife Sarah Mast.

They are found on the 1840 census of Menno Township, Mifflin County under the name John Lontz: one male 30-39 years of age [John would have been 43]; two males under five; one female 30-39; one female 10-14; and two females 5-9.

The family came west in the spring of 1849. Perhaps they traveled with uncle and aunt Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder, who would resettle at Farnisville.

Leaving oldest daughter Lydia behind, the Lantzes loaded household goods on a sectioned flatboat at Lewistown. They were hauled west on the Western Juniata Division of the Pennsylvania Canal system, until they reached Hollidaysburg. There the sections were separated to be hauled on flatcars (called 'special trucks') by steam railroad 36 miles over what was called the Allegheny portage.[112] At Johnstown they once again traveled by canal west to the Allegheny River. This flowed south to Pittsburgh, where that river merged with the Monongahela to form the Ohio River. They traveled on the Ohio as far as Cairo, Illinois, where they boarded a steamboat to head north on the Mississippi River. Above St. Louis they turned onto the Illinois River.[113]

They arrived at Pekin by steamboat. In 1849 the village of 1,500 had incorporated and elected its first mayor, and became the county seat of Tazewell County.

Perhaps they were met by Leahs' brother Joseph Yoder/Joder and his wife Catherine Lantz, who were also aunt and uncle to John; they had resettled at Farnisville in the spring of 1848. They completed their journey by wagon.

The Lantzes established a farm at Congerville. They are found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer John Lance, 50; Sarah, 31; carpenter Simeon, 21; carpenter Joseph, 22; Sarah, 19; Martha, 16; Eli, 12; and Samuel, 11. They lived next door to Catherine, the widow of Peter Beck; farther down the same census page is the family of minister Johann (John) Michael Kistler.

John died at Congerville Aug. 5, 1855 - on the same day as Jonas Kauffman (see KAUFFMAN). SMITH, THE SCHMITTS OF BISPING tells the story of the many deaths in the area over only a few weeks. His headstone in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock says he was aged 58 years, one month, and nine days.

Sarah Hostetler died in the home of her son Samuel in the village of Oak Grove, White Oak, McLean County April 19, 1897.[114] She was buried in Lantz Cemetery as Sara Lantz.

Children of John Lantz and his second wife Sarah Hostetler include:

6. Eli Lantz was born in Mifflin County March 27, 1838, and died at MacClenny, Florida Aug. 21, 1896. On Jan. 5, 1860 in McLean County he married Lydia Stutzman. She was born at Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio May 25, 1841, and died at Brady's Crossing, Nebraska Jan. 9, 1888, a daughter of Henry Stutzman and Hannah Lantz. She is buried as Lydia S. Lantz in Evergreen Cemetery at Lexington, Nebraska.
7. Samuel Lantz was born in Mifflin County July 10, 1840, and died in the village of Oak Grove at White Oak, McLean County Feb. 28, 1888. On April 18, 1867 in McLean County he married his cousin Emma Yoder. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Jan. 15, 1841, and died Jan. 7, 1927, a daughter of Joseph Yoder/Joder and Catherine Lantz. They farmed at Oak Grove, White Oak, where Samuel served as town clerk and school treasurer. Samuel is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County, where his headstone is partially illegible.
8. Magdalena 'Malinda' Lantz was born or adopted at Congerville, Woodford County May 23, 1855. On June 6, 1880 she married John Russell Moore. He was born circa 1855. They are found in the Gear household on the 1910 census of Washington, Iowa as John R. Moore, 55, Indiana, parents born in Ireland and Ohio; and Malinda Moore, 55, Illinois, parents born in Pennsylvania.

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[112] The Allegheny Portage Railroad (1834-54) was the first railway constructed through the Allegheny Mountains in central Pennsylvania. It was designed to compete with the Erie Canal. One incline ran under the first railroad tunnel constructed in the United States. The family fare was 15 dollars, the standard freight charge 96 cents per ton. Charles Dickens made the journey in 1842, and described it in *American Notes for General Circulation*. "On Sunday we arrived at the foot of the mountain which is crossed by a railway. There are ten inclined planes, five ascending and five descending; the carriages are dragged up the former and let slowly down the latter by means of stationary engines; the comparatively level space between being traversed, sometimes by horses and sometimes by engine power as the case demands. Occasionally the rails are laid upon the extreme verge of a giddy precipice,and looking from the carriage window the traveller gazed sheer down without a stone or scrap of fence between, into the mountain depths below. The journey is very carefully made however, only two carriages travelling together and while proper precautions are taken, it is not to be dreaded for its dangers." The portage is now a National Historic Site.

[113] The river route would soon be superceded by rail travel. *Mifflin, Borough of Lewistown* (1886): "The first canal-boat arrived in Lewistown the first week in November, 1829, which event gave a great impetus to agricultural productions as well as business that continued until the opening of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in 1849. This road, with its branches, has curtailed all centres of previous business, the quantity of grain now shipped from Lewistown being less than a tenth of what it was in canal days." By the commencement of the Civil War Pennsylvania had over 30,000 miles of track.

[114] Oak Grove straddled the line between McLean County and Woodford County. When a rail station was constructed at what is now Carlock, its importance began to diminish. Most of its businesses moved to Carlock in 1888.

'Shared history' and geography notes relevant to Berks County can be found in HOCHSTETTLER.

König to King

A Note on Names

A small set of common first names was sufficient to identify individuals when adjectives were added. In America Hans became 'Red Hans' if he had red hair; Magdalena became Mattie or Maggie or 'Dark Maggie.' The oddest example found in this text may be 'Post Christ' King: a Christian who moved into a house previously occupied by his cousin Christian.

American transitions: König = Koenig = King; Beÿeler = Byler = Beiler; Fischer = Fisher; Mischler = Mishler; Joder = Jotter = Yodter = Yoder; Reichenbach = Rickenbach = Rickenbacker; and Blanck = Blank = Plank.

K*öng* is the Bernese dialect equivalent of the German 'König' or English 'King.' It was pronounced with a 'hard g,' sounded like 'Kenig,' and was also found as Küng.[115]

Much of the widely available information about the family was gathered in the pre-computer era – when dates were freely guesstimated and geography was hazy. To start fresh, we checked every item and tried to reconcile a number of discrepancies and contradictions.

Notes with older Swiss birthdates may occasionally be a few days off because the family recorded a baptismal date, or because the given date was the only one kept on records that are still available. Many of the older records of the city-state of Bern were kept by the Protestant Reformed Church. It is apparent that many baptisms were bunched together on religious holidays, and the actual birth dates were not recorded.

Bernese law required infant baptism in a state-approved church. In many cases catechism or other religious training was also mandated. Finding these records in a Protestant Reformed church does not mean that the person did not become an Amish Mennonite or come from a family with Amish Mennonite beliefs. It only means that they lived in a place where their actions could be observed, and they had to comply with the local laws.

As noted earlier, before 1628 Bernese citizens were required to baptize their children within three days of birth in a city, and eight days in the countryside. After 1628 the limits became eight and 14 days. A child who was not registered might lose inheritance rights and be taken from its natural parents as an orphan ward of the state.

The decision to join an Anabaptist congregation was made at 16 years of age or older through the act of adult baptism.

A few early Köng or Küng entries can be found in Steffisburg baptismal records. The first entry we found was a mention of Hans Küng on May 8, 1607. He and Hans Gnägi were witnesses to the baptism of Abraham, a son of Peter Schwaar. On Aug. 17, 1617 Niclaus Küng, Niclaus Mŭren, and Anna Zŭgen were witnesses to the baptism of Anna, a daughter of Caspar Joder. Other early entries include: Sept. 1, 1644: baptism of Hans, son of Peter Küng and Anna Zimmerman, witnesses Jacob Schnÿder, Mathÿs Breger, and Christina Eichacher. Sept. 15, 1644: a second entry farther down the column for the same baptism. Nov. 1, 1646: baptism of Anna, daughter of Michael Küng and Verena, witnesses Christen Thaler, Barbli Müller, and one illegible. Sept. 26, 1647: baptism of Peter, son of Peter Küng and Anna Zimmerman, witnesses Peter Brönniman, Hans Portuer, and Margret Farni. These are the same parents as the 1644 entries. Feb. 18, 1649: baptism of Hans, son of Michal Küng and Verena Löller, witnesses Hans Stauffer *im Matthaus*, Christen Müller, and Catarina Lind. These are probably the same parents as the 1646 entry. Oct. 11, 1659: baptism of Elsbeth, daughter of Christen König. Legible witnesses include Ŭli Farni and Eva Blüm. June 12, 1662: baptism of a child to Christen Küng, miller at Goldiwil, and Freni Stauffer of Eggiwil, witnesses Peter Schiffers *der Jüng*, Anni Moser, and Babÿ Stauffer. This is probably the same father as the 1659 entry.[116]

According to J. Virgil Miller in *Both Sides of the Ocean*, an entry in the records of the Steffisburg church court in 1679 states that **Abraham Köng** was the father of five children. These included three that were of age: Samuel, Hans, and Anna. Abraham was asked to remain the guardian of his younger two boys, Sebastian and Abraham.

The five children of Abraham König appear as parents in the baptism register of the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg beginning in 1681, the year the church was reopened after renovations. Their ages could not

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[115] 1744 immigrant Samuel König/Koenig dictated his will to someone who wrote what he heard as 'Kennig.'

[116] When the Council of Bern exiled Anabaptists to Amsterdam on prison ships in 1710-11, two Königs were among the passengers. Maria König, 47, was married to Hans Frutiger, 44; Magdalena König, 39, was married to Christian Rŭpp, 39. Both couples were coming from Sigriswil on Lake Thun.

be determined. A number of witnesses come from the Güngerich family of Heimberg and the Kauffman family of Heimberg and Homberg.

Either Samuel or Hans, one of the two oldest sons, may have been the generational link we are looking for.

1. **Samuel Köng**. On Oct. 31, 1679 at Steffisburg he married to Anna Gnägi/Gnäge.[117] They had two sons and five daughters 1681-93. The last child, Barbara, was 10 months old when she was brought in for baptism by Peter Gnägi; the father Samuel was described as an Anabaptist on the entry. Their children include:
    a. Christina, baptized Jan. 23, 1681, witnesses Hans Kauffman, Anna Kolb, and Christian Joder.
    b. Elsbeth, baptized Sept. 24, 1682, witnesses Michel Güngrich, Barbara Defaubius, and Elsbeth Murer.
    c. Hans, baptized July 15, 1684, witnesses Christen Güngerich, Jost Joder of Ortbühl, and Anna Spillman. In 1792 Heimberg resident Güngerich refused to disavow his children who had accepted adult baptism. He was confined at Schwarzenegg, then escaped and fled to Lower Alsace (see GŰNGERICH).
    d. Anna, baptized Oct. 17, 1686, witnesses Hans Waber, Anna Wÿs, and Margeth Stäli.
    e. Barbara, baptized April 22, 1688, witnesses Michel Roth, Christian Wyss, and Cathrina Hödel.
    f. Samuel, baptized Dec. 1, 1689, witnesses Caspar Joder, Jacob Kauffman the miller, and Christina Murer.
    g. Barbara, baptized Oct. 15, 1693, witnesses Heinrich *der* [illegible], Cathrin Joder, and Barbara Rohrer. The child had been hidden for 10 months and was brought in by Peter Gnägi. Both parents were identified as Anabaptists.
2. **Hans Köng** was married to Christina Kaŭffman of Homberg. They had three sons and four daughters 1682-91. One entry described Hans as a nail maker at Heimberg. The last baptism entry points out that the child was brought to the church by Christina's father Hans Kaŭffman, and labels both parents as '*Anabaptista*.' Hans and Christina's children include:
    a. Anna, baptized Feb. 26, 1682, witnesses Hans Ruchti, Barbara Rŭbi, and Christina Schlacht.
    b. Abraham, baptized Sept. 30, 1683, witnesses Peter Linder, Bendicht Koller, and Madlena Züber.
    c. Barbara, baptized Nov. 23, 1684, witnesses Matthÿs Ŭli, Barbara Joder, and Anna Zoüg.
    d. Hans, baptized June 13, 1686, witnesses Niclaus Schwÿzer, Jacob Joder, and Margreth Blank.
    e. Verena, baptized Oct. 30, 1687, witnesses Steffen Schwitzer, Anna Kropf, and Barbara Farni.
    f. Cathrin, baptized Sept. 15, 1689, witnesses Jacob Joder, Barbara Stägmann, and Cathrin Trachsel. This entry calls the father 'Hans Köng *im Heimberg der Nagler*' – the nailmaker from Heimberg. Father and mother are indentified as suspected Anabaptists. The child was brought in by Hans Kauffman.
    g. Peter, baptized Oct. 4, 1691, witnesses Peter Gnägi, Hans Waber, and Christian Kauffman. The parents are identified as Anabaptists. The next entry in the column, for the baptism of Anna Kauffman, identifies her parents Jacob Kauffman and Anna Kropf as Anabaptists; witnesses include Hans Stauffer, Elsbeth Mergerdt, and Magdalena Bühlman.
3. Anna Köng was married to Hans Waber or Weber; they had a daughter and son baptized at Steffisburg in 1687 and 1691.
4. Sebastian Köng was married to Anna Wyss; they had a son and two daughters baptized at Steffisburg 1686-96.
5. Abraham Köng was a miller married to Anna Straam; they had one son and two daughters baptized at Steffisburg 1689-98. One child was born at Grindelwald.

The present village of Heimberg, above the town of Thun and on the west side of Steffisburg, does not resemble what it was in the past. In the 1500s and 1600s Heimberg described a number of scattered farmhouses on the floodplain where the Aare, Zulg, and Rotache Rivers merged. It was part of the Thun parish before 1536, then part of the Steffisburg parish. In 1871-76 the course of the Aare River was 'amended' to aid commerce, the wet soil was drained, and a village grew.

Goldiwil held Maurer/Murer, Neuhauser, and Stägmann families. Homberg held Berchtold, Eyer, Graf, Jenni/Henni, Kauffman, Reusser, Ruchti, Rupp, Schiffmann, Stauffer, and Stutzman families. Members of at least two of these families anticipated the emigration path of the Königs.

The Kauffman family that was closely associated with the Königs had farms at both Heimberg and Homberg. Thus, it may be correct to say that the Königs lived in the contiguous communities of Heimberg, Steffisburg, Goldiwil, and Homberg.

Samuel König left the Old Swiss Confederacy sometime between 1693 and 1697. Hans König appears on a document created at Steffisburg May 26, 1695 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, Ŭlrich Catrey and Barbara Schwarz, Christen Farni's wife and children, Hans Rŭpp and Catryn Joder, Mathÿs Ŭlli, Christen Zimmerman and

[117] In this time frame the Gnägi/Gnäge family could be found in the twin villages of Münsingen and Tägertschi. They are about seven miles north of Heimberg on the east side of the Aare River, about halfway to the city of Bern. Gnägi/Gnäge often became Kenagy or Kanagy in America.

Babi Bachmann, Michel Schwaar, Andreas Kropf and Anna Haldiman, Christen Joder, Hans Küng with his wife and children, and Peter Farni from Langenegg."

Samuel and Hans appear on lists of Anabaptists made at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1697, 1703, and 1704. The 1703 list was created by Hans Zimmerman and signed by Jacob Amman and Niclaus Blanck. Another list collected June 26, 1708 mentions *'Vve de [widow of] Samuel König*' and *'les fils de [the children of] Jean [Hans] König*.'

The further courses of the lives of the children may be impossible to discern. When one brother died, his children may have been absorbed into the family of the other. When a widow remarried, her children may have taken on the name of the stepfather. It is also possible that a widow distributed her children among other households.

In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller suggests that the children of Samuel and Hans or both left Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and settled on the east side of the Rhine River in Baden. Notarial records show that a Jean [Hans] König arranged for transportation from the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to Baden Oct. 25, 1713. He may have been a son of either brother.

At this point we break off into two branches:

- First, it is probable that either Samuel or Hans of Heimberg was the grandfather of 1744 immigrant Samuel König/Koenig, who in turn was the great-grandfather of Samuel King of Elm Grove (1808-1895).

- It is also probable that either Samuel or Hans of Heimberg was the father of Hans König, who died on the Obernimburg monastery grounds at Nimburg, Baden in 1732. Many of his descendants settled in McLean, Woodford, and Livingston Counties in Central Illinois.

King of Elm Grove

In the summer of 2009 we contributed an article called *Murder and Halfmoon Township, the little-known story of the King Family* to the *Illinois Mennonite Heritage Quarterly* (Vol. XXXVI, No. 2). The material given here covers that article and provides supporting information.

The thread of descendants:

(1) **Abraham Köng** from Heimberg in the parish of the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg.
(2) **Samuel Köng** (probably born before 1661) and Anna Gnägi/Gnäge, or his brother Hans Köng and Christina Kaŭffman. Both couples went from Heimberg or Steffisburg to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.
(3) An **unidentified** generation that went with their parents to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Some may have gone on to Baden.
(4) **Samuel König/Koenig** (probably born before 1724) and Anna Yoder, who came to America and settled in Berks County, Pennsylvania.
(5) **Samuel King Jr.** (born circa 1762) and an unidentified first wife, and second wife Catharine Kurtz. Samuel Jr. lived in Berks County, Chester County, and Lancaster County.
(6) **Christian King** (born in 1784) and Mary Magdalena Yoder. Christian lived in Berks County, Chester County, Mifflin County, Wayne County (Ohio), and Logan County (Ohio).
(7) **Samuel King** (born in 1808) and Magdalena Kurtz. Samuel lived in Mifflin County, Centre County, Wayne County (Ohio), Holmes County (Ohio), Marion County (Illinois), and Tazewell County (Illinois).

At first we were unable to connect Samuel King of Elm Grove (generation seven) directly to an immigrant ancestor. Then in 2006 Bryan Nicklow made a fortunate find in a yard sale at Havelock, North Carolina. For a few dollars he purchased the *Peter Ropp Family Bible.* The edition was published in 1830 or earlier. A handwritten note mentions the Ropp's neighbor Samuel King, whose great-grandfather "came from Switzerland in 1744."

The three Amish Mennonite König immigrants of 1744 are easily identified. **Samuel König/Koenig**, Christian König, and Jacob König were traveling companions on a voyage from Rotterdam to Philadelphia.

The city of Philadelphia was established by William Penn in 1682. From Rotterdam it was 200 miles farther than New York City. Still, it was the chosen destination of most German-speaking immigrants because it served as a gateway to Penn's 'Holy Experiment' in religious toleration and the rich farmland of 'Penn's Wood.'

A typical Pennsylvania starter farm of this period averaged about 125 acres that had to be cleared of trees and brush. This initial acreage tended to be much larger than most European farms, and the soil was much more productive.

THE THREE SHIPS OF 1717

Because of a series of navigation acts passed by Parliament, only British ships could disembark passengers at North American ports. In 1717 three ships carrying numerous Mennonite and Amish Mennonite families departed from Rotterdam, arriving at Philadelphia Aug. 10, 17, and 24.

Earlier in the year the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly had passed an act requiring ship masters to turn in passenger lists. According to *Pennsylvania Colonial Records, Volume 3*, the three ship masters did not turn in their arrival reports until Sept. 8.

Perhaps the passengers paid their ship masters more than the anticipated fines, to avoid taking the required oaths at the Philadelphia town hall on the day of arrival: "We, subscribers, natives and inhabitants of the Palatinate, upon the Rhine and places adjacent…will be faithful and bear full allegiance to his present Majesty, King George, and his successors, Kings of Great Britain, and will be faithful to the Proprietor of this Province; and will demean ourselves peaceably…and strictly observe and conform to the laws of England and of this Province."[118]

According to *Pennsylvania German Pioneers, Volume One* (1934) it was these three arrivals that first brought the attention of politicians to the issue of undocumented immigration.

On Sept. 17, Governor William Keith addressed the Provincial Council, noting that "…Great numbers of foreigners, from Germany, strangers to our language and Constitution, having lately been imported into this Province, daily dispersed themselves immediately after landing, without producing any Certificates, from whence they came or what they were; & as they seemed to have first landed in Britain, & afterwards to have left it without any License from the Government, or so much as their knowledge, so in the same manner they behaved here, without seeing the least application to himself [the governor] or to any of the Magistrates; That as this Practice might be of very dangerous consequences, since by the same method any number of foreigners from any nation whatever, as well Enemy as friends, might throw themselves upon us; The Governor, therefore, thought it requisite that this matter should be considered by the Board, & accordingly it was considered, & 'tis Ordered thereupon, that all masters of vessels who have lately imported any of these foreigners be summoned to appear at this Board, to render an Account of the Number and character of their Passengers respectively from Britain; That all those who are already Landed be required by a Proclamation, to be issued for that purpose, to Repair within the space of one month to some Magistrate, particularly to the Recorder of this City, to take such Oaths as are appointed by law as are necessary to give Assurances of their being well affected to his Majesty and his government; But because some of these foreigners are said to be Mennonists, who cannot for Conscience sake take such Oaths, that those persone be admitted upon their giving any Equivalent assurances in their own way and manner, & that the Naval Officer of this Port be required not to admit any inward bound vessel to an Entry, until the master shall first give an exact list of all their passengers imported by them." (See OATHS in the Appendix).

The Secretary of the Province James Logan wrote, "We have of late years great numbers of Palatines poured in upon us, without recommendation or notice, which gives the country some uneasiness, for foreigners do not do so well among us as our own English people."

The three ship masters were called in for questioning two days later. On Sept. 19 "Captain Richard, Captain Tower, and Captain Eyers waited upon the (Provincial) Board with the List of Palatines they had imported here from London; by which list it appeared Captain Richard had imported one hundred and sixty-four, Captain Tower, ninety-one, and Captain Eyers, one hundred and eight." Some of the names on their lists may have been Bachman, Bär/Bear, Brechbühl/Brackbill, Brönniman/Brenneman, Brupbacher/Brubaker, Burckhalter/Burkholder, Äebi/Eby, Ehrismann/Erisman, Forrer, Funk, Gnägi/Keagy, Greider/Kreider, Herr, Hess, Hirschi/Hershey, Hostetter, Joder/Yoder, Kendig, Landes/Landis, Lehmann/Leman, Mosimann/Musselman, Müller/Miller, Neff, Neukommet/Newcomer, Nissli/Nissley, Schenk/Shenk, Schwari/Swarr, Stehman, Steiner/Stoner, and Witmer. One estimate says the number of Mennonite families in Lancaster County increased by 70.

The issue soon passed out of public attention, and the listing requirements fell into disuse. Perhaps that is why no copies of the 1717 lists were preserved and available in the 1930s for the National Archives and Records Administration preservation imaging project.

Recall from PART ONE, THE SECOND WAVE OF IMMIGRATION that the listing requirements were reinstated a century later. The *America Steerage Act* regulating passenger ships and vessels was signed by President James Monroe March 2, 1819.

According to *American Colonies*, even in the late 1720s only three or four immigrant ships arrived at Philadelphia each year, disembarking about 600 passengers.[119] By the 1740s the number had risen to 20-22 ships.

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[118] Queen Anne died Aug. 1, 1717, while the three ships were still at sea. She left no children. George I of the House of Hanover was coronated the same day.

[119] The worst travel year by far may have been 1738. During the summer more than 1,600 passengers who left Rotterdam purportedly did not reach Philadelphia. Then the public was shocked by the events of Oct. 25, 26, and 27.

On Oct. 24 the ship *Davy* arrived at Philadelphia under the hand of its ship's carpenter. On the second day Ben Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* said, "Last Saturday arrived here, the ship *Davy* from Holland with Palatines. The Captain with both mates and sixty passengers died on the passage and the Carpenter brought in the vessel. Most of the ships which bring Dutch passengers this year, have been visited with a sickness that has carried away a great number of Swiss." On the third day the *St.*

The early Palatine immigrants tended to be much more prosperous than later generations. This was because would-be travelers were often required to leave deposits in the community they were departing, and the river route to Rotterdam required numerous taxes and tolls. Regular mail service between the colonies and Europe was still in the future, so few ships were making the voyages. Thus the cost of a fare was still comparatively high.

On a typical immigrant ship only a generation or two later, only one-third of the passengers could pay full fares. Another third were servants whose fares were paid by employers; they were often discounted. The remaining third was made up of families who had expended all of their savings to reach the port of departure. These 'redemptioners' would later serve as indentured farm workers or servants to pay off the fare.

Because of a series of Navigation Acts passed by Parliament, only British ships could disembark passengers at North American ports. In 1717 the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly passed an act requiring ship masters to turn in passenger lists.

The European starting points of immigrants Samuel and Christian König have not been identified. However, in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth cites an entry 61/1292 in revenue records stating that Jakob König, a sub-leaseholder of the Katharinentaler Hof, went to America in 1744. The Katharinentaler Hof is located at Göbrichen, six miles above Pforzheim in Baden-Durlach.

In August and early September of 1744 the three crossed western Europe to reach Rotterdam. It was an unusual time to make this journey, but 1744 was an unusual year. Europe was caught up in the turmoil of the War of the Austrian Succession (1740-48).

Even the ship that was chosen for the journey was a little out of the ordinary. It was a galley constructed at Muscliffe near Bournemouth, on the southern coast of England. A galley is a wooden sailing ship that can also be powered by oarsmen. This was particularly useful moving in and out of harbors (Captain Kidd sailed a galley because it gave him an advantage in calm seas). The disadvantage was that its freeboard had to be relatively low, allowing ocean waves to lap onto its decks in high seas. All cargo had to be stowed below, taking space from passengers.

The vessel departed from Rotterdam in mid-September. At about that time French troops under the personal direction of King Louis XV were laying siege to the university town of Freiburg im Breisgau in Baden.

The ship stopped at the customs house at Cowes on the Isle of Wight, midway along the southern coast of England. From there it headed west. Without fair winds the King family might have had a very different history, because somewhere in the next 30 miles it was pursued by a French privateer. However, it managed to reach Poole safely. We assume this was the homeport because it was the lifelong home of its master, George Durell.

From Poole the ship made a 3,490-mile transit to Philadelphia, where it arrived Dec. 22, 1744. It was certainly unusual to travel in winter, and it must have been a brutal passage. The story of the voyage was published in Ben Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* on Christmas Day.

> "Muscliff Galley. That Friday last arrived at Philadelphia, Captain Duraell, from Holland, but the last from Poole, with Palatines after a passage of thirteen weeks. Admiral Davis, with the squadron for the West Indies, was at Spit Head when he sailed, and was to sail in a few days. In his passage, twelve leagues to the west of Sicily, he was chased by a French privateer, designed for Philadelphia with Palatines as he sailed from Cowes, the day before he left Poole. But his vessel going very well, he got clear of the privateer."[120]

Ben himself may have interviewed George Durell, who was probably anxious to tell his story of pursuit by a privateer. The story would justify a transatlantic passage out of season in such an unsuitable but nimble vessel. [121]

A typical full fare for the voyage would have cost between 6 and 10 pounds. In modern buying power the equivalent would be $1,346-$2,244. We can probably assume that the three Königs paid at least the average, if not more; given their later buying history, they likely had substantial resources.

Andrew arrived. Its master John Steadman (also found as Stedman) had a good reputation. However, his departure from Rotterdam had been delayed, and many of his 300 passengers had been sick when they put to sea July 19. He lost 120.

Would-be passengers were counted by civil inspectors at Rotterdam. They were also forewarned that they would be charged a 40 shilling 'admittance fee' at the port of Philadelphia. Ship masters knew that on arrival they would be obligated to wait out the quarantines of those who showed symptoms of illness, or pay the admittance fee for those who could no longer afford it. Because of these factors, it has been suggested that some passengers were discharged before reaching the port, on the transit up Delaware Bay and the Delaware River. However, it is unlikely that this was ever more than a few, because the diaries of the trips bear out the tragedies.

[120] 'Palatine' was the period's catchall description of German-speaking immigrants, though many of the passengers actually were coming from the Pfalz.

[121] George Durell came from a family of mariners who lived at Poole. He may have been a young man seeking to make his fortune with a one-time crossing. He married at Poole the following year. His bride was aptly named Anna Farewell.

On the passenger list Jacob is separated from the other two by several names, while Christian appears above Samuel. Familiar surnames include Albrecht, Bender, Ebi [Eby], Engel, Eyer, Jotter, Jutzy [Iutzi], Höfflig [Hoffli?], Krebil [Kraÿenbühl], Kurtz, Lang, Maurer, Mosiman, Schawalter [Schowalter], Seiler, Souder [Sauder], Stauffer, Steiner, Tallebach [Dellenbach], Wittmer, and Yotter [Yoder].[122] No ages are given.

On the day of their arrival the three Königs swore oaths of allegiance and abjuration before a justice of the peace at the Philadelphia Courthouse. [123] The passenger list and a list made when the oaths were administered have the notation *Muscliffe (Galley)*. The newspaper account called the vessel *Muscliffe Galley*. These were really no more than the place of construction and the type of vessel, but it has been labeled by that name in American histories. Possibly for this reason there are no other accounts of voyages by a ship with the same name.

These few items do not give the impression of impoverished immigrants fleeing persecution to seek religious freedom (the constant cliché of vanity genealogies). Rather, they give an overall impression of single men with coin going to invest it in the New World – stepping out of harm's way on a chartered vessel, but at the same time risking a brutal passage, in cramped conditions, out of season, in wartime. A few decades later Pennsylvania legislators would lament that the quality of German-speaking immigrants had declined to individuals with average or below-average incomes.

JAKOB/JACOB KÖNIG

The 1748 land claim of immigrant Jakob/Jacob König reads, "Konig, Jacob on 27 Apr. for 50 acres adjoining Christian Althouse in Bern Twp. - to pay 2 pounds, 10 shillings." However, Jacob does not appear on a 1767 list of Bern taxpayers. Some historians say he simply left the area, but it is also possible that he died before making the payments. The warrant did not reach fruition, and the land was made available again in February 1822.

CHRISTIAN KÖNIG

Immigrant Christian König/Koenig appears with Samuel as a Bern taxpayer in 1752 and 1754. He is also on Cumru tax lists in 1765 and 1766; he appears on the 1767 proprietary tax return list as 'Koenig X'n', owner of 100 acres and a cow. His warrant for land in Cumru was challenged April 12, 1768. John Read of Skippack maintained that he had purchased the land, and then the sheriff's office had seized it for the debts of the first owner. The challenge entered in the *Berks County Caveat Book* named three persons who had filed to obtain the land: "Christian Kenig, George Reem, or Daniel Wilt." It has been suggested that Christian was the father of Samuel, but it is just as likely that he was a brother or other relative.

The circumstances of the deaths of Christian and Jacob are not known. There are no registered wills, or records of marriage or children. It is generally agreed that Samuel was the only one of the three to leave Amish Mennonite descendants.

Samuel König/Koenig has a certain notoriety. A medical study published in 1964 determined that either he or his wife was the 'founder ancestor' who brought the recessive gene for Ellis-van Creveld Syndrome to North

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[122] The list was unusual for the time in that all passengers were named, not just males over the age of 18. Although the overwhelming majority of the passengers were males traveling alone, there are three complete families with children as young as one year of age.

In his book *Was Isch Dini Nahme? What is Your Name?*, Delbert Gratz wrote that the surnames Küng and König originated from Thun (a near description of Heimberg and Goldiwil), Herzogenbuchsee (23 miles northeast of the city of Bern), Grossaffoltern (14 miles northwest of the city of Bern), and Langnau.

Langnau is about seven miles above Eggiwil. It was a home to the Hans Reist faction of Anabaptists who were appreciative of the aid given to them by *Halbtäufer* sympathizers in their community. They were closer to the city of Bern, and tended to be a bit more prosperous than those living near Steffisburg or the small villages closer to the Alps. They were called *Emmentalers*, residents of the Emmental, the valley of the Emme River.

Gratz categorizes Amish Mennonite surnames by their place of origin (this often meant the first place that kept records showing that name - and most Swiss records only go back to the early 1500s) or the legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights (*Heimatorte).* It is immediately obvious that many of the surnames he associates with Langnau were represented in the families in Berks County: Aeschliman, Althaus, Dällenbach, Fischer, Gerber, Kurtz, Krähenbühl, Lehman, Müller/Miller, Räber, Schenk, Steiner, Streit, and Widmer. Nine of the first 20 passengers on the *Muscliffe* passenger list have surnames from the Langnau group: three Königs, one Krebil [Krähenbühl], two Kurtzes, one Stauffer, one Steiner, and one Tallebach [Dällenbach]. Four more in the first 20 are associated with the neighboring villages Röthenbach (now Rothenbach im Emmental) and Eggiwil: Engel, two Gehmans, and Lynter [Linder].

[123] Starting in 1827 all males 16 years of age and older were required to renounce loyalty to their former sovereigns, and pledge loyalty to England. The courthouse was located on High (now Market) Street on the west side of Second Street.

America.[124] They are prominently mentioned in genetics studies and textbooks. Since 1964 Samuel's wife's siblings have been identified, and the syndrome has not been found in their descendants.

Samuel may have been born Jan. 1, 1724, as found in older genealogies, but there is actually no evidence for this. In the pre-computer era it was common practice for genealogists to 'guesstimate' birth dates when marriage dates were already known; they simply subtracted 21 years. In this instance they assumed he was married the year after his arrival, and counted backward to 1724. They may also have assigned the arbitrary birth date January 1. Seeing this date on old family records is often a tipoff that the actual date was not known to the author.

Samuel married Anna Yoder in Lancaster County. The year is open to question; their first child is thought to have been born in 1745 or 1748, depending on who is reading her worn headstone.

Anna Yoder was born in 1728. She had arrived at Philadelphia on the *Francis and Elizabeth* Sept. 21, 1742. Her father had died on the voyage, leaving a widow Barbara and nine children. See YODER, ABRAHAM YODER OF FARNISVILLE for more on her family.

The first known American home of Samuel and Anna was the Northkill Creek settlement at Bern Township, Lancaster County. In 1852 it became part of Berks County.

'Samuel King' and 'Christian King' appear on the 1752 and 1754 tax lists of Bern. Others on the 1752 list include Stephen Kurtz, 'John' Sieber, the Yoders, Christian 'Fisher,' and Christian and Moritz Zug. Many of the others are found at Upper Bern. These lists were put together solely for the collection of local taxes. William Penn had more or less promised settlers that his lands would remain free of a property tax. This created disputes throughout the French and Indian War (1754-63), when the Provincial Assembly at Philadelphia sought to create taxes to pay militias for defense.

Samuel and Anna may have resettled at Oley to be closer to protection at Reading, about four miles to the west. *The Indians of Berks County, Pa.*: "Oley is an Indian name...and means a cavern or a hole among the hills. It was inhabited by a considerable number of Indians, and it appears that the semi-civilized Indians remained longer in Oley than in any other part of the county, and yet, during all the bloodshed and commotion in other parts of the county, tranquility reigned there to such an extent that it was scarcely mentioned in the old records."

The hills surrounding the 10-mile-long Oley Valley were rich in limestone. Ground limestone was used as mortar to build stone foundations, or baked in kilns to make quicklime to sweeten soil. Because of their stone foundations many old structures survive. Today 110 farmsteads still have structures that date from the period 1740-1820. Because of this, and because Oley was so significant to so many pioneer families, it became the first township to be placed on the *National Register of Historic Places*.[125]

The first phase of building in Oley took place between 1722 and 1740. By the time Samuel arrived most of the land would have been surveyed and claimed.

On July 14, 1761 Samuel purchased 128 acres at Cumru with his brother-in-law Hans/John Hertzler (married to Freni/Veronica Yoder; see YODER, ABRAHAM YODER OF FARNISVILLE for more on Veronica and her husband). The deed stated that Samuel was living at Oley. While Oley is east of Reading, Cumru borders Reading on the west and south sides.[126] The following year the path of a new Lancaster Road was surveyed from Reading southwest through Cumru.

In 1767 Samuel appears as 'Samuel Kenig' on the proprietary tax return list of Oley as the owner of 150 acres, four horses, six cattle, and 10 sheep.

The Königs may not have served in the Revolutionary War, and no battles took place in Berks County, but the conflict had a great impact on the community.

Samuel and his oldest son John are shown on a 1780 list taxing property at Cumru. 'Samuel Koenig' owed 53 pounds, 5 shillings; 'John Koenig' paid 20 pounds, 17 shillings, 6 pence. Their property was not explained.

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[124] *Dwarfism in the Amish* by V.A. McKusick, R. Eldridge, J.A. Hostetler, and J.A. Egeland, *Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital*. The syndrome began to turn up several generations after Samuel's arrival, from cross-marriages between branches of his descendants. McKusick maintained that almost as many cases could be found in Lancaster County families as had appeared in all medical literature up to that time.

[125] Abraham Lincoln's great-great-grandfather Mordecai Lincoln lived in the Oley Valley from 1728 until his death in 1736. Abraham's great-grandfather John Lincoln was born shortly after Mordecai's death; he resettled in Virginia in 1765.

The most celebrated native of the Oley Valley was Daniel Boone. He was born at what is now Birdsboro (8 miles southeast of Reading) Nov. 2, 1734. His father Squire Boone farmed 200 acres there. They relocated to North Carolina in 1750. One Lincoln married a Boone.

[126] In 1748 the land around a ford on the Schuykill River was surveyed and platted as a town. In 1752 it was named Reading, for an English city near the home of the Penn family. The Cumru land that Samuel purchased for his sons, and where he is buried, has now been absorbed into the city of Reading.

Samuel died in 1783. His will created Jan. 16, 1777 was executed at Cumru March 25, 1783. The executors were named as neighbor Jacob Kurtz; wife Anna Yoder; and oldest son John King. Witnesses included Johannes/John Gerber, Abraham Kurtz Jr., Hans/John Hertzler, and Henry Stehley. The will spells his name 'Kinnig,' and Samuel signed with his mark, indicating he was illiterate.

Samuel's provisions for Anna stand out against other wills of the period. Though it was understood that she would continued to live on the family farm, allowance was made for her need for independence from her 14 children.

> "...In the first place shall at any time at her request be built a good dwelling house of the length of 24 feet and breadth of 18 feet. At such place as she will choose on my above mentioned place, sufficient to live in at her pleasure. Likewise shall be given in the same house a good ten plate pipe stove and firewood to be hauled and cut as she shall want. Also a garden to be permitted her nigh the house as large as she pleases to have and the above mentioned shall go through the possession of my land and at all times kept in good order. Also 200 pounds of current money shall be given to her for her use [about $26,000 in modern buying power]. Also shall be given to her yearly 8 pounds of current money and 150 pounds of good pork and 60 pounds of good beef and turnips and potatoes as many as she shall want. Also shall be given to her 10 pounds of hog's lard and 10 pounds of tallow. Also 12 pounds of hemp and 10 pounds of flax and a creature to drive if she chooses to go abroad. Also a good cow which shall be kept and fed on and from the above mentioned place. And a warm stable nigh the house and straw for the cow as much as she wants. Also 10 pounds of good wool and two barrels of cider of the last apples, if any, and apples as many as she wants and four gallons of the best rum or apple liquor. Also 15 bushels of wheat and 10 bushels of rye, 5 bushels of buck wheat, a good clock, a good table, a good chest. Also a good kitchen dresser and benches and chairs as many as she will have."

Samuel's grave is marked by a worn slate stone.

'Witwe Koenigen' (widow of Koenig) appears on the Cumru tax list in 1785. Her property consisted of 200 acres, 2 horses, 4 cattle, and 7 sheep; 7 persons lived in her household. (Likely Anna and her six youngest children). The same list shows sons John Koenig (100 acres, 2 horses, 3 cattle, 9 sheep, and 4 persons); and Jacob Koenig (200 acres, 2 horses, 3 cattle, 7 sheep, and 7 persons).

The *King Family History* mentions a settlement of the Samuel Koenig estate in 1789. This settlement six years after Samuel's death implies Anna's death in 1788 or 1789. However, this is not certain; Samuel's will said only that Anna "shall continue housekeeping with my children as long as she and my executors see fit. Then the land shall be appraised and valued...Tis further my will if none of my boys would have an inclination for my above mentioned land, then my will is that all my land shall be sold..."

A large number of the present-day Old Order Amish of Lancaster County are descended from Samuel and Anna. About 13 percent of the Amish Mennonite population of Lancaster County share the surname King.[127]

No civil records of births were kept in the area in that time frame, and no primary family *Bible* has been identified. The principal guide to the children of Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder has been Samuel's will. It names his sons in order from oldest to youngest: John, Jacob, Christian, Samuel, Abraham, David, Michael, and Solomon. Then his daughters: Ann Magdalene (this was actually Magdalena and younger sister Anna; Anna is thought to have been born after Barbara), Barbara, Catherine, and Foreny (meant to be 'Freni'; the spellings were those of the scribe, not Samuel).

In some cases birth years are known from headstones; in others they can only be approximated. Children of Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder born in Berks County include:

1. Magdalena 'Martha' King was born in 1745 or 1748, and died in Lancaster County in 1814. Magdalena's headstone is so worn that the date cannot be read with certainty (some say 1745, others say 1748). In 1766 in Lancaster County she married Jacob Kurtz. He was born at Manheim, Lancaster County circa 1747, and died at Salisbury, Lancaster County Oct. 22, 1822, a son of Jacob Kurtz and Maria Elizabeth Eberly (Maria came from a Brethren family). At age 21 he was naturalized. The document in the *Pennsylvania Archives* says, "Jacob Kurtz, hereafter named being a foreign Protestant, who conscientiously scruples to take an Oath, on the aforementioned thirteenth day of May, before the said Judges of the Supreme Court at Reading, Berks Co., aforesaid took the affirmation and made and repeated the Declaration according to the directions of the act of the thirteenth of King George the Second. Jacob Kurtz, Cumru Berks." Biographies say he started as a poor man before becoming a prosperous farmer. He was also unusually large for the time, weighing over 200 pounds. Jacob was designated executor on the will of his father-in-

[127] In his paper *Genetic Nosology: Three Approaches*, Victor A. McKusick broke down the occurrence of Amish Mennonite surnames in Lancaster County in 1973. There were 1,849 married males. Stoltzfus accounted for 25.7 percent; King for 12.6 percent; Fisher for 11.1 percent; Beiler for 10.7 percent; Esch for 6.5 percent; Lapp for 6.4 percent; and Zook for 5.4 percent.

law Samuel König/Koenig. They are found on the 1800 census of Salisbury. Jacob and Magdalena were buried on their farm at Salisbury, described as the 'John Yost farm' or '12 miles east of Pequea meeting house.'

2. Barbara King was born circa 1748; died in childbirth at Lancaster County July 2, 1794; and is buried in Spring Garden Cemetery at Salisbury. In 1778 in Lancaster County she married John Blank. He was born in 1755, died at Intercourse, Lancaster County July 2, 1835, and is also buried in Spring Garden Cemetery. He was a son of Hans/John Blank and Maria/Mary Eschelman [Aeschliman]. John and Barbara lived on a farm between White Horse and Gap, Lancaster County, then in 1780 moved to Ledger (now Spring Garden). Following Barbara's death John remarried to Barbara's cousin Barbara Yoder. She was born in Berks County circa 1763, and died in Lancaster County in 1837, a daughter of Jacob 'Strong Jacob' Yoder (brother of Samuel König/Koenig's wife Anna Yoder) and Anna Beiler. John became a minister of the Conestoga and Pequea congregations. When Peter Blank died in 1831, John replaced him as elder of both congregations. He had three sons who became Amish Mennonite ministers.
3. Anna King was born circa 1751, and died in September 1816. In 1776 in Berks County she married Christian Beiler [Byeler]. He was born in Berks County Nov. 24, 1752, and died in Lancaster County Nov. 16, 1804, a son of Christian Beiler and his first wife Elizabeth Yoder, and a grandson of Jacob Beiler. They lived at what is now the intersection of South Ronks and Bachmantown Roads at Ronks, Lancaster County.
4. Elizabeth King was born in 1755, and died in Lancaster County in 1823. Circa 1778 she married Samuel Lantz. He was born in Berks County in 1755, and died there Nov. 29, 1781, a son of Johannes/Hans/John Lantz and Anna Maria Kraybill. In 1784 in Berks County Elizabeth remarried to Christian Stoltzfus. He was born in the Pfalz Aug. 10, 1749, and died in Lancaster County July 28, 1832; he is buried in Myers Cemetery. He was a son of Nicholas Stoltzfus and Anna. He married his first wife Catherine Gerber May 4, 1774; she died in Berks County May 18, 1783.
5. John King was born in 1756, and died at East Lampeter, Lancaster County April 3, 1829. Circa 1778 he married Catherine Blank. She was born in Lancaster County circa 1757, and died before 1810, a daughter of Hans/John Blank and Maria/Mary Eschelman [Aeschliman]. John worked as a laborer on the Jacob Schwarey Jr. farm at Ronks, just east of Lancaster City. He became a deacon. About 1809 in Lancaster County he remarried to Anna 'Nancy' Renno. She was born in Berks County Oct. 3, 1768, a daughter of Joseph Renno and Elizabeth Miller. She was the widow of Henry Hostetler, who died at Mifflintown, Juniata County in 1806.
6. Jacob King was born in 1758. He died in Mifflin County in 1822, and is buried in the oldest grave at Allensville Mennonite Cemetery. Circa 1781 he married Barbara Zug/Zook. She was born at Upper Bern, Berks County Oct. 6, 1762, a daughter of Johannes/John Zug and Veronica Yoder. Their family is found on the 1790 census of Cumru, under 'Jacob Koenig,' next to brother Samuel King. The list shows one adult male, two males below 16 years of age, and four females that would include Barbara. On April 12, 1804 Jacob and his oldest son John made an extraordinary land acquisition. Together they purchased 1,710 acres of the Mifflin County 'Sharron tract' for 10,000 English pounds. This sum was equivalent to the modern buying power of $888,000. The land was then in Armagh. Part of the acreage was sold to Chris Allen in 1806 and became Allensville; some of the remainder was sold to other Amish Mennonite families and later became part of Menno. Prosperous Jacob divided his possessions in his will. The document is still held by the municipal archives at Lewistown, the county seat of Mifflin County.
7. Christian König/King was born circa 1761, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio in 1838. His first wife was Catherine Kurtz, who was born in Mifflin or Berks County Jan. 28, 1763. She was a daughter of Stephen Kurtz and Freni/Veronica Yoder. Christian King later lived near Intercourse, Lancaster County, where he served as a minister. In 1805 a company of Pennsylvania investors purchased 60,000 acres in the area of what later became Waterloo County, Ontario. This encouraged Amish Mennonites who were already living there to make similar investments. In 1806 minister (later elder) Benjamin Eby purchased land at Berlin (now Kitchener), and the following year John and Jacob Erb purchased 45,000 acres at Woolwich (next to Wilmot). It is thought that in 1806 Christian moved to Mifflin County, where Catherine died; however, we did not identify him on any census there. They may have lived with his brother Jacob. On March 29, 1808 Christian purchased lots 58 and 128 (700 acres) in Woolwich from Augustus Jones, John Erb, and Jacob Erb. It is unlikely that he every lived there. It is known that many new arrivals in Lancaster and Mifflin Counties were advised through their new congregations to resettle on inexpensive or free land in Ontario. Lorraine Roth has made the point that this was their version of 'low income housing' for would-be settlers of modest income. This became a point of contention later, when Wilmot lots were claimed by parents in the names of their children, as investments. So it is possible that Christian originally purchased the lots on behalf of his congregation. Christian remarried to Elizabeth Beiler. Elizabeth was a daughter of Christian Beiler and his first wife Elizabeth Yoder. On April 10, 1819, they purchased land in the Lower River settlement at Wayne, Mifflin County. In 1824 Christian accompanied elder John Stoltzfus to Ontario to ordain ministers Jospeh Godschmidt/Goldsmith and John Brenneman. In 1833 Christian and Elizabeth relocated near Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio. Local histories say that Amish Mennonites first moved into the area in 1835.[128] Christian prepared a will in 1836, and died in

[128] In 1800 the community was named New Lancaster by a surveyor who had come from Pennsylvania. The name was changed to simply Lancaster in 1805. It was incorporated in 1831 and became the county seat. The community was connected to Ohio's water system by a canal in 1836. Their most famous native son was Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman ("War is Hell"), born Feb. 8, 1820.

Fairfield County in 1838. The will mentioned a third wife, "my beloved Mary Koenig," who may have come from Fulton County. The following year the land in Ontario was sold by his heirs.

8. **Samuel King Jr.** was born circa 1762. This is only an educated guess, because there is no known record that might provide the year. He is likely to have been at least 21 years old when his son Christian was born in 1784. His next-older brother Christian is thought to have been born in 1761, and a sister was born in 1763. The birth year guess 1765, found in older sources, was simply the midpoint of his possible ages 60-69 from the 1830 census. Hartzler's *King Family History* gives 'about 1763.'
9. Catherine King was born in June 1763. Circa 1790 she married Daniel Zook. He was born in Upper Bern, Berks County July 20, 1760, and died at Cumru in October 1813, a son of Johannes/John Zook and Veronica Yoder. Their household appears on the 1800 census of Cumru as 'Daniel Zuck.' His will calls him 'Daniel Zuch.' It was written Sept. 15, 1813, and executed Oct. 4, 1813; witnesses included his brothers-in-law 'Michael Koenig' and 'Abraham Koenig.'
10. Abraham König/Koenig was born Jan. 5, 1767, and died at Bern, Berks County Feb. 28, 1841. Circa 1795 in Berks County he married Catherine Sieber. She was born in Berks County Jan. 4 or 8, 1770, and died there Feb. 11, 1853, a daughter of Christian Sieber and Magdalena Stahly. They purchased a large tract in Bern on the west bank of the Schuykill River. They appear on both the 1830 and 1840 censuses of Bern next door to sons Abraham Jr. and John (the 1840 census spells the two Abrahams as 'Koenig' and John as 'Kenig'). They were buried on their farm at Bern.
11. David König/King was born circa 1769, and died in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania in 1807. His wife could not be identified. Their two children Christian and Elizabeth died young.
12. Michael König/King was born in 1770, and died in Berks County in June 1835. Michael and his brother-in-law John Stoltzfus purchased 360 acres at Bern, Berks County in 1797. Circa 1799 he married Veronica 'Fannie', who could not be further identified. He may have been the Michael Koenig who appears on the 1800 census of Alsace, Berks County, next door to Christian Stehly. He may also appear as a head of household on the 1820 and 1830 censuses of Caernarvon, Berks County.
13. Freni/Veronica König/King was born circa 1772, and died in Lancaster County in 1827. She married John Stoltzfus. He was born in Berks County Feb. 17, 1776, and died in Lancaster County July 29, 1857, a son of Christian Stoltzfus and Catherine Gerber. Stoltzfus was minister and then elder of the Mill Creek congregation in Lancaster County. In 1785 they purchased 200 acres crossing the boundary of Spring and Cumru, Berks County. Stoltzfus was the elder who came from Lancaster County to ordain Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith and John Brenneman as ministers in Ontario in 1824.
14. Solomon König/King was born circa 1774, and died in Lancaster County in 1804. In 1800 or 1801 he married Freni/Veronica Schmucker. She was born in Lancaster County Oct. 19, 1783, and died in Mifflin County Feb. 10, 1853, a daughter of John Schmucker and Barbara Stolzfus. The 1800 census of Cumru shows the household of Solomon König: one male 26-44, one female15-25, and one female under 10. Solomon's will was written Sept. 9, 1804, and executed at Leacock, Lancaster County Oct. 16, 1804. In 1818 Veronica remarried to elder Christian *'Lange Crist'*/'Long Christian' Zook, and they lived on Ore Bank Farm at Union, Mifflin County. He was born in Berks County Aug. 10, 1776, and died in Mifflin County in January 1851, a son of Johannes/John Zug/Zook and Magdalena Gnägi/Kanagy. His first wife had been Catherine Hertzler, who died in 1817. They are found on the 1850 census of Union. The *Mennonite USA Archives* holds a letter from elder Zook to elder Hannes Yoder (father-in-law of Christian King) in Wayne County dated Nov. 29, 1829.

Samuel King Jr. was born at Cumru circa 1762. He presumably married circa 1783, at the age of 21, since his oldest son Christian was born the following year. His first wife could not be identified.

The first federal census was taken in 1790. The 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, and 1840 censuses only give the name of the head of household. Members were represented by checks marked off in age ranges. Starting in 1850 the federal censuses gave the names of everyone in a household, with ages and birthplaces.

'Samuel Koenig' appears on the 1790 census of Cumru next door to his brother Jacob. His household has one male over 15 [Christian], one male under 16 [Jacob], and three females [likely his first wife and daughters Barbara and Catherine].

Circa 1792 Samuel remarried to Catharine Kurtz. Her birth year is often found as 1771. She was a daughter of Jacob Kurtz and Barbara Ritter. Her name has caused considerable confusion for genealogists because Samuel King Jr.'s brother Christian had a wife of the same name.

The *King Family History* says that Samuel Jr. "purchased a half share of the Samuel Koenig settlement in the 1789 settlement. He and his wife [second wife Catharine Kurtz] sold this land [at Cumru] and moved to Chester County."

The east end of Chester County was the 'Welsh tract,' settled in 1687 by Welsh Quakers invited by William Penn.[129] In 1795 the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike was created through Chester County to Lancaster County. This privately-financed 62-mile roadway was the first in the region to be paved its entire length with broken stone

[129] Other Welsh place names in the region include Brecknock, Caernarvon, and Cumru ('Cymru' actually means 'Welsh').

and gravel laid over macadam.[130] This created a small business boom along its path, since wagon drivers no longer had to navigate muddy ruts. A home at the east end of Chester County could serve as a relay point to take produce from Berks and Lancaster Counties to markets in the city.

Easttown is at the east end of Chester County, 44 miles southeast of Cumruh and 20 miles northwest of Philadelphia. The *Chester County Grantee Index* shows that in 1797 Samuel King from 'Cumry, Berks' bought land at Easttown from Henry Fox.[131] This land was adjacent to Waynesbourough, the estate of the family of General 'Mad Anthony' Wayne, a hero of the Revolutionary War and Northwest Indian War. 'Mad Anthony' had died a year earlier. In 1798 'Samuel King of Easttown' made another land purchase – this time from Isaac Wayne, the eccentric son of 'Mad Anthony.'[132]

In looking over the many land transactions of Samuel King Jr., we found another Samuel King living nearby of about the same age. This has caused some confusion for genealogists.

Samuel King appears on the 1799 tax list of Easttown. The 1800 census of Easttown shows one male 45 or over; one male 26-44 [Samuel King Jr. would have been 38], three males under 10, one female 26-44 [Catharine Kurtz would have been 29], one female 16-25, and one female under 10.

In 1801 Samuel's address was given as Tredyffrin (adjacent to Easttown) when he made three land purchases there from the Siter family.[133] Tredyffrin is four miles above Easttown, and they now form a joint school district.

The *Chester County Grantor Index* (a list of sellers) shows that Samuel King and his wife 'Catharine' of Tredyffrin sold 13 acres to Matthias Greenawalt Dec. 11, 1802. Neither party realized that Greenawalt was not legally entitled to purchase because he had not been naturalized. Following naturalization Greenawalt requested to confirm his title, and this was done by a special act of the General Assembly passed on Christmas Day, 1809.

The 1810 census of Tredyffrin, Chester County shows a Samuel King household as one male 45 or over, one male 26-44, one male 16-25, one male under 10, one female 45 or over (Catharine Kurtz would have been only 39), and two females under 10. This entry is incompatible with the 1800 entry, particularly because the three male children do not age into the next bracket over the decade. This may have been another family living in a home still owned by Samuel.

One next-door neighbor in 1810 was Joshua Evans Jr. (1777-1846). His grandfather was a Welsh immigrant, and his father was a well-known tavern owner. He served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for Chester, Lancaster, and Delaware Counties 1820-32, where he supported Andrew Jackson. He was also president of the Tredyffrin school board 1836-46, and served as a brigadier general in the state militia. This entry alone provides enough information to exactly pinpoint Samuel's location next to the historic General Paoli Tavern at what is now called Paoli.

PAOLI

In 1769 Joshua Evans Sr. constructed an inn on the old Provincial road at the intersection of Tredyffrin, Easttown, and Willistown. It opened for business on St. Patrick's Day. By late in the evening his customers had toasted every British

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[130] The road fell into disuse in the 1840s, as railroads and canals were constructed to move freight, but was revived with the invention of the automobile. It became part of the Lincoln Highway, the first to reach coast-to-coast.

[131] Henry Fox (or Henrich Fuchs) was born May 30, 1745. He married Anna Sanders and Mary Ruth. He was an Easttown landowner as early as 1774. In 1781 he owned 73 acres next to the Waynes. After selling his land to Samuel King Jr. in 1797 he resettled on more than 300 acres at East Huntingdon Township near Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He died there July 25, 1824, age 79, and is buried in Stonerville Cemetery.

[132] Isaac Wayne was admitted to the bar in Chester County in 1795, and served in the General Assembly in 1800 and 1801. He was notoriously cheap. His father 'Mad Anthony' died in Erie County in 1796. When Isaac finally went to retrieve the remains in 1809, he rode in a small sulky. Unable to lay out the corpse on a seat, he had it boiled down to remove the flesh, then packed the bones into saddlebags. The bones of 'Mad Anthony' were reburied without a headstone (one was later purchased by popular subscription). During the War of 1812 Isaac gained an appointment as a colonel in the state militia and raised his own cavalry unit, but the unit was rejected for service. In 1814 Isaac ran for governor and was easily defeated. He served as a congressional representative of Pennsylvania 1823-25. His four children died in his lifetime.

The Waynesborough farmstead passed to Isaac's great-nephew William Evans, who then changed his name to William Wayne. In 1845 William Evans/Wayne married Hannah J. Zook. She was born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania Nov. 18, 1827, and died at Waynesborough, Paoli Aug. 27, 1899, a daughter of David Zook and Eleanor Stephens, a granddaughter of Henry Zook and Barbara Kurtz, and a great-granddaughter of Abraham Kurtz and his second wife Barbara Bollinger. The Georgian house is located at 2049 Waynesborough Road in Paoli

[133] Many of the details of the Siter purchase can be inferred from *The Village of Spread Eagle* by Herb Fry. Adam Siter owned the Spread Eagle Inn and Spread Eagle Farm at Radnor (adjacent to Tredyffrin). He died in 1797 without leaving a will. Subsequently his heirs sold off his properties in Philadelphia, Delaware, and Chester Counties, but kept the inn, which they ran until 1841. Part of the farm crossed over into Tredyffrin, and it was likely this acreage that Samuel King purchased.

general. After a little thought, one offered a toast to the Corsican General Filippo Antonio Pasquale di Paoli.[134] It was so well received that the proprietor registered the tavern as the 'General Paoli,' and that is the way it appeared on dozens of annual license applications. The area around the inn also became known as Paoli.

Both British and patriot officers visited the tavern during the Revolutionary War. Both armies camped at Valley Forge, only a few miles to the north (overlapping into Tredyffrin).

In the autumn of 1777 the patriots lacked the strength for a direct engagement with British troops. Several divisions of patriot troops were routed at the Battle of Brandywine at Chadd's Ford (17 miles southwest of Paoli) Sept. 11. The British set up camp at Valley Forge, on the north side of Tredyffrin. Both sides suffered from exposure under heavy autumn rains.

About 2,200 patriot troops commandeered by General 'Mad Anthony' Wayne of Easttown remained in the area. Wayne rashly set up an encampment only two miles southwest of the General Paoli Tavern. The British quickly discovered his location, and there was a brief skirmish. The patriots retreated again. But a few days later Wayne decided to return to the same spot.

A local resident who had been at Valley Forge advised Wayne's officers that the British were planning a second attack. But the informant was ignored. Wayne even posted a letter to Washington from the tavern Sept. 19. He wrote that the British general had no idea of his whereabouts. He would wait for reinforcements and dry powder to press an attack.

At midnight on Sept. 20-21, about 1,200 Hessian dragoons marched up to the General Paoli Tavern. At 2 a.m. a dense fog gave them the element of surprise. Though their powder was also wet, they had bayonets, and charged into the patriots huddled around camp fires. There were 54 casualties. An entire division scattered and officers were taken prisoner.

Wayne later requested a court martial to make the point that the losses were not his fault. He had followed proper procedures for posting pickets, but they had either been captured or had deserted. The disastrous event was later propagandized by the Continental Army as 'the massacre at Paoli Tavern,' though there were actually many more surrenders than casualties. It is now known as the Battle of Paoli Tavern.

On Sept. 26 General Washington followed a feint by his British counterpart General Howe. This left the road to Philadelphia undefended, and Howe's troops moved from their encampment at Valley Forge to occupy the would-be capitol city. The Continental Army had its main supply depot at Reading, just above Cumru. Washington was forced to spend the winter between his supply depot at Reading and Howe's troops in Philadelphia and Germantown. The obvious location was Valley Forge, which had been vacated by the British.

Of the 11,000 troops with Washington, 2,000 died of dysentery (from poor sanitation and unclean water) and typhus (carried by lice) because they had no clean clothing. It was later discovered that there were 30 loads of new uniforms in storage at Reading. Local residents had been reluctant to transport them, because the under-equipped and underfed Continental Army was confiscating wagons and livestock.

The Battle of Paoli encampment site is now a 44-acre park in Malvern. Valley Forge is now a national historical park.

The Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike opened in 1795. It ran by the front door of the General Paoli Tavern. Because of its accessible location the tavern later served as a polling place and auction site. There was a livery stable with a blacksmith and a wheelwright, and cattle pens for drovers taking their livestock to Philadelphia.

A post office was constructed adjoining the General Paoli Tavern in 1826. In 1832 a horse-drawn railroad ran by the tavern, followed in 1836 by a steam railroad. The building burned down in 1904, and the site is now the Paoli Post Office. It can be found on the northwest corner of Route 30 and North Valley Road.

The Kurtz family had also come from Berks County to live in this area.

THE KURTZ FAMILY IN CHESTER COUNTY

The 1799 tax list shows not only Samuel at Easttown, but his father-in-law Jacob Kurtz at Tredyffrin, and his brother-in-law Abraham Kurtz at Tredyffrin. Jacob Kurtz and his son 'Abram Kurtz' are found next door to each other on the 1800 census of Tredyffrin.

Samuel's father-in-law Jacob Kurtz was born in Berks County Aug. 27, 1747, and died at Little Britain, Lancaster County Jan. 20, 1816. Circa 1768 he married Barbara Ritter. Jacob's father gave him 200 acres at Salisbury, Lancaster County. Apparently he used this to make further investments in land for his children. According to the *Chester County Grantor Index*, Jacob Kurtz sold land at Pikeland to Jacob Garber in 1793. He also sold or transferred 170 acres at Tredyffrin to their son Abraham in 1801.

Samuel's brother-in-law Abraham Kurtz was born in Berks County Sept. 22, 1769, and died in Wayne, Wayne County, Ohio May 5, 1831. Circa 1793 he married Elizabeth Fisher. She was born in Chester County circa 1764, and died in Mifflin County June 2, 1808. In 1801 Abraham received 170 acres at Tredyffrin from his father, according to the *Chester County Deed Book*. Elizabeth died the following year, and in 1809 he remarried to Magdalena Lantz. She was

[134] In 1755 Paoli (1725-1807) wrote a constitution that made Corsica the first democratic republic of the modern age. The French occupied Corsica in 1768. Paoli led resistance from the mountains for a year, but was eventually forced into exile. In London he joined the group around author Samuel Johnson.

born in Lancaster County Jan. 17, 1783, and died June 22, 1866, a daughter of Jacob Lantz and Magdalena Kurtz. [135] Abraham Kurtz and his first wife Elizabeth had a daughter Magdalena who married Samuel King Jr.'s grandson Samuel (and they were the couple who came to Tazewell County in 1842).

One of the hazards of living in Chester County at this time was what one journal called 'annual plagues.' They were often said to be from yellow fever, the cause of earlier epidemics at Philadelphia. However, it is obvious that cholera and dysentery were common before wetlands were cleared and water sources were improved. They took their greatest toll on infants and the elderly. The location of the Kings along the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike suggests that they would have played some part in the lodging, feeding, or transportation of Philadelphia residents during periodic retreats from the health issues there.

Although the Kings were recorded at Tredyffrin in 1810, Samuel had indentured for land along Octowara Creek at Little Britain in the southern tip of Lancaster County in 1807.[136] In this time frame an indenture was an agreement to cultivate the land and make payments either as a crop share or a portion of crop sales, until the land was paid off. A county deed book shows that on May 20, 1807 there was an "Indenture between Stephen Long Yeoman of Little Britain township & Catherine his wife on first part & Samuel Koenig (alias King) of township of Trydefferin, Chester County Pa Yeoman second part" for 250 acres.

Research by Anna Smith of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania shows that father-in-law Jacob Kurtz [Sr.] and mother-in-law Barbara Ritter purchased part of the Little Britain property from the Kings in 1807.

The absence of nearby familiar surnames is obvious on Little Britain tax lists and census rolls. The area had been settled many generations earlier by Quakers and Presbyterians. There were a number of Quaker King families that had lived there since the mid-1700s.

Samuel King appears on a special 'direct tax' list at Little Britain in 1815. He owned three pieces of land totaling 582 acres. The 1820 census of Little Britain shows one male 45 or over, one male 16-26, one male 10-16, one female 45 or over, one female 16-26, and one female 10-16.[137] The 1830 census of Little Britain shows one male 60-69, one male 20-29, and one male 10-14; one female 40-49, and one female 15-20. Next door is a household labeled 'David King,' but no adult male or female is listed. The household shows one male 10-14, and one male under 5; one female 15-19, and one female under 5. We suppose that David was a son of Samuel, that he was absent, and that his children were being minded by a young wife or neighbor with help from the grandparents.

Samuel is thought to have died at Little Britain March 29, 1833. The 1850 census of Little Britain shows a household consisting of Catharine [Kurtz] King, 78, born in Pennsylvania; and Catharine King, 37, born in Pennsylvania. (The younger Catharine does not match the 1820 census, and may have been a niece, grandchild, adoptee, or neighbor). The entry before this is likely the household of her son, Jacob, who was living there as early as 1815. The next entry is an unrelated Quaker King family.

Children of Samuel King Jr. by an unidentified first wife and his second wife Catharine Kurtz include:

1. **Christian King** was born June 5, 1784 (headstone date), most likely at Cumru. He died at Union, Logan County, Ohio Aug. 20, 1865, and is buried in Alexandria Cemetery there.
2. Barbara King, born before 1790.
3. Catherine King, born before 1790.
4. Jacob King was born approximately May 31, 1790 (calculation from his obituary), most likely at Cumru. He died at Dallas City, Illinois Feb. 27, 1869. His mother was Samuel King Jr.'s unidentified first wife, who may have died in or shortly after childbirth.
5. David King was born to Catharine Kurtz between 1801 and 1810. The 1830 census of Little Britain lists consecutive heads of household Samuel King and David King, but there is no adult male in the second household. Presumably David was the 20-29 year-old male checked off in the first.

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[135] Magdalena Lantz was the widow of Daniel Zug (1779-1806). Her mother Magdalena Kurtz (1756-1816) was a daughter of Stephen Kurtz and Veronica Yoder.

[136] The most celebrated native of Little Britain was inventor Robert Fulton, who was born there Nov. 14, 1765. At age 17 he moved into Philadelphia to seek his fortune. Fulton Township was carved out of Little Britain Township in 1844.

[137] Their next-door neighbor was a Landis family that had lived near them at Easttown. Jacob Landis was born in Chester County Sept. 19, 1777, and died in Wayne County, Ohio March 24, 1840, a son of Frederick Landis and Elizabeth Hoch ('Frederick Lantis' appears on the 1800 census of Easttown on the same page as Samuel King; Frederick died at Easttown in 1803.) Circa 1809 Jacob married Barbara Garber, who was born in Bucks County Jan. 3, 1785, and died at Wakarusa, Indiana June 23, 1855, a daughter of John Garber and Barbara Zook. Jacob had an older brother Philip who married Elizabeth Kurtz in 1794. She was born in 1773, a daughter of Abraham Kurtz and his second wife Barbara Bollinger (see KING-KURTZ CONNECTIONS). Jacob Landis also appears on the same page as Samuel King/David King on the 1830 census of Little Britain.

Johannes/John 'Hannes' Yoder was born at Womelsdorf, Berks County in 1754, and died at Wayne Township, Wayne County, Ohio in 1839. Circa 1773 he married Barbara Rickenbach. She was born in Berks County in 1755, and died in Wayne County, but the date is not found on her headstone and has not been identified. They are buried in Plank Cemetery (also called President's Cemetery) at Wooster.

They were among the first Amish Mennonite settlers in the Kishacoquillas Valley (or Big Valley) of Mifflin County. In 1791 they came from Elk Lick, Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795) onto 212 acres at Armagh.

Their daughter Mary Magdalena Yoder was born at Elk Lick in 1782. In 1807 she married **Christian King** at Armagh.[138] He was born at Cumru June 5, 1784, a son of Samuel King Jr. and his unidentified first wife. He may have come to Mifflin County to work for his uncle Jacob.

On April 12, 1804 Jacob King and his oldest son John (son and grandson of 1744 immigrant Samuel König/Koenig) came from Berks or Lancaster County to make an extraordinary land acquisition at Armagh. Together they purchased 1,710 acres of the Mifflin County 'Sharron tract' for 10,000 pounds. Mifflin County is 124 miles northwest of Berks County (measuring from Union Mills to Mohnton).

Christian and Mary Magdalena first made their home at Union, Mifflin County, 200 miles from Christian's parents in Chester County. They appear there on the 1810 census. Christian (1784-1865) would have been 25 or 26 years old, and his wife 27 or 28. Their household would have included a son Samuel, born in 1808, and perhaps a son Jonathan, born circa 1810.[139]

	Males					Females				
	1-9	10-15	16-25	26-44	45+	1-9	10-15	16-25	26-44	45+
100. Christian King	2	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-
102. Christian Yotder	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	-

Entry #100 males: the two 1-9 year-olds would have been Samuel and Jonathan; the 10-15 year-old cannot be identified; the 16-25 year-old cannot be identified; and the 26-45 year-old was 26-year-old Christian. Females: the 10-15 year-old cannot be identified; the 26-44 year-old was Mary Magdalena.

Entry #102 was the household of Christian King's cousin Christian Yoder, also known as *'dick Christal*' or 'Thick Christian.' He was born in Berks County circa 1761, and died in Mifflin County Dec. 27, 1847, a son of Jacob 'Strong Jacob' Yoder and Anna Beiler. Circa 1790 he married Magdalena Hooley. She was born in Lancaster County Aug. 4, 1761, and died in Mifflin County April 25, 1840, a daughter of John Hooley and Catherine Blank. They are buried in Allensville Mennonite Cemetery. Their son Christian left Mifflin County to live in Logan County, Ohio in 1845 - about the same time the Kings arrived there.

In 1813 Christian King and Mary Magdalena Yoder departed Mifflin County to live a 'low profile' existence over the county line until they headed west to Ohio in 1824.

There is one social device that can remove a family from the presence and consciousness of an Amish Mennonite community. Its effect can change the wording of a will or a family history. It is the *Meidung*, the practice of shunning to punish misbelief or misbehavior. *II Corinthians 6:14*: This is also called 'being placed under the *Bann*.' "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?"

However, in this instance their relocation and living arrangements may have been made to avoid such a scandal. But what infraction might be so serious? Why would a husband and wife in their early 30s remove themselves from the prosperous community where her father had been an early pioneer and become a well-respected minister?

There was a murderer in the family.

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[138] A footnote in *Descendants of Barbara Hostedler and Christian Stutzman* says that the accounts of Stephen Yoder list children of John 'Hannes' Yoder and Barbara Rickenach including 'Matlanah m. Christ King.' Some genealogists have followed this up by calling her 'Magdalena Matlanah Yoder.' But this may have been a misreading of a handwritten record. There is also the possibility that it was a play on Mattawanna, a community in Mifflin County.

[139] Samuel König/Koenig's son Jacob King and his oldest son John are also shown on the 1810 census of Union, living near another Christian King who was a cousin to our person of interest. The census entry actually represents the household of Christian King, a son of Christian King (1761-1838) and his first wife Catherine Kurtz. The son was born in Lancaster County Nov. 9, 1785, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio Aug. 2, 1844. In 1808 in Mifflin County he married Elizabeth Detweiler. She was born in Mifflin County Sept. 22, 1788, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio March 28, 1867, a daughter of Christian Detweiler and Barbara Fisher. They had only one child born before the 1810 census: Joseph King, born in Mifflin County Feb. 12, 1809. Father Christian would have been 24; mother Elizabeth would have been 21; and their son Joseph would have been 1.

Henry Yoder was born at Elk Lick May 1, 1787, a son of Heinrich/Henry Yoder and Catherine Detweiler.[140] In 1810 he sought to court Barbara Lehman. Something about the 23-year-old would-be suitor did not go well with Barbara's sister Magdalena or her husband John Hochstetler. Henry may have seen or imagined this.

On the evening of Sunday, March 4, Henry visited the Hochstetler home. He found Barbara outdoors with her relatives boiling down maple sap for syrup and sugar. She avoided him. This must have enraged Henry.

Henry slipped into the Hochstetler home. He found John and Magdalena's 7-month-old daughter Susanna asleep in her crib. He smothered the helpless child and departed without being seen.

Local residents arrived to investigate. These included Henry's father Heinrich/Henry, the child's grandfather, and the child's uncle.[141] (Some sources later call this a jury or an inquest). But there were no obvious clues. At first no one was accused.

By the time the crime was reported, there was a principal suspect. Solomon Hochstetler, John's 24-year-old brother, was known to take a drink or two. He had not yet been baptized. No doubt the congregation divided over suspicions.

The steadfast wife who bore the disgrace with Solomon was Barbara Zug/Zook. She swore that Solomon had been home on the evening of the murder, two miles from the scene. It would be 50 years before the identity of the true murderer would become widely known.

In 1812 Henry Yoder found a marriage match within his own extended family. He approached his second cousin Anna Yoder at Armagh with an offer of marriage. Anna accepted. Anna Yoder was born at Elk Lick March 10, 1786, and died in Wayne County, Ohio June 18, 1877. She was the sister of Mary Magdalena Yoder. Henry became the son-in-law of Hannes Yoder, and the brother-in-law of Christian King.

In the same year Solomon Hochstetler was baptized into the church at Elk Lick. An elder had accepted his statement that he was not the murderer of Susanna Hochstetler.

The suspicions and division within the Somerset congregation would certainly have been known to Hannes Yoder, who had left in 1791and now lived at Armagh. Hannes was now a minister, and may have been reluctant to see the scandal reach his congregation. But Henry Yoder was now his son-in-law.

In 1813 Hannes Yoder and Barbara Rickenbach sold their 222 acres at Armagh to Jacob Kanagy for 2,500 pounds (Jacob was the widower of Hannes's sister Elizabeth). This amount was equivalent to more than $148,000 in modern buying power. The money was immediately reinvested in a remote property. Mabel V. Brunk wrote in the October 1999 issue of *Yoder Newsletter* that, "John [Hannes Yoder] also bought land in Half Moon Township, Centre County, Pa., where various relatives lived."

The lots were about six miles southwest of what is now Stormstown, at a place called Walkersville. Two young couples and a number of their relatives would leave their developed farms to start a new life apart from traditional congregational life in the forest of Centre County. These relatives included Hannes's daughters Anna and Mary Magdalena, and their husbands Henry Yoder and Christian King.

In 1800 Centre County was carved out of Mifflin County. In 1802 Quakers and Presbyterians established Halfmoon. It was named not for Henry Hudson's ship, but for crescent-shaped slashes carved into trees to mark forest paths.[142] In 1805 an acre of Mifflin County land sold for $20, while an acre in Centre County sold for less than $10.

History of Centre County describes Halfmoon, stating that someone "...says he went to school in 1814 to John Yoder, who taught an English and German school in Christley King's brick house." A look at a few tax assessments bears out an impression of prosperity.

Christian King	300 acres worth $5,400, 4 horses, 4 cows in 1815; 248 acres in 1819.
Joseph Yoder Jr.	160 acres worth $2,280 in 1814; 4 horses, 3 cows, and a saw mill in 1815; 222 acres in 1819.
(Joel Yoder as a proxy for his father 'Red Yost,' who came to Halfmoon in 1816; or this may have been 'Red Yost', mistakenly assumed to be a son of Yost of Oley)	

[140] Henry's birth date and those of his siblings were found on a page of the *Daniel Beachy Family Bible* in 1998.

[141] Heinrich/Henry Yoder was born in Berks County March 23, 1756, and died in Somerset County May 15, 1829. He married Catherine Detweiler (a sister of previously mentioned Elizabeth Detweiler). She was born in 1756, and died in 1847. Heinrich/Henry's will dated April 6, 1829 gave his residence as Elk Lick. His parents were Yost Yoder of Lancaster County and his first wife, a Holly (his second wife was Mary Siever). Heinrich/Henry Yoder can be found on the 1810 census of Elk Lick, when his son Henry was still living with him. John Hostetler Jr. and Solomon Hostetler can also be found on that census. The house where the murder was committed is now located in adjacent Summit Township or Summit Mills; it was visited by a Yoder reunion group in 2006.

[142] In the present-day Armagh has been reduced to a 6 mile-by-6-mile square at the east end of State College and Rothrock State Forest; Halfmoon is at the west end, surrounding Port Matilda.

Yost Yoder (The son of Hannes)	270 acres worth $4,010 in 1814; 4 horses, 3 cows in 1815.
Henry Yoder	225 acres worth $4,050 in 1814; 3 horses, 1 cow in 1815; 250 acres in 1819.
Christian Biler	61 acres worth $793, 3 horses, 2 cows in 1817; 73 acres in 1819.
Christian Yoder	150 acres worth $2,700 in 1814; 4 horses, 5 cows in 1815; 162 acres in 1819.
Jacob Kaufmann	100 acres worth $1,800 in 1816; 206 acres in 1819.

Christian and Magdalena appear among the 41 families at Halfmoon on the 1820 census. It shows one male in the age group 26-45 (Christian King); one male 16-18 who we could not identify, possibly a relative or farmhand; one male 10-15 (likely Samuel); and five males 10 or under (likely Aaron, Moses, Jacob, John, and Jonathan). There is one female in the 26-65 age group (Magdalena); one 16-26 we could not identify, possibly a relative or servant; and three 10-or-under (likely Lydia, Anna/Nancy, and one more we could not identify).

Some of their neighbors and their relationships to Mary Magdalena:

- (BROTHER) Jacob Yoder was born in Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795) in 1779, and died in Wayne County, Ohio in 1852. In 1806 in Mifflin County he married Mary 'Polly' Keim. She was born in Berks County in 1779, and died in Centre County in 1828, a daughter of Johann Peter Keim and Mary.
- (BROTHER) Yost Yoder was born in Berks County July 27, 1775, and died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio May 3, 1849; he is buried in Paradise Cemetery at Smithville. In 1798 at Belleville, Mifflin County he married Sarah Yoder. She was born in Somerset County Jan. 23, 1797, and died there Nov. 7, 1805, a daughter of Christian Yoder and Magdalena Troyer. Yost Yoder purchased 111 acres at Halfmoon, Centre County for $4,860 on Dec. 16, 1813; the deed said he had most recently lived at Armagh, Mifflin County. He sold his Halfmoon farm March 8 or April 24, 1839.
- (UNCLE and COUSINS) Yost 'Red Yost' Yoder purchased land in 1814 and 1815, but his last purchase May 14, 1816 became his home. He was born in Berks County July 27, 1775, and died in Juniata County in 1856. Circa 1796 he married Freni/Veronica Yoder (a daughter of Michael Yoder, son of the widow Barbara, and Mary Young); she died at Halfmoon before 1830. 'Red Yost' and his son Joel were ordained as ministers at Halfmoon after the son's marriage circa 1828. Circa 1830 he remarried to Mary Zook. They sold their land March 8 or May 24, 1839, and relocated onto a farm at Oakland Mills in Juniata County.

  One of his children was Elizabeth Yoder, who was born Dec. 14, 1804. She cared for Irish immigrant Rosanna McGonegal at Halfmoon, inspiring her grandson Joseph Warren Yoder to write *Rosanna of the Amish* based on true events.[143]

  Another of his children was Joel Yoder, who was born April 30, 1797, and died in Juniata County Dec. 15, 1869. The presence of both Yost/'Red Yost' and his son Joel caused sme confusion, and they are occasionally found on documents as either Joseph Sr. or Joseph Jr. Joel went to Halfmoon in 1813 as a 16-year-old proxy for his father. An 1814 tax assessment of Halfmoon County shows Joseph Yoder Jr. in possession of 160 acres worth $2,280 (in this particular case 'Red Yost' may have been the Joseph Jr., mistakenly assumed to be a son of Yost Yoder of Oley). In 1814 he had four horses, three cows, and a saw mill. By 1819 he had 222 acres. Circa 1828 Joel married Freni 'Franey' Yoder. She was born in Berks County April 11, 1802, and died in Juniata County March 25, 1856, a daughter of David Yoder and Jakobina Esch/Eash. Joel was ordained as a minister at Halfmoon on the same day as his father, and later became an elder. Joel and Freni are buried in Renno-Sieber Cemetery at Mifflintown, Juniata County.

  Another offspring was Yost Yoder who married Leah Yoder (sister of elder Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Joseph Yoder/Joder). In 1849 they settled at Farnisville in what became Montgomery Township, Woodford County (see YODER for more on this family).
- (UNCLE) Christian Yoder of Huntingdon, Huntingdon County purchased 162 acres for $4,860 on Dec. 27, 1813. Christian was born in Lancaster County in 1774, and died at Armagh, Mifflin County Dec. 19, 1827. Circa 1799 he married Barbara Hertzler. She was born in Berks County Dec. 18, 1776, and died in Mifflin County Dec. 18, 1848, a daughter of Christian Hertzler and Elizabeth Yoder.
- (COUSIN) Magdalena 'Martha' and/or 'Mattie' Yoder was born in Lancaster County March 2, 1790, and died in Mifflin County in 1874, a daughter of Jacob Yoder and Catherine Blank. The confusion of having two Magdalena Yoders of about the same age at the same location may have been the reason for their nicknames. Circa 1808 in Mifflin County Martha married Christian Biler or Byler [usually found as 'Beiler,' from the original Byeler]. He was born in Lebanon County in 1785, and died in Mifflin County in 1851, a son of elder Hannes/John Byler and Mary Detweiler. Christian and Martha later lived in Juniata County.
- (SECOND COUSIN) Jacob Kauffman purchased 106 acres on June 3, 1815. Jacob was born at Berks County July 14, 1751, and died at Somerset County July 15, 1844, a son of Stephen Kauffman and Barbara Yoder (a daughter of the Christian Yoder and Barbara who arrived on the *Francis and Elizabeth* in 1749). Jacob was also a grandson of John Kauffman, and a great-grandson of Isaac Kauffman and Catherine Yoder (in-laws of Samuel König/Koenig).

[143] The household of 'Stephen M. Gonigle' can be found on the 1830 census of Halfmoon.

Circa 1804 in Berks County Jacob married Catherine Miller. She was born July 14, 1773, and died at Somerset County May 14, 1855. He appears as 'Jacob Koffman' on the 1820 census of Halfmoon. He sold his land April 2, 1827. The 1830 census lists their son Isaac Kauffman, who was born in Berks County Nov. 30, 1806, and died in Somerset County Oct. 16, 1886. Isaac married Mary Lehman. She was born in Somerset County Feb. 25, 1810, and died there Sept. 26, 1880, a daughter of Peter Lehman and Rachel Berkey.

'Red Yost' Yoder once wrote a pleading letter to minister/elder 'Long Christian' Zook of Mifflin County, imploring that he come to the settlement at Halfmoon at once. Yet he did not explain why. In 1981 or 1982 the German-language letter was found in a Yoder family collection. After translation its significance was still unclear, but it seemed important enough to publish with an excellent article *The Amish of Halfmoon Valley, Centre County, Pennsylvania*, in the April 1984 issue of *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*. Did Red Yost's sense of urgency touch on the story of Henry Yoder?

The settlers at Halfmoon gradually thinned as some migrated to Wayne County, Ohio. It is probable that they reached the limit on undeveloped fertile land for their offspring to start up their own farms. The last families departed in 1838-39 to Juniata County and Mifflin County. An Amish Mennonite cemetery on Shady Ridge farm is the only reminder of the 30-year settlement.

In 1824 the King family relocated from Halfmoon to Wayne, Wayne County (named for General 'Mad Anthony' Wayne) in the northeast quadrant of Ohio. Wayne is one of 16 townships in the county, and wraps around the north side of Wooster. It is adjacent to Green, where there was already a large Amish Mennonite settlement.[144] Wayne County was and is home to many Amish Mennonites engaged in farming, woodworking, and cheese making.

Son Samuel's description of his family's resettlement was preserved by his grandson Walter A. Ropp: "We were several families together in a number of wagons. All had big covers, widened out for more sleeping room and to hold a lot of boxes and our other stuff. That 400 miles would be on a two-weeks road, not counting the up and down and around the hills...The next six years were pioneer days for Grandpa, long hard days, many of them a continuing repetition: hack, cut, saw, dig, grub, burn trees and trees and trees, an actual making of a farm and its log cabin for the family."

Christian may have worked in a grist mill owned by Jacob Blank/Plank, or a cabinet-making shop run by Jacob's son John.[145] The Blanks/Planks had come to Wayne from Mifflin County in 1821. Three King children married Planks, one a son of Jacob.

The King family appears on the 1830 census of Wayne. As the head of household, only Christian King is named. One male we could not identify is marked in the 60-70 age group. Other males appear in the groups 40-50 (one, father Christian); 20-30 (one, likely Samuel); 15-20 (two, likely Jonathan and John); 10-15 (one, likely Jacob); and 5-10 (three, likely Moses, Aaron, and Christian). Females appear in the age groups 40-50 (one, Magdalena); 15-20 (one, likely Anna/Nancy); 10-15 (one, likely Lydia); and 5-10 (one, likely Mary).

Other names on this page include John Yoder (Hannes, Magdalena's father), Abraham 'Kirtz' (Abraham Kurtz, Samuel King's future father-in-law), Jacob Yotter (Magdalena's brother), and Jacob Plank. Hannes became a conservative elder in Wayne County known as 'Vater Hannes'; he died there in 1839.

The 1840 census of Wayne shows a 'Christian King' household, but the residents are actually the family of his son Jacob with his new wife Barbara Plank. They were still there in 1850, sandwiched among four Plank families.

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[144] In 1817 Bendicht Schrag sailed from Amsterdam to Philadelphia on the *Francis*, in the same party with Christian Augspurger (see STAKER). Augspurger left his family in Pennsylvania while he ventured to Butler County, Ohio (in the southwest corner of the state). The earliest trail from east to west led from Pittsburgh just south of Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio to Sandusky, Ohio. According to Delbert Gratz in *Bernese Anabaptists*, Schrag's group went only as far as Wayne County. "...With the aid of some Amish men near Wooster, they chose to buy land on which to settle. They wanted to go south of the Ohio River but were persuaded to do otherwise by the Amish who claimed it to be unhealthy farther south...It is reported that Bendicht Schrag wrote a long letter praising the opportunities and advantages in his newly adopted American home. This letter aroused much interest in emigration among his brethren..."

[145] Jacob Blank/Plank was born Nov. 6, 1767, and died at Apple Creek, Wayne County, Ohio Jan. 10, 1851, a son of Melchior Blank and Margaret of Caernarvon, Berks County. In 1791 he married Mary Yoder, who was born in Lancaster County Feb. 13, 1771, and died in Wayne County March 28, 1850, a daughter of Johannes Yoder and Catherine Lyster (Johannes is often found as Yost, the name of his father, repeating an old mistake). In 1795 they settled at Union Township, Mifflin County. Jacob received a warrant for 150 acres of land there in 1796. He later purchased additional land and set up an oil mill. They arrived in Wayne County in 1821. The household of Jacob Plank can be found on the same page of the 1830 and 1840 censuses as the household of Christian King. Jacob appears on the 1850 census of Wayne Township as an 82-year-old in the household of son-in-law John Kurtz. Jacob and Mary are buried in Plank Cemetery at Wooster.

Local histories say that in 1840 an exodus of conservative Amish Mennonites took place from Wayne County to Union, Logan County in west-central Ohio. Before 1850 the Kings made the move as well. In Logan County the interrelated families became known as the conservative North District Amish.

Christian and Magdalena can be found on the 1850 census of Union, Logan County. Their household contains farmer Christian King, 65, Pennsylvania; Magdalene King, 58 [actually 68], Pennsylvania; farmer Moses King, 29, Pennsylvania; farmer Aaron King, 29, Pennsylvania; Lyia [Lydia] Steel, 15, Ohio; and Mary King, 27, Pennsylvania. The 1860 census of Union shows widower Christian King, 76, Pennsylvania, living with his son Aaron, 40, Pennsylvania; Charity, 30, Ohio; and their children born in Ohio.

Christian and Magdalena are buried in Alexandria Cemetery (formerly the South Union meeting house cemetery) at Union, Logan County, Ohio. Christian's headstone gives his date of death as Aug. 20, 1865 and his age '81y 2m 15d.' The headstone for 'Magdalena King' gives her date of death as Sept. 12, 1856 and her age as '74y.'

Tiny Alexandria Cemetery has less than 100 graves. More recent graves there include:

- John Byler (1809-1875) was a son of Christian Biler/Byler and Magdalena 'Martha' 'Mattie' Yoder (see the previous list of Halfmoon residents).
- David King (1828-1886) was a son of Christian King and Elizabeth Detweiler, and a grandson of immigrant Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder.
- Jacob Z. King (1851-1922) was a brother to elder John P. King, a son of elder Samuel 'Shem' King and Anna Zug/Zook, a grandson of Samuel Z. Konig and Anna 'Nancy' Yoder, a great grandson of Jacob King and Barbara Zug/Zook, and a great-great grandson of immigrant Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder. [146]
- Levi J. King (1844-1916) was a son of John King and Sarah Sharp, a grandson of Jacob King and Barbara Zug/Zook, and a great grandson of immigrant Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder. His wife Barbara Ellen Yoder (1845-1910) was a daughter of John D. Yoder and Anna B. Zook, a granddaughter of Daniel H. Yoder and Anna King, a great-granddaughter of John King and Catherine Blank, and a great-great-granddaughter of immigrant Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder
- David Hartzler (1816-1889) was a son of David Hertzler and Mary Yoder, and a grandson to Hans/John Hertzler and Veronica Yoder (a sister to Anna Yoder, wife of immigrant Samuel König/Koenig; a footnote about this couple will follow).

Other surnames found in Alexandria Cemetery include Detweiler, Hartzler, Hostetler, Kauffman, Lantz, Plank, and Yoder. Those who died young had been born in Wayne County, while those who died in advanced years had been born in Lancaster and Mifflin Counties.

Mary Magdalena Yoder had not lived to hear the confession of her brother-in-law Henry Yoder.

Henry remained at Halfmoon a few years longer than the Kings. His household can be found on its 1830 census. Sometime before 1840 Henry and Anna relocated to Green (next to Wayne in Wayne County), and Henry appears as 'Henry Yoter' on that year's census. On the 1850 census of Green his household is shown as Henry Yoder, 66, farmer, Pennsylvania; and Nancy, 64, Pennsylvania; with three grown children from Pennsylvania.

At some point Henry may have decided that the progressive direction being taken by his congregation was too liberal. He withdrew and joined a more traditional congregation at German in adjacent Holmes County.

On a visit to Holmes County he fell ill, and one day he felt he would live no longer. On what he thought was his death bed, he admitted to a childhood friend that he had murdered Susanna Hochstetler.[147]

But Henry recovered.

The friend convinced Henry to repeat his confession to elder Levi Miller, which he did in 1860. The minister reported the crime to civil authorities. Henry Yoder and Levi Miller were summoned before a judge of common pleas at Wooster, Wayne County. By then Henry may have regretted his confession.

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[146] The progressive leader of the south district Walnut Grove congregation was elder John P. King. He was born in Mifflin County Jan. 29, 1827. He was a son of Samuel King and Anna 'Nancy' Yoder, a grandson of Jacob King and Barbara Zook, and a great-grandson of immigrant Samuel König/Koenig and Anna Yoder. He first came to Logan County as a 13-year-old March 2, 1840. In October 1849 in Champaign County (adjacent to Logan County) he married Rebecca Troyer. He served as a minister holding services at West Liberty. They retired to Union Township, and appear on its 1880 census. In 1885 he accompanied his children to Hartford, Lyon County, Kansas. They purchased a farm across the county line in Coffey County and built two houses. One day a broker arrived holding an unrecorded $18,000 mortgage on the property. King gave up the land, and died from typhoid fever Jan. 7, 1887.

[147] The childhood friend was named Jacob Mast, but he was not the same Jacob Mast who lived in Wayne County near Christian King. This Jacob was born in Somerset County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795) June 1, 1787, and died at New Hope, Holmes County, Ohio Sept. 1, 1861. His first wife had been Henry Yoder's sister Elizabeth.

But the judge told elder Miller that a minister's testimony against a church member was inadmissible as evidence. The potential witnesses all lived in Ohio. Many of those who were first on the scene were dead. And the case was a matter for a Pennsylvania court.

However, Solomon Hochstetler had the weight of suspicion lifted from his shoulders after half a century. His wife Barbara had died in 1852. Solomon died at Walnut Creek, Holmes County in 1863. [148]

Henry was shunned by his congregation and former friends. He died in Wayne County March 21, 1866. Anna Yoder died June 18, 1877. They are buried in Plank Cemetery at Wooster. More information on the incident can be found in *Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler*.

Children of Christian King and Mary Magdalena Yoder include:

1. **Samuel King** was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 8, 1808 (headstone date).
2. Jonathan King was born in Mifflin County circa 1810; he died Sept. 30, 1842, and was buried in Alexander Cemetery (where his headstone gives only date of death and age '32y'). On Feb. 16, 1834 in Wayne County, Ohio he married Elizabeth Lantz. She was born in Mifflin County circa 1816, and died in Holmes County, Ohio Jan. 11, 1885, a daughter of Stephen Lantz and Anna 'Nancy' Kauffman. Their family moved to Wayne County in 1822. Following Jonathan's death Elizabeth remarried to Joseph Troyer.
3. John King was born in Centre County Aug. 5, 1814, and died March 21, 1906. On March 14, 1841 he married Anna 'Nancy' Kanagy. She was born at Derry, Mifflin County March 5, 1816, and died in Noble County, Indiana Feb. 2, 1892, a daughter of David Kanagy and Rebecca Hartzler. They are found on the 1880 census of Clear Spring, Lagrange County, Indiana as farmer John King, 64, Pennsylvania; Nancy, 63, Pennsylvania; Benjamin, 126, Ohio; Elizabeth, 24, Ohio; and Milo, 19, Indiana. *Herald of Truth*, February 1892: "On the 2nd of February, near Haw Patch [now Topeka], Lagrange County, Indiana, of paralysis, Sister Nancy Kenagy, wife of John King, aged 75 years, 10 months and 27 days. She died in the triumph of the living faith. Funeral services were held on the 4th of February by D.J. Johns and J. Kurtz, from *1 Pet. 1:4, 5*. Bro. and Sister King were married in Union Co., Pa., in 1841, having lived together over 50 years."
4. Anna/Nancy King was born in Centre County circa 1815, and died in 1863. She married miller Abraham Plank. He was born in Mifflin County April 28, 1807, and died in Wayne County in 1883, a son of Jacob Plank and Mary Yoder. They are found on the 1860 census of Lake, Ashland County, Ohio as miller Abraham Plank, 53, born in Pennsylvania; Nancy, 45, born in Pennsylvania; and 10 children born in Ohio. They had 14 children in all. Abraham remarried following Anna's death.
5. Lydia King was born in Centre County circa 1817, and died in Richland County, Ohio in March 1859. She married Jonathan A. Plank. He was born in Mifflin County Dec. 4, 1820, and died in Richland County circa 1896, a son of Jacob Plank and Barbara Zook. They are found on the 1850 census of Prairie, Holmes County, Ohio: miller Jonathan Plank, 33, Pennsylvania; Lydia, 33, Pennsylvania; and four children born in Ohio. Following Lydia's death Jonathan remarried to Sarah White.
6. Jacob King was born in Centre County circa 1818, and died circa 1878. Circa 1840 he married Barbara Plank. She was born in Wayne County circa 1822, a daughter of John Plank and Elizabeth Schrock and granddaughter of Jacob Plank and Mary Yoder. They are found on the 1850 census of Wayne, Wayne County, Ohio: miller Jacob King, 32, Pennsylvania; Barbara, 28, Ohio; and four children born in Ohio.
7. Moses King (twin) was born in Centre County Jan. 20, 1820, and died in Logan County Sept. 10, 1858. He is buried in Stony Creek Cemetery at Union. In 1852 he married Susanna Detrick. She was born in Ohio Jan. 1, 1832, died at Union Sept. 8, 1902, and is buried in Stonycreek Cemetery there. She was a daughter of Peter Lawrence Detrick and Susannah Kauffman, who are found on the 1850 and 1860 censuses of Union. She is found as widow Susan King, 37, born in Ohio, on the 1870 census of Union.
8. Aaron King (twin) was born in Centre County Jan. 20, 1820, and died at Union, Logan County Jan. 19, 1861. He is buried in Alexandria Cemetery where his age is given as '40y 11m.' Circa 1851 he married Charity Speicher, who was born in Ohio in 1829, and died Oct. 9, 1904. As mentioned earlier, they are found on the 1860 census of Union, Logan County, Ohio in a household with Aaron's widowed father Christian. *Herald of Truth*, October 1904: " On Oct. 9, 1904, of paralysis, Sister Charity King (maiden name, Speicher), passed peacefully out of this life, aged 74 Y., 10 M., 4 D. She was sick only three days. It was her desire that when her time should come to leave this world she would not need to be sick long, and the Lord granted her desire. Her husband died a number of years ago, since which time she made her home with her youngest son and his family. She leaves three sons, a number of sisters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to mourn her departure; yet they mourn not as those who have no hope. Sister King was received into the Mennonite church from another denomination and has been a faithful member, her place in the services seldom being vacant. She attended the meeting just one week before her death and, as usual, had a smile and pleasant word for all. Funeral services by G. D. Miller, assisted by Pre. Fike of the German Baptist church."

[148] Solomon Hochstetler was born at Elk Lick March 15, 1785, and died at Walnut Creek, Holmes County, Ohio Dec. 3, 1863, a son of John Hochstetler and Frances Mast. Circa 1804 he married Barbara Zug/Zook. She was born March 11, 1778, and died Aug. 29, 1852, a daughter of Jacob Zug and Anna Long.

9. Mary King was born in Pennsylvania circa 1823. She appears on the 1850 census of Union.
10. Christian King was born in Ohio circa 1824, and died circa 1885. His household appears on the 1850 census of Liberty, Hardin County, Ohio as farmer Christian King, 26, Ohio; Hannah, 25, Ohio; and Leah [a female], 2, Ohio. In 1860 they lived at the same location with six children.
11. Hannah King was born in Pennsylvania Jan. 13, 1827, died Dec. 9, 1908, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery at Pleasant, Logan County, Ohio. On Nov. 18, 1847 in Wayne County she married Frederick Fetterman. He was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania circa 1812, and died in Union, Logan County Dec. 25, 1855, a son of Peter Fetterman and Julia Hilbish. They appear on the 1850 census of Union Township as laborer Frederick Fetterman, 38, Pennsylvania; Hannah, 23, Pennsylvania; Emmitt, 2, Ohio; and Susan, three months, Ohio. On Jan. 1, 1882 in Logan County Hannah remarried to widower Daniel Melhorn, a butcher from DeGraff, Logan County.

Samuel King was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 8, 1808. He died at Elm Grove Aug. 15, 1895.

On Jan. 1, 1830 in Holmes County, Ohio (adjacent to Wayne County on the south) Samuel married Magdalena Kurtz, who was a niece of his grandmother Catharine Kurtz. She was born Feb. 14, 1803, a daughter of Abraham Kurtz and his first wife Elizabeth Fisher (the couple who had purchased land at Tredyffrin in 1801). The Kurtz family appears near the Kings on the 1830 census of Wayne.

Walter A. Ropp believed that after marriage Samuel and Magdalena lived 'over the county line' in Holmes County. They may have lived with Planks, a family closely associated with the Kings that had members in both Wayne and Holmes Counties. Samuel and Magdalena's children were born 'near Wooster' in Wayne County, most likely at the Wayne home of Samuel's parents.

In 1842 Samuel and Magdalena headed west to Illinois. They stopped briefly at Salem, Marion County, Illinois, where Magdalena had her youngest child. This was later described as "taking a wrong turn in the road." Their fortunes reached a low point when their horses died there. They resettled at what is now Sand Prairie before finally purchasing a timber lot at Pekin.

The year of their land purchase at Pekin is generally given as 1844, but no such sale is recorded in the *Grantors Index*. The issue is confused because there was another Samuel King who made purchases before and perhaps after Samuel's arrival. We note that two purchases of 'lots at Pekin' by a Samuel King took place in 1848.[149]

The area of Pekin where the Kings lived became Elm Grove when that township was established in 1850. The King homestead can be found on the 1864 plat map of Elm Grove, on the northeast corners of the farms of Peter Ropp and Peter Gerber.

Magdalena Kurtz died Oct. 18, 1846, and was buried as 'Magdalena Koenig' in Haines Cemetery at what is now Cincinnati Township. At last look her headstone was displaced and leaning against a boundary fence. Children of Samuel and Magdalena include:

1. Joseph W. King was born 'near Wooster' June 21 or 24, 1832, and died at Isabella, Oklahoma Oct. 31, 1904. On Jan. 12, 1854 in Tazewell County he married Susanna Stutzman. She was born in Green, Wayne County Jan. 1, 1833, and died in Lucas County, Iowa Oct. 24, 1899, a daughter of Michael Stutzman and his second wife Elizabeth Blough. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as 48-year-old miller Joseph W. King, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; Susan, 47, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; and six children born in Illinois to parents from Ohio. Joseph was proprietor of the Twin Grove Mills at Bloomington.
2. David Henry King was born at Wooster April 18 or 28, 1834, and died at Newton, Kansas Nov. 20 or 26, 1926. On April 3, 1859 at Pekin he married Barbara Zook. She was born at St. Clair, Butler County, Ohio Sept. 21, 1837, and died at Larned, Kansas Sept. 3, 1891, a daughter of Bartholomew Zook Sr. and his second wife Barbara Neuhauser. They appear on the 1860 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as farmer David King, 30, Ohio; Barbara, 25, Ohiio; Susan, 1, Illinois; and laborer Christian Zook [Barbara's brother] 24, Pennsylvania. In 1870 they were living with her parents at Nebraska, Livingston County. They are found on the 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer D.H. King, 46, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; Barbara, 42, born in Ohio to parents from Switzerland; six children born in Illinois; and Barbara Zook's mother Barbara, 79, Switzerland. In February 1886 they moved to Larned. In 1904 he visited Illinois from Kansas, selling books along the way to cover his expenses. In Illinois he repaid a debt of $100 with 24 years interest. He later made a modest living gleaning the remnants from wheat fields in Texas and Oklahoma. *Herald of Truth*, October 1891: "On the 3d of September 1891, in Pleasant Valley Twp., Pawnee Co., Kansas, after suffering nearly 8 months of consumption, Sister Barbara, wife of D. H. King, aged 53 years, 11 months, 12 days. She was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Sept. 21, 1837, and united with the Amish Mennonite church when she was about 14 years old. She has been a faithful member ever since. In the fall of 1852 she moved to Illinois with her parents and on the 3d of April 1859 she was united in wedlock to Bro. D. H. King. In February 1886 they moved to Pawnee Co., Kansas with their family. Her descendants are six sons, two daughters and 11

[149] According to the *Grantors Index*, on June 26, 1848 a Samuel King paid Daniel M. Baily $250 for 'Pekin lots and Circleville lots.' On Nov. 18, 1848 a Samuel King paid Samuel Brown $250 for property at Pekin.

grandchildren. One infant daughter died in 1875. The rest of the family live in the vicinity and were all present at her burial. Funeral services at Bro. King's residence on the 15th by Pre. Lehman in German, and D. D. Zook in English, from *Rev. 14: 13*. The deceased had long desired to depart and be with Christ." *Gospel Herald*, December 1926: "King. - David H., son of Samuel and Magdalena King, was born near Wooster, Ohio, April 28, 1834; died Nov. 26, 1926, at the home of his daughter in Newton, Kans., aged 92 y. 6 m. 29 d. At the age of eight years he came to Marion Co., Ill., where he grew to manhood. On April 3, 1859, he was married to Barbra Zook near Bloomington, Ill. Together they lived in Illinois until February, 1886, when they moved to Larned, Kans. In September, 1891, mother passed to her reward. For sometime he kept house for the younger brothers, sometimes alone, and later traveled quite a bit. He never seemed to have a permanent home after mother had passed on. He visited much, won many friends, was very sociable, always remembering the children he met, and also ready to help any one in need. This was one of his outstanding characteristics. He never held a grudge or ill-will against any. He was converted the year he was married, joined the Mennonite Church, and lived up to all the light he had. Those left to mourn are two full sisters (Barbara Lund and Magdalena Plank), two half-sisters (Eva Wagler and Adina Heiser), four half-brothers (Adam, Christian, Simon, and John), six children (MaryIsabelle Neuhauser, Samuel B., Emanuel J., David S., Benjamin J., and Amos E.), 39 grandchildren, and 81 great-grandchildren. A son (Joseph), and a daughter (Josephine), had passed on before. Five weeks before his departure he had a severe cough but soon rallied of that and gradually got weaker and then very calmly and peacefully fell asleep. A sermon was preached on Sunday afternoon by T. M. Erg (Text, *Job 5: 26*), and on Monday his remains were shipped to Larned, Kans., and at the Pratt M. E. Church the final funeral was conducted by R. M. Weaver of Harper, assisted by the pastor of the M. E. Church. Text, *Genesis 5: 24*. He was then laid to rest beside his wife, to wait the final resurrection. 'Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his.'" They are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery in Pawnee County, Kansas.

3. Two unidentified children were born 'near Wooster' in 1836 and/or 1837. They died as infants.
4. —
5. Barbara King was born 'near Wooster' May 8, 1838, and died at Beemer, Nebraska April 12, 1927; she is buried in Keener Cemetery there. On March 14, 1858 in Tazewell County she married August Eric Lund. He was born at Westenlund, Sweden Sept. 30, 1833, and died at Beemer, Nebraska Nov. 18, 1909. They are found on the 1880 census of Sullivan, Livingston County as 47-year-old farmer August Lund, born at Westenlund, Sweden to parents from Westenlund; Barbara, 42, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio; and four children born to a father from Westenlund and a mother from Ohio. They were living at Hooker, Decatur County, Kansas in 1895. Following August's death Barbara lived at Beemer, Nebraska with a daughter. *Gospel Herald*, April 1927: "Barbara (King) Lund was born May 8, 1838, near Wooster, Ohio; died Apr. 12, 1927, at Beemer, Nebr.; aged 88 y. 11 m. 4 d. In early life she joined the Mennonite Church of which she was a member at the time of her death. In the year 1858 she was married to August Lund, who was called to his reward 17 years ago. To this union were born five children, two having preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves three children (Mrs. Josephine Wittrig, at whose home she passed away; Mrs. A. Caroline Birky, and David Lund), 13 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, two half-sisters, and four half-brothers. She suffered much during her last illness but quietly passed away when the Lord said, "Come." Funeral services were held from the home of J. H. Birkey, conducted by Bro. Joseph Schantz. (Text, *Psa. 90* - German) and Bro. D. Z. Birkey (Text, *II Cor. 5:10* - English). Interment in the Keener Cemetery."
6. Elizabeth King was born at Wooster July 20, 1839, and died from pneumonia at Tremont Feb. 18, 1912. On Sept. 19, 1856 in Tazewell County she married John B. Yoder. He was born at Green, Wayne County, Ohio Sept. 11, 1834, and died at Morton Jan. 10, 1904, a son of Peter Yoder and Veronica 'Fanny' Blough. See YODER for more on this couple.
7. Samuel King [Jr.] was born 'near Wooster' Aug. 4, 1841, and died Dec. 19, 1900. On Aug. 20, 1863 in Tazewell County he married Veronica 'Fanny' Yoder; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Green, Wayne County, Ohio Aug. 21, 1838, and died Dec. 7, 1894, a daughter of Peter Yoder and Veronica 'Fanny' Blough. They lived in McLean County, where he was a miller, and relocated to Forrest, Livingston County in 1873. They appear on the 1880 census of Morton as farmer Samuel King, 38, Ohio; Fanny, 35, Ohio; and four children born in Illinois.
8. Magdalena 'Martha' King was born at Salem, Illinois Dec. 13, 1842, died at Harper, Kansas Feb. 11, 1927, and is buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford, Nebraska. On Jan. 5, 1862 in Tazewell County she married John Birkey Yordy; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. John was born in Bavaria in 1838 as 'Johann Horn,' an illegitimate son of Mary Birkey. Mary Birkey later married Peter Yordy. They were living at Thurman, Colorado in 1895. John died in 1906. On Feb. 14, 1909 she remarried to Jacob Sutter. He was born at Probfeld, Bavaria Nov. 27, 1833, a son of John Sutter and Barbara Oesch. He died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 26, 1923, and is buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford. His first wife had been Catherine Wagler. In 1923 Magdalena remarried to third husband John Plank. *Gospel Herald*, March 1927: "Magdalina King Plank was born at Salem, Mo. [Illinois], Dec. 13, 1842; died at her home in Harper, Kans. Jan. 11, 1927; aged 84 y. 1 m. 29 d. She was united in marriage to John Yordy Jan. 5, 1862, at Pekin, Ill. To this union were born eight sons and five daughters. Husband and four sons preceded her in death. In 1909 she was married to Jacob Sutter who also preceded her in death. In 1923 she was again married to John Plank of Harper, Kans., who survives her, also nine children as follows: Peter E. Yordy, John Yordy, David Yordy, Emma Swartzendruber, Bell Schrock, Lizzie Erb, Simon Yordy, Fannie Yeackley, and Mary Zimmerman. She also leaves 35 grandchildren, 57 great-grandchildren, one great-great-

grandchild, and an aged sister (Barbara Lund). In her youth she accepted Christ as her Saviour and united with the church of her choice, of which she was a faithful member when she died. She with her first husband moved west in 1885 living most of the time near Milford, Nebr. By her cheerful disposition and helpful Christian spirit, she endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact. She was laid to rest at the East Fairview cemetery near Milford, Nebr."

In 1846 Samuel found himself a widower with six children.

Elm Grove neighbor Mary Garber had lived in the King home and assisted Magdalena with household chores. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania or in Ohio (census reports confuse the issue) July 12, 1829, and died at Elm Grove May 21, 1901. She was a daughter of Swiss immigrant John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe.

On Dec. 27, 1846 in Tazewell County Mary married Samuel; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was 39, and she was 18 – only three years older than Samuel's oldest son Joseph King. Walter A. Ropp: "How to keep her was simple. She was eighteen, he was thirty-nine, it was almost 1847, the bishop [elder] was only a quarter of a mile away, so they were married and got busy and had ten more kinglets, sixteen in all."

Mary had 11 children of her own (one died as an infant), and the brood of 'Kinglets' attended Railroad Schoolhouse and Elm Hill School. For many years Samuel made a living simply by clearing the trees covering his land and hauling them to a saw mill at Pekin. He and his sons would return with fish caught in the Illinois River, and extras were freely distributed among neighbors.

The family worshipped with the Dillon Creek meeting (later the Pleasant Grove Amish Mennonite Church). They appear on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Samuel King, 42, born in Pennsylvania; Mary King, 21, born in Pennsylvania; Joseph, 18, Ohio; Daniel [David], 16, Ohio; Barbara, 12, Ohio; Elizabeth, 11, Ohio; Samuel, 9, Ohio; Martha, 7, Illinois; Mary, 2, Illinois; and Emanuel, 7 months, Illinois.

Ironically, once Samuel's property was cleared, it was coveted by the Santa Fe Railroad. In 1870 the railroad purchased a right-of-way at the edge of his orchard, constructed a small platform, and laid tracks.

The household appears on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer Samuel King, 72, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Mary, 54, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Germany; Simon, 19; Benia, 17; John, 14; and Adina, 11; all children born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania.

The prolific father saw 16 grown children and 92 grandchildren in his lifetime. Walter A. Ropp: "...A story of some kind ready in either language, many of them little personal experiences out of his long life in three states. A country boy, woodsman, farmer, and hunter, the tan of summer and storms had written the life of the great outdoorsman on his face and hands, and brought a stoop to his back, but not as much as in many others of his age. In fact he was a strong and vigorous man yet at seventy. Interested in life, alert and able to go, he was several times heard to say that he would like to live to be one hundred...rheumatism with its pains and stiffness laid a heavy hand on his last years, so perhaps he didn't mind not to reach the century mark."

Mary appears on a federal census of Elm Grove for the last time in 1900, the year before her death. She was living with her sons Simon and John, and is described as 'May,' mother, 70, born in Ohio in July 1829 to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Samuel and Mary are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.

All of their children were born on the family farm (part of Pekin, then in Elm Grove after that town was established in 1850):

9. Mary Ann King was born Aug. 31, 1848, and died at White Oak, McLean County March 7, 1923. On Jan. 10, 1869 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Ropp (also called Jacob S. Ropp); the county marriage register erroneously says the ceremony was performed by minister Leonard Rupp. He was born at Elm Grove April 29, 1846, and died Aug. 1, 1920, a son of Peter Ropp and Maria/Mary Rŭh. In 1870 they were living near the Kistlers at Grant, Missouri. They later lived at Carlock, and are buried in Troyer Cemetery. Their son Walter A. Ropp was the first reunion organizer and unofficial historian of the King and Ropp families. Walter A. Ropp was born at Golden City, Missouri Dec. 8, 1872, and died at Normal, McLean County Feb. 12, 1966. On July 1, 1903 he married Maggie Mohr.
10. Emanuel King (also found as Emanuel W. King) was born Feb. 8, 1850, and died in 1891. On Dec. 30, 1873 in Stark County he married Isabella ‘Bella’ Davis. Their household can be found on the 1880 census of Danvers, McLean County as 30-year-old farmer Emanuel W. King, born in Illinois to a father from Pennsylvania and a mother from Ohio; Isabella, 29, born in Maryland to parents from Scotland; and two infants born in Illinois to a father from Illinois and a mother from Maryland.
11. Lydia King was born March 22, 1852, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County May 1, 1915. On Jan. 20, 1870 in Tazewell County she married Frederick Metz. He was born in Baden-Württemberg in December 1846, and died in April 1919. On Sept. 20, 1864 he enlisted at Cincinnati, Tazewell County, giving his birthplace as Baden and his age

as 18. He was given the oath of enlistment at Springfield, and served as a private in Company E (Peoria County) of the 139th Illinois Infantry. He mustered out at Vicksburg, Mississippi Aug. 5, 1865. After the war he lived briefly at Morton, then purchased a farm at Forrest. Frederick and Lydia lived at Grant, Missouri near the Kistlers 1870-73; Livingston County 1874-1899; Eureka, Woodford County 1899-1909; and Fairbury, where they worshipped with the German Apostolic Church. Following Lydia's death Frederick remarried to Emma Beckley at Fairbury Jan. 10, 1918; he died the following year.

12. Eva King was born May 1, 1854, and died July 15, 1936. On Aug. 27, 1872 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Wagler (also known as Waugler). He was born in Alsace-Lorraine Nov. 18, 1850, and died at White Oak, McLean County Aug. 22, 1934, a son of Jean Wagler and Sophie Valentin. On the 1880 census of Elm Grove their household is found as 37-year-old ditcher Joseph Wagler, born in France to French parents; Eva, 36, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania; Ida, 5, born in Canada to parents from Illinois and France; John, 3, born in Canada to parents from Illinois and France; Mary, 1, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois and France; and 24-year-old ditcher Adam King [Eva's younger brother], born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania. Joseph and Eva are buried in Troyer Cemetery at Carlock.
13. Adam King was born Sept. 1, 1856, and died Feb. 5, 1948. On March 27, 1884 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Lena' Theobold. They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin. She can be found on the 1870 census of Pekin as 11-year-old Lena Theobold, born in Illinois, a daughter of 40-year-old hotel keeper Leonard Theobold and 40-year-old Elizabeth, both from Bavaria. They can be found on the 1900 census of Cincinnati Township as laborer Adam King, 43, born in Illinois in September 1856 to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio; Lena, 40, born in Illinois in July 1854 to parents from Germany; and six children born in Illinois. In 1930 they were living at Pekin with a daughter.
14. Christian King was born Jan. 12, 1859, and died Feb. 15, 1936. On April 7, 1881 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Springer. She was born April 25, 1864, and died in 1934, a daughter of André/Andrew Springer and Barbe/Barbara Rouvenacht.[150] The first entry on the 1900 census of Tremont shows day laborer Christ King, 41, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio; Elizabeth, 36, born in France to French parents and an 1865 immigrant; and five children born in Illinois (it was noted that two had died earlier). They are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery at Elm Grove.
15. Simon King was born March 4, 1861, and died Nov. 11, 1946.[151] On April 27, 1887 at Elm Grove he married Ida M. Rupp. She was born Aug. 13, 1870, and died in August 1899, a daughter of Christian Rupp and his first wife Sarah Elizabeth Wineburner. She is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Pekin. Simon is found on the 1900 census of Elm Grove as a 40-year-old born in March 1861, in the household of his brother John. In 1901 he remarried to Rosa Schaffer. She was born Oct. 14, 1875, and died Oct. 27, 1954. They can be found on the 1920 census of Groveland as Simon King, 58, born in Illinois to a father from Pennsylvania and a mother from Ohio; Rosa, 48, born in Illinois to German parents; and two sons born in Illinois. Simon and Rosa are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
16. Jakobina 'Bena' King was born Oct. 4, 1864, and died in 1888. On Jan. 17, 1884 in Tazewell County she married future minister Christian Oyer. He was born June 28, 1862, and died Nov. 23, 1954, a son of David Oyer and Susan Farney. After her death Christian remarried to Anna Maria 'Mary' Raeuber. She was born Sept. 16, 1858, and died at Elm Grove Dec. 28, 1931, a daughter of Johannes Räuber/John Raeuber and Barbara Farny. Christian and Anna Maria are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
17. John King was born May 8, 1866, and died at Pekin May 26, 1946. On April 15, 1890 in Tazewell County he married Maria/Mary Gerdes. She was born in Indiana in January 1867, a daughter of Henry Gerdes and Anna Ahlars.[152] They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin. Their household appears on the 1900 census of Elm Grove as farmer John King, born in Illinois in May 1866 to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio; May, born in Indiana in January 1867 to parents from Indiana; Simon King, brother, 40, born in Illinois in March 1861 to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio; and May [Mary Garber King], mother, 70, born in Ohio in July 1829 to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

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[150] André/Andrew Springer was born at Bisping, Moselle Nov. 3, 1834, and died in 1915, a son of Joseph Springer and Marguerite Schweitzer. On Aug. 13, 1857 at Hermelange, Moselle he married Barbe/Barbara Elisabeth Rouvenacht. She was born at Assenoncourt, Moselle Aug. 13, 1834, and died in 1922, a daughter of Christian Rouvenacht and Marie Suisse. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as miller Andrew Springer, 47, France; Barbra, 47, France; Lizzie, 16, France; and four more children born in Illinois. Andrew worked for sawmill operator Moses Ropp, who lived next door. André/Andrew and Barbe/Barbara Elisabeth are buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove.

[151] 'Simeon King' has been found in some sources, but his headstone says 'Simon King.'

[152] Henry Gerdes was born in Hanover Feb. 3, 1841, and died at Pekin Nov. 10, 1922. Anna Ahlars was born in Hanover Feb. 21, 1846, and died at Pekin Jan. 9, 1932. They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin. They married in Ripley County, Indiana circa 1866, and came to Illinois in 1878. The Gerdes household is found on the 1880 census of Pekin as farmer Henry Gerdes, 39, born in Hanover to parents from Hanover; Anna, 34, born in Hanover to parents from Hanover; Anna, 11, born in Indiana to parents from Hanover; William, 8, Indiana; Henry, 5, Indiana; John, 2, Indiana; and Louisa, 1, Illinois. The same census shows Mary Gerdes, 13, born in Indiana to parents from Hanover, as a servant in the household of market gardener Henry Karstens of Pekin. Hanover is now the capital of the German state of Lower Saxony.

18. Adina King was born May 23, 1868, and died at Fisher/Foosland, Champaign County Jan. 30, 1930; she is buried in East Bend Cemetery. On Jan. 31, 1888 in Tazewell County she married Peter Heiser. He was born at Morton April 21, 1863, and died at Foosland May 11, 1940, a son of Jacob Heiser and Catherine Wagler. They lived at Fisher. *Gospel Herald*, February 1930: "Adina Ida (King) Heiser was born near Groveland, Ill., May 23, 1868; died at her home near Foosland, Ill., Jan. 30, 1930; aged 61 y. 8 m. 29 d. At the age of 16 she accepted Christ, united with the Mennonite Church, and remained faithful to the end. On Jan. 31, 1888, she was united in marriage to Peter Heiser. To this union three children were born. With the exception of about 23 years spent near Groveland, Ill., she spent all of her life where she resided at the time of her death. Her health began to fail about 3 years ago and about 2 weeks ago her condition became serious. She bore her suffering patiently, death being due to a complication of diseases. She leaves her husband, three sons (Samuel, Aaron, and Silas), five grandchildren, four brothers (Adam, Chris, Simon, and John); one sister (Eva Wagler), and many other relatives and friends. Four sisters and one brother preceded her in death, also three half-brothers and three half-sisters. Funeral services were held at the East Bend Mennonite Church by Bro. Samuel Zehr in German and Bro. J. A. Heiser in English. Texts, *Psa. 90* and *I Thess 4:13, 14*. Interment in East Bend Cemetery."
19. Hannah King was born July 16, 1874, and died in 1875.

König of Nimburg

This König family seems to parallel the family of 1744 immigrant Samuel König/Koenig. Not only does it have connections to Baden and Central Illinois, but one descendant even settled in Green, Wayne County, Ohio and married a Zook from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania.

The line is also important to the Roth family, because it shows the relationship between the Roth family that came to Butler County (and later Tazewell County), Zimmermans that came to Butler County, and elder Joseph Goldsmith/Goldschmid.

Hans Küng or **Hans König** may have been a son of Samuel or Hans König of Steffisburg and Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. A notarial record now in the Archives of Upper Alsace at Colmar shows that 'Jean König' arranged transportation from La Petite Lièpvre (just below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) to Baden Oct. 25, 1813. He would be accompanied by 'Jacqui Hochstedler' – likely the Jakob/Jacob Hochstedler who was a companion minister to Jacob Amman. Jacob Amman made his own arrangements to depart from La Petite Lièpvre on the same day.

The Margrave of Baden owned the grounds of the former monastery Obernimburg. The grounds were comprised of about 80 acres of pasture from the village of Nimburg south to the village of Bottingen in the Hochburg district of Baden. It was called the Klosterhof, or 'monastery estate.'

In *The Laubers: A Journey of Faith*, the late genealogist John Alma Huppi described a document related to Swiss-born Hans König of Obernimburg. Hans was living in the Obernimburg home of his son in 1728. He died there in May 1732. This information was found on a petition submitted by his son asking for exemption from a tax that was due whenever property passed to an heir.

Son **Christian König** married a daughter of Christen/Christian Rŭpp, leased the Hochburg estate at Sexau in 1713; see ROPP). He died June 28, 1761.

His son **Christian König** was born circa 1736. He married Elisabetha Stucki, who was born on the Schoppenwihr estate near Ostheim (now an arboretum five miles northeast of Sigolsheim, Upper Alsace). At the time of their marriage she was living on the Hochburg estate at Sexau, Baden. Elisabetha was a daughter of minister Benedict 'Benz' Stucki and Anna Maria Neuhauser. Benedict may be recalled from ROPP as a minister who attended the Essingen assembly of ministers in 1779 representing the Colmar congregation. He served alongside Nikolaus/Nicolas 'Nige' Blank and Hans Rupp/Jean Ropp, who was father of Andreas Ropp, patriarch of the Central Illinois family.

Christian renewed the lease on Obernimburg after his father's death. In 1776 he paid 455 guilders. The 80 acres would have been insufficient to raise crops that could provide for his growing family and pay taxes. Property inventories show that he owned numerous cattle, and several of his sons later became dairymen.

Three sons of Christian and Elisabetha feuded with Jacob Hirschi.[153]

> During his later years, Jacob Hirschi of Sigolsheim, Upper Alsace (35 miles west of Freiburg im Breisgau) feuded with brothers Christian, Benedict/Benz, and Johannes/Hans König. Apparently Jacob had borrowed money from the König family before the French Revolution of 1789. In that year the revolutionary government issued promissory notes called

[153] The death entry of Jaques Hirschÿ [Jacob Hirschi], 77, was created at Bollwiller March 23, 1814, and witnessed by his son Joseph. His second wife Anna Maria Zimmerman was present and consenting at the marriage of their son Jaques to Catherine Rich at Ruederbach, Upper Alsace Sept. 9, 1828.

assignats. They were supposed to be backed by the value of properties seized from the clergy and royalty. The new notes lost the confidence of the public, and within a year the government offered to convert them into *livres.*

In 1792, Jacob offered to repay his debt to the Königs in *assignats.* They refused, possibly because the notes would not have been negotiable in Baden. Both parties were insulted, and the matter stood at a standstill while the *assignat* withered. In 1796 the *assignat* was withdrawn from circulation, and by the following year they were worth only 1/17th of original face value.

The issue took on additional sensitivity when Jacob was chosen to be an elder at Bollwiller. The Königs complicated matters by appealing directly to Jacob's second wife, Anna Maria Zimmerman, a native of Baden. After a number of years and several miscues involving efforts to bring the matter before church elders, the Königs gave up trying to collect.

Christian died at Obernimburg in January 1797 after being mistreated by French occupation soldiers.

Christian König and Elisabetha Stŭcki had 11 children. No births were entered in local Catholic records, but it is probable that most or all of their children were born on the Obernimburg grounds. The children include:

1. Barbara/Barbe König died after April 22, 1797, the date on her father's death entry (the entry stated that he had 11 living children).
2. Katharina/Catherine König was born circa 1760, and died in 1836. She married miller Conrad Goldschmitt/Konrad Goldschmidt. He was born in 1756, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 8, 1808.[154] See GOLDSMITH for a list of their children.
3. Christian König was born circa 1765, and died at Bamlach, Baden between 1825 and 1834. Circa 1790 he married Maria Zimmerman. She was born at Niederemmendingen circa 1771, and died after 1840, a daughter of Johannes Zimmerman and Anna Müller. In 1789 her uncle and aunt minister/elder Jacob/Jakob Zimmerman and Barbara Schneider with Jakob Müller leased the grounds of Falkenbühl Castle and the Baldenwegerhof above Zarten (five miles east of Freiburg im Breisgau). In 1805 Christian and Maria renewed the lease. In 1813 they leased an estate at Bamlach, a village on the Rhine 16 miles north of Basel. Maria sailed from Le Havre on the *Salem* with her son Christian and his family, her daughter Magdalena and her family, and daughter Jakobina. They arrived at New Orleans Nov. 13, 1835. The passenger list shows her as 'Zimmerman, Marie, 64, farmer.' Children of Christian König and Maria Zimmerman include:
    a. Johannes König was born June 24, 1791, and died in 1857. He married Jakobea Rediger. She was born on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg, Baden Nov. 7, 1796, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County July 19, 1869, a daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger and Magdalena Güngerich. A number of scenarios have been suggested for this family. The likeliest is that sons Christian and Nicholas immigrated in 1847; and after the father died in Europe circa 1857, his widow Jakobea and her four remaining children immigrated. Two of these children (Anna and Daniel) reported on the 1900 census that they had immigrated in 1858. In 1860 widow 'Jacobina' was living with her daughter Anna and her husband Valentine Augstein at Montgomery, Woodford County. They are buried in Troyer Cemetery at Carlock. Children of Johannes König and Jakobea Rediger include:
        1) Jakobea or Jacobine 'Phoebe' König/King was born Sept. 4, 1814, and died in Livingston County March 21, 1896. She immigrated with her mother. On Dec. 3, 1865 in Tazewell County she became the second wife of John Schrock. His first wife had been Catherine Salzman. Jacobine and John are found on the 1870 census of Elm Grove. The 1880 census of Nebraska Township shows her as 'Phebey Schrock,' a widow living with her brother Daniel. *Herald of Truth,* April 1896: "On the 21st of March 1896 at the residence of Maria Koening in Livingston Co., Ill., Jacobine Schrack of lung trouble and the infirmities of old age at the advanced age of 81 years, 6 months and 12 days. Our deceased sister leaves no direct descendant. Her husband John Schrack died about 24 years ago. Her last words were "The Lord's will be done," after which she calmly fell asleep, to awake as we believe in the land of the immortal. She was a faithful member of the old Amish Mennonite church. Her remains were laid to rest on the 23d in the Waldo Twp. cemetery. Funeral services at the house by Daniel Orendorff and at the meeting house by Stephen Stahly from *Psalms 90* assisted by the writer from *Isa. 38:1-3.* A very large concourse of people followed her remains to their last resting place. Peace to her ashes."
        2) Christian R. König/King, also known as Smiley, Curley, or Smilin' Christ, was thought to have been born on the Glastahlerhof at Rodalben in the Pfalz Dec. 22, 1819. However, *Evangelische* records at Ichenheim show his birth there Dec. 18, 1819. He died in Livingston County Jan. 15, 1904. [155] He immigrated with his brother Nicholas in 1847, arriving at Philadelphia. They arrived in Ohio the following year. In 1850 he was employed as a farm

[154] His death entry mistakenly named his widow as Barbe Koenig.

[155] One description of his birthplace is the 'Glastalerhof.' This may be the Glasthalerhof at Rodalben near Pirmasens in the Pfalz, but this seems far afield. Perhaps the original explanation was the 'Klosterhof" – the monastery estate.

laborer for Edward Mills in Summit County, Ohio, where he is found on the census as 'Christian Kong.' On June 24, 1852 in Butler County he married Marie Catherine/Mary Bechler. She was born at Tanconville, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 4, 1831, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County May 25, 1920, a daughter of Catherine Sommer and stepdaughter of Joseph Bechler/Beckler. They settled in McLean County, where she served her community as a midwife like her mother. On Aug. 22, 1864 they purchased 160 acres at Nebraska Township, Livingston County. On the same day Christian's brother Daniel purchased 80 acres there. Christian R. later added more land in Nebraska Township and property at Manson, Iowa. He was a school director at Nebraska Township. The 1880 census of Nebraska Township shows their household as farmer Christian King, 67, born in France to parents from France; Mary, 50, born in France to parents from France; seven children born in Illinois; and mother-in-law 'Kate Beckler,' 72, born in France to French parents.

3) Anna König/King was born Nov. 4, 1822, and died at Nebraska Township, Livingston County Aug. 20, 1903. She immigrated with her mother. On March 17, 1859 in McLean County she became the third wife of minister Valentine Augstein/Augstin. He was born at Turquestein, Moselle June 17, 1813, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Nov. 5, 1872, a son of Joseph Augster and Barbara/Barbe Augspurger (see EIGSTI for his obituary). On Aug. 14, 1848 at Turquestein Valentine married Freni/Véronique Bacher. She was born at Ranrupt, Lower Alsace (near Saales) March 25, 1822, and died at Turquestein April 5, 1850, a daughter of Melchior Michel Bacher 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, a daughter of Rodolphe Lehmann and Marie Sommer. Valentine immigrated in 1853. Anna's household as a widow can be found on the 1880 census of Nebraska Township: Anna Augstin, 56, born in France to French parents; Daniel, 20, Illinois; Pheby, 18, Illinois; and farm laborer Christian, 16, Illinois. The census shows her one household removed from her older brother Christian King. She appears as 'Anna Eikenstine' on the 1860 census of Danvers, where her occupation is described as 'capitalist' (investor). On that census she reported her year of immigration as 1858. She was living next door to her cousin Peter King and Barbara Hodler.

4) Nicholas König/King was born Nov. 25, 1823, and died in McLean County July 25, 1876. He immigrated with brother Christian R. in 1847. On March 15, 1853 in McLean County he married Catherine Zook. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Aug. 16, 1827, and died in McLean County in 1913, a daughter of Yost Zook and Susan Hostetler. In 1860 they were living at Dry Grove, McLean County. *Herald of Truth*, September 1876: " July 25 th, in McLean Co., Ill., N. King, aged 52 years and 8 months. He leaves a wife and 3 children to mourn their loss. Buried the 28th, at which time appropriate remarks were made by Christian Rupp, P. E. and Joseph Stuckey." *The History of McLean County, Illinois*: "Mrs. Catharine King, farmer; P.O. Bloomington; one of the early settlers; was born in Pennsylvania Aug. 16, 1827; she is the widow of the late Nich. King; they had four children, three of whom are living, viz. Susan C., Jacobine, and Adam J.; deceased - John. The farm of Mrs. King consists of 275 acres, valued at $11,000."

5) Johannes König/John R. King was born Sept. 16, 1825, and died in Livingston County April 25, 1895. He immigrated with his mother. On Feb. 7, 1860 in McLean County he married Fanny Ehresman. She was born in Ohio in 1838, and died in 1862 or 1863, a daughter of Christian Ehresman and his second wife Anna Barnett. They are found on the 1860 census of Dry Grove, McLean County. On July 15, 1863 he remarried to Maria/Mary Ringenberg. She was born Sept. 19, 1844, and died at Manson, Iowa Sept.22, 1929, a daughter of Jean/John Ringenberger and Anna Garber. They were living at Nebraska Township, Livingston County in 1870. The 1880 census of Nebraska Township shows them as farmer John R. King, 53, born in Switzerland to Swiss parents; Mary, 34, born in Illinois to parents from France; Pheby, 14, Illinois; farm laborer Daniel, 13, Illinois; Anna, 11, Illinois; John, 9, Illinois; Nichlous, 6, Illinois; Christian, 3, Illinois; and William, six months, born in Switzerland to parents from France and Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, May 1895: "On the 25th of April 1895, in Livingston Co., Ill., at 7 P. M., John Koenig fell peacefully asleep in Jesus, aged 69 y., 7 m., 9 d. Bro. Koenig had been ailing all winter, and finally took cold which developed into la grippe and lung fever, from which death ensued after 9 days of suffering. Bro. Koenig was a faithful member of the Old Amish Mennonite church and was loved and esteemed by all who knew him. His second marriage July 5, 1863 in Tazewell County to Maria Ringenberg was blessed with 10 children of whom 6 sons and 3 daughters survive. The remains were laid to rest on the 28th. Funeral services to a large concourse of friends by Daniel Orendorff and J. P. Schmitt from *2 Cor. 5:10* and by J. P. Zehr and Peter Tschantz

from *Rev. 14: 13*. " He is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. On Nov. 12, 1901 Mary remarried to Jean Staufer/John Stauffer. He was born at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace March 19, 1841, and died at Milford May 7, 1914, a son of Jean Staufer and Barbe Kaufmann (the father signed his civil birth entry 'Staufer'). He was the widower of Barbara Grieser. She was born at Ichenheim Dec. 20, 1839, and died at Milford Sept. 6, 1899, a daughter of Christian Grieser and Katharina Reidiger.

6) Daniel König/Daniel R. King was born on the Ottenweierhof April 13, 1828, and died at Nebraska Township, Livingston County June 28, 1902. He immigrated with his mother. On April 14, 1868 he married Mary Claudon. She was born at Réding, Moselle Feb. 13, 1844, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Nov. 12, 1897, a daughter of Nicolas Claudon and Barbara Bechler. She immigrated in 1866. They are found on the 1880 census of Nebraska township next door to older brother Christian King as Daniel King, 52, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Mary, 36, born in France to parents from France; brother-in-law Nicholaus Claudon, 25, born in France to parents from France; and sister Phebey Schrock [Jakobea or Jacobine 'Phoebe' König/King], 65, born in Baden to parents from Baden. *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Livingston County*: "The Salem Orphanage is located three miles south of the village of Flanagan on a farm donated to the Salem Orphanage Association by David R. King. Mr. King was an invalid for about twenty-five years before his death, and his wife having died a few years previous, leaving no children. Mr. King deeded the land to the association provided they would keep him until his death, which they did. The first board of directors were N.B. Stuckey, D.N. Claudon, Joseph Ulrich, John Slagle, B.K. Slagle and Andrew Roth. The first building to carry on the work proposed was erected in 1888."

b. Magdalena König/King was born Sept. 6, 1800, and died in McLean County Nov. 22, 1882. She married Michel Müller/Michael Miller. He was born July 28, 1795, and died Aug. 23, 1873, a son of Jakob Müller and Anna Rupp. Michael and Magdalena immigrated on the *Salem* in 1834 and lived in Butler County and McLean County, where Michael was a deacon of the Rock Creek Amish Church.

c. Christian König/King was born Sept. 6, 1804 (headstone date Feb. 22, 1804), and died at White Oak, McLean County April 26, 1882. He married Jacobine 'Phoebe' Barnett. She was born Nov. 10, 1807, and died Sept. 26, 1875, a daughter of Johannes Barnett and Katharine Güngerich (three of her sisters married Christian Ehresman; another sister Elizabeth married Christian's younger brother Michael). They accompanied his widowed mother Maria Zimmerman on the *Salem* in 1835; the passenger list shows Christian Koening, 31; Jacobine, 28; Christian, 5; Johan, 4; Jacob, 2; and Michel, six months. They were in Butler County 1836-46. They are probably the family found under the name 'Christian Konig' on the 1840 census of Fairfield, Butler County: one male 30-39 years of age; three males 5-9; three males under 5; and one female 30-39. They resettled in McLean County in 1847, and appear on the 1850 census of Dry Grove next door to Christian's brother Michael King: farmer Christian King, 46, Germany; Phoeby, 43, Germany; farm laborer Christian, 20, Germany; John, 18, Germany; Jacob, 16, Germany; Daniel, 14, Ohio; Peter, 13, Ohio; Joseph, 4, Ohio; and Barbaray, 3, Ohio. They appear on the 1870 census of White Oak, McLean County as retired farmer Christian King, 66, Baden; Phoebe, 63, Baden; son Samuel, 18, born in Illinois; and servant 'Barbaray Ayersman,' 22, Illinois. They were next door to son Joseph King, 25, born in Illinois with his wife Annie, 25, Ohio, and an unnamed two-month old son. Christian appears on the 1880 census of White Oak as a 76-year-old retired farmer from Baden in the household of his son Samuel. They are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock. Their children include:

1) Christian King was born in Baden Dec. 15, 1830, and died at Hitchcock, Nebraska July 3, 1909. On April 12, 1855 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Salzman; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Blâmont, Meurthe-et-Moselle Nov. 11, 1827, and died at Hitchcock in 1894, a daughter of André Salzman and Anna Hodler. They lived at Dry Grove, White Oak, Flanagan, and Waldo before resettling in Nebraska. They are found on the 1880 census of Waldo as Christian King, 48, Baden; Barbara, 52, France; and five children born in Illinois; they were next door to brother John King. They are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Hitchcock.

2) John King was born in Baden May 5, 1832, and died at Chenoa, McLean County May 11, 1898. On Oct. 22, 1854 in McLean County he married Lydia Troyer. She was born at Washington, Licking County, Ohio Sept. 8, 1834, and died Aug. 4, 1908, a daughter of Jonas Troyer and Elizabeth Miller. They are found on the 1880 census of Waldo as John King, 45, Baden; Lidie, 42, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; seven children born in Illinois; and nephew Emanual Salzman, 14, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio. *Herald of Truth*, June 1898: "On the 11th of May, 1898, in Chenoa, McLean Co., Ill., of heart disease, John King, aged 66 years and 6 days. He leaves a widow, one son and six daughters to mourn his death. He was born in Baden, Germany, came with his parents to America in 1835 and settled in Ohio; later he moved to McLean Co., Ill. He united with the Mennonite Church in

his youth, and was a faithful member. He was married to Lydia Troyer in 1854. In 1864 they moved to Livingston Co., where they acquired a beautiful home. In 1892 they moved to Chenoa to spend the evening of their lives. He leaves also six brothers and one sister. Buried in the Waldo cemetery. Funeral services by Valentine Strubhar, A. Vercler and Peter Schantz."

3) Jacob King was born in Baden in September 1833. On Dec. 7, 1858 in McLean County he married Anna Nanette Neuhauser. She was born at St. Quirin, Moselle April 20, 1841, a daughter of Jean/John Neuhauser and Magdalena/Madeleine Salzman. The 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows them as farmer Jacob King, 45, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Anna, 38, born in France to French parents; and six children born in Illinois. They are also found on the 1900 census of Rooks Creek, Livingston County.
4) Presumably the six-month old Michel on the voyage of the *Salem* died young.
5) Daniel King was born April 22, 1836 (headstone date), and died Feb. 15, 1918. On Nov. 27, 1859 in McLean County he married Mary Hodler. She was born at Lemon, Butler County, Ohio Dec. 5, 1840, and died Sept. 29, 1906, a daughter of Joseph Hodler and Barbara/Barbe Schertz. She was one of three Hodler sisters who married Kings in this family. They are found on the 1880 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as farmer Daniel King, 45, born in Ohio to parents from Württemberg; Mary, 39, born in Ohio to parents from Prussia; and three children born in Illinois to parents from Ohio. *The History of McLean County, Illinois*: "Daniel R. King, farmer and stock-raiser; was born in Butler County, Ohio April 15, 1837; came to this state with his father's family, and settled in McLean Co. in 1847. He is the son of Mr. Christopher King of Dry Grove. Mr. King was married in this state in 1860 to Miss Mary Hodler, who was born in Butler County, Ohio Dec. 5, 1840. They have three children, viz. Joseph, Lydia A., and Christopher. The farm of Mr. King consists of 160 acres, valued at $11,000." (Note that the birth date stated in the history conflicts with the birth date of his younger brother Peter). They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
6) Peter King was born Feb. 6, 1838, and died at Danvers Oct. 28, 1905. On Feb. 7, 1860 in McLean County he married Barbara Hodler. She was born at Lemon, Butler County, Ohio Feb. 8, 1838, and died June 12, 1905, a daughter of Joseph Hodler and Barbara/Barbe Schertz. They are found on the 1880 census of Dry Grove as Peter King, 42, born in Ohio to parents from Württemberg; Barbara, 42, born in Ohio to parents from Prussia; and six children born in Illinois; and farmhand Jacob Rediger, 19, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
7) Joseph King was born Oct. 14, 1844, and died May 3, 1923. On Jan. 30, 1868 in McLean County he married Anna Hodler. She was born at Lemon Dec. 13, 1843, and died Dec. 10, 1922, a daughter of Joseph Hodler and Barbara/Barbe Schertz. They are found on the 1880 census of White Oak, McLean County as farmer Joseph King, 35, born in Illinois; Anna, 37, born in Ohio to parents from France and Baden; three children born in Illinois; and servant Lydia Hodler, 25, born in Ohio to parents from France and Baden. They are buried in Troyer Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.
8) Barbara King was born June 8, 1847, and died Feb. 26, 1939. On Nov. 4, 1866 she married David S. Ropp, a son of Christian Ropp and Magdalena Schertz. He was born at Carlock Nov. 14, 1840, and died Jan. 22, 1904. They farmed at White Oak, then nearer to Carlock. They had eight children. David was given 160 acres at marriage, and owned almost 2,000 by 1904. They are buried in the North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
9) Samuel King was born Sept. 22, 1851, and died July 27, 1921. On Dec. 31, 1872 in McLean County he married Mary Schad (also found as Shad, Shade, and Short). She was born Sept. 10, 1842, and died Jan. 19, 1916, a daughter of Peter Schad and Verena König/King. They are found on the 1880 census of White Oak, McLean County as Samuel King, 25, born in Illinois to parents from Baden; Mary, 37, born in Ohio to parents from France; Aaron, 6, born in Illinois; retired farmer Christian King, 76, Baden; and farm laborer David T. Kenagy, 18, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania and Ohio. They are buried in Troyer Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

d. Michael König/King was born May 6, 1806 (headstone date), and died at Montgomery, Woodford County May 8, 1872 (headstone date). His wife Elizabeth Barnett was born circa Dec. 13, 1810 (her funeral card calls her Elisabeth König and gives 82 years, 5 months, 25 days), Nov. 13, 1810 (her obituary says 82 years, 6 months, and 25 days), or July 11, 1810 (headstone date), and died at Deer Creek June 8, 1893, a daughter of Johannes Barnett and Katharina Güngerich. They departed from Le Havre on the ship *Troy* and arrived at New York City Nov. 10, 1836. A portion of the passenger list is given at the end of this section. Michael and Elizabeth settled at Liberty, Butler County. Their household appears under 'Michael Konig' on the 1840 census as one male 70-79 years of age [Johannes Barnett]; one male 30-39 [Michael König]; one male 10-14; one female 20-29 [Elizabeth Barnett]; one female 10-14; and

one female under 5 [Elizabeth King]. They resettled in McLean County no later than 1845. Michael King appears on the 1850 census Dry Grove, McLean County next door to his cousin Christian King, who had also come from Butler County: farmer Michael King, 44, Germany; Elizabeth, 39, Germany; Elizabeth, 11, Ohio; Christian, 10, Ohio; Sophronia, 8, Ohio; Melinda, 5, Illinois; and Joseph, 3, Illinois. In 1860 they were living at Montgomery, Woodford County: farmer Michael King, 54, Baden; Elizabeth, 50, Baden; farm laborer Christian, 20, Ohio; Frana, 18, Ohio; Magdalena, 15, Ohio; Joseph, 13, Ohio; Barbara, 10, Illinois; John, 9, Illinois; and Catherine, 6, Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, June 1872: "On the 9th of May, in Woodford Co., Ill., Michael King, aged 66 yrs. Buried on the 11th in the presence of many relatives and friends. Services by Jacob Zehr, Christian Risser, and Joseph Stuckey." A plat map of Montgomery created in 1873 shows the property of 'King Mrs.' at the center top of Section 18. *Herald of Truth*, October 1893: "On the 8th of June 1893, in Deer Creek Twp., Tazewell Co., Ill., of general debility, sister Elizabeth Koenig, aged 82 years, 6 months and 25 days. She was a faithful, devoted Christian and was held in great esteem by all. Her trials in life were many, but she was unwavering in her trust in God. Her husband, Michael Koenig, died 21 years ago. She leaves 8 children, 53 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. Buried on the 10th. Funeral services by Chr. Risser, D. Roth, M. Kinsinger, and John Schmitt." They are buried in Zion Cemetery at Montgomery. The children of Michael King and Elizabeth Barnett include:

1) Presumably 6-month-old Johann on the 1836 immigration voyage was a son who died young. He does not appear on the 1840 census, and a later son is named John.
2) Elizabeth King was born at Liberty, Butler County, Ohio in 1839, and died in 1897. Circa 1858 at Gridley, Livingston County she married Joseph E. Rich. He was born at Florimont, Franche-Comté, France March 16, 1837, and died in 1935, a son of Chrétien Rich and Anne Marie Hirschy. They are found on the 1880 census of Gridley as farmer Joseph Rich, 43, born in France to parents from Switzerland and France; Elizabeth, 41, born in Ohio to French parents; and 10 children born in Illinois.
3) Christian King was born at Liberty Oct. 13, 1840, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 23, 1924. On Nov. 7, 1867 in Woodford County he married Phoebe Zehr. She was born in Woodford County Feb. 11, 1849, and died April 16, 1897, a daughter of Christian Zehr and his second wife Marie/Mary Oyer. They are buried in Stumbaugh Cemetery at Montgomery, Woodford County. They are hown on the 1870 census of Deer Creek as farmer Christian King, 30, Ohio; Phoeby, 23, Illinois; Christian, 1, Illinois; and Mary, 8 months, Illinois. Christian is shown on the 1900 census of Deer Creek as a 59-year-old widower with three children born in Illinois. In 1901 he remarried to Katharina 'Katie' Kinsinger. She was born at Elm Grove Dec. 27, 1862, and died at Deer Creek Oct. 7, 1903, a daughter of Johannes/John Kinzinger and Barbara Wagler. She was the widow of Christian Oesch. In 1904 he married a third time to widow Lydia Rich. She was born at Washington May 1, 1856, and died at Eureka Dec. 9, 1934, a daughter of Joseph Rich and his first wife Catherine Rich, and the widow of Peter R. Lehman. She is buried in Glendale Cemetery with her first husband. *Gospel Herald*, February 1925: "Christian King was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Oct. 13, 1840; died at his home in Deer Creek, Ill., Nov. 23, 1924; aged 84 y. 1 m. 10 d. He was married to Phoebe Zehr Nov. 7, 1867. To this union were born 9 children (Mrs. Mary Heiser, Joseph, Jacob, Samuel, John, Mrs. Elizabeth Heiser, Mrs. Phoebe Heiser). Two sons (Christian and Andrew) preceded him in death. On April 16, 1897, his wife was called to the great beyond. Later, in 1901, he was married to Mrs. Kate Oesch, who was called by death in 1903. In the year 1904 he was again married to Mrs. Lydia Lehman, who with seven children, 21 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, one brother (John King), one sister (Barbara), also a host of relatives and friends are left to mourn his departure. The deceased united with the Mennonite Church in his youth and was ordained to the ministry in 1899 at the Goodfield congregation, where he remained a faithful worker in the Lord's vineyard until death called him to his reward. The funeral services were held from the M. E. Church at Deer Creek, Bro. Samuel Gerber of Tremont, and Bro. J. A. Heiser of Fisher, Ill., officiating." *Gospel Herald*, December 1934: "Lydia, daughter of Joseph and Catherine Rich, was born near Washington, Ill., May 1, 1856; died at the home of her son, Edward Lehman, near Eureka, Ill., Dec. 9, 1934; aged 78 y. 7 m. 8 d. In February, 1883, she was married to Peter R. Lehman of Flanagan, Ill. To this union were born two children (Emma Lydia, wife of Jacob King, and Edward Peter). Five years after the death of her husband (Peter R. Lehman) she was united in marriage to Christian King, a minister in the Goodfield Mennonite Church, who died Nov. 23, 1924. In February, 1931, she became an invalid, being bedfast till her death. She leaves one son and one daughter (Edward Lehman and Mrs. Jacob King) both of whom reside near Eureka; also 11 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, two brothers (Daniel Rich of Deer Creek and Christian Rich of Meadows, Ill.). She was a faithful member and a helper of the Mennonite Church from youth; in which faith she died, being a member of the Goodfield

Mennonite Church. Funeral services were held at the home of her son, Edward Lehman, conducted by Harold Oyer of Goodfield and at the Washington Lutheran Church conducted by Ezra Yordy, assisted by Ira Powell."

4) Sophronia/Frana/Fanny King was born at Liberty, Ohio Aug. 17, 1842, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County in May 1872. On Feb. 9, 1865 she married Joseph Ulrich. He was born Dec. 16, 1838, and died Jan. 7, 1927, a son of Peter Ulrich and Anna Oyer. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.

5) Magdalena 'Melinda' or 'Martha' King was born in Dry Grove, McLean County May 12, 1845, and died at Shelbeyville, Ill. Dec. 17, 1915. On July 22, 1866 she married Peter P. Ulrich. He was born in Tazewell County March 24, 1840, and died at Shelbyville, Shelby County Sept. 6, 1928, a son of Peter Ulrich and Anna Oyer. They are found on the 1870 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer Peter Ulrich, 30, Illinois; Martha, 25, Illinois; and five children born in Illinois.

6) Joseph King was born at Dry Grove May 27, 1847, and died at Barlow, Oregon May 30, 1917. On Feb. 8, 1871 in Woodford County he married Catherine Wagler, in a ceremony performed by elder Joseph Stuckey. She was born in the pine cone mill [Ger. *Tannenzapfen Mühle*] at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace Oct. 17, 1842, and died at Barlow, Oregon May 8, 1921, a daughter of Jean Wagler and Sophie Valentin. There are two coincidences involved: 1) this was the same location where elder Joseph Goldsmith/Goldschmidt was born to parents Conrad Goldschmidt and Catherine König; and 2) Joseph Wagler, a younger brother to Catherine Wagler, married Eva King, a daughter of Samuel King of Elm Grove. Joseph and Catherine are found on the 1880 census of Precinct K, Seward County, Nebraska (now the town of Goehner) as farmer Joseph King, 32, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; Catherine, 37, born in France to French parents; Joseph, 8, born in Illinois; John, 3, born in Kansas; and Elizabeth, 9, born in Kansas. They appear on the 1910 census of Barlow as Joseph B. King, 62, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; Catherine, 67, born in France to French parents; and son laborer Joseph J. King, 36, born in Illinois to a father from Illinois and a mother from France. *Gospel Herald*, June 1917: "Joseph B. King was born near Denver [Danvers], Ill., May 27, 1847; died near Barlow, Oreg., May 30, 1917; aged 70 y. 3 d. Bro. King united with the Mennonite Church in 1861 and was a faithful member until death. He united in marriage to Catharine Wagler Feb. 8, 1871. To this union were born three sons and three daughters. One daughter died in infancy. He leaves to mourn his departure, wife, three sons, two daughters, 10 grandchildren. Deceased died of heart trouble, was sick only 24 hours. His remains were held over till June 3 on account of distant relatives. Services were held in Barlow in the forenoon by Bro. J. K. Lehman. From there the remains were taken to Hopewell Church near Hubbard, where services were held in the afternoon by Bros. Wm. Bond, Daniel Shenk, and J. D. Mishler." *Gospel Herald*, May 1921: "Catharine King, nee Wagler, was born in Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, Oct. 18, 1842; died at Aurora, Oreg., May 8, 1921; aged 78 y. 6 m. 20 d. She came to Ontario, Canada, when she was 12 years old, and after she had grown to womanhood Hopewell Church until death, her husband having preceded her a few years ago. She is survived by all of her children, three sons and two daughters, and 13 grandchildren. Services were conducted in the Presbyterian Church of Aurora by S. G. Shetler and J. D. Mishler and later at the Hopewell Church by S. G. Shetler, C. R. Gerig, and J. D. Mishler. Interment in the cemetery near the latter church."

7) Barbara King was born at Dry Grove circa 1850, and died at Dayton, Washington March 24, 1929. She married Jean/John Wagler, also known as John Waugler. He was born in the pine cone mill [Ger. *Tannenzapfen Mühle*] at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace Jan. 6, 1840, and died at Dayton, Washington Sept. 9, 1910, a son of Jean Wagler and Sophie Valentin. His headstone says he served during the Civil War with Company G, 86th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry.[156] They were recruited from Tazewell County and mustered into service at Camp Lyon, Peoria Aug. 27, 1862. They engaged in a number of battles including Chickamauga, and pursued Confederate General Braxton Bragg as far as Ringgold, Georgia. They later joined Sherman's March to the Sea. They were discharged at Chicago June 21, 1865, and returned to Peoria on the 23rd. Following the Civil War, veterans were allowed generous homesteading privileges, encouraging them to settle in the upper central states. John and Barbara appear on the 1880 census of Precinct K, Seward County, Nebraska as farmer John Waugler, 40, born in France to French parents; Barbara, 28, born in Illinois to German parents; Samuel, 5, Illinois; Sophia, 2, Illinois; and Elizabeth, 11 months, Illinois.

[156] We did not find him on the roster of that company or in any index of Civil War soldiers. He may be the 'John Walker' who served as a private from Aug. 27, 1862 to June 6, 1865. Or he may have served in a non-combatant support role.

They were next door to Barbara's older brother Joseph King and John's sister Catherine Wagler. John and Barbara are buried in Dayton Cemetery.

8) John King was born in Illinois (likely Dry Grove or Montgomery) circa 1851. He was still living in 1924 according to the obituary of older brother Christian.

9) Catherine King was born at Peoria, Peoria County May 18, 1854, and died at Corvallis, Oregon July 17, 1920. On Dec. 24, 1872 at Mackinaw Dells, Woodford County she married Jacob Nussbaum, in a ceremony performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Jacob was born at Moutier or Perrefitte, Canton Bern Oct. 24, 1849, and died at Corvallis Feb. 22, 1924, a son of Peter Nussbaumer and Barbara Steiner.[157]

e. Jakobina König was born Nov. 30, 1808, and died at Collinsville, Butler County Dec. 11, 1864. She immigrated on the *Salem* with her mother and two brothers in 1835. The passenger list shows her as 'Koening, Jacobine, 28, farmer, France.' On Jan. 23, 1838 in Butler County she married Peter Sloneker (for background on the Schlunegger/Sloniker family see RAMSEYER). The ceremony was performed by minister Peter Naffziger; a civil entry was created April 12, 1838. Peter was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds June 4, 1804, and died at Wayland, Iowa Nov. 4, 1891. They lived on 101 acres. They are found on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County as farmer Peter Schlonaker, 46, Germany; Jacobena, 42, Germany; and eight children born in Ohio. Two of their sons lived in Danvers. Jacob Sloneker was born July 3, 1846, and died Jan. 2, 1928. On March 7, 1878 in McLean County he married Rosina Maurer. Joseph P. Slonaker was born June 19, 1852, and died June 21, 1895.[158] On Feb. 27, 1877 in McLean County he married Mary B. Miller. Jacob and Joseph are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.

4. Johannes/Hans König was born circa 1768, and died on the Mundenhof at Umkirch, Baden Dec. 18, 1804.[159] Circa 1789 he married Barbara Roth (1769-1821) of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Johannes may have been the Johannes König of Nimburg who paid a 12½-florin protection fee as a tenant on the farm of senior sheriff Stük in the Hochburg district 1796/97. A note on the record says he had left that farm and gone to Austrian territory.
On July 9, 1805 at Umkirch Barbara remarried to Jacob Sommer (1765-1838). He came from the Sommer family in the Ban de la Roche area. They renewed the lease on the Mundenhof. Children of Johannes/Hans König and Barbara Roth include:

a. Barbara König was born at Nimburg circa 1790, and died at Umkirch March 22, 1858. On May 6, 1809 on the Mundenhof at Umkirch she married Jacob Zimmerman. Jacob was born at Müllheim, Baden circa 1784, and died on the Mundenhof Jan. 17, 1854. He worked as a farmhand for Barbara's parents (suggesting he was a relative of stepfather Jacob Sommer). After the marriage they leased a farm at Munzingen, but later returned to lease the Mundenhof.

b. Anna König. On Dec. 14, 1817 at Umkirch she married laborer Johannes von Gunde.[160] He was born in 1791, and died circa 1858, a son of Ulrich von Gonde and Elisabetha Neuhauser of La Broque, Salm. According to Umkirch church records, the wedding ceremony was performed by Benedict König. Witnesses were Jacob Zimmerman, leaseholder at Munzingen, and Nikolaus Roth, leaseholder at Mengen. The groom Johannes worked as a laborer for stepfather-in-law Jacob Sommer at Dachswangen, Umkirch. He is found as witness 'Johannes von Condé' on the civil birth entry for Nikolaus Roth's daughter Anna at Mengen in 1821. Anna König died during childbirth in 1821. As a widower Johannes sailed from Le Havre on the *Asia* with four children and arrived at New York May 26, 1834. The passenger list holds Jean Gundee, 43; Barbe, 14; Anne [Anna], 12; Jean, 7; and Joseph, 3. Other passenger surnames included 'Reidiger,' Eyer, Gautschi, Goldschmidt, Griesser, and Zimmerman. A fictionalized account of the voyage from the viewpoint of daughter Barbe is given in Chapter Three of Jeff Gundy's *A Community of Memory*. Johannes von Gunde was known as John Gundy in America. The family went first to what is now Marshallville in the northeast corner of Wayne County, Ohio. His

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[157] Peter Nussbaumer and Barbara Steiner came from Lüterkofen, Canton Solothurn, and arrived in Adams County, Indiana in October 1852.

[158] *Herald of Truth*, July 1895: "On the 21st of June 1895, of consumption, Joseph Slonaker, aged 43 years, 2 days. He leaves his wife and children to mourn, yet not as those who mourn without hope. He was born in Butler Co., Ohio, united with the Mennonite church in Davis Co., Iowa in 1875, united in matrimony in 1877 at Danvers, Ill., with sister Mary Miller. They lived in McLean Co., Ill., since then. The remains were laid to rest on the 23d in the North Danvers grave yard. Funeral services by Joseph King and Joseph Stuckey."

[159] The Mundenhof belonged to the monastery Gunderstal until 1806, when it was sold to the University of Freiburg. Since 1968 it has been known for its animal park *Kleinzoo* and hiking trails. It was part of the district of Umkirch until 1977. On Jan. 1, 1978 its administration was assumed by the city of Freiburg im Breisgau.

Dachswangen was a ruined castle, then a description of the grounds around the site, then the name of a village within Umkirch. In 1924 it was absorbed into Umkirch.

[160] The surname originated from 'von Gunten' - from the village of Gunten on Lake Thun, Canton Bern. It has also been found as von Gond, Condé, and Conti. Hans Fangott appears on the list of Anabaptists in the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1697; Hans von Gunten in 1703 and 1704; and Hans van Gonl in 1708. Another footnote on this family can be found in MÜLLER/MILLER.

youngest son Joseph died at Providence, Wood County while they were traveling to what is now German. The Gundys were one of the first five families to settle at German (others Binder, Lauber, Kibler, and Meister). Nicholas King [Jr.] accompanied these families while they set up their homesteads, then returned to Wayne County until 1837. The Gundys resettled at Wayne, Butler County before the 1840 census (found as 'John Gundy'). John remarried to Mary Schwarzentruber Bircklebaw at Trenton Aug. 20, 1843. In 1851 they resettled in Lee County, Iowa. As a widow Mary later resettled in McLean County with some of her children. Her son John von Gunden remained in Iowa and became a prominent minister.

c. Joseph König was born on the Mundenhof at Umkirch circa 1796, and died there June 11, 1804.

d. Johannes König/John King was born on the Mundenhof at Umkirch Feb. 23, 1800, and died in Fulton County, Ohio in February 1864. Circa 1825 he married Magdalena Rupp. She was born Nov. 12, 1803, and died in Fulton County June 12, 1898, a daughter of Johannes Rupp and Magdalena Wagler of Orschweier, Baden. Orschweier is located approximately 11 miles north of the communities that were associated with the Hochburg congregation. They departed from Le Havre on the ship *Troy* and arrived at New York City Nov. 10, 1836. They were accompanied by Peter Rupp (1805-1869), Magdalena's younger brother. He later married Barbara Goldsmith (1812-1883). The John King and Peter Rupp families settled at German, Fulton County, Ohio, and are buried in Eckley Mennonite Cemetery between Burlington and Pettisville. They are found on the 1850 census of Fulton County as John King, 50, Germany; Magdalena, 47, Germany; Christian, 22, Switzerland; Elizabeth, 20, Switzerland; Ann, 18, Switzerland; Daniel, 12, Ohio; Joseph, 9, Ohio; and Barbara, 7, Ohio.

e. Magdalena König was born on the Mundenhof at Umkirch March 28, 1802, and died in Allen County, Indiana in 1875. On April 11, 1824 at Munzingen she married Jakob/Jacob Rupp of Orschweier, Baden. Witnesses were Christian Rupp of Pulversheim and Magdalena's cousin Christian König of the Rothaus at Oberrimsingen. Jakob/Jacob was born at Orschweier circa 1801, and died in Allen County in 1875, a son of Johannes Rupp and Magdalena Wagler. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Poland*, and arrived at New York April 14, 1840. The passenger list has Christ Rupp, 28, Switzerland; Elisa, 24; Jacques, 49; Magd., 38; Christian, 12; Barbe, 11; Verena, 8; Jacob, 6; and Magd., 4. They settled that year at German, Fulton County. Coincidentally the grouping immediately before them on the passenger list has John Richer, who later married Magdalena Nafziger and settled at German, Fulton County. They are found on the 1850 census of German Township next door to John King and Magdalena Rupp: farmer Jacob Rupp, 49, Germany; Magdalena, 48, Germany; with four children born in Germany and three born in Ohio.

f. Elisabetha König was born on the Mundenhof at Umkirch March 25, 1804, and died at Dachswangen, Umkirch July 27, 1820.

5. Elisabetha König was born in 1769, and died at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace (just west of Basel) Dec. 13, 1833. In 1789 she married Christian Zimmerman. He was born on the Hochburg estate at Sexau circa 1768, and died at Bourgfelden Nov. 8, 1805, a son of minister/elder Jacob Zimmerman and Barbara Schneider. See ZIMMERMAN for background on their family.

6. Anna Maria König was born circa 1772, and died before 1822. She married her cousin (once rmoved) Jacob Zimmerman. He was born circa 1760, a son of Johannes Zimmerman and Anna Müller. They became co-leaseholders on the Baldenwegerhof above Zarten (15 miles south of Sexau) with her brother Christian König. See ZIMMERMAN for background on their descendants.

7. Jakob König was born circa 1773, and died before 1835. In 1809 he, his younger brother Nikolaus, brother-in-law Jakob Güngerich, and Christian Müller made a 10-year lease agreement with a noble Bavarian family named Fugger for a castle estate and brewery between Wellenburg and Bergheim, west of Augsburg. Only Güngerich stayed for the duration of the lease. Jakob König later worked as a dairyman on the Steckenhof at Denzlingen with his brother Benedict.[161]

8. Benedict 'Benz' König was born circa 1774, and died in Fulton County, Ohio circa 1856. On June 2, 1795 on the Obernimburg estate he married Maria Magdalena Reűtiger. She was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim circa 1778, and died at Willmendingen, Baden Aug. 25, 1826, a daughter of Sebastian Reűtiger and his second wife Anna Lederach. Benedict renewed his family's lease on the Obernimburg estate after the death of his father, and later leased the Steckenhof estate at Denzlingen with his brother Jacob. In 1805 he replaced Jacob Zimmerman as elder of the Hochburg congregation. Benedict emigrated circa 1832 at the approximate age of 61. In 1840 he was living with his son Christian at Milford, Butler County, Ohio, where he served as a minister for the Collinsville congregation. He and his nephew Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith acted as neutral arbiters at the meeting in Joseph's Trenton home on May 8, 1835, resulting in the amicable division of Butler County Amish Mennonites into 'hook and eye' and 'button' congregations. Grubb's *Amish Mennonites in Butler County, Ohio*: "Benedict King, an ordained minister, came with his children, he being a widower, to Butler County from Basel, Germany [Switzerland], prior to

[161]Anabaptists were permitted onto the Steckenhof as weavers as early as 1716. When the von Birkensee family assumed ownership in the 1740s, they accepted Anabaptists as permanent residents. Elder Jakob Rupp of the Hochburg congregation became a leaseholder in 1757.

1835. About the year 1840 he moved to Fulton County, where he died, age 85 years.... In the year 1838 King ordained Goldsmith in the office of bishop [elder], and in 1847 Goldsmith moved to Iowa. A short time before, King moved to Fulton County, where he died." We could not identify Benedict King on the 1850 census of Fulton County. Children of Benedict König and Maria Magdalena Reŭtiger include:

a. Magdalena König was born circa 1796, and died before 1809.

b. Christian König was born on the Obernimburg estate June 2, 1797, and died at Milford, Butler County before 1850. He married Elizabeth Eyer of Remchingen and leased the Rothaus [Red House] estate at Oberrimsingen on the Rhine, 12 miles west of Freiburg im Breisgau and six miles from Breisach.[162] His household is found on the 1840 census of Milford, Butler County, next door to cousin Christian Zimmerman. The tally shows one male in the 60-69 year age range; one male in the 40-49 year age ange; two males 15-19; one male under 5; one female 40-49; two females 10-14; and one female 5-9. he 1850 census of the same location shows only Elizabeth Ire [Eyer], 50 Germany; and Mary Konig, 9, Ohio. Elizabeth is also found on the 1880 census of German Township, Fulton County, Ohio.

c. Jacobea König was born on the Obernimburg estate Sept. 30, 1798, and died at Willmandingen Dec. 16, 1853. In 1815 she married Hochburg congregation minister Benedikt Roth. He was born at Pulversheim (now in Upper Alsace) in 1785, and died at Salem near Lake Constance in 1848. In 1818 they leased a farm at Willmandingen, where he became the elder. [163]

d. Jacob/Jacques König was born on the Obernimburg estate Aug. 30, 1805. On May 6, 1833 at Huningue, Upper Alsace (on the Rhine River just above Basel) he married Catherine Freyenberg. She was born at St. Jakob an der Birs (now part of Basel) Jan. 10, 1810, and was living at Arlesheim (five miles southeast of Basel), a daughter of Isaac Freyenberg and Barbe Tschanz. They farmed on the Schiffmühle at Huningue. Catherine died at Blotzheim, Upper Alsace Oct. 7, 1846. On Sept. 15, 1847 at Blotzheim Jacob/Jacques remarried to Anna Schmuckli. She was born at Münchenstein, a district in the city of Basel Feb. 27, 1819.

e. Benedikt König was born on the Steckenhof at Denzlingen March 31, 1808. He may be the Benedict King, 43, found on the 1850 census of German Township, Fulton County as a farm laborer in the household of his cousin Nicholas King [Jr.] and Elizabeth Schrag.

f. Magdalena König was born on the Steckenhof May 12, 1809.

g. Barbara König was born on the Steckenhof Dec. 31, 1810 (headstone date Jan. 1, 1811), and died at Hudson, McLean County March 5, 1895. On March 12, 1836 at Bettendorf, Upper Alsace she married Christian Kauffman/Kaufman. He was born at Hallen (on the outskirts of the city of Bern) Nov. 25, 1814, and died at Hudson April 11, 1900. Dominique Dreyer's *Emigrants Haut-Rhinois en Amérique 1800-1870* states that 32-year-old day laborer Christian Kauffman applied for a passport for himself, his wife, and seven children at Colmar Oct. 1, 1846. He came from Hallen and Blotzheim, Upper Alsace, and gave his intended destination as 'Lotterautz.' Their household appears on the 1880 census of Hudson as C. Caufmon, 67, born in Switzerland to parents from Switzerland and France; Barbry, 70, born in Baden to parents from Baden; Benjamin, 36, born in Ohio to parents from France and Baden; John, 31, born in Ohio to parents from France and Baden; Samuel, 27, born in Ohio to parents from France and Baden; and farm laborer Peter Yordy, 22, born in Ohio to parents from Germany.[164] They lived a few homes away from their nephew Jacob Schad, a son of Peter Schad and Verena König/King. They are buried in Kaufman Cemetery at Hudson.

h. Verena König/King was born on the Steckenhof Nov. 21, 1813, and died in McLean County March 5, 1879 (headstone date). She is buried in Kaufman Cemetery at Hudson as "Verona King, wife of Peter Schad." Circa 1838 she married Peter Schad at Wauseon, Fulton County. He was born circa 1808, and died in Fulton County July 16, 1860. They were living next door to her cousin Nicholas King when information was taken for the 1850 census of Franklin, Fulton County, Ohio: Peter Shad, 42, France; Verena, 34, Germany; Joseph, 12; Elizabeth, 11; John, 10; Christian, 9; Mary, 8; Jacob, 6; Peter, 4; and Benedict, (all children born in Ohio). *Herald of Truth*, April 1879: "March 6th, in McLean Co., Ill., of lung fever, widow Shade, maiden name King, aged 65 years, three months, and several days. She was a kind mother, and a faithful sister of the Mennonite Church. Her remains were consigned to mother earth, the 7th, in Chr. Kauffman's burying-ground, in the presence of a large concourse of relatives and friends. The funeral services were conducted by Joseph Stuckey, from *Philp. 1:21*."

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[162] The Rothaus was an estate that existed as early as 1472. Christian König made his lease agreement with a von Falkenstein family that owned the property until the 1870s. It was acquired by the government in 1931. Any relics of the old estate were destroyed in a fire in 1954. It is still an active farm. Oberrimsingen is now an administrative district of the city of Breisach.

[163] Willmendingen was in Waldshut *kreis*/district/county on the border with Switzerland, surrounded by the towns of Schwerzen, Geisslingen, and Rechberg.

[164] Gary Yordy identifies him as a son of Pierre Jean Jordy and Marie Anne Eyer from Windstein, Lower Alsace and then Bavaria. After the death of his father, the family sailed from Bremen on the *Hansa* and arrived at New York May 8, 1872. Peter Yordy may have met the Kaufmans through his family's next-door neighbor at Olio, Woodford County, Peter Ulrich.

i. Maria König was born on the Steckenhof April 9, 1815.

j. Elisabetha König/Elizabeth King was born on the Steckenhof Sept. 13, 1816, and died at Collinsville, Butler County in 1855. On Jan. 22, 1838 in Butler County she married Jacob Sloneker, a son of Johannes Sloneker and Veronica 'Fanny' Lichty. The ceremony was performed by minister Peter Naffziger; a civil entry was created April 12, 1838. Jacob was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds May 2 or 22, 1813, and died at Seven Mile, Butler County May 11, 1880. Their 250-acre farm on Harris Road covered Sections 15, 16, and 21 of Milford. They had 11 children. On March 24, 1861 at Collinsville Jacob remarried to Lydia Schindler; the ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Lydia was born at Neuchâtel, Canton Neuchâtel Jan. 17, 1832, and died at Seven Mile, Butler County Dec. 17, 1917. They had five children.

9. Nikolaus König was born circa 1778, and died at Huningue, Upper Alsace (above Basel) April 25, 1831. In 1798 he married Maria Güngerich. She was born at Steinseltz (in what later became Lower Alsace) in 1781, a daughter of Christian Güngerich and Anna Holly. Their children include:

a. Christian König/King was born at Kirchzarten (six miles southeast of Freiburg im Breisgau) in 1803.

b. Barbara König/King 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. Circa 1840 she married Jean/John Sommer. He was born (likely at Natzwiller) circa 1787, a son of Johannes/Jean Sommer and Barbe Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ. On Feb. 3, 1850 in Butler County she remarried to Joseph Augspurger. He was born 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. His first wife had been Elizabeth Schlabach, who had died in Butler County July 11, 1848. They 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.

c. Johannes König/John King was born at Münchenroth in 1808. Circa 1838 he married Magdalena 'Lena' Salzman, according to Grubb's *Amish Mennonites in Butler County, Ohio*. She was born circa 1811, a daughter of Michael Salzman and his first wife Catherine Hirschi. They are shown on the 1850 census of Milford with three children.

d. Jakob König/Jacob King was born at Bergheim (four miles southwest of Augsburg, Germany) May 18, 1811, and died at Smithville, Wayne County Jan. 4, 1891. Circa 1836 he married Rebecca Zook. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania circa 1816, and died in Wayne County, Ohio in 1882, a daughter of John Zook and Catherine Weidman. They are found on the 1880 census of Green, Wayne County, Ohio as farmer Jacob King, 69, Baden; Rebecca, 63, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; David, 21, Ohio; and servant Ruey Cocklin, 20, Ohio. *Herald of Truth*, February 1891: "On the 4th of Jan., in Wayne Co., Ohio, of heart disease, Jacob King, aged 79 years, 7 months and 16 days. He was born May 18th, 1811, in Freiburg, Baden, Germany, emigrated to Wayne Co., Ohio, in 1832, and married Rebecca Zook, in 1835, with whom he lived to the time of her death in 1882. He was the father of nine children, eight of whom survive him, 41 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Bro. King was a deacon in the Amish Mennonite church for many years. He was buried on the 6th at the Oak Grove church. Services by D. Z. Yoder and Reuben Shroyer, from *2 Tim. 4: 7, 8*."

e. Nikolaus König/Nicholas King was born at Bergheim March 8, 1814, and died at Pettisville, Fulton County Dec. 6, 1896 (his headstone gives the age 82y 8m 28d). In Wayne County, Ohio in 1834 he married Elizabeth Schrag/Schrock. She was born at Basel, Switzerland Feb. 29, 1805, and died in Fulton County March 1, 1898 (her headstone gives the age 92y 4m 2d). They are buried in Eckley Mennonite Cemetery. *The History of FultonCounty, Ohio* describes Nicholas King as one of the original settlers of German in August 1834 "who afterwards returned to Wayne County, Ohio, on account of an accident that befell him, but he soon came back." The year of his return was likely 1837. The 1840 census of German, Lucas County (later Fulton County) shows his household as one male 70-79 years of age; one male 20-29; one male under 5; one female 30-39; and two females under 5.[165] He was ordained as a minister in 1844 and chosen as elder of the German Township Amish Mennonite Church in 1871. They are found on the 1850 census of Fulton County as Nicholas, 34, Germany; Elisabeth, 43, Germany; six children born in Ohio; and farm laborer Benedict King, 43. They also appear on the 1880 census of German. *Herald of Truth*, February 1897: "On the 6th of December, 1896, near Pettisville, Fulton Co., Ohio, Bro. Nicholas Koenig, aged 82 years, 8 months, 28 days. He was born on the 8th of March, 1814 in Switzerland; came to America in 1832, settling in Wayne Co., Ohio. He was married in 1834. Of his six children, five survive him with their aged mother who for years has been a hapless invalid. There are also 50 grandchildren and 47 great-grandchildren to mourn their loss. The burial on the 9th in the Amish cemetery was very largely attended. Funeral services by D. Wyse, Chr. Freyenberger and Chr. Stucky.

[165] German was organized as a township in 1840. Fulton County was created in 1850 from parts of Lucas, Henry, and Williams Counties.

After his marriage in Wayne Co., Bro. Koenig moved to Fulton Co. in 1837 when the country was yet a wilderness, and has lived here for about 59 years. In 1844 he was called to the ministry, and in 1871 he was ordained bishop [elder]. Up to within the last few years, since which his age told seriously on his strength, he was an earnest, faithful laborer in his responsible calling, and when he was no longer able, on account of his own infirmities and the sickness of his companion, he made timely provision for a successor. Peace to his ashes."

f. Magdalena König was born on the Obernimburg estate Feb. 2 or 17, 1816, and died in Whitman County, Miller and son-in-law John S. Unzicker are also buried there). On March 18, 1834 in Wayne County, Washington Aug. 21, 1894; she is buried in Moys Cemetery at Almota, Washington (her daughter Mary Ohio she married John F. Miller. He was born in 1801, and died in 1871. They are found on the 1860 census of Franklin, Lee County, Iowa.

g. Benedict König was born on the Obernimburg estate Jan. 26, 1818.

10. Magdalena König was born on the Obernimburg estate circa May 27, 1780, and was buried Aug. 27, 1780. An entry in the Nimburg Catholic *Kirchenbuch* identifies her parents (Christian König and Elisabetha Stückin), her home (Obernimburg), and her religion (*Mennonit*), and states that she was buried behind the church yard.
11. Magdalena König was born circa 1782. In 1802 on the state-owned Offenthal estate in the district of Sankt Goarshausen she married Jakob Güngerich.[166] He was born at Steinseltz (in what later became Lower Alsace) May 22, 1777, and died at Wellenburg Sept. 21, 1830, a son of Christian Güngerich and Anna Holly. In 1809 they entered into a lease agreement with her older brothers Jakob and Nicolaus for the Fugger estate between Wellenburg and Bergheim, west of Augsburg, Germany.
12. Michael König. On Dec. 26, 1813 he was living on the Offenthal estate. He wrote a letter about the Cossack occupation, a typhus epidemic, and the illness of his wife that is reprinted in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. The letter was addressed to his older sister Magdalena living at Wellenburg, but was also meant for his older brothers Jakob and Nikolaus.

König/Koenig/King Background

A King-Ropp Connection

The King clues found in the *Peter Ropp Family Bible*, and the story already told, combine to shed new light on a Ropp family story from 1826.

From the *Autobiography of Christian Ropp*: "When we came within six miles of Lancaster, we met a Mennonite by the name of John Koenig who was plowing along the roadside. When he saw my father [Andreas Ropp], he knew by his clothing, as well as his beard, for at that time no one but our people wore beards [without moustaches]. After speaking with him, he invited him to remain overnight, but my father hesitated, since there were others with us who were on their way to Ohio. But finally my father was persuaded to remain all night, and as they were talking together during the evening, Koenig told him of Canada, and that many were now going to that place, and that each family was offered fifty acres free. As three families were about to leave for Canada, my father decided to go with them. The names of the fellow travelers were Christian Farni, John Erb, Michael Swartz, and Zehr. After a six-week stay in Pennsylvania, we left with the above mentioned for Canada."

While Andreas Ropp and his family lingered in Lancaster County for the 'keeping of the harvest,' Andreas would almost certainly have met John Koenig's brother Christian.

In 1824 minister Christian King and his brother-in-law elder John Stoltzfus of the Mill Creek congregation had traveled to Ontario. They both owned lots at Woolwich, but their mission was to organize a formal Amish Mennonite congregation at Wilmot. On the trip Stoltzfus ordained minister Joseph Goldsmith.

The Ropps did settle on a lot at Wilmot, but eventually migrated south to Butler County, Ohio. They were accompanied by Joseph Goldsmith.

The two König/Kings that Andreas had encountered in Lancaster County were both sons of the 1744 immigrant Samuel König/Koenig.

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[166] The Fugger estate at Wellenburg/Bergheim and the Offenthal estate near Sankt Goarshausen had a number of connections because they were leased by cousins. Jakob Güngerich of Wellenburg was a son of Christian Güngerich and Anna Holly. His cousin Jacob Unzicker on the Offenthal estate was a son of Peter Unzicker and Katharina Holly. These Holly sisters were children of Jacob/Jakob Holly and his second wife Maria Kurtz (found as 'Kurz') living at Mühlhofen. And Jacob/Jakob Holly was a son of Christian Holi/Holli/Holly, the leaseholder and minister of the Barbelsteinerhof after 1713 (see EHRESMAN).

At Elm Grove, Tazewell County in 1842, Christian Ropp's younger brother Peter gained a new next-door neighbor: Samuel King (1808-1895). Although this was once thought to have been an entirely random event, it is now apparent that there must have been continuing friendship and correspondence between the two families who had known each other since 1826.

On Jan. 13, 1869 at Elm Grove Samuel King's daughter Mary Ann married Peter Ropp's son Jacob S. Their son was Walter A. Ropp, the first reunion organizer and unofficial historian of the Ropp family.

Samuel's Henderson County Cousins

Christian King born June 5, 1784 was the oldest son of **Samuel King Jr.** and his unidentified first wife. Their next son was **Jacob King**, born approximately May 31, 1790.

He appears on the 1815 Direct Tax List of Little Britain as the owner of 142 acres adjoining "Sam'l King, Joseph Ballance & others."

The family also appears on the 1820, 1830, and 1840 censuses. In 1820: two males 26-45; three females under 10, and one female 26-45. In 1830: one male 40-49, one male 10-14 (note that he is not on the prior census), and one male 5-9; one female 40-49, one female 15-19, and one female 10-14. In 1840: one male 40-49, one male 20-29 (note that he is not on the prior census), and one male 15-19; one female 30-39, and one female 15-19.

These three censuses suggest that Jacob had two wives. His wife in 1830 was 40-49 years of age, but the one in 1840 was 30-39. This is consistent because Jacob's second wife Martha was 20 years younger than he; she would have been 30 in 1840, and was too young to have had the earlier children.

In 1850 the household is shown as farmer Jacob King, 61; Martha, 41; Esther M., 11; Martha A., 7; Jacob B., 6; John F., 1, and surveyor John C. Lewis, 36, all born in Pennsylvania.[167] The next-door neighbors on one side are Catharine King, 78 (who we believe to be Jacob's stepmother Catharine Kurtz King); and Catharine, 37 (possibly a daughter of Jacob).[168] On the other side is the family of Irish wheelwright Samuel Clendenin, 40. The last member of his household is farmer Henry King, 21, born in Pennsylvania (we did not find an infant male in the household of Jacob King at Little Britain in 1830 and cannot account for him).

In 1856 Jacob's family relocated to Henderson County, Illinois. Henderson County is near the Mississippi River, about 77 miles west of Peoria. They are found on the 1860 census of Township 8N 6W (later called Honey Creek, two miles southeast of Stronghurst, Henderson County): Jacob King, 71; Martha, 50; Hester A., 20; Martha, 16; Jacob B., 15; John F., 12; and Catharine, 54, all born in Pennsylvania.

Jacob King died at Dallas City, Illinois Feb. 27, 1869. Dallas City is on the Henderson County-Hancock County line at the Mississippi River, about six miles southwest of Lomax. *Gospel Herald*, April 1869: "On the 27th of February, near Dallas City, Illinois, Jacob King, aged 78 years, 8 months, and 27 days. He became a member of the Mennonite Church in the 22d year of his age. He bore his sufferings with great patience and resignation. His mind was undisturbed unto his end. We mourn our loss but rejoice in his eternal gain. Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord."

The family is found on the 1870 census of Town 8 Range 6, Henderson County as Martha King, 60; Martha, 27; farmer Jacob, 25; student John, 21; and farm laborer Hiram Rigg, 16, all from Pennsylvania.

Jacob King may have had four children with his unidentified first wife, and four children with his second wife Martha. All were born while he was residing at Little Britain. They include:

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[167] *Historical Papers and Addresses of the Lancaster County* published in 1913 called him a noted Justice of the Peace and surveyor of the south end [of Lancaster County]. "John C. Lewis, Esq., was for many years a noted character in the Lower End, and his peculiar talents, acquirements and eccentricities made him a noted figure in that section for many years. He came into the neighborhood in the early fifties, and began teaching school when he was a young man, and his early life before that time was a mystery. After his death it developed that he came from Montgomery County and his friends came on to claim a small estate which he left. He taught school for a number of years in [Little] Britain, Fulton, and Drumore townships. He was an omnivorous reader, and being possessed of a remarkable memory, his fund of knowledge on all subjects was very extended, and only his peculiarities and eccentricities in his methods and habits of life kept him from attaining the distinction to which he would otherwise have become entitled... His active life there extended from about 1850 to 1892, when he died...His great fault was his utter disregard for the conventionalities of dress or cleanliness. Dressed at his best he looked like a tramp, only perhaps a little bit dirtier and more completely unkempt and shabby... He lived and held his office in a little eight-by-ten shop about a mile below the Unicorn...He had been a soldier in the war and drew a pension, but seldom spoke of his services, but talked rather the gospel of peace and good will as the philosophy of his life."

[168] On the opposite side of Catharine Kurtz King was laborer James King, 60, and his wife Martha, 61. They were members of the Quaker King family that had lived at Little Britain for many generations.

- Possibly a daughter who was born between 1811 and 1820, who died before the 1830 census. She is only found on the 1820 census. It is just as likely that she was a daughter of the unidentified extra 26-45 year-old male found on that census.
- Possibly a daughter who was born between 1811 and 1815 who moved out before the 1840 census.
- Possibly a daughter who was born between 1816 and 1820 who moved out before the 1840 census.
- Possibly a son born between 1821 and 1825 who moved out before the 1840 census.

1. Esther M. King. The 1900 census says she was born in March 1840, but she does not appear on the 1840 census. She married John W. Hartzell in Hancock County Nov. 28, 1861. He was born in Pennsylvania in November 1839. They are found on the 1880 census of District 189, Grinnell, Poweshiek County, Iowa: farmer John Hartzell, 40, Pennsylvania; Esther, 40, Pennsylvania; Loyal, 13, Illinois; Harry, 10, Illinois; Josephine, 3, Iowa; and Lenora, 2, Iowa. *The History of Poweshiek C*ounty published in 1880 described John W. Hartzell of Grinnell as a farmer and stock raiser born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania Nov. 10, 1839. He moved to Hancock County, Illinois in 1851, and to Grinnell in 1875. They owned a farm of 182 acres at Grinnell, and Esther owned a quarter interest in another 240 acres in Illinois (presumably her family's Henderson County farm). In Iowa they were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1900 they were living at District 238, Stella, Woods County, Oklahoma.
2. Martha A. King was born circa 1844. On May 4, 1873 in Henderson County she married John Cooper. He was born circa 1838, a son of John Cooper and Eliza Deane of Monastrean, Ireland. His family sailed from Ireland via Liverpool on the *Queen of the West* and arrived at New Orleans Dec. 12, 1848. The passenger list shows him as a 10-year-old. According to *The History of Mercer and Henderson Counties* John was alive in 1882, but we could not find him on the 1880 census.
3. Jacob B. King was born Feb. 22, 1845. *The History of Mercer and Henderson Counties* published in 1882 says Jacob was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Feb. 22, 1845, and his 'Hollandish' parents were born in the same county. Jacob came to Illinois in 1856 'with his people.' He attended Denmark Academy at Denmark, Lee County, Iowa. From 1861 to 1864 he and Thomas N. Sowers served as editors and publishing agents of the United Brethren Publishing House. His biography says that in 1864 he attended Congregational Church services, and the following year joined the United Brethren in Christ. On Nov. 24, 1864 his name appeared on a list of those whose draft numbers had been drawn at Quincy. It gave his home as District 57, Warren and Honey Creek. More names were drawn than were actually required by the quota, and perhaps he was not called up, because he does not appear on lists of veterans. He was ordained as a minister in 1869. On Dec. 25, 1877 in Adams County he married Louisa A. George. They are found on the 1880 census of Honey Creek, and also on the 1910 census of Lomax, Henderson County as Jacob B. King, 65, Pennsylvania; Louisa A, 61, Pennsylvania; and three children born in Illinois.
4. John F. King was born April 27, 1849. He married Letitia Sparrow in Henderson County Jan. 1, 1874. She was born at Burlington, Iowa circa 1848. Letitia can be found on the 1860 census of Huron, Iowa as the Iowa-born 12-year-old daughter of farmer Charles Sparrow, 31, and Mary F., 35, both born in England. The 1870 census of Township 8 Range 6, Henderson County shows her as the oldest daughter Letitia, 21, Iowa, in the household of Charles Sparrow, 46, and Mary, 42, both born in England. The 1880 census of Honey Creek, Henderson County lists them as farmer John F. King, 31, Pennsylvania; Letitia, 32, Iowa; three children born in Illinois; and sister-in-law Martha Sparrow, 22. In 1881 they moved to Morton, Page County, Iowa. John's biography is given in *The Biographical History of Page County, Iowa* published in 1890. He became an investor in a carriage works and grain binder, and moved to nearby Shenandoah before 1890. In Iowa they were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Distractions

The history of the King family took us into Pennsylvania genealogy. That was akin to picking through a refuse heap, layered with blunders and misconceptions from the pre-computer era. Like it or not, there is something to be said for the computer's instant access to sources that help verify geography, cross-check dates, and weed out irrelevant information.

A number of Königs and Kings have been confused with our family of interest:

SWITZERLAND

Samuel König (1671-1750) was a well-known teacher in Bern who became a Pietist minister.

He was broadly educated at the University of Bern, where he studied Asian languages. He also began to study and preach Pietism. This movement revolved around daily prayer meetings where beliefs were openly discussed and the meanings of Biblical passages were open to question. This did not sit well with the Protestant Reformed Church. König gave sermons in Bern for several years before being called before a *Chorgericht* religious ethics commission in 1698. After his views were heard, he was threatened with exile. He was unemployed for the next dozen years. Eventually he found a receptive host in the

Pfalz, where he wrote a Greek-Hebrew dictionary. He returned to Bern in 1730 and taught languages at the university until his death May 30, 1750.

His son Johann Samuel König became a prominent mathematician. He was born at Büdingen, Germany in 1712 and died at Zuilenstein, Netherlands in 1757. He was a student of Johann and Daniel Bernoulli, and an acquaintance of Voltaire and Euler. In 1744 he signed a reformer's petition and was exiled from Bern. In 1749 he was elected to the prestigious Berlin Academy. He left that body after a six-year dispute involving politically-motivated allegations of plagiarism. His name is given to a law of kinetics.

JOHN SOLOMON KÖNIG

He never existed.

Before Samuel King Jr. was identified as the grandfather of Samuel of Elm Grove, the grandfather was described in some sources as 'John-Solomon King' – that is, he could have been any one of the sons of Samuel König/Koenig from the oldest John down to the youngest Solomon. This was garbled in some secondary sources to create a new fictitious person: a 'John Solomon König.'

BERN, BERKS COUNTY

Balthasar 'Baltzer' König [Jr.] settled near Samuel König/Koenig in Berks County.

We could not tell if there was anything in his history to suggest that he was Amish Mennonite or of Swiss descent. His parents were Balthasar König [Sr.] and Anna Margarethe Liponer, who married at Schönau July 11, 1724. Schönau is a monastery village in the Odenwald, six miles northeast of Heidelberg, in what is now Baden-Württemberg. 'Balzer Kong' appears on the passenger list of the *Queen of Denmark*, a ship that sailed from Rotterdam via Cowes to Philadelphia, arriving Oct. 4, 1751. Other passengers were (with spellings as they appeared on the passenger list) Jacob Joder, Hans Schallenberg, Hans Blanck, Christian Blanck, Hans Reizer, and Hennerich Stehli, Jacob Steli, and Henrich Stehli. His friend and fellow traveler George Happes settled at Oley.

Balthasar appears on a list of taxable subjects at Bern, Berks County in 1752. On Oct. 2, 1754 he submitted a warrant application for 46 acres at Heidelberg, Berks County; it was approved Nov. 21, 1767. He is shown on a list of taxable subjects at Heidelberg in 1756. In 1767 he was taxed 2 pounds or shillings at Robeson, Berks County for property including 100 acres, 1 horse, 1 cow, and no sheep.

BRUNSWICK, BERKS COUNTY

There was also a Jacob Koenig who can be found on tax lists of Brunswick, Berks County (now in Schuykill County) from 1779 to 1786.

The 1784 list showed him owning 300 acres, 4 horses, 3 cattle, and 2 sheep; 7 persons lived in his household. He submitted a warrant application for 333 acres at Brunswick April 9, 1789, and it was approved for his descendants March 24, 1837. Starting from 1793 his name was replaced by George and Daniel Koenig, who were likely his sons. This family belonged to a German Reformed congregation, and George Koenig served as a private in the Berks County Militia during the Revolutionary War.

CHESTER COUNTY

There is a red herring that has caused considerable confusion in the search for Samuel King Jr. in Chester County – another Samuel King of about the same age, living in the same area.

Charity Carter was born in 1779. The *King Family Papers Collection* at the Maryland Historical Society holds an indenture for Charity Carter to her great-grandfather Abraham King dated Jan. 12, 1791. An Abraham King appears on the 1790 census of Willistown.

Abraham was likely the father of George König. According to *The Brenneman History*, George was born circa 1731, and died at Willistown Dec. 5, 1792. "He came to America when he was 14 years of age in company with three brothers: Samuel, Michael, and John." The brothers settled along the Perkiomen Creek in what is now Montgomery County.

George made numerous land transactions. The Maryland Historical Society holds a map of his land at Willistown drawn up Feb. 13, 1766 by future-general 'Mad Anthony' Wayne, who was trained as a surveyor. He also bought land at Upper Merion and Tredyffrin. In 1768 he was assessed taxes as a shopkeeper. On Jan. 12, 1769 he bought the 158-acre Green Tree Farm at Willistown, near the General Paoli Tavern. George served during the Revolutionary War as a patriot in the company of Capt. James Clark, 6th Battalion, Chester County Militia. During this period he became known as Ensign George King. After the war he purchased another 500 acres at Bardstown, Kentucky, but did not change his residence.

On Feb. 6, 1783 in Lancaster County George married Catharine Brenneman. She was born at Kulpsville, Towamencin, Montgomery County in 1733, and died at Willistown July 21, 1804. She was a daughter of Christian Brenneman and Susanna Levering. Christian had immigrated in 1709, and was a weaver and farmer in Lancaster County. Catharine was also a granddaughter of Melchior Bronimann and Elizabeth Stehman, and a great-granddaughter of Melchior Bronimann and Christina Reusser of Diessbach.

George and Catherine both died at Willistown, and are buried in the churchyard of St. Peter's Episcopal Church at Paoli. Their children included William (1786), Abraham (1760), Catherine (1761), Susanna (1763), George (1767), Sophia (circa 1768), Isaac (circa 1771), Joseph (circa 1773) and Samuel King.

This 'other Samuel King' was born Sept. 19, 1774, and died at New London, Chester County June 11, 1841. On Oct. 4, 1804 he married Ann Phillips. She was born Feb. 10, 1784, and died at Fredericksburg, Virginia Dec. 12, 1858.

Samuel served in the War of 1812, and kept the Warren Tavern before his death. On Nov. 23, 1832 he was appointed as a deacon of the Great Valley Baptist Church. He is buried in Beulah Baptist Church Cemetery at Russellville, Chester County. Russellville is only 14 miles northeast of Little Britain, Lancaster County, the burial place of our person of interest.

There is little doubt the two Samuel Kings knew of each other. The surnames Evans and Siter appear on legal documents in connection with both. When Catherine Brenneman created her will Nov. 12, 1799, she named the executors as her sons George and Samuel King (both sons of George King) and Joshua Evans Jr. Fortunately for the sake of clarity, the tax list of 1799 names a Samuel King at Easttown, and a Samuel King at Willistown. The 'other Samuel King' appears on the 1810 census of Willistown, on the same page as his brothers Abraham and George; he also appears on the 1830 census of Willistown.

LITTLE BRITAIN, LANCASTER COUNTY

A Quaker King family had lived at Little Britain for three generations before Samuel King Jr. and his second wife Catharine Kurtz arrived in 1807.

James King (born circa 1675) and Isabel Pennell (born circa 1688) lived at Concord, Chester County.

Their son Thomas King was born July 28, 1716, and died at Little Britain circa 1786. He married Ann Coppock at the Little Britain Society of Friends monthly meeting Dec. 11, 1755. Thomas and Ann had four sons who all lived in or near Little Britain.

Their son Michael King was born at Little Britain May 29, 1763, and died at Penn, Ohio Oct. 1, 1832. On June 9, 1791 at East Nottingham, Maryland he married Hannah Rogers.

Samuel King was born at Little Britain June 10, 1793, and died at Salem, Henry County, Iowa Aug. 28, 1871. On July 30, 1821 at Barnesville, Ohio he married Content Vernon. Their children were born at Stillwater, Ohio; Pennsville, Ohio; and Salem, Iowa. Samuel is found as a 77-year-old widower born in Pennsylvania on the 1870 census of Cedar, Lee County, Iowa. Samuel's brother Jacob King was born at Little Britain April 25, 1804.

Kauffman of Mifflin County

Kauffman males are Y-DNA haplogroup R-M269, subgroup U106, indicating descent from the Franks. See STAKER, BARBARIANS for background on this genetic identification.

Two Kauffman brothers arrived in Woodford County after 1850. One married and settled at Congerville, where he succumbed to the Asiatic Cholera epidemic that peaked in July and August of 1855. He died on Aug. 5, 1855 - the same day as John Lantz of Congerville (see LANTZ). The other married and established a family in McLean and later Woodford Counties.

When we began to look at this family, we expected to find that the brothers were descendants of Isaac Kaŭfmann, an exile who is prominent in Anabaptist history. Isaac came from Homberg in Steffisburg parish (now called Homberg bei Thun), and went to Montbéliard in 1709. His descendants arrived on the *Virtuous Grace* in 1737 and settled in Lancaster, Berks, and Mifflin Counties in Pennsylvania.

John F. Murray's excellent article *Searching for the Roots of Jacob Kauffman* upset that premise.[169] Murray looked specifically at the great-grandfather of our Woodford County settlers. He stated that DNA results had surprisingly shown no descent from Isaac's branch.[170]

Murray tentatively proposed descent from minister **Hans Kauffman** (or 'Hans Kaufman,' as he signed his own name). Hans was born in Canton Zurich (judging from those around him) circa 1680, and migrated to the area of Kaiserslautern in the Pfalz before 1711.

In 1711 Hans made a significant journey with minister Christian Zaug (as he signed his own name). Zaug leased the Wilensteinerhof estate at Trippstadt, only seven miles below Kaiserslautern. The two joined a group of Palatine Amish Mennonites to meet with moderate Reist faction Anabaptists 120 miles to the south at Heidolsheim, Lower Alsace.

Recall from ROPP that the Amish Mennonites "...Desired an accord, provided they would be allowed to practice the *Meidung* [practice of exclusion] and foot washing. The Reist followers then wrote to ministers in the Old Swiss Confederacy for advice. In spite of a negative response, they finally decided to receive into fellowship Ŭli Amman [Jacob's younger brother] and Hans Gerber, two of the petitioners. This had no effect on the larger division which continued unresolved."

A 1717 census shows Hans Kauffman living at *Oberamt* Lautern [the municipality of Kaiserslautern].

Murray further proposed that a son of Hans Kauffman was **Christian Kauffman**. He came to America on the *Brotherhood*. That ship sailed with Palatine passengers from Rotterdam via the tax station at Cowes, and arrived at Philadelphia Nov. 3, 1750.

Other familiar surnames on the *Brotherhood* list include Albrecht, Blaich and Blauch [Blough], Burckh [Bürki], Dielebach [Dallenbach], Farn and Fahrne [Farni], Frey, Gundelfinger [Gundelspurger/Gindlesberger], Hertzer [Hertzler?], Holly [Hölli], Knebel [Kneubühl], König, Lichty [Liechti], Lugenbiehl [Luginbühl], Maag [Mast], Mihller [Müller], Naftziger [Nafziger], Rub [Rupp], Schowalter, Stuky [Stücki], and Zorr [Zehr?]. Many of these were Amish Mennonite immigrants who settled in the area known as the Northkill Creek settlement in Lancaster County (in Berks County after 1752).

The first generation that is known with certainty is **Jacob Kauffman**. He was born circa 1737.

If Jacob was the son of Christian, he would have accompanied him on the *Brotherhood*. However, as a 13-year-old he would not have appeared on the *Oath of Abjuration* list.

A 1763 tax list for Cumru, Berks County lists Jacob Kauffman as a single male.

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[169] *Mennonite Family History*, Volume 27, Issue 2, 2008.

[170] Further, Jacob was linked by DNA to early immigrant **Michael Kauffman**, though their relationship could not be determined. Michael is thought to have been born at Grunstadt, Hesse March 14, 1674. He arrived at Philadelphia in 1717 (see YODER on the arivals that year). He died at Little Conestoga (now East Hempfield Township), Lancaster County, Pennsylvania the following year. He left a widow Anna Kneissle/Kneisley, and a son **Martin Kauffman (senior)**. His widow Anna was born circa 1688, and died June 24, 1758. His son Martin was born at Landisville, Little Conestoga June 21, 1714, and died in Rockingham County, Virginia Dec. 21, 1788. He married Barbara Haldeman and Madlena Stauffer/Stover. He became a Mennonite minister. In 1732 he took his family to the Massanutten settlement in Page County in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The best known of his children was **Martin Kauffman (junior)**. He was born at Massanutten in 1743, and died in Page County before April 5, 1805. He married Mary Lionberger, and they had eight children. In 1760 they built the White House as a residence and Mennonite meeting house. It still stands, and has been listed by the Virginia Department of Historic Places. In 1770 he converted from Mennonite to Baptist.

In the fall of 1763 at Cumru he married Elizabeth Zug/Zook. She was born circa 1744, and may have died in childbirth in 1792, a daughter of Christian Zug/Zook (senior) and his first wife Anna Kneubühl/Kanabel.

Murray's suggestions would mean that Christian Zug/Zook (senior) was not only the father-in-law of Jacob Kauffman; he would also have been the grandson of Christian Zaug, the minister who knew Jacob's grandfather.

Background on the family that provided Jacob Kauffman's wife, father-in-law Christian Zug/Zook, and business partner, minister Christian Zug/Zook (junior):

ZAUG TO ZUG/ZOOK

Christian Zaug is thought to have been a carpenter from Signau, Canton Bern, born circa 1650 (the very rough estimate of genealogist John F. Murray). He signed leases on the Wilensteinerhof estate at Trippstadt in 1688 and 1720.

The first lease offered by Elector Philip Wilhelm was co-signed with Michel Müller. It included requirements to construct new buildings. The second lease offered by Baron Ludwig Anton von Hack was co-signed with Christian Stauffer.

One of Christian Zaug's sons was named **Hans Zaug.** He was born circa 1684, and died in 1721. He left a widow (thought to be named Christine Haslibacher), two sons, and two daughters. Circa 1738 his widow remarried to day laborer Jakob Guth. Guth had four children of his own from a prior marriage.

Guth had come from Mehlingen in September of 1837 to work for Amish Mennonite Ulrich Gundelsperger in the Salingsmühle, a mill at Kaiserslautern.[171] He cultivated one-quarter of Gundelsperger's land, and Gundelsperger in turn used this income to pay one-quarter of his own *Schutzgeld* religious protection fee. Guth did not pay the fee. This arrangement contradicted laws that required every head of household to pay one fee - since Guth paid nothing for his own protection.

The details of a civil investigation are detailed in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. Guth claimed to have had the tacit approval of the town treasurer. He may have avoided punishment by moving out of the district and onto the Wilensteinerhof estate.

Jakob Guth sailed with his wife on the *Frances and Elizabeth* from Rotterdam via Deal. They arrived at Philadelphia Sept. 21, 1742.

The *Oath of Abjuration* list created at the Philadelphia courthouse the day of arrival shows only the male passengers 16 years of age or older. It includes Jakob Guth, stepson Johannes Zug, stepson Christian Zug, and Moritz Zug (presumed to be a cousin); Jacob Kurtz (a brother to deacon Abraham Kurtz); and three Yoders (representing the 'widow Barbara' family - the father had died at sea).

Stepson **Christian Zug/Zook (senior)** (also known as Zuck and Sook) was born on the Wilensteinerhof estate Feb. 21, 1718, according to a family *Bible*. Circa 1740 he had married Anna Kneubühl/Kanabel, and she had accompanied him with two of their children on the *Frances and Elizabeth*.

According to John F. Murray, Christian purchased land at Bern Township from his brother Johannes (now called John) Nov. 30, 1744. Nevertheless on May 22, 1746 he obtained a land warrant for 30 acres at Bern Township, Lancaster County (in what is now Shartlesville, Berks County).[172] Their entry is found in the Lancaster County register under 'Christian Sooke.'

Christian appears on the tax lists of Bern Township, Lancaster County in 1752 and 1754. On Sept. 19, 1757 the Hochstettler family was attacked nearby. Christian obtained another land warrant for 200 acres at Bern Township Dec. 11, 1758.

Anna Kneubühl/Kanabel died before 1760. Christian was naturalized at Philadelphia Sept. 10, 1761. It is likely that the oath took place as he was preparing to sail to Europe, a trip known to have occurred about this time. A pass down story says that he returned to Europe to remarry to Dorothea Kneubühl/Kanabel, a sister of his first wife, who was the widow of a Mischler (this may have been Baden-Durlach deacon Hans Mischler).

Christian and Dorothea initially settled at Cumru, Berks County. In 1772 they relocated to East Whiteland, Chester County. *History of Chester County* notes landowners Christian Zook, John Zook, and Michael Lapp at East Whiteland in 1774, and Moritz Zook at West Whiteland in the same year. For background on these communities and adjacent Tredyfrinn in the Revolutionary War, see KING.

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[171] 'Gundelsperger' is the original spelling found by Hermann Guth on Kaiserslautern legal documents and in common use in Germany today. 'Gindlesperger' is found in Colonial America. Ulrich Gundelsperger sailed from Amsterdam via Cowes and arrived at Philadelphia on the *Phoenix* Sept. 15, 1749. His name appears on the passenger list as Ulrich Kindlishberger. He initially settled in the Northkill Creek settlement at Bern Township, and died at Quemahoning Township, Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795) in February 1783. He is buried in Gindlesperger Cemetery at Stonycreek Township, Somerset County.

[172] Lancaster County land warrants include 100 acres for Hans Zoug at Bern Township March 15, 1743; and 25 acres for Maurice Zuch at Bern Township April 11, 1751.

Berks County was carved out of Lancaster County in 1752. The Berks County register shows 'Jacob Good' obtained land warrants for 50 acres each on April 4 and April 24, 1754. The parcels were located in Bern Township, overwritten as Upper Tulpehocken. The warrant of Christian Zug for 200 acres at Bern Township Dec. 11, 1758 immediately follows an entry for 'Maruck Zug,' who warranted 15 acres at Bern Township Sept. 27, 1758.

After 1781 and before 1785 Christian married a third time to Anna, the widow of Hans/John Reichenbach. He died at East Whiteland Dec. 17, 1787; his will calling him 'Christian Zug' was executed Dec. 19, 1787. Executors were son John and friend Michael Lapp. Witnesses were Daniel Durborow and John Lapp.

His son **Christian Zug/Zook (junior)** was Jacob Kauffman's brother-in-law and business partner. He can be recalled from ROPP, as the person who took in the immigrant family immediately after their arrival at Philadelphia in 1826; or from GERBER AND GARBER, as the person who paid off the redemptioner contract on John Garber and employed him for two years.

He was born at what is now Centre Township, Berks County April 20, 1752. He died on his farm at East Whiteland Township, Chester County Oct. 8, 1826.

He married Magdalena Blank, who was born at what is now Heidelberg Township, Berks County in 1751, and died in Chester County Aug. 14, 1833, a daughter of Hans Blank and Magdalena. They are buried in Union Hall Cemetery (also called Union Cemetery or Plank Cemetery) at East Whiteland Township.

They purchased a farm at East Whiteland from their father in 1775. It was situated on the Valley Creek, very near the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Road, near the farm of Jacob Kauffman and Elizabeth Zug/Zook.

Zug/Zook is remembered not only for his exemplary life, but as the minister of the first Amish Mennonite meeting house in America at a time when meetings were held in homes.[173]

Jakob Guth's former employer Ulrich Gundelsperger also came to America. Coincidence or not, he arrived at Philadelphia on the *Brotherhood* Nov. 3, 1750 - the same voyage that brought Christian Kauffman and presumably his son Jacob.

On Dec. 2 or 27, 1774 Jacob Kauffman and Elizabeth Zug/Zook purchased a farm at East Whiteland, Chester County (in what is now the borough of Malvern) from her father, who had purchased it as an investment only a year earlier. The property cost 440 pounds (about $78,000 in modern buying power). It was situated very near the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Road, in an area that was known as the Welsh Tract. A number of Amish Mennonite families had already moved there, following the example of Moritz Zug/Zook in 1770 (his stone home at Exton still stands, and is found on the *National Register of Historic Places*).

General Washington massed troops there in September 1777, anticipating an event that never happened. The 'Battle of the Clouds' was called off because of rain (wet gunpowder) and poor visibility. Peter Mather, the Loyalist owner of the Warren Tavern at East Whiteland, may have been the person who tipped off British General Howe before the Paoli Massacre later that month (see KING).

'Jacob Coffman' is found on the 1790 census of East Whiteland as the head of a household holding three males 16 years of age or older; five males below 16; and six females. His entry was only one family removed from Christian Zook. His entry shows two males over 16 years of age; two males below 16; and six females. Other entries on the same page include Jno. Coffman, Christian Coffman, and Michael Lapp.

Jacob was ordained as a minister in Chester County in 1792. Elizabeth Zug/Zook may have died that year from complications in the birth of son Samuel, or shortly after. Jacob died at East Whiteland April 2, 1818.

Children of Jacob Kaŭfmann/Kauffman and his first wife Elizabeth Zug/Zook include:

1. **Christian Kauffman** was born at Cumru, Berks County May 25, 1764, and died at Union Township, Mifflin County in 1830.
2. Barbara Kauffman was born at Cumru Oct. 25, 1765, and died in Chester County Nov. 6, 1828. On March 3, 1789 she married Christian Kurtz. He was born in Lancaster County Dec. 22, 1766, and died in Chester County Nov. 8, 1831, a son of Christian Kurtz and Barbara Sollenberger.
3. Jacob Kauffman was born at Cumru Oct. 28, 1766, and died in Juniata County Sept. 22, 1831. In 1790 in Chester County he married Mary Kurtz. She was born circa 1771. In 1803 they purchased 136 acres at Union Township, Mifflin County from John Lantz. In 1812 they resettled in Juniata County. Jacob is buried in Sieber-Renno Cemetery in Juniata County.
4. Heinrich/Henry Kauffman was born at Cumru July 25, 1770, and died at Walker Township, Juniata County Feb. 22, 1843. He married Catherine. 'Henry Coffman' died Feb. 22, 1843, age 73, and 'Catherine Coffman' died Sept. 11, 1843, age 73, are buried in Flat Road Amish Mennonite Cemetery.
5. David Kauffman was born at Cumru June 22, 1771, and died at Fermanagh Township, Mifflin County in March 1817. Circa 1794 in Chester County he married Barbara Kurtz. She was born in Berks County circa 1772, and died at Delaware Township, Juniata County Jan. 18, 1837 (age 65 according to the *Juniata Journal*, Jan. 30, 1837), a daughter of Jacob Kurtz and Barbara Ritter. In 1800 they purchased 105 acres at Union Township, Mifflin County, though they may not have lived there. The following year they sold 50 acres. They relocated from Chester County to Fermanagh, Mifflin County in 1802. Fermanagh would now be described as a township in Juniata County, which was carved out of Mifflin County in 1831.

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[173] Someone interested in minister Christian Zug/Zook might read his anti-war document *Vote for the Friends of Peace* in John Andrew Hostetler's *Amish Roots*, which can be found online.

6. Daniel Kauffman.Coffman was born at Cumru Jan. 27, 1773, and died at Mifflintown, Juniata County on or before Oct. 19, 1853 (date of probate). Circa 1799 in Mifflin County he married Sarah Yoder. She was born in Berks County March 1, 1776, and died in Mifflin County in 1812, a daughter of John 'Hannes' Yoder and Anna Berkey. In the same year they warranted 146 acres along Jacks Mountain (now Chestnut Ridge) in Mifflin County and relocated there. One sources says they purchased land at Union Township from William Fleming in the same year. In 1813 Daniel remarried to Christiana Hooley. She was born in 1774, a daughter of John Holly and Catherine Blank. He married a third time to Jane Brandt. Daniel's will said they were residents of Beale Township (adjacent to Mifflintown), Juniata County
7. John Kauffman/Coffman was born at Cumru June 20, 1774, and died in Chester County July 19, 1846. Circa 1799 in Chester County he married Barbara King. She was born in Chester County circa 1778. They farmed at Allensville, Union Township, Mifflin County.
8. Abraham Kauffman was born at East Whiteland in 1776, and died after 1819. Circa 1796 in Chester County he married Veronica Kurtz. She was born in Berks County circa 1777, a daughter of Jacob Kurtz and Barbara Ritter. He may have been the Abraham Kauffman who received a land warrant for four acres at Fermanagh Township, Mifflin County June 10, 1816. The final payment was made in his name Feb. 26, 1823.
9. Joseph Kauffman/Coffman was born at East Whiteland in 1779, and died in Chester County April 8, 1815. In 1805 he was taxed on 102 acres at Charleston and 50 acres at East Whiteland. Before 1810 he married Phoebe Zug/Zook. She was born in Chester County Jan. 20, 1776, and died Dec. 13, 1861, a daughter of Henry Zug/Zook and Barbara Kurtz. She inherited the East Whiteland property, and the Charleston property was divided among their children. Their five minor children were assigned guardians in orphans court April 30, 1616: two children to Jacob Beiler, and three children to Henry Zook (senior). His headstone in Flat Road Amish Mennonite Cemetery describes him as Joseph Coffman, who died April 8, 1815, age 36.
10. Anna Kauffman (twin) was born at East Whiteland Nov. 25, 1782. Circa 1805 she married Christian Lapp. He was born in Chester County Nov. 14, 1779, and died at East Whiteland Jan. 22, 1861, a son of Michael Lapp and Mary Zug/Zook. Christian is buried in Flat Road Amish Mennonite Cemetery; Anna may be buried there.
11. Mary Kauffman (twin) was born at East Whiteland Nov. 25, 1782. Circa 1814 she married Abraham Lapp. He was born in Chester County Jan. 22, 1782, and died at East Whiteland Feb. 24, 1860, a son of Michael Lapp and Mary Zug/Zook. Abraham is buried in Flat Road Amish Mennonite Cemetery; Mary may be buried there.
12. Magdalena Kauffman was born at East Whiteland April 27, 1789, and died in Chester County in April 1811. She married John Oberholtzer. He was born March 21, 1782, and died in Juniata County July 24, 1828. They settled at Mattawanna, Bratton Township, Mifflin County. After Magdalena's death John remarried to Mary Walter and relocated to Juniata County. He is buried in Lost Creek Mennonite Cemetery at Oakland Mills, Juniata County.
13. Samuel Kauffman/Coffman was born at East Whiteland June 7, 1792, and died in 1868.

Circa 1793 Jacob remarried to Freni/Veronica/Fanny Yoder. She was born in the Northkill Creek Amish settlement (at what is now Tilden Township, Berks County) circa 1748, and died in Chester County in 1802, a daughter of 'Strong Jacob' Yoder and Anna Beiler.

The Kauffmans would have taken their grain to Gunkle's Mill to be ground. That structure was constructed at East Whiteland in 1793, is still standing, and can be found on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

The 1800 census of East Whiteland shows Jacob Coffman as the head of a household with 15 residents. On the same page we found David Coffman (seven residents) and Christian Zook (11 residents). The 1810 census of East Whiteland shows the Jacob Cauffman residence with 10 residents.

The will of 'Jacob Coffman' was created Dec. 17, 1816, and executed at East Whiteland May 22, 1818. His estate was valued at $37,778 (about $725,000 in modern buying power). It was divided equally among his children. Executors were son John Coffman, son-in-law Christian Lapp, and John Malin.[174] Witnesses were Christian Zug, Henry Ruth, and Jac. Dilworth.

Jacob and Elizabeth attended a meeting house made of stone. It may have been the first Amish Mennonite meeting house in North America when it was constructed in 1795, breaking with the tradition of meeting in homes.

Minister Christian Zug/Zook (junior) died in the fall of 1826. One of his brothers petitioned the state legislature for permission to sell the meeting house. His explanation: 'The Great Valley Ominist Society by deaths and removals had become nearly extinct." A sale to John Malin was arranged in March of 1827, and the property was deeded out to be used as a school and later as a Baptist Church.

A *Bible* containing Zaug family birth entries from the Pfalz was retrieved from the structure by a descendant in the 1890s. The structure was destroyed by fire in 1895, and the ruins were leveled in 1937.

Jacob, Elizabeth, and Fanny are buried in Flat Road Amish Mennonite Cemetery (also called the Union Hall Graveyard). The Kauffman's farm was located below the cemetery and meeting house. The cemetery, meeting house, and farm would now be described as sites on the south border of East Whiteland Township with the borough

[174] John Malin (1780-1854) was a Chester County commissioner, and a member of the Society of Friends (Quakers).

of Malvern, about four miles northwest of the Malvern intersection. (The borough of Malvern was not formed until 1873, and was not incorporated until 1889).

The last Amish Mennonites in Chester County departed when the family of minister Christian Zug/Zook junior's son Henry and Henry's wife Christiana Kurtz relocated to Lancaster County in 1834.

Records in Chester County spelled Zaug or Zug as Zook, and Kauffman as Coffman. Children of Jacob Kauffman and his second wife Freni/Veronica/Fanny Yoder born at East Whiteland include:

14. Isaac Kauffman/Coffman was born in 1794. He married Hannah Oberholtzer.
15. Hannah Kauffman/Coffman was born in 1796, and died in 1847. She married Henry Kurtz. He was born at East Whiteland July 10, 1792, and died at Malvern Jan. 29, 1873, a son of Joseph Kurtz and Veronica/Frances Miller. They are buried in Malvern Baptist Church Cemetery.
16. Sarah Kauffman/Coffman was born Feb. 18, 1797. On Nov. 27, 1817 in the Reformed Church at Philadelphia she married Joseph Kurtz. He was born at East Whiteland Jan. 10, 1791, and died in 1873, a son of Joseph Kurtz and Veronica/Frances Miller. They are found at Bethany, New York in 1850, and Cambria, New York in 1860.

Christian Kauffman was born at Cumru, Berks County May 25, 1764. His will was executed at Union Township, Mifflin County in May 1830.

Circa 1788 he married Anna 'Nancy' Fisher. She was born in Chester County circa 1766, and died in Mifflin County in 1804, a daughter of Christian Fischer and Magdalena Yoder.

On May 1, 1802 they purchased 213 acres at Belleville, Union Township, Mifflin County. They relocated there from East Whiteland circa 1804.

A memorial for this couple stands in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County.

Their children include:

1. Magdalena 'Martha' Yoder was born at East Whiteland April 27, 1789. She married David Hartzler. He was born in Berks County June 4, 1786, and died in Mifflin County in May 1857, a son of John Hartzler and Anna Rickenback.
2. Jacob Kauffman may belong in this family. He was born Feb. 7, 1790, and died in 1806.
3. **David Kauffman** was born at East Whiteland Aug. 24, 1792, and died in Champaign County, Ohio April 12, 1884.
4. Elizabeth Kauffman was born at East Whiteland July 5, 1794, and died there March 28, 1856. She married Christian Hartzler. He was born in Mifflin County April 29, 1793, and died there July 7, 1870, a son of John Hartzler and Anna Rickenbach. They are buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County. *Herald of Truth*, August 1870: "On the 7th of July, in Union Township, Mifflin Co., Pa., Christian Hartzler, aged 77 years, two months, and eight days. He was buried on the 11th, on which occasion a funeral discourse was delivered by Samuel Yoder, from *John 5:23, 24*. He remained firm in his faith unto his end, frequently during his illness expressing a desire to depart and be with him in whom he put his trust."
5. Christian Kauffman was born at East Whiteland April 4, 1796, and died in Mifflin County March 3, 1872. He married Anna 'Nancy' Hartzler. She was born in Mifflin County July 14, 1800, and died there March 31, 1877, a daughter of John Hartzler and Anna Rickenback. They had children at what is now Menno Township 1821-32. They are buried in Allensville Mennonite Cemetery at Allensville, Mifflin County.
6. Samuel Kauffman was born at East Whiteland April 4, 1796, and died at Gordonville, Lancaster County Sept. 15, 1879. He married Sarah Lapp. She was born in Lancaster County Jan. 15, 1801, and died there Nov. 23, 1879, a daughter of John Lapp and Mary Rickenback. *Herald of Truth*, November 1879: "Sept. 15th, in Gordonville, Lancaster Co., Pa., of bronchial consumption and the infirmities of old age, Bro. Samuel Kauffman, aged 82 years, having died on his 82nd birthday. He bore his affliction with great fortitude, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far *better*. He was frequently asked if he was lonesome and always replied that he was not, and that he thought of the hymn, "*Allein und doch nicht gans allein, Bich ich in meiner Einsamkeit; Und ob ich schon verlassen schein, Vertreibt uns Jesus selbst die Zeit.*" He said that he had seen so much of the glory beyond a multitude arrayed in white garments; and that he was at peace with all men. He was married 58 years and leaves a deeply afflicted widow. He was a member of the Amish Church for nearly 70 years. Funeral services, according to his own request, were conducted by Henry Lantz and Daniel Lantz from *2 Tim. 4:7,8*. He leaves eight children, 53 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren." Samuel is buried in Gordonville Cemetery at Gordonville, Lancaster County.
7. Anna 'Nancy' Kauffman (twin) was born at East Whiteland Aug. 17, 1800, and died in Mifflin County Dec. 10, 1873. She is buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County. She married Jacob Yoder. He was born in Pennsylvania May 2, 1795, and died in Mifflin County in 1828, a son of Jacob Yoder and Catherine Blank.
8. Freni/Veronica/Frany Kauffman (twin) was born at East Whiteland Aug. 17, 1800, and died in Champaign County, Ohio March 20, 1868. She married Christian L. Yoder. He was born in Pennsylvania April 2, 1799, and died in Champaign County, Ohio March 13, 1872, a son of Christian 'County Line Christian' Yoder and Magdalena Yoder. *Herald of Truth*, April 1872: "On the 15th of March in Mifflin Co., Pa., while on a visit to friends, Christian Yoder Sr. of Champaign Co., Ohio. Aged 72 yrs., 11 mos., and 18 days. His remains were buried on the 17th in the Amish

Mennonite burying ground in Champaign Co, Ohio. Funeral discourses were delivered by the brethren, Christian and John Werrey. A large concourse of friends and neighbors being present to pay the last tribute of respect to our dear old brother." They are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Kennard.

9. John Kauffman was born at Belleville, Union Township, Mifflin County Dec. 25, 1802, and died there March 31, 1878 (his headstone age count is 75 yr. 5 m. 6 d.). On Dec. 28, 1821 he married Barbara King. She was born in Berks County Jan. 15, 1802, and died at Belleville March 15, 1871, a daughter of Solomon King and Freni/Veronica/Frany Schmucker. They are buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville.
10. Barbara Kauffman was born at Belleville Jan. 11, 1804, and died in 1820.

David Kauffman was born at East Whiteland, Chester County, Pennsylvania Aug. 24, 1792. He died at Salem, Champaign County, Ohio April 12, 1884.

In 1817 in Mifflin County he married Freni/Veronica/Frances/Fanny Yoder. She was born in Mifflin County Nov. 5, 1796, and died at Salem June 7, 1861, a daughter of Christian B. Yoder and Magdalena Yoder.

They are found on the 1860 census of Salem as David Kauffman, 67, Pennsylvania; and Frances Kauffman, 64, Pennsylvania.

He remarried to Elizabeth Kauffman. She was born in Centre County, Pennsylvania Nov. 19, 1813, and died Dec. 25, 1897, a daughter of Jacob Kauffman and Anna Yoder.

The 1870 census of Salem shows retired farmer David Kauffman, 77, Pennsylvania; and Elizabeth, 57, Pennsylvania. They lived next door to son Christian.

Herald of Truth, May 1884: "Died - At his residence in Salem Township, Champaign County, Ohio, April 12th, 1884, David Kauffman, aged 91 years, 7 months and 18 days. David Kauffman was born in Chester County, Pa., August 24th, 1792, of German parentage. At the age of 12 years, his father moved to Mifflin County, Pa., and settled on a farm in Kishacoquillas Valley, where he grew to manhood and was joined in wedlock with Fannie Yoder which union was blessed with seven children, six sons and one daughter. In March 1845 he sold his farm in Pennsylvania, and moved to Logan Co., O., where his two sons, Joseph and Christian had previously emigrated. In the same year, he purchased of Henry Enoch the farm situated in Salem Township, Champaign County, where he resided with his family until one by one had arrived at maturity, and left the old homestead, to build and maintain homes for themselves. The wife and mother died at the old homestead, of heart disease, June 7th, 1861 at the age of 64 years, 7 months and 2 days. Subsequently he was joined in wedlock with Elizabeth Kauffman, who proved a kind, affectionate, and most dutiful helpmate, conducting largely to carry him beyond the four score years and ten. He became a professor of religion in early manhood and continued through life a prominent and faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church, and died in the firm faith of a redeeming Savior. Physically and mentally he was remarkably healthy and vigorous retaining great strength of body and mind, until the moment of his death, peacefully and quietly breathing his last at 7 o'clock A.M. on Saturday the 12th. The funeral took place on Monday the 14th, with religious services at the church where he so long and regularly attended. The services were conducted by John Werie, in German, and by L.I. Drake of the Presbyterian Church of West Liberty, in the English language. Text, *90th Psalm, 12th verse* - 'So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.' The funeral was attended by a large concourse of people, his old neighbors, friends and relatives, who came to assist in the last sad rites. He leaves a wife, six children, forty-six grand-children, sixty-two great grand children, and one great-great grand-child. All of the children now living (six in number), except one son (David who resides in Washington Territory) together with a large number of the grand and great grand-children were present, and followed the remains to their last resting place. *West Liberty Banner*."

David Kauffman and Elizabeth are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Kennard, Champaign County, Ohio near his brother Christian and his wife Mary Hooley.

Children of David Kauffman and his first wife Freni/Veronica/Frances/Fanny Yoder born at Union Township, Mifflin County include:

1. Joseph Nelson Kauffman was born March 2, 1818, and died at New Carlisle, Ohio Jan. 2, 1891. In 1839 in Pennsylvania he married Magdalena 'Martha' Yoder. She was born in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania Feb. 7, 1818, and died at New Carlisle, Ohio in September 1887, a daughter of Daniel 'Big Dan' Yoder and Anna 'Nancy' King.' Joseph was ordained as a minister in Ohio in 1856. *The History of Clark County, Ohio* (1881): 'Joseph N. Kauffman, minister of the German Baptist Church, New Carlisle; was born in Mifflin Co., Penn., in 1818, and is a son of David and Frances Kauffman, who were both natives of Pennsylvania, where they resided until 1845, when they located in the northern part of Champaign Co., Ohio. Here Francis died in 1861, and David now survives at the age of four score and nine years. Their children were seven in number, of whom Joseph is the eldest. He grew to manhood in his native state, and married, in 1839, Magdaline Yoder, who was also born in Pennsylvania in 1818. To this union ten children have been born, of whom eight are now living. All save the two oldest were born in Ohio, as Joseph located accordingly in 1843, in Logan County, afterward to Champaign County, but, in 1877, removed from

the first settled county to his present location in Bethel Township, Clark Co., where he serves his church. His life throughout, until 1862, was devoted to farm labor, but for the last eighteen years his time has been spend on behalf of his church, and no doubt much good has grown out of his labors. He is now over three score years of age, and an active worker in the cause of religion." The 1850 census of Wayne, Champaign County, Ohio shows farmer Joseph Kauffman, 32, Pennsylvania; Marth, 32, Pennsylvania; Frances, 8, Pennsylvania; Nancy, 6, Pennsylvania; Lydia, 4, Ohio; John, 2, Ohio; Levi, 1, Ohio; Jonas Kauffman, 24, Pennsylvania; and Wm. Davis, 16, Ohio. Joseph and Magdalena are buried in New Carlisle Cemetery at New Carlisle, Ohio.

2. Magdalena/ Martha/Mattie Kauffman was born Oct. 15, 1819, and died at West Liberty, Ohio Aug. 19, 1897. On Feb. 20, 1840 she married Jacob Hooley. He was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania May 30, 1817, and died at West Liberty, Ohio Sept. 4, 1898, a son of David Hooley and Catherine King. They settled at West Liberty, Ohio. They are buried in Hooley Cemetery/Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery at West Liberty.
3. Christian Kauffman was born Nov. 27, 1821, and died at Salem, Champaign County, Ohio March 30, 1894. On Jan. 7, 1844 in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania he married Mary Hooley. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Dec. 9, 1820, and died in Champaign County March 14, 1902, a daughter of David Hooley and Catherine King. In 1845 they relocated to Ohio. They are found next door to his parents on the 1870 census of Salem as farmer Christian Kaufman, 47, Pennsylvania; Mary, 48, Pennsylvania; and nine children born in Ohio. *Herald of Truth,* June 1894: "Christian Kauffman died suddenly of heart disease on Friday evening March 30th, 1894, at his home near West Liberty, Ohio, at the age of 72 yrs., 4 mo., 3 days. He was born in Mifflin County, Pa., Nov. 27th, 1821, and at the age of 19 years united with the Amish Mennonite church in which faith he continued through life. He was married to Mary Hooley Jan. 7, 1844, and a few months later they migrated to Logan Co., Ohio, where they lived 15 years. They then moved to the old homestead of his father in Champaign Co., where they lived for 35 years until death separated them. Funeral services were held on Monday, April 2d at the Oak Grove church by John Warye in German and Abednego Miller in English." They are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery (formerly Hooley Cemetery) at Kennard, Champaign County, where Mary's headstone says she was, "Mary Kauffman, died March 14, 1902, aged 81 Y. 3 M. 5 D."
4. David Jefferson Kauffman was born Jan. 25, 1824, and died Feb. 14, 1922. Circa 1845 he married Mary Hooley. She was born in Mifflin County Sept. 30, 1825, and died in Champaign County, Ohio March 4, 1850, a daughter of David Hooley and Mary Hertzler. Circa 1852 he remarried to Elizabeth Yoder. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Jan. 5, 1825, and died between 1876 and 1880, a daughter of minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner. They settled at Bloomington in McLean County, then relocated to Colorado and Washington; David later living as a widower in California. The 1880 census of Columbia, Washington shows a combined household with a third wife: farmer David Kauffman, 56, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; daughter Jessie E., 10, Illinois; son Bertie J., 5, Colorado; son Charles B., 4, Colorado; son-in-law Samuel Hilton, 26, Massachusetts; son Joash, 20, Illinois; wife Sarah M., 32, Virginia; daughter Fannie, 7, Colorado; and daughter Sara A. Hilton, 23, Illinois. David is found as a 96-year-old father-in-law in the household of William H. Shaw and wife Jessie on the 1920 census of Snelling, California. He is buried in Snelling Cemetery.
5. **Jonas Kauffman** was born June 18 or 19, 1826.
6. **Jonathan Kauffman** was born Sept. 28, 1828, and died in McLean County March 4, 1910.
7. Solomon Kauffman was born Jan. 6, 1832, and died at Burlington, Kansas in December 1909. He married Melissa Jane 'Lissa' Patten. She was born at West Elkton, Ohio July 7, 1844, and died at Gernett, Kansas March 3, 1922, a daughter of Peter Patton and Hannah Oglesby. He was a 1st Lieutenant, Co. L, 3 Ind. *History of Anderson County, Kansas*: "Solomon Kauffman, postmaster, was born in Mifflin County, Pa., January 6, 1832. In 1845 his parents immigrated to Champaign County, Ohio, where he was reared on a farm. At the age of eighteen he learned the trade of carpenter and in 1853 moved to McLain County, Ill., where he worked at his trade a year, then to Iowa City, and in Marshall County, Iowa, for about two years. In May 1856 he came to Anderson County, Kan., pre-empted 160 acres in Reeder Township, which he improved, and purchased other lands adjoining until he owned 345 acres. He was elected to the office of County Judge in 1857, but refused to qualify under the 'bogus laws' then in force. In 1858 he served as a member of the County Board of Supervisors. He took an active part with the Free-State men of Kansas in the troubles of 1856. In December of that year he was instrumental in bringing to the county a colony of eighty-six men who had been in the Free-State army and they established the town of Hiatt. On August 6, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Third Kansas Infantry. This regiment was afterward consolidated into the Tenth Kansas and he was placed in Company C, of that regiment. On the 11th of September, 1862, he was promoted to First Lieutenant of Company L, Third Indiana Regiment and on Mary 28, 1863, to Captain and placed in charge of a battery attached to the Indian Brigade. He was mustered out May 31, 1865, and returned to his farm. On the 29th day of August, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Mellissa J. Patton, who still continues to share the joys and hardships of life with him. In 1868 he was elected to the office of Clerk of the District Court and moved to Garnett. He served as Clerk one term. In 1870 he embarked in the real estate business and three years later associated with him in that business George W. Iler. In 1874 they purchased the *Plain Dealer* and continued to conduct both businesses until February 1878, when they dissolved and Mr. Kauffman took the paper and published it alone until he admitted his present partner, H. M. Brook, in 1881. On June 14, 1878, Mr. Kauffman was appointed postmaster of Garnett, which position he still occupies. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery at Burlington, Kansas. There a newer joint

headstone names them as Solomon and Lissa. His original headstone (still standing) named him as, "Captain Solomon Kauffman, Co. L, Indiana H.G. Kans. Ing."

Older brother Jonas Kauffman

Jonas Kauffman was born at Union Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania June 17, 1826, and died at Congerville, Montgomery Township, Woodford County Aug. 5, 1855. His headstone in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County says he was aged 29 yrs., 1 mo., 18 ds.

Jonas appears on the 1850 census of Wayne, Champaign County, Ohio as a 24-year-old from Pennsylvania in the household of his uncle and aunt Joseph Kauffman and Magdalena 'Martha' Yoder.

In the spring of 1851 he and his younger brother Jonathan accompanied minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and his wife Magdalena Wagner to Central Illinois. Yoder became elder of the Rock Creek meeting in McLean County, drawing members from the Mackinaw meeting. See STAKER for background on this couple.

The Lantzes came to Congerville directly from Union Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. The Kauffman brothers were also born there, but only arrived after spending several years in Ohio. Jonas was only 18 when he left Pennsylvania; his younger brother Jonathan was 16. When they arrived in Illinois they were 24 and 22 years of age respectively

On Feb. 22, 1852 in Woodford County Jonas married Miriam Rebecca Yoder/Joder. She was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania Oct. 30, 1829, a daughter of Joseph Yoder/Joder and Catherine Lantz. Joseph was the school teacher brother of minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder.

Jonas Kauffman died at Congerville, Montgomery Township, Woodford County Aug. 5, 1855 - the same day as neighbor John Lantz. See SMITH, THE SCHMITTS OF BISPING for background on the Asiatic Cholera epidemic in the area. Although Jonas and Miriam had already had two children, Miriam was left pregnant with the only child who would grow to adulthood.

The 1860 census of Kansas Township, Woodford County shows Miriam in the household of her parents: Joseph Joder, 63, Pennsylvania; Cathrina [Lantz], 53, Pennsylvania; Mirriam Coffman, 30, Pennsylvania; Idda Joder, 21, Pennsylvania; Emma Joder, 18, Pennsylvania; and Jonas Coffman, 4, Illinois [Miriam's son].

The following year Miriam's parents purchased an 80-acre farm at Dry Grove, McLean County. When her mother Catherine Lantz died in 1862, Miriam moved there to do housekeeping for her widowed father Joseph Yoder/Joder. In 1868 she purchased the south 40 acres of the farm from her father. He gave her the balance before 1870, when their property value appears on the census after her name.

The 1870 census of Dry Grove shows book agent Joseph Yoder, 73, Pennsylvania; housekeeper Mina Caufman, 40, Pennsylvania; Jonas Caufman, 14, Illinois 'works on farm'; and farmer Benj. Lantz, 27, Ohio. Later on the same page we find the household of Simeon Lantz (see LANTZ).

On Sept. 26, 1876 in McLean County Mariam remarried to Adam Zook; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Zook was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania Oct. 5, 1829, and died at Carlock, McLean County May 8, 1907, a son of Yost Zook and Susanna Hostetter. He had come to McLean County with his parents in 1850.

The 1880 census of Dry Grove: farmer Adam Zook, 50, Pennsylvania; Miriam, 50, Pennsylvania; Minnie Troyer, 19, Illinois; and Jonas Kauffman, 24, Illinois.

Adam and Miriam farmed 140 acres at Dry Grove. They also raised Frank Noel Burns (1883-1946), a son of neighbor Jonathan Burns. Noel's mother had died when he was two years of age.

Adam and Miriam relocated to Carlock in 1891. Miriam died there on Thanksgiving day, Nov. 22, 1898. We last find Adam on the 1900 census of White Oak, Mclean County, as a 70-year-old born in Pennsylvania in October 1829 in the household of his son Adam Jr.

Jonas and Miriam had two sons who died young. The third was **Jonas Kauffman (junior).** He was born at Congerville in November 1855 (consistent with censuses), three months after the death of his father, though his erroneous death entry differs.

The 1900 census of Dry Grove has the household of day laborer Benjamin Lantz, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania in February 1843; his wife and four children; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Ida and Linneus Troyer; and boarder Jonas Kaufman, 44, born in Illinois in November 1855 to parents from Ohio and Pennsylvania.

He is also found on the 1910 census of Delaware Township, Defiance County, Ohio as Jonas Kauffman, 54, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania. *The American Aberdeen-Angus Herd Book* (1910) lists him as a cattle breeder at Sherwood, Ohio. Sherwood village is located along the B&O Railroad in Delaware Township.

His death entry was created in Defiance County. It stated that single farmer Jonas Kauffman had died there Feb. 23, 1920. His birth date was given as Jan. 3, 1853, and his parents were described as Jonas Kauffman, born in Ohio, and Marion Joder, born in Pennsylvania. We could not identify a place of burial.

Younger brother Jonathan Kauffman

Jonathan Kauffman was born Sept. 28, 1828, and died in McLean County March 4, 1910.

In the spring of 1851 he and his older brother Jonas accompanied minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner to Central Illinois. He presumably lived with Jonas at Congerville until marriage.

On Feb. 17, 1856 in McLean County he married Dorcas 'Tabitha' Yoder. She was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania circa 1835, and died in McLean County Jan. 2, 1868, a daughter of Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder. They appear on the 1860 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as farmer Johnathan Kaufman, 30, Pennsylvania; Dorcas, 23, Pennsylvania; Ann, 3, Illinois; and Nancy, Illinois [this was certainly daughter Magdalena; 'Nancy' is a nickname for Ann].

Children of Jonathan Kauffman and his first wife Dorcas 'Tabitha' Yoder include:

1. Ann Kauffman was born at Dry Grove, McLean County Nov. 13, 1858, and died Dec. 3, 1879. She is buried in Fairmount Lone Star Cemetery in Butler County, Kansas, where her headstone calls her 'Nancy M. Kauffman.' See FARNY for more on this location where she is buried near Farnys and Ropps.
2. Magdalena 'Malinda' Kauffman was born at Dry Grove May 24, 1860 (per her death entry), and died at White Oak, McLean County Jan. 9, 1926. On Feb. 15, 1881 at Danvers she married Joseph E. Zook; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Zook was born at Deer Creek, Montgomery Township Dec. 12, 1856, and died at Limestone, Peoria May 31, 1945, a son of Bartholomew 'Bartley' Zook and Barbe Stecker/Barbara Staker. His death entry described him as a farmer at East Peoria. Her death entry described her as Malinda A. Zook, 65, a daughter of John Kauffman, who was born in Pennsylvania. They are buried under a joint marker in Imhoff Cemetery as 'father Joseph E. Zook, 1855-1945,' and 'mother Malinda S. Zook, 1863-1926.'
3. Sarah Kauffman was born at Congerville Oct. 13, 1863 (per her death entry), and died at Danvers Nov. 1, 1934. On Sept. 7, 1887 in McLean County she married widower Jonathan D. Plank. He had first married her sister Amanda. Sarah's death entry named her as Sarah Plank, 71, and described her parents as Jonathan Kauffman, born at Mifflin, Pa., and Tabitha Yoder, born at Hamilton, Ohio. Sarah and Jonathan are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Amanda V. Kauffman was born circa March 20, 1865, and died in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania April 11, 1886. Circa 1885 she married Jonathan D. Plank there. He was born at Port Royal, Juniata County, Pennsylvania Nov. 2, 1850, and died Oct. 3, 1902, a son of Samuel Plank and Catherine Yoder. *Herald of Truth*, May 1886: "On the 11th of April, in the Kishoquillas Valley, Mifflin Co., Pa., Amanda, wife of Jonathan D. Plank, aged 20 years and 21 days. She came to this valley about four months ago from McLean Co., and sometime afterwards married was married to Plank. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church. Funeral was held on the 12th; services were held by John Hartzler and J.H. Byler from *1 Pet 1:24, 25*. A loud call to the young." Her headstone in Allensville Mennonite and Amish Cemetery says she was 'Amanda V., wife of Jonathan D. Plank, died April 11, 1886, age 23 yrs. 20 ds."

On Dec. 27, 1868 in McLean County Jonathan remarried to Catherine Gertrude Sharp. She was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania March 6, 1841, and died at Montgomery Township, Woodford County June 30, 1916, a daughter of John Sharp and Leah Yoder.

A single page of the 1850 census of Montgomery Township shows the Yost Yoder family with 16-year-old Derkas (Dorcas Yoder, Jonathan's first wife); the John Sharp family with 9-year-old Catharine (Catherine Gertrude Sharp, Jonathan's second wife); the Christian Farny family (as 'Christian Forney'), and the Peter Farny family (as 'Peter Forney'). Jonathan lived with Gertrude at Congerville after marriage, though we could not identify them on the 1870 census.

The 1880 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County shows farmer Jonothan Kaufman, 52, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Gertrude, 39, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Sarah, 16; Amanda, 14; Annie, 9; David, 8; Emma, 4; Mary, infant; Amelia, 5; Rachel, 10; and Fannie, 6; all children born in Illinois. They appear on the 1900 census of Kansas and Montgomery Townships, Woodford County as farmer Jonathan Kauffman, 71, born in Pennsylvania in September 1828; Gertrut, 59, born in Pennsylvania in March 1841; Irene R., 30, born in Illinois in October 1869; David A., 28, born in Illinois in October 1871; Emma R., 23, born in Illinois in March 1877; and John F., 16, born in Illinois in October 1883. Next door was Catherine Gertrude's father John Sharp, 81, born in Pennsylvania in September 1818 to parents from Pennsylvania; and his granddaughter Amelia J. Kauffman, 25, born in Illinois in April 1875. Jonathan and Catherine Gertrude are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

Children of Jonathan Kauffman and his second wife Catherine Gertrude Sharp born at Congerville, Montgomery Township, Woodford County include:

5. Tabitha Esabel Kauffman was born Jan. 2, 1869, and died at Loda, Iroquois County Aug. 19, 1838. She married Rudolph P. Gingerich. He was born at Dry Grove, McLean County in 1853, a son of Jacob Gingerich and Jacobine

Jotter of Dry Grove. Their joint headstone in Pine Ridge Cemetery at Loda describes them as "Rudolph P. Gingerich, 1853-1927, and Tabitha E., 1868-1938."

6. Irene Rachel Kauffman was born in October 1869, and died in 1953. In 1902 she married Paul Reaba. He was born at Congerville Jan. 25, 1873, and died at Normal, McLean County June 16 or 17, 1946, a son of Henry Reabe and Dora Tiege. They lived at Danvers, McLean County in 1900, then at Montgomery, Woodford County. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery, where she is found as 'Irene K. Reaba'.
7. Anna Leah 'Annie' Kauffman was born Oct. 24, 1870, and died July 7, 1949. On March 3, 1891 at Danvers she married John D. Zook; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Zook was born at Deer Creek Nov. 29, 1857, and died there Sept. 17, 1936, a son of Bartholomew 'Bartley' Zook and Barbe Stecker/Barbara Staker. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery.
8. David Andrew Kauffman was born Oct. 6, 1871, and died Dec. 10, 1962. On Dec. 20, 1904 at Carlock, McLean County he married Bertha L. Maurer. She was born at Dry Grove, McLean County Oct. 13, 1878, and died in McLean County June 15, 1952, a daughter of Abraham Maurer and Susan Ummel. They farmed at Montgomery Township. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery.
9. Amelia Jane Kauffman was born April 9, 1875, and died at Montgomery, Woodford County Feb. 1, 1934. After 1910 and before 1920 she married John E. Hostetler. He was born at Troy Grove, Lasalle County circa 1861, and died at Olio, Woodford County Dec. 31, 1948, a son of Johann Hochstatter and Anna Fettes. They are found on the 1920 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as John E. Hostetter, 59, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; and Amelia J., 48, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania. Amelia is buried in Imhoff Cemetery as "Amelia Kauffman Hostetler, 1875-1934." Amelia's death entry gives the place of birth of her parents Jonathan Khuffman and Gertrude Sharp as 'Midland, Pennsylvania,' s garbling of 'Mifflin.'
10. Emma R. Kauffman was born March 25, 1877, and died Jan. 11, 1906. She is buried in Imhoff Cemetery.
11. Faney A. Kauffman was born Sept. 27, 1878, and died May 10, 1883. She is buried in Imhoff Cemetery.
12. Mary J. Kauffman was born Dec. 27, 1879, and died Nov. 10, 1889. She is buried in Imhoff Cemetery.
13. John Franklin Kauffman was born in October 1883, and died at Jefferson, Iowa in 1956. In 1907 he married Emma Alice Burnell. She was born at Madison, Kentucky Feb. 7, 1889, and died at Jefferson in March 1964, a daughter of Lewis Jackson Burnell and Lucinda Sigmund. Her family came to Congerville in 1889. They are found on the 1930 census of Dodge, Iowa as Frank Kauffman, 46, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania; Emma, 41, born in Kentucky to parents from Kentucky; Inez M., 21, Illinois; Eugene A., 12, Iowa; and Shirley A., Iowa. They are buried in Jefferson Cemetery at Jefferson, Iowa where a joint headstone names them as J. Frank Kauffman, 1883-1956, and Emma Burnell, 1889-1964.

Schwarzentraub: Schwartzentrŭber of Trub

A *Schwarz Trub* is a black brook or stream. Schwarz Trub farm located at Trub, Canton Bern is the source of all variations of this surname (the predominant early spelling was Trŭb). In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth states that the correct spelling would be 'Schwarzentruber,' denoting someone from Schwarz Trub. After a number of generations of separation from Switzerland, some descendants perceived the name as *Schwarz Traub*, or 'black grapes.'

Heimatorte or points of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname include Trub, Diessbach, and Oberthal in Canton Bern.

The present population of Trub is less than 1,400, and was never much greater. But it is one of the largest municipalities in Switzerland, covering almost 24 square miles. The present church was constructed in 1641-45, replacing a much older structure.

In much of this section we focus on Hans Schwartzentrŭber, an Anabaptist who was forcibly exiled from Canton Bern by boat in 1711. There is no question who he married (Catharina/Cathrÿ Schlŭchter/Schlüechter), or the names of his children born at Schangnau between 1682 and 1699. But the identification of his parents and grandparents presents a mystery.

We can only guess at his age range and year of marriage from the baptism of his first child at Schangnau in 1682. If we assume he was born before 1662, he would have been at least 49 when he went into exile.

He was 'of Trub.' This does not necessarily mean he was actually born there; it may have been his *Heimatort*, or place of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights.

But despite all these clues, it is not that easy.

The Schwartzentrŭber family of Trub can only be documented to a certain extent. Marriage records were not preserved before 1629. There is no *Totenrodel* that might tell us how many children survived infancy; death records were not preserved until 1732. And most of the family relocated south to Schangnau after 1638, where no records were kept until 1682.

We found these clusters from 1595 to 1660:

Peter Schwartzentrŭber and Anna Bieri.

1.	Margret	Sept. 19, 1602.
2.	Catrin	Nov. 25, 1604.
3.	Anna	Jan. 25, 1608.
4.	Vincenz	Oct. 7, 1610. On Nov. 17, 1633 at Langnau Vincentz Schwartzentrŭber married Madlena Danner of Lauperswil.
5.	Christen	July 3, 1621.

Abraham Schwartzentrŭber and Catharina Gramm (her surname is now found at Trub as both Grimm and Gramm). She may have remarried to a Mosimann.

1.	Zenz	Aug. 11, 1605, died young (the first Zenz in the family, named after baptism witness Zenz Horn).
2.	Hanns	May 17, 1607, died young.
3.	Hanns	June 21, 1612. On June 29, 1634 at Trub he married Barbara Wŭtherich. She was baptized at Trub Jan. 5, 1617.
4.	Catharina	Oct. 22, 1615.
5.	Vincentz	Sept. 23, 1618.
6.	Abraham	Nov. 28, 1621. He married Catharina Treingeÿer at Trub Sept. 11, 1637, and they had a son Hans Sept. 16, 1638; he remarried to Anna Äbersold at Langnau Nov. 2, 1642, and they had a son Christ in 1648.
7.	Petter	Feb. 1, 1624.

Sebastian/Baschi Schwartzentrŭber and Margret Wedlenberg.

1.	Verena	May 2, 1613.
2.	Barbli	Oct. 9, 1614.
3.	Heinrich	May 26, 1616.
4.	Cathrina	April 26, 1618.
5.	Vincenz	Jan. 16, 1620.
6.	Margretha	Nov. 3, 1622. She married Hans Egli at Trub April 30, 1656.
7.	Hans	June 24, 1626. He may have been the groom in one of these marriages at Trub: Hans

Schwartzentrŭber and Anna Rötlisperger Nov. 8, 1662, or Hans Schwartzentrŭber and Chrÿstÿna Fischer Jan. 13, 1671.

Ulrich/Uli Schwartzentrŭber and Barbara/Barbli Stettler. He may also have been the Uli who married Barbara Äeschliman at Trub Aug. 25, 1643; no Ulies are found in baptism records there.

1. Hanns — March 6, 1614. He may have been the groom of one of the two marriages just described.
2. Christen — March 3, 1616.
3. Peter — Nov. 22, 1617.

No Schwartzentrŭber marriages took place there again in the century. This may be an indication of the general sympathies of the families.

Because Trub entries are an incomplete record of events, all of this does nothing more than tell us that the Schwartzentrŭber family had a history there, as well as how and when the name Vincentz was introduced.

We also found Schwarzentrűber baptism and marriage entries in the Protestant Reformed Church at Schangnau, which was established in 1682: two or three families with fathers named Hans.

— Hans Schwarzentrŭber and Salome Wolff had one daughter. She must have died in childbirth, because a minister's note on the child's baptism entry said that she had been buried. The daughter was given her name.
    1. Salome Schwartzentrŭber was baptized July 24, 1703. Witnesses included Samuel Aŭgstburger, Catharina Rűkenmaier [perhaps meant to be Rŭgsegger, which is found in later entries], and Catharina Sigenthaler. On May 3, 1725 at Schangnau Salome married Peter Bieri, a son of Hans Bieri and Barbara Schlŭchter/Schlüechter.

— On June 13, 1709 at Schangnau a Hans Schwartzentruber married Catharina Zÿbach; he may have been the widower of Salome Wolff. Their children include:
    1. Barbara Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Jan. 19, 1710. On Oct. 15, 1741 at Schangnau she married Hans Christ Peiffolter. Witnesses included Peter Raber, Elsi B-- [illegible], and Barbara -- [illegible]
    2. Hans Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Dec. 10, 1711. Witnesses included Christen Bieri, Hans Gerber, and Trini Räss. He was likely the Johannes Schartzentruber who lived at Weisenheim am Berg (southeast of Kaiserslautern in the Pfalz) as early as 1734, then at nearby Herxheim. He attended the assembly of ministers at Essingen with a son in 1759. EHRESMAN notes that many of the ministers who met at Essingen had received earlier training on the Bärbelsteinerhof. The descendants of Hans can be found in Chapter 30 of Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*.
    3. Niclaŭs Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Jan. 25, 1714. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Gerber, Hans Räber, and Elsbeth Gerber.
    4. Christian Schwartzentrŭber was baptized June 14, 1716, and died on the Selbach estate at Netze in the Principality of Waldeck Jan. 4, 1764. An entry in the Schangnau baptism register names his parents, but does not name him. It begins '*Ein Ehelicher Sohn werden aber nahmen…*' [A legitimate son was baptized but taken…] and becomes illegible, apparently describing a location. Witnesses included Peter Sigenthaler, Claus [illegible], and Elsi Sigenthaler.
    5. Elsbeth Schwartzentrŭber was baptized May 9, 1720. Witneses included Niclaŭs Bingli, Barbara Bingli, and Elsbeth Wűtrich. On June 25, 1741 at Schangnau she married Hans Oberli of Lutzelflüh.

The third family we found was that of future exile **Hans Schwartzentrŭber** and Catharina/Cathrÿ Schlŭchter/Schlüechter.

Was he a Hans who was baptized at Trub Sept. 16, 1638? It is possible, but it would mean he fathered seven children between ages 44 and 60, then went into exile at the approximate age of 72. No mention is made in exile histories of old age.

It is more likely that he was born at Schangnau before 1662. There his birth or baptism would not have been recorded. And if he was born circa 1662, there are too many possible fathers who were baptized at Trub before 1642 to make even a rough guess.

Recall from ZIMMERMAN that Schlücter is now standardized as Schlecter. In the Bernese dialect a *Schlücter* was someone who lived near a gorge.

Recall from YODER that Schangnau is an out-of-the-way village in the mountainous southeastern corner of Signau parish. In the 16th and 17th centuries its inaccessibility (one road in) and proximity to the Bern-Luzerne boundary (two miles) would make authorities suspect that it was a haven for unrepentant Anabaptists. It is not necessary to imagine someone migrating great distances from Trub to find refuge in Schangnau. Schangnau is only 11 miles below it.

In 1711 it was decided by the Council of Bern that about 500 Anabaptist prisoners would be given opportunities to voluntarily go into exile in the Netherlands. Their theory was that Dutch supporters might fund their fares on ships departing for the New World. The cost of their transportation would be partially defrayed by the Dutch government and non-prisoners who wished to travel with them.

Embarkation on five ships took place at Neuchâtel [Ger. *Fűrstentum Neuenberg*] and Bern July 13. They assembled by the tax and toll station at Wangen (now Wangen an der Aare). They arrived at Basel on the 16th. There one ship was emptied onto the others. While that process was going on, several of the Anabaptist passengers objected to going further, attempted to escape, and were rearrested.

Farther down the Rhine River the boatmen lost their legal authority to confine their prisoner passengers. Not all the German states and territories persecuted Anabaptists. Every stop for food or a tax and toll station became a temptation to simply go ashore and walk away.

A party of 13 walked away at Breisach. Breisach was 97 miles downriver from the city of Bern. From there it was roughly a 14 mile walk east to Colmar, and 40 miles east to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Freiburg im Breisgau was 19 miles to the east.

Another 126 miles downriver the boats came to the university town of Mannheim. From there it would have been 14 miles north to Worms and Hochheim, or 33 miles northwest to Kirchheimbolanden. In 1698 rebuilding had begun there to restore the damage of the Thirty Years War (1618-1648); it would become the capital of the Electoral of the Palatinate in 1720 (it did not become part of the Duchy of Baden until 1802).

At Mannheim Samuel Reber and 30 others disembarked. When Hans Schwartzentrŭber of Trub joined them, it was officially described as an 'escape.'[175]

Children of Hans Schwartzentrŭber and Catharina/Cathrÿ Schlŭchter/Schlüechter include:

1. Catharina Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Nov. 16, 1682. Witnesses included Hannes Gerber, Cathi Zimmerman, and Cathi Gerber.
2. Maria Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Aug. 3, 1687. Witnesses included Christ Frey [?], Verena Bachmann, and Maria Bűrcki.
3. **Vincentz Schwartzentrŭber** was baptized Jan. 29, 1690. Witnesses included Christen Zimmerman, Ulrich Blaaser, and Anna Schlŭchter.
4. Madleni Schwartzentrŭber (twin) was baptized Sept. 8, 1692. Witnesses included Catharina the wife of the minister; Madleni Sigenthaler; and Isaac Wűthrich.
5. Anna Schwartzentrŭber (twin) was baptized Sept. 8, 1692. Witnesses included Hans Bieri, Anni Farni, and Anni Mŭri.
6. Maria Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Sept. 24, 1696. Witnesses included Hans Schlűcter, Maria Farni, and Maria Burcki.
7. Ulli Schwartzentrŭber was baptized Jan. 15, 1699. Witnesses included Hans Räber, Ulli Burcki, and Anna Leichti.

Vincentz Schwartzentrŭber was baptized at Schangnau, Canton Bern Jan. 29, 1690.

With his mother, brother and sisters he would presumably have joined his father Hans in exile.

In 1719 Vincentz married Anna Zimmerman. The ceremony likely took place on the Bärbelsteinerhof, the grounds of Berwarstein Castle at Erlenbach bei Dahn (see EHRESMAN for background on this location). The event was registered in a Reformed Church register at nearby Niederschlettenbach by Amish Mennonite minister-leaseholder Christian Holi/Holli/Holly. Vincentz was spelled 'Vinzenz' on Holi/Holli/Holly's entry.

Vincentz and Anna had at least one child (and possibly three) born in the Grafschaft Falkenstein before migrating to the Principality of Waldeck. See STAKER for background on this Austrian enclave surrounded by the Pfalz.

In the meantime Christian Schwartzentrŭber, a son of Hans Schwartzentrŭber and Catharina Zÿbach baptized at Schangnau June 14, 1716, had also migrated north. Christian may have been Vincents's second cousin. He appears on an 1838 census of Mennonites at Schmalenberg (below Kaiserslautern in the Pfalz, 30 miles northwest of Erlenbach bei Dahn and 35 miles south of Falkenstein). His name appears with others who had paid a religious protection fee [Ger. *Schutzgeld*].

A royal marriage on Aug. 19, 1741 opened the way for Amish Mennonites to resettle in the Principality of Waldeck. By that time Vincentz was reunited with Christian, and they saw it as an opportunity to work fertile farmland.

[175] The fleet reached Utrecht Aug. 2, and on Aug. 3 the first ship crossed into the Netherlands and docked at Muiden.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF WALDECK

Christiane Henriette, Palatine Countess of Birkenfeld-Bischweiler-Pfalz-Zweibrücken, married Prince Karl August of Waldeck and Pyrmont. She was born at Ribeauvillé in Alsace Nov. 16, 1725. Her father, Christian III, was the Wittlesbach count who had helped Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to find new homes in 1712-13.

The House of Waldeck was connected through multiple marriages to the Dutch House of Orange. Prince Karl August served as commander of all Dutch forces in the War of Austrian Succession (1740-48). One of the odd consequences of this relationship was that many newborn daughters of Amish Mennonite tenants in Waldeck were given Christian names that had originated in the House of Orange, e.g. Frederica, Augusta, Helena, Wilhelmina, Henriette, and Caroline.

Much of the prince's income came from the troops he provided to fight Dutch battles. This arrangement drained the labor force needed to work the land. The farsighted new princess invited Amish Mennonite families to follow her and settle on estates near Arolsen on generous terms. Her patronship continued until her death Feb. 11, 1816.[176]

In 1741 Vincentz Schwartzentrŭber and Christian became co-leaseholders of the Selbach estate, a dairy farm at Netze in Waldeck. (Netze is on the northeast side of the town of community of Waldeck, above the Edersee reservoir; Selbach is now a village between Netze and Freinhagen). According to Guth, their lease described them as "two Swiss people from Kaiserslautern."

Christian died on the Selbach estate Jan. 4, 1764. Vincentz and Anna then turned over the lease to their oldest son Christian, who partnered with Jacob Schönbeck. Vincentz and Anna moved 14 miles west to Schaaken, at the west end of the Edersee valley (now found on maps as Kloster Ruine Schaaken).

Children of Vincentz Schwartzentrŭber and Anna Zimmerman include:

1. **Christian Schwartzentruber** was born in 1719, likely on the Bärbelsteinerhof, the grounds of Berwarstein Castle at Erlenbach bei Dahn, and died at Netze in 1773.
2. Johannes Schwartzentruber was born in the Grafschaft Falkenstein circa 1727. He went with his parents to Schaaken, Waldeck in 1764, and took over the lease upon the death of his father.
3. Jakob Schwartzentruber was born in the Grafschaft Falkenstein. He leased the Süden [south] estate near the town of Waldeck 1767-1789. He married Barbara Jutzi.
4. Verena Schwartzentruber was born in the Grafschaft Falkenstein, and died at Helsen (now a neighborhood of Arolsen, 17 miles north of the town of Waldeck) July 30, 1786. She married minister Christian Güngerich. They farmed at Helsen, where he died Sept. 6, 1783. Christian represented the Waldeck congregation at the assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in 1779. See GŰNGERICH for background on his family.

Christian Schwartzentruber was born in 1719, likely on the Bärbelsteinerhof, the grounds of Berwarstein Castle at Erlenbach bei Dahn. His wife could not be identified. He died at Netze in 1773.

His children include:

1. **Peter Schwarzentruber/Schwarzentraub/Schwartztraub** was born circa 1740-50.
2. Jakob Schwartzentruber was born circa 1740-50. He was leaseholder of a dairy at Berich, Waldeck in 1774. Berich was one of the communities that was flooded when the Edersee dam was completed in 1914 (see EHRESMAN, BUREAU AND MCLEAN COUNTIES). He is found as a leaseholder at Höringhausen, Waldeck in 1795.
    a. Christian Schwarzentraub was born on the Selbach estate at Netze Dec. 25, 1770. Before 1793 he married Katharina Esch of Bad Wildungen (now adjacent to the Edersee reservoir). They leased the Bubenrod estate below Königsberg in 1793. Königsberg was then in Hesse-Darmstadt. Since 1970 it has been considered a district of the municipality Biebertal in the Hesse district of Giessen. Katharina died there May 28, 1808. On Jan. 7, 1810 at Königsberg Christian remarried to Anna Bachmann (see BACHMAN). She was born on the Rinkweilerhof estate at Hornbach, six miles south of the city of Zweibrücken. In 1819 Christian and Anna made the final payment to assume possession of the Bubenrod estate. Christian died at adjacent Königsberg Jan. 23, 1855. In his book *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth reprinted part of a eulogy delivered by the Protestant minister at Königsberg. It mentioned that Christian's two wives had delivered 19 children. Only a handful of the children have been identified. Some died young, others apparently went off to live with relatives at locations such as the Albacherhof estate. *We looked through church records on FHL microfilm to sort out the Schwarzentruber/Schwarzentraub tangle on the adjacent Bubenrod estate (Hofgut Bubenrod) and Hof Strupbach at Königsberg (nine miles northwest of Giessen, a Hesse-Darmstadt university town). We could generalize and say that the families in the Principality of Waldeck retained the spelling*

[176] 1816 must have been a year of high anxiety for the Amish Mennonites in the Principality of Waldeck. The death of their initial patron coincided with the return of two companies of troops from the Napoleonic Wars, as well as the onset of the 'Little Ice Age' cold weather phenomenon across Europe.

Schwartzentruber, while the families in Hesse-Darmstadt became Schwartztraubs and Schwarzentraubs. But the records kept at Königsberg are erratic and deceptive. Often the same person can be found as a Schwartztraub, Schwarzentruber, Schwarzentraub, or what appears to be Schwarzendruber (when the 't' is not crossed). A closer look reveals that many signatures match the handwriting of the text above, indicating that they were written by the clerk for someone who was probably illiterate. Thus many of the spelling variations were unintentional and inconsistent.

b. Daniel Schwarzentraub. On Sept. or Dec. 25, 1811 at Königsberg he married Anna Bachmann's sister Katharina (see BACHMAN). Their entry stated that Daniel was a *Mennonit* on the Bubenrod estate. Katharina was born on the Rinkweilerhof estate.

1) Their son Daniel Schwarzentraub was born at Leihgestern, Hesse July 29, 1820. Leihgestern is located four miles below Giessen.[177] At age 31 Daniel sailed from Bremen on the *Janet Ridson*, arriving at New York June 24, 1852. This was the same voyage that brought Peter Erismann and his wife Magdalena Stähly (they settled in Bureau County; see EHRESMAN, BUREAU AND MCLEAN COUNTIES), as well as Magdalena's younger brother Peter Stähly. (Peter Erismann and Magdalena Stähly were later next-door neighbors to Johannes/John Schwarzentraub from the Turtle Creek family and his wife Barbara Kiefer). Shortly after arrival Daniel married his second cousin Magdalena/Helena/Helen Schwarzentraub. On the 1870 census of Pleasant Ridge, Livingston County: farmer Dan. Schwarzentraub, 50, Prussia; Hellen, 43, Prussia; Joseph, 15; Albert, 11; and Louis, 7; all children born in Illinois. Magdalena/Helena/Helen died Jan. 26, 1899. She is buried in Buckeye Cemetery at Morton. In 1900 Daniel was living at Morton with his oldest son. That household appears as farmer Joe Schwarzentraub, 45, born in Illinois in February 1855 to German parents; Johanna, wife, 29, born February 1871 in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio; Albert, 1, born in April 1899 to parents from Illinois; boarder Daniel Schwarzentraub, 79, born in Germany in July 1820 to German parents (married 45 years); and Lizzie Kennel, housekeeper, 26, born in Illinois in June 1873 to parents from Germany and Ohio. Daniel died at Morton April 12, 1906. He was buried in Buckeye Cemetery.

Peter Schwarzentruber/Schwarzentraub/Schwartztraub was born circa 1740-50.

He married Barbara Schönbeck.

At this point it is helpful to recall from UNZICKER: "Nassau-Weilburg (south of Waldeck) was a princely domain... In 1775 the chancellor for Prince Carl Christian of Nassau-Weilburg visited the Amish Mennonite-leased Münsterhof estate at Dreisen in the Pfalz (he had a home at Kircheimbolanden, and actually died on the Münsterhof in 1778). He was so impressed by the progressive methods used there 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 Schwartztraub. Peter Unzicker brought several brothers who also claimed properties. According to Hermann Guth, Holly received a 200 gulden reward from the chancellor."

Circa 1775-1787 Peter and Barbara took up a lease on the Freienfelserhof, a portion of the grounds of ruined Castle Freienfels (between Weinbach and Weilburg in Nassau-Weilburg). The Hesse State Archives holds a document that mentions the arrangement. The leaseholder on the Freienfelserhof is 'Peter Schwartztraub.'

When Peter left the lease arrangement, he gave his next address as the Sonnenberg estate at Wiesbaden. He never resided there, and could be found on a farm at Freienhagen (just above the communities of Waldeck and Netze, and the Edersee reservoir) after 1787.

In his old age Peter lived on the Bubenrod estate below Königsberg, 140 miles southeast of the town of Waldeck, where he died. The Bubenrod estate was located in the Landgraviate of Hesse-Damstadt. It had been leased in 1793 by Peter's nephew Christian Schwartzentruber/Schwartztraub (1770-1855), a son of Jakob.

Peter and Barbara had at least two sons. Older son Peter married Wilhelmine Ösch and remained at Freienhagen. Younger son **Johannes Schwarzentruber/John Schwarzentraub** became the father of a family that lived on the Bubenrod estate and emigrated four years after his death.

Shettler family notes say he was born June 6, 1774. If so, the location was likely the Selbach estate at Netze in Waldeck.

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[177] Giessen was the location of the Schauferts estate leased by Daniel Brenneman (1814-1870). He was a son of Jakob Unzicker and Elisabeth Jordy, and a brother to Peter Unzicker (the Morton resident described in UNZICKER) and Elise Unzicker (she married Joseph Brenneman of Wohra and lived at Granville, Putnam County). Brennemans also farmed on the Albacherhof between Albach and Lich, seven miles southeast of the city.

Johannes married Magdalena Schwarzentruber. Family notes say that she was born Aug. 27, 1796, and died in Illinois Jan. 28, 1854. She came from Buchenberg, at the west end of the Edersee valley. It is likely that she was descended from Christian, the younger brother of Vincentz Schwartzentrŭber.

1816 must have been a year of high anxiety for the Amish Mennonites in the Principality of Waldeck. The death of their initial patron Christiane Henriette, Palatine Countess of Birkenfeld-Bischweiler-Pfalz-Zweibrücken coincided with the return of two companies of troops from the Napoleonic Wars, as well as the onset of the 'Little Ice Age' cold weather phenomenon across Europe.

Johannes died Feb. 2, 1832. An emigration file in the Hesse State Archives labeled 'Johannes Schwarzentruber' states that in April of 1836 his widow and six children applied for permission to go to America (the oldest son who accompanied them was already 19 and would have had his own file, with or without an exemption from military training). Their home is noted as 'Hof Strubbach bei Königsberg' – Strupbach farm at Königsberg.[178]

Widow Magdalena and her children boarded the *Isabella* at Bremen, and arrived at New York Sept. 7, 1836. The *Isabella*'s passenger list names them: Mag. Schwarzentrauba, 40, Hessia; Christ, 19, laborer; Jacob, 17; Johannes, 15; Marie, 13; Magdalena, 9; Joseph, 6; and Jacobine, 11.

In 1850 son Christian's household at Turtle Creek appears as farmer Christian Swarcentroup, 32; Magdelin, 53 [mother]; laborer Conrad Supt, 30; Meary Kinrish, 45; and farmer [and younger brother] Joseph Swascentroup, 20. Son Jacob's household appears as farmer Jacob Swatzentroup, 31; John, 29; Helen, 23 [Magdalena/Helena]; laborer John Banten, 42; and laborer Charles Wolb, 25.

Johannes and Magdalena's children were all born in Hesse-Darmstadt according to their own census reports. Some were registered at Königsberg. They include:

1. Christian Schwarzentraub was born Nov. 27, 1817, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Nov. 25, 1888. On the 1860 census of Morton he is a 43-year-old farmer in the household of his brother Jacob and his first wife Catharine Nafziger. On the 1870 census of Morton he appears as a 53-year-old farmer in the household of his brother Jacob and second wife Caroline Engel. On Nov. 10, 1878 at the age of 61 Christian married widow Helene Gingerich. She was born circa April 22, 1833, and died Feb. 5, 1891; her headstone does not give a birth date, but the age 57 years, 9 months, 15 days. In 1880 they were living at Washington, where they appeared on the federal census as farmer Christ Swartzentraub, 62, born in Hesse-Darmstadt to a father from Prussia and a mother from Hesse; Helen, 46, born in Hesse to Hessian parents; and stepson Christian Unsicker, 22, born in Hesse to a father from Hesse-Darmstadt and a mother from Hesse.[179] Helene's *Christlicher Bundesbote* obituary, Feb. 26, 1891: "On February 5 at Washington, Tazewell County, Helena Schwartzentraub, born Gingrich, at the age of 57 years, 9 months, and 13 days. Her funeral took place on the 8th in Hirstein's cemetery. Remarks were delivered by bishop M. Kiesinger [Kinsinger], David Augspurger, Peter Schantz, and S. Schmitt. The deceased sister was born in Alterau Province in Hesse. In the year 1855 she married Daniel Unsicker of Rhinehesse. But in the first year of the marriage he died. In the year 1878 Helena followed her son Christian to America, and she remarried to Christian Schwarzentraub of Tazewell County on November 10, 1878. This marriage was only of a brief duration, since its husband went into eternity first on Nov. 25, 1888. They leave one son and two grandchildren. Their most ardent desire was expressed in *Phillippians 1:23*: 'I have desire to separate and be with Christ.'" They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton.
2. **Jakob/Jacob Schwarzentraub** was born in 1819, died in 1887, and is also buried in Hirstein Cemetery.
3. Johannes/John Schwarzentraub was born on the Bubenrod estate at Königsberg Dec. 27, 1820. On Feb. 3, 1853 in Bureau County he married Barbe/Barbara Kiefer. She was born at Amélecourt, Moselle Nov. 11, 1826, a daughter of Joseph Kiefer and Barbe Guingerich (in her second marriage; see the Appendix, KIEFER/KIEFFER for background on their family). From a sketch of their son Joseph K. Schwarzentraub in *Past and Present of Bureau County, Illinois* (1906): "The father was born in Germany, December 27, 1820, and the mother's birth occurred in France in 1828. She was brought to the United States by her parents when but two years of age and Mr. Schwarzentaub crossed the Atlantic to the new world when a youth of fifteen years, when he became a resident of Concord township, Bureau county, Illinois." A biography of one of their sons says John relocated from Ohio to Illinois at the age of 31 (1852). Their household appears on the 1860 census of Concord, Bureau County as farmer John Schwartzentaub, 39, Germany; Barbara, 33, France; John E., 6, Illinois; Julius A., 3, Illinois; and Mary C., 2, Illinois. In 1870 they appear at Bureau, Bureau County as farmer John Schwartzentraub, 47, Germany; Barbara, 43, France; John E., 16; Julius A., 14; Mary C., 11; Joseph, 9; Phebe, 7; all children born in Illinois. They also appear on the 1880 census of Bureau. Barbara Kiefer appears on the 1900 census of Bureau as the 73-year-old mother in the household of son Joseph

[178] Hof Strupbach (east of the village of Königsberg) and Bubenrod (south) are still active farms.

[179] Christian Unsicker was born Sept. 6, 1857, and died April 18, 1914. He married Marie Lammle, who was born June 3, 1876, and died Oct. 17, 1944, a daughter of Adam Lammle. They appear on the 1910 census of Deer Creek as Christ Unsicker, 52, Germany (year of immigration 1877); Mary, 49; and 7 children born in Illinois. Christian and Marie are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton.

Schwarzentraub, who was born in 1861. The census gives her birth date as November 1826 and says she immigrated in 1828.

4. Maria/Mary Schwarzentraub was born on the Bubenrod estate at Königsberg Feb. 8, 1823, and died at Buda, Bureau County Jan. 10, 1879. On May 7, 1843 in Butler County she married Friederich/Frederick Schöttler/Schoettler. He was born at Sichelbach (west of Kassel) Aug. 22, 1814, and died at Buda July 30, 1879, a son of Christian Schöttler and his second wife Elisabeth Sommer. *Voters and Taxpayer of Bureau County*, 1877, describes Frederick as someone who had immigrated in 1835, came to Bureau County in 1844, now owned 307 acres, and served as school director.
5. Magdalena/Helena/Helen Schwarzentraub was born on the Bubenrod estate at Königsberg May 21, 1827 (birth entry, though her headstone says May 31), and died Jan. 26, 1899. She became the wife of second cousin Daniel Schwarzentraub. They are buried in Buckeye Cemetery at Morton.
6. Jacobine Schwarzentraub was born on the Bubenrod estate at Königsberg April 28, 1825. She may have been the person who appeared on the *Isabella* passenger list as 19-year-old Jacobine, though she would have been only 11 in 1836.
7. Joseph Schwarzentraub, was born circa 1830, and died in Woodford County May 26, 1876 (his headstone says he was 46 years old). He lived with older brother Christian at Turtle Creek. On Dec. 29, 1856 in Woodford County he married Barbara Vercler/Verkler.[180] She was born on Kickapoo Creek at Peoria Jan. 17, 1834, and died Aug. 5, 1910, a daughter of Joseph Vercler and Jacobine Engel. Their household is found on the 1860 census of Metamora as farm renter Joseph Swarzentraub, 30, Bavaria; Barbary, 27, Illinois; and Louisa, 2, Illinois. They are also found on the 1870 census of Pleasant Ridge, Livingston County as farmer J. Schwarzentraut, 40, Germany; Barbary, 35, Illinois; Louisa, 12, Illinois; Edward, 4, Illinois; and C.L. Shetler, 26, Illinois. They are buried in the North Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Forrest, Livingston County.

Jakob/Jacob Schwarzentraub was born in Hesse-Darmstadt in 1819, died in 1887, and is buried in Hirstein Cemetery.

On July 4, 1854 in Peoria County he married Catharine Nafziger (found on the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as Jacob Schwartzenthraup). She was born on the Merzhausen farm at Rosenthal, Hesse circa Nov. 6, 1824, and died at Morton Jan. 22, 1861, a daughter of Christian Nafziger and Magdalena Oswald. Her headstone near his in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton identifies her as 'Catharine, wife of Jacob Schwarzentraub, died Jan. 22, 1861, age 36 yrs' with the months and days broken off. For background see NAFZIGER.

According to *History of Washington, Illinois, Sesquicentennial 1825-1975*, their farm was an overnight stopping place for lawyer Abraham Lincoln as he traveled to the courthouse at Metamora.

The 1860 census of Morton has farmer Jacob Schwaratsau, 41, Germany; Catharine, 36, Germany; John, 1; and Christian [Jacob's older brother], 43, Germany. The 1910 census of Morton has Carlina Schwarzentraub, 71, France; Emil, 38, born in Illinois to French parents; and servant Minnie Bauman, 31, born in Illinois to German parents.

A child of Jakob/Jacob Schwarzentraub and his first wife Catharine Nafziger was:

1. John L. Schwarzentraub was born at Morton May 29, 1859, and died there Aug. 21, 1927. On Feb. 9, 1895 in McLean County he married Emma Augusta Springer. She was born in 1863, and died in 1940, a daughter of Peter Springer (also known as Peter D. Springer) and Elise/Eliza Brenneman. They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery.

Jacob remarried to Caroline Engel (she was 19 years younger). She was an illegitimate child born to Jacobine Engel at Lorentzen, Lower Alsace Feb. 17, 1838. At the time Jacobine was the widow of André Schertz, who had died at Lorentzen April 16, 1830. See the Appendix, KIEFER/KIEFFER for background on her family's immigration.

On the 1870 census of Morton Jakob/Jacob's household appears as farmer Jacob Shuencentraub, 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. On the 1880 census of Morton they appear next door to Jacob Kennel: farmer Jacob Schwazentraub, 61, Hesse-Cassel; Caroline, 41, Lorraine; John, 21; Theodore, 14; and Eamil, 8; all children born in Illinois.

Caroline died at Morton June 18, 1922.

Children of Jakob/Jacob Schwarzentraub and his second wife Caroline Engel include:

2. Theodore Schwarzentraub was born at Morton Oct. 7, 1865, and died there Dec. 14, 1935. On Nov. 8, 1896 in Tazewell County he married Mary K. Mathis (as found on the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*), also found as Marie

[180] The marriage record held at Eureka lists them as 'Barbara Verkler' and 'Joseph Swartzentraub.'

Katherine Mathis, Marie Kathryn Mathis, and Marie Katharina Mathis. She was born Aug. 17, 1875, and died at Morton July 31, 1957. They are buried in Hirstein Cemetery.

3. Emil Schwarzentraub was born at Morton June 30, 1871, and died there Dec. 27, 1932. He is buried in Hirstein Cemetery.

Smith: Schmitt of Linstroff

Two Christian Smiths figure in the history of the part of Tazewell County that became Woodford County. Christian Smith of Worth (1802-1876) was the father of minister John Smith and the grandfather of historian C. Henry Smith. Christian Smith (1810-1855) was a highly respected farmer in the location that was known as Slabtown, and is now Congerville in Montgomery Township. He died in a cholera epidemic that also took his wife, two children, his brother-in-law, and their minister.

The two Christians grew up as Schmitts in Moselle. They were cousins, sharing a paternal grandfather, **Johann/Jean Schmitt.**

Johann/Jean Schmitt was born circa 1733. He became a miller on Hingsange farm at Linstroff (now part of Grostenquin), and died there Sept. 27, 1793.

Johann/Jean's death entry names his widow as Barbe Hirschy. She was 58 years old, thus born circa 1735. However, the 1801 death entry of son Christian (found as Christianne) identifies his mother as Marie Hirchinne. And the 1803 marriage entry of son Joseph named his mother as Anne Hirchy. What we know about the Hirschi family suggests Johann/Jean's wife was a daughter of Pierre Hirschi and Marie Kupperschmit. However, this may also represent two daughters married in succession. Or, their daughter Marie Françoise Hirschi, who was born and baptized at Grostenquin March 17, 1725. See the Appendix, HIRSCHY/HIRSCHEY for background on this family.

Though he may have had a large family, only four of the offspring of Johann/Jean Schmitt could be identified:

1. Christian Schmitt was born at Linstroff circa 1766-69. He appeared as a witness on his father's death entry. It described him as Christian Schmitt, a 24-year-old miller's assistant on Hingsange farm. Another witness was cultivator Joseph Hirschi, 38, described as a brother-in-law of Johann/Jean. Christian's death entry created at Zimming, Moselle June 20, 1801 called him 'Christianne Schmitte,' and described him as a 33-year-old Anabaptist day laborer born from 'Hingzange.' He married Barbe Guingerich. See THE SMITHS OF ZIMMING AND WORTH for the story of their son Christian.
2. Johannes/Hans/Jean Schmitt was born at Linstroff in May of 1775 (marriage entry), 1774 (1850 census), 1772 (1860 census), or May 16, 1770 (headstone date), and died in Campbell County, Kentucky Nov. 17, 1866. In 1794 he was drafted to perform alternative military service, and worked on fortifications near Metz. On Nov. 10, 1811 at Bertambois, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Anne Sommer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Anabaptist farmhand Jean Schmitte, age 36 years four months, son of Anabaptist miller Jean Schmitte living at Hingsange, Linstroff, and Marie Hirchy. The bride was described as Anabaptist Anne Somer [Sommer], 20, daughter of cultivator Joseph Somer of Gindremond [Guindremont, Meurthe-et-Moselle] and Anabaptist Barbe Karbre [Gerber], living at Bertrambois. Anne was born circa 1791, and died in Campbell County Jan. 4, 1871, a daughter of Joseph Sommer and Elisabeth Barbe Gerber. They lived at Gelucourt and Niderhoff. According to descendant Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, they arrived in Kentucky between 1832 and 1835. They appear on the 1850 census of 2nd District, Campbell County, Kentucky a page before families named Musselman [Mosiman] and Shirts [see SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF SARRALBE]: John Smith, 76, France; Anna, 60, France; Mary, 26, France; and Peter, 20, France. In 1860 their household is shown as John Smith, 88, France; Ann, 73, France; Ann, 44, France; Mary, 39, France; John, 17, Illinois; and Alice, 13, Illinois. They are buried in the Schertz Family Cemetery at Campbell County as 'John Smith' and 'Anna Smith.' *Gospel Herald*, February 1871: "On the 4th of January in Campbell County, Kentucky, of infirmities of old age, Anna Smidt (maiden name Summers), in her 84th year. She was buried on the 6th in the family grave-yard, by the side of her husband. Funeral remarks by Pre. Joseph Augspurger of Butler County, Ohio, from *2 Cor. 5:1,2*."
3 Joseph Schmitt was born at Wittring (22 miles east of Linstroff) April 26, 1777, according to his marriage entry. On May 5, 1803 at Linstroff he married Freni/Véronique Gerber. See THE SMITHS OF BISPING for the story of their son Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith.
4. Marie Schmitt was born at Linstroff in 1782. On Nov. 27, 1811 at Gelucourt, Moselle she married Pierre Schertz, becoming his third wife (see SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF SARRALBE for background on this couple who came to Campbell County, Kentucky).

Schmitt of Zimming
Worth

Christian Schmitt/Smith was born Jan. 21, 1802 at Zimming, a tiny village about seven miles west of St. Avold, Moselle. He was a son of Christian Schmitt and Barbe Guingerich.[181] Because he was born after the death of his father (June 20, 1801), who had worked as a miller at Zimming, his birth entry identified his father as 'Christian Schmitt, posthume.' It was witnessed by farm hand Joseph Schmitt (presumably his uncle who was married to Freni/Véronique Gerber) and miller André Moser.

He was considered one of the early settlers of the Black Partridge Creek area of what was then Tazewell County; it is now in Woodford County. *The Past and Present of Woodford County* (1878): "Christian Smith came to the United States in 1829, and, after spending four years in Pennsylvania, came to Worth, where he settled permanently in 1833, and was one of the prosperous farmers of the times."

On May 27, 1838 in Tazewell County Christian married Catherine Bechler [Bächler]; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Engel. Catherine was born at St. Jean-Kourtzerode, Moselle April 8, 1805, and died at Eureka, Woodford County in 1860, a daughter of Jacob Bechler and Anne Gerber.

Catherine may have sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Poland*, and arrived at New York July 26, 1837. A discussion of this possibility can be found in DETTWEILER.

On Feb. 3, 1836 Christian purchased 80 acres in Section 3 of Township 27N. On Aug. 30, 1838 he purchased another 80 acres in Section 10. Township 27N would become Worth.

Their household appears on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Christian Smith, 50, Germany; Catharine, 43, Illinois; Madaline, 11, Illinois; Catharine, 10, Illinois; Anne, 7, Illinois; John, 6, Illinois; Maria, 5, Illinois; Bena, 1, Illinois; and Madaline Beshler, 40, Illinois.[182]

The 1860 census of Worth, Woodford County shows farmer Christian Smith, 60, Bavaria; Catharine, 60, France; Anne, 18, Illinois; John, 16 Illinhios; Maria, 13, Illinois; and Bena, 11, Illinois.

Christian died at Metamora in 1876, and is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. His headstone reads, "Christian Smith, born 1800, died 1876, aged 76 years."

Their children born at Partridge or Worth include:

1. Magdalena Smith was born May 21 (*Past and Present*) or 24 (obituary), 1839, and died March 22, 1902. On Feb. 19, 1860 at Metamora she married Christian Camp. He was born at Spring Bay Oct. 29, 1836, and died Jan. 13, 1914, a son of Joseph Camp [Kempf] and Magdalena/Magdeleine Engel. For more on this couple see CAMP. *Herald of Truth*, May 1902: "On the 22 of March, 1902, at Metamora, Ill., of heart failure, Magdalena Camp, aged 62 Y., 9 M., 28 D. She was born May 24, 1839, united in marriage with Christian Camp, Feb. 1860. She leaves her husband, five sons and three daughters, ten grandchildren, two sisters and one brother to mourn her departure. She united with the Amish Mennonite church in her youth, in which she remained faithful to the end. Funeral services at the Metamora M. H. in German by Andrew Schrock from *2 Tim. 4:4-8*; in English by Samuel Garber from *Rom. 6:23*. Burial in the Roanoke cemetery."
2. Catherine Smith was born June 13, 1840, and died May 10, 1885. On Feb. 2, 1859 in Woodford County she married Joseph Leman. He was born at Rhodes, Moselle June 3, 1835, and died July 21, 1926, a son of Joseph Lehman and Catherine Pelsy. See LEMAN for more on this couple.
3. Anna Smith was born Dec. 4, 1841, and died July 25, 1900. On June 24, 1863 (June 22, 1862 county records) in Woodford County she married John Sommer. He was born Aug. 6, 1835, and died at Normal, McLean County Aug. 2, 1912, a son of George Sommer and Anna Gasser. They are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. *Gospel Herald*, August 1912: "Lingering in an unconscious state for five days following a stroke of apoplexy, John Sommer died at the home of his daughter, Lizzie Sommer. in Metamora, Ill., Aug. 2, 1912; aged. 76 y. 11 m. 27 d. He has been in failing health since three years ago, when he suffered a paralytic stroke at the home of his son John, in Oklahoma. He was brought back to Illinois a few months afterwards, and has since then made his home with his daughter Lizzie. He was born in France Aug. 6, 1835, and two years later came with his father's family to Partridge Twp., where he grew to manhood and was married to Anna Smith, June 24, 1863. Thirteen children were born to this union, nine living, of whom all but one were at the father's bedside during his last days of illness. His wife preceded him in death, July 25, 1900. He united with the Dunkard Church at Stuttgart, Ark., 14 years ago and remained a faithful member to the end. The surviving children are George I., Joseph D., Bena, Lizzie, Lena, wife of John

[181] Christian Schmitt/Smith of Worth may have had a sister, though a birth entry could not be found in records created at Zimming or Bisping. Marie Schmitt (later Mary Smith) was born circa 1800, and died at Worth in May of 1871 according to *Past and Present of Woodford County*. She married Jean/John Kennel. See KENNEL.

[182] Catherine's sister Madeleine Bechler was born at St. Jean-Kourtzerode July 17, 1809. An application for the marriage of Magdalena Bechler and 'Christian Naffsinger' was filed in Woodford County Feb. 16, 1851.

Wagner, John J., Chris W., Anna., wife of Sam Studer, and Peter B. Five brothers and one sister also survive; also 23 grandchildren. Funeral services Aug. 4 at the Union Church, Metamora, Ill., conducted by E. Eschliman and Andrew Schrock. The services were attended by a large throng of relatives and friends of the family. After the services the remains were taken to the Hickory Point Cemetery west of Metamora for burial."

4. **John Smith** was born Nov. 27, 1843, and died at Metamora July 6, 1906.
5. Mary Smith was born March 30, 1845, and died at Eureka May 25, 1927. On Feb. 20, 1867 (Jan. 20, 1867 Woodford County records) she married John Imhoff. He was born in Butler County, Ohio Aug. 10, 1837, and died at Low Point, Woodford County Jan. 9, 1907, a son of Johannes or Johann Imhoff (or John Imhoff) and Mary Wagner. See IMHOFF for background on this couple.
6. Jacobine 'Bena' Smith was born July 22, 1849, and died at Washington Sept. 9, 1925. On Jan. 16, 1870 in Woodford County she married Peter Sommer. He was born at Metamora April 11, 1843, and died at Washington June 5, 1922, a son of George Sommer and Anna Gasser. They are buried in Union Cemetery at Washington as 'Rev. Peter Summer' and 'Bena Summer.' *Gospel Herald*, June 1922: "Peter Summer was born near Metamora, Ill., April 11, 1843, where he grew up to young manhood. His father emigrated from Strasberg, France, in a sail-boat, requiring three months to cross the ocean, and located west of Metamora, where the whole family was reared. He was one of nine children; two brothers and two sisters preceding him. Three brothers (Joseph, Jacob, George) and one sister (Anna) survive him. His father also found time to minister to the spiritual wants in the community in which he lived, being one of the first settlers to locate in that district. There were no school privileges then as we have them now, so he received only a limited amount of training in the public schools. On Jan. 16, 1870 he was married to Bena Smith, to which union were born nine children; namely, George, John, Chris, Joseph, Peter, Jacob, Anna, Benjamin, and Emanuel, all of whom survive. The death of the father causes the first break in the family circle. He also leaves thirty-two grandchildren, four having preceded him in death. While yet a young man he united with the Mennonite Church, and in 1888 was ordained to the ministry, in which capacity he served as long as his health permitted. He retired from the farm five years ago, moving to Washington, Ill., where he lived until his death. Until four years ago he knew not what sickness was, but since then he has been gradually failing, and passed quietly away June 5, aged 79 y. 1 m. 24 d. Funeral services were conducted at the residence by A. L. Buzzard and at the Evangelical church by J. E. Hartzler (text, *Job. 14:14*), June 8. A large gathering had the privilege of listening to a message full of proof that a man shall live even though the physical body does die. P. D. Summer." *Gospel Herald*, October 1925: " Bena (Smith) Summer was born near Metamora, Ill., July 22, 1849, where she grew to womanhood. She affiliated herself with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful member until her death, which occurred Sept. 9, 1925; aged 76 y. 1 m. 17 d. On January 16, 1870, she was united in marriage to Peter Summer, who predeceased her three years ago. To this union were born eight sons and one daughter, all living, and all present at the funeral but one. She leaves 37 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Four grandchildren preceded her in death. She was the youngest of six children, four of whom preceded her in death. (One of these was Bishop John Smith.) Mrs. Mary Imhoff is the only one surviving her. Funeral services were conducted by A. A. Schrock at the home and A. H. Leaman and A. L. Buzzard at the Union Church. Interment in the adjoining cemetery. Text, *Jno. 14:1-3*. A. L. B."

John Smith was born at Partridge or Worth Nov. 27, 1843. He was ordained as a minister at the Roanoke Mennonite Church by Christian Ropp in 1887, and later as elder. He served the Western Conference six times as secretary and three times as moderator.

On Feb. 12, 1865 in Woodford County he married Madeleine/Magdalena Schertz. She was born in Peoria County Dec. 1, 1843, and died Jan. 24, 1898, a daughter of Daniel 'David' Schertz and Catherine Bachman. She is buried in Roanoke Mennonite cemetery at 'Lena wife of John Smith.' They can be found on the 1880 census of Worth, Woodford County.

Herald of Truth, March 1898: "On Tuesday morning, Jan. 25th, 1898, the spirit of Magdalena Smith, wife of Bish. John Smith, passed quietly away. Magdelena Schertz was born Dec. 1, 1843, and died at the age of 54 years, 1 month and 24 days. She had been a long and patient sufferer with consumption until death finally released her. She leaves her husband and eight children, four boys and four girls, to mourn their loss, but what is their loss can be reckoned as her gain, as for her it was only a stepping out from a world of pain and sorrow, to one of everlasting bliss. The end came peacefully, conscious that a bright home was prepared for her in the new Jerusalem. Short funeral services were held at the house and at the Roanoke church, Jan. 27th, where a large concourse of friends and relatives assembled to pay their last respects to the dear departed. Services were conducted by Samuel Gerber and Peter Summer."

John remarried to widow Lydia Schlegel Nov. 16, 1899. She was born at Tremont Sept. 25, 1860, a daughter of Christian Schlegel and Salomé 'Sarah' Sommer. On Jan. 13, 1887 she had married her first husband, August Albrecht. He was born at Waldo June 16, 1861, and died Feb. 16, 1892, a son of John Albrecht and Anna Gascho.

John died at Metamora July 6, 1906. He is buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. Lydia died at Goshen, Indiana Oct. 20, 1941, and was buried with August Albrecht in Waldo Cemetery as 'Lydia Slagell Smith' (see her obituary in SCHLEGEL).

Gospel Witness, July 1906: "Bish. John Smith, of Metamora, Ills., was born Nov. 27, 1843; died July 6, 1906; aged 62 y., 7 m., 9 d. In the spring of 1865 he was married to sister Magdalena Schertz. To this union were born 10 children, of which three, with their mother, preceded Bro. Smith into eternity. On Nov. 16, 1899, he was married to Sister Lydia [Schlegel] Albrecht, who, with her daughter, Agnes Albrecht, and seven of his children, remain to mourn the loss of an affectionate husband and father. Bro. Smith was ordained to the ministry in the year 1887 and a few years later was called as bishop, which office he faithfully filled to the time of his death. He was also appointed to care for the churches of the state that were without a bishop by the Western A. M. Conference. Funeral services were conducted at the house by Bro. A. H. Leaman, of the Chicago Mission, from *James 4:14*, and at the church by Bro. S. Gerig, of Wayland, Iowa, in German, and Bro. Samuel Garber, of Groveland, Ill., in English, both taking for their text *II Tim.4:7,8*. Bro. Smith was in good health as ever, apparently. On Friday, July 6th, he drove to Roanoke, and while there had a severe pain on his chest, and when he got home he made mention of it to his family and seemed to pay no more attention to it. He ate his supper as usual, and during the evening he made several appointments with different brethren, to be filled on the following day, and was in the best of spirits during the evening. At about 9 o'clock he retired for the night and at 9:40 that grim reaper, Death, called and took him and we have the assurance that he has entered a nobler work than he could ever have attained to in this life. Just a moment before he passed away he told his wife that he believed that pain was coming back again, and with that he passed away..."

John's son Joseph D. Smith became superintendent of the Home for the Aged at Eureka, and his son C. Henry Smith became an outstanding historian of American Mennonites.

Schmitt of Bisping

Congerville

Joseph Schmitt was born at Wittring April 26, 1777, according to his marriage entry.[183]

On May 5, 1803 at Linstroff he married Freni/Véronique Gerber. She was born in the hamlet Kreutzwald at Saverne, Lower Alsace Feb. 28, 1781, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Gerber and Catherine Gingerich. Her parents were farming on the Roderhof at Insviller, Moselle (12 miles southeast of Grostenquin).

Joseph and Véronique lived at Bisping (six miles south of Insviller) and Vannecourt (13 miles west of Bisping), both in Moselle.[184] Joseph was a cabinet maker.

The Schmitts had a connection with the Farny family of Bisping: Barbe Farny was the second wife of Freni/Véronique Gerber's older brother Peter/Pierre Gerber. Barbe Farny was an older half-sister to Christian and Peter/Pierre Farny, 'the Amishmen who hired Lincoln.' (Freni/Véronique Gerber also had an older sister Elisabeth 'Lisbeth' Gerber who married Pierre Farny of the Bistroff family).

Background on the village of Bisping can be found in FARNY. An excerpt from that history:

> The most significant event in the early lives of Peter/Pierre and Christian Farny may have been the occupation of their village by Russian troops in 1814. After the defeat of the French army, every citizen in the Lorraine Region feared the arrival of Cossack cavalrymen. The mayor of Bisping assured his constituency that they should not yield to panic or leave the village, since it was unlikely the Russians would pass through their tiny community. Nevertheless the Russian army set up camp along the route between Bisping and Angviller. Bisping residents were tasked to provide sheep, pigs, hay, oats, straw, and firewood. Pots and pans were lent out to the encampments, then abandoned on the spot when the soldiers departed. Later the mayor shrugged off the embarrassment, asserting that the losses and damages would have been the same if they had been French troops.

We identified five of the children of Joseph Schmitt and Freni/Véronique Gerber. It is possible that there were other births at other locations:

1. Joseph Schmitt was born at Vannecourt Oct. 30, 1806. His household is found on the 1850 census of Madison, Butler County, Ohio: Joseph Smith, 38, Germany; Jacobina, 35, Germany; Ann, 10; Catharine, 8; Joseph, 7; Magdalena, 5; Nicholas, 2; and Mary, 8 months; all children born in Ohio. Thus Joseph was in Ohio by 1840.

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[183] Some older sources erroneously state that the father Christian Smith was actually Christian Peter Schmidt, a son of Jacob Petter Schmid and Barbara Lauber. However, the information we gathered shows distinct Smith and Peter Schmidt families that were connected by later marriages. (The first Peter Schmidt to come to Central Illinois was widow Anna, who came from Butler County, Ohio to marry her second husband Joseph Oyer at Farmdale, now part of East Peoria, in 1851).

[184] Bisping and Angviller-lès-Bisping combined to become Belles-Forêts in 1973.

Circa 1856 they resettled in Fulton County, Ohio. On the 1860 census of German, Fulton County: Jos. Smith, 56, Germany; Jacobine, 45, Germany; Ann, 19; Catherine, 18; Joseph, 16; Magdalena, 15; Nicholas, 12; Christian, 6; Emaline, 3; all children born in Ohio.[185] On the 1870 census of German, Fulton County: Joseph Smith, 60, France; Phoebe, 55, France; Joseph, 26; Nicholas, 22; Christian, 16; Emma, 13; Magdalena, 19; all children born in Ohio. They lived next door to pioneer Christian Rupp, 79, and a few houses from Christian Lauber, 40, and his wife Catherine, 38. Joseph Smith is mentioned once in *A Standard History of Fulton County, Ohio*. On May 12, 1875 he sold land south of Archbold to the town for use as a cemetery. The price was $37.60. *Gospel Herald*, November 1877: "Aug. 14th, in Fulton Co., Ohio, of a lingering disease, Joseph Smith, aged 68 years and 8 months. Buried the 16th. He was a brother in the Amish Mennonite church. Words of comfort were delivered by C.P. Stuckey and C. Freyinberger."[186] Fulton County's *Death Records Book #1* lists Joseph Smith who lived at German (adjacent to Archbold on its north side), whose death certificate was filed Aug. 17, 1877. It noted that he was born in or came to Fulton County from Butler County, Ohio. Eckley Amish Cemetery is only a mile northeast of Archbold. Joseph's headstone reads, "Joseph Smith, gest. Aug. 14, 1877 den age 67 years 8 months," yielding a birth date Dec. 14, 1809. The *Gospel Herald* obituary differs by a year, yielding Dec. 14, 1808. Joseph's widow Jacobine is found on the 1880 census of German, living with daughter Emma. Her headstone in Eckley Cemetery gives the age 65, but her obituary yields the approximate birth year 1815. *Herald of Truth*, May 1881: "Schmitt. On the 18th of March, in Fulton Co., O., of asthma and dropsy; Jacobina, widow of Joseph Schmitt, deceased, aged 65 years, 6 months and 20 days. She was a sister in the Amish Mennonite church. About 25 years ago they came from Butler Co., O., to this place. Her husband preceded her to the grave over three years. She was buried on the 19th, on which occasion comforting words were spoken by J. Weisz and C. Freienberger from *Heb. 4*. She leaves five children to mourn their loss, but they need not mourn as those who have no hope. She suffered much but bore it all patiently. She often wished for the time of her departure that she might be with Christ."

2. Anne Schmitt/Anna Schmidt was born at Bisping Aug. 10, 1808, and died at Partridge, Woodford County Aug. 30, 1876. On July 13, 1834 in Butler County she married Joseph Rediger. He was born at Ichenheim, Baden Jan. 31, 1796, and died in Woodford County Feb. 9, 1852, a son of Johannes Rediger. They purchased land at Partridge before 1839.
3. **Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith** was born at Bisping May 31, 1810.
4. Marie Schmitt was born at Bisping Sept. 23, 1812, and died there Sept. 9, 1818. Her death entry was witnessed by Joseph Pilmann [Bielmann], 31, the Anabaptist *voitinier* who also appeared as a witness on Farny family entries. He was married to Marie Engel, a daughter of Michel Engel and Margaret/Marguerite Würgler/Vercler.
5. Catherine Schmitt was born at Bisping Sept. 12, 1814, and died there Sept. 27, 1818. Joseph Pilmann also appears as a witness on her death entry.

■ Family passdown says that "Christian had a brother Joseph Smith living in Fulton County, Ohio; a sister Katharine who may have married a Farny; and a sister Barbara married to John Garber." The original source of this information could not be identified. We could not identify Bisping birth entries for a sister named Barbara or one named Katharina/Catherine. However, Christian's next-door neighbor in Woodford County may have been a sister. This Barbara was born in France circa 1819, and died Aug. 26, 1893. Her husband John Gerber/Garber was also born circa 1819, and died between 1850 and 1860. They are thought to have come from Lorraine via Le Havre to New York in 1846, though we could not identify a passenger list.[187] The Woodford County census of 1850 shows them as John Garber, 31, France; Barbaray, 31, France; Elizabeth, 6, France; and Barbary, 1, Illinois. The 1860 census shows farmer John Garber, 44, Bavaria; Barbara, 44, France; Elizabeth, 16, France; Barbara, 11, Illinois; John, 3, Illinois; and Joseph, 2, Illinois. They are also shown in 1870 as Barbara Garber [now a widow], 47, France; John, 11, Illinois; and Joseph, 12, Illinois. Barbara's household appears on the 1880 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as Barbara Gerber, 64, France; and son Joseph Gerber, 22, born in Illinois to French parents. Their next-door neighbors were John and Leah Sharp, the parents of Barbara's son-in-law Peter Sharp. Barbara is buried in Imhoff Cemetery, where her headstone says, "Barbara, wife of John Gerber, 1814-Aug 26, 1893." Their children include:

   a. Elizabeth Garber/Gerber was born in Lorraine approximately Aug. 20, 1844, and died at Montgomery, Woodford County March 27, 1883. Her headstone in Imhoff Cemetery simply says 'Elisabeth' with the date of her death. On Oct. 20, 1864 in Woodford County she married John Detweiler; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Detweiler was born in France Aug. 13, 1839, and died Oct. 23, 1914, a son of Johannes Detweiler and Catherine Moser. He accompanied his uncle Jacob Miller to America in 1850. John and Elizabeth are found on the 1880 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer John Doetweiler, 41, born in France to a father from Bavaria and a mother from France; Elizabeth, 35, born in France to French parents; Joseph, 13, born in John, 11, born in Illinois to French parents; and Elizabeth, 6, born in Illinois to French parents. The 1873 plat map of Montgomery

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[185] Archbold and Clinton are within German Township, which is within Fulton County in the northwest corner of the state.

[186] Christian P. Stuckey (1857-1929) was a minister who lived at Archbold, Fulton County. Christ Freyenberger (1841-1910) lived nearby at Pettisville.

[187] A biographical sketch of John Detweiler in *Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County* (1889) describes his first wife Elizabeth Gerber as "a native of Lorrraine." It also described her father John Garber/Gerber as having "...died in this township some years ago."

Township shows the 120-acres property of 'J. Daetweiler' in Section 21. *Herald of Truth*, May 1883: "On the 27th of March, near Danvers, Ill., of consumption, Elizabeth Detweiler, aged 38 years, 7 months and 7 days. Her maiden name was Garber, and her parents emigrated to America in 1846. She was married to John Detweiler in 1864; was a faithful sister in the Mennonite Church, and leaves a husband and three children to mourn her departure. They need not mourn as those who have no hope, for she took her leave of this world with a perfect trust in God. Buried on the 29th in the presence of many friends and relatives. Services by Joseph Stuckey from *John 11:26*." On Dec. 18, 1883 John remarried to Elizabeth Miller. Their joint headstone in Imhoff Cemetery says she was born Aug. 18, 1852, and died March 1, 1938. She was a daughter of Peter Miller and Elizabeth Wolber; they brought her to America in 1868. John and Elizabeth had one child, Ida Amelia.

b. Barbara Garber/Gerber was born at what is now Congerville May 4, 1850, and died Nov. 5, 1916. Circa 1869 she married Peter Sharp. He was born at Brown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania May 6, 1846, and died in McLean County Dec. 29, 1923, a son of John Zook Sharp and Leah Yoder. They can be found on the 1880 census of Montgomery, Woodford County as farmer Peter Sharp, 33, Pennsylvania; Barbara, 28, born in Illinois to German parents; Eli, 10, Illinois; and Benjamin, 6, Illinois. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

c. Joseph Garber/Gerber was born at what is now Congerville circa 1858. He is found on the 1880 census of Montgomery living on the family farm with his widowed mother. *Portrait and Autobiographical Album of Woodford County* described him as 'living at home' in 1889. He is found on the 1900 census of Jacksonville, Morgan County, Illinois, listed among the residents of the Illinois Central Hospital for the Insane.[188]

d. John Garber/Gerber was born at what is now Congerville circa 1859. He could not be identified after the 1870 census, though the *Portrait and Autobiographical Album of Woodford County* described him as 'living at home' in 1889.

- We could not identify a Katharina/Catherine (thought to have married a Farny) in Bisping birth entries.

Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith was born at Bisping May 31, 1810.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Tazewell and Mason Counties (1894) says that Christian immigrated in 1831.

He worked two years in Lancaster County. Circa 1833 at Wayne, Butler County, Ohio he married Magdalena Schrag/Schrock. She was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle April 10, 1811, and died at what is now Congerville Aug. 4, 1855, a daughter of Joseph Schrag and his second wife Marie Neuhauser.

Christian was a carpenter and farm laborer. He and Magdalena moved from Butler County to what is now Congerville, Woodford County in 1838. The 1850 census of Woodford County shows the household of farmer Christian Smith, 40, France; Malind, 38, France; Mary, 17, Ohio; Barbaray, 15, Ohio; Peter, 13, Ohio; Nancy, 10, Illinois; Malinda, 9, Illinois; Joseph, 7, Illinois; Christian, 5, Illinois; and John, 2, Illinois. They are listed on the same page as brothers Christian and Jacob Zehr, on the page after brothers Christian and Peter Farny (the 'Amishmen who hired Lincoln').

From 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. So far, I have the names of seventy-two persons who died of cholera here in Bloomington, at Waynesville, at Clarksville, at Stout's Grove, at Congerville, at Twin Grove, at Diamond Grove, and in the vicinity of Shirley, all during this outbreak."

Father Christian died Aug. 2, and mother Magdalena followed Aug. 4. Magdalena's brother Andrew Schrock, and neighbors John Lantz and Jonas Kauffman died the following day.

Minister Daniel Zehr was called to attend to the family. Zehr delivered the graveside eulogy at a funeral Aug. 10, spent the evening at home, and died the following morning. Daughter Barbara Smith died Aug. 14 or 17, and son John Smith died Aug. 19. The victims were hastily buried in Slabtown Cemetery.[189]

The *Weekly Pantagraph*'s list of the dead from 'Asiatic Cholera' noted "Christian Schmidt, near Congerville," then "Mrs. Christian Schmidt, near Congerville," then, "A young daughter and a young son of Christian Schmidt, near Congerville." (An explanation of the nature of cholera and its effect on immigration and the frontier is given in STAKER).

The surviving children were raised by relatives and neighbors.

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[188] The former site of the hospital is now the Prairie Land Heritage Museum.

[189] Repeating a note from SOMMER: Many of the dead in Slabtown Centetery were buried under wooden markers that no longer survive. Cattle grazed on the grounds. Only 16 or so headstones can still be read. These include the graves of Christian Ehresman, Peter Farni/Farny, Johannes Klopfenstein, minister Daniel Zehr, and Peter Zehr. Daniel Zehr's headstone gives the date of his death from cholera as Aug. 11, 1855.

Children of Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith and Magdalena Schrag/Schrock include:

1. Mary Smith was born in Butler County circa 1833 (her headstone says 1835), and died at Harper, Kansas in 1896. On Dec. 7, 1858 in Peoria County she married Frederick Fellrath. He was born circa 1836, and died at Harper Nov. 21, 1894. They are found on the 1880 census of Roanoke, Woodford County as harness maker F. Felroth, 43, born in Alsace; Mary, 44, born in Ohio to parents from Alsace; Lewis H., 16, born in Illinois; and Ida, 9, born in Illinois. Mary and Frederick are buried in the Christian Apostolic Cemetery at Harper.
2. Barbara Smith was born in Butler County circa 1835, and died at what is now Congerville of cholera Aug. 14 or 17, 1855.
3. Peter Smith was born in Butler County June 20, 1837, and died in Livingston County Nov. 17, 1875. On Feb. 3, 1861 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Neuhauser; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born in Butler County Feb. 21, 1840, and died in Livingston County March 24, 1881, a daughter of Peter Neuhauser and Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt. The 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows Barbara Smith, 40, born in Ohio to a father from Baden and a mother from France. Her brother John W. and his family lived with them. Their family *Bible* is in the collection of the Mennonite Church USA Archives at Goshen, Indiana. Peter and Barbara are buried at Flanagan. *Gospel Herald*, April 1876: "Nov. 17th, 1875, in Livingston Co., Ill., Bro. Peter Schmitt, aged 38 years, 4 months and 27 days. He was sick eleven weeks, and he bore his suffering with Christian patience, manifesting to those visiting him a good example. He gave his family and friends a good admonition before his departure. Services by Joseph Gasho, Chr. Schlagel, and Jn. P. Schmitt."
4. Anna 'Nancy' Smith was born at what is now Congerville circa 1840, and died in 1861. On May 2, 1858 in Tazewell County she married John Garber of Elm Grove. He was born in Ohio in 1836, a son of John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe. Despite their short marriage they had four children named Peter, David, Anna, and Eva. The 1880 census of Boynton shows farm laborer Peter J. Garber, 21, born in Illinois, parents from Ohio, living in the household of Benjamin F. Miller, 37. The 1880 census of Little Mackinaw shows David Garber, 19, born in Illinois, parents from Pennsylvania, working on the farm of Christian Birky, 70. The 1880 census of Roanoke, Woodford County shows servant Eva Garber, 18, born in Illinois, parents from Baden, living in the household of merchant Jacob Engel, 32.
5. Magdalena 'Malinda' Smith was born at what is now Congerville May 11, 1841, and died at Harper, Kansas April 14, 1916. On Oct. 21, 1860 in Tazewell County she married Peter Neuhauser [Jr.]; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was born in Butler County July 8, 1838, and died Aug. 26, 1864, a son of Peter Neuhauser and Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt. On Oct. 11, 1866 at Bloomington, McLean County she remarried to Valentine Maninger. He was born at Dittwar, Baden Sept. 26, 1835, and died at Harper July 4, 1913. He was naturalized in McLean County Oct. 30, 1868, after stating that he had been honorably discharged from the volunteer army, and had been a resident 12 years. They are shown on the 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer Valentine Maninger, 45, born in Baden to parents form Baden; Magdalena, 39, born in Illinois to French parents; six children born in Illinois; and Jacob Smith, 21, a Swiss farm laborer. Their next-door neighbor was Barbara Smith, 40, born in Ohio to parents from Baden and France, with five children born in Illinois; she was presumably Peter's younger sister, the widowed Barbara Neuhauser. The third consecutive household was that of their younger brother John A. Neuhauser. Magdalena and Valentine are buried in the Apostolic Cemetery at Harper. *The Harper Sentinel*, April 20, 1916: "Mrs. Maninger Passes Away. Mrs. Magdalena Maninger passed away Friday, April 14th at her home in Harper after a long illness. The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock form the Apostolic German church, after short services had been held from the residence. Rev. Kurtz of Burlington, Ok., officiated. The remains were laid to rest in the Apostolic cemetery by the side of her husband who died two years ago. Magdalene Smith was born in Carlock, Ill., May 11th, 1841. Her parents came from France in 1831. She was married to Peter Newhauser in 1860. To that union three children were born, all with the husband having preceded her in death. She was married to Valentine Maninger in 1866. To this union seven sons and one daughter were born. They are John, Frank, Gus, Joe (deceased), William, Ed, Fred, and Mrs. Emma Barth. Mrs. Maninger came to Kansas with her family in the early eighties and had since made this state her home. She had united with the Apostolic church in girlhood and had lived true to the faith ever since. Her life was one of usefulness and the long line of children and grandchildren she leaves are living witnesses of the character of the woman who has passed to her reward. Friends and relatives from a distance who attended the funeral were: Mrs. Fred Hoffman, Mrs. Mary Deil, Rev. Kurtz, Dan Dotterer, Mrs. Barbara Smith, Mrs. Noah Domnick, Misses Mary Zehr, Mary Allenback, Mary Kurtz and Lena Riggenbaugh, of Burlington, Ok., J.P. Farney, Sam Farney and wife of Kiowa; John Schrock and wife, J. Shrock, Sam Schrock and Lena Scrock of Hazelton; John Oyer, Hesston; Mrs. Lena King, Hutchinson and John Raedel and wife of Wichita."
6. Joseph Smith was born at what is now Congerville May 23, 1843, and died at Harper, Kansas Jan. 3, 1889. On Dec. 18, 1863 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Roth; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born in Butler County April 25, 1847, and died at Harper Sept. 1, 1920, a daughter of minister Nicholas Roth and Katharina/Catherine Habecker. 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.
7. **Christian Smith** [Jr.] was born at what is now Congerville Jan. 18, 1846.

8. John Smith was born at what is now Congerville circa 1848, and died there of cholera Aug. 19, 1855.

Christian Smith [Jr.] was born at what is now Congerville Jan. 18, 1846.

He signed a one-year enlistment at Springfield Oct. 1, 1864, and served in the Civil War as a private in Company G, 108th Illinois U.S. Infantry. His records describe him as born in Woodford County but living at Elm Grove; age 18; height 5 foot-5-½; hazel eyes; hair, dark; complexion, fair. 23-year-old Noah Garber of Elm Grove (a son of John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe) and 21-year-old Jacob Kinsinger (a son of Johannes/John Kinsinger and his first wife Barbara Peter Schmidft) enlisted with him.

During Christian's enlistment the 108th moved from Memphis to New Orleans. On March 27 they engaged Confederates at Spanish Fort, a defensive point on Mobile Bay, Alabama. The siege lasted 13 days. From there they were repositioned at Montgomery, Alabama; Selma, Alabama; Jackson, Mississippi; and Vicksburg, Mississippi, where Christian mustered out Aug. 5, 1865. He was transported by steamboat to Cairo, Illinois, and by rail to Chicago, where he was paid and discharged.

According to *History of Tazewell County*, Christian accepted adult baptism in 1867.

On Feb. 13, 1873 in Tazewell County he married Jacobine/Jacobena 'Bena' Suisse/Schweitzer; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born June 12, 1847, a daughter of Jean Suisse/John Schweitzer and Marie Engel.

They are found on the 1880 census of Morton as farmer Christian Smith, 33, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine; Bena, 31, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine; William, 6, born in Illinois; and Freddie, 1, born in Illinois. They lived next door to Bena's parents, who are shown as farmer John Switzer, 72, Lorraine; and Mary Switzer, 72, Lorraine. Christian farmed her father's Section Two property with her brother Peter Suisse/Schweitzer.

Their household appears on the 1900 census of Pigeon Grove, Iroquois County, Illinois as Christ Smith, born in Illinois in January 1846 to French parents; Bena, born in Illinois in June 1847 to French parents; W.A., born in Illinois in November 1873; and F.A., born in Illinois in February 1879.

It is thought that they are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Pigeon Grove.

Petersmith: Peter of Gontenschwil

Gontenschwil is a municipality in the district of Kulm, in the area west of Lake Hallwilersee in Canton Aargau (see LITWILLER for background on the region and canton). This community was also associated with Ehrismann.

Records of the Protestant Reformed Church [Ger. *Evangelisch Reformierte Kirche*] at Gontenschwil have been preserved in manuscript form by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In the near future we hope to view them on a visit to the Family History Library at Salt Lake City.

The forebearers of this family were **Rüdi Peter** and Verena Äschbacher. They were married at Gontenschwil March 13, 1711. They emigrated shortly after the birth of their second child.

Historian Robert Baecher found that after emigrating they lived at Denzlingen, Baden in 1715 (see ZIMMERMAN for background on this location); 39 miles at Sundheim, Baden (adjacent to and below Kehl) in 1725; 36 miles to the southwest at Baldenheim, Lower Alsace (1745-1747), and then 13 miles to the southwest at Fortschwihr, Upper Alsace (adjacent to Muntzenheim) (1748-1752).

The signature Rudolf Peter *schmiden*, found on leases in 1725 and 1745, was the father's name with his profession (blacksmith). In German this became Peterschmidt or Petter Schmid, in French Peterschmitt, in English Petersmith. Variations in the spellings on documents and entries should not be given too much weight; municipal clerks generally wrote the name as they heard it from an illiterate individual, and respected their own regional customs.

Children of Rüdi Peter and Verena Äschbacher include:

1. **Jacob Peterschmitt** was baptized at Gontenschwil March 13, 1711, and died after 1769.
2. Sébastian/Bastian Peterschmitt was baptized at Gontenschwil Sept. 16, 1714, and died at Horbourg-Wihr, Upper Alsace (on the east side of Colmar) circa 1752. He married Anna Augspurger/Augsburger. Before 1744 they came from Bollwiller to occupy the lower mill at the bottom of the valley of Jungholtz at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine.
    a. Jacob Peterschmitt was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine, Upper Alsace (below Colmar) circa 1744. His wife could not be identified. According to historian Robert Baecher, in 1766 Christian Schertz and Barbara Blanck paid 2,800 *livres* to move into one of the mills in the lower valley. They effected repairs, then the following year left in favor of Jacob. A lease document signed Feb. 19, 1767 described Jacob as an Anabaptist resident of Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace [adjacent below Bollwiller], who paid 3,000 *livres*.
        - Barbara Peterschmitt/Barbe Peter Schmid may belong here. She was born circa 1766 or earlier. In 1784 or earlier she married Simon Neuhauser [senior], who was born in 1758. In 1792 they were living on St. Jakob farm in the city of Basel. See NEUHAUSER for background on this couple.
    b. Sébastian Peterschmitt [junior] was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine circa 1748, and died there June 17, 1826. In 1778 he was single and still living with his parents in the lower mill. On June 16 he leased part of the upper valley for 4,300 pounds, with guarantors Jacob Schellenberg (a future brother-in-law) and Jean/Hans Schlatter (a future father-in-law). The transaction included flour, oil, and hemp mills, a cowshed, small outbuildings, and two hectares of meadow along the Thur River. A short while later he married Barbe Schlatter. She was born circa 1758, and died at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine Dec. 7, 1823, a daughter of guarantor Jean/Hans Schlatter and Anne Maria Linder. The run-down mills prospered. And when the French Revolution swept through the next year, it was all nationalized and awarded to Sébastian [junior]. Despite legal challenges by the past owner, nobleman Balthazar de Schauenbourg, the new ownership endured. On June 7, 1799 the two parties reached a full settlement. Sébastian Peterschmitt [junior] also served as a minister for the Colmar congregation. His civil death entry described him as 78-year-old shopkeeper Sebastien Peter Schmitt. Two sons were witnesses, found as cultivator Francois Joseph Peter Schmitt, 38, and miller Jean Peter Schmitt, 32. They both signed Petter Schmit. Sébastian [junior] and Barbe left four boys and three girls born in the upper mill. The majority of Peterschmitts in Upper Alsace today appear to be descendants of this family. One of the sons, Sébastian (born 1780) may have fathered as many as 24 children by two wives. Another, Peter (born 1785) is thought to have fathered 16 children. A third son, François Joseph (born in 1790) may have fathered 17 children. The fourth son Chrétien was born circa 1779, and died at Ungersheim, Upper Alsace Sept. 19, 1806, the husband of Barbe Roth. When Chrétien and Barbe's five-year-old son Niclaus Schmitt died at Ungersheim March 30, 1807, witnesses on the civil entry were stepfather Joseph Roppe and Conrad Goldschmitt, a miller's assistant employed by Roppe.

c. Johannes Peterschmitt. According to one source he was born circa 1750, and died after 1822. We suspect he may have been the Johannes Schmitt, 53, who died at Staffelfelden Feb. 10, 1807. His civil death entry was witnessed by Joseph Joder.

Jacob Peterschmitt was baptized at Gontenschwil March 13, 1711, and died after 1769.

He married Catharina Riss/Reiss/Röss. She was born at Triberg in the Black Forest [Ger. *im Schwarzwald*] of Baden, and died at Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace Feb. 2, 1764, a daughter of Jacob Riss/Reiss/Röss and Barbara Schneider.

Their children are thought to include:

1. Verena Peterschmitt died after 1784. She married Joseph Hochstettler of Urbeis; he died at Staffelfelden, Upper Upper Alsace Jan. 2, 1766.
2. Anna Peterschmitt died before 1783. She married Peter Rothacker. In 1759 he represented the Baden-Durlach congregation [Ger. *Durlacher Gemeinde*] in the assembly of ministers at Essingen with Christen Oesch, Benedikt Fischer, and Hans Steiner. Later they farmed on the grounds of Rüppurr Castle (now in Karlsruhe, Baden-Württemberg). According to Emig, Anna wrote in her will that she had two sisters living with their families as sharecroppers at St. Jakob, Basel. Johannes/Hans Freüenberger was a minister and elder of meetings in his home on St. Jakob farm, also called the orphanage farm [Ger. *Waisenhausgut*]. See FREYENBERGER for background on this location. The will also mentions a half-brother Jacob Riss who was a farmer and miller at the gunpowder mill at Volgelsheim, Upper Alsace.
3. Catharina Peterschmitt married Johannes Huntzinger. He was born circa 1755. Their son Johannes Huntzinger was born at Basel Dec. 15, 1783.
4. **Johannes/Jean Petter Schmid** was born circa 1743, and died at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace May 26, 1784.

Johannes/Jean Petter Schmid was born circa 1743, and died at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace May 26, 1784.

He married Verena/Frena Wagner. She was born circa 1743, and died at Ruederbach (26 miles south of Bollwiller) Oct. 22, 1812. Her civil death entry described her as Frena Wagner, 69, the widow of Jean Schmitt; it was witnessed by Jacque Pierre Schmitt, 46, a resident of Ruederbach, and signed Smitt.

Children of Johannes/Jean Petter Schmid and Verena/Frena Wagner include:

1. **Jacob Petter Schmid/Jacque Pierre Schmitt** was born circa 1766, and died at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace Nov. 28, 1831.[190]
2. Anna Maria/Anne Pierre Schmid was born at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace Oct. 10, 1770. On June 17, 1793 at Richwiller she married Michael/Michel Schwarz. Their barely-legible civil marriage entry described the groom as plowman Michael Swartz, 46, the widower of Catherine Frey; and the bride as Anna Maria Smit, 22, a daughter of Jacob Petter Smitt [this should have been her deceased father Johannes/Jean, whose son Jacob attended in his place] and Verena Wagner. We suspect Michael was the widower of Catherine Frey. Farther down the page we make out the names of Jean Schlatter and Joseph Joder. On the reverse page the bride's name is given as Anna Maria Schmitt. Signatures look like Jacob Petter Schmid, Joseph Joder, Christen Slater [Schlatter?], Michel Swartz, and the bride Anna signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.
    a. Elizabeth Schwarz was born at Muntzenheim April 29, 1796, and died at Durmenach Feb. 1, 1828. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator Michael Schwarz and Anne Pierre Schmid. Witnesses were described as weaver Jacques Pierre Schmid, 31, and day laborer Jacques Roth, 33. The entry bore the signatures of father Michel Schwarz, Jacob Roth, and 'Jacob Petter Schmid *alt Zuig*' [senior, witness]. On Jan. 13, 1820 at Michelbach-le-Haut she married Barthelmy Zock [Bartholome Zogg, later known as Bartholomew Zook]. See ZOOK for background on this couple.
3. Barbara/Barbe Peterschmitt was born circa 1775. She married Jacob Schneider.
4. Johannes Peterschmitt was born circa 1778, according to Emig.
5. Elisabeth Peterschmitt was born at Bollwiller circa 1782. On Dec. 31, 1808 at Schweighouse-Thann [Ger. *Schweighausen*] she married Joseph Stucky. He was born at Schweighouse-Thann circa 1781, a son of Christian/Chrétien Stŭckÿ/Stokÿ and Anne Marie Schwari/Schwarÿ. Their civil marriage entry called them Elisabeth Schmid and Joseph Stuki (he signed with an 'x', indicating he was illiterate). For background on this couple that later lived in Butler County, Ohio see STUCKY.

Jacob Petter Schmid/Jacque Pierre Schmitt was born circa 1766, and died at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace (three miles above Ruederbach) Nov. 28, 1831.

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[190] His age was given as 22 (marked over as 42) when he signed as a witness on the birth entry of Johannes Roth at Feldbach, Upper Alsace in the Republican calendar year 9 (either 1800 or 1801). His signature appears to say 'Jacob Peter Schmidt *alt Zuig*' - Jacob Peter Schmid senior, witness.

He married Barbara Lauber. According to the research of Neil Anne Stuckey Levine, Barbara was born circa 1771, a daughter of Christian Lauber and Katharina Schwartz.[191] Jacob was a weaver and laborer.

He and Barbara initially lived at Muntzenheim, Upper Alsace (six miles east of Colmar) 1790-97. Two (Jean and Jacob) and perhaps three (the oldest Christian) of their children were born there. The birth of their oldest son Christian took place before the 1792 establishment of the *état civil* system of administrative record keeping (his age can only be estimated from a baptism entry likely created at age 15).

After 1798 the family relocated approximately 48 miles to the south to live near the Swiss border. Three mentions are found in records at Feldbach in 1801 (the birth and death of daughter Katharina/Catharina, and Jacob as a witness to another birth). Later records are found at nearby Ruederbach. Between Ruederbach on the north and Feldbach on the south was the Birkenhof farm, where Amish Mennonites assembled for religious meetings after the French Revolution.[192] Jacob/Jacques Rich (1789-1879) and Joseph Rich (1822-1894) who settled at Morton were the son and grandson of minister Peter Rich, who was elder at Birkenhof farm 1790-1820. The owner was Christian Hirschi; he was married to Marie Anne Ropp, a cousin of Andreas Ropp. The community was also only three miles from Barthel Hutte farm at Largitzen, where the family of Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann lved before emigrating in 1826.

In 1820 a son was married at Bendorf, a tiny village eight miles south of Ruederbach and only three miles north of the Swiss border. The marriage entry described parents of the groom Jacob and Barbara as residents there.

The final location where family records were found was Hirsingue (adjacent to Ruederbach on the north side). Hirsingue was the home of the Amish Mennonite Ulrich family. Central Illinois figures with connections to Hirsingue include:

- Peter Ulrich (1811-1904) was born at Hirsingue. He married Anna Oyer and Barbara Zimmerman, and died at Eureka.
- Joseph Litwiller (1799-1884) married Barbe/Barbara Ulrich at Hirsingue Sept. 19, 1829. He settled in Dillon with his second wife, Magdalena 'Malinda' Sommer.
- Jacob Berse (1803-1877) married Catherine Ulrich at Hirsingue April 7, 1831. He used Peter Ulrich's passport to emigrate from Europe. Jacob and Catherine settled at Elm Grove, where Jacob was known as Christian Wagler.
- Peter Jacob Berse (1831-1903) was born at Hirsingue. He married Catherine Rediger and settled at Elm Grove as Peter Wagler.

Jacob Petter Schmid died at Hirsingue Nov. 28, 1831. His civil death entry described him as 65-year-old Anabaptist cultivator Jacques Peter Schmitt, husband of Barbe Lauber, 60. It was witnessed by sons Jean Peterschmitt, 37, and Jacques Peterschmitt, 35, Anabaptist cultivators and residents of Hirsingue. Signatures looked like Jacob Petter Schmid and Petter Schmid.

Fortunately historical relics survive. The Oyer family possesses a notebook detailing his business transactions and medical remedies. He described small purchases, payments, and labor tasks such as hauling. It also holds a copy of an *Amish Discipline* formulated at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779.[193] The notebook has been translated twice, and has been studied by Neil Ann Stucky Levine. It is now held by the Mennonite Heritage Center at Metamora.[194]

In the early 1830s 'American fever' induced many French families to consider emigration. A wave of departures was inspired by the threat of military conscription to support the French occupation of Algeria (see STAKER for more on this significant factor affecting French emigration).

In the spring following Jacob's death his widow Barbara Lauber began her family's journey to America by purchasing passage in steerage on the ship *Havre*. Alvan Stewart, who had been a passenger on the *Havre* as it made the transit from Le Havre [or Havre de Grace] to New York the previous summer, wrote about the ship in his diary: "July 23, 1831 – Yet in sight of Havre de Grace, its chalk hills and two light houses, wind adverse. But I am content because I am going towards America if it is but five miles a day. We have a fine captain; fine ship. The

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[191] Levine's excellent article *European Folk Remedies*, from the *Notebook of Jacob Peterschmidt (1766-1831)* can be found in the January 2008 issue of *Mennonite Family History*.

[192] Before the French Revolution, the Anabaptists in the area had attended services at remote Neuneich. It was a farm in the foothills of the Jura Mountains between Ligsdorf (14 miles south of Altkirch) and the Swiss border (two miles below Ligsdof).

[193] An *Amish Discipline* is a statement of basic beliefs and practices pertaining to religion. In some instances they distinguish Amish Mennonites from Mennonites or others.

[194] A German-language devotional/prayerbook called *Manuele de Praeparatione ad Morten* published at Basel in 1744 and inscribed "*Dieses Buch Gehoert Mir, Jacob Petter Schmid*" is held in the Peter Smith (1837-1875) collection of the Mennonite Church USA Archives at Goshen, Indiana.

Havre is a vessel of 500 tons, highly finished. Capt. De Peyster is an experienced navigator. The cabin has it share of intelligence; many gentlemen who have spent years abroad in cultivating their minds and manners. The steerage is also filled with passengers of an humbler cast."[195]

The obituary of Barbara's daughter Anna says that "...In 1832 she [Anna] came with her mother [Barbara], three brothers, and three sisters to America." The *Havre* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York May 23, 1832.

When the *Havre* passenger list was created at New York, these family members and others were clearly identified as steerage passengers. Only Johannes/Jean is missing:

Barbe P. Schmidt, 60, farmer, France	*The widowed mother Barbara Lauber*
Chestine, 40 [female; Christine]	*Her daughter-in-law Christina Schwartz,wife of Johannes/Jean*
Jacob, 35	*Barbara's son Jacob*
Christian --- [age illegible]	*Barbara's son Christian, should have been about 41*
Anna Schwatty, 26	*Was this the wife of Christian, accompanied by her siblings?*
Elizabeth, 23	
Anne Marie, 17	
Barbe, 17	
Anna, 10	
Jacque, 8	*Barbara Lauber's grandson, a son of Johannes/Jean and Christina Schwartz*
Barbe, 4	*Her granddaughter, a daughter of Johannes/Jean and Christina Schwartz*
Catharine, 4	*Her granddaughter, a daughter of Johannes/Jean and Christina Schwartz*

Anna's obituary: "...They settled in Lancaster Co., Pa., at Samuel Lantz's. From the church at this place this poor family received many favors. Three years afterwards the family moved to Butler Co., Ohio..." The only Samuel Lantz who appears as a property owner on the 1830 census of Lancaster County was a minister living at Leacock.[196] Leacock is seven miles northeast of the community of Lancaster.

The birth place of their youngest child, born in 1833, has been passed down as Mill Creek. This may have been the Mill Creek Valley in West Leacock or Leacock. Mill Creek is a tributary of the Conestoga River.

From 1835 to 1837 the Peter Schmidts migrated to Butler County. Barbara Lauber is thought to have died there.

Children of Jacob Petter Schmid and Barbara Lauber include:

1. Christian Peter Schmidt was born circa 1790, likely at Muntzenheim. A Neuneich record shows that 'Christian Schmid,' a son of 'Jakob Schmid' and Barbara Lauber, was baptized on Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach June 21, 1804. He was shown on the *Havre* passenger list in 1832, but his age was obliterated by stains.
2. Johannes/Jean Peter Schmidt/John P. Smith was born at Muntzenheim Dec. 6, 1794 (despite American censuses that appear to indicate a birth circa 1798-99). The entry describes his parents as 'Jacques Schmidt,' weaver, and Barbe Lauber. One witness was Michel Schwarr, 40, who was likely Jacob's brother-in-law Michael/Michel Schwartz. On Jan. 22, 1820 at Bendorf he married Christine Schwartz (found on the entry as Schwarz, but we go with the way her father signed his own name – Michel Schwartz). She was born at Dürrenentzen (adjacent to Muntzenheim), a daughter of Michael/Michel Schwartz and his first wife Catherine Frey. The marriage entry described the groom as a 25-year-old native of Muntzenheim, and the bride as a 29-year-old native of Dürrenentzen. Each signed with an 'x', indicating they were illiterate; father of the groom Jacob signed his full name as a witness. Although Christine and three of their children are shown on the *Havre* passenger list, Johannes/Jean is

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[195] For more on Captain Frederick A. De Peyster, see the KENNEL account of the 1830 *De Rham* voyage.

The most famous *Havre* passenger was French abolitionist Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-1859), who made the passage immediately before Stewart's. He departed Le Havre April 2, 1831, arriving at Newport, Rhode Island May 9, and New York May 11. Ostensibly viewing prisons on behalf of the French government, he made a nine-month tour of the country that included a meeting with President Andrew Jackson. He returned to France on the *Havre*, departing from New York Feb. 20. In 1835 he published *De la Démocratie en Amerique [Democracy in America]*. His observations were much more honest than those found in American newspapers of the time: "The first who attracts the eye, the first in enlightenment, in power and in happiness, is the white man, the European, man par excellence; below him appear the Negro and the Indian. These two unfortunate races have neither birth, nor face, nor language, nor mores in common; only their misfortunes look alike. Both occupy an equally inferior position in the country that they inhabit; both experience the effects of tyranny; and if their miseries are different, they can accuse the same author for them."

[196] Samuel Lantz (1781-1852) was a grandson of immigrant Samuel König/King and Anna Yoder (see KING), and a son of Samuel Lantz and Elizabeth King (thus a stepson to Elizabeth's second husband Christian Stoltzfus). He married Magdalena Fischer. In 1837 Lantz and several of his adult children located approximately 100 miles to the northwest and established an Amish Mennonite congregation near Lewisburg in the Buffalo Valley of Union County, Pennsylvania.

not. In America he changed his name to John P. Smith. It is probable that their household is shown on the 1840 census of Milford, Butler County Ohio. Under the name 'John P. Smith,' a tally shows two males 15-19 years of age (sons John and Jacob); one female 5-9 (daughter Fannie); two females 10-14 (Barbara and Catherine); and one female 50-60 (Christine). Only the head of household is missing. 'John Peter Schmitt' submitted a *Declaration of Intent* to obtain naturalization in Butler County in September 1840. The entry gave his age as 46, and noted sons John Peter, 19; and Jacob Peter, 17. The household appears on the 1850 census of St. Clair, Butler County, Ohio as laborer Peter Smith, 52, Germany; Christina, 60, Germany; Fanny, 18, Pennsylvania; and Elizabeth, 6 months, Ohio. They also appear in the household of a son on the 1860 census of Charleston, Lee County, Iowa: John Smith, 40, France; Catherine, 28, Canada; Elizabeth, 7; Fanny, 4; Catherine, 8 months; John P. Smith, 61, gentleman, France; and Christina, 69, France. Their children include:

a. Johannes Peter Schmidt/John P. Smith was born at Bendorf Oct. 11, 1820 (the entry created Oct. 12 calls him 'Jean Piere Schmit'), and died at Waldo, Livingston County Jan. 11, 1904. He was naturalized in Butler County in 1844. On Oct. 17, 1847 in Butler County he married Catherine Birckelbach/Burgelbaugh/Birkelbaw. She was born 'in the English Colony' of Canada Aug. 20, 1830, and died at Waldo Aug. 14, 1905, a daughter of Christian Birckelbach and Marie/Mary Schwartzentruber.[197] Their household is found on the 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County: John P. Smith, 29, France; Catharine, 20, Canada; and on the 1860 census of Charleston, Lee County, Iowa. The 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows them as farmer John P. Smith, 49, France; Catherine, 39, Canada; Elizabeth, 16, Iowa; Fanny, 12, Iowa; Catherine, 10, Iowa; and Phebe, 3, Illinois. John and Catherine are buried in Waldo Mennonite Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, January 1904: "Pre. John P. Schmidt fell asleep in Jesus on the 11th of January 1904, after suffering for about four weeks of asthma. For some ime he was obliged to sit up night and day, but in the last days of his life he could lie down and rest. He had reached his 84th year and had lived in matrimony over 56 years. Of his five children three daughters survive, who with the aged companion, twenty grandchildren and one great-grandchild mourn his death, yet with the consolation that he has gone to his eternal reward in glory. He was in the ministry for over 40 years and was faithfully engaged in the work in the Flanagan A.M. Cong. McLean Co., Ill., until four weeks before his death. The text for his last sermon was *Matt.11:28-30*. Funeral services at his home near Gridley, Ill., by Pre. Lehman from *James 4:14*, and at the M.H. by Peter Zimmerman from *2 Tim. 4:6-8*, and by Daniel Schlegel from *Num. 23:10*. A large concourse of friends met on this solemn occasion. Barbara Albrecht." *Gospel Witness*, August 1905: "Catherine Smith (nee Burkelbaw) departed this life at her home near Gridley, Ill., August 14, 1905. She was born in the English Colony, Canada, August 20, 1830. Aged 74 y. 11 m. 14 d. She was married to John P. Smith in Butler Co., Ohio, Oct., 17, 1847. To this union were born five children, two preceding her to the glory world. She is survived by one stepbrother, one stepsister and one sister, three daughters, twenty grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and a host of friends to mourn her death. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her youth and faithfully served the master to the end. Her last words were, 'Home! Home!'. Our loss is her gain. Funeral services at the home by Daniel Orendorf, text, *Psalm 90*; at the church in English by Daniel W. Slagel, text *John 11:25, 26* in German by John Smith, text *Gal.6:6-9*. D.W. Slagel."

b. Jacques Peter Schmidt/Jacob P. Schmidt was born at Bendorf Aug. 9, 1823, and died at Montgomery, Hickory County, Missouri Oct. 7 or Nov. 10, 1873. He is buried as Jacob P. Smith in Gerber Cemetery at Elkton, Hickory County, Missouri, where his headstone gives an accurate birth date but the date of death Nov. 10, 1873 (conflicting with his obituary). He was naturalized in Butler County in 1844. On Feb. 5, 1848 in Butler County he married widow Verena/Frances Ramseyer. The entry names Jacob P. Schmidt and Frances Rumpsire. She was born in Neuchâtel in 1818, a daughter of Verena/Fanny Liechti and her second husband Johannes Ramseyer (Verena/Fanny was first married to minister Johannes/Hans Schlunegger, see RAMSEYER). Verena/Frances had married Michael Oswald in Butler County Dec. 13, 1836 (the entry names Michael Oswald and Frances Ramsey). Oswald was born Aug. 14, 1808, and died in Butler County Aug.2, 1846; he is buried in Schluniger Cemetery at Colerain, Hamilton County, Ohio. He had immigrated to America on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832; the passenger list shows Michael Oswald, 25; Johann Oswald, 24; and Wilhelm Oswald, 20 (see the Appendix). A Michael Oswald household is found on the 1840 census of Sycamore, Hamilton County. Speculation on

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[197] *Repeating a footnote from MILLER:* 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.

Michael's family can be found in KENNEL. The household of Jacob and Verena/Frances appears on the 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County, Ohio as Jacob P. Smith, 27, Pennsylvania [France]; Frances, 32, Pennsylvania; Barbara, 12, Ohio; Daniel, 6, Ohio; Ann, 11 [should have been 11 months], Ohio; Mary Schaub, 42, Germany; May, 7, Ohio; and farm laborer Christopher Grange, 20, Germany. The 1860 census of Hanover, Butler County shows Jacob P. Smith or Jacob L. Smith, 36, Germany; Frances, 42, Germany; Barbara, 22, Ohio; Danl., 14, Ohio; Anne A. Smith, 10, Ohio; Jo. P. Smith, 8, Ohio; M. A. Smith, 5, Ohio; and Samuel Otto, 32, Germany. Verena died in Butler County in or before 1865, and in 1865 in Butler County Jacob remarried to Barbara Yoder. She was born in Alsace-Lorraine (possibly at Huningue) Sept. 4, 1845, and died May 11, 1939, a daughter of Nicolas Joder and Barbe Wurgler. They resettled in Missouri in 1870. The 1870 census of Montgomery, Hickory County, Missouri has farmer Jacob P. Smith, 47, France; Barbara, 25, France; Joseph, 18, Ohio; Amanda, 15, Ohio; Mary, 8, Ohio; Amelia, 2, Ohio; Lydia, 7 months, Missouri; and farm laborer Daniel, 26, Ohio. The familiar surnames Isch [Oesch], Yoder, Naffsinger [Nafziger], and Coffman [Kaufman] can be found on the same census page. *Herald of Truth*, December 1873: "Oct. 7th, in Hickory Co., Mo., very suddenly, Jacob P. Schmidt, aged 50 years, 1 month, and 28 days. On the funeral occasion remarks were made by Peter Lehman."[198] On Feb. 14, 1876 in Hickory County Barbara remarried to Adam Hostetler. He was born at Menno, Pennsylvania March 6, 1823, and died Nov. 4, 1910, a son of John Hostetler and Veronica Kurtz. Barbara and Adam are buried in Clearfork Cemetery, Garden City, Missouri. *Gospel Herald*, June 1939: "Barbara , daughter of Barbara and Nicholas Yoder was born in Alsace Lorraine, France, Sept. 4, 1845; died at the home of her daughter (Mrs. W. J. Oesch) May 11, 1939; aged 93 y. 9 m. 7 d. She was the last of a family of 13 children. She was always considered first with Mrs. Oesch and her family. She was a quiet, home-loving woman, never complaining of her sufferings, always thinking of her family. She spent her childhood in the land of her nativity. At the age of 18 she with a brother and sister came to the United States, making her home in Butler Co., Ohio. In 1865 she was united in marriage to J. P. Smith. To this union four children were born (Mrs. Mary King and Mrs. Lydia Shaw, who preceded her in death; Mrs. Amelia King, Rock Island, Ill.; J. P. Smith, Garden City, Mo.). In 1870 the family moved to Hickory Co., Mo., where in 1874 her husband passed away. Several years later she was married to Adam Hostetler, who preceded her in death Nov. 4, 1910, at Index, Mo. To this union five children were born (Mrs. Lizzie Miller, Deep Water, Mo.; (Mrs. Lena Shindler, Garden City, Mo.; W. S. Hostetter, Redlands; Calif.; Mrs. Ellen Oesch, East Lynne, Mo.; W. A. Hostettler, Weaubleau, Mo.). She was converted at an early age, joined the Mennonite Church, and remained a faithful member until death. On account of failing health she has been unable to attend services for several years. Besides the above mentioned children she is survived by 31 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. Funeral services at the S. J. Oesch home and the Sycamore Grove Church by I. G. Hartzler, assisted by D. W. Britton. Text, *Job 5:26,27*. Interment in the Clearfork Cemetery."

c. Barbe Peter Schmidt/Barbara Smith was born at Durmenach April 29, 1826, and died at Normal, McLean County June 11, 1916. On Aug. 20, 1851 in Butler County she married André/Andrew Salzman. He was born at Blâmont, Meurthe-et-Moselle Oct. 10, 1829, and died in McLean County April 20, 1891, a son of André/Andrew Salzman and Anna Hodler. See SALZMAN for more on this couple including her obituary.

d. Catherine Peter Schmidt/Smith was born at Durmenach May 8, 1828, and died in Johnson County, Iowa Oct. 24, 1898. On Jan. 16, 1848 in Butler County, Ohio she married John von Gunden. He was born in Baden Jan. 4, 1827, and died in Johnson County Nov. 16, 1906. It is likely that this was the John who was born to Christian Birckelbach and Marie/Mary Schwartzentruber (Marie/Mary remarried to Johannes von Gunde/John Gundy; see the earlier footnote). Their family is found on the 1870 census of Trenton, Henry County, Iowa as John B. Gunten, 43, Darmstadt; Catharina, 43, Darmstadt; Barbara, 21, Ohio; Fannie, 20, Ohio [she married her second cousin John W. Neuhauser]; John, 17, Ohio; Christian, 16, Ohio; Jacob, 12, Iowa; Joseph, 10, Iowa; and Catharina, 5, Iowa. *Herald of Truth*, December 1898: "On Oct. 24, 1898, at 2 A. M., near Amish, Johnson Co., Iowa, Sister Catherine, wife of Pre. John Von Gunden, at the age of 70 years, 5 months and 16 days. Her disease was heart and stomach trouble. Interment took place on the 26th at the church burying ground, on which occasion J. F. Schwarzendruber and C. J. Miller conducted the funeral services in the presence of a large gathering. Sister Von Gunden was born in Upper Alsace, France. Her maiden name was Peter-Schmitt. In 1832 her father emigrated to America with his family, where he first settled near Millcreek in Lancaster Co, Pa. In 1835 they went to Butler Co., Ohio, where the deceased grew up and was taken into the Amish Mennonite Church through baptism. She remained a faithful member up to her death. During the last few years she suffered a great deal with stomach and heart trouble but she bore her great pains with Christian patience and longed for her death. She leaves a deeply stricken husband, to whom she was a great support, not only in temporal things, but also in his ministerial office. Of eleven children there are six still living, who mourn her

[198] In 1868 minister Peter S. Lehman led his Berne, Indiana congregation to resettle in Cass County, Missouri. By the mid-1880s even Lehman had returned to Indiana.

departure. Four of them stood by her bedside to see how their dear mother had gained the victory. Her aged brother, John P. Schmitt, and her widowed sister, Barbara Salzman, were also present. She also leaves twenty-seven grandchildren to mourn her death, but we do not mourn like those who have no hope. Her whole life, as far as known to the writer, was an example of Christian virtue, to approve good and censure evil, and no one will regret, even now yet, following her instructions. She read a great deal in the *Holy Scriptures*, as well as in the *Herald of Truth* and other Christian literature, but she was not easily moved by empty doctrines and deceptions of the people and had a dislike for those who followed every innovation. Sometime ago she showed me a large collection of choice poems and other literature, which for years she had been cutting out of periodicals and pasting into a book kept specially for that purpose. I should consider this collection a rich treasure, for it reflects her innermost heart, and I could advise her children, as well as others "Go, thou, and do likewise," for herein lies a blessing which far excels all worldly pleasures on which the eye likes to feast. Deceased was married to John Von Gunden on the 16th of January, 1848. The latter was born on the 4th of January, 1827, in the palace-yard in the kingdom of Bavaria. J. D. G." *Herald of Truth*, December 1906: "John Von Gunden was born in Baden, German, Jan. 4, 1827; died near Amish, Iowa, Nov. 16,1906; aged 79 Y., 10 M., 12 D. He emigrated with his parents to America in 1834, first living in Pennsylvania and later took up their residence in Fulton Co., Ohio. In early life he identified himself with the Amish Mennonite church. When a young man he went to Butler Co., Ohio, and there was united in marriage to Catharine P. Schmitt, Jan. 16, 1848. A few years later he, with his wife and then small family, moved to Lee Co., Iowa, where they lived a short time; thence they removed to Henry Co., Iowa, where they resided in the vicinity of Trenton for thirty-six years. In 1888 they moved to Kalona, Iowa. Interment took place in the Lower Deer Creek church cemetery. A very large concourse of relatives and friends attended to pay their last tribute of respect. Of his children there are yet six living and were all present except Katie of Milford, Neb. He also leaves 29 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren to mourn his death; but they need not mourn as those who have no hope. Peace to his ashes."

e. A son was born at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace March 13, 1830, and died the same day. The entry labels the child 'Schmit N.N.,' and describes the parents as cultivator 'Jean Piere Schmit,' 35, a native of 'Montzheim,' and 'Cristine Schwarts,' 38.

f. Anne Peter Schmitt was born at Hirsingue April 7, 1831. The entry describes her parents as 'Jean Petter Schmitt, *Anabaptiste*,' 36, and Christine Schwartz. Anne died at sea on the *Havre* in 1832.

g. Veronica 'Fannie' Schmidt/Smith (headstone 'Fannie Schmitt') was born at Mill Creek, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Aug. 10, 1833, and died at Normal, McLean County Jan. 21, 1914 (headstone dates). On March 13, 1852 in Butler County she married Jacob Rediger. According to an *Evangelische* church register from Ichenheim, Baden, 'Jakob Reidiger' was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim Sept. 17, 1833, to single parent Magdalena Reidiger. He died at Bloomington, McLean County Sept. 25, 1910 (headstone dates).[199] See REDIGER for background on this couple.

3. Jacob Peter Schmidt was born at Muntzenheim Jan. 11, 1797. His civil birth entry called him Jacques Pierre, and described his parents as Jacques Pierre Schmid, 30, and Barbe Lauberin. Witnesses included day laborer Jacques Roth, 30, and cultivator Michel Schwarz, 42. A Neuneich record shows that he was baptized on Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach Nov. 27, 1812. Levine writes that he was a witness at the marriage of his cousin Christian Ulrich at Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace in 1820. He signed his father's death entry at Hirsingue in 1831. He is also found as a 35-year-old on the *Havre* passenger list.
4. Katharina/Catharina Peter Schmidt was born at Feldbach (midway between Bendorf and Hirsingue) March 7, 1801, and died there May 5, 1802. Her civil birth entry described her as 'Catharine Peter Schmit,' and her parents as 'Jacob Peter Schmid' and 'Barbara Laŭberin.' Jacob Stŭckÿ, 33, and Johannes Roth senior [*alt*] were witnesses.
5. Barbara Peter Schmidt was born circa 1803, and died age four at Ruederbach Oct. 4, 1807.
6. Elizabeth Peter Schmidt was born at Ruederbach, Upper Alsace Dec. 6, 1805. The margin note on her birth entry called her 'Elisabeth Schmitt,' while the text called her 'Elisabette.' Either Elizabeth or her younger sister Barbara did not make the trip to America in 1832 (only four sisters traveled).
7. Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt was born at Ruederbach July 22, 1807, and died Feb. 2, 1884. On Jan. 23, 1835 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania she married her third cousin Peter Neuhauser. He was born 'in Upper Alsace near Basel' Feb. 20, 1796, and died at Morton July 23, 1889, a son of Simon Neuhauser and Barbe Peter Schmid. See NEUHAUSER for more on this couple who came to Tazewell County.
8. Joseph Pierre Schmid was born at Ruederbach Nov. 20, 1809 (the civil entry was created Nov. 28), and died there April 20, 1810.
9. Barbara Peter Schmidt/Barbara P. Smith was born at Ruederbach Jan. 8, 1811 (her civil birth entry calls her 'Barbara Peterschmitt'), and died in Butler County in 1860. In 1837 in Butler County she married Johannes/John Kinsinger. He was born on the Heckanaschbacherhof estate at Contwig, Pfalz-Zweibrucken, and died at Tremont in October

[199] Some sources say Jacob Rediger was born Sept. 11, 1832, and died Sept. 26, 1910. His Lantz Cemetery headstone is clearly legible.

1900. On March 10, 1861 in Tazewell County he remarried to Barbara Wagler; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp.

10. Anne/Anna Peter Schmidt was born at Ruederbach June 25, 1814 (her civil birth entry calls her 'Anne Petter Schmitt'), and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Jan. 11, 1892. In 1840 in Butler County she married Joseph Roth. He died in 1850. Levine suggests that he appears on the 1840 census of Butler County as 'Joseph Rhodes,' and that he may have been a son of Johannes/Hans/Jean Roth and Freni/Véronique Mosimann (if so, he was born on Risholz farm at Hattigny Feb. 11, 1811). They had two children:
    a. Fannie Roth was born in Butler County April 14, 1846, and died Dec. 23, 1919.
    b. An unidentified son died before 1926.

    Anna remarried to Joseph Oyer at Farmdale Sept. 7, 1851. He was born at Niderhoff, Moselle Jan. 29, 1814, and died at Farmdale Aug. 16, 1866, a son of Joseph Oyer and Catherine Schrag. For her obituary and a list of her children with Joseph Oyer see OYER.

Neuhauser: Neuhaus of Rüderswil and Lützelflüh

In German, 'new house' is *neues Haus*. The meaning of the surname Neuhauser is exactly as it sounds, a description of a resident of a new house. The Protestant Reformed Church issued a mandate on April 11, 1644 that urged the capture of Anabaptists heretics. It specifically mentioned Ŭli Neuhus, Ŭli Zaŭgg, and Christian Stauffer. Neuhus was believed to be from the town of Thun.

On Nov. 2, 1693 Jacob Amman composed a long letter to the supporters of Hans Reist. Rebutting a charge of arrogance, he asserted that he had never excommunicated someone because of their appearance. However, he continued, "... "If there would be someone who wants to be conformed to the world with shaved beard, with long hair, and haughty clothing and does not acknowledge that it is wrong, he should in all fairness be punished. For God has no pleasure in the proud." The letter was signed by a handful of supportive ministers including Hans Neuhauser.

Jacob 'Neushaus' is found on a census list of Anabaptists living at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1703. Christian Nauhauser was among the Amish Mennonite exiles who resettled at Deventer in the Netherlands in 1711.

Heimatorte or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname include Oberhofen (once the home of Jacob Amman). It is located on the eastern shore of Lake Thun, with adjacent Goldiwil on its inland side. The adjacent communities Lützelflüh, Rüderswil, and Heimiswil run south-to-north 12 miles northeast of the city of Bern.

According to the *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online*, "The names and places of persons executed in Bern 1529-1571 point predominantly to the Emmental [a district made up of rolling hills east of the city of Bern], especially to Sumiswald, Lützelflüh, Rüderswil, Rüegsau, Signau, Hash, Röthenbach, Schüpbach, and Tannental."

The oldest known indicator of Lützelflüh's existence is a mention of 'Lucelfluo' from 1225. It defies translation. Rüderswil was mentioned in 1139 as Rüderswile – oars hamlet. The Emme River runs through both communities, and Rüderswil's village center is located on a terrace above the west bank.

In 1690 Lützelflüh's Protestant Reformed minister Georg Thormann was commissioned to write a critique of Anabaptism. *Probierstein Oder Schrifftenmässige...Gewissenhaffte Prüfung dess Täufertums* was published in 1693. Framed as an objective description of Anabaptist practices, the 700-page book nevertheless seemed to hold up the "quiet, peaceful people with a clear conscience" as examples for his own parishioners to follow.

Despite the early appearance of this surname in the quill handwriting of church records, by the early 1800s it was standardized to the spelling 'Neuhaus' in Lützelflüh. In the subsequent text we typed what we saw on the written page.

Neuhauser of La Broque

We could not identify an 18th-century link between the Neuhauser family at La Broque and a brother and sister who came to Tazewell County, though one may exist. This information was gathered in the process of 'ruling out suspects.'

Hans Nüohuss was baptized at Ruderswil Oct. 15, 1597. The Protestant Reformed Church *Täufrodel* entry named his parents as Peter Nüohuss and Margreth Moser.

On Oct. 5, 1621 at Rüderswil 'Hanns Nuheshŭss' married Barbli Schonholzer. She was baptized at Lützelflüh Jan. 30, 1603, a daughter of Hanns Schonholzer (according to the baptism entry, where the mother Christini Koler was not named).

They relocated (or simply changed churches) from Rüderswil to adjacent Lützelflüh between 1628 and 1634.

Their children include:

1. Geörg Nuheshŭss was baptized at Rüderswil Sept. 8, 1622.
2. Hans Nuheshŭss was baptized at Rüderswil Oct. 3, 1624.
3. Mathias Nuheshŭss was baptized at Rüderswil March 12, 1625.
4. Christen Nuheshŭss was baptized at Rüderswil Nov. 30, 1627.
5. Margreth Nuheshŭss was baptized at Rüderswil April 4, 1628.
6. Barbara Nuneshŭss was baptized at Lützelflüh Aug. 31, 1634. The entry named her parents as Hanns Nuneshŭss and Barbara Shonholtzer.
7. Hanser Nuneshŭss was baptized at Lützelflüh Oct. 9, 1636.
8. **Peter Nuheshŭss** was baptized at Lützelflüh March 3, 1639.

Peter Nuheshŭss was baptized at Lützelflüh March 3, 1639.

On July 13, 1660 his Lützelflüh marriage to Magdalena/Madlen/Madle Hertig was entered in church records at Rüderswil. The entry described the couple as Petter Neüneshŭss *ab den* [illegible]*elsberg* and Madleni Hertig *ab Niderbach* [now Niederbach, a mile west of Rüderswil's village center]. She was baptized at Rüderswil Oct. 27, 1644 as Magdalena Hertig, a daughter of Hans Hertig *im Niderbach* and Verena Neüenschwander.

Their children baptized at Lützelflüh include:

1. Hans Neüheshauss was baptized Jan. 22, 1664. The entry named his parents as Petter Neüheshauss and Madleni Herttig.
2. **Petter Neüheshaus** was baptized Nov. 5, 1665.
3. Cathÿn Neühehaus was baptized Nov. 24, 1667.
4. Georg Neüshaus was baptized Jan. 23, 1670. His parents were named as Peter Neüshaus and Madlen Hertig. He married Cathrina Ellenberger.
5. Madlen Naüshus was baptized March 24, 1672.
6. Ŭlrich Naushaŭs was baptized Feb. 7, 1675.
7. Christen Nühhaus was baptized Oct. 9, 1681.

Petter Neüheshaus was baptized at Lützelflüh Nov. 5, 1665.

Circa 1693 he married Anna Moser. The event is not found in Rüderswil or Trachselwald records, and may have taken place at Lützelflüh, where marriage records are missing for the period 1688-1703.

Their children baptized at Lützelflüh include:

1. Ŭlrich Neuehshaŭs was baptized at Lützelflüh Aug. 16, 1694.
2. Margreth Neuehshaŭs/Marguerite Neuhaŭser was baptized at Lützelflüh March 25, 1698.
3. **Peter Naühaŭs/Pierre Neuhauser** was baptized at Lützelflüh Feb. 8, 1705, and died at Schirmeck May 2, 17897.
4. Christen Naüshaŭs was baptized at Rüderswil Aug. 20, 1708, according to a Lützelflüh entry.
5. Hans Naühaŭs was baptized at Lützelflüh Feb. 18, 1714. The entry describes his parents as Peter Naühaŭs and Anna Mooser *zŭ Trachselwald*. One witness was Georg Naühaŭs.

Peter Naühaŭs/Pierre Neuhauser was baptized at Lützelflüh Feb. 8, 1705, and died at Schirmeck May 2, 1797.

On Oct. 12, 1731 at Trachselwald he married Verena Brand. The entry said Peter Neüenesshauser was *von Signau* (eight miles south of Lützelflüh and Trachelwald, five miles south of Rüderswil), and Verena Brand was *im Kramershaŭs*. Verena was born at Trachselwald July 3, 1707, a daughter of Daniel Brand *zŭ Krammersheÿss* (a farm at Trachselwald that is now Kramershaus) and Anna Bieri *zŭ Oberrotenbühl* (a farm at Trachselwald).

Shortly after their marriage the couple went to live at Schwarzenegg. They remained there until at least 1739. Children born there in 1733, 1736, and 1739 were baptized at Trachselwald. Trachselwald is 23 miles north of Schwarzenegg, suggesting that Verena chose to deliver the infants in the home of her parents. They may have had other children who were baptized at Schwarzenegg, but the Protestant Reformed Church there kept illegible records from 1735 to August of 1738. They lived on Krummholz farm (now the name of a street) at Trachselwald from 1741 until at least 1746.

After 1765 Peter/Pierre remarried to Freni Heinegger/Heiniger. They went to live with his oldest son Han/Jean in the hamlet Salm in the village La Broque, in what was once the Principality of Salm but is now Lower Alsace.

A civil entry created at La Broque March 22, 1797 said that Freni Heinikre had died there. She was a 50-year-old Swiss resident of Salm [a hamlet within the village of La Broque], the wife of Pierre Neuhauser. She had died in the home of cultivator Jacob Kreipieller [Krayenbühl]. Witness Jacob signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate.

The very next entry says that her widowed husband Pierre Neuhauser died at Salm May 2, 1797. It described him as cultivator Pierre Neuhauser, 93, a cultivator born in Switzerland. He also died in the home of Jacob Kraipiller [Krayenbühl]. It was witnessed by grandson Christian Neuhauser, Oulrich Fongond [Von Gunden], and Christian Karbre [Gerber].

If the death entry ages are correct, Freni Heinikre was 42 years younger than her husband, and six years younger than his son Hans/Jean. She may have been living at Salm in a 'caretaker' marriage arrangement.

Many of the children of Peter Naühaŭs/Pierre Neuhauser and his first wife Verena Brand were recorded in a Trachselwald baptism register for out-of-town families [Ger. *Ausburger Taufrodel*]:

1. Nicolas Christian Neuhauser was born circa 1732. He became a cultivator at La Broque, where he died Feb. 11, 1782. He married Véronique Fongond. She was born circa 1737, and died at La Broque Jan. 22, 1814, a daughter of Ulrich Fongond and Barbe Mayer.
2. Anna Naühaŭs was baptized at Trachselwald Dec. 4, 1733. The entry described her father as Peter Naühaŭs *zŭ Schwarzenegg von Lützelflüh*. She married Jean Bacher/Pacher.
3. Verena Naühaŭs was baptized at Trachselwald April 8, 1736. The entry described her father as Peter Naühaŭs *zŭ Schwarzenegg*.
4. Maria Naühaŭs was baptized at Trachselwald Feb. 6, 1739. The entry described her father as Peter Naühaŭs *von Lützelflüh zŭ Im der Schwarzung* [Schwarzenegg]. On the same page are entries for the baptisms of Peter, a son of Christen Naühaŭs and Maria Äschbacher, and Verena, a daughter of Ulli Naühaŭs and Elsbeth Scharer.
5. **Hans Naühaŭs/Jean Neuhauser** was baptized at Trachselwald Feb. 19, 1741. The father was described as Peter Naühaŭs *von Lützelflüh im Krŭmholtz.*
6. Peter Naühaŭs was baptized at Trachselwald Nov. 24, 1743. His father was described as Peter Naühaŭs *von Lützelflüh im Krŭmholtz.*
7. Barbara Naühaŭs was baptized at Trachselwald Nov. 19, 1745. Her father was described as Peter Naühaŭs *von Lützelflüh im Krŭmholtz.* One witness was Hans Naühaŭs of Lützelflüh.
8. Elsbeth Naühaŭs was baptized at Trachselwald Sept. 23, 1746. Her father was described as Peter Naühaŭs *zŭ Krŭmholtz von Lützelflüh* [a resident of Krumholtz whose *Heimatort* was Lützelflüh].
9. Samuel Neuhaŭser was baptized at Lützelflüh Dec. 12, 1749. One witness was *Hans* Neuhaŭser.
10. Christian Neuhaŭser was baptized at Lützelflüh Nov. 2, 1753.

Hans Naühaŭs/Jean Neuhauser was baptized at Trachselwald Feb. 19, 1741, and died in the hamlet of Salm at La Broque before Dec. 10, 1793 (according to the marriage entry of his son Joseph). See ROPP for background on this location.

Circa 1761 he married widow Susanne Zender, who was 10 years his senior. Susanne was born at La Broque Dec. 14, 1731, and died there June 28, 1811. Her first husband had been Pierre Gerber/Kerbre, who died Jan. 16, 1758.[200]

Her civil death entry described her as Suzanne Zentery, 80, widow of the deceased Pierre Kerbre [Gerber], daughter of Benoit Zentery and Magdelaine Stequery. Witness Christian Neuhauser, 50, was described as her son. He signed 'Christian Nihaŭser.'

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[200] In Canton Bern a *Zehnder* is a church tithe collector. In Canton Bern the only *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname is Eriswil, above Sumiswald. We have also found this surname spelled Zehender, Zehnter, Zentner, Tzenter, Tzentner, Tzener, Zintner, Cehnder, and Cender (see CENDER).

A marriage entry created in the Protestant church at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 26, 1726 described the groom as Benedict Zeender, a baptized and legitimate son from Nillen, Canton Bern near Ehritz [Eriz], a butcher living at Salm. The bride was Anna Stückerin, Peter's daughter from Serritz [Eriz?] at Bern.[200] She may have been the Anna Stücker baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 14, 1703, a daughter of Christen Stücker and Barbara Fŭchser.

In the wake of the Protestant Reformation, the Catholic church in Europe became much more tolerant of religious minorities. In the Principality of Salm, the princes directed that priests were responsible for documenting all the residents of their parishes, regardless of denomination. The priests tacitly accepted the children of Anabaptists and registered them as if they were members of the Swiss Protestant Reformed Church. Remarks were made that the child was baptized (in accordance with law); whether or not the rite was actually performed in the Catholic church is open to question.

Entries were created at La Broque for the baptisms of three children. Just as many Annes became Anne Maries in French Catholic records, Madeleines tended to become a Marie Madeleines or Maries. In this instance the first child Magdelaine was later known as Marie.

— *Online Archives of La Broque, Bas Rhin*, Image 36/147: *Magdelaine fille legitime Benoit Seindre qui fait profession de la religion Calvines et d'Anne Sticre son espouse est née le trente et un Juillet de l'annee mil sept cent trent et a eté baptisee le dixieme aoust de la meme annee..."* Magdalena or Madeleine, a legitimate daughter of Benoit Seindre of the Protestant Reformed religion and Anne Sticre his wife, was born July 31, 1730, and baptized on Aug. 10 of the same year.

— Image 50/147: *"Susanne fille legitime de Benedic Zimeur de la religion de Calvin et de Anne Stoquie demeurant a Salm est née environ la quatorzieme decembre de l'annee mil sept trente et un et a eté batise le trente et un..."* Suzanne, a legitimate daughter of Benedic Zimeur of the Protestant Reformed religion and Anne Stoquie living at Salm, was born around Dec. 14, 1731, and was baptized on the 31st. Her first husband was Pierre Gerber/Kerbre, who died Jan. 16, 1758. Circa 1761 she remarried to Hans Naühaŭs/Jean Neuhauser, who died at La Broque before Dec. 10, 1793. Her civil death entry described her as Suzanne Zentery, 80, widow of the deceased Pierre Kerbre [Gerber], daughter of Benoit Zentery and Magdelaine Stequery.

— Image 82/147: Nicolas was born Jan. 8, 1735, and baptized Jan. 16. His parents were Benedic Scener of Salm, Calviniste, and Anne Stoqu[cut off by page edge].

On Oct. 11, 1768 Jean Neuhauser and Amish Mennonite minister Jacob Küpferschmidt were named in the renewal of a property lease. A document in the archives of La Broque says that on Dec. 2, 1715 Benedic Schlaster [Benedict Schlatter] had leased two barn houses, stables, and fields at La Broque from the Principality of Salm. He paid 400 *francs Barrois* (a coin minted in the Duchy of Lorraine) per year. In 1768 the properties were occupied by heirs of Olry Ayman [Ulrich Eiman/Eymann]. The lease fees had been paid up to date by Jean Neyhouser and Jacob Kopferschmitte, representing father-in-law Jacob Ayman and Olry [Ulrich] Ayman. (Minister/elder Jacob Küpferschmidt 1723-1813 was married to Suzanne Eiman/Eymann 1724-1810, a daughter of Jacob Eiman/Eymann).

Children of Hans Naühaŭs/Jean Neuhauser and Suzanne Zender born at La Broque include:

1. Christian Neuhauser was born circa 1761, and died at Bambois de Plaine May 2, 1843. Circa 1783 he married Madeleine Rügsegger. She was born in the hamlet of Salm at La Broque circa 1753, and died there Dec. 16, 1798. Her civil death entry, calling her Magdelaine Rettzeck, named her parents as Jean Reitzeck and Anne Elie; it was witnessed by husband Christian Neuhauser and his brother Jean. Circa 1799 Christian remarried to Madeleine Bächer/Pacher/Pecheur (the ceremony may have taken place at Bourg-Bruche, where marriage records are missing for that year). She was born at Le Hang, Bourg-Bruche Oct. 17, 1780, and died at Bambois de Plaine June 1, 1842, a daughter of Christian/Chrétien Bacher/Pacher/Pecheur and Rosine Schir [Schürch] or Cheric [Göerig/Cherique] of Bourg-Bruche. Christian served as a witness to numerous events at La Broque, often co-signing with brother-in-law Ulrich Fongond, Amish Mennonite minister Jacob Küpferschmidt, and Küperferschmidt's son-in-law Christian Gerber. Presumably he was seen as the head of the Neuhausers at La Broque. He was generally described as a cultivator at Aux Guevelles (now the hamlet Les Quelles within the community of La Broque). Madeleine's civil death entry created at Plaine described her as Madeleine Pacher, 62, born at Bourg-Bruche, wife of 83-year-old Christian Neuhauser, and daughter of the deceased Christian Pacher and Rose Cheric. Christian's civil death entry created at Plaine described him as cultivator Christiane Neyhouzer, 83, widower of Madeleine Pacher, born at Salm, La Broque, a son of Jean Neyhouzer and Suzanne Tzinder. Both entries were witnessed by son and Bambois resident Pierre Neuhauser, 37, who signed 'Peter Neihaŭser.'
2. Elisabeth Neuhauser was born in the hamlet of Salm circa 1762, and died at La Broque March 14, 1804. She married Ulrich Fongond (he signed his own name Ŭllrich Von Gonden). He was born in the hamlet Salm Nov. 15, 1750, and died there Dec. 29, 1818, a son of Ulrich Fongond and Barbe Mayer. Her civil death entry described her as a 42-year-old cultivator, the wife of Ulrich Fongond, and the daughter of the deceased Jean Neuhauser and Susanne Zondery, who had been cultivators at Salm. It was witnessed by brother Christian Neuhauser, 46, and husband Ulrich Fongond, 58, both cultivators. Her husband's signature looked like 'Ulleric Von Gonden'. Ulrich remarried to Barbe Eymann/Eiman at La Broque Sept. 27, 1808. She was an aunt to Elisabeth Eymann/Eiman, the wife of Andreas Ropp; Andreas and Elisabeth were the parents of the family that came to Central Illinois; see ROPP. She was the widow of Michel Roppe [also known as Jean Michel Ropp], who had died at La Broque Oct. 10, 1802 [he actually died at Le Saulcy], and a daughter of Ulrich Eymann/Eiman and Barbe Mosimann. The ceremony was witnessed by Christian Neuhauser (described as a brother-in-law of the groom), Jacob Küpferschmidt, Christian Karbre/Gerber, and André Bacher. Barbe died at La Broque Dec. 23, 1808. On Oct. 11, 1810 Ulrich married a third time to Barbe Ulrich. Their civil marriage entry described her as Barbe Ulric, born at Turquestein June 6, 1768; the widow of Jacques Kreipiller [Krayenbühl], who had died at Saales Feb. 15, 1808; and a daughter of Pierre Ulrich who died at Alcherique Sept. 4, 1808, and Marie Vagler who died at Flachporique [?] Feb. 5, 1799. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by Christian Neuhauser, 48, brother-in-law of the groom; and Joseph Fongond, 33, cousin of the groom. One child of Ulrich Fongond and his first wife Elisabeth Neuhauser was:
    - — Ulrich Fongond was born at La Broque 1789-93, and died at Bourg-Bruche Dec. 1, 1848. He married Anne Marie Stucky/Stocky. She was born at Freiburg im Breisgau, Baden circa 1789, and died at La Broque March 14, 1846. Her civil death entry described her as Anna Stouki, 57, a resident of the hamlet Pierre at La Broque, the wife of cultivator Ulrich Fongond, 56. It was signed by her son-in-law miller David Léhi [Lehe], 37 [married to her daughter Barbe Fongond]. She was born at Fribourg, Duché de Baden. We suspect but cannot prove that she was a daughter of Joseph Stucky and Anna Maria Meyer (Joseph came from Wendlingen adjacent to Freiburg im Breisgau and later lived at Turckheim, Upper Alsace; see the footnote to STUCKY).
3. Jean Neuhauser was born circa 1765, and died at Montbras, Meuse Aug. 10, 1826.[201] Before 1792 he married Marie Augspurger/Augsbourger.[202] She was born at Gemaingoutte (adjacent to Wisembach, on the west side of Ste. Marie-

[201] His birth year was estimated from the ages given on the birth entries of his children, rather than his death entry.

[202] Several sources say they were married at Montplonne, Meuse Dec. 10, 1793. No civil marriage entry is found there or at Montbras; this was the day of Joseph's ceremony at La Broque.

We estimate the marriage as 'before 1792' because the oldest child that we could identify was Anne Neuhauser, born circa 1791. When she married at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges April 22, 1813, the civil marriage entry described the groom as valet [Fr. *voiturier*] Pierre Pachre, 36, residing at Walscheid, Sarrebourg, Meurthe [actually Moselle], a son of the deceased Pierre Pachre and the deceased Véronique Cherique. The bride was described as Anne Nayehauser, 22, residing at the dairy in the hamlet St.

aux-Mines) circa 1761, and died at Montbras Oct. 26, 1829, a daughter of Nicolas Augspurger/Augsbourger and Barbe Von Gunden/Fongond. They farmed in the hamlet of Salm at La Broque; in the hamlet St. Pierre at Raon-sur-Plaine, Vosges; then at Montbras. Montbras is the site of *le Château de Montbras*, a castle constructed 1598-1611 by Claude II de Verrières, a dignitary in the court of the Duke of Lorraine. The castle was damaged by warfare, and abandoned altogether 1643-71. At the time the Neuhausers lived there it was being restored by descendants.[203] Civil entries describe Jean as a farmer on the grounds there. His civil death entry described him as Jean Neiouser, 63, the husband of Marie Haussbourg. It was witnessed by his son Jean, 24. Her death entry described her as Marie Ausbourg, 68, the mother of witnesses Nicolas Néouzer, 26, and Jean Néouzer, 34. Their sons were employed as servants in the castle.

4. Jacob Neuhauser was born circa 1770.
5. Joseph Neuhauser was born circa 1772. On Dec. 10, 1793 at La Broque he married Anne Augspurger/Augsbourger. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Naihauser, 21, born at Salm, La Broque, a son of the deceased cultivator Jean Naihauser and Suzanne Sinderine [Zender], who had been residents of Salm. The bride was described as Anne Auchpanderine, 22, born at Gemaingoutte, a resident of the farm La Loch at Gemaingoutte, a daughter of the cultivator Nicolas Auchpanderine and Barbe Fongon [Von Gunden/Fongond], who resided in the same place. Witnesses included Jacob Beller of Salm, Christian Bandesept [he signed 'Banzet'], Baltazard Fongon of Schirmeck, and Joseph Gerst of Plaine, all described as friends of the groom. The ceremony coincided with the marriage of Christian Gerber and Véronique Stucky (sew STUCKY).
6. Pierre Neuhauser was born Nov. 8, 1782, and died at La Broque March 15, 1822. On March 10, 1799 in the hamlet Salm at La Broque he married Anne Mosimann. She was born at Les Quelles, La Broque April 15, 1783, and died there March 6, 1854, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Mosimann and Barbe Roby [Rübi]. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a 17-year-old cultivator at Salm, a son of the deceased Jean Neuhauser and Susanne Sendrine. The bride was described as a 16-year-old cultivator at Aux Guevelles. It was witnessed by inn keeper Balthazard Fongond, 40, and the bride's father Jacob Mosiman, 58. Pierre's civil death entry described him as a 45-year-old cultivator at Aux Guevelles, the husband of Anne Mosimanne, and a son of the deceased Jean Neuhauser and Susanne Sendry, who had been cultivators at Salm. It was witnessed by his brother Christian Neuhauser, who was described as a 60-year-old cultivator at Aux Guevelles. Anne remarried to André Bacher at Bourg-Bruche Nov. 2, 1827; one witness was Christian Neuhauser, 66. Two of the sons of Pierre and Anne came to America. The *Caroline* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 31, 1853. The passsenger list shows Jacob Neyhauser, 44; Pierre Neyhauser, 50; Joseph, 16; Madeleine, 13; and Barbe, 7. This was widower Pierre Neuhauser (he was born at Les Quelles, La Broque Dec. 2, 1802, and died in Adams County, Indiana Sept. 19, 1862); and his younger brother Jacques/Jacob Neuhauser (he was born at La Broque July 17, 1808, and died in Adams County Sept. 12, 1891).

Neuhauser of Gosselming

Cultivator **Jacob/Jacques Neuhauser** was born circa 1681.[204]

He may have been a son of the Neuhausers found at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines after the Amish division of 1693. A census of Anabaptist heads-of-household there in 1697 has Christ Neuouette [Neuhauser]. Jacob Neuhus is there in 1703.

Circa 1720 he married Barbara Jenni/Geny.

La Broque, Schirmeck, and Barembach are adjacent communities striding the Bruche River of Lower Alsace, 25 miles (by road) north of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Some sources place this marriage and the baptisms of their three known children at Barembach. We could find no specific evidence for this.

Their children include:

1. Jean Neuhauser was born circa 1720-25, and died at Barembach April 27, 1759. On May 24, 1746 at Schirmeck he married Marguerite Krug/Krouque.
2. **Nicolas Neuhauser** was born circa 1736, and died at Gosselming, Moselle March 1, 1798.

Pierre at Raon-sur-Plaine, a daughter of cultivator Jean Nayehauser and Marie Augsbourg. It was witnessed by second-cousin-of-the-groom cultivator Jean Pachre, 40, and father-of-the-bride cultivator Jean Nayehauser, 48. The groom signed 'Hans Bächer'; the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate; and the father of the bride signed 'Hans Neihüser.'

Their next child, Barbe Neuhauser, died in the hamlet of Salm at La Broque Aug. 24, 1794. Her civil death entry said she was two years old.

[203] The present-day village of Montbras was built on the grounds behind the castle. The castle is now a popular destination for tourists and honeymooners.

[204] One source says he was baptized at Schaffhausen (now in Canton Schaffhausen, Switzerland) Oct. 9, 1681. Other sources say he was born at Steffisburg, but no entry is found there.

3. Christian Neuhauser was born circa 1738. Circa 1763 at Singling (now part of Gros-Réderching) he married Barbara Zimmerman. She was born there circa 1742. Their children born at Singling include one who settled at Wilmot, Ontario:
    a. Barbara Neuhauser was born circa 1765, and died at Hombourg-Haut Aug. 17, 1833. Circa 1790 she married Michel Jantzi. He was born circa 1763, and died at Macheren, Moselle July 25, 1833, a son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Guerber. See JANTZI for background on this couple.
    b. Véronique Marie Nauhauser was born in 1767, and died at Rhodes, Moselle June 17, 1816.
    c. Christian Neuhauser was born Nov. 10, 1767, and died at Imling Aug. 17, 1809. On April 6, 1794 at Gondrexange, Moselle he married Magdalena/Madeleine Zwalter. She was born at Gondrexange Dec. 1, 1772, and died at Imling Jan. 1, 1814, a daughter of Christian Zwalter and Marie Risser. See ZWALTER OF GONDREXANGE in the Appendix for background on her family. One of their children came to North America in 1819:
        — Christian Neuhauser was born at Imling Jan. 6, 1797, and died in Lancaster County June 20, 1882. In 1823 in Lancaster County he married Barbara Blank. She was born in Pennsylvania Feb. 2, 1790, and died in Lancaster County March 13, 1873. a daughter of John Blank and Barbara King. They are found on the 1850 census of Leacock, Lancaster County as farmer Christian Neuhauser, 54, France; Barbara, 50, Pa.; laborer Christian, 26, Pa.; Susanna, 23, Pa.; and Barbara, 21, Pa. His household is found on the 1880 census of Leacock as farmer Christian Neuhauser, France; daughter Susannah, 53, Pennsylvania; daughter Barbara Mast, 51, Pennsylvania; and boarder/laborer John Mast, 18, Pennsylvania. *Herald of Truth*, Aug. 1, 1882: "Died in Lancaster county, Pa., on the 20th of June, Christian Neuhauser, aged 86 years, 4 months and 20 days. He was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church. His place in the meeting was seldom vacant. Till his old age he seemed as a light of the world and a salt to the earth. He was born in France and left his native land for America in 1819. He brought with him a writing, showing that he was in peace with his church when he left. This writing is dated March 4th, 1819, and is signed by Bishop Johannes Hirsche. Later he went to Canada and had his home with Bishop Benjamin Eby. When he left Canada Bishop Eby of the Mennonite Church gave him a certificate that he had conducted himself faithfully and orderly and was in peace with the church, dated Oct. 24th, 1822. This brother was poor before he came to America, but with enterprise and industry, followed with God's blessings, he accumulated considerable means, with which he manifested his sympathies for the poor, and made himself many friends among all classes. Probably about thirty-five years ago a poor stranger from Ireland, came in his poverty to Bro. Neuhauser for help, which he cheerfully gave him. When our brother lay upon his deathbed, this man whom he had helped in his poverty and need, now living sixty miles distant, hearing of his sickness, came and stayed with him by his bedside one week till he saw him laid in his grave. O, how powerful are the words of our Savior, when he says, "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fall, they may receive you into everlasting habitations." Also the words of the apostle when he says, "Labor with your hands that you may have to give to him that needeth." Love is the greatest of Christian graces. "That which a man soweth shall he also reap." We believe that our aged brother is now resting from his labors and his works have followed him. He leaves four children, three of which were present at his funeral where a large number of friends and neighbors were present. Funeral services were held by Gideon Stoltzfus and John F. Stoltzfus. Gideon Stoltzfus." Christian and Barbara are buried in Myer Cemetery at Monterey, Lancaster County.
    d. Anne Neuhauser was born at Singling April 15, 1772. On Nov. 1, 1796 at Bistroff she married Joseph Farny. He was born on Hingsange farm at Linstroff (now in Grostenquin) Nov. 12, 1766, a son of Christian Farni/Farny and Anne Hirschi (see FARNY for background on his family).
    e. Suzanne/Susanna Neuhauser was born circa 1777, and died at Wilmot Dec. 16, 1849. Circa 1803 she married Christian Blank. He was born circa 1780, and died at Imling Dec. 28, 1809, a son of Michel Blank/Black and Anne Jaüsi. On Oct. 29, 1812 at Imling she remarried to Christophe/Christian Abresol (later found as Ebersol and Ebersoll), who was born at Rhodes March 1, 1788, and died at Wilmot, Ontario March 25, 186l, a son of Jean Abresol and Babe Zwalter. See PLANK for background on both marriages.

Nicolas Neuhauser was born circa 1736, and died as a cultivator on Alsing farm at Gosselming, Moselle March 1, 1798. He married Catherine Marie Rügsegger.

Nicolas's death entry names his widow as Catherine Marie Lithzieker. She was also born circa 1736, and died at Gosselming only 17 days after him, on March 18, 1798, age 62. Her civil death entry called her 'Marie Regsecker.'

Their children include:

1. Marie Neuhauser was born circa 1772, and died after April 8, 1826. On Aug. 10, 1798 at Gosselming she married widower Joseph Schrag. He was born on Belgrade farm at Bistroff, Moselle in 1772, and died at Rhodes April 4, 1830, a son of Caspar Schrag and his first wife Barbe Rouvenacht. His first wife had been Marie Engel. See SCHRAG for background on this couple.
2. **Hans/Jean Neuhauser** was born Aug. 5, 1775.

Hans/Jean Neuhauser was born on Alsing farm at Gosselming Aug. 5, 1775, and died on Misselhof farm at Bébing, Moselle July 24, 1836, age 60.

On Dec. 10, 1798 at Longville-lès-St. Avold, Moselle he married Anne Marie Kennel. She was born at Macheren (six miles east of Longville-lès-St. Avold) or Diffembach-lès-Hellimer (18 miles southeast of Longville-lès-St. Avold) Feb. 15, 1770, and died on Misselhof farm Feb. 1, 1843, a daughter of Jean Kennel and Anne Madeleine Schertz.

Children of Hans/Jean Neuhauser and Anne Marie Kennel include:

1. Jean/John Neuhauser was born at Gosselming, Moselle Jan. 10, 1800, and died at Gridley, Livingston County Dec. 28, 1875. On March 11, 1821 at Marimont-les-Benestroff, Moselle he married Madeleine Salzman. She was born at Denting, Moselle April 11, 1800, and died at Lafauche, Haut-Marne April 27, 1853, a daughter of Joseph Salzman and Barbe Lidviller/Litwiller. The *Splendid* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 7, 1855. The passenger list shows Jean Neuhauser, 54, France; Nanette [Anna], 14; and Barbe, 10. 'John Newhouser, 70, France' is found in the household of Jacob King, 35, on the 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County. *Herald of Truth*, April 1876: "Dec. 28th, in Livingston Co., Ill., of the infirmities of age and inflammation of the bladder, Bro. John Newhauser, in his 76th year. Buried in the presence of many relatives and friends on the 30th, when appropriate remarks were made by J.P. Schmitt." He is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Gridley.
2. Joseph Neuhauser was born at Gosselming Jan. 6, 1802, and died at Bébing May 5, 1842.
3. Pierre Neuhauser was born at Gosselming Aug. 18, 1803, and died at Bébing July 12, 1830.
4. Barbe Neuhauser was born at Gosselming Jan. 10, 1805, and died at Bébing Aug. 16, 1830.
5. Christian Neuhauser was born at Gosselming April 21, 1807 (the 10-year index of civil entries erroneously describes him as daughter Christiane). On Dec. 19, 1839 at Lorquin he married Catherine Schertz. She was born at Gondrexange June 24, 1817, a daughter of André Schertz and Elisabeth Salzman.
6. André Neuhauser/Andrew Newhouser was born at Bébing March 10, 1809. It is thought that he came to Tazewell County in 1853. Presumably he was motivated to emigrate from Europe by military conscription for the Crimean War (1853-1856; see SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF REHERREY for background). Despite the age discrepancy, it is likely that André was the 'laborer Andre Niheiser, 35, France' found in the household of Emanuel Garber on the 1860 census of Elm Grove. The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows him as Andy Newhauser, a 66-year-old 'teamster at mill' [presumably Moses Ropp's saw mill], born in Lorraine to parents from Lorraine, a boarder in the household of John Eimer. He is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery as 'Andrew Newhouser, 1809-1900.'
7. Anneli/Heneley (as found on her civil birth entry)/Anna Neuhauser was born on Misselhof farm at Bébing Jan. 14, 1811, and died at Sarrebourg, Moselle June 22, 1877. On Sept. 9, 1852 at Hermelange, Moselle she married Chrétien Suisse. He was born at Bisping Feb. 26, 1819, a son of Christian/Christophe Suisse and Marie Farny.
8. **Felte (per civil birth entry)/Valentin/Valentine Neuhauser** was born on Misselhof farm at Bebing, Moselle March 12, 1814, and died at Gridley June 12, 1899.

Felte (per civil birth entry)/Valentin/Valentine Neuhauser was born on Misselhof farm at Bebing, Moselle March 12, 1814, and died at Gridley June 12, 1899.

On Oct. 19, 1839 at Petitmont, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Barbe Schertz. She was born at Petitmont Oct. 2, 1819, and died at Gridley May 14, 1886, a daughter of André Schertz and Elisabeth Salzman. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as a laborer in the Hazard mill at Lorquin.

Barbe brought to the marriage an illegitimate daughter also named Barbe Schertz, who was born at Lorquin Dec. 8, 1838. The civil birth entry was witnesses by the midwife and did not identify the father.

The *Lemuel Dyer* departed Le Havre, and arrived at New Orleans April 27, 1854. The passenger list shows Valentin Neuhauser, 39, France; Barbara, 32; Valentin, 13; André, 12; and Emile, 11. Later in the passenger list is Barbara Neuhauser, 15, France.

'Valentine Neuhauser, 40, France' is found in the household of Peter Wirick [Weyrich] on the 1860 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County. 'Valentin Neuhauser, France' applied for naturalization at Peoria Oct. 16, 1860; his statement was witnessed by Daniel Gingerich and Joseph Ulrich.

On April 22, 1864 he purchased 80 acres of federal land in Section 26 of Waldo; be bought an adjoining 80 acres in 1871. The 1870 census of Waldo shows farmer Val Newhouser, 55, France; Barbara, 50, France; and

Malinda, 9, Illinois. The 1880 census of Waldo has minister Valentine Neuhauser, France; Barbra, 60, France; and granddaughter Anna Forney, 19, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois and France.

Herald of Truth, July 1886: "On the 14th of May, in Livingston Co., Ill., of cancer of the breast, Barbara, wife of deacon Valentine Neuhauser, aged 66 years. On Sunday the 16th her remains were laid in the grave. Many friends from far and near were present to pay their last tribute of respect for the departed sister. Funeral services were held by Daniel Steiner, Andrew Ropp, Christian Roop and John P. Schmidt. About three years ago an operation was performed upon Sister Neuhauser and since that time she had continual and severe pain; yet all her sufferings were borne in all patience and Christian fortitude. She often prayed her heavenly Father that if it were his will, to release her from these sufferings, yet she calmly resigned herself to his will. She gave good evidence that she had been with Christ. She lived in matrimony 47 years, during which time joy intermingled with sorrow, yet the Lord always opened a way for them. Their last place of abode in Europe was in Saxburg, France, where she was born. From that place they moved to America. The departed sister leaves a sorrowing husband, one son, 10 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren to mourn their loss, but they mourn not as those who have no hope. She was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church."

Herald of Truth, August 1899: "On June 12, 1899, at 11:45 P. M., in Livingston Co. Ill., of decrepitude, Deacon Valentine Neuhauser, at the advanced age of 85 yr., 2 m., and 29 d. Bro. Neuhauser was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, on the 14th day of March, 1814. In 1838 he married Barbara Schertz. To this union five children were born, of whom four preceded him to the spirit world. This family was blessed with thirteen grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren. Our deceased deacon's precious days were full of trouble and labor, and he went through many a sad experience before his time came and death relieved him of his troubles. His remains were laid to rest on the 15th, and a large number of relatives and friends from near and far showed him their last respect of love and gratitude. Funeral services were conducted by Daniel Orendorff, from Phil. 1:21-23, and by the writer, from *2 Cor. 5:1-10*, after which Joseph Rediger made a few earnest remarks. John P. Schmitt."

They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Gridley.

Barbe Schertz, born at Lorquin Dec. 8, 1838 as the illegitimate daughter of Barbe Schertz, married in Woodford County Feb. 12, 1860. The entry names Peter Forney and Barbary Newhouser. This was Peter Farny/Farney. He was born at Wilmot, Ontario June 3 or 8, 1835, and died at Hutchinson, Kansas July 9, 1903, a son of Peter/Pierre Farny and Anne Kempf. On the 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County they are found in the household of his parents as Peter P. Forney, 24, Canada; and Barbara Forney, 22, France. Barbe died in Woodford County April 3, 1871. On Dec. 17, 1874 in Livingston County he remarried to Barbara Rediger.

Children of Felte/Valentin/Valentine Neuhauser and Barbe Schertz include:

1. Valentin/Valentine Neuhauser was born at Lorquin, Moselle April 2, 1841, and died at Gridley July 14, 1922. On Oct. 19, 1867 in Woodford County he married Anna Ropp. She was born at Montgomery Township June 23, 1845, and died at Waldo Aug. 25, 1903, a daughter of Christian Ropp and Magdalena Schertz. On June 11, 1907 Valentine remarried to widow Elizabeth Saltsmann. She was born in New Orleans Sept. 21, 1849, and died at Gridley Feb. 17, 1920. She was the widow of Joseph Zehr, who died in 1882.
2. André Neuhauser was born at Lorquin June 7, 1843, and died Jan. 13, 1868.
3. Emile Neuhauser was born at Lorquin Dec. 30, 1849, and died before 1860.
4. Magdalena Neuhauser was born Oct. 16, 1861, and died Dec. 13, 1873.

Neuhauser of Basel

The city of Basel is located in northern Switzerland on the borders of Upper Alsace and Baden, straddling the Rhine River where it comes from the east and turns north.

This portion of text looks at the descendants of two Basel residents – Pierre and Simon – who were likely brothers. We assume this relationship because each had a son who was living at Ste. Suzanne, Doubs (on the west side of Montbéliard) in 1826-28, and they witnessed each other's documents. In addition we assume a sister – Catherine – because of multiple coincidences surrounding a wedding in 1829. We also propose a sister Barbara because of her family associations.

1. **Pierre Neuhauser** [senior] was born circa 1746.
2. **Barbara Neuhauser** was likely born before 1752.
3. **Simon Neuhauser** [senior] was born circa 1758. His descendants included Elm Grove settlers.
4. **Catherine Neuhauser** was born circa 1760.

1. Pierre Neuhauser [Senior]

Pierre Neuhauser [senior] was born circa 1746, and died at Feldbach, Upper Alsace March 26, 1808.

He married Anne Marie Frey. She was born circa 1738, and died at Dannemarie, Upper Alsace May 15, 1804, a daughter of day laborer Jacob Frey and Madeleine Rupp (actually found on Anne Marie's civil death entry as Madeleine Rupperen or Rupperer).

A census of Anabaptists in 1783 said that day laborer Peter Neuhauser lived with a wife and three children on the Arxhof [arch farm] in the Waldenburg district [Ger. *Waldenburgeramt*]. This was located at Niederdorf, 19 miles southeast of the city center of Basel.

As early as the 1000s the Reinachs were lords and property holders in the Aargau region. Their authority fluctuated over the next few centuries, but their wealth remained. It cannot be coincidental that three communities linked to the Peterschmitt and/or Neuhauser family were also linked to the Reinachs: the village Reinach adjacent on the west side of Arlesheim, below the city of Basel in what is now Canton Basel-Landschaft; the village Reinach in the district of Kulm, Canton Aargau, adjacent on the southeast corner of Gontenschwil (less than three miles between village centers); and the village Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace.

Peter's employer was Jacob Schmuckli, a leaseholder with a wife and four children. Schmuckli was six years into a 12-year lease. This may have been the minister named Hans Jacob Schmückli mentioned in Horst Gerlach's *My Kingdom is not of this World: 300 Years of the Amish, 1683-1983*.

In 1777, the year the lease started, Hans Jacob had been chosen as elder of the meeting in the village of Binningen in Arlesheim district, on the west side of St. Jakob farm.[205] Binningen was roughly 16 miles northwest of the Arxhof at Niederdorf. Presumably, Peter ran the farm in his absence.

Concurrently Johannes/Hans Freyenberger of Oberhofen was a minister and elder of meetings in his home on St. Jakob farm, also called the orphanage farm [Ger. *Waisenhausgut*]. For background on this location see FREYENBERGER in the Appendix. This Binningen congregation was also called the Basel-Binningen meeting. Neuhausers would be found in a churchbook kept continuously from 1777 to 1880.

Perhaps we can assume that Pierre and Anne Marie took their family from the Arxhof to Upper Alsace in response to the French Revolution and the end of the farm lease in 1789.

Anne Marie Frey's civil death entry said she was 66, named her parents, and said she was born at Briseau (Freiburg im Breisgau, Baden?). It was signed by her husband cultivator 'Pierre Neühausler' as 'Neuhauser.' Both were described as residents of Dannemarie.

Pierre's civil death entry described him as a 62-year-old widower and resident of Feldbach. It was witnessed by his son Pierre; he signed Peter Neŭhaŭser.

Children of Pierre Neuhauser [senior] and Anne Marie Frey include:

1. Barbara Neuhauser was born circa 1771, and died at Blotzheim, Upper Alsace (six miles northwest of Basel) Feb. 2, 1836. She married Nicolas Schott [senior]. He was born circa 1760, and died May 15, 1838; he is buried in the cemetery Le Mont Chevis on the northwest outskirts of Montbéliard, though no civil death entry is found there. They were residents of Exincourt (on the southwest side of Montbéliard) in 1831. Barbara's civil death entry said she died in Maison No. 352 at Blotzheim, named her husband, and gave her age as 65. It was witnessed by her son, 36-year-old Jean Schott. Their children include:
    a. Barbara Schott was born Nov. 17, 1794, and died at Münchenstein adjacent to Arlesheim in the Arlesheim district adjacent to Basel Feb. 10, 1879. In April of 1816 in the *Mennonit* meeting on St. Jakob farm, Basel she married widower Christe/Chrétien Joder. He was born at Méziré (12 miles below Belfort, adjacent to Morvillars) circa 1789, a son of Hans/Jean Joder and Catherine Klopfenstein. His first wife had been Anne Catherine Klopfenstein (see JODER for background). He died at Blotzheim July 14, 1852. The death entry describes him as farmer Chrétien Joder, 65, born at Morvillars (adjacent to Méziré), the husband of Barbe Schott. It was witnessed by son Chrétien Joder, 22, and neighbor and farmer Jacques König, 45.
    b. Jean Schott was born circa 1799. He was a 36-year-old resident of Blotzheim in 1836.
    c. Nicolas Schott [junior] was born circa 1800, and died at Thiancourt, Territoire de Belfort Aug. 25, 1860. On Jan. 3, 1831 at Exincourt he married Catherine Frey. She was born circa 1807, and died at Thiancourt Aug. 23, 1861, a daughter of Joseph Freÿ and Catherine Meyer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Nicolas Schott, 41, born at Klacli or Klercli *en Suisse.* (We could not identify this location, except for the possibility that this was Réclère, 14 miles southeast of Exincourt and now in Canton Jura on the French border). His parents were Nicolas Schott, 69, and Elizabeth [Barbara] Neuhausser, 59, residents of Exincourt who were present and consenting. The bride was dressmaker

[205] Its first meetinghouse was constructed in 1847 at 141 Holeestrasse in Binningen. Its records are now at the Swiss Association for Anabaptist History at Bienenberg near Liestal.

Catherine Fraye, 24, a resident of Bief in canton St. Hypolite (this administrative district no longer exists, but Bief is on the west side of what is now the village St. Hyppolite) near Exincourt. Her parents were cultivator Joseph Fraye, and Catherine Meyer, 51, residents of Bief who were present and consenting. Witnesses included her brothers cultivator Jacques Freye, 32, a resident of Voujeaucourt (six miles southwest of Exincourt); and cultivator Joseph Fraye, 25, a resident of St. Hypolite. Nicolas's civil death entry was witnessed by cultivator Nicolas Schott, 25. Catherine was described as a cultivator at Thiancourt.

2. **Peter/Pierre Neuhauser** [junior] was born circa 1780, and died at Altkirch Nov. 28, 1847.
3. Johannes/Jean Neuhauser was born circa 1781. In 1819 he married Anne Barbe Schmid (called Elizabeth on some later entries), who was born circa 1795. A pre-wedding announcement posted in the communal house at Feldbach March 22, 1819 described the would-be groom as Jean Neuhauser, a son of the deceased Pierre Neuhauser; and Barbara Schmitt, a daughter of Pierre Schmitt and Catharin Schwarin. It was signed Johannes Neühaŭser; Barbara signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. The marriage did not take place at Feldbach or was simply not recorded there; in fact no marriages were recorded in 1819. In 1826-28 they were living at Ste. Suzanne, Doubs with Johannes/Jean's cousin Simon. Johannes/Jean died at Montbéliard Dec. 31, 1865. A civil death entry there described cultivator Jean Neuhauser, 85 (thus born circa 1780), parents unknown. He had been married to cultivator Anne Barbe Schmidth, 70. Witnesses included cultivators Christ Müller, 43, and Joseph Joder, 52.
    a. Jean Neuhauser was born at Tagsdorf, Upper Alsace July 12, 1820, and died at Ste. Suzanne Aug. 8, 1826. His civil birth entry described him as Jean Neuhauser. His parents were *Anabaptiste et vassale* Jean Neuhauser, 38, and Barbe Schmitt. His father signed Johannes Neuhaŭser. His civil death entry described his father as Jean Niauser, 42. It was witnessed by uncle and farm equipment operator Simon Niauser, 34.
    b. Elizabeth Neuhauser was born at Ste. Suzanne (spelled Susanne at that time), Doubs Nov. 12, 1827, and died there Jan. 31, 1833. Her civil birth entry described her parents as farm equipment operator Jean Niauser, 43, and Elizabeth Chemith, residents of Ste. Susanne. It was witnessed by (as their signatures appeared) Johannes Neŭhaŭser and Simon Neŭhaŭser. Simon was described as a 35-year-old farm equipment operator who was also a resident of Ste. Suzanne. Her civil death entry described her parents as farm equipment operator Jean Kiauser, 50, and Elizabeth Schmid, 45. Her father signed Johannes Neŭhaŭser.

Peter/Pierre Neuhauser [junior] was born circa 1780, and died at Altkirch (on the northeast corner of Hirtzbach) Nov. 28, 1847.

On April 25, 1805 at Dannemarie, Upper Alsace Peter/Pierre married Anne Marie Roth. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Pierre Neuheusler, 24, a resident of Dannemarie. He was a son of cultivator Pierre Neuheusler, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Marie Frey, who had died at Dannemarie May 15, 1804. The bride was described as Anne Marie Roth, 28, born at *Basle en helvetic*. She was a resident of Bois de la Chapt, Granvillars [Bois Lachat, a forest west and north of Grandvillars, Territoire de Belfort noted in ERNST]. Her parents were the deceased Jacques Roth, who had died March 19, 1791, and the deceased Marie Salihemberger [Schallenberger], who had died April 10, 1800. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Neuheusler, 22. Signatures looked like Peter Neŭhaŭser [the groom], Johannes Neühaŭser [his brother], and Poater Neŭhaŭser [his father]; the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.

Anne Marie Roth was born circa 1777, and died at Feldbach May 26, 1811, shortly after the birth of a son. Pierre signed her civil death entry Peter Neŭhaŭser.

On Oct. 30, 1809 day laborer Elizabethe Schott, 40, died at Feldbach. Her civil death entry was witnessed by farmer Pierre Neuhauser and the mayor.

Children of Peter/Pierre Neuhauser and his first wife Anne Marie Roth born at Feldbach include:

1. Anne Marie Neuhauser was born Feb. 16, 1806. On May 20, 1834 at Allenjoie, Doubs she married Jean Schmuckly. He was born at Allenjoie Dec. 26, 1791, and died at Arlesheim near Basel Dec. 8, 1845, a son of Michel Schmuckli and Barbe Gerig. He was the widower of Barbe Schantz, who died at Arlesheim in 1833.
2. Pierre Neuhauser was born Feb. 26, 1809, and died at Altkirch May 23, 1837. His civil birth entry described his father as a 28-year-old cultivator.
3. Johannes/Jean Neuhauser was born May 17, 1811. On Sept. 19, 1839 at Richwiller, Upper Alsace he married widower Magdalena Moser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom's parents as day laborer Neuhauser, a resident of Altkirch, and the deceased Anne Marie Roth. Signatures included Johannes Neŭhaŭser and Peter Neŭhaŭser. Magdalena was born at Illzach (29 miles northeast of Hirtzbach) Dec. 14, 1812, and died at Mulhouse (below Illzach) Sept. 10, 1868, a daughter of Madeleine Moser. Her first husband was Nicolas Hildi [Hilti/Hilty, derived from Hiltbrunner, a battle].

Pierre remarried at Feldbach Dec. 18, 1812. His civil marriage entry described the groom as Pierre Neuhauser, 32, the widower of Anne Marie Roth (though the 10-year index of civil entries erroneously listed the bride as Anne Marie Roth). The bride was described as Anne Marie Stoky, 30, born at Liestall, *Canton de Basle* [Liestal, now in Canton Basel-Landschaft, 10 miles southeast of the city of Basel], a daughter of the deceased Christen Stoky and Anne Marie Schwarÿ. Her mother was a resident of Carspach who was present at the ceremony (see STUCKY for background on her parents). The groom signed Neuhaŭser, the bride signed with an 'x.'

Pierre's civil death entry created at Altkirch Nov. 28, 1847 described him as day laborer Pierre Neuhauser, 67, the husband of Marie Neuhauser. It was witnessed by his neighbor Jean Eicher, 67; Pierre had died in Jean's home on *Rue de la Porte au Chevaux*.

A child of Peter/Pierre Neuhauser [junior] and his second wife Anne Marie Stoky was:

4. Catharin/Catherine Neuhauser was born at Feldbach April 6, 1815.

2. Barbara Nauhauser

Barbara Neuhauser was likely born before 1752.

She married Michel Gerig, a son of Jean Gerig and Barbe Sommer. Michel died at Danjoutin (below Belfort in the Territoire de Belfort) Nov. 4, 1780, and was buried in the Burgerwald at Montbéliard.

One of their children was Marie Gerig, born circa 1773. On July 26, 1794 at Montbéliard she married Hans Meyer. He was born in 1773, and died in 1834, a son of Hans Meyer and Catherine Liechti. Hans's sister was Catherine Meyer (1779-1858) who married Joseph Freÿ (1760-1836). Joseph Freÿ and Catherine Meyer were the parents of two children who married into the extended Neuhauser family (one to a Schott, one to a Gerig).

3. Simon Neuhauser [Senior]

Simon Neuhauser [senior] was born circa 1758.

He married Barbe Peter Schmid. The ceremony may have taken place as early as 1784, the birth year of their oldest child. Simon likely met Barbe while visiting his older brother in the area of Feldbach and nearby Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace. Hirtzbach was noted in PETERSMITH as a home to Peter Schmidts.

Barbe was frequently found as Barbe Schmitt. However, the marriage entry of their oldest son identified her as Barbe Petre Schemit.

In 1792 they were living on St. Jakob farm in the city of Basel. The farm was less than four miles north of Arlesheim. In 1793 the cathedral at Arlesheim was abandoned by Catholic clergy and siezed by French troops. Though it was pillaged, it was saved from destruction when it was purchased by private citizens. After 1815 it was sold back to Catholic clergy, but they lacked funds for its upkeep. This dampened the local economy for several decades.

The city of Basel projects into what is now Baden-Württemberg, Germany. Its northeast corner touches the Baden district of Lörrach. The next record of this family is found in an *Evangelisch* churchbook at Ober Tegernau, Baden. This was a small milling village, 14 miles northeast of the town of Lörrach, in the foothills of the Black Forest. It had been the birthplace of Christian/Chrétien Gerig, the husband of Simon's younger sister Catherine Neuhauser.

The family may have gone there because French troops were being billeted in Basel, raising local prices and bringing the danger of typhus (recall the causes of typhus from ROTH). Eight-year-old son Jacob died at Ober Tegernau in 1804.[206] By the laws of Baden, the death of a child with Anabaptist parents was required to be registered in a Protestant church.

Perhaps the family crossed from Baden to live in Upper Alsace as early as the Baden-France alliance in 1805.

Simon [senior] died on the *Schweighof* dairy farm at Courtavon, Upper Alsace, on the border with Canton Jura Dec. 29, 1814. His civil death entry described him as *annabaptiste* sawyer or woodworker [Fr. *scieur*] Simon Neihusser, 56, the husband of Barbe Schmid and a resident of Courtavon. Barbe died between 1815 and 1830.

Children of Simon Neuhauser [senior] and Barbe Peter Schmid include:

1. Simon Neuhauser [junior] was born on St. Jakob farm Feb. 9, 1792, and died at Clairegoutte, Haute-Saône May 16, 1870. On Feb. 11, 1815 at Réchésy, Territoire de Belfort (six miles northwest of Courtavon) he married Catherine Hummell [Ummel/Hummel]. She was born circa 1787, and died at Hirtzbach in 1820, a daughter of Christ Hummel

[206] Ober Tegernau [upper outside meadow] (population 390) was administratively absorbed into Kleines Wiesental [small meadow valley], still in the district of Lörrach, on Jan. 1, 2009. There is still a Nieder Tegernau [lower outside meadow] below it.

[Ummel] and Barbe Stocky [Stŭcki or Stucky]. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Simon Neyhousser, 23. He was born on St. Jacob farm in the city of Basel Feb. 9, 1792. His parents were described as the deceased Simon Neÿhausser, who had died at Courtavon Dec. 29, 1814, and Barbe Petre Schemit, who consented to the marriage. He was a resident of Ferrette. [The village Ferrette is seven miles northeast of Courtavon. Though less likely, this could also have described the *canton* or township of Ferrette, which included Courtavon]. The bride was Catherine Hummell, 28. She was the widow of Jean Roth, who had died on Norappe farm at Réchésy April 13, 1814 [age 48 per his civil death entry]. Her parents were Christe Hummelle and Barbe Stockey, residents of Montingan [Montignez on the southwest corner of Réchésy?]. The groom signed Simon Nauhaŭser. Their children include:

a. Magdelaine Neuhauser was born at Réchésy May 20, 1818, and died at Ste. Suzanne Sept. 4, 1826. Her civil birth entry described her parents as farmer Simon Neuhauser of la Norappe [a farm on the east side of the village], 25, and Catherine Umel. The father's signature looked like Simon Neŭhaŭser. Her civil death entry described her father as Simon Niauser, 34; it was witnessed by uncle Jean Niauser, 34.

b. Joseph Neuhauser was born at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace Aug. 17, 1820, and died on the road to Pfastatt Sept. 17, 1820. His civil birth entry described his parents as Simon Neuhauser, 27, a native of St. Jacque, Canton Bern, Switzerland 'living in our community for three weeks' and Catherine Ummel. Witnesses included Joseph Jotter, 68, and Jacques Jotter, 39, farmers employed by Monsieur [Baron] Reinach. Signatures looked like Simon Neŭhaŭser and Jacob Joder. The mention of 'three weeks' suggests that the couple had come nine miles from Réchésy in anticipation of the event. At Hirtzbach they would have been in the company of Simon's relatives the Peter Schmidts and other members of the Birkenhof congregation. The details on entries are incomplete, but seem to tell the story: A short while after Joseph's birth his mother died (between the creation of the birth entry and four weeks later). It is not clear whether or not Simon was absent at the birth (perhaps returning to work the harvest at Réchésy), or whether he departed after Catherine's death, leaving the newborn to be tended by relatives. Despite a legal requirement, Catherine's death was not reported for an *état civil* entry. Perhaps no entry was recorded at Hirtzbach, because no one was left behind to pay a small administrative fee. The newborn Joseph was transported toward Pfastatt (15 miles north), where Catherine had a sister living (Catherine's mother Barbe Stocky/Stŭcki had died there June 24, 1819). But the baby died at the age of four weeks in a public garden en route on the *Rue de Mulhausen*. A civil death entry for Joseph was created at Pfastatt, witnessed by farmer Daniel Frŭtiger, 43, the husband of Vérène Ummel. It specifically noted the abence of the father without explanation.

Between 1820 and 1823 Simon remarried to Magdalena/Madeleine Heitzmann. She was born at Neuborg, Austria July 22, 1796, and died as a resident of Magny-Jobert, Haute-Saône Feb. 5, 1858 (30 miles west of Réchésy), though her civil death was recorded at Champagney (seven miles northeast of Magny-Jobert).[207] It described her as Marie-Madelaine Haitsmann, the wife of Simon Neuhauser, 62, and a daughter of deceased cultivators Haitsmann and Catherine Roy, who had been residents of Neubourg. It was witnessed by their son Joseph Simon Neuhauser, 29, who signed Simon Neuhaŭser. In 1826-28 they were living at Ste. Suzanne, Doubs with Simon's cousin Johannes/Jean. Simon died at Clairegoutte (two miles northeast of Magny-Jobert) May 16, 1870. His civil death entry described him as Simon Neuhauser, approximately 80, an elderly miller and resident of Clairegoutte, the widower of the deceased Madeleine Heitezmann.

c. Marie Neuhauser was born at Dung, Doubs circa 1823, and died at Lomont, Haute-Saône (three miles southeast of Magny-Jobert) Jan. 17, 1886 (the 10-year civil index calls her Marie Naillousere). On July 14, 1840 at Magny-Jobert she married Nicolas Stocki [derived from Stŭcki]. He was born at Buix in the district of Porrentruy, Canton Jura Jan. 1, 1814, and died at Lyoffans, Haute-Saône July 7, 1887, a son of cultivator Jacques Stocki, 26, and Frenelle/Freni/Véronique Kaufmann. Their civil marriage entry described the bride as minor Marie Neuhauser, 17, a daughter of Simon Neuhausser, 48, and Madeleine Haumann [Magdalena Heitzmann], 44, present and consenting. The groom was a resident of Montbéliard, and the bride was a resident of Magny-Jobert. One witness was cultivator Pierre Stocki, 28, of Montbéliard. Signatures look like Simon Neŭhaŭser, Magdalena Heitzmann, and Jacob Stŭcki.

d. Joseph Simon Neuhauser was born at Ste. Suzanne, Doubs (on the east side of Dung) April 2, 1826, and died at Étobon, Haute-Saône July 15, 1852. His civil birth entry described his parents as farm equipment operator Simon Niausére, 34, a resident of Ste. Susanne, and Elizabeth Aizman [Magdlena Heitzmann]. One witness was farm equipment operator Jean Niausére, 42 (his signature looked like Johannes Neŭhaŭser). He married Catherine Guemann. She was born at Étobon June 3, 1826, and died at Archbold, Fulton County, Ohio Sept. 3, 1884, a daughter of Christ Guemann and Marie Gerig. His civil death entry described him as miller Joseph Neiuser, 26, a resident of Étobon who was born at St. Susanne, Doubs, a son of Simon Neiuser and Madeleine Hietsmanne. Catherine was pregnant at the time

[207] The department of Haute-Saône was carved out of the administrative region of Franche-Comté in the early 1790s. It is situated between Vosges on the north, the Territoire de Belfort on the east, and Doubs on the south. It has historically been an impoverished area; in 1784 half its population still consisted of serfs. Laws against this practice were not enforced for another five years, with the French Revolution.

of his death, and gave birth to a daughter Annette at Étobon Sept. 19, 1852. On April 4, 1856 at Étobon Catherine remarried to André/Andrew Vonier. He was born at Schruns, Austria Oct. 13, 1822, and died at Archbold Dec. 13, 1912. They arrived at New York on the *SS Kong Sverre* April 8, 1874. Catherine is buried as 'Katie, wife of Andrew Vonier' in Eckley Cemetery in Fulton County. In 1884 in Fulton County André/Andrew remarried to Bertha Bruthern. They are buried in Rupp Cemetery at Archbold.

e. Simon Neuhauser was born at Ste. Suzanne July 22, 1828, and died at Essert, Territoire de Belfort April 25, 1893. One witness on his civil birth entry was farm equipment operator Jean Niauser, 44. When 27-year-old miller Simon Niauser married Elizabeth Schad at La Côte, Haute-Saône June 5, 1855, his parents were described as Simon Naiuser, 63 (his signature looked like Neuhaŭser), and Elizabeth Hizeman (her signature looked like Heitzmann), 57, present and consenting.

2. Jacob Neuhauser (twin) died at Ober Tegernau in the district of Lörrach, Baden Nov. 3, 1804, and was buried Nov. 5. An entry in the *Kirchenbuch Tegernau* called him Jacob Neuhausser, and described him as an 8-year-old son of Simon Neuhausser and Barbara Peterschmidt. By law the death of the child of an Anabaptist in Baden had to be registered in an *Evangelisch* church. If the age on Jacob's death entry is accurate, then he would have been a twin to Peter/Pierre of this family born Feb. 20, 1796.
3. According to his obituary, **Peter/Pierre Neuhauser (**twin) was born in Upper Alsace, near the city of Basel Feb. 20, 1796, and died at Morton July 23, 1889. If this birth date is correct, and the age on Jacob's death entry is correct, he and Jacob could have been twins.
4. Barbara Neuhauser was born Nov. 1, 1800 (apparently per her headstone age count, though we find the days illegible; her obituary age count suggests Nov. 5, 1800), and died at Nebraska, Livingston County June 5, 1880. She married widower Bartholome Zogg/Bartholomew Zook, whose first wife had been Elisabeth Schwartz. Zogg was born at Grabs, Canton St. Gallen Oct. 14, 1788 (per his civil marriage entry), and died at Nebraska, Livingston County Sept. 18, 1871. See ZOOK for more on this couple.
5. Madeleine Neuhauser was born circa 1802 (per the 1830 birth entry of her illegitimate son, which gave her age as 28). Read ahead to PETER/PIERRE AS A WITNESS for the full contents of an 1830 civil entry that concerned her.

According to his obituary, **Peter/Pierre Neuhauser** was born in Upper Alsace, near the city of Basel Feb. 20, 1796, and died at Morton July 23, 1889.

A number of searches for Peter and his sister Barbara through *état civil* records in villages on the French side of the present border with Switzerland have been unsuccessful.[208] Despite this, it remains probable that he was born in the vicinity of St. Louis, Upper Alsace, a five-mile-long community that borders the northwest corner of the city of Basel. The descriptive wording in his obituary may have been chosen to avoid confusing Midwestern readers.

St. Louis was occupied by French soldiers in 1793. Because it had been named for the sainted King Louis IX, and royalty was no longer venerated, the French government officially rechristened it Bourg Libré [free market town; Ger. *Bourgliber*]. But local residents continued to use the German-language alternative Sankt Ludvig [Saint Louis], and call themselves *Ludoviciens*.[209]

The city has always been a border station for the exchange of commercial goods. During the French occupation the *Bureau de Surveillance des Frontières* questioned some of those who crossed the border (on the Basel side it was open field), but most of their attention was given to taxable items. [210]

If Peter was born in St. Louis/Bourg Libré, there would have been no *état civil* entry. Their record keeping process was temporarily suspended Dec. 21, 1795, and did not resume until Sept. 10, 1796. Perhaps the civil administration was overtaxed by the massing of French troops for the protection of the border with Baden and an

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[208] It is apparent that the searches did not consider geography as it was in 1796 and 1800. Solely as an example, consider the possibilities if Peter was born in the Anabaptist settlement at Liestal, now in Canton Basel-Landschaft. It was 10 miles southeast of the city of Basel, and less than five miles south of the Rhine River border with Baden. Liestal welcomed the French Revolution and resented taxation by the city of Basel. They did not consider themselved part of the old Rauracian Republic, or the occupation Départment du Mont Terrible that was established by French occuption troops in 1793. That department's capital was in faraway Porrentruy, 47 miles to the west. But sentiment was such that Napoleon Bonaparte received ovations when he rode through the town in 1797. For 22 years (1793-1815) the people of Liestal may have considered themelves residents of Upper Alsace, though the presentday border of Upper Alsace was 13 miles away. And many other out-of-the-way locations have similar stories. Thus it is not difficult to imagine that Peter was born at Arlesheim, Liestal, or a number of similar small communities now found in Switzerland.

[209] Also described as Fort Libré, or 'very free.'

[210] A modern example of the uniqueness of the geography, commerce, and transportation challenges in the area is Europort Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg, an international airport constructed in 1946. It has a French zone, and a Swiss zone. Administrators from each country recognize the two parts as independent entities. Arriving passengers receive either a French or Swiss passport stamp, depending on which officer they approach. Yet is is almost completely within St. Louis, with its operations headquarters at adjacent Blotzheim.

invasion of Italy that commenced in the spring. Brigadier General Napoleon Bonaparte took command of the French 'Army of Italy' March 2, 1796, and began a year of campaigns against Austria and its ally Italy.

Other Amish Mennonite couples who had children at St. Louis in this time frame were Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman and Anne Marie Stucky, and his brother Christian Zimmerman and Elisabetha König (see ZIMMERMAN). Zimmermans also spilled over into adjacent Bourgfelden, which was absorbed into St. Louis in 1953.

In 1829 and 1830 Peter was working as a sawyer/woodworker at Heimersdorf, Upper Alsace. Heimersdorf is between Largitzen on its west side, and Ruederbach on its east; both locations have appeared many times in this text. His future wife and many of his future Tazewell County neighbors lived within walking distance.

PETER/PIERRE AS A WITNESS

Peter's occasional turns as a witness on *état civil* documents can cause confusion.

He appeared as a witness to a marriage at Heimersdorf Upper Alsace Feb. 16, 1829. The civil marriage entry described the groom as weaver Wendolin Essig, 32, born at Rexingen in the *Grand Bailliage de Horb, de Roÿaume de Würtemberg* Oct. 17, 1796. [Rexingen is now a community in the municipality of Horb am Neckar, Baden-Württemberg]. He was a son of weaver Mathias Essig, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Brigide Baederin, who had died at Rexingen April 5, 1828. The bride was Madelaine Sommer, 32, a resident of Heimersdorf. She was born at Bollwiller Aug. 15, 1797, a daughter of the deceased Chrétien Sommer, who had died at Carspach Nov. 2, 1819, and Anne Marie Schwarrÿ [Schwarÿ]. Anne Marie was a resident of Heimersdorf who was present and consenting. One witness was laborer Pierre Neuhauser, 39. He signed Peter Neŭhaŭser. So this source suggests he was born circa 1790.

Then the civil birth entry of a child of Madeleine Neuhauser was created at Heimersdorf July 11, 1830. Madeleine was Peter's younger sister. It described Madeleine, 28, as someone born at Oberdorff, but a resident of Heimersdorf. Her parents were the deceased Simon Neuhauser and Barbe Schmitt, who had been residents of Oberdorff. Her illegitimate child Chrétien Neuhauser was born in Pierre's home at Heimersdorf. Witnesses were weaver Wendolin Essig, 33, and sawyer/woodworker Pierre Neuhauser, 40, a resident of Heimersdorf. He signed Peter Neŭhaŭser. So a second source suggests Peter was born circa 1790 and not in 1796.

Two items from this entry should be viewed with skepticism:

— Peter's age is an obvious discrepancy.

— We also question the mentions of Oberdorff. The source of the information would have been witness Peter (the mother would not have attended the creation of the entry). By stating that his parents had lived in Upper Alsace, and his sister was born there, he was simply giving the newborn a gift – two earlier generations on French soil, the minimum residency requirement for French citizenship. Oberdorf was a tiny village in Upper Alsace, four miles east of Heimersdorf, and 16 miles west of the city of Basel.[211] It seems doubtful that one or more children could be born in that tiny village without civil entries being created there, and none are found. The surname Neuhauser does not even appear in Oberdorf records. However, the mentions of Oberdorff may only have been a misunderstanding – a mismatch between what Peter said and what the French-speaking recorder was familiar with. Most locations in Upper Alsace have a French and a German name. The German name of Courtavon is Ottendorf. It seems likely that this was meant. Either way, if Madeleine was born in 1802, it is more likely that she was born in the vicinity of Basel.

Then Jean Essig was born at Heimersdorf Dec. 30, 1830. His parents were described as Wendolin Essig, 35, and Madelaine Sommer, 34. One witness was *scieur* Pierre Neuhauser, 40. Another suggestion that Peter was born circa 1790.

And finally, a distracting Heimersdorf entry where the *other* Peter/Pierre is linked to some of the same people. Anne Marie Schwarÿ died at Heimersdorf Dec. 14, 1829. When a civil death entry was created the following day, the witnesses were described as *scieur* Pierre Neuhauser, 50, and weaver Wendolin Essig, 32, both sons-in-law. Do we now assume that Peter was born circa 1779? And how could he have been a son-in-law of Anne Marie Schwarÿ? Fortunately the son-in-law remark provides a clarifying clue. The son-in-law of Anne Marie Schwarÿ who signed her death entry was not the Peter who came to Elm Grove, who was a resident of Heimersdorf, but Peter/Pierre Neuhauser [junior], who was living at Feldbach below Heimersdorf. He was mentioned earlier as someone born circa 1780 who died in 1847, a son of Pierre Neuhauser [senior] and Anne Marie Frey. He married Anne Marie Roth and Anne Marie Stoky or Stucky, a daughter of Anne Marie Schwarÿ from her first husband (see background in STUCKY).

In retrospect, it is easy to see why past searches have been hampered by an extreme set of coincidences: two Peter/Pierre Neuhausers who were likely cousins, with nearly-identical signatures and the same occupation, who came from another country in a time of conflict to live in adjacent villages in Upper Alsace. And when we do identify the right one (confirmed by the entry where his sister Madeleine's parents are named), he turns out to be

[211] On Jan. 1, 2016 Oberdorf, Grentzingen, and Henflingen were administratively merged to create Illtal [the valley of the Ill River].

someone who is said to have been born circa 1790, rather than the 1796 we would expect to find from his obituary and Illinois censuses. An age suggesting a birth year of 1790 was repeatedly recorded by Heimersdorf mayor and record keeper Jean George Münch.

A possible explanation: In 1816 the restored monarchy revoked the Jourdan Law of 1798. This meant the end of universal conscription for military service, and a return to an army composed of careerists and foreign merenaries. But any shortfall in enlistment numbers would be made up in draft lottery drawings for single men aged 20-26. In practice the system was grossly unfair; only prosperous families could afford to purchase exemptions. In 1816 Peter would have been 20 years of age. Perhaps the tiny village of Heimersdorf benefited from Peter's presence; perhaps he benefited from an additional six years of age. If challenged by an outsider, he could have fallen back on the documents of his cousin living in the next village.

Although his name could not be found on arrival passenger lists imaged by the National Archives, the *Groupement Généalogique du Havre et de Seine-Maritime* has identified 'Pierre Neyhauser, 34' on French departure/emigration documents. He embarked at Le Havre April 2, 1831, bound for New York. His sister Barbara, who would later settle in Tazewell County as the wife of Bartholomew Zook, may have come with him. If it was a typical transit, they would have arrived circa May 8. The National Archives passenger list image collection is missing both April and May of 1831.

Initially Peter found employment as a farm laborer in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Peter's future wife Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt was born at Ruederbach (adjacent to Heimersdorf) July 22, 1807, and died at Waldo Township, Livingston County Feb. 2, 1884, a daughter of Jacob Petter Schmid and Barbara Lauber. See PETERSMITH for details of her immigration. She may have arrived in the Mill Creek area of Leacock, Lancaster County in the spring of 1832.

On Jan. 23, 1835 in Lancaster County the third cousins married. He was 39, she was 28.

Peter and Anne Marie relocated to Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio later that year. In January of 1836 the diaries of Christian Iutzi described Peter Neuhauser as 'neighbor Neuhauser.' The Neuhausers must have lived with or very near Christian Augspurger and Catherine Hauter, who were next-door neighbors to Iutzi's Middlehof farm.

'Peter Nauhouse' is found on the 1840 census of Lemon, Butler County: one male in the 40-49 age range; one male under 5; one female 30-39; and one female under 5. Peter submitted a *Declaration of Intent* to be naturalized at Hamilton, Butler County in 1847.

The family appears on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County as farmer Peter Newheus, 56, Germany; Maria, 10, Germany; Peter, 12; Barbaray, 10; Jacob, 7; Christian, 6; Maria, 3; and John, six months; all children born in Ohio. The same census page shows the households of minister Joseph Kinsinger and Magdalena [Augspurger], and John Schlonacker [Sloneker, from Schlünegger] and Barbary [Barbara König/King]. Magdalena was a daughter of Christian Augspurger and Catherine Hauter.

The Neuhausers resettled in Tazewell County in the spring of 1852.

In 1860 involuntary conscription for military service was widely expected. Past experiences with census takers made residents wary. As we have shown several times, some residents took chances by purposely misleading them. It was felt that any inconsistency might delay the process. One trick was to feign an inability to speak English, and hope that the census taker would not know the correct spelling of a name. Another was to present the misspellings on travel documents. Errors occurred on this census that had not occurred before and would not occur again. The Neuhauser family living at Washington rose to the occasion: they appear as John Nihouser, 60, Germany; Sarah, 55, Germany; laborer Peter, 22, Illinois; Jacob, 20, Illinois; domestic Barbara, 18, Illinois; laborer Christian, 16, Illinois; Mary, 13, Illinois; John, 10, Illinois; and laborer Jacob Konsinger [Kinsinger], 16, Illinois.[212] Though the names of the parents are wrong, and all the children were actually born in Ohio, and the ages of Jacob and Barbara are reversed, at least the names of all six children are correct.

They appear on the 1870 census of Morton as Peter Nihauser, 74, France; Meary, 64, France; Christ, 26, Ohio; Mary, 22, Ohio; and John, 20, Ohio. And on the 1880 census of Morton: Christ Newhouser, 35, Ohio, farmer, parents from Alsace; Peter Newhouser, 84, Alsace, parents from Alsace; Mary Sann, domestic [Christ's future wife], 30, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; and Mary Newhouser, 73, Alsace.

Herald of Truth, March 1884: "On the 2d of February, in Waldo Twp., Livingston Co., Ill., Sister Mary Newhauser (maiden name Schmidt), wife of Peter Newhauser of bronchial affection, aged 76 years, 6 months and 10 days. On the 4th she was buried in the Waldo twp. grave-yard, followed by a large concourse of friends.

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[212] Jacob Kinsinger was born at Congerville July 5, 1844, and died in McLean County Nov. 21, 1914, a son of Michael Kinsinger (minister of the South Danvers Hessian congregation and a passenger on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832) and Magdalena Naffziger (a daughter of 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger and Barbara Beck and a *Nimrod* passenger).

Services by Daniel Steinman and Joseph P. Schmidt and Chr. Schlegel. She was a faithful member of the Amish Church. She leaves a husband 88 years of age, and two sons to mourn their loss, but they need not mourn as those who have no hope. She had a desire to go and be with Jesus, she remarked a few days before her death, 'For me to live is Christ, for me to die is gain.' Oh let us all be in earnest to work for the glory that awaits us beyond."

Peter's obituary was published in *Herald of Truth* more than eight months after his death. From the May 1890 issue: "On the 23d of July 1889, in Tazewell County, Ill., of the infirmities of old age, Bro. Peter Neuhauser, aged 93 years, five months and three days. He was born on the 20th of Feb. 1796 in Upper Alsace, near the city of Basle, Switzerland. In the spring of 1831 he immigrated to America, settling in Lancaster Co., Pa. Here he was married on the 23d of Jan. 1835 to Mary P. Schmidt. In the fall of the same year they moved to Butler County, Ohio, and in the spring of 1852 to Illinois, settling in Tazewell County, where he spent the remainder of his life. Sister Neuhauser died several years ago. Their union was blessed with seven children, of whom two sons survive the parents. Bro. Neuhauser leaves many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He retained his mental faculties to the last. He was a faithful, peace-loving member of the old Amish Mennonite church. Funeral services by Daniel Roth and Peter Ropp." He is buried in Buckeye Cemetery at Morton.

Children of Peter/Pierre Neuhauser and Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt born in Butler County, Ohio include:

1. Peter Neuhauser [Jr.] was born July 8, 1838, and died Aug. 26, 1864. On Oct. 21, 1860 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Malinda' Smith; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born at what is now Congerville May 11, 1841, and died at Harper, Kansas April 14, 1916, a daughter of Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith and Magdalena Schrag/Schrock. On Oct. 11, 1866 at Bloomington, McLean County she remarried to Valentine Maninger. For more on this couple see SMITH, THE SCHMITTS OF BISPING.
2. Barbara Neuhauser was born Feb. 21, 1840, and died in Livingston County March 24, 1881. On Feb. 3, 1861 in Tazewell County she married Peter Smith; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was born in Butler County June 20, 1837, and died in Livingston County Nov. 17, 1875, a son of Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith and Magdalena Schrag/Schrock. For more on this couple see SMITH, THE SCHMITTS OF BISPING.
3. Jacob Neuhauser was born July 1, 1842, and died after a logging accident 'near Peoria' Aug. 7, 1872. On Nov. 7, 1869 in Woodford County he married Anna Myers. She was born at Nancy, France June 8, 1851, and died at Liberty, Nebraska June 8, 1929. Their household is found on the 1870 census of Morton as farmer Jacob Nieuhauser, 28, Ohio; Ann, 19, France; and farmer Rudolph Rettaga, 25, Switzerland. Descendants of Jacob Neuhauser and Anna Myers' son Emanuel, born at Metamora Jan. 6, 1872, are Newhousers. On Jan. 17, 1875 in McLean County Anna remarried to Civil War veteran Jacob Sann. He was born in 1842, and died in Gage County, Nebraska Sept. 14, 1922, a son of Jacob Sann and his first wife Jakobina Stalter. They are found on the 1910 census of Holdrege, Nebraska in the household of her son Emanuel as stepfather Jacob Sann, 68, Germany, immigrated in 1843; and Anna, 59, France, immigrated in 1856.
4. **Christian Neuhauser** was born June 20, 1844, and died at Olio, Woodford County Nov. 14, 1921.
5. Maria/Mary A. Neuhauser was born Jan. 9, 1847, and died in Livingston County April 25 or 30, 1883. In 1872 in Livingston County she became the second wife of John H. Dierberger. He was born at Neudingen, Baden May 10, 1840, and died at Milford, Nebraska Sept. 22, 1919, a son of Valentine Dierberger and Veronika Kammerer. His first wife had been Regina Wagler of Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace, who he had married in Livingston County April 22, 1866; she died in Livingston County Aug. 13, 1871. They are found on the 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County as John Derberger, 40, Baden; Mary 33, born in Ohio to parents from Baden; and six children born in Illinois.
6. John W. Neuhauser was born Dec. 2, 1849, and died at Royal Oak, Michigan July 9, 1942. On Feb. 28, 1878 in McLean County he married his second cousin Fanny Gunden. She was born in Butler County. Her Buckeye Cemetery headstone says Oct. 25, 1847, but other sources give Oct. 26, 1849, which is closer to her census age. She died April 26, 1888, a daughter of John von Gunden and Catherine Peter Schmidt/Smith. They can be found on the 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County as John Neuhauser, 30, born in Ohio to a father from Baden and a mother from France; Fannie, 30, born in Ohio to French parents; Peter, 1, Illinois; and William, three months. On Jan. 5, 1890 in Tazewell County John remarried to Anna Eichelberger. She was born in Tazewell County March 29, 1858, and died at Manson, Iowa Nov. 16, 1916, a daughter of George Eichelberger and Veronika Stalter. *Gospel Herald*, December 1916: "Anna Eichelberger was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Mar. 29, 1858; died Nov. 10, 1916, near Manson, Iowa. She had been an invalid for 20 years, but the direct cause of her death was tonsillitis and erysipelas. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth, and whenever health permitted filled her place during services, she remained faithful to the end. Jan. 5, 1890, she united in marriage with Bro. J. W. Neuhauser, they made their home near Flanagan, Ill., for 26 years, moving to Manson, Ia., in the spring of 1916, making their home with Bro. and Sister John Webb. Those left to mourn her departure are her husband, four step children, Peter, William, John, and Katie; four sisters, Magdalena Burkey, Mary Good, Katie Jansen, Phoebe Marshall also four brothers, Cris, Peter, Joe, and George, beside a large circle of friends. Sister Neuhauser requested that *Psa. 91* be read and that hymns, "Nearer My God, to Thee," and "Jesus Lover of My Soul" be sung at the funeral, which was held in the Mennonite Church in Manson, Ia., Bro. D. D. Zehr in charge, took for his text *Prov. 16:25*, *Jno. 14:6*, interment in Rose Hill Cemetery. May God comfort the bereaved ones." *Gospel Herald*, July 1942: "John W., son of Peter and Mary

Neuhauser, was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Dec. 2, 1849; died at the home of his daughter Katie (Mrs. John Webb, Royal Oak, Mich.), June 9, 1942; aged 92 y. 6 m. 7 d. At the age of two he moved with his parents to Tazewell Co., Ill., where he grew to manhood. At an early age he accepted Christ as his Saviour and was an active member of the Mennonite Church until his death. On Feb. 28, 1878, he was married to Fanny Gunden of Wayland, Iowa. To this union were born six children (Peter of Pompeii, Mich.; William of Pigeon, Mich.; John of Royal Oak, Mich.; and Katie, Mrs. John Webb, of Royal Oak, Mich.; Lydia, who preceded him in death; and also an infant daughter). His wife (Fanny) died April 20, 1888. Jan. 5, 1890 he married Anna Eichelberger of Hopedale, Ill. She passed away in November, 1916 at Manson, Iowa. In 1918 he moved with his daughter Katie to Michigan. He made his home with her until death. He was much interested in the work of the Lord, always being willing to do his part in the Sunday school or wherever he was needed; always faithful in attending services, being in Sunday school and teaching his class May 30, just a few days before his death. Besides his sons and daughter, he leaves 17 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and numerous relatives and friends. Funeral services were held in the home at Royal Oak, and then the body was taken to Pigeon, Mich., where services were held at the Pigeon River Mennonite Church and burial was in the adjoining cemetery."

Christian Neuhauser was born in Butler County, Ohio June 20, 1844, and died at Olio, Woodford County Nov. 14, 1921.

As noted earlier, the 1880 census of Morton shows Christ Newhouser, 35, Ohio, farmer, parents from Alsace; Peter Newhouser, 84, Alsace; Mary Sann, domestic [Christ's future wife], 30, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; and Mary Newhouser, 73, Alsace.

On Feb. 1, 1881 in Tazewell County Christian married Mary Sann. She was born at Chenoa, McLean County March 23, 1850, and died in Tazewell County Dec. 9, 1889, a daughter of Jacob Sann and his first wife Jakobina Stalter.

Christian's household appears on the 1900 census of Deer Creek as farmer Christ Newhauser, 55, born in Ohio in June 1844 to German parents; Edwin H., 18, born in Illinois in February 1882 to a father from Ohio and a mother from Illinois; Amos E., 16, born in Illinois in September 1883 to a father from Ohio and a mother from Illinois; and John E., 13, born in Illinois to a father from Ohio and a mother from Illinois.

In 1910 Christian and his son John were living in the household of son Amos (with a wife and three children) at Olio, Woodford County.

Gospel Herald, November 1921: "Christian Newhauser was born near Hamilton, Ohio, June 20, 1844; died at the home of his son Amos, near Metamora, Ill., Nov. 14, 1921. He died instantly of heart trouble. He attended church on Sunday, ate breakfast on Monday morning, took a short walk from the house, and fell down without another word. He had been a widower for 32 years. There are three sons (Edwin H., Amos E. and John C.), one brother (John), and seven grandchildren who mourn his departure. He will be missed by home, church, and community. He was ready to die; he expressed the desire to die suddenly. He was an affectionate, thoughtful, loyal, and earnest member of the Mennonite Church from his youth. Surely another pillar has fallen. Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Samuel Gerber and Clayton F. Derstine. *Text, II Tim.4:7, 8*."

Christian and Mary are buried in Buckeye Cemetery at Morton.

4. Catherine Neuhauser

Catherine Neuhauser was born circa 1760.

She married Christian/Chrétien Gerig. He was born at Ober Tegernau, Baden Oct. 18, 1752, and baptized in the *Evangelisch* church there the same day. His baptism entry described his parents as Hanss Ulrich Gerig and Anna Maria Gruber.

Circa 1803 they had a son at *Neue Welt* [new world], in what would now be described as the northern end of the sub-district of Münchenstein, in the district of Arlesheim in Canton Basel-Landschaft.[213] It was located on the opposite (eastern) side of the south-north River Birs, across from what was then St. Jakob farm.

Christian/Chrétien and Catherine were living at Étobon, Haute-Saône when they attended the marriage of a son at Exincourt, Doubs Sept. 16, 1829. Note that Étobon is within six miles of two locations mentioned earlier in association with Neuhausers: Clairegoutte and Magny-Jobert.

The civil marriage entry of son Christian described the groom as dairyman [Fr. *laitier*] Christian Gerig, 26. He was a resident of Exincourt born at *Neuenvelt en Suisse, canton de Basle*. His parents were described as Christian Gerig, 77, and Catherine Neuhauser, 69, residents of Étobon who were present and consenting. The bride was Marie

[213] Münchenstein, a municipality adjacent to Arlesheim in the district of Arlesheim, was the place where a new typeface – *Neue Haas Grotesk* – was invented at the Haas Type Foundry in 1957. In 1960 it was renamed Helvetica.

Freÿ, 29, a day laborer at Châtenois [Châtenois-les-Forges, Territoire de Belfort] and a resident of Voujeaucourt [below Montbéliard]. Her parents were described as farmer Joseph Freÿ, 72, and Catherine Meyer, 49, residents of St. Hyppolite who were present and consenting.

Zook: Zogg of Grabs

We took a wrong turn. In earlier versions of this text we followed a family from Trub in the Emmental region of Canton Bern. Their traditional naming pattern resulted in generations of Bartholome Zaŭg/Zaŭggs. The view was so attractive that it took more than 100 hours to back up and find the right track. We have moved that material to THE ZOOK DETOUR in the Appendix.

Although there was nothing unique or exceptional about a farmer at Elm Grove, it took two decades to solve his life. It was like a string of knots. We are not sure we got them all, and not sure he would have wanted us to.

Some sources assumed that because he once lived among Amish Mennonites in Pennsylvania, he must have been one of the Old Order Zug/Zooks of Mifflin and Lancaster Counties. We initially believed he came from a family at Trub, Canton Bern that chose a similar name for generations. When we finally identified his marriage entry, it was obvious how many misspellings, misunderstandings, wrong dates, confused timelines, and how much poor geography had become attached to his memory.

Although there may be dozens of possible explanations involving several languages, it is often proposed that Zook was derived from the town of Zug in Canton Zurich. It sits on the northeast quarter of a lake called the Zugersee. Throughout much of its later history it was a Hapsburg possession, and held a Catholic majority. There *Zug* likely referred to someone who had fishing rights. But *Zug* in German can also be a train, the stroke of a pen, or a move (such as a chess move).

In the Bernese dialect a *Zaŭgg* is a cynical, chiding, or critical person. It is also found as Zaŭg, Zuck, and Zook. *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname include Eggiwil, Lützelflüh, Oberdiessbach, Signau, Sumiswald, and Trub (older spelling Trŭb).

A number of Zugs and Zaŭg/Zaŭggs have figured in Anabaptist history:

- Caspar Zougck of Schuselbühl near Sumiswald was one of the Anabaptist representatives in the debate at Bern in 1538.
- Ŭli Zaŭgg of Signau, Christen Stauffer of Eggiwil, and Ŭli Neuhaŭs were called leading Anabaptist ministers in 1644. They were imprisoned in the castle at Thun. Zaŭgg left Canton Bern Sept. 10, 1660 and went to Holland.
- Hans Zug of Lützelflüh was among seven Anabaptist ministers who came from Canton Zurich and went into Canton Bern, where they were arrested. *The Martyrs Mirror*, which calls him Zaug, tells the story. He was arrested at Signau Jan. 1, 1659, and imprisoned until at least 1672.
- Brothers Christian and Johannes, and their cousin Moritz, sailed on the *Francis and Elizabeth* from Rotterdam, and arrived at Philadelphia Sept. 21, 1742. They left many descendants in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

'Zog' is the past tense of the German verb *ziehen*, to pull or drag. It may also describe someone important enough to be drawn in a carriage. There are so many possibilities from so many dialects and phases of language over the last few centuries that separating it from Zug and determining the stem meanings would be an impractical task.

And for all this, we eventually found that the standardized spelling in the region where Bartholomew was born and baptized was Zogg. But that would be too easy. The German-speaking ministers who made entries in the local Protestant Reformed Church register for births, marriages, confirmations, and deaths would have pronounced the letter 'g' as a 'k.' More often than not they recorded events under Zock or Zack, now forgotten curiosities.

Before coming to America, he lived in Upper Alsace for more than a decade and wrote his own name with a lowercase 'b' and the old German-style letter 'e' looking like an 'n,' yielding either bartholomn Zog or bartolomn Zog. Because the spelling Bartholome was and is used far more often in his place of nativity, he probably should have been known as Bartholome Zogg. This became a moot point when he immigrated circa 1834, and became Bartholomew Zook in the style of his new Lancaster County acquaintances. He came to Elm Grove in 1854.

Stephan Zogg was born at Grabs before 1715. Grabs is in Canton St. Gallen [Ger. *Sankt Gallen*, Fr. *Saint Gall* or *Galle*], on the eastern side of Switzerland. Zoggs had a number of family branches and a long history there.

It is best known as the site of Werdenberg Castle [Ger. *Schloss Werdenberg*], a Swiss heritage site of national importance.[214] The historic area around it was designated the Werdenberg Constituency [Ger. *Wahlkreis*

[214] 'A Swiss heritage site of national importance' is an actual designation under the *Swiss Inventory of Cultural Property of National and Region Significance* for a property that is irreplaceable. Assignment of a neutral status to historic sites in Europe is possible under agreements from the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907. It is meant to protect collections, archaeological sites,

Werdenberg] in 2001. This took its name from the Counts Werdenberg and Heiligenberg, who owned the surrounding lands from 1399 to 1485. At one point their domain called the County of Werdenberg stretched across parts of what is now Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Austria and was a component of the Holy Roman Empire.

Before the French invasion in 1798, Grabs would have been described as an independent lordship or bailiwick. It was immediately consolidated under the Helvetic Republic, which was dissolved five years later when the Act of Mediation of 1803 established Canton St. Gallen.

After the mediation Grabs was reduced to the historic *dorf*, but since then it has expanded to become a 21-square-mile municipality (population 7,300). To add an element of confusion, the area on the inland sides of the castle is now called the town of Werdenberg, while the area between the castle and the Rhine River is Buchs. On the eastern bank is the landlocked 62-square-mile country of Liechtenstein.

The *Wappenschild* or blazon of the Zogg family at Grabs is a halberd facing left (silver and brown on a white field), similar to the arms of the canton (a silver axe facing left on a green field).

On Dec. 9, 1734 at Grabs Stephan married Margreth Gantenbein, a daughter of Hans Gantenbein. Their children baptized at Grabs include:

1. Hans Zogg was baptized Sept. 7, 1735. On Aug. 4, 1774 at Grabs he married Margretha Eggenberger.
2. Bartholome Zogg was baptized Jan. 15, 1738, and died young.
3. Bartholome Zogg was baptized March 14, 1741. When he died at Grabs April 5, 1818, he was described as the 77-year-old husband of Katharina Gantenbein. They married at Grabs Sept. 15, 1763. Their entry said that he was Stephan's son, and she was Cathri Gantebei, a daughter of Hans.
4. Stephan Zogg was baptized April 3, 1744. On May 25, 1765 at Grabs he married Cathrina Im Hof, a daughter of Hans Im Hof.
5. **Florian Zogg** was baptized April 27, 1753. [215]

The probability of infanticide is apparent; the natural ratio of female-to-male births is 105-100.

Florian Zogg was baptized at Grabs April 27, 1753, and died there July 15, 1816.

On Sept. 5, 1776 at Grabs he married Anna Stricker. She was baptized at Grabs April 18, 1753, a daughter of Adrian Stricker and Agatha Stricker.

The *Staatsarchiv St. Gallen* has posted images of the Grabs *Evangelisch Reformiert Tauf, Konfirmanden, und Totenbuch* church registers online, beginning from 1733. They clear up some mysteries, but offers others.

It was immediately obvious that just as the ministers wrote Zock and Zack in place of Zogg, they also wrote Striker and Stricker interchangeably.

On Oct. 10, 1787 a son Christian was baptized. His parents were identified as Florian Zock *am berg* [on the mountain] and Anna Striker. Witnesses included Hans Slagel, Christian Eggenberger, Catharina Naf [found elsewhere as Näf, now Neff], and Anna Slagel. However, *obüt.* is found after the name of the child, suggesting Christian died very soon afterward. This must have been especially heartbreaking after the parents had waited more than a decade.

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monuments, churches, and even villages from damage in wartime, but also carries a national obligation to preserve them. Stories that churches and cathedrals were 'miraculously spared' from bombing during World War II may only reflect the adherence of military planners to its requirements.

[215] The name Florian probably ran in this family from the time they were Catholic (before the Protestant Reformation). Florian (250-circa 304 AD) was a Roman soldier who trained other soldiers to fight fires. He refused to give sacrifices, and admitted to becoming a Christian. When other soldiers threatened to burn him at the stake, he challenged them to do it, and was drowned instead. His body was moved several times but eventually buried at Linz, Austria, before being dismembered for relics. He became a patron saint of chimney sweeps, soapmakers, and firefighters in Upper Austria.

There were at least two other Florian Zoggs having children at Grabs in this time frame. Florian Zock (a son of David) married Agnes Striker (a daughter of Christian) at Grabs April 29, 1789. They had nine children baptized at Grabs: Anna, 1789, who died young; Christian, 1791; Anna, 1795; Catharina, 1797; Margreth, 1798; David, 1801; Agnes, 1803; Florian, 1806; and Johannes, 1809. When this Florian died at Grabs Jan. 22, 1814, he was erroneously described as the husband of Anne Striker but correctly described as a son of David Zogg. Another Florian Zogg (a son of Ŭlli) married Cathrin Gantenbein at Grabs Dec. 9, 1789. Their children baptized at Grabs included Agatha (1790), Magdalena (1792), Cathrina (1794), Margreth (1797), Christian (1799), Ŭllrich (1802), and Andreas (1805).

Who was the Florian Zogg who came to Illinois? His name suggests he came from Canton St. Gallen, though not necessarily Grabs. When the *Confederation* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York April 23, 1855, there was a 'Florian Zogg, 31, Switzerland' on its passenger list. He is also found on the 1860 census of Ward 4, Peoria as farmer Florian Zogg, 35, Switzerland. He was naturalized at Peoria Oct. 23, 1860, giving Switzerland as his native country. He may also have been the Florian Zogg who filed a vapor stove design for U.S. Patent 231,205 at Peoria Oct. 8, 1879.

Protestant Reformed clergy were responsible for the care and adoption of orphans in their parishes. Some time before 1792 they arranged for Florian and Anna to adopt a child. Another entry was then written in the baptism register with the child identified as Bartholome, the name of Florian's older brother. The German name Bartholomäus is associated with the Catholic Saint Bartholomew. The parents were described as Florian Zock *im dorf* [in town] and not Anna, but Agatha Striker (Florian's mother-in-law).

The entry was written with the register open to the righthand page that had the entry for Christian's baptism and death. The minister would have known that Bartholome was born before Christian, but not necessarily by how much earlier.

It was customary to add late entries not at the top of a page, but at the bottom. Bartholome's entry is at the bottom of the lefthand page, in what would have been empty margin, in an ink that has faded more than other writing on the page. No witnesses were listed.

Why make an entry at all, when there were no baptism ceremony? In a place where church and state were the same entity, a baptism entry was important to document the name of the child and the adoptive father for future inheritance purposes, and to provide future proof of citizenship in the community. From a legal point of view, it was necessary to spell the father's name correctly. But why change the other name from mother Anna to mother-in-law Agatha? Perhaps to avoid having entries for the same parents with conflicting dates on opposing pages.

The entry was dated Aug. 3, 1787. Obviously no ceremony for Barthlome took place on that day (witnesses would have been listed); it may have been written in much later. It is simply the same date that was given on the entry above it, so that the register appears orderly. With these confusing points, it is fortunate that this was the only Bartholome recorded between 1780 and 1806.

Three possible birth dates have been proposed for Bartholome. Aug. 3, 1787 can be disregarded. The date found on his civil marriage entry, Oct. 14, 1788, is the most reliable because he provided or confirmed it. The date Oct. 21, 1788 is found on his obituary and headstone.

While Florian and Anna raised Bartholome as their adopted son, they also had one more child. Margreth Zock/Zogg was baptized at Grabs Feb. 4, 1792. Her parents were identified as Florian Zock and Anna Striker; witnesses included Hans Lŭtiger, Andreas Dishhaŭser, Agatha Schlegel, and Margreth Stricker.

When Florian died at Grabs July 15, 1816, his entry said he was the husband of Anna Striker and a resident of Grabs *dorf*, aged 63 years and three months, married 40 years.

From Grabs the Rhine River runs north into Lake Constance/Bodensee. At its western end is an adjunct called the Untersee, then the river resumes again and runs along the border of Switzerland and Germany to the city of Basel. Some time before 1820 Bartholome made this journey 107 miles west.

An employment opportunity may have drawn him to continue another eight miles west to St. Apollinaire farm at Michelbach-le-Haut, Upper Alsace [Ger. *Obermichelbach*]. There a number of Amish Mennonites worked alongside local residents. They had initially been attracted to the Sundgau Region by the growing textile industry, but gradually turned to fulltime farming.

St. Apollinaire was a former Benedictine and Cistercian monastery that was nationalized during the French Revolution of 1789. At the time of Bartholome's marriage Amish Mennonite resident Jean Kaŭffman had died, but his widow Barbara Zimmerman was still living there. Their daughter Elisabeth was married there in 1825 (Jean Rischard) and farmer sons Chrétien and Joseph were married there in 1827 and 1830 (Catherine Wenger and Anne Marie Goldschmitt). Other tenants and employees are mentioned in RAMSEYER.[216]

Someone from Grabs would have had a great deal in common with the Anabaptist families. In *Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz* (2021) Stefan Sonderegger and Marcel Mayer wrote that, "St. Gallen merchants engaged in long-distance trade in canvas from the Lake Constance area from the 13th century onwards. By the early 16th century they built up a European trading network that stretched from Germany to Italy and from Poland to Spain, as the example of the Diesbach-Watt Society [a company] shows." Recall from VON DIESBACH in the Appendix, talking about the Emmental region of Canton Bern: "It may not be coincidental that many Anabaptists in those areas were described as weavers. Though they are typically pictured as weavers of table linens or shawls, many may have been directly or indirectly employed by the Diesbach-Watt Society. It traded canvas and metals throughout Europe. Though modern canvas is made from cotton or linen, in Canton Bern at that time it was made from hemp. Canvas loom weaving has a simple over-and-under stitch. It was easy to learn, extremely repetitive, and could be performed by the light of a fire. It filled the hours over the dark winter months and yielded a modest income."

On Jan. 13, 1820 at Michelbach-le-Haut Bartholome married Elisabeth Schwartz. Their civil marriage entry was written by mayor Barthelemÿ Wilhelm. He placed a pronunciation mark over his own first name, but not over that of the groom. Though he wrote in French, he described his community by the German *Obermichelbach*.

[216] St. Apollinaire is now a golf course.

The groom was described as Barthelemy Zock, a servant on St. Apollinaire farm at Obermichelbach. He was born at Grabs, *Canton St. Galle en Suisse* March 14, 1788, a son of the deceased Florian Zock and Grabs resident Anna Stricker. The bride was Elisabeth Schwartz, a resident of Muntzenheim, Upper Alsace who was born there April 29, 1796 [actually this was the day after her birth, when an entry was recorded]. Her parents were mistakenly overlooked, then added on the last two lines: she was a legitimate daughter of Michel Schwarze and Anna Pierre Schmitt. Three local cultivators served as witnesses. The groom signed bartholomn Zog, the bride signed with an 'x.'

Muntzenheim is 42 miles north of Michelbach-le-Haut. Elisabeth's civil birth entry there described her parents as cultivator Michel Schwarz and Ann Pierre Schmidt. Witnesses included day laborer Jacques Roth, 33, and Jacques Pierre Schmitt, 31. Signatures looked like Michel Schwartz, Jacob Roth, and Jacob Pnttnr Schmid.

The birth entry of a child created later in 1820 said the parents were living at Heimersdorf (11 miles west of Michelbach-le-Haut). A birth entry created at Riespach (four miles southeast of Heimersdorf) for a child born in 1822 does not say exactly where the parents lived. Birth entries in 1824 and 1827 say the parents were residents of Durmenach (adjacent, three miles east of Riespach), and the father was a farmer and cultivator there.

During the time they were living at Durmenach there was also a couple Jean Peter Schmidt and Christine Schwartz living there. Christine was born circa 1791, a daughter of Michael/Michel Schwartz and his first wife Catherine Frey, and a half-sister to Elisabeth. Their children born at Durmenach were Barbe/Barbara in 1826 (she married André/Andrew Salzman and went from Butler County, Ohio to live in Tazewell and Mclean Counties, see SALZMAN) and Catherine in 1828 (she married John von Gunden and went from Butler County to Iowa, see PETERSMITH).

Elisabeth Schwartz died at Durmenach Feb. 1, 1828. Her civil death entry said she was 32, her husband was 39.

The obituary of oldest child Michael/Michel Zook stated that he immigrated at age 13. This would place the voyage of widower Bartholome and his four children circa 1834. No passenger list or port of entry has been identified.

In America Bartolome became Bartholomew, and remarried to Barbara Neuhauser. She was born Nov. 1, 1800 (apparently per her headstone age count, though we found the days illegible; her obituary age count suggests Nov. 5, 1800), a daughter of Simon Neuhauser and Barbe Peter Schmid; see NEUHAUSER for background on her birthplace and family.

- Recall from NEUHAUSER that although his name could not be found on arrival passenger lists imaged by the National Archives, the *Groupement Généalogique du Havre et de Seine-Maritime* has identified Barbara's brother Peter/Pierre Neuhauser as 'Pierre Neyhauser, 34' on French departure/emigration documents. He embarked at Le Havre April 2, 1831 bound for New York. It is possible that Barbara accompanied him.
- Recall from NEUHAUSER that it is also possible that Barbara followed her brother with a group of their relatives. The packet ship *Poland* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 29, 1833. The passenger list shows Margueritte Neuhausser, 68 or 70 [her age is overwritten], France; Catherine, 33; Barbe, 32; Magdaline, 21; and Christ, 2. We could not identify Margueritte or Catherine. Barbe could have been Peter's older sister Barbara, born in 1800. Magdaleine could have been Madeleine (minus a decade of age), whose age had been given as 28 in 1830. Her 1830 birth entry may have been misleading (she was giving birth to an illegitimate child), but more likely the passenger list age was understated.

The first child from this second marriage was born in Lancaster County in August of 1835.

They were in Butler County, Ohio by September of 1837. 'Bartholomew Zugg' is named as a head of household on the 1840 census of St. Clair Township, Butler County (the pages before show Rossville, St. Clair Township). The tally shows one male 50-59 years of age; one male 15-19; one male 10-14; and two males under five; one female 40-49; one female 16-19; and one female under five.[217]

St. Clair Township was created in 1803, but has lost a number of parcels of land since then. It is now in two separate parts: the larger above the county seat Hamilton; the smaller below it. Overpeck, Williamsdale, and Woodsdale (once called Augspurger) are located in the upper part. Altogether it is 21 square miles. When the Zooks were living there it was a prosperous community, mainly because of the Great Miami River and its fertile silt-laden soil.

[217] They were living next door to the household of John Swartzentruver: two males between 30 and 39 years of age; two males under five; one female 30-39; one female 5-9; and two females under five.

'Bartholomew Zug' signed an *Alien Intent to Apply for Citizenship* form at Hamilton, Butler County in September of 1840. It described him as a 53-year-old native of Switzerland, listing sons Michael, 19; Bartholomew, 14; Christian, 5; and Joseph, 2.

The family can be found on the 1850 census of St. Clair as Bartly Vook or Cook, 60, Germany; Barbaray, 50, Germany; Bartly, 23, Germany; Christiana, 15, Pa. [though specifically designated as a female, this was Christian]; Barbaray, 13, Ohio; Jos., 11, Ohio; John, 10, Ohio; Ann, 27, Germany; and Jacob Crouse, 22, Germany. Oldest son Michael and his wife Barbara Otto were living at Milford, Butler County.

In 1851 Michael and Barbara purchased 100 acres in Section 31 of Washington, Tazewell County for $160.

Bartholomew is thought to have resettled at Elm Grove in 1854. Recall from STAKER that in May of 1853 the Illinois Central Railroad train track had reached Bloomington, followed by the Chicago and Alton Railroad in October. He purchased 200 acres in sections 33 and 34 of Elm Grove for $1,050. The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows Bartholomew Luck, 72, Switzerland; Barbara, 60, Switzerland; Joseph, 11, Ohio; and John, 9, Ohio.

Both Bartholomew (Sr.) and Michael are shown on the 1864 plat map of Elm Grove. In 1864 Michael sold his land for $275. The following year Bartholomew sold his land for $2,000. According to the *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database*, on Dec. 31, 1868 Bartholomew Zook (Sr.) purchased 40 acres in SESE, Section 10, township 28N, Livingston County for $14 per acre, a total sale of $560. The land had formerly been set aside for the railroad.

Recall that a German speaker would pronounce the letter 'g' as a 'k. Perhaps Bartolome/Bartholomew knew how his birthplace would sound when questioned for the 1870 census of Nebraska, Livingston County. When he was asked where he was born he replied 'Werdenberg' rather than 'Grabs.' Even then, the puzzled questioner ended up crossing out his answer and writing in 'Ger.' The combined household: farmer Bartholomew Zook, 82, Swerdenberg [crossed out], Ger.; Barbara, 69, Germany; D. H. King [son-in-law David Henry King, a son of Samuel King and Magdalena Kurtz], 36, Ohio; Barbara [daughter Barbara Zook], 32, Ohio; Mary, 10, Illinois; Saml. B., 8, Illinois; Emanuel J., 7, Illinois; David S., Illinois, 4; Joseph H., 2, Illinois; servant Phebe Kauffman, 17, Illinois; and Elizabeth Summer, 4, Illinois. Farther down the page is the household of son John B. Zook.

Bartholomew died intestate at Nebraska, Livingston County Sept. 18, 1871. *Herald of Truth*, January 1872: "On the 22nd of September, in Livingston County, Ill., of dropsy and old age, Bartholomew Zook, aged 83 years, six months and one day. He was buried on the 24th. Funeral discourses were delivered by Christian Rupp of McLean County, Christian Schlegel, and John P. Schmitt, from *1 Cor. 15.*"

The History of Livingston County (1878) lists Barbara and her children Michael, J.B., and C.W. as farmer-taxpayers served by the Zookville post office in Section 10 of Nebraska Township. 'Zookville' was the name for a group of stores. The first store had been opened by son Bartholomew 'Bartley' Zook in 1872; he sold the business in 1875.

Barbara died at Nebraska Township June 5, 1880, where she was living with her daughter Barbara Zook King. *Herald of Truth*, July 1880: "On the 5th of June, in Livingston Co., Ill. of the infirmities of age, Barbara Zug, at the age of 79 years and seven months. Buried the 7th, in the presence of many friends and relatives. Funeral services were held by Christian Ropp, from *I Thess. 4:13-18*, and by John Schrag of Dakota from *2 Tim. 4:6-8*, and further remarks by Chr. Schloegel and J. P. Schmitt. The maiden name of the deceased was Newhauser; she was the second wife of Bartholomew Zug, deceased, both of whom were faithful members of the Amish Mennonite church."

Bartholomew and Barbara are buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.

Children of Bartholome Zog and his first wife Elisabeth Schwartz include:

1. Michel/Michael Zook was born at Heimersdorf, Upper Alsace Nov. 7, 1820, and died at Larned, Kansas Dec. 1, 1887. His civil birth entry called him Michael Zuck, and described his parents as local residents Bartolome Zuck and Elisabeth Schvartz. The signature looked like 'Bartolomn Zog.' The index page that closed out that year called the child Michel Zack. Between 1840 and 1844 he married Barbara Otto. She was baptized in the *Evangelische* church at Erndtebrüch, Rhine-Westphalia Feb. 19, 1819, and died at Larned Oct. 25, 1896, a daughter of Michael Otto and Catharina Bender. The 1850 census of Milford, Butler County, Ohio shows laborer Michel Sook, 30, Germany; Barbary, 31, Germany; John, 6, Ohio; Anna, 4, Ohio; Barbary, 2, Ohio; and Bena, 1, Ohio. They are found on the same page as the households of 'Jos. Litwell [Litwiller], 50, France; Joseph Augspurger, 65, France; Nicholas Roth, 34, Germany; and Jacob Slonaker, 37, Germany; the next page listed Daniel Unseker [Unzicker], 50, Germany.[218] In 1851 Michel/Michael purchased 100 acres in Section 31 of Washington, Tazewell County for $160. Mikel Suik

[218] This was not the Nicholas Roth who married Catherine Habecker and came to Morton.

appears as a Washington resident on the 1855 state census of Tazewell County. The 1860 census of Washington has farmer Michael Zuck, 40 Germany; Christian, 36, Germany [Michael's younger brother]; John, 15, Germany; Henry, 13, Germany; Catharine, 11, Germany; Ann, 9, Illinois; Sarah, 7, Illinois; and David, 4, Illinois. The 1865 state census of Pike, Livingston County has Mike Zoog as a head of household: one male 40-49 years of age; one male 20-29; two males nine or under, one female 40-49, four females 10-19, and one female nine or under. They are also found on the 1870 census of Nebraska Township, Livingston County on the same page as his parents and younger brother John: farmer Michael Zouk, 49, France; Barbara, 57, Hesse Ger.; Michael, 13, Illinois; Daniel, 10, Illinois; and Elizabeth, 8, Illinois. The 1880 census of Nebraska shows farmer Michel Zook, 59, born in France to a Swiss father and French mother; Barbra, 61, Hessian; Pheba, 28, Ohio; laborer Daniel E., 21, Illinois; Lizzie, 18, Illinois; Kate Rich (indicated as a daughter), 26, Illinois; Joseph W. Rich, 3, Illinois; Barbara H. Rich, 1, Illinois; and uncle Joel Zimmerman, 17, Illinois. Larned on the Santa Fe Trail was not platted by a surveyor until December of 1873. It became the county seat of Pawnee County, Kansas. *Herald of Truth*, January 1888: "On the 1st of December, east of Larned, Pawnee county, Kansas, Bro. Michael Zook, aged 67 years and 24 days. He leaves a widow, seven children and twenty-one grandchildren to mourn their loss. He was born in Germany, emigrating from there with his parents at the age of thirteen. He became a member of the Amish Mennonite Church in youth and remained faithful to the end. He was buried on the 4th, followed to the grave by many neighbors, friends and relatives. Services by Peter Zimmerman, John Egli and Simon Hetrick from *I Pet. 1:22-24* and *James 1:27*." They are buried in Pleasant Valley Cemetery at Larned.

2. Anne Zog/Anna Zook was born at Riespach (between Heimersdorf and Durmenach) Oct. 4, 1822, and died in Tazewell County before 1865. Her civil birth entry described her as Anne Zog, a daughter of *annapaptiste* partholome Zog, 33, and Elisabeth Schwarz. Witnessses included cultivator Jan Hegy, 44, and day laborer Antoine Druxler, 34. The father signed bartolomn Zog. On March 6, 1851 in Butler County, Ohio she married Christian Kaufmann. Their ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger; his list was transcribed into *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* as 'Christian Hoffman and Anna Cuke.' Christian was baptized in a Catholic church in the village Herten, in the city of Rheinfelden, in the district of Lörrach, Baden Jan. 25, 1825, and died at Minier Dec. 26, 1908, a son of Joseph Kaufmann and Barbara Wenger. Herten is on the north side of the Rhine River, across from Kaiseraugst, Canton Aargau, 13 miles east of Basel. The baptism entry is found in Archdiocese of Freiburg im Breisgau records. They can be found on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as Christian Kofman, 37, Switzerland; Ann [Zook], 39, Switzerland; Jacobena, 7, Illinois; Annie, 3, Illinois; and Christian, 1, Illinois; they are found on the census page immediately before the one that shows Anna's parents. On March 12, 1865 in Tazewell County Christian remarried to Catherine Schrag Oyer, a daughter of Johannes Schrag and Catherine Elisabeth Salzmann and the widow of Groveland grocer Joseph Oyer. They are found on the 1870 census of Hopedale and the 1880 census of Morton. Catherine is buried in the Old Apostolic Cemetery at Morton as 'Katharina Kaufman.' Christian is buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale as Christian Kaufmann. See OYER for more on this couple. We could not determine where Anna is buried.
3. Jacobé Zog/Jacobine 'Phoebe' Zook was born at Durmenach (seven miles southeast of Heimersdorf) Dec. 16, 1824, and died at Cazenovia, Woodford County June 25, 1894. Her civil birth entry described her as Jacobé, a daughter of farmer Barthelmi Zog, 36, and Elisabeth Schwartz. It was witnessed by cultivator Henry Lehmann, 60, and signed bartolomn Zog. On Feb. 27, 1855 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Bachman; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. Jacob was born as Jakob Bachmann Dec. 6, 1827, and died at Minonk, Woodford County March 27, 1895, a son of David Bachmann and Anna Bächer. See BACHMAN, BACHMANN OF ROANOKE for more on this couple.
4. **Barthélemÿ Zog/Bartholomew 'Bartley' Zook** [Jr.] was born at Durmenach April 9, 1827, and died at Deer Creek Feb. 23, 1883.

Children of Bartholomew Zook and his second wife Barbara Neuhauser include:

5. Christian W. Zook was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Aug. 28, 1835, and died at Groveland May 19, 1911. He is found in the household of his sister Barbara on the 1860 census of Dry Grove, McLean County: farmer David King, 30, Ohio; Barbara, 25, Ohio; Susan, 1, Illinois; and laborer Christian Zook, 24, Pennsylvania. On Nov. 6, 1864 in Tazewell County he married 15-year-old Magdalena/Madeleine Augsburger; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Gingerich. She was born at Paradise, Lancaster County Oct. 2, 1848, and died at Pettisville, Fulton County, Ohio Jan. 5, 1925, a daughter of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman. They are found on the 1870 census of Groveland as butcher Christian Zug, 33, Pennsylvania; Magdalena, 21, Pennsylvania; William, 2, Illinois; and Edward, eight months, Illinois. They were living at Waldo in 1880. The 1910 census of Groveland has them as Christian W. Zook, 74, born in Pennsylvania to Swiss parents; Magdalena, 61, born in Pennsylvania to German parents; laborer Edward, 40, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania; and Martha, 21, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania. Christian is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland as 'C.W. Zook, 1836-1911'; Magdalena is buried in Aeschliman Cemetery at Pettisville.
6. Barbara Zook was born in Butler County Sept. 21, 1837, and died at Larned, Kansas Sept. 3, 1891. On April 3, 1859 in Tazewell County she married David Henry King. He was born at Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio April 18 or 28,

1834, and died at Newton, Kansas Nov. 20, 1926, a son of Samuel King and his first wife Magdalena Kurtz. For more on this couple see KING.

7. Joseph Zook was born in Butler County Feb. 14, 1839, and died at Manson, Iowa Oct. 7, 1928. On Oct. 26, 1869 in McLean County he married Barbara Birkey. She was born Aug. 24, 1849, and died March 19, 1920, a daughter of Valentine Birky and Magdalena Naffziger. They are found on the 1870 census of Groveland as miller Joseph Zug, 31, Ohio; Barbara, 22, Illinois; and mill engineer Joseph Auer [Oyer], 19, Illinois. In 1874 they were living in Stark County, Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, October 1928: "Joseph Zook was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Feb. 14, 1839; died from pneumonia at his home in Manson, Ia., Oct. 7, 1928; aged 89 y. 7 m. 23 d. In early life he moved with his parents to Pekin, Ill, where he grew to manhood. In 1869 he was married to Barbara Birkey, near Bloomington, Ill. Twelve children were born to them, six of whom with their mother preceded him in death. In 1896 he moved with his family to Calhoun Co., Ia., living on a farm for several years, after which he moved to Manson, at which place he died. He expressed a readiness to go and spoke much of the mansions the Lord has prepared for His children. He was the last one of his father's family. As a young man he united with the Mennonite Church in which faith he died. He helped to organize the first Mennonite Sunday school and Church in the vicinity of Manson. During his long and active life he was called upon to endure many hardships, griefs, and disappointments, but he met them all with courage and an unfaltering trust in the One who doeth all things well, forgetting himself in his concern for the welfare of his family. To them he was: 'A rock of strength to lean upon in time of joy and stress, an understanding, loyal soul, a heart of tenderness.' Funeral services were held at the home and at the Manson church, Oct. 9, 1928, in charge of the home ministers, Bros. J. C. Eiggsti, Nick Stoltzfus, and A. R. Egli. Texts, *Psa. 90: 1 Thes. 4*; *11 Tim. 4:6-8*. Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery."
8. John B. Zook was born in Butler County Dec. 3, 1849, and died at Larned, Kansas Feb. 22, 1912. On Feb. 26, 1865 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Salzman; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Butler County July 27, 1842, and died at Larned, Kansas Sept. 16, 1913, a daughter of Christian/Christophe Salzman and Marie Imhof. They are found on the 1870 census of Nebraska Township, Livingston County on the same page as John's parents and older brother Michael: farmer John B. Zook, 29, Ohio; Saltzman, 27, housekeeping, Ohio; Dan W., 4, Illinois; Aaron, 3, Illinois; John H., 1, Illinois; and Susan Summers, 9, Illinois. According to the *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database*, on Oct. 30, 1869 John B. Zook purchased 40 acres in NESE, Section 10 (the same section where his parents had purchased land a year earlier), township 28N, Livingston County for $12 per acre, a total sale of $480. The land had formerly been set aside for the railroad. In the winter of 1886 they moved to Pawnee County, Kansas. For a time the area around their home in southeastern Pawnee County was called the town of Zook. *Gospel Herald*,, March 1912: "John B. Zook was born in Butler Co., O., Dec. 3, 1849; moved with his parents to Illinois when quite young. Grown to manhood, he was married to Katharine Saltzman, to which union were born 11 children, one dying in infancy. The seven sons and three daughters, all married, with the widow survive to mourn their loss. With his family he moved to Pawnee Co., Kans., in Feb., 1886, where, 11 miles southeast of Larned, he died Feb. 22, 1912; aged 71 y. 2 m. 20 d. He united with the Amish Mennonite Church in his youth, but after coming to Kansas, and several years before his death he made his church home with the Mennonite Church, to which he lived consistent to the time of his death. Funeral was announced and arranged for Sunday, Feb. 25, but that day proved to have one of the worst snow storms this country has seen for years, so it was postponed to the 27th. Services were conducted at the Mennonite Church close to his home by T. M. Erb of Hesston, Kans., from *I Cor. 15:21*. Interment in the Pratt Cemetery four miles from the church." *Gospel Herald*, October 1913: "Catharine (Saltzman) Zook was born in Butler Co., Ohio, July 27, 1842; died near Larned, Kans., Sept. 16, 1913; aged 71 y. 1 m. 20 d. She was married to John Zook in Tazewell Co., Ill., and lived with him in happy companionship for nearly half a century. To this union were born seven sons and three daughters. All survive her and all were present at the funeral together with 27 out of the 28 grandchildren who survive her. She also has two sisters living in Ohio. Bro. and Sister Zook moved from their home in Illinois to Pawnee Co., Kans., in 1886, and settled down on the open prairies where they lived the remainder of their days, her husband having preceded her to the spirit world a little over a year ago. She united with the Mennonite Church in early life and remained a faithful member until the end. She was ready and anxious to leave the earth and enter the heavenly home. She suffered for a number of years from diabetes, which disease caused her death. Funeral services were held Sept. 17 by D. H. Bender, assisted by M. Kellar of the Church of the Brethren. Text, *Job 5:26*." They are buried in Pleasant Valley Cemetery at Larned.

Barthélemÿ Zog/Bartholomew 'Bartley' Zook [Jr.] was born at Durmenach, Upper Alsace April 9, 1827.

His civil birth entry described him as Barthélemÿ Zog, a son of cultivator Barthelmÿ Zog, 39, and Elisabeth Schwarz, 31. It was signed bartolomn Zog.

On Aug. 3, 1851 in Butler County, Ohio he married Barbe Stecker/Barbara Staker. She was born at Bistroff, Moselle July 7, 1829, a daughter of Christian Farny/Stecker/Staker and Magdalina Gabriel. The ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger. *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* lists the marriage of 'Bortle Cuke' and 'Barbara Stuker.'

They resettled in Illinois by 1857; perhaps as early as 1854, like his parents. The 1860 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County shows farmer Bartholomew Zook, 33, France; Barbara, 30, France; Lana, 7, Ohio;

Susan, 6, Ohio; Joseph, 4, Illinois; John, 2, Illinois; farm laborer Michael Frederick, 21, Bavaria; and Magdalena Pound, 36, Bavaria. On the same census page Valentine Neuhauser, 40, France is found in the household of Peter Wirich [Weyrich].

The 1870 census of Danvers, McLean County lists farmer Bartholomew Zook, 44, born in France; Barbary, 40, born in France; Magdaline, 17, Ohio; Susan, 15, Ohio; Joseph, 14, Illinois; John, 12, Illinois; Christian, 8, Illinois; Benjamin, 5, Illinois; and Eli, 2, Illinois. The birthdates and places of the children indicate that the family had moved from Ohio to Illinois in 1855-56.

Their next door neighbors were Solomon Stutzman and Sara Yoder, who had married in McLean County Jan. 1, 1853. Sarah was a daughter of conservative minister/elder Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner.

The Zooks opened the first store in Nebraska Township, Livingston County in 1872. The group of stores that sprang up around it were called Zookville, and this became the name of the local post office. They sold their business in 1875.

The 1880 census of Deer Creek, Montgomery Township, Woodford County (Deer Creek straddles the county line) lists farmer Bartholomew Zook, 53, born in Alsace to parents from Alsace; Barbara, 50, born in France; Joseph, 24, Illinois; Christ, 17, Illinois; Benjamin, 14, Illinois; and Eli, 12, Illinois.

Bartholomew Zook Jr. died at Deer Creek Feb. 23, 1883.[219] He is buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers.

Barbara is found on the 1910 census of Danvers: Edward H. Wick [a son of Conrad Wick and Helen Zimmerman], 28, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Illinois; Anna M. Wick [a daughter of Michael Rupp and Susan Zook], 30, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio; Melvin H., 3, Illinois; Claud M., six months, Illinois; widowed mother-in-law Susan [Zook] Rupp, 56, born in Ohio to a Swiss-German father and a French-German mother; father and French mother; and widowed grandmother Barbara Zook [Stecker/Staker], 82, born in France to French-German parents, immigrated 1844 (though she is thought to have immigrated with her mother in 1847).

Their children include:

1. Magdalena Zook was born in Butler County, Ohio circa 1853. On March 14, 1871 at Danvers she married Peter D. Nafziger; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Nafziger was born on the Diessburgerhof estate (a location now in the Eifel National Park of Germany) April 22, 1842, and died in Fulton County, Ohio in 1920, a son of Johannes/John D. Nafziger and Philippine Siegel. They are found on the 1880 census of Archbold, Fulton County, Ohio; and on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of German Township, Fulton County, Ohio.
2. Susan/Susanna Zook was born in Butler County, Ohio in 1854, and died at Danvers June 26, 1919. On Feb. 1, 1872 at Danvers she married Michael Rupp. The ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born at Madison, Butler County, Ohio in 1844, and died at Danvers May 1, 1888, a son of Christian Rupp and Jakobina Raber. See ROPP, THE UNFORTUNATE RUPP FAMILY OF DANVERS for more on Michael and Susan.
3. Joseph E. Zook was born at Deer Creek Dec. 12, 1856, and died at Limestone, Peoria May 31, 1945. On Feb. 15, 1881 at Danvers he married Magdalena 'Malinda' Sarah Kauffman; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born circa 1863, and died at White Oak, McLean County Jan. 9, 1926, a daughter of Jonathan Kauffman and Catherine Gertrude Sharp. His death entry described him as a farmer at East Peoria. They are buried under a joint marker in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers as 'father Joseph E. Zook, 1855-1945,' and 'mother Malinda S. Zook, 1863-1926.'
4. John D. Zook was born at Groveland Nov. 29, 1857, and died at Deer Creek, Montgomery Township Sept. 17, 1936. On March 3, 1891 at Danvers he married Anna Leah Kauffman; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born Oct. 24, 1870, and died in McLean County July 7, 1949, a daughter of Jonathan Kauffman and Catherine Gertrude Sharp. His death entry described him as a retired farmer living at Congerville with his wife Anna. They are buried under a joint marker in Imhoff Cemetery.
5. Christian E. Zook was born in Illinois circa 1862. He is buried in Imhoff Cemetery as 'C.E. Zook, died 1883.'
6. Benjamin D. Zook was born at Deer Creek, Montgomery Township Feb. 5, 1865, and died at Bloomington March 27, 1940. On Feb. 26, 1896 at Bloomington he married Agnes L. Heidervald. She was a daughter of William Heidervald and Louise Becker. His death entry described him as a gardener living at White Oak, McLean County with his wife Agnes. He is buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers.
7. Eli D. Zook was born at Deer Creek, Montgomery Township in 1869, and died there Jan. 17, 1944. On March 4, 1897 at Danvers he married Cora M. Wick. She was a daughter of Henry Wick and Helen Zimmerman. He is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers as 'Elie D. Zook.'

[219] His will was probated in McLean County.

Good: Guth of Eppenbrunn

The progenitor of this family left Canton Bern (a part that was later Canton Aargau) several decades before the Amish division. Jakob Gut of Oftringen was imprisoned as an Anabaptist leader, then banished from the canton Sept. 9, 1660. He was presumably the same Jakob Gut who went to Hilsbach in the Pfalz. As a representative of Anabaptists in the Lower (northern) Pfalz, he corresponded with Reist faction Mennonites in the Upper Pfalz and Amish Mennonites at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

According to Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, descendant **Michael/Michel Guth** was a resident of Mehlingen (a suburb of Kaiserslautern) in the Pfalz in 1761.[220] He married twice and had two sons 24 years apart.

Background geography:

Eppenbrunn and Trulben are in Germany,two miles above the border with the French department of Moselle. Eppenbrunn was administered Pfalz-Zweibrücken. However, from 1802 until 1812 its civil records were kept by the department of Moselle.

Just below the Moselle border are Walschbronn, Epping, Hottviller, Urbach, Bitche, and Sturzelbronn. Though within France, these communities were German speaking.

The Sultzthalerhof and Günstalerhof are forest estates located between Windstein and Langensoultzach, Lower Alsace. Their relative isolation would allow the families there to pass through the Napoleonic wars undisturbed.

FIRST SON HEINRICH/HENRI

The mother of first son **Heinrich/Henri Guth** has not been identified. He was born at Mehlingen in 1747, and died on the Ransbrunnerhof estate at Eppenbrunn Dec. 31, 1809. He married Susanna/Suzanne Steiner. They lived on the Sulztalerhof estate.

Johannes/Jean Guth was born on the Sulztalerhof estate in 1773, and died on the Ransbrunnerhof estate at Eppenbrunn in 1828. He married Anna Christner. She was born on the Günstalerhof estate in 1773, and died at Epping, Moselle Jan. 30, 1814, a daughter of Christian Christner and Margarete Stutz.

The *Global Anabaptist Encyclopaedia Online* states that Johannes "was the ancestor of all the families of this name that are today found in the Pfalz and adjoining regions, all of whom belonged to the Amish branch."

The family moved to the Ransbrunnerhof estate at Eppenbrunn in the Pfalz in 1802.

Children of Johannes/Jean Guth and Anna Christner include:

1. Johannes/Jean Guth was born on the Günstalerhof estate July 30, 1798, and died on the Bärenbrunnerhof estate at Dahn (22 miles northeast) in 1889. His civil birth entry created at Windstein described his parents as miller Johannes Guth, 30, and Anna Christner. Witnesses included Michael Müller, 30; and Barbara Christner, 28. On Nov. 1, 1820 at Epping, Moselle he married Barbara Catherine Nafziger. She was born at Gros-Réderching, Moselle April 27, 1801, a daughter of Valentine Nafziger and Anna Esch of the Faunerhof estate at Eppenbrunn. When their daughter Catherine married Christian Jordy at Lembach July 11, 1846, their civil marriage entry described the bride's parents as Jean Guth, 49, laborer at Busenberg; and Barbe Nafziger, 46; both present and consenting.
2. Barbara Guth was born in 1801. We could not identify her birthplace. On July 20, 1818 at Epping, Moselle she married Peter Nafzigier. He was born in 1790, a son of Valentine Nafziger and Anna Esch.
3. George Guth was born at Eppenbrunn July 20, 1803, and died there March 11, 1809.
4. **Peter Guth** was born at Eppenbrunn March 4, 1806 (the birth of Pierre Guth was found in a 10-year civil index of Eppenbrunn records kept by the department of Moselle for the period 1808-12) or Aug. 5, 1806 (per his modern grave marker).
5. Christian/Chrétien Guth was born at Eppenbrunn June 25, 1808, and died on the Mühlenbach estate at Sturzelbronn, Moselle April 8, 1853. He married Magdalena/Madeleine Steiner. She was born at Windstein, Lower Alsace Nov. 9, 1809, and died at Sturzelbronn May 3, 1857, a daughter of Andreas Steiner and Barbara Müller. Two of their daughters came to America and married sons of older brother Peter.
6. Georg/Georges Guth was born at Eppenbrunn Feb. 7, 1811 (per the 10-year index of civil records kept by the depatment of Moselle 1808-12), and died on the Dorsterhof estate at Bitche, Moselle in 1889. He married Marie Güngerich. She was born at Bitche March 13, 1811, and died at Walschbronn, Moselle in 1844, a daughter of Michel

[220] Hermann Guth proposed that Michel was a younger brother of Jacob Guth, who married the widow Zug, arrived at Phildadelphia on the *Francis and Elizabeth* Sept. 21, 1742, and settled in the Northkill Creek settlement at Bern Township. See KAUFFMAN for background on Jacob.

Güngerich and Barbara Hauter. George farmed on the Ransbrunnerhof, Kirschbacherhof, and the Dorsterhof. In 1859 he was the deacon of the Ixheim congregation. For the story of Georg's contentious relationship with his mother-in-law, see Hermann and Gertrud Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, pages 76-77. Georg/Georges and Marie were parents of two sons who bought the Freudenbergerhof in 1875, as well as the great-grandparents of author Hermann Guth.

7. Elisabeth Guth was born at Eppenbrunn in 1813. She married Christian Oesch. He was born on the Wahlerhof estate at Mittelbach-Hengstbach near Zweibrücken Jan. 14, 1801, and died at Gerhardsbrunn (27 miles north of Eppenbrunn), a son of Joseph Oesch and Magdalena Nafziger.

On July 6, 1814 at Epping Johannes/Jean remarried to Anna Madeleine Nafziger. She was born in 1783, and died on the Ransbrunnerhof estate in 1828, a daughter of Valentine Nafziger and Anna Esch of the Faunerhof estate at Eppenbrunn. Note that she already had a brother and sister married to his children.

Children of Johannes/Jean Guth and Anna Madeleine Nafziger born on the Ransbrunnerhof at Eppenbrunn include:

8. Valentin 'Welti' Guth was born in 1815, and died on the Weinumshof estate at Hagenau, Alsace in 1881. He married Barbara Steiner. She was born at Windstein, Lower Alsace July 17, 1813, a daughter of Christian Steiner and Marie Stocki.
9. Joseph Guth was born March 3, 1817, and died on the Grafenweierhof at Bitche, Moselle March 23, 1894. He married Barbara Stalter of the Wahlerhof estate, then Magdalena Stalter of the Bickenaschbacherhof, then Marie Güngerich of the Freudenbergerhof near Zweibrücken.
10. Katharina/Catherine Guth was born in 1819, and died at Hottviller, Moselle March 24, 1896. She married Joseph Eyer. He was born of the Felsenbrunnerhof estate at Trulben in 1807, a son of Christian Eyer and Elisabeth Stalter.
11. Magdalena Guth was born in 1820. She married Daniel Eyer. He was born on the Felsenbrunnerhof estate at Trulben in 1816, a son of Christian Eyer and his second wife Elisabeth Stalter.
12. Christine Guth was born March 3, 1823, and died at Gros-Réderching, Moselle May 28, 1896. On May 22, 1841 at Walschbronn, Moselle she married Andreas/André Oesch. He was born on the Dorsterhof at Bitche, Moselle May 24, 1815, a son of Nicholas Oesch and Catherine Hauter.

Peter Guth was born on the Ransbrunnerhof estate at Eppenrunn March 4, 1806 (the birth of Pierre Guth was found in a 10-year civil index of Eppenbrunn kept by the department of Moselle for the period 1808-12) or Aug. 5, 1806 (per his modern grave marker). He died at Washington June 21, 1886 (headstone date).

Acting as a servant in exchange for his fare, Peter assisted the travel of Jacob Kinsinger and his family. They boarded the packet ship *De Rham* at Le Havre in mid-October of 1830. It sailed directly to Boston. However, Peter appears as Peter Good, 24, on a passenger list for a second disembarkation at New York on Dec. 21, 1830. An account of the voyage and other familiar names on the passenger list is given in KENNEL.

C. Henry Smith's *Mennonites of America* places Peter's arrival in the 'Wesley City colony' in 1833. Circa 1835 he married Susanna/Susan Oyer. She was born at Niderhoff, Moselle April 4, 1808, and died at Washington Dec. 12, 1888, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Oyer and Suzanne Schertz. Her family had been passengers on the *Superior* arriving at New Orleans Dec. 4, 1830.

According to the *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database*, Peter Good purchased 160 acres for $1.25 per acre in Section 19, Township 26N Sept. 6, 1838.

The 1850 census of Tazewell County lists their family as farmer Peter Good, 40, Germany; Susan, 30, Germany; Nancy, 14; Eliza, 11; John, 10; Peter, 7; Christian, 2; and Joseph, five months; all children born in Illinois. They appear next door to Nicholas Rhodes [Roth] and Andrew Roth, and are found on the same census page as Jacob Ower [Oyer] and Benjamin Redger [Rediger], indicating that they were already living in the community of Washington.

According to the *Grantors Index*, Peter Good paid John Oyer $425 for 91 acres in Section One of Washington Oct. 30, 1850.

The marriage pattern of the family was a bit unusual: the two youngest sons married cousins in 1868 and 1871. The 1870 census of Washington shows the household as farmer Peter Good, 65, Germany; Susan, 63, Germany; farm laborer Joseph, 21, Illinois; and Mary [cousin, later wife], 21, Illinois. They lived next door to son Christian and his wife Elizabeth 'Eliza' Guth, who was Mary's sister.

In 1868, minister Michael Mosiman of Groveland and minister Nicholas Roth of Morton led the *Busche Gemeinde* congregation (in the northwest corner of Tazewell County) into alignment with the Egly Amish. When the Defenseless Mennonite Church was constructed at Groveland in October 1878, Peter served as the first deacon with minister Nicholas Roth.

In 1880 his household appears on the Washington census as farmer Peter Guth, 73, Germany; and Susan Guth, 70, France.

Children of Peter Guth and Susanna/Susan Oyer born at Washington were all found with the spellings 'Guth' and 'Good.' They include:

1. Anna 'Nancy' Guth/Good was born at Washington Aug. 20, 1836, and died at Schickley, Nebraska Aug. 25, 1921, where she is buried in Salem Mennonite Cemetery. On Feb. 20, 1856 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Rediger; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was born June 28, 1831, and died at Waldo Aug. 26, 1861, a son of Benjamin Rediger and Barbara Ehresmann. For background on this couple see REDIGER.
2. Elisabeth 'Eliza' Guth/Good was born April 5, 1838, and died at Washington Dec. 6, 1894. On March 20, 1859 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Reeser. He was born at Châteauroux, France Dec. 28, 1838 (see RISSER/REESER for an explanation), and died at Washington April 25, 1900, a son of Jean/John Risser/Reeser and Catherine Zimmerman. He is found as 'Joseph Reeser' on the 1860 census of Washington. 1880 census of Washington as farmer Joseph Reser, 42, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Switzerland; Elizabeth Reser, 43, born in France to a father from Germany and a mother from France; Susan, 19; Peter, 17; Anna, 13; and Joseph, 10. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
3. John Guth/Good was born May 10, 1840, and died at Washington Oct. 8, 1896. On March 5, 1861 in Woodford County he married Maria/Marie Ehresman. She was born in Ohio Nov. 30, 1839, and died at Washington May 8, 1894, a daughter of Christian Ehresman and his second wife Anna Barnett. In 1861 they moved onto a 315-acre farm at Washington. They appear on the 1880 census of Washington as John Guth, 40, born in Illinois to a father from Bavaria and a mother from France; Mary, 40, born in Ohio to a father from Bavaria and a mother from France; and nine children born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, June 1894: "On the 8th of May 1874 near Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., sister Maria Ehresman, wife of John Good. Buried on the 10th in the Washington cemetery. Sister Maria was married on the 5th of March 1861. The union was blessed with 10 children. There are also 14 grandchildren. She was a beloved mother and wife and a faithful follower of Christ in our denomination. Funeral services by the writer and Pre. Koenig of the Deer Creek Cong. and Emanuel Hartman from *Isa. 18* and *38:12, 13*. A large concourse of friends followed her remains to the grave. Michael Kinsinger." John remarried Oct. 15, 1895 to Catherine Schlegel, widow of John Gascho, but John is buried in Glendale Cemetery with Maria/Mary.
4. Peter Guth/Good was born Jan. 6, 1843, and died single Sept. 17, 1865. He is buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington.
5. Christian Guth/Good was born in May 1848, died Aug. 6, 1918. On Aug. 29, 1868 in Tazewell County he married his cousin Elizabeth 'Eliza' Guth. She was born on the Mühlenbach estate at Stürzelbronn, Moselle May 5, 1846, and died at Milford, Nebraska June 11, 1923, a daughter of Christian Guth and Magdalena Steiner. The 1870 census of Washington shows them next door to Christian's parents, as farmer Christian Good, 23, Illinois; Eliza, 26, Germany; and Peter, 1, Illinois. The 1900 census of Washington shows them as Christian Guth, born in Illinois to German parents in May 1848; Elizabeth, born in Germany in April 1847; Daniel, born in December 1879; and Amos, born in December 1884. *Gospel Herald*, July 1923: "Elisabeth Guth was born in Zweibricken, Bavaria, Germany, May 5, 1846; died at the home of her daughter Mrs. Jacob Roth at Milford, Nebraska, June 11, 1923; aged 77y. 1m. 6d. She came to America with an uncle and two of her sisters in the spring of 1868, settling near Washington, Ill. She was married to Christian Guth, Aug. 29, 1868, who preceded her to eternity Aug. 6, 1918. This union was blessed with six children, five sons and one daughter. She leaves her children, 18 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, one sister and many relatives and friends to mourn her departure. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth in which faith she died. The funeral services were held at the home, conducted by Jonas Litwiller and Samuel Gerber. Text, *Rev. 14:13*." They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
6. Joseph Guth/Good was born Dec. 22, 1849, and died April 22, 1872; he is buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington. On Feb. 26, 1871 in Tazewell County he married his cousin Marie/Mary Guth. She was born on the Mühlenbach estate at Stürzelbronn, Moselle Feb. 1, 1850, and died in Seward County, Nebraska Feb. 26, 1878, a daughter of Christian Guth and Magdalena Steiner. On March 19, 1874 in Livingston County she remarried to Joseph Stauffer. He was born at Willmandingen, Baden June 18, 1852, and died in Ontario Dec. 10, 1918, a son of Joseph Stauffer and Barbara Roth. In 1880 he remarried to Matti Bender in Henry County, Iowa. *Gospel Herald*, May 1878: "Feb. 26th, in Seward Co., Neb., in childbed, Sister Mary, wife of Joseph Stauffer, aged 28 years and 25 days. She leaves a bereaved husband and three children to mourn their loss. Her child she took with her. She was a faithful sister in the Amish church. She bore her brief sickness with great patience. A very touching sermon was delivered on the funeral occasion by Joseph Gascho and P. P. Hershberger, from *Lamentations 3:* and *Matt. 24:42-44*. This family with his parents came to this place from Livingston Co., Ill., and in less than a month the sister was called to her eternal home."

SECOND SON CHRISTIAN

The mother of Michel Guth's second son **Christian Guth** was Michel's second wife Susanna Springer. Christian was born at Mehlingen in 1771. He married Barbara Güngerich from the Bärenbrunnerhof at Dahn. They farmed at Schweinbach and Burgwalden near Augsburg after 1802.

Their son **Christian Guth** was born on the Günstalerhof estate circa 1800, and died at Burgwalden. He maarried Barbara Christner of the Günstalerhof estate.

Their youngest four children sailed from Le Havre on the *Charles Hill*, and arrived at New York May 19, 1854. The passenger list shows Württemberg passengers Joseph Guth, 23; Peter, 22; Christn, 20; and Magd, 20. The oldest daughter followed with her future husband in 1856.

Children of Christian Guth and Barbara Christner born at Burgwalden include:

1. Elisabeth Guth/Good was born circa 1828, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 5, 1899. The ship *Havre* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York Nov. 24, 1856. The passenger list names Peter Christner, 48; Elis. Guth, 28; and Anton Koelbel, 26 (her future husband). They married in Tazewell County Jan. 21, 1857. Anton Kalbl was born in Germany in 1830, died at Kearney, Nebraska Dec. 22, 1915, and is buried in Kearney Cemetery as 'Anton Kabel 1830-Dec. 22, 1915.' They are found on the 1860 census of Hopedale as farmer Anthony Kobbel, 32, Germany; Elizabeth, 32, Germany; Elizabeth, 1; and Frank Otto,49, Germany; they were next door neighbors to Elizabeth's younger brothers Christian and Peter Good. 'Anton Kelbel' signed a declaration of intent for naturalization in Tazewell County in 1862. After Elisabeth's death Anton lived with their daughter Elizabeth and her husband John Unzicker at Garfield, Nebraska (per the 1910 census, which shows Anton as an 82-year-old widower, Lizzie 52, and John 52). They are buried in Kearney Cemetery as 'John Unzicker, Oct. 11, 1858-April 17, 1936' and 'Lizzie Unzicker, 1859-Jan. 16, 1922.' John was born at Gridley, McLean County, a son of Valentine Unzicker and Magdalena Schertz. They also had a daughter Mary born at Peoria Nov. 3, 1862, who died at Colby, Kansas Nov. 26, 1954. On Dec. 2, 1886 at Wilber, Nebraska Mary married Heio Bremer. The marriage entry stated that Mary's parents were Anton Kalbl and Elisabeth Good. Heio Bremer died in 1934, age 78. They are buried in Beulah Cemetery at Colby, Kansas.
2. Joseph Guth/Good was born Jan. 19, 1831, and died at Hopedale Feb. 10, 1909. On March 2, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Katharina 'Katie' Stalter; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. It is listed in the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as Jacob Gut and Catharine Statten. She was born at Hemerton, Bavaria Jan. 22, 1832, and died at Hopedale Oct. 15, 1919, a daughter of Jakob Stalter and Katharina Stalter. She immigrated in 1854. They are found on the 1880 census of Boynton as farmer Joseph Good, 49, Germany; Catharine, 47, Germany; and six children born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, March 1909: "Died, Feb. 10, 1909, near Hopedale, Ill., Bro. Joseph Good, aged 78 y. He leaves to mourn his death his aged wife, who has shared the joys and sorrows for 51 years, two sons, six daughters, one brother and one sister, but they mourn not as those who have no hope. Bro. Good was an earnest and humble Christian. For him to live was Christ, and to die was gain. he suffered much pain during his sickness, but we believe that now he is being comforted. Buried Feb. 13. Services by Jos. Egli, John C. Birky and Daniel Nafziger." *Gospel Herald*, Nov. 1919: "Katharine, daughter of Jacob Good and Magdalena Stalter, was born in Germany Jan. 9, 1832; died at the home of her daughter in Hopedale, Ill., Oct. 15, 1919; aged 87 y. 9 m. 6 d. At the age of 14 she united with the A. M. Church, of which she was a faithful member until death. In the year of 1854 she sailed for America. She was united in marriage to Joseph Good in 1856. Her husband died Feb. 10, 1909. To this union were born 10 children. One son and one daughter died in infancy. She leaves two sons and six daughters, (Joseph, Dan, Lizzie Birkey, Phoebe Birkey, Barbara Bachman, Sarah Beller, Katie Horsch, and Mary Birkey); also 40 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren. Funeral services at the home by Bro. J. C. Birkey and the church by Jonas Litwiller and J. C. Birkey." They are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.
3. Peter Guth/Good was born March 25, 1832, and died Aug. 8, 1916. On Aug. 17, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Veronika/Veronica/Fronika 'Fanny' Birkey; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born Jan. 16, 1837, and died Feb. 12, 1916, a daughter of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho. They are found next door to brother Christian and brother-in-law Anthony Kobbel [Anton Kalbl] on the 1860 census of Hopedale: farmer Peter Good, 28, Germany; Fanny, 23, Illinois; Elizabeth, 2, Illinois; and Ludwick, 25, Illinois. 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.
4. Christian Guth/Good was born in Württemberg Feb. 4, 1833, and died Sept. 26, 1889 (headstone date). In 1858 at Little Mackinaw he married Jacobine 'Phoebe' Ehresman. She was born in Germany March 11 or 19, 1834, and died May 2, 1902 (headstone date), a daughter of Christian Ehresman and his first wife Magdalnea Barnett. They are found next door to brother Christian Good and brother-in-law Anthony Kebbel [Anton Kalbl] on the 1860 census of Hopedale: laborer Christian Good, 26, Germany; Phoebe, 24, Germany; Christian, 1, Illinois; and John, 30, Germany. Their household appears on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer Christian Gutt, 47, Bavaria; Phoebe, 46, born in Württemberg to parents from Württemberg; and seven children born in Illinois. They are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale. Her obituary can be found in EHRESMAN. They are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.
5. Magdalena 'Lena' Guth/Good was born Feb. 14, 1835, and died at Hopedale Aug. 18, 1921. On March 27, 1855 in Tazewell County she married Johann/John Sutter; the ceremony was performed by miniser Andrew Ropp. Johann/John was born at Probfeld (adjacent to Karlskron, below Ingolstadt) March 14, 1825, and died at Hopedale Dec. 11, 1904, a son of Johannes/John Sutter and Barbara Oesch. See SUTTER for background on this couple.

Plank: Blank of Steffisburg

In the Bernese dialect *Blanck* describes someone with a pale or white complexion.

Recall from STAKER, "*The Yoder 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.'"

A look at the Blank family of Steffisburg led us to links with the Rupp/Ropp family. This was the element that bridged our Rŭpp searches from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines back to Steffisburg. But it was an equal surprise to find the Blanks had descendants in Central Illinois.

No Anabaptist birth records were created at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines (some of our impressions were derived from burial, real estate, and notorial records). Because of this, it is largely suspected that both families had sons who have not been identified, and there are connections with the Rupps and Blanks who settled in Pennsylvania in the mid-1700s.

On Jan. 7, 1577 at Steffisburg **Jost Blank** married Elsbeth/Elsi Hebÿsen.

Their son **Hans Blank** was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 15, 1586 (spelled Blancke). Witnesses included Mihel Graf, Hans Barb, and Verena Falkhÿsen.

On Jan. 21, 1611 he married Beatrix Grünig.

Their son **Hans Blank** was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 25, 1621 (spelled Blanck).[221] Witnesses included Hans Blanck, Michel Kaŭffman, and Barbli Schindler.

On March 22, 1644 he married Margreth Carli. Hans became overseer of community property [Ger. *Seckelmeister des Lands*] for Steffisburg. His name and title are found on the enameled tableau called the *Mosestafel*, on the wall of the Protestant Reformed Church.

Children of Hans Blank and Margreth Carli baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. **Niclaŭs/Nigi Blank** was baptized May 31, 1646. Witnessses included Hans Brönniman, Christen Freÿ, and Madlen Walhart.
2. Margreth Blank was baptized Dec. 31, 1648.
3. Hans Blank was baptized March 14, 1652, and died as an infant.
4. Hans Blank was baptized Nov. 6, 1653, and died in a mill owned by the noble Ribeaupierre/Rappolstein family at Ribeauvillé, Alsace Dec. 23, 1742. On May 22, 1676 at Steffisburg he married Catharina/Cathrin Rŭpp. She may have been a daughter of Ŭli Rŭpp and Anna Bucher who was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 3, 1650. Their children include:
    a. Susanna Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 24, 1678. The entry described her father as Hans Blank of Riederen in Steffisburg.
    b. Jacob Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 19, 1680. Witnesses included Jacob Rŭchti, Christian Blank, and Magdalena Erb.
    c. Hans Blank was born at Riederen in Steffisburg, baptized at Steffisburg July 1, 1683, and died Dec. 18, 1744. He was a miller in the Herrenmühl at Ribeauvillé.
    d. Barbara Blank was baptized at Steffisburg March 7, 1686.
    e. Christen/Christian Blank was born at Riederen in Steffisburg, baptized at Steffisburg March 10, 1689, and died Aug. 12, 1760. He was a miller in the Schlundermühl at Ribeauvillé. We suspect he was the father on an entry found at Steffisburg. It was placed on a lefthand page of the register, set aside for ceremonies that took place outside the parish. On Nov. 24, 1737, Christian Blank was baptized at Maria Kirch. He was a son of Christian Blank and Esther Fisher.
    f. Niclaŭs/Nicolas 'Nigi' Blank was born at Riederin in Steffisburg, baptized at Steffisburg April 24, 1692, and died Aug. 3, 1753. He signed his own name 'Nigi Blanc.' Nicolas married Anna Goldschmidt, who died Sept. 6, 1755. They were both buried at Fertrupt. When his father died they co-leased a sheep farm at Heiteren (32 miles southeast of Échery) 1842-44 with their son-in-law Johannes/Jean Roth of Échery. It was also owned by the noble Ribeaupierre family.
    g. Cathrin Blank was baptized at Steffisburg March 24, 1695.

[221] The Hans Blank who married Barbara Jenni in a double ceremony with Hans Rŭpp and Christina Meier in 1656 was a second cousin of this Hans.

5. Christen Blank was baptized Dec. 14, 1656. On Dec. 13, 1680 at Steffisburg he married Anna Joder (found as Anni Joder on the marriage entry). She was baptized at Steffisburg May 1, 1659, a daughter of Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel. Christen was later described in church records as a 'heretic Anabaptist' and a 'disobedient Anabaptist.' On July 16, 1690 the Council of Bern ordered the district administrator of Trachselwald to find out "whether the Anabaptists Jost Joder [husband of Anni Zoŭg] and Christen Blank, as have been reported, are staying in Schangnau and whether they took their capital with them." It ordered that a report be made to the local Anabaptist Chamber. On Dec. 21, 1690 at Steffisburg their daughter Barbara Blank was baptized; witnesses included Verena Kaŭffman, Barbara Güngerich, and Anna's brother 'Hans Rŭpp *der Jüng in der Au*.' In 1692-93 Jacob Amman made a tour of Bernese villages to evaluate support for his advocacy of strict practices. He was accompanied by his brother Ŭli acting as scribe, minister Niklaus Augspurger (a progenitor to the Butler County, Ohio family), and Christen Blank. Christen and Anni were later at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. A 1703 property report describes residents of an estate at Le Vernoy (now in Doubs Department, eight miles northwest of Montbéliard, nine miles west of Frédéric-Fontaine/Clairegoutte/Étobon, and 22 miles west of the town of Belfort). One family consisted of Christ Blank, 45; his wife Anna Joder, 44; and five children 2-10. Another family may have been that of her younger brother Jost: Jost Joder, 42; Elisabeth; and five children 5-16. Blanks were still there a decade later. By 1718 Christen and Anna had relocated to an estate of the Prince of Montbéliard at Abbévillers (10 miles southeast of Montbéliard). Children baptized at Steffisburg include Christen (1681), Anna (1684), Hans (1685), Jost (1688), and Barbara (1690).

Niclaŭs/Nigi Blank was baptized May 31, 1646. Barbara Im Hoof/Im Hooff was baptized at Steffisburg June 19, 1651. On her 20th birthday they were married in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg. The marriage entry identifies Niclaŭs as the town treasurer's son.

Niclaŭs and Barbara lived at Schwarzenegg in Steffisburg parish.

Niclaŭs appears as 'Niguy Blanc' on a list of Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1697; as 'Niklaus Blanck' on a 1703 tax roll; and as 'Niclaus Blanck' on a 1704 tax roll. He became a minister and companion of Jacob Amman, and occasionally co-signed documents with his barely literate friend.

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. Only six heads of households remained during the period 1713-18. The number more than doubled by 1721, as older sons started their own families.[222]

A letter written by David Chertzer [later Schertz] in 1723 identifies 'Nigi Blanck' as minister and elder of the Anabaptist congregation at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Children of Niclaŭs Blank and Barbara Im Hoof/Im Hooff include:

1. Margreth Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 27, 1672.
2. **Christen Blank** was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 5, 1673.
3. Barbara Blank was baptized at Steffisburg April 1, 1677. She may have married Peter Eiman at Steffisburg Feb. 10, 1696.
4. Hans Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 5, 1679.
5. Niclaŭs 'Nigi' Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 4, 1681. He married Barbara Ummel. She was born circa 1683, and died Aug. 22, 1753 (her burial entry said she was 70, from Diessbach). Recall from HOCHSTETTLER that a letter of recommendation [Fr. *certificat de attestation*] was 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 [Heinrich Hüser], brothers Christe and Anthony Kropf, David Chertzer [later Schertz], and Michel Mourer [Maurer], 'all of the Anabaptist religion.'[223] They were obligated to leave the kingdom [Fr. *Ils sont obligé de se retirer hors du Royaume*]. It attested to the quality of their 'conduct, life, and manners' over 'many years they have lived in this vicinity.' All of those listed except Peter Blank are found on a list of Anabaptists created at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1732. Niclaŭs 'Nigi' Blank appears as an 85-year-old on a list of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines residents created in 1765.
    - Minister Nikolaus/Nicolas 'Nigi' (pronounced 'Nicky') Blank was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1720. He married Catherine/Katharina Güngerich. She was born on the Froensbourg estate at Lembach, Lower Alsace circa 1725, a daughter of Hans 'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich. She died in childbirth

[222] In 1732 a list of Anabaptist heads of households in the county of Ribeaupierre included 'Nicolas Blanck,' 'Michel Blanck,' and a Joseph Rupp (we could not identify him further).

[223] Niclaus 'Nigi' Blank's financial records mention training [Fr. *apprentissage*] for Michel Maurer in 1722 and Christ Kropf in 1727, so it is likely that they were his employees.

with stillborn twins at Fertrupt, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 21 or 27, 1747.[224] He became an elder of the Colmar congregation.

6. Peter/Pierre Blank was baptized at Steffisburg March 1, 1685, and died before 1729. He married Verena/Vérène/Freni Staufer/Stauffer. In 1729 she remarried to Valentin/Velten Güngerich, a son of Hans 'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich of the Froensbourg estate. They were farming there in 1736.[225] He died before 1759.
7. **Michel Blank** was born at Schwarzenegg, and baptized at Steffisburg July 31, 1687.
8. Anna Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Aug. 17, 1690. She may be the Anna Blank who married Hans Lehman at Steffisburg June 5, 1713. If so, she died Oct. 22, 1772. Lehman was born at Steffisburg Nov. 10, 1689, and died there July 1, 1756, a son of Niclaus Lehman and Maria Berger.
9. Verena Blank was born circa 1693, and was buried at Fertrupt March 27, 1743. She married Heinrich/Henri Hüsser/Hausser/ Hyser, a son of Rudolf 'Rudy' Hüsser. They lived on the *Ziegelhof* at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. See HEISER for background.

CHRISTEN BLANK

Christen Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 5, 1673.

On Dec. 17, 1696 at Stefffisburg he married Verena Carli. She was a daughter of Peter Carli and Dorothea Krebs, baptized at Steffisburg on the same day as her future husband.

Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Blank was baptized Oct. 17, 1697. Witnesses included Hans Walthart, Hans Güngerich, and Magdalena Forsch.
2. **Christen Blank** was baptized Feb. 26, 1702. Witnesses included Christen Sŭrer, Jacob Rŭchti, and Christina Im Hoof.
3. Niclaŭs Blank was baptized July 31, 1707. Witnesses on the barely legible entry included Rudolf Manŭel and Cathrin Zoŭg.
4. Peter Blank was baptized Oct. 2, 1712. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Carli, Heinrich Rŭchti, and Maria Ascher.

Christen Blank was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 26, 1702. Witnesses included Christen Sŭrer, Jacob Rŭchti, and Christina Im Hoof.

He married Anna Müller.

An entry at Steffisburg says that on June 10, 1730 a son **Niclaŭs/Nicolas Blank**, born to Christen Blank of Steffisburg and Anna Müllerin of Ringgenberg (on Lake Brienz or the *Brienzersee*, 24 miles southeast of Steffisburg), was baptized at *Folschweiler* [Folschviller], *Hertzogthum Lothringen* (dukedom of Lorraine). Folschviller is now in the department of Moselle, France.

The entry was placed on a lefthand page of the register, set aside for ceremonies that took place outside the parish. We can speculate that the boy was several years of age when he was baptized in a Reformed congregation; his son may have been born circa 1746.

French genealogist Jean François Lorentz has gathered information on a **Nicolas Blanck** who was born circa 1746, and died at Bistroff (seven miles south of Folschviller) Nov. 26, 1823. The birth time frame and geography suggest that he belongs here.

He appeared as a witness at two weddings where his age was given as 50 on March 6, 1797, and as 52 on Feb. 4, 1798.

Before 1772 he married Madeleine Hirchy [Hirschi]. She was born circa 1748, a daughter of Simon Hirchy and Barbara Schertz. (Perhaps we could also speculate that Nicolas was born circa 1751, and added years to his given age to appear older than his wife).

Their children include:

1. Barbe Blanck was born circa 1772, and died at Grostenquin April 1, 1847. On June 15, 1796 at Maxstadt, Moselle she married Joseph Schertz. He was born circa 1768, and died on Hingsange farm at Linstroff Sept. 28, 1812, a son of Nicolas Schertz and Elisabeth Stalter.

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[224] According to one source, Fertrupt burial records show that Josef Blank son of Nicolaus Blank died Jan. 8, 1757, and was buried at Fertrupt the following day. His age was given as nine years and three months. If this is correct, it would place his birthdate circa Oct. 8, 1748 - after the death of Catherine/Katharina Güngerich.

[225] According to Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Valentin/Veltin Güngerich was a son of Hans 'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich. Valentin/Velten was on the Froensbourgerhof with his father in 1736, and died before 1759. He married at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1729. His bride was Verena/Vérène/Freni Staufer/Stauffer, who was the widow of a Blank. Peter was the only adult male Blank living in the community in 1715 who does not appear there on a list created in 1732.

2. Anne Blanck was born at Bening Nov. 1, 1774, and died at Niedervisse, Moselle May 21, 1838. On Feb. 24, 1798 at Bistroff she married Jean Nafziger. He was born at Rahling Feb. 6, 1773, and died at Niedervisse Nov. 20, 1824, a son of Jean Nafziger and Catherine Schertz.
3. Madeleine Blanck was born Feb. 5, 1777, and died April 2, 1851. On Nov. 16, 1795 at Francaltroff (adjacent to Grostenquin) she married Christian Gingerich [Güngerich]. He was likely born at Francaltroff (and not Altroff, as is often found) Jan. 5, 1770, and died at Henriville, Moselle Jan. 30, 1825. They grew clover for horsefeed on La Chapelle farm at Linstroff. Christian became elder at Bistroff. In 1809 he signed a petition to the French government asking for Anabaptist exemption from military service, which was denied. Neither he nor his children emigrated. However, his petition co-signer, Christian Engel, sailed from Le Havre to New Orleans in 1833 and became elder of the Partridge Creek meeting.
4. Marie Blanck was born circa 1778. Circa 1806 she married Jean Moser. He was born circa 1772, and died at Bistroff Oct. 29, 1819.
5. Catherine Blank was born circa 1784, and died at Herréville-lès-Chanteurs May 31, 1847. Circa 1810 she married Joseph Gerber.

MICHEL BLANK

Michel Blank was born at Schwarzenegg, baptized at Steffisburg July 31, 1687, and buried at Fertrupt (below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) May 24, 1755.

He married Elisabeth Hochstettler, who was born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1706, a daughter of Jacob Hostetler/Hostettler and (we suspect) Christina Kŭntzi (see HOCHSTETTLER). They lived in the main house [Ger. *Landhaus*] of a large estate at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines with her sister Verena.

Their children include:

1. Nicholas Blank was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 12, 1739. He was buried at Fertrupt 12 days later.
2. Michel Blank was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 4, 1740. He was buried at Fertrupt seven days later.
3. **Michel Blank/Blanck** was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1742, and died at Hottviller, Moselle Sept. 7, 1804.
4. An unnamed son was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 24, 1744. He was buried at Fertrupt five days later.

Michel Blank/Blanck was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace circa 1742, and died at Hottviller, Moselle Sept. 7, 1804. He was a day laborer and livestock handler. He married Anne Jaüsi. Between 1775 and 1779 they moved north to Longeville-lès-St. Avold, Moselle. This community is only four miles north of Folschviller, the village where Niclaŭs Blank and Anna Müller had a son Niclaüs in 1730.

Anne may have died before 1794. In that year a census of Anabaptists counted Brandelfing farm [Ger. *Brandelfingerhof*] above Gros-Réderching [Ger. *Grossrederchingen*]. It reported the family of 42-year-old Joseph Genurich [Güngerich/Guingerich] and 34-year-old Anne Roubin [Rübi]. Among the children in the household were Nicolas Blanck, 21; Barbe Blanck, 21; and Christian Blanck, 14.

Children of Michel Blank/Blanck and Anne Jaüsi include:

1. Barbe Blanck was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1773, and died at Ville-en-Vermois, Meurthe-et-Moselle Aug. 20, 1837. On Nov. 25, 1795 she married her second cousin Christian Kempf. He was born circa 1770, and died at Ville-en-Vermois Oct. 28, 1830, a son of Christian Kempf and Elisabeth Hochstettler (Elisabeth was a granddaughter of minister Jacob Hochstettler, and a daughter of Johannes Hochstettler and Anna Wagler). A mixed household on Olferding farm at Gros-Réderching was reported on a 1794 census as Christian Kempf, 52; Elis. Hochstetler, 54; Christian Kempf, 24; Madeleine Kempf, 19; Elisabeth Kempf, 12; André Kempf, 15; Elisabeth Jantzy, 22; and Anne Jantzy, 3 [this may have been Jaüsi].
2. Anne Blank/Blanque was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 4, 1774, and died at Grostenquin, Moselle in 1829. On Jan. 10, 1797 at Grostenquin she married Joseph Maire/Meyer. He was born at Albestroff, Moselle Sept. 29, 1759, and died at Grostenquin March 15, 1828, a son of Pierre Maier/Meyer and Anne Hirschi/Hirchy.
3. Nicolas Blanck was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 18, 1775, and died at Bouxières-aux-Chênes, Meurthe-et-Moselle May 24, 1854. On Feb. 5, 1798 at Vergaville, Moselle he married Anne Schwartz/Schwarz. She was born at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Sept. 27, 1772, and died at Bouxières-aux-Chênes April 28, 1848, a daughter of Hans Schwartz/Jean Noir and Anna Beller/Belaire.
4. Joseph Blanck was born at Longeville-lès-St. Avold May 4, 1779, and died at Ville-en-Vermois March 6, 1859. On Nov. 7, 1802 at Herbéviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Madeleine Eymann/Eiman. One witness to the marriage was Christian Roup, who was a younger brother to minister Hans Rupp/Jean Ropp and an uncle to Andreas Ropp. He was described as a 47-year-old living at Igney, and a friend of the groom; he would also have been a second cousin through his mother, Barbara Hochstettler.
5. **Christian Blank** was born circa 1780, and died at Imling, Moselle Dec. 28, 1809.

Christian Blank was born circa 1780, and died at Imling, Moselle Dec. 28, 1809.

Circa 1803 Christian married Suzanne/Susanna Neuhauser. She was born at Singling circa 1777, and died at Wilmot, Ontario Dec. 16, 1849, a daughter of Christian Neuhauser and Barbe Zimmerman. Christian was a cultivator.

Children of Christian Blank and Suzanne/Susanna Neuhauser born at Imling include:

1. Magdalena/Madeleine Blanck was born Aug. 10, 1804, and died at Wilmot Dec. 24, 1872. She married Jacob Lebold. He was born circa 1803, and died at Wilmot Dec. 6, 1849. She is found on the 1851 census of Wilmot with seven children.
2. **Jean Blanck/John Plank** was born Aug. 10, 1806, and died near Congerville Dec. 10, 1885.
3. Catherine Blanck was born March 14, 1808, and died at Wellesley, Ontario March 9, 1881. She married John S. Schwartzentruber. He was born April 10, 1802, and died at Wellesley Dec. 21, 1879. They are found with 10 children on the 1851 census of Wilmot.
4. Elisabeth Blanck was born Sept. 3, 1809, and died at Tanconville, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 24, 1826.
5. Christian Blanck was born July 31, 1810, and died at Imling eight days later.

Suzanne/Susanna remarried to Christophe/Christian Abresol [Aebersold] at Imling Oct. 29, 1812. He was born at Rhodes, Moselle March 1, 1788, and died in Waterloo County, Ontario March 25, 1862, a son of Jean Abresol and Barbe Zwalter. He had been working as a cultivator at Azoudange.

Suzanne/Susanna and her second husband sailed from Le Havre on the *France*. They can be found on the passenger list as it arrived at New York June 26, 1828: Christian Abersol, 41; Susan, 46; John, 22; Catharine, 20; Christian, 13; Joseph, 9; and Susan, 6.

In North America Abresol became 'Ebersol' or 'Ebersole.' They settled on lots 23 and 24 at Wilmot, Ontario.

Widower Christian/Christophe is found as an 'Ebersoll' on the 1851 census of Waterloo. He remarried to Magdalena, who we could not identify further.

The 1861 census of Wilmot shows farmer Christian Ebersol, 73, France; Magdalena, 60, France; Joseph, 45, France; and widower labourer Jacob Albright [Albecht], 59, France; all Mennonite.

Children of Suzanne/Susanna Neuhauser and her second husband Christophe/Christian Abresol include:

6. Christian Ebersole was born at Reding, Moselle Oct. 17, 1814, and died at Upper Leacock, Lancaster County Aug. 28, 1890. He married Elisabeth Stoltzfus. She was born in Pennsylvania Dec. 26, 1814, and died at Monterey, Lancaster County Jan. 2, 1894, a daughter of David Stoltzfus and Anna Fisher. *Herald of Truth*, October 1890: "On the 28th of August, in Upper Leacock Twp., Lancaster Co., Pa., of cancer, Christian Ebersole, aged 75 years, 10 months and 22 days. He was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church from his youth. He left his wife and 8 children, and 23 grandchildren to mourn his departure. Buried Sunday the 31st, in Myers' graveyard. Services to a large gathering of relatives and friends by David Beiler and Christian King." *Herald of Truth*, January 1894: "On the 2d of January 1894, near Monterey, Lancaster Co., Pa., Elizabeth Stoltzfus, aged 77 years, 2 months and 27 days. Buried on the 5th. Funeral services by Benjamin Fisher and Henry Stoltzfus from *2 Cor 4:16-18*."
7. Joseph Ebersole was born at Reding Jan. 5, 1816, and died at Wellesley, Ontario Aug. 18, 1862.
8. Susanna Ebersole was born at Tanconville, Meurthe-et-Moselle Feb. 10, 1822, and died at Wayland, Iowa March 21, 1906. On Sept. 20, 1840 she married Emile Arthaud (also found as Ardo) of Wilmot. He was born March 10, 1806, and died Jan. 24, 1887. They resettled in Iowa in 1851. *Herald of Truth*, February 1887: "On the 24 th of January, near Olds, Henry Co., Iowa, of paralysis, Emil Arthaud, aged 80 years, 10 months and 14 days. Services by Ben. Eicher from *2 Cor. 5:1-10*. The deceased brother was much loved and respected by all. He leaves a widow and 12 grown-up children." *Herald of Truth*, May 1906: "On March 21, 1906, in Wayland, Iowa, Susan, wife of the late Emil Arthaud; aged 83 years. Her maiden name was Susanna Ebersolt. She was born in France, Europe, and at the age of four years came with her parents to Pennsylvania, where she lived for two years and then went to Canada. In 1840 she was married to Emil Arthaud. In 1851 they emigrated to Iowa, where she resided in Washington and Henry counties until she died. She was the mother of fifteen children of whom ten are still living; 48 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by D. Graber and P. Stuckey in German, and S. M. Musselman in English. She united with the Amish M. church in her youth and remained a faithful member."

Jean Blanck/John Plank was born at Imling, Moselle Aug. 10, 1806, and died at Congerville in Montgomery Township Dec. 10, 1885.[226]

[226] John Plank who lived at Danvers, McLean County was not a descendant of the Blank family. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Aug. 3, 1792, and died at Danvers April 20, 1868. On April 20, 1816 he married Barbara Lantz. They came to McLean County from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania in 1856. John's parents were Christian Blank and Barbara Yoder. Christian's father was Melchior Blank, who moved from Berks County to Mifflin County in 1799. His father was immigrant Johann Melchior Blankenburg.

Jean/John married Catherine Engel in Tazewell County Feb. 24, 1840. She was born at Zommange, Moselle Aug. 30, 1819 (headstone date), and died at Congerville Dec. 22, 1898, a daughter of Joseph Engel (son of minister Christian Engel) and Barbara/Barbe Roggy. Her family arrived in Central Illinois in April 1837.[227]

They are found next door to minister Jacob Zehr (found as Jacob Sears) and his wife Elizabeth Ehresman, and a household removed from Christian Smith and his wife Catherine Bechler on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County): John Blank, 40, France; Catharine, 31, France; Christian, 11; Susan, 7; Joseph, 4; Barbaray, 2; all children born in Illinois.

The 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County shows John Plank, 54, France; Catherine, 44, France; Christian, 19; Susan, 17; Joseph, 15; Barbara, 12; John, 10; Catherine, 7; Marie, 5; Peter, 2; and Magdalena, 6 months; all children born in Illinois.

The family is entirely omitted from the 1870 census, though this was likely inadvertent. The 1873 plat map of Montgomery Township shows the 79-acre property of 'J. Plank' next to that of 'J. Zehr' in the northwest corner of Section 8. They appear on the 1880 census of Montgomery as farmer John Plank, 73, born in August, France; Catherine, 60, born in June, France; Barbara, 31, born in June, Illinois; Lena, 20, born in May, Illinois; and Peter, 23, born in December, Illinois.

Jean Blanck/John Plank and Catherine Engel ('Katharina Plank') are buried in Imhof Cemetery at Danvers near another grave that is thought to be her sister: "Mary Engle, June 1, 1828-Aug. 16, 1908."

Their children born at Montgomery, Woodford County include:

1. Christian Plank was born Feb. 24, 1841, and died Jan. 9, 1896; he is buried in Hardy Cemetery at Hardy, Arkansas. On Sept. 4, 1861 he enlisted at Peoria as a private in Company I of the 47th Illinois Infantry. He was described as a 20-year-old single farmer with blue eyes, brown hair, and dark complexion, 5 foot-5, a resident of Minonk, Woodford County. In February 1862 his company became part of the Army of the Mississippi under Major General John Pope. From Feb. 28 to April 8 they engaged in campaigns against New Madrid and Island No. 10 on the Kentucky-Tennessee border. On March 14 they captured New Madrid, cutting off supplies to the fortified island. Then they cleared a 12-mile canal through swampland, cutting trees down to four feet below the waterline. On April 8 they captured over 8,000 prisoners, 123 pieces of artillery, and an enormous stash of ammunition and supplies. This cleared passage on the Mississippi River all the way to Vicksburg. Though he signed up for three years, and the unit actually served until Jan. 21, 1866, he was 'discharged for disability' May 20, 1862. In 1866 he paid state income tax at Minonk. The entry described him as 'retarded.' He does not appear on the 1870 census of Minonk. His wife Harriet is buried beside him in Hardy Cemetery; she was born April 11, 1844, and died April 9, 1897. Hardy grew out of a railroad construction camp in the Ozarks in 1884.
2. Susanna/Susan Plank was born July 2, 1843. She may be the domestic servant Susan Plank, 20, born in Ohio, in the household of Peter Noffsinger on the 1870 census of Deer Creek. The 1880 census of Danvers shows her as a 36-year-old servant, born in Illinois, in the household of Cary Hougham. In 1900 and 1910 she lived at Washington with her sister Marie/Marie and brother-in-law Daniel O. Kinsinger.
3. Joseph Plank was born Aug. 31, 1845. We could not locate him after the 1860 census.[228] He did not serve during the Civil War.
4. Barbara Plank was born May 24, 1848, and died May 5, 1882. She is buried in Imhof Cemetery.
5. John Plank was born March 28, 1850. His household is found on the 1880 census of Darlington, Kansas: John Plank, 20, born in Illinois to parents from France; and Jenny, 23, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania. The 1885 state census of Newton City, Kansas describes them as fireman John Plank, 35; and Jennie Plank, 28. They appear on the 1900 census of Newton City, Kansas as railroad engineer John Plank, 49, born in Illinois in March 1851 to parents from Germany and France; and Jennie E., 43, born in Illinois in February 1857 to parents from Pennsylvania.
6. Katharina/Catherine Plank was born July 18, 1852. On Jan. 22, 1880 in McLean County she married George H. Goodenough. They are found on the 1900 census of Arlington, Kansas as livestock dealer G.H. Goodenough, 46, born in Illinois in October 1833 to parents from New York and Illinois; Katherine, 47, born in Illinois in July 1832 to French parents; and daughter Berrie L., 15, born in Illinois in December 1884 to parents from Illinois. The census taker had the correct ages for George and Katharina but miscalculated their birth years.
7. Marie/Mary Plank was born Jan. 2, 1855, and died Feb. 19, 1930. On Nov. 4, 1884 in Tazewell County she married Daniel O. Kinsinger. He was born March 5, 1842, and died Dec. 15, 1922, a son of minister Michael Kinsinger and Magdalena Naffziger. See KINSINGER for more on this couple.

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[227] There is a household for a 'Jean Blank' on the 1840 census of Tazewell County, but it shows two males 20-29 years of age and one female 30-39.

[228] He is easily confused with Joseph Planck, later known as carpenter Joseph F. Planck. He was born at Metamora in 1841, a son of Joseph Planck and Mary Ann Ricketts, and appears on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as a 9-year-old in the household of Justis Stewart. He served as a private and finally a sergeant in Company E, 108th Illinois Infantry during the Civil War. He married Emily C. Brady in Woodford County Nov. 24, 1862. They lived at Washington and Peoria.

8. Peter Plank was born Dec. 14, 1857, and died Sept. 28, 1916; he is buried in Imhof Cemetery. He is found on the 1900 census of Montgomery as farmer Peter Plank, born in Illinois in December 1857 to parents from France. The 1910 census of Fayette, Livingston County shows him as a 52-year-old servant/farm laborer in the household of Emanuel Schmidt.
9. Magdalena 'Lena' Plank was born May 6, 1860, and died June 28, 1953. On Feb. 17, 1904 she married Peter Kistler, becoming his third wife. Peter was born at Congerville April 19, 1843, and died Oct. 1, 1904, a son of John Michael Kistler and Elizabeth Naffziger. He married Caroline Defenbaugh at Streator, LaSalle County Sept. 5, 1865; she was born June 23, 1845, and died June 11, 1870. On Jan. 10, 1872 in Barton County, Missouri he remarried to Catherine 'Kate' Vercler. She was born in Woodford County in October 1849, a daughter of John Vercler and Catherine Dettweiler. She can be found in their household on the 1850 census of Woodford County as Katharine, 1, born in Illinois. Peter and Kate appear on the 1880 census of Grant, Missouri as farmer Peter Kistler, 37, born in Illinois to parents from Hesse-Darmstadt; and Kate, 30, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine. In 1900 Kate was already separated or divorced from Peter; she is found on the 1900 census of Kearney, Nebraska in the household of her brother-in-law Jacob Sommer and sister Elizabeth as dressmaker Katharine Kistler, born in Illinois in October 1849 to French parents. Lena Plank is found as a widow living at Washington with her sister Marie/Marie and brother-in-law Daniel O. Kinsinger in 1910. Lena and Peter are buried in Glendale Cemetery.

Goldsmith: Goldschmid of Richterswil

Not all stories end happily. That is certainly the case of the unfortunate Goldsmith family of Tazewell and Woodford Counties.

The Goldschmid family is found at Richterswil, Canton Zurich. As noted in HEISER, Richterwil is a village on the southwestern shore of the Zürichsee, 17 miles southeast of the city of Zurich. Other Anabaptist families from that area are Bachmann/Bachman, Bär (North America Behr and Bear), Egli (Egly and Egley), Hüsser or Haŭser (later standardized as 'Heusser' and pronounced 'Hoyzer'; Heiser in Illinois), Hiestand, and Landis (later Landes).

Goldschmid became Goldschmidt to German speakers, Goldschmitt to French speakers, and Goldsmith to English speakers.

Hans Heinrich Goldschmid was baptized at Richterswil, Canton Zurich Feb. 23, 1621. He was likely the 'Heinrich Goldschmid, alt: 90' who died there May 16, 1709. He married Anneli Haŭser before 1650. She was baptized at Richterswil Aug. 24, 1628. Their children baptized at Richterswil include:

1. Jacob Goldschmid was baptized Sept. 13, 1659, and died as an infant.
2. **Jacob Goldschmid** was baptized Nov. 5, 1661, and died at Richterswil April 27, 1721.

Jacob Goldschmid was baptized at Richterswil Nov. 5, 1661, and died there April 27, 1721.

On Nov. 12, 1689 at Richterswil he married Barbara Haab (the marriage entry calls her 'Barbara Habin auf den Langenberg,' her death entry also calls her 'Habin,' but her children's birth entries spell her surname 'Haab').[229] She was born at Horgen (10 miles southeast of Zurich) Feb. 17, 1667, and died at Richterswil April 25, 1718, a daughter of Jörg Haab and Elisabeth Hŭber. Jacob was a knife smith [Fr. *coutelier*].

At least four of their children baptized at Richterswil resettled at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines:

1. **Heinrich Goldschmid** was baptized Jan. 18, 1691, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 17, 1755.
2. Anna Goldschmid was baptized Nov. 25, 1694, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 6, 1756. She married Niclaus/Nicolas 'Nigi' Blank. He was born at Riedern bei Bern, baptized at Steffisburg April 24, 1692, died Aug. 31, 1753, and was buried at Fertrupt, a son of Hans Blank and Catharina/Cathrin Rŭpp. He signed his own name 'Nigi Blanc.' He was a miller at Ribeauvillé.
3. Hans Heinrich Goldschmid was baptized July 15, 1709, and died after 1779. He was known as Heinrich Goldschmid *in der Ziegelhof* at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.[230] He married Anne Neuhauser. He or his older brother witnessed the death entry of Johannes Bachmann, created at Villé in 1749. Johannes Bachmann was the father or brother of minister Jacob Bachmann. Joh. Heinrich Goldschmidt is found on a census of Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1763. Children of Hans Heinrich Goldschmid and Anne Neuhauser include:
    a. Jacob Goldschmitt was born circa 1737, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 2, 1810. Circa 1774 he married Barbe Eymann/Eiman (an aunt to Andreas Ropp's wife Elisabeth Eymann/Eiman). She was born circa 1751, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 15, 1807, a daughter of Pierre Eymann and Catherine Kropf. Jacob's civil death entry described him as cultivator Jacques Goldschmitt, 73, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, a son of the deceased cultivator Henry Goldschmitt and the deceased Anne Neŭhusser [actually Jacob's stepmother]; and the widower of Barbe Eymann. It was signed by his son cultivator Henry Goldschmitt, 34, as 'Heinrich Goltschmid.'
    b. Susanna Goldschmitt was born in 1745, and died at Froeningen, Upper Alsace Dec. 23, 1812. She married Christian/Chrétien Zimmerman. He was born circa 1734, and died at Froeningen April 24, 1804.
    c. Marie Goldschmitt was born May 16, 1750, and died on the Streicherhof at Uffing, Bavaria (30 miles south of Hanfeld) Sept. 26, 1831. She married Nicolas Hyser. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1745, and died there Dec. 22, 1805, a son of Nicholas Hüser/Hyser and Anna Schmucker. See HEISER for background on this family. In Oct. 24, 1807 at Strasbourg Marie remarried to Noé Augspurger//Noah Augspurger, an employee on the Canardière estate. 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. His first wife had been Anna Müller, who died on the Canardière estate May 6, 1806; a daughter

[229] Langenberg is now a wild animal park at Langnau am Albis near Horgen. Horgen is seven miles up the western shore of the Zürichsee.

[230] *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*.

from that first marriage was married to an Oesch from Hanfeld, Bavaria, and this became the home of Noé/Noah and Marie. See AUGSPURGER for background on their family.

d. Heinrich/Henri/Henry Goldschmitt was born circa 1753, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 8, 1813. He married Anne Reck. She was born circa 1751, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 13, 1817, a daughter of Henri/Henry Reck and Anne Fordemwald. Henry's civil death entry said he was 60, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, a son of the deceased Henry Goldschmitt and Anne Neuhauser. Anne's civil death entry described her as Anne Reck, 66, born at Saales, a resident of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines for many years, a daughter of the deceased Henry Reck and Anne Fordemwald, who had been residents of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. She was the widow of the deceased cultivator Henry Goldschmitt. It was witnessed by her brother cultivator David Reck, 50.

e. Madeleine Goldschmitt was born circa 1756, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 15, 1808. She married Nicolas Augspurger/Augsbourger. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in April of 1760, a son of Jacob Augspurger/Jacques Augsbourger and Anne Göerig. Her civil death entry described her as Madelaine Goldschmitt, 52, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, a daughter of Jean Henry Goldschmitt and [left blank with dashes] Neŭhusser. She was the wife of Nicolas Augsbourger, 50. Witnesses included nephew Chrethien Goldschmitt, 36, a cultivator. On July 14, 1811 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nicolas remarried to Elisabeth Schlabach. She was born at Saales, Lower Alsace in September of 1782. Their pre-marriage announcement publication described the prospective bride at Elisabeth Schlabach, 28, born in a hamlet near Salle [La Salle], Vosges in September of 1782, a daughter of cultivator Ulrich Schlabach and Marie Adam. The groom's deceased wife was called Marie Madeleine Golschmitt.

4. Conrad Goldschmid was baptized Jan. 15, 1713, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 17, 1760. He was described there as 'the knife smith in the meadow.' He married Anna Maria Huntzinger. She was born at Montbéliard circa 1725, and died from complications of childbirth at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 9, 1755. They may have has more children than we could identify; we drew largely on a burial list from Fertrupt.

a. Maria Goldschmid/Goldschmitt was born circa 1745, and died at age 1½. She was buried at Fertrupt.

b. Heinrich or Jacob Goldschmid/Goldschmitt was born July 21, 1749, and died April 17, 1753. He was buried at Fertrupt.

c. Conrad Goldschmid/Goldschmitt/Goltshmid was born circa 1750, and died after 1819. Jean-François Lorentz identified the entry that shows his death at Saales Dec. 21, 1824. It described him as a 74-year-old cultivator, and husband of Marie Roth (he actually married Marie Reck). It was witnessed by Hans/Jean Schlabach, 38, a cultivator on the farm Devant-Voyemont. Marie Reck died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 10, 1792 (according to the marriage entry for her daughter Barbe/Barbara; the marriage entry of son Joseph gives a later date - 1794 - that is not confirmed by civil records). On a civil marriage entry created for Joseph Bächer and Marie Lauber at Urbeis April 5, 1804, Conrad was described as a 53-year-old resident of the heights above Bruche. He signed 'Conrat Goltschmit.' Conrad was present at the wedding of a daughter in 1819. Conrad, his daughter, and the groom were all described as residents of Haut Voyemont. The plateau at Voyemont peak was a source of red sandstone. It overlooked the farm Devant-Voyemont at Saales. Although it was being mined in 1819, it has now been reforested. Children of Conrad Goldsmith/Goldschmitt/Goltshmid and Marie Reck include:

1) Catherine Goldschmidt was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1781, and died at Bourg-Bruche March 30, 1846, age 65. Her civil death entry named her birthplace and parents, and was signed by witness and brother-in-law Jean Schlabach, 42.

2) Henry Goldschmidt was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1786, and died at Bourg-Bruche Jan. 8, 1829. His civil death entry gave his age as 43, stated that he was a son of 'Coinrat Colschmint,' and 'Marie Reginer,' and was witnessed by brother 'Joseph Colschmint,' 38.

3) Barbe/Barbara Goldschmidt was born at at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines or Bourg-Bruche Jan. 9, 1790, and died at Le Vermont, Vosges April 23, 1849. The death entry calls her 'Barbe Colchemeth,' age 58, and says that she was born in Le Hang basin near Bourg-Bruche. On April 1, 1819 at Saales, Lower Alsace she married Jean Schlabach. He was born at Saales April 8, 1787, and died at Le Vermont, Vosges March 22, 1849, a son of David Schlabach and Marguerite Luginbühl. Conrad was present and consenting as father of the bride (he is actually found as cultivator 'Conneralte Colchmitz', a resident of Saales, and signed his name as 'Conrat Goltshmid'), and another witness was brother Joseph 'Colchmitz,' described as a 30-year-old cultivator from Colroy-la-Grande. The entry described the bride's parents as cultivator Conneralte Colchmitz, age 68 years six months, and the deceased Marie Reck.

4) Joseph Goldschmidt was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines or Le Hang basin near Bourg-Bruche May 26, 1792, and died at Le Hang June 1, 1830. On Feb. 23, 1813 at Bourg-Bruche he married Madeleine Schoerique [Göerig/Gerig]. She was born at Bourg-Bruche June 27, 1794, and died there Jan. 30, 1815, a daughter of Christian Göerig and Marie Barbe Eymann. The groom's father was described as cultivator Conrard Kolsmitte, a resident of Le Hang, present and consenting; he signed 'Conrat Goltshmit.' On April 14, 1815 at Bourg-Bruche Joseph remarried to Barbe Beller. She was born at La Broque, Salm Feb. 28, 1791, and died

in 1857, a daughter of Jacob Beller and Marie Ann Lehmann. Their civil marriage entry called them 'Joseph Kolsmitte' and 'Barbe Bèler.' The groom's father was again described as a cultivator at Le Hang.

d. An unnamed child was born March 8, 1755, and died March 15, 1755. The child was buried at Fertrupt.

Heinrich Goldschmid was baptized at Richterwil Jan. 18, 1691, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 17, 1755.

He is thought to have arrived at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1712, roughly the time that others were dispersing. There he was known as the knife smith or metal smith in the meadow - *der Schmid in der Matten*.

Circa 1717 he married Elisabeth Schmitt. She died before 1732.

Heinrich's household may be found on a 1732 census of Anabaptist households in the county of Ribeaupierre, holding four members.

Circa 1732 he remarried to Barbara Hüser/Hauser. She was born circa 1691. She died at age 51 years 6 months, and was buried at Fertrupt Feb. 19, 1743. She was likely a daughter of Rudolph 'Rudy' Hüsser, who had arrived at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines from Richterswil via Mannheim between 1708 and 1712.

Children of Heinrich Goldschmid and his first wife Elizabeth Schmitt born at or near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines include:

1. Heinrich Goldschmidt was born circa 1718. He died single Sept. 25, 1746, and was buried at Fertrupt.
2. **Jacob Goldschmidt** was born Feb. 2, 1722.
3. Elisabeth Goldschmidt was born in 1726, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 30, 1755. She married Christian Tschantz. He died Aug. 24, 1754.

Jacob Goldschmidt was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 2, 1722, and died there March 16, 1771. He married widow Barbara Frey (also found as Fritz or Fretz). She was born in 1722, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 7, 1797. In 1766 Jacob traveled to the Netherlands with other ministers to settle a dispute between congregations.

Their children born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines spelled their surname Goldschmid, Goldschmidt, Goldschmitt, or Goldschmitte. They include:

1. Jacob Goldschmidt was born Feb. 5, 1744, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 27, 1803. He married Catherine Stucky. She was born on Schoppenwihr farm at Ostheim March 19, 1749, a daughter of minister Benedict/Benoit 'Benz' Stucki/Stucky and Anna Maria Neuhauser.
2. Heinrich Goldschmid was born Oct. 22, 1746, and died April 21, 1747.
3. Heinrich Goldschmid was born July 1, 1748, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 15, 1791. He married Barbe Güngerich. She was born at Landau near Essingen circa 1755, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 11, 1815, a daughter of Valentin Güngerich and Anna Nafziger. With minister Jacob Bachmann, Heinrich represented the Ste. Marie-aux-Mines congregation at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1779. On Nov. 29, 1795 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Barbe remarried to Joseph Bacher. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Becher, 39, the widower of Madeleine Guery [Göerig] and a resident of Ostheim. He was born at Le Hang, Vosges, a son of cultivator Jean Becher and Anne Neuhauser. The bride was Barbe Ginrich, 41, widow of cultivator Henry Goldschmid. She was a resident of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, born at Essingen near Landau, a daughter of Valantin Ginrich and Anne Nafziger. She was accompanied by her brother-in-law and blacksmith [Fr. *forgeron*] Jacob Goldschmid, 51. Witnesses included brother-in-law and cultivator Pierre Goldschmid, 30; cousin and cultivator Nicolas Augsbourger, 35; and brother-of-the-groom André Bacher, 30.
4. **Conrad Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt** was born June 30, 1756.
5. Elisabeth Goldschmidt was born in 1759, and may have died as an infant.
6. Joseph Goldschmidt was born March 13, 1761. He married Catherine Güngerich. She was born in 1763, and died in 1827.
7. Catherine Goldschmid was born in 1762, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 27, 1846. She married Christian Göerig/Gerig. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1761, and died there May 27, 1846.
8. Jean Goldschmidt was born in 1763, and died unmarried at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 29, 1806.
9. Pierre Goldschmidt was born June 9, 1766, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 1, 1837. He married Anne Kaufmann. She was born in 1762, a daughter of Valentin Kaufmann and Barbe Sommer.

Miller **Conrad Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt** was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 30, 1756, and died there March 8, 1818.

He married Katharina/Catherine König. She was born on the Obernimburg monastery grounds at Nimburg, Baden circa 1760, and died in 1836, a daughter of Christian König and Elisabeth Stucki/Stucky. They lived at Thanvillé, Lower Alsace; in the Tannenzapfen Mŭhle (pine cone mill) southeast of Ribeauvillé (at least 1792-1800);

perhaps at Ungersheim, Upper Alsace; and then at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines 1813-18 (Conrad's 1818 death entry said he had been a resident for the past five years).

The mill at Thanvillé was a possession of the castle at Thanvillé. Both were owned by Lieutenant-General Charles-Frédéric de Lort de Saint Victor, who was later a lieutenant-general under Napoleon. In 1786 he sold it to Jean-Félix de Dartein, an industrialist who manufactured artillery. Two years later it passed to his son.

Conrad's distinctive signature appears on a civil entry created in Upper Alsace in 1807. He is found as a 39-year-old witness (note that the age is a decade off) at the marriage of Joseph Ropp (younger brother to Andreas Ropp) and Barbe Roth, where he was described as a resident of Ungersheim. This would seem an unlikely location, but we note that his son Jacob/Jacques married at nearby Richwiller in 1824; his wife came from Baden; and his daughter Catherine was living in Baden.

When Conrad died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 8, 1818, his civil death entry described him as a 61-year-old miller, a son of deceased tailor Jacques Golschmitt and Barbe Fritz. It mistakenly stated that he was surivived by the widow 'Barbe Koenig.' It was signed by son Jacques Goltschmitt, 34, who signed his name 'Jacob Goldschmid.'

Children of Conrad Goldschmidt/Goldschmitt and Katharina/Catherine König include:

1. Catherine Goldschmitt (twin) was born at Thanvillé Dec. 19, 1785. Her Catholic birth entry at Thanvillé called her Catherine, and described her parents as miller Conrad Goldschmitt of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Catherine König from 'Nembourg' on the other side of the Rhine, '…both Anabaptists currently living in this parish.' Her father signed Cŭnrad Goldschmitt. When Catherine died Feb. 9, 1786, age 'about two months,' her civil death entry said she was buried in the garden by the mill at Thanvillé, 'in accordance with the methods of their sect.' Her father signed with winemaker Blaise Schweitzer as a witness.
2. Barbe Goldschmitt (twin) was also born at Thanvillé Dec. 19, 1785, according to her civil marriage entry, though no Catholic entry is found for her. She was a resident of Kintzheim (six miles south of Thanvillé) when she married Christian/Chrétien Roth there June 25, 1812. For background on this couple see ROTH.
3. Chrétien Goldschmitt was born at Thanvillé Nov. 23, 1786. Once again Blaise Schweitzer was a witness.
4. Catherine Goldschmitt was born at Thanvillé Nov. 16, 1788. The same information was provided, with the same witness. She married widower Christian Gautschi before 1811. He was born on Wopplinsberg farm on the north side of Emmendingen, Baden circa 1783, and died at Madison, Butler County, Ohio July 3, 1856, a son of Christian Gautschi and Maria Stritt.[231] Some of the witnesses on entries for his family include Michael Zimmerman, later a resident of Tazewell County; Benedict König, who was later a minister in Butler and Fulton Counties, Ohio; and Jacob König. Christian and Catherine lived at Emmendingen before emigrating. Catherine's name appears on documents there for the first time as a witness to the death of her sister-in-law Jacobea Gautschi in 1811. They were passengers on the *Asia* as it arrived at New York from Le Havre May 26, 1834 with Redigers, Griesers, Gundys, Gautschis, and Eyers from Baden bound for Butler County, Ohio. The *Asia* passenger list shows Chret. Gautschi, 51; Catherine, 46; Jacobine, 20; Jean, 17; Madeleine, 15; Benoit, 11; Henry, 5; and Catherine, 42. 'Christian Gauchie' is found on the 1840 census of Madison, Butler County: one male under 5 years of age; one male 10-14; three males 15-19; three males 20-24; and one male 40-49; one male 50-59; one female under 5; two females 15-19; one female 20-24; and one female 50-59. Their son Heinrich/Henry Gautsche was born on Elbischberg farm near Emmendingen July 15, 1825. In accordance with local law his birth was registered at Sankt Martinus Katholisch church at Kirchdorf, Villingen, Baden (25 miles east of Emmendingen) July 26. He was naturalized at Hamilton, Butler County Oct. 9, 1852. On Aug. 23, 1853 at Madison, Butler County he married Barbara Meyer. The ceremony was conducted by minister Nicholas Augspurger, who was married to Henry's older sister Magdalena Gautsche. The minister was also an uncle to the bride, because Barbara was a daughter of Nicholas's sister Mary Augspurger and the 'hook-and-eye' Augspurger congregation minister Joseph Meyer. She may be found on the 1850 census of Lemon, Butler County as a 16-year-old born in Ohio to farmer Joseph Myers, 35, and May, 34. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Worth, Woodford County as farmer Henry Gaugshe, 54, Ohio; Barbara, 44, Ohio; eight children born in Ohio, a 3-year-old born in Illinois, and boarder Peter Nafzinger, 75, France. Henry died at Worth June 4, 1899. *Gospel Herald*, January 1912: "Barbara Gautsche (nee Meyer) was born March 1, 1835; died Dec. 10, 1911; aged 76 y. 9 m. 9 d. She was a member of the Mennonite church from her youth. She was united in marriage with Henry Gautsche, which union was blessed with seven sons and three daughters, one son and one daughter, also her husband, preceded her to the realms beyond. She leaves to mourn her death six sons, two daughters, 25 grandchildren four having preceded her, and three great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held Dec. 13, 1911, at the Union church in Metamora, Ill., by Bros. Andrew Schrock and Val. Strubhar. Texts, *Jno. 5:24, 25*, and *Isa. 35:3-10*." Henry and Barbara are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora.
3. Jacob/Jacques Goldschmidt was born at Ribeauvillé circa 1792. On April 12, 1824 at Richwiller, Upper Alsace he married Catherine Schlatter. She was born at Richwiller Feb. 21, 1791, and died in Adams County, Indiana Sept. 3,

[231] In Bernese dialect a *Gautschi* is a money lender. The surname became Gautsche in Ohio.

1878, a daughter of Christian Schlatter and his second wife Christina Frey. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a 31-year-old cultivator living at Richwiller. It said that Jacob's father Conrad had died at Ste. Maire-aux-Mines March 8, 1818, and his mother Catherine Koenig was present and consenting; the bride's father was also present and consenting. The *Asia* passenger list names the couple as Jacq. Goldschmidt, 43; Charlotte, 43; Charlotte, 70; Joseph, 17; Charlotte, 6; and Jacques, 10. They are found on the 1840 census of Madison, Butler County as Jacob Goldsmith: one male 40-49; one female 10-14; and one female 40-49. Their daughter Catherine born June 15, 1828 married Defenseless Mennonite founder Henry Egly. The 1870 census of Hartford, Adams County shows farmer Henry Egley, 45, Baden; Katharine, 42, France; nine children born in Ohio and Indiana; Henry's father Abram, 72, Württemberg; and Jacob Goldshmidt, 79, France. Jacob died before October 1878. *Gospel Herald*, October 1878: "Sept. 3rd, in Adams Co., Ind., of the infirmities of age, Catharine Goldsmith, widow of Jacob Goldsmith, aged 87 years, 6 months and 13 days. She leaves two children, 19 grand-children, and 27 great-grandchildren."

5. Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith. According to his personal *Bible*, he was born in the pine cone mill [Ger. *Tannenzapfen Mŭhle*] near Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace March 19, 1796. We could not identify a civil record of the event, but his personal *Bible* gives details and named his parents as Konrad Goldschmidt and Katharina Koenig. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Montgomery*, arriving at Philadelphia June 18 or 19, 1819. His personal *Bible* gives the date June 19. Oddly, the best record of this voyage is a typewritten transcript page held at Le Havre. It lists him as Joseph Schmidt, 22, born at Fribourg [Freiburg, 11 miles south of his mother's birthplace at Nimburg, Baden]. This may have had something to do with the fact that Freiburg did not record the births of children to Anabaptist parents until 1830. After his arrival he remained near Philadelphia, where he met 17-year-old Elizabeth Schwartzentruber. She was born at Lich, Hesse Feb. 17, 1807, and died at Wayland, Henry County, Iowa Aug. 18, 1900, a daughter of Christian Schwartzentruber and Katharina Müller/Catherine Miller. They were married in Pennsylvania Jan. 4, 1824. That spring Joseph, his new wife, and his widowed mother-in-law migrated to Ontario. They settled on Lot 14 on the north side of Snyder's Road in the German Block of Wilmot Township, Ontario. Later that year minister and elder Johannes/ John Stoltzfus and minister Christian Konig/King of the congregation at Mill Creek, Lancaster County, visited and organized the first Wilmot congregation; they ordained Goldsmith and Johannes/John Brenneman as ministers. The Goldsmiths moved to Butler County with the Ropps and others circa 1831, farming at St. Clair and then Lemon. Joseph ministered with his uncle, Benedict König/King. On Jan. 25, 1835 the stormy meeting leading to a division into conservative 'hook-and-eye' and progressive 'button' congregations in Butler County took place at Goldsmith's farmstead, now 2605 Oxford-Middletown Road at Milford. He was ordained an elder of the Collinsville congregation in 1838. In 1840 he appeared on the census of Madison as Joseph Goldsmith. In 1847 he ran into financial difficulties, sold his Ohio land, and moved again to Lee County, Iowa, where he established the state's first Amish Mennonite congregation. His family can be found on the 1850 census of Lee County, Division 28, as Joseph Goldsmith, 50; Elizabeth, 45; and 12 children. They later lived at Wayland, Henry County, Iowa, where he died as a centenarian April 26, 1896.
6. Magdalena Goldschmidt was born at Ribeauvillé April 18, 1797. Her civil birth entry described her parents as miller Conrad Goldschmitt, 39, and Catherine Koenig, living at *Tannenzapfen Mŭhle* in the forest. Her father signed 'Conrad Goldschmitt.'
7. **Benjamin Goldschmidt** was born at Ribeauvillé Aug. 9, 1800. His civil birth entry described the location near the boundary of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. It was witnessed by Frederic Farny, 36.

Benjamin Goldschmidt was born at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace Aug. 9, 1800.

'Benj. Goldschmet, 26' is found on the passenger list of the *Nimrod* as it arrived at Philadelphia from Amsterdam Aug. 18, 1826. This was the ship that brought land claimant Christian Nafziger, 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger (later of Woodford County), Christian Steinman (who later purchased Andreas Ropp's lot at Wilmot), Peter Danner (later Donner) of McLean County), and others going to Wilmot.

Benjamin may have lived with his older brother Joseph on the north side of Snyder's Road at Wilmot. The 1830 survey map of Wilmot does not show his name, but does show Joseph Goldsmith.

In 1831 Joseph left Ontario to resettle in Butler County, Ohio. Benjamin may have accompanied him. The 1840 census of Lemon shows the household of Benjamin Goldsmith: three males 20-29; one male 30-39; two females under 5; and one female 30-39.

It is likely that Benjamin was married to Catherine in Ohio circa 1835. We could not identify her beyond the census information that she was born in Hesse-Darmstadt in 1799.

Benjamin and Catherine resettled in Tazewell County in 1843 or 1844. It is likely that they were accompanied on the journey by his cousin, Andreas/Andrew Roth, who became the first of the Roth family to move west from Ohio. KING, THE KÖNIGS OF NIMBURG shows how the Goldschmidt/Goldsmiths and the Roths were cousins, sharing Johannes König and Barbara Roth as aunt and uncle.

The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows Benj. Goldschmidt, 50, Germany; Catherine, 51, Germany; Mary, 15, Ohio; Catherine, 13, Ohio; and Daniel, 6, Illinois.[232]

The 1860 census of Washington has Benjamin Goldnutt, 60, Germany; Catharine, 60, Germany; Mary, 22, Ohio; Catharine, 21, Ohio; and Daniel, 16, Illinois (note the years taken off the ages of the daughters).

The family apparently relocated to Worth in Woodford County after the 1865 state census (they were not listed at Worth; we have have not seen the list for Washington). As improbable as it seems, they appear on the 1870 census of Worth as Michael Goldsmith, 60, ferrier [blacksmith], Wurttemberg; Margaret, 50, Wurttemberg; and farm hand Daniel, 30, Wurttemberg. We assume that only the location, the father's occupation, and the name and occupation of the son was correct.

Children of Benjamin Goldschmidt/Goldsmith and Catherine include:

1. Mary Goldsmith was born at Lemon, Ohio circa 1835. The 1870 census of Metamora shows Mary Goldsmith, 35, born in Pennsylvania, a domestic servant in the household of Samuel Powell of England. The 1880 census of Metamora shows servant Mary Goldschmidt, 34, Germany, in the household of 72-year-old Dominicque Mangin of France. She is found again on the 1900 census of Metamora as servant Mary Goldsmith, 63, born in Germany in August 1837 to German parents, a boarder in the home of John Zimmerman. Her immigration date was given as 1843 [actually the year she came to Illinois from Ohio]. She lived next door to her brother Daniel's wife Clara M. Smith and her nephew William Goldsmith.
2. Catherine Goldsmith was born at Lemon, Ohio circa 1837. She appears on the 1880 census of Metamora as Kathi Goldschmidt, 44, born in Indiana to German parents, a servant in the household of Joseph Grabill.
3. **Daniel Goldsmith** was born at Washington, Tazewell County circa 1844.

Two excerpts from *Past and Present of Woodford County, Illinois* (1878) tell the story of son **Daniel Goldsmith**:

> "The next in the vocabulary was a murder which for sometime created the most intense excitement, and the final acquittal of the prisoner seriously threatened lynch law. This was the alleged murder of Christian Shertz by Daniel Goldsmith, in 1871, and had attendant circumstances of a most distressing character.
>
> Shertz was a stepson of Mr. Joseph Shertz, an old settler of Worth Township, and a highly respected citizen. He had taken the name of his stepfather, upon assuming that relationship, and when he married, the old people set him up on a farm six miles east of Metamora, on the Panola road. [Roanoke]
>
> It was while sitting at home in the bosom of his family, spending a quiet Sunday evening, listening to the reading of the *Bible*, that a shot came through the window and killed him. It was on the 3d of December, and one of the stormiest nights of the Winter season, when the howling of the wind without and the driving of the snow against the sides of the house would stifle the sound of a a murderer's footsteps.
>
> The evidence was wholly circumstantial, but of a very strong character of that kind. Goldsmith was indicted by the Grand Jury, and the fact that he had lived with Shertz, that they had had trouble and disagreements, and Goldsmith had left him but a few days previous to the murder, coupled with other points of a strong circumstantial character, everything seemed to indicate beyond a doubt that he was the assassin.
>
> His trial lasted from Monday afternoon until about the same time on Saturday, when the jury, who had received the case at 7 o'clock on Friday evening, returned a verdict of 'Not guilty.' The counsel for the people were Smith M. Garratt, District Attorney, and Hon. W. W. O'Brien, now of Chicago. For the defense, Messrs. Burns (now Circuit Judge), Ray, Feilitzsch and Barnes, all able lawyers.
>
> As we have said, the points in the case were all circumstantial, and therefore left room for doubt. The assassin of Christian Shertz may never be positively known until the last day, when all things shall be revealed.
>
> The following extract from the *Woodford Sentinel* shows the prevailing sentiment at the result of the trial: "We are now, and always have been, opposed to mob violence of any character whatever, and we trust we may never be compelled to chronicle a case in Woodford County, but if we are to have such farces enacted as the last two murder trials spoken of, we want to ask, where are the people going to get justice, and how?"

> "In the Winter of 1870-71, occurred, in the western part of the township, a horrible murder. Mr. Christian Schertz, while sitting by his fireside and playing with his children, was most brutally murdered, by a shot from without, by some unknown person.

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[232] On the census page the Goldschmidt family is one house removed from Michael Zimmerman, 70. Michael's connection to Benjamin is problematic. He was a brother to Verena Zimmerman (the wife of Nicolaus Roth and mother to Andreas/Andrew Roth). Nicolaus Roth was a brother to Barbara Roth (who married Johannes/Hans König). Johannes/Hans König was a brother to Katharina/Catherine König, Benjamin's mother.

> Certain suspicious circumstances led to the arrest of Daniel Goldsmith, a resident of the western part of the county. It appeared in evidence, that he had been out hunting the day before; that one barrel of his gun had been discharged; and that the ball found in Mr. Shertz's body corresponded to those used by Goldsmith.
>
> The evidence, though considered by many as convincing, failed to convict, and he was set at liberty."

For more on murder victim Christian Schertz see SCHERTZ, THE SCHERTZ FAMILY OF OBERSTINZEL.

The 1880 census of Metamora shows Benjamin as Benn. Goldschmidt, 79, "worked at farm," France; and (lined out, marked 'died') Katharine, 81. The *Woodford County Mortality Book* notes that 81-year-old native of Germany Katharine Goldschmidt died from inflammation of the bowels at Metamora in August 1880. She was thought to be a resident of the county for 47 years, but this probably should have been 37, expressing an arrival in 1843. She is buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora, where the half-sunken headstone says, "Catherine, wife of B. Goldsmith." Benjamin may also be buried there.

The same census shows them next door to son Daniel. He had married Clara M. Smith in Peoria County July 3, 1877. They appear as farmer Daniel Goldschmidt, 35, Illinois, parents from France and Hesse-Darmstadt; Clara M., 20, Illinois, parents from Ohio and Vermont; William, 2, Illinois; and Minnie J., 3 months, Illinois.

The 1900 census of Metamora shows **William [Louis] Goldsmith**, 22, born in Illinois in March 1878 to parents from Illinois; his occupation seems to say 'compliment clerk,' but is overwritten and illegible. He lived with his mother Clary [Clara Smith], 38, born in Illinois in December 1861 to parents from Ohio, married 23 years.

At the same time Daniel was living in Iowa. The 1900 census of Hardin, Iowa shows teamster Daniel Goldsmith, 55, born in Illinois to German parents December 1844, as the father-in-law in the home of John Heirmeier, born in Illinois in June 1869, and Minnie [Goldsmith], 20, born in Illinois in March 1880, and their three children (birth places indicate they moved from Illinois to Iowa between 1897 and 1900). Looking back at the 1880 census of Metamora we find Johny Hermeier, 12, living only two households removed from the Goldschmidts.

The 1910 census of Panola has Daniel Goldsmith, 66, born in Illinois to parents from France and Germany. He was described as a divorced railroad laborer. The 1920 census of Limestone, Peoria shows Daniel Goldsmith, 76, born in Illinois to parents from France and Hesse. He was described as an inmate at the Peoria County Home.

The Sept. 12, 1918 draft registration of William Louis Goldsmith, 40, gave his birth date as March 16, 1878. He was described as a married traffic clerk living at Peru, LaSalle County. His physical characteristics included gray eyes and black hair.

The *Metamora Herald* obituary for William Louis Goldsmith says he was born March 16, 1878, and died Aug. 12, 1937. He is buried near his mother Clara in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora. The birth year 1878 is found on his headstone, but the year of death was never inscribed. He may have been the last of his family in the area.

Rediger: Reütiger of Boltigen

In 1239 Wilhelm von Röitingen or Rötingen was the owner of land less than two miles from the western shore of Lake Thun. It was also called Rötingen, and some sources acknowledge Rötinger as an early form of Reűtiger. By the beginning of the Middle Ages it belonged to the Strättligen family, a noble house of the Holy Roman Empire. In 1308 it was purchased by the wealthy Burgisteins. When the last male member of that family died in 1397 it passed through the hands of a number of claimants.

Adrian von Bubenberg (the elder) (circa 1434-1479) was a knight, military commander, and mayor of the city of Bern. Among his father's titles was Lord of Spiez (now a town and municipality bordering Reutigen), and this may have been how the lands came into his family. In 1486 his son Adrian von Bubenberg (the younger) sold the larger part of the village of Reűtigen to the city of Bern. In 1494 the lesser part was sold by the Schűtz family.

Before 1803 a Reűtiger (the German 'g' pronounced as a 'k') or Reűtinger described someone who lived in or had come from Reűtigen, the village there. After the *Act of Mediation* of 1803 the pronunciation mark in the village name changed to Reŭtigen.[233] Pronunciation marks were dropped in modern times to conform to the requirements of the Swiss postal system.

REUTIGEN

St. Mary's Chapel [Ger. *Mariankapelle*] was first documented in 1339, but it is thought that its first structure and ossuary dated from the 1100s. Like the church at Wimmis, it was initially administered by the bishop of Lausanne. In the Middle Ages it was a pilgrimage site.

The church goods and treasury were sold in 1480. The present communion table dates from 1660, and the pulpit from 1671. In 1747 the church became the seat of a parish that included adjacent Niederstocken and Oberstocken. The structure was restored in 1986.

The present municipality is made up of Reutingen, Allmi, and Hani.

Though many Protestant Reformed records in Canton Bern go back to 1528, the year the denomination was established by the Council of Bern, records at Reutigen have only been preserved since 1698. The first *Tauferrodel* (birth register) and *Eherodel* (marriage register) spell the name of the village as 'Reűtigen.' After 1698 there were no Reűtiger families living there.

This has left family historians in confusion. We recently corresponded with one who flatly refused to believe the Redigers could have come from Reűtiger at all. Another bent over backwards with a theory that there must be more to the Redigers, and proposes to graft them to another family – one with an older historical record and more significant Amish Mennonite descendants. Yet another was conflicted because his ancestors did not control all of the changes to their surname. Most Amish Mennonites in Europe were barely literate. They accepted what was written for them by ministers or municipal clerks. But this was true of many of the forebearers of families that came to Tazewell and Woodford counties

And despite all this, our family of interest was found nearby in the mid-to-late 1500s.

Imagine yourself in that century. On the southeast corner of Reűtigen the Simme River flowed into the Kander River. Walk along a wagon path back upstream along the Simme River for about a day. You would pass over 14 miles, rising 630 feet, before coming to Boltigen. It would be the first village you would come to that was outside the Niedersimmental church district. It would place you in the Obersimmental church district (now called the Obersimmental-Saanen administrative district) on the outer boundary of Canton Bern.

Reűtigers were found both at Boltigen and in the next village upstream, Zweisimmen. This village was also associated with the Janzi/Jantzi family (see JANTZI).

ZWEISIMMEN

The earliest mentions we could find of the surname Reűtiger in the Obersimmental region were two marriages at Zweisimmen.

From Reűtigen, Zweisimmen would have been a 21-mile walk rising 872 feet. The village lies on a valley floor, at an altitude of about 3,100 feet.

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[233] The *Act of Mediation* was brokered by First Consul Napoleon Bonaparte. He called representatives of the cantons to Paris, where they agreed on a framework to ensure political stability. The Helvetic Republic was abolished, and the Swiss Confederation was established (lasting until 1815). Six new cantons were added to the 13 older ones. The new boundaries were announced Feb. 19, 1803.

The earliest mention of the village is found on a Latin document from 1228 calling it *Duessimenes*. Many places in Zweisimmen are mentioned in documents from the 13th and 14th centuries.

St. Mary's Church was first constructed in the early Middle Ages. It was sponsored by a cloister at Interlaken. Its murals and painted or stained glass windows date from the 13th through 15th centuries. Records have been preserved there since 1556.

Zweisimmen is now a village and a municipality in the Obersimmental-Saanen adminisrative district. The 28-square mile municipality also encompasses Betelried, Grubenwald, Mannried, Mosenried, Oescheite, and Reichenstein. Betelried was the site of Blankenburg Castle, a manor house that was the seat of an administrator from the city of Bern 1386-1798. It is now known as the starting point of the Montreux-Bernese Oberland rail line leading to Montreux on Lake Geneva. The line follows over the old path of a trade route that ran from Thun to Montreux, created in the 1750s.

The present population is about 2,900.

Protestant Reformed Church marriage entries included only the date, the names of the bride and groom, and occasionally the village of one of the two when they were from out of town. At Zweisimmen in 1556 (the first year that records were preserved there) Peter Reűtiger married Dorothea Blauer. On March 27, 1566 Petter Reűtiger married Verena Rorbach. These appear to have been two marriages for the same groom.

Zweisimmen baptism entries were occasionally illegible because of poor handwriting. The *Taufrodel* register for 1556-1578 has an index at the back; it was written in a clean and legible hand. It lists the children of Peter Reűtiger under the heading *Reŭtiger v. Reŭtingen* [Reutiger from Reutigen], the pronunciation marks suggesting it was added after 1803. Some of the entries listed there are misidentifications because of the poor handwriting.

Entries for the children of Peter Reűtiger baptized at Zweisimmen do not identify the mother. Presumably these children were born to first wife Dorothea Blauer:

1. An unnamed child, identified simply as N., was baptized Nov. 14, 1557. This infant must have died without a christening.
2. Peter Reűtiger was baptized July 26, 1562. His father was identified as Peter Röűtiger.
3. Margredt Reűtiger was baptized June 24, 1565, possibly to a first wife Dorothea Blauer. She may have died before Feb. 7, 1567.

Presumably this child was born to Peter's second wife Verena Rorbach:

4. Margret Reűtiger was baptized Feb. 7, 1567.

Many more Reűtiger entries were found at adjacent Boltigen. Once our family of interest was properly identified there, we found that 'Reűtiger' was the spelling uniformly employed on birth, marriage, and death register entries by Protestant Reformed ministers.

BOLTIGEN

St. Mauritius Evangelisch Reformierte Kirche is mentioned as early as 1228 (see YODER for background on this martyred saint). The community surrounding it was mentioned as early as 1276.

The church with painted glass windows was destroyed by a fire in 1840, causing the loss of four register books. It was rebuilt within two years.

At present Boltigen is a name for a village and its encompassing municipality. The municipality also includes the hamlets Adlemsried, Beret, Dubenthal, Eschegg, Eschi, Garstatt, Oberbäuert (which includes Littisbach and Unterbächen), Reidenbach, Schwarzenmatt, Simmenegg, Weissenbach, and Zimmerboden. The present population is about 1,400.

Many Boltigen church records have been preserved since 1553. However, the four register books that were destroyed in the 1840 fire included *Taufrodel 1627-1709* (baptisms), *Eherodel 1627-1661* (marriages), *Eherodel 1752-1814* (marriages), and *Totenrodel 1627-1682* (deaths). The importance of the baptism documentation gap – 82 years – will become obvious. For instance, without those intervening entries, we cannot gauge the effects of the plague years 1628-29.

We found very little to convince us that there was ever a large family there - just enough in the 1500s to demonstrate a presence. Knowing only scanty details, we can only speculate that the first four Reűtigers at Boltigen were there before 1574.

To estimate their birth years, we backtracked from their marriages (this assumes that each was in a first marriage). At their marriages Swiss males were generally at least 21 years of age, and females were generally at least 18 years of age, though there were exceptions.

— **Peter Reűtiger** was born before 1555.

— Benedicta Reűtiger was born before 1557. On Jan. 3, 1575 at Boltigen she married Bendicht Gobeli (also found as Gobelet). She may be the same person who married Michel Zaler at adjacent Zweisimmen June 6, 1586.
— Anna Reűtiger was born before 1557. On April 3, 1575 at Boltigen she married Hans Lorentz Knöri. She may also have been the Anna Reűttiger who married Hans Kŭntz at Boltigen in 1593.
— Hans Reűtiger was born before 1565. On June 25, 1585 at Boltigen he married Christina Arnold. The entry called him Hans Reűttinger. He may have been the 'Hans Reűtiger *Maŭrer*' [bricklayer or stone mason] who died at Boltigen in 1616.

The first Boltigen marriage entries date from 1556. The first Reűtiger marriage entry dates from 1574. This suggests that either all four on our list were born before 1556 and the deaths of their parents were recorded elsewhere, or they arrived in the 18-year interim between 1556 and 1574.

We have never seen a Swiss genealogy that considers one possibility. But it should at least be mentioned.

SWISS COMPULSORY SOCIAL WELFARE MEASURES

From its inception in 1528 the Protestant Reformed Church acted as an instrument of government to enforce social norms. They had the responsibility of inquiring about poor families and the children of unmarried parents. If they felt it necessary, they would forcibly remove children from their parents. But there were not enough orphanages to support them all. In effect, the church became kidnappers in the business of providing indentured child servants and laborers.

Before 1820 this system was regarded as a function of government and a fact of life. After 1820 about 10,000 'discarded children' [Ger. *Verdingkinder*] were annually placed as laborers on farms, or simply auctioned at public sites. Subsistence and agriculture were given priority over other considerations such as happiness and education. Potential foster parents were not asked about living conditions; they had only to show that they needed farm labor.

This persisted into the 1930s, when it was estimated that 20 percent of Canton Bern's farm laborers were under the age of 15. The practice dwindled in the 1960s, and was finally prohibited with a reform of child labor laws in 1978.

In 2013 the Swiss government issued a formal apology to all past victims of abuse in the system.

One can imagine four young adults who had come of age to be released from indenture. In the high pastures of the Obersimmental region they could find summer work that would not require specific skills. They may already have been familiar with shepherding and stock raising.

SEASONAL PASTURES IN THE OBERSIMMENTAL

The Black Death, an epidemic of bubonic plague peaking between 1347 and 1351, radically altered the economy around Lake Thun. The high mortality rates made it impossible to work the larger farms.

At the time most herds were mainly sheep, with a smaller number of cattle. The new business model became a seasonal cycle: sheltering the herds in the low valleys during winters, and taking them to graze in high pastures in summer. A number of cows and goats were left behind to provide dairy products for those at home.

The farmers formed cooperative groups to drive the herds to traditional locations. There they were generally tended by young, single men. This system became important later when *burgers* from the city of Bern purchased many of the pastures at lower levels.

While the high pastures remained unchanged, this system substantially affected the lowlands. Paths repeatedly beaten into the ground by driven cattle later became roads. An abundance of dairy products supported the families, but depleted the forests. Their wood fed home fires burning around the clock to boil water for cheese-making.

Peter Reűtiger was born before 1555.

On June 8, 1574 at Boltigen he married Maria Jaussi. They lived at Littisbach (often found as Liddisbach), a hamlet within Boltigen. Littisbach is three miles south of the village center, on a road called Cheerimatte.

Surprisingly, the relative sparseness of Reűtiger birth entries was a help in defining the lineage. The family apparently bottle-necked to such a point that only one couple was having children baptized at Boltigen between 1600 and 1627. And even this couple had married in another community.

Hanns Reűtiger (#1) was born circa 1575-1583, and died at Weissenbach in Boltigen April 10, 1747. He was not baptized at Zweisimmen; Boltigen is likely. On Jan. 5, 1605 at Zweisimmen he married Elsbeth Schneider. The entry describes them as Hans Roűtiger and Elsbet Schnÿder.

Their children baptized at Boltigen include:

1. Elsÿ Reűtiger was baptized Dec. 21, 1606. Witnesses included Ŭlli Stalder of Littisbach, Anna Stocker, and Margret Joŭner.
2. **Hans Reűtiger** (#2) was baptized Jan. 16, 1614. Witnesses included Peter Tschabol, Peter Műller, and Anna Eggi. Despite a variety of spelling variations at Boltigen, the name of the first witness was traditionally 'Tschabold'.
3. Margreth Reűtiger was baptized Feb. 12, 1615. Witnesses included Jacob Joneli of Littisbach, Salome Simon, and Margreth Dűller,

4. Peter Reűtiger was baptized Sept. 29, 1616. Witnesses included Hans Stocker, Peter Bergman, and Ursula Sallig. On Dec. 27, 1688 at Boltigen a death entry was made for Madlena Sŭlliger. She was described as the 74-year-old wife of Peter Reűtiger, from Weissenbach, thus she was born circa 1614. Four of their children are mentioned in Otto Spangenberger's *Schweizer Einwanderer in Wachenheim an der Weinstrasse* (1959). They include:
    a. Peter Reűtige/Rettyger was born at Littisbach in Boltigen in 1638, and died at Wachenheim im Speyer in 1690. Circa 1661 he went to Wachenheim im Speyer (now called Wachenheim an der Weinstrasse, 16 miles west of Mannheim and 22 miles northwest of Speyer), where he signed his own name Peter Rettyger. Circa 1675 he married Ann Renfer of Wachenheim, who was 20 years younger. He became a church elder (the church at Wachenheim held services for both Catholics and Protestants 1707-1789). The village was destroyed when King Louis XIV of France decided his armies should cross the Rhine River in September of 1688, in what became the Nine Years War (1688-1697). Peter died in 1690. In 1700 his widow Ann remarried to Peter Herzog, who was also Swiss. We know the names of his siblings living at Littisbach because he loaned them money. He paid a messenger to go to Littisbach and visit Michel, Christen, and Elsbeth. His descendants spell their surname Rettinger.
    b. Michel Reűtiger. He may have been the Michel Reűtiger who married Madle Tschabol at Boltigen Nov. 12, 1675. Madle was likely the 'wife of Michel Reűtiger' who died at Littisbach in 1705.
    c. Christen Reűtiger may have been born circa 1752. He may have been the Christen Reűtiger who married Anna Knöri at Boltigen Dec. 13, 1672. And this was likely the Christen Reűtiger who died at Boltigen April 10, 1712, age 60, thus born circa 1652.
    d. Elsbeth Reűtiger. She may have been the Elsbeth Reűtiger who married Michael Reidenbach at Boltigen Nov. 3, 1682.
5. Jacob Reűtiger was baptized Feb. 19, 1624. Witnesses included Jacob Danner *Predicante* [minister], Michel Műller, and Anna Leunbg. [Leuenberger].

And here it is tempting to say that a generation remains unidentified because of the baptism entry gap 1627-1709. But we can speculate. Either Jacob (1624) or Hans (1614) could have been the father of the next generation. But we would be remiss if we did not point out the prevalence of the name Hans over the next three generations

Thus it appears we should look at **Hans Reűtiger** (#2), who was baptized at Boltigen Jan. 16, 1614.

Hans Reűtiger (#3) was likely born in or before 1655 (drawing on the age of his bride), and no later than 1662 (drawing on his marriage date). On Oct. 20, 1682 at Boltigen he married Salome Tschabol.[234] Salome may have died at Rŭhren in Boltigen Feb. 23, 1705; the death register reported the death of Han Reűtiger's wife at Rŭr, age 50. She would have been born circa 1755.

Son **Hans Reűtiger** (#4) was born before 1691, and died at Boltigen May 28, 1750.

On May 30, 1713 he married Barbara Andrist in a one-room Protestant Reformed church at Abländschen (eight miles southwest of Boltigen). Their entry described them as Hans Reutiger *von Boltig* and Barbara Andrist *von St. Steffan*. Barbara Andrist was baptized at Sankt Stephan Feb. 7, 1689, and died at Rŭhren in Boltigen May 10, 1736, a daughter of Sebastian Andrist and Benedicta Jaggi.[235]

Abländschen was a little-traveled location that may have been chosen because the bride was six-months pregnant.

Heading south and traveling farther along the Simme River, upstream from Boltigen, one comes to Zweisimmen and then Sankt Stephan, a distance of 10 miles.

SANKT STEPHAN

Until recently there was no village center called Sankt Stephan. It is a municipality of 23 square miles encompassing the cooperative farming hamlets Fermel, Grodey, Hausern, Matten, Obersteg, Ried, and Hähligen in the administrative district of Simmenthal-Saanen, Canton Bern.

It is probable that the first church was constructed in the 1200. In 1335 it was occupied by an order from the abbey at Interlaken dedicated to the first-century Christian martyr St. Stephan. This was the same organization that was associated with Steffisburg on Lake Thun, which was once called Sankt Stephansburg.

The congregation converted from Catholicism to the Protestant Reformed Church after a mandate from the Council of Bern in 1528.

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[234] There were other events at Boltigen in this time frame. On May 2, 1684 Hans Moser married Catharina Reűtiger. On Feb. 20, 1691 Hans Reűtiger married Agatha Kŭfner, and Hans Ägerter married Barbara Reűtiger in a double ceremony. On March 19, 1697 Peter Reűtiger married Margreth Bergman. On Oct. 20, 1699 Hans Reűtiger married Anna Hiltbrand. On June 22, 1703 Christen Reűtiger married Catarina Batscher. And on Jan. 28, 1707 Michel Reűtiger married Elsbet Sŭlliger, and Hans Hiltbrant married Elsbet Reűtiger in a double ceremony. On Oct. 13, 1713 Andreas Zeller married Elsbeth Reűtiger. On Nov. 19, 1717 Hans Reűtiger married Elsbeth Zwahlen. On Oct. 15, 1720 Christen Reűtiger married Maria Bettler. And on Jan. 12, 1683 at adjacent Zweisimmen Jacob Reűtiger married Salome Schwizgebel.

[235] Sebastian Andrist and Benedicta Jaggi were married at Sankt Stephan Oct. 26, 1671.

Place of birth was often determined by the desire of the mother to deliver in the home of her childhood, or the location of a trusted midwife. A family gathering and celebration supper took place the following evening, when the mother's energy was presumably restored. The location of a church for the baptism ceremonies depended not upon the place of birth, but most often was the location where the parents resided and paid taxes.

Hans and Barbara had four children baptized at Sankt Stephan 1711-23. The entries specified that the father was from Boltigen. During this time frame another couple Jacob Reűtiger from Boltigen and Benedicta Grűnenwaldt were also having children baptized there.[236]

Hans and Barbara then had four children baptized at Boltigen 1724-32. During this time frame another couple Michel Reűtiger and Elsbeth Sŭlliger were also having children baptized there.[237]

At Boltigen baptism entries have margin notes saying that Hans and Barbara were living in the area Rŭren or Rŭhren, six miles southwest of the village center.

A number of sources say that Hans Reűtiger (#2) married Barbara Jaggi. Confusion is understandable, because his mother-in-law was Barbara Jaggi. And as we will see, after the death of Barbara Andrist he had an illegitimate child with another Barbara Jaggi.

In what follows it is important to remember that it was not unusual for one Reűtiger individual to be found under four or five different spellings, since many in early times were illiterate and depended on a minister or clerk. Reűtiger is the original surname; Reŭtiger appears in Baden; Reŭthinger at Strasbourg; Reidiger evolved in Baden to reflect the spelling and sounds already found there; and Rediger shows French influence. American family historians in the pre-computer era tended to emphasize forms that did not have pronunciation marks, by necessity, because they were restricted by the typefaces that were available to them. To a degree this may have distorted the general perception of the prevalence of the forms. We have given what was found most often, even when this is inconsistent within sets of siblings.

Children of Hans Reűtiger (#4) and Barbara Andrist include:

1. Hans Reűtiger/Johannes Reŭtiger was baptized at Sankt Stephan Aug. 30, 1711, and died after 1763. Baptism witnesses included Hans Linder, Hans Tritten, and Anna Sŭlliger. Although we do not know the years, we know he was confirmed at Calwe, Baden-Durlach, along with his brother Barthlome.[238] This is mentioned in the 1754 confirmation entry of their stepbrother Hans at Calw (transcribed in a Boltigen register). An entry created at Boltigen under the date April 15, 1746 says that Johannes Reŭtiger, Hans's son from Rŭhren, had married Susanna Catharina Spinler [Spindler], a daughter of Johann Carl Spinler [Spindler]. The event happened in Baden-Durlach and the minister there had sent a report. Hans/Johannes and Barthlome were both silver miners at Neubulach in the parish of Calw in 1754. Recall from BERNESE ANABAPTISTS that besides lead and silver, silver mines also become sources of copper, arsenic, and cobalt (crushed to powder and kilned, it yields the azure blue found on European ceramics). Neubulach is six miles southwest of the parish center at Calw, and six miles northwest of Wildberg. They later resided at Bauschlott (above Pforzheim, since 1974 part of Neulingen), where he was still described as a miner [Ger. *Bergmann*]. We know that a Protestant minister baptized his children; correspondence was sent to the

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[236] Children of Jacob Reűtiger *von Boltigen* and Benedicta Grűnenwaldt baptized at Sankt Stephan include:

1. Margreth was baptized June 17, 1723; her parents were described as Jacob Reűttinger *von Boltigen* and Benedicta Grűnenwald. Witnesses included Barthlome im Obersteg, Margreth Grűnenwald, and Susanna Kof [illegible, possibly Klopfenstein].
2. Peter was baptized Dec. 21, 1724. His parents were described as Jacob Reűtiger *von Boltigen* and Benedicta Grűnenwaldt. Witnesses included Peter Grűnenwaldt, Christen Klopffenstein, and Barbara Ägerter.
3. Michel was baptized Feb. 23, 1723. His parents were described as Jacob Reűtiger *von Boltigen* and Benedicta Grűnnenwaldt. Witnesses included Michel Spyr, Christen Grűnenwaldt, and Anna Kŭnzli, Peter Obersteg's wife.

[237] Children of Michel Reűtiger and Elsbeth Sŭlliger baptized at Boltigen include:

1. Elsbeth was baptized July 7, 1720. Witnesses included Peter Reűtiger of Oberbäuert, Elsbeth Zwahlen of Weissenbach, and Madle Shennberg of Au [meadow]. She was confirmed at Boltigen om Easter Day of 1736.
2. Hans was baptized Dec. 3, 1724. Witnesses included Steffen Tschabol of Weissenbach, Hans Műhlenen of Ried, and Anna Bűhler of Weissenbach. He died before Oct. 4, 1726.
3. Hans was baptized Oct. 4, 1726. The entry gave the address of the parents as Liddisbach [now Littisbach]. Baptism witnesses include Steffen Tschabol of Weissenbach, Hans Műhlenen of Bűhl, and Anna Bűhler of Weissenbach. He was confirmed at Boltigen on Easter Day of 1742.
4. Anna was baptized May 5, 1730. The entry again gave the address of the parents as Liddisbach. Witnesses included Uli Lŭts, Anna Bŭhler, and Elsbet Traűbhard.

[238] Calw was originally spelled Kalp, but occasionally found written as Kalb. In present day one neighborhood of Calw is called Spindlershof. Calw is best known as the former home of writer Hermann Hesse (1877-1962).

Protestant Reformed minister at Boltigen. Susanna Catharina's death was recorded in *Evangelische* records at Bauschlott June 14, 1786. She was 65, thus born circa 1721. Children of Hans Reŭtiger/Johannes Reŭtiger and Susanna Catharina Spindler were born and baptized in Baden-Durlach, but the baptisms were also transcribed from correspondence into the registers at Boltigen.

a. Johannes Reŭtiger/Reŭtiger was baptized at Sulzburg, Baden-Durlach (adjacent to Buggingen) April 6, 1749, according to an entry at Boltigen. The entry described his parents as Johannes Reutiger, Hans of Rŭhren's son, and Susanna Catharina Spindlerin. He also farmed at Bauschlott, where he married twice and fathered at least 10 children. The events are recorded in *Evangelische* records at Bauschlott. On Sept. 9, 1779 he married Maria Magdalena Hofsäss. She was born Nov. 11, 1744, and died at Bauschlott Nov. 12, 1788, a daughter of Georg Adam Hofsäss and Anna Barbara Bittighofer. She had Catherine (1777), Johann Michael (1779), Johann Friedrich (1782), Andreas (1785), Johann Jacob (1787), and Rosine (1788). On April 5, 1791 at Bauschlott Johannes remarried to Catharina Thom. She was born there Nov. 15, 1769, and died there in March 1832, a daughter of Johann Jacob Thom and Elisabetha Salome Steinler. She had Catharina Christine (1791), Carolina Elisabeth (1793), Christophe (1798), and Elisabeth Augusta (1803). In 1974 Bauschlott was combined with two other villages to form Neulingen.

b. Sebastian Reŭtiger was baptized in Baden-Durlach Jan. 12, 1752, according to an entry at Boltigen. His parents were described as Johannes Reŭtiger, a son of Hans of Rŭhren, and Catharina Spindler. One witness was Susanna Barbara Spindlerin of Wildberg (30 miles south of Bauschlott, six miles south of Neubulach).

c. Johann Christoph Reŭtiger was baptized in Baden-Durlach May 7, 1754, according to an entry at Boltigen. Two witnesses were Susanna Barbara and her husband Barthlome Reŭtiger; they were described as a son of Hans and his wife.

d. Freiderich Johan Reŭtiger was baptized in Baden-Durlach Dec. 6, 1756, according to an entry at Boltigen. One witness was Susanna Barbara, wife of Bartholomai Röttinger.

e. Michael Reŭtiger was baptized in Baden-Durlach Oct. 1, 1763, according to an entry at Boltigen.

2. **Sebastian Reŭtiger** was baptized at Sankt Stephan April 4, 1717. His parents were described as Hans Reŭtiger *von Boltigen* and Barbara Andrist. Witnesses included Jacob Janz, Peter Janz, and Magdalena Stŭcki. A separate entry for someone else was forced into the righthand margin on July 25; it runs midway from the entry above Sebastian's to the second line of the entry below his.
3. Barbara Reŭtiger was baptized at Sankt Stephan July 30, 1719.
4. Peter Reŭtiger was baptized at Sankt Stephan Aug. 1, 1723, and died before June 2, 1732. On his baptism entry his parents were identified as Jahans Reŭtiger *von Boltigen* and Barbara Andrist.
5. Barthlome Reŭtiger/Reŭtiger was baptized at Boltigen Dec. 10, 1724. Witnesses included Michael Bergmann junior, Jakob Treŭthardt, and Anna Junggen. The French Barthélemy and the Latin Bartholomaeus are equivalent, derived from the name of a martyred saint. His older brother Sebastian was confirmed at age 17; Barthlome was not confirmed at Boltigen, suggesting he had departed before Easter Day of 1742. Although we do not know the years, we know he was confirmed at Calw, Baden-Durlach, the same place as his brother Johannes/Hans and stepbrother Hans. This is mentioned in the 1754 communion entry of stepbrother Hans. On July 4, 1752 at Gerlingen, Baden-Durlach (on the west side of Stuttgart) he married Susanna Barbara Spindler. We have not viewed the *Evangelische* marriage entry, which apparently called him Bartholomaeus Rothiger. The father of the groom was identified as Johann Rothiger; the father of the bride was Jerg Spindler. Note the surname Spindler – the same as the spouse of older brother Hans. The 1754 confirmation entry of stepbrother Hans indicated that at that time Hans/Johannes and Barthlome were working as miners in the silver mine at Neubulach, six miles southwest of Calw. But Barthlome and Susanna Barbara may already have been living at Daubensand, Lower Alsace (75 miles southwest of Neubulach).[239] This tiny village is eight miles southwest of Ichenheim on the opposite side of the Rhine River, 20 miles south of Strasbourg. Susanna Barbara Spindler died at Ulm Dec. 13, 1758; her husband was described on the Catholic entry as Bartholomaei Reidinger. On March 6, 1760 at Nonnenweier, Baden-Durlach (in 1971/72 it became part of Schwanau, across the Rhine River from Daubensand) he remarried to Catharina Mönch. That entry called him Bartholomaey Reidiger. He was described as a native of Switzerland. His surname was written in the Old German style so that the vowel 'e' looks like 'n.' The bride was born at Sondhausen, Zwalzland [Sundhausen], and her father was Martin Mönch. Like his older brother Hans, we know that a Protestant minister baptized his children; correspondence was sent to the Protestant Reformed minister at Boltigen. According to Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Barthlome "...is supposed to have gone to Hanover in 1786," when he would have been about 62 years of age. Perhaps he went to live in the home of his youngest son Michael or a daughter we have not identified. This would have been a significant hardship in that era - Hanover is 360 miles north of Daubensand. It seems unlikely. A son and grandchildren of Barthlome were living at Strasbourg at the same time as two sons and grandchildren of Sebastian. The only commonality we found was that they 'Gallicized' their surname by signing it Reŭthiger (perhaps at the prompting of a civil clerk). Despite many civil entries for family births, deaths, and marriages, there is no common name found among witnesses. Children of Barthlome Reŭtiger and his first wife

[239] Unfortunately, Protestant birth records for Daubensand discontinued after June 1754, and did not resume again until 1788.

Susanna Barbara Spindler were born and baptized in Baden, but the baptisms were also recorded at Boltigen. They include:

a Christophe Friederich Reűdiger was baptized at Daubensand Sept. 27, 1754, according to an entry at Boltigen, and died at Strasbourg Dec. 24, 1813. His baptism entry at Boltigen described his parents as Bartholomaeu Reűdiger of Boltigen, son of Hans of Rŭhren, and Susanna Barbara Sprindlerin. He married Anne Marie Müller. They were found at Strasbourg, while searching civil records for Sebastian's sons Joseph and Benjamin. The families were recorded under varied spellings, but most commonly as 'Reuthiger.' When Christophe died at Strasbourg on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 1813, his civil death entry called him Christophe Reuthiger. He was a 59-year-old, thus born circa 1754. He was described as the husband of Anne Marie Müller, and had died in their home at No. 26 Rue de Soleil. His parents were described as the deceased cultivator Barthélemy Reuthiger and an unidentified deceased mother. His birthplace was given as 'Dubesand, Helvetie.' He had died of *nerveuse* - also called *nervenfieber*, or typhoid fever. Coincidence or not, three days before his death the Austrian army had crossed the Rhine River from Baden to commence the invasion of France that would culminate in the capture of Paris. Anne Marie Müller died at Strasbourg less than three weeks after her husband, on Jan. 12, 1814. Her civil death entry said she was 48 (thus born circa 1766), born at Blaesheim, Lower Alsace (10 miles southwest of Strasbourg) to unidentified parents. She had died of typhus in the civil hospital.

1) Marie Salomé Reidiger was born at Lingolsheim, Lower Alsace Feb. 21, 1787. She was the mother of illegitimate twins born at Strasbourg Aug. 3, 1808. Charles Joseph Reuthiger died at 22 days of age Aug. 25. The civil death entry described his mother as Marie Salome Reuthiger, living at *Rue de l'Abreuvoir No. 34*. Jacques Théodore Reuthiger died Aug. 29. On Dec. 14, 1814 at Strasbourg she married Laurent Ori. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as Laurent Ori, born at Orbé [Orbey], Upper Alsace June 13, 1764, a resident of Strasbourg. He was the widower of Catherine Miny, who had died at Strasbourg May 21, 1814, and a son of Laurent Ori of Orbé. The bride Marie Salomé Reidiger was born at Lingolsheim, Lower Alsace Feb. 21, 1787, a daughter of the deceased tailor Frédèric Christophe Reidiger and the deceased Anne Marie Müller. Laurent died at Strasbourg June 20, 1831. On July 12, 1832 at Strasbourg Marie remarried to Jean George Schuster.
2) Barbe Reideriger (as she was found on her civil marriage entry) was born at Strasbourg June 28, 1788. On Jan. 2, 1811 at Strasbourg she became the mother of Jean Sebastien Reitiger. On the civil birth entry witnesses by the midwife the mother was described as Marguerite Barbe Reitiger, 23, a local resident who was the daughter of Frederic Christophe Reitiger and Anne Marie Műller living at Rue de Soleil 97. On March 23, 1812 at Strasbourg she married Jean Sebastian Henry. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a blacksmith born at Bistroff, Moselle Feb. 12, 1786, a son of day laborer Sebastian Henry and the deceased Marguerite Klein. She was described as a daughter of tailor Christophe Frédéric Reideriger and Anne Marie Müller, who were present and consenting. One witness was day laborer Ignace Zerr, 35 [he was married to her cousin]. It was stated that neither the bride nor her parents could sign, indicating that they were illiterate.
3) Charles Reidiger was born at Strasbourg March 30, 1795. His civil birth entry said his father was a day laborer living by *la porte de la Fedération*. He died at Strasbourg Jan. 14, 1799. That entry gave his father's age as 45.
4) Jean Reidiger was born at Strasbourg Oct. 18, 1797. His civil birth entry said Christophe was a day laborer living *en la Citadelle No. 2*.[240] He died at Strasbourg Oct. 29, 1797. That entry gave his father's age as 47.
5) Marie Catherine Reidiger was born at Strasbourg July 9, 1802. Her civil birth entry also said Christophe was a day laborer living by *la Citadele No. 2*.

b. Johannes Reŭtiger was baptized at Gűttingen, Wűrttemberg [Gottenheim, Baden-Durlach, eight miles northwest of Freiburg im Breisgau?] Dec. 18, 1756, according to an entry at Boltigen. He died at Kehl, Baden March 22, 1847. He farmed at Offenburg eight miles east of the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim. He married Anne Barbe Müller. She was born at Lingolsheim, Lower Alsace Dec. 17, 1753, and died at Pfaffenhofen, Lower Alsace (five miles southwest of Strasbourg) July 24, 1818, a daughter of Jacques Müller and Catherine Stoltzler. Her death entry was signed by her husband, described as tailor Jean Reitiger, 62 [thus born circa 1756]; and his son-in-law tailor Ignatz Zerr, 41. His signature looked like 'Johannns Rnitgnr' [the vowel 'e' written to look like 'n' in the Bernese style]. They had been living in *Maison No. 4* at Pfaffenhoffen. On Aug. 29, 1824 at Kehl Johannes remarried to Anna Magdalena Speisser. The entry described the groom as Johannes Reutiger, age 68 (thus born circa 1756), and the bride as a daughter of Georg Speisser and Magdalena. His death entry created at Kehl described them as

[240] Strasbourg was annexed by France in 1681. The five-sided fort called *la Citadel* was constructed in 1684, facing the Rhine River. Only one wall survives. It is now surrounded by *Parc de la Citadelle*, a public area.

Johannes Reutiger, 90 [thus born circa 1757], and Anna Magdalena Scheisser. Children of Johannes Reŭtiger and his first wife Anne Barbe Müller include:

1) Johannes/Jean Reitiger was born at Daubensand Aug. 14, 1784. On Dec. 5, 1816 at Pfaffenhofen he married Anne Marie Schwing. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Reitiger, born at 'Laubersand' and living at Pfaffenhoffen. He was a son of tailor Jean Reitiger (present and consenting) and Barbe Müller, residents of Pfaffenhoffen. The bride was described as Anne Marie Schwing, a minor born at Robertsau April 19, 1796, a daughter of day laborer Eduard Schwing (present and consenting) and Anne Marie Baumert, who were residents of Robertsau. Witnesses included tailor Jacques Reitiger, 22, brother of the groom. Three signatures top to bottom look like Johannes Rnitigner (the groom); Johannes Rnitignr (his father), and Jacob Rnitignr (the groom's younger brother).
2) Christina Salomé Reutiger/Reittiger was baptized at Lichtenau, Baden-Durlach (25 miles north of Ichenheim) May 10, 1790; her parents were identified as Johannes Reutiger and Anna Barbara Reutiger. On Dec. 4, 1810 at Kehl she married Ignace Zerr, according to Catholic records (where he is found as Ignatius Zerr). She is found as Salomé Reittiger on the civil birth entry of her son Ignace Zerr [Jr.] created at Strasbourg Feb. 3, 1811. It states that her son was born at Kehl Feb. 2. Her husband was described as day laborer Ignace Zerr, 34 (thus born circa 1777). A margin note indicates that the son died at Lyon Jan. 3, 1839. When a daughter Caroline Louisa was born at Strasbourg June 9, 1824, the civil birth entry called the mother Christina Salomé Reutiger, and gave their address as *Maison No. 156*, Kraitenau. When daughter Anne Marie was born at Strasbourg Dec. 21, 1829, they were living at *Maison No. 33*, Quartier St. Nicolas. Christina died at Strasbourg Dec. 21, 1829. Her civil death entry said she was 42, born at Lichtenau, Baden, a daughter of tailor Jean Reutiger and the deceased Barbe Müller; the wife of Ignace Zerr, 53, a resident of *Maison No. 33, Quartier St. Nicolas*, Strasbourg.
3) Peter Reitiger was born at Lahr, Baden-Durlach (10 miles southeast of Ichenheim) Feb. 1, 1794.
4) Johann Jacob/Jean Jacques Reitiger was born at Lahr June 18, 1795, and died at Souffelweyersheim, Lower Alsace (six miles north of Strasbourg) May 2, 1866. On Oct. 27, 1814 at Pfaffenhoffen he married Marie Catherine Schwing. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as tailor Jean Jacques Reitiger, born at Lahr, *Grand Duché de Baade* June 18, 1795, a resident of Pfaffenhoffen. He was the son of tailor Jean Reitiger (present and consenting) and Barbe Müller, who were residents of Pfaffenheim. The bride was described as Marie Catherine Schwing, born at Pfaffenhoffen July 2, 1786, a daughter of local residents Jean Frédèric Schwing (present and consenting) and Marie Salomé Frantz. The groom's signature looked like 'Jacob Rnitignr', while the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. The groom's father signed 'Johannes Rnitignr.' Jacob died at Souffelweyersheim, Lower Alsace (six miles north of Strasbourg) May 2, 1866. His civil entry witnessed by his sons Jacques and Charles described him as tailor Jacques Reitiger, 70; born at Lohr [Lahr]; a resident of Strasbourg; the widower of Catherine Schwing; and a son of Reitiger Laurent Jacques [Laurent was also the name of the recorder, and this may be the source of confusion] of Odelshoffen, Baden [one mile southeast of Kork].
5) Anne Barbe Reidinger (as she was found on her civil marriage entry) was born at Obenheim, Lower Alsace (adjacent to Daubensand) circa 1802, though no civil entry is found there, and died at Strasbourg July 10, 1823. On Dec. 26, 1809 at Strasbourg she married Aloise Schenck. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a 25-year-old carpenter's assistant born at Hütten, Württemberg June 15, 1784, a son of Joseph Schenck and the deceased Brigitte Brosi. The bride was born *à la tuilerie de Obenheim* [at the tile factory in Obenheim], a daughter of tailor Jean Reidinger and Anne Barbe Müller, residents of the *Fort de Kehl* who were present and consenting. She was a resident of Sundheim, Kehl. The document also recognized their daughter Marie Madeleine Schenck, whose birth June 7, 1829 had been registered at Sundheim, Kehl. Her civil death entry called her Barbe Riedinger, and described her as the widow of carpenter Aloyse Schenck, and a daughter of tailor Jean Riedinger and the deceased Anne Barbe Müller.

Children of Barthlome Reŭtiger/Reŭtiger and his second wife Catharina Mönch include:

c. 'Michael Redtiger' (as transcribed in the *Familysearch* database) was baptized at Magstadt, Baden-Durlach (eight miles southwest of Gerlingen) Sept. 19, 1761, according to an *Evangelische* entry. His parents were named as Bartholomaeus Reidtger and Catharina.
d. Wilhelm Reŭtiger was baptized in Baden-Durlach July 2, 1765, according to an entry at Boltigen. His parents were described as Barthlome Reŭtiger *von Boltigen* and Catharina Menggin *von Sundhausen*. One witness was Baron Wilhelm *von Edelsheim*.

6. Steffen Reŭtiger was baptized at Boltigen April 6, 1727.

7. Michel Reűtiger was baptized at Boltigen Oct. 2, 1729, and died there Nov. 15, 1790. One baptism witness was Elsbeth Reűtiger born Sülliger. When he was confirmed at Boltigen on Easter of 1745, the entry said he was the son of Hans Reutiger of Rŭhren and gave the date of his baptism.
8. Peter Reűtiger was baptized at Boltigen June 22, 1732.

After the death of Barbara Andrist, Hans Reűtiger (#2) had an illegitimate child with Barbara Jaggi (not the one who was his mother-in-law). She was baptized at Sankt Stephan Oct. 1, 1699, a daughter of Christen Jaggi and Barbara Zwahlen, and died at Boltigen Jan. 4, 1750. Her death entry identified as Barbara Jaggi of Klein Weissenbach.

9. Hans Reűtiger was baptized at Boltigen Nov. 21, 1738, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden Sept. 16, 1786. On his baptism entry his parents were described as *alt vatter* [old father] Hans Reűtiger of Rŭhren and Barbara Jaggi of Klein Weissenbach. Witnesses included Hans Reűtiger of Weissenbach, Peter Bratschen of Weissenbach [later standardized as Bratschi], and Margreth Zwahlen born Tschabold. A communion entry was created at Calw, Baden Nov. 26, 1754 (the first Sunday after his 16th birthday), and a copy was transcribed from correspondence into the Boltigen register. It said that Hans Reűtiger the younger, a natural son of the deceased Hans Reűtiger begotten by Barbara Jaggi, had received a communion certificate in the same parish in the Duchy of Wűrttemberg where his stepbrothers Johannes and Barthlome had received theirs. The two brothers were working as miners two hours away at Neubulach [six miles to the southwest]. They promised to take their stepbrother Hans to work for Sebastian at Breisach [this would have been somewhere surrounding Freiburg im Breisgau, about 70 miles to the south]. Entries for Amish Mennonite life events were not recorded in the Protestant [Ger. *Evangelische*] register at Ichenheim before 1814. Yet the death of Sebastian's stepbrother was recorded there. He was described as Johannes Reŭtiger, a son of *Vater Johannes, mutter Barbara gebohren Jaggin* [Jaggi]. No surviving widow was mentioned. His significance here is that he gives us a location for Sebastian in 1754, as well as explaining a confusing point: some have mistakenly assumed that the Hans Reűtiger who lived with Sebastian on the Ottenweierhof estate was his older brother Hans/Johannes, or that everyone on the estate must have been an Anabaptist.

Sebastian Reűtiger was baptized at Sankt Stephan April 4, 1717. He lived there at least five years before his parents relocated to Rŭren/Rŭhren in Boltigen.

When he was confirmed at Boltigen on Easter Day of 1734, the entry described him as Sebastian Röŭtiger.

The War of the Polish Succession involved most of Europe from 1733 to 1738. In 1737 the Old Swiss Confederacy decided that Anabaptist citizens who refused military service could be assigned work in silver mines (though the threat was never actually carried out). Sebastian was not yet an Anabaptist, but the overall impressments of Swiss males for military training and service may have been his incentive to emigrate.

It would have been fairly easy to obtain official permission to leave the canton. A simple explanation that one was unable to earn a livelihood at home was generally sufficient.

It is probable that Sebastian departed Canton Bern with his older brother Hans/Johannes and younger brother Barthlome circa the summer of 1738. Hans/Johannes would have been 26 (and still not confirmed), Sebastian 20, and Barthlome 13.

On July 16, 1739, Sebastian was employed as a 19-year-old servant [Ger. *Knecht*] by Anabaptist Friedrich Bergtold. They lived on the lower monastery farm [Ger. *Unter Klosterhof*] at Hornbach, Pfalz-Zweibrücken, 200 miles north of Canton Bern.[241] Later documents relating to his children would generally describe Sebastian as a laborer or plowman [Ger. *Ackermann*].

The Kloster Hornbach was a merger point and resting area on one of the most-traveled Catholic pilgrimage routes in Europe. Recall from ROPP that the Way of St. James [Ger. *Jakobsweg*] is a spider web of dirt roads across Europe, leading to the altar of the cathedral at Santiago de Compostela in the northwest corner of Spain. It was noted that many of the churches in the area of Lake Thun were built along a southern loop. In the same way, the Hornbach monastery had been constructed in 737 as the final Palatine resting station merging two paths that had begun at Speyer on the Rhine River [Ger. *Pfälzer Jakobswege*]. From Hornbach a departing pilgrim might cross the border south into France before continuing west.

To travel to Hornbach, the brothers would have first traveled to Basel. There they would have boarded a flat boat on the Rhine River, following it downstream (north). They would have disembarked at Wörth am Rhein (parallel to Karlsruhe), then walked or ridden another 50 miles west.

[241] The Klosterhof is now the Klosterhof Hornbach Hotel.

It is likely that they walked onto a poorly tended farm that had once been cultivated by Benedictine monks. Farmers in the surrounding fields may have been the descendants of Swiss or Tyrolean families brought into the area to repopulate it after the Thirty Years War.

We know where Sebastian was working on July 16, 1739, because on that day he was expelled. According to Drumm, church archives at Zweibrücken [Ger. *Kirschenschaffnei-Archiv Zweibrücken VI/434*) document his troubles.

Sebastian attended several *Mennoniten* meetings held in Hornbach. When this came to the attention of *Evangelische* minister Johann Heinrich Keller, he attempted to dissuade the servant/farmhand from joining the *Sekte der Wiedertaüfer.*

Eventually Sebastian was summoned before an *Evangelische* morals court presided over by ministers, the high consistory court [Ger. *Ober Konsistorium*] in the city of Zweibrücken. There he was questioned for two hours. In Pfalz-Zweibrücken re-baptism was prohibited to someone who had entered the country as a Protestant. It is likely that the ministers reminded Sebastian that he was still a foreign national, and there was still a quota on how many Anabaptists could live there. But he could not be dissuaded.

The church alone did not have the authority to expel someone. But by identifying Sebastian as an Anabaptist, they forced the hand of the government. A decision came in the form of an official posting (signed *Regierung* or government) July 16. It stipulated that "all Reutigers who have come here must depart these princely territories." This suggests that Sebastian had a brother (Hans/Johannes) or two bothers (Hans/Johannes and Barthlome) with him.

They left the area.[242] Presumably they went across the Rhine River into Baden soon afterward.

In 1754 Sebastian was somewhere in the area of Freiburg im Breisgau, with his stepbrother Hans working for him. A location in that area has been linked with Reűtigers in a very vague way by Hermann Guth and others. This was the Laberhof, a property of the Cistercian monastery at Tennenbach, three miles northeast of Emmendingen. It was 14 miles north of Freiburg. Amish Mennonite Zimmermans and Wagners farmed there. Sebastian and Hans would have worshipped with the Hochburg congregation (see ZIMMERMAN for background on Freiburg im Breisgau and the Hochburg congregation).

They may also have resided on or near the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg before 1763. Offenburg was eight miles east of their eventual home, the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim.

Through his five sons with two wives, Sebastian became the forebearer of all Amish Mennonite Reűtiger/Redigers. His male descendants share the Y-chromosome haplogroup I-M170. This group diverged into its present form between 30,000 and 35,000 years ago; it is found in paleolithic (stone tools) sites throughout Europe, but not outside it.

Sebastian first married Susanne Detweiler, who was born circa 1725. She was a daughter of Durst Detweiler and Catarina Germann, who farmed at Offenburg until Durst's death in 1748.[243] Susanne died between March 15, 1758 and Sebastian's second marriage in 1772. Five of their children have been identified.

In 1763 Sebastian and Hans arrived on the Ottenweierhof estate between Ichenheim and Schutterzell, Baden.[244] This location is only eight miles southwest of Offenburg. It is within 10 miles of the Rhine River crossing at

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[242] This is consistent with the experience of Nicholas Stoltzfus in 1744. He wrote a letter to the duke of Pfalz-Zweibrücken asking for permission to marry an Anabaptist, with the implication that he would first have to accept adult baptism. He said that he had been influenced to Anabaptism by the 'quiet manner of conduct' of Anabaptists on the Rinkweilerhof at Hornbach. He was told that if he chose to do so, he would have to leave the duchy for an unspecified period of time. He did, but returned within seven years. Later Stoltzfus sailed from Rotterdam on the *Polly*, and arrived at Philadelphia Oct. 18, 1766. The Stoltzfus family in America was so prolific that Nicholas is said to have a million descendants.

[243] Martin Dättweiler was born at Langenbruck (now in Canton Basel-Schaft, Switzerland) circa 1676. He married Anna Schneider, who was born at Lauwil (10 miles northwest of Langenbruck) circa 1675. Their son Durst Detweiler was born circa 1698, and died on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg, Baden in 1748. He married Katarina Germann. Their children born at Offenburg may have included: 1. Sarah Detweiler, born circa 1723, who died at Bennwihr, Upper Alsace Jan. 5, 1788. She married Christian Roggy (also found as Roggi). He was born at Vendenheim, Lower Alsace circa 1734, and died at Strasbourg circa 1797, a son of minister Johannes/Jean Johannes Roggy. Sarah was buried at the Katzenwangen mill Jan. 6, 1788. 2. Joseph Detweiler, born circa 1725, died at Offenburg before June of 1784. 3. Susanne Detweiler, born circa 1725, was the first wife of Sebastian Reŭtiger. 4. Judith Detweiler, who married Johannes Rŭpp. Their daughter Judith Rŭpp, born circa 1764, married Chrétien/Christian Boshart (see ROPP, BACKGROUND). 5. Benjamin Detweiler, who was born circa 1745.

The Spitalhof was located on the western outskirts of the village of Offenburg. In present day one would look for the intersection of *Wichernstrasse* and *Marlenerstrasse*, then walk northwest into the state forest [Ger. *Stadtswald*]. The once-cultivated land north of the forest house has now returned to its natural state.

[244] On Jan. 1, 1972 Schutterzell was absorbed by Ichenheim. A year later Ichenheim, Altenheim, Dundenheim, and Müllen merged to form Neuried. Neuried is now in the Ortenau District of Baden-Wűrttemberg.

Daubensand, and was halfway between the meeting places of the Amish Mennonite congregations in Baden-Durlach (north) and the Hochburg area (south).

THE OTTENWEIERHOF ESTATE

In 1720 the Ottenweierhof estate was placed under imperial landlord Wilhelm von Dungern. It would remain in his family for approximately 98 years. In 1753 the deed was obtained by *Reichsritter* [imperial free knight or free noble of the Holy Roman Empire] Karl Ludwig von Dungern, who purchased it from a cousin for 20,000 florins. Sebastian's arrival there closely coincides with the death of Karl Ludwig June 19, 1763.

For 50 years the site would serve as a meeting point for Anabaptists from Strasbourg in Alsace and those in Baden. *Die Ortenau: Zeitschrift des Historischen vereins für Mittelbaden* (No. 272, 1991): "Besides the Protestant and Catholic servants mentioned earlier, the Ottenweier Hof was above all a favorite abode of the Anabaptists. The first reliable reference to their presence can be found in 1763, with Sebastian Reŭtiger and others. The family of the dairyman, who died in 1790 [1791], consisted of about twelve persons. One could not help but notice them living in a special Protestant community of only twenty persons. Even today one is reminded of them by the stone structures facing the main building on the edge of the forest, baptismal tables [Ger. *Täufertisch*] for their worship services and ecclesiastical activities."

In 1813 the property was purchased by businessman Carl Ludwig Lotzbeck. He continued to reside in Lahr (nine miles to the southeast) where his snuff and tobacco factory was located.

Eventually the estate reverted to the community of Ichenheim and fell into disrepair. In 1980 it was purchased by Jürgen Seitz, a musical entertainer. It has now been fully restored and hosts light musical events.

The estate can be easily picked out on a satellite image. Follow the *Hofweg* southeast out of Ichenheim. Before it reaches the Ortenaustrasse, the Ottenweierhof is found on its south side as a manor house with a u-shape of farm buildings below it. Across the road to the north is a forest where Reŭtigers were buried. It is still called the Täuferwald. In January of 2017 the local council voted to resume using it as a wooded cemetery.

Many family events were recorded at the *Evangelische* church in Ichenheim, fulfilling a legal obligation. Some events recorded there may have taken place elsewhere. We found several births that actually took place as far away as Freiburg (also called Freiburg im Breisgau), 34 miles to the south.

As noted in ROTH, when Margrave Karl Friedrich came to power in 1771, his domain consisted of an upper Catholic region (Baden-Baden), a lower Lutheran region (Baden-Durlach), and a 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. Collectively the parts would now be called the Margraviate of Baden.

Circa 1772 Sebastian remarried to Anna Lederach.[245] The Swiss surnames Lederach and Läderach were derived from *Lädrach or Läderich* (a leather worker). Its *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights include Konolfingen, Canton Bern.[246]

Anna was born on the Rottburgerhof by the Rohrhof estate at Brühl in the Schwetzingen District south of Mannheim, Baden circa 1739.[247] There was a very large and well-organized Amish Mennonite congregation in this area, 100 miles north of Ichenheim.

The French Revolution of 1789 led to a major military event that must have had a profound effect on the fortunes of this family.

The French royal family was placed in house arrest in the Tuileries Palace at Paris Oct. 5, 1789. When Sebastian Reűtiger/Reidiger [Sr.] died on the Ottenweierhof estate Feb. 19, 1791, Europe was still at peace.

However, the French royal family made an unsuccessful attempt to escape on June 21 of that year. They fled Paris in a carriage and picked up a loyalist cavalry escort outside the city. But the king was recognized in the village of Ste. Menehoud by a postmaster who knew his face from the *assignat* coin. Over the next 14 miles angry crowds began to run along the path of the carriage, and the escort dropped away. The entire party was arrested at Varennes-en-Argonne, Meuse June 25, and returned to Paris for their eventual executions. They had traveled 144 miles, coming within 31 miles of their goal, *la Citadelle de Montmédy*.

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[245] Some sources express doubt that Sebastian could have been the husband of both Susanne Detweiler and Anna Lederach. They point to the decade gap between his first and second sets of children, and note his age. Sebastian would have been 33 when his first son was born. When the first son of the second set was born, he would have been 53. When his last child was born he would have been 58.

[246] We found Anna as mother-of-the-groom Anne Lederach on the marriage entry of Andreas Reidiger and Anne Ringenberg created at Imling July 22, 1796, and as mother-of-the-bride Ann Lederach or Lederech on the marriage entry of Christian Ringenberg and Katharina Reidiger created at Imling, Moselle Sept. 10, 1796.

[247] The late John Alma Hüppi's *The Anabaptist König Family in Baden*, a text written for *The Laubers: A Journey of Faith, European Genealogy, Preliminary Draft V*, was omitted from the final publication. In it Hüppi described Sebastian's second wife as "Ann Leder(er), born on the Rottburgerhof."

On Aug. 27 Holy Roman Emperor Leopold II and Friedrich Wilhelm II of Prussia issued their *Declaration of Pilnitz*. It stated that maintaining monarchies in Europe was more important than individual differences between national leaders. It was meant to assure the safety of the recaptured French royal family. Marie Antoinette was Leopold II's younger sister.

Leopold II died suddenly in Vienna March 2, 1792. Nonetheless, because of what they saw as interference in their internal affairs, the French National Convention declared war on Austria April 20.

The War of the First Coalition (1792-98) pitted France against the remainder of Europe. It was only interrupted by a truce in 1795 and early 1796, when the French forces were reorganized after being weakened by the defections of their own officers fleeing the Reign of Terror at home.

THE SIEGE OF KEHL

In the 1700s the Rhine River was much different in appearance than it is today. Dredging, the construction of canals, and the shoring up of its banks has cleared it out but slowed the swift current. In some places its width has decreased by as much as 75 percent.

The first permanent bridge across its width had been constructed between the city of Strasbourg and the village of Kehl in 1338. The lengthy process of dropping stones, creating earthen dams, and laying stones again meant that the construction of new bridges might take two decades or more.

The government of France first assumed possession of the city of Strasbourg in 1678. In 1681 the famous military engineer Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban rebuilt its huge citadel. On the opposite side of the river the bridge heads at Kehl were protected by a polygon-shaped fort surrounded by cannon emplacements, earthworks, and trenches. It was about 400 feet wide, with stone walls 12 feet high.

The Treaty of Rijswijk in 1697 formalized French possession of Strasbourg, but ceded the village of Kehl on the opposite side of the river to Baden. Because Baden was part of the Holy Roman Empire, the crossing point between Strasbourg and Kehl, only 11 miles north of Ichenheim, would become a strategic point of contention.

On May 7, 1770 an extremely formal ceremony took place on a small island off of Kehl. Marie Antoinette entered a temporary building as a member of the Austrian royal family. She changed out of her Austrian clothing and put on French clothing before departing on the French side. This symbolically represented her new allegiance to France, where she would marry the man who four years later would become King Louis XVI.

But the crossing had more than symbolic value.

During the War of the First Coalition the French forces on the west bank and the Austrians and their allies on the east bank saw their only chances of overall victory lying in its possession. In the summer of 1796 French general Jean Victor Marie Moreau crossed the bridges from Strasbourg and occupied Kehl.[248] Almost 7,000 largely untrained and inexperienced Austrian imperial troops withdrew within a few hours.

The Austrians finally re-entered the area of Kehl with experienced units Sept. 15. Three days later they converged with three columns of Austrian and Serbian infantry and Hussar cavalry. The French held them off with 'case shot' - lead grape shot fired from cannons positioned in the narrow roadways (a risky proposition that put the cannoneer in a 'do or die' situation very near his targets; if his position was overrun, it meant a bayonet). By late that night French reinforcements had arrived to hold the fort.

Hindsight suggests that General Moreau, who was now maneuvering within Baden, should have headed north to combine his forces with others. But he chose to challenge the troops of Archduke Charles. Moreau's second mistake was to place undue importance on the village of Waldkirch at the edge of the Black Forest (32 miles south of Ichenheim). On Oct. 19 the Austrians came downhill out of the Black Forest into the Battle of Emmendingen (27 miles south of Ichenheim) and forced a French retreat to the south.

By this time the residents of the village of Kehl had evacuated into the countryside. Knowing that the Austrians would return in greater numbers, the French prepared to withdraw. They did not have time to dismantle the fort (this would be done in 1815). However, on Oct. 26 they used cannons to destroy the village of Kehl, the earthworks, and the entrenchments, leaving little the Austrians might use against them.

But the French knew that Kehl could not be abandoned altogether for long. On Nov. 22, 16,000 French infantry and 3,500 cavalry crossed the bridges and moved through Kehl. The effort was a disaster. The November fog and mud made it

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[248] General Jean Victor Marie Moreau was later commander of the Army of the Rhine. However, he allowed disloyal officers to meet in his home, and was sentenced to two years in prison in 1804. He requested and was permitted to go into exile. He and his family sailed from Cadiz, Spain on the ship *New York*, and arrived at Philadelphia Aug. 26, 1805. From 1806 to 1812 he lived a quiet retirement at Morrisville on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River (across from Trenton). The estate had earlier belonged to merchant-financier Robert Morris, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, and Constitution who went bankrupt in 1798. During the War of 1812 Moreau was offered command of all American troops, but declined. After the disastrous Russian Campaign he returned to Europe to help the allies against Napoleon. A cannon ball crushed part of his right leg at the Battle of Dresden Aug. 27, 1813, and he died at Lahn (now in the Czech Republic) Sept. 2. He was buried in St. Petersburg, Russia. He was posthumously awarded the rank of Marshal of France by King Louis XVIII, and his wife received a pension from Tsar Alexander I.

impossible to move artillery along the roads. They withdrew yet again after only a four hours march, leaving just a small group of advance observers at Kehl.

On Dec. 9 Austrian artillery units formed a loose ring around Kehl. They advanced to the outer boundaries Jan. 1, and on Jan. 9 the few French occupants retreated to Strasbourg.

The siege had lasted 115 days, and cost each side about 4,000 men.

Anna Lederach died after the Sept. 10, 1796 marriage of her daughter Katharina/Catherine at Imling, Moselle. (Recall that in the summer of 1796, French forces had crossed the bridges from Strasbourg and occupied Kehl).

For a timeline of events in Baden 1800-30, see ROTH.

The children of Sebastian Reűtiger and his first wife Susanne Detweiler may have been born in the area around Freiburg im Breisgau or on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg, Baden. They include:

1. Joseph Reŭtiger or Reŭthiger (as he signed his own name) was born Sept. 7, 1753, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate April 23, 1819. He married Catherine Unsicker/Katharina Hunziger. She was born circa 1758, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate July 14, 1830. Joseph initially worked as a miller in the community mill above the village of Schutterzell, Baden.[249] He may not have actually resided there, since it is within walking distance of the Ottenweierhof estate. Between 1796 and 1801 they relocated 18 miles northwest to Strasbourg, Lower Alsace. There they lived between the two bridges on the Rhine River [Fr. *entre ces deux ponts du Rhin*]. An *Evangelische* death entry at Ichenheim says Joseph Reutiger died at age 65 on April 20, 1819, leaving widow Katharina Hunziger. Their children include:
    a. Katharina/Catherine Reŭthiger was born at Schutterzell circa 1783. We found her in Strasbourg records as the 17-year-old unmarried mother of a daughter Catharine. The child was born May 25, 1800, and died May 31, 1800. Her civil birth entry described the mother Catherine as a 17-year-old native of Schutterzell, and the grandparents as 47-year-old cultivator Joseph Reuthiger and Catherine Unzicker. Grandfather Joseph signed the entry with only his last name, which looked like 'Rnŭthignr' (the old style 'e' looking like an 'n'). On June 23, 1814 on the Ottenweierhof estate Katharina/Catherine became the second wife of Jakob Ackermann; his first wife Anna Marie Birki had died earlier that year. He was born circa 1778, and died at Köfering in 1851, a son of Johannes Ackermann and Magdalena Baumann (or a suspected first wife Barbara Albrecht). They lived at Josephenburg or Köfering near Ingolstadt, Bavaria. They were the parents of two Ackermanns who came to Tazewell County (see ACKERMAN). Katharina/Catherine died at Josephenburg or Köfering between 1820 and Oct. 31, 1824, the date of Jakob's third marriage to Katharina Birky. See ACKERMAN for background on this couple.
    b. Madeleine Reŭthiger was born at Schutterzell circa 1789, and died at Strasbourg April 7, 1797. Her civil death entry described her as an 8-year-old native of Schutterzell, a daughter of Joseph Reutiger and Catherine Unzicker who lived near *la porte des bouchers*. Witnesses included father Joseph Reuthiger, 44, and uncle Benjamin Reuthiger, 36.
    c. George Reŭthiger was born at Schutterzel circa 1790, and died at Strasbourg Jan. 28, 1801. His civil death entry described his parents as cultivator Joseph Reuthinger, 48, and Catherine Unsinger, residents of l'Isl Reŭthiger e du Rhin. It gave his age as 10.
    d. Anne Reŭthiger was born at Ichenheim circa 1792, and died at Strasbourg Jan. 23, 1801. Her civil death entry gave her age as 8.
    e. Joseph Reŭthiger/Rediger was born Jan. 31, 1796, and died at Partridge, Woodford County Feb. 9, 1852. He sailed from Le Havre on the British brig *Tarpool*, and arrived at New York June 5, 1832.[250] The passenger list shows him as 'Joseph Reidiger, 36, farmer, Baden.' On July 13, 1834 in Butler County, Ohio he married Anne Schmitt, who was also called Anna or Nancy Schmidt. She was born at Bisping, Moselle Aug. 2, 1808, a daughter of Joseph Schmitt and Freni/Véronique Gerber. Before 1839 Joseph purchased the northwest quarter in Section 36 at what is now Partridge. At the time the timberland property was in Tazewell County, but is now in Woodford County. Partridge was not named until townships were established in the Black Partridge Creek area in 1851. They are shown on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Joseph Rediker, 54, Germany; Nancy, 44, Germany; Joseph, 14, Ohio; Madalena, 13, Ohio; Nancy, 12, Ohio; Catherine, 11, Ohio; Daniel, 10, Illinois; Jacob, 8, Illinois; Barbaray, 6, Illinois; Frances, 4, Illinois; and Elizabeth, 3, Illinois. They were living two households away from farmer Peter Naufsinger, 40, France; and Barbary, 37, France; on the following page are the households of Christian and Peter Farny, the 'Amishmen who hired Lincoln'; Yost Yoder; and John Sharp. Joseph is buried in Rediger/Clarke Cemetery on the site of his family farm; his headstone calls him 'Joseph Reidiger.' The 1860 census of Partridge shows a blended household: farmer

[249] In 1906 the Schutterzell community mill was rebuilt in the original half-timbered style as the *Landgasthof Schutterzeller Mühle*, a guesthouse and beer garden. The original grinding stones are imbedded in a wall surrounding the beer garden. From the Ottenweierhof, one would travel southeast on *Hofweg*, then slightly north on *Ortenaustrasse*.

[250] Found as 'Larpole' on the passenger list.

Jacob Reidger, 34, Baden [the new husband of daughter Magdalena]; Magdalena, 23, Ohio; Nancy, 1, Illinois; farm laborer Jacob, 17, Illinois [Magdalena's younger brother]; farm laborer David, 19, Illinois [another younger brother]; and Nancy Reidger, 74, France [Magdalena's mother Anne Schmitt Rediger]. Anne died Aug. 30, 1876. She is buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove as Anna Reidiger. Children of Joseph Rediger and Anne Schmitt include:

1) Joseph Rediger was born in Trumbull County, Ohio May 22, 1835, and died at Partridge Feb. 7, 1879. On Dec. 28, 1856 in Woodford County he married Anna Eliza Clingman. She was born in Scioto County, Ohio April 17, 1833, and died at Partridge Aug. 13, 1913, a daughter of John Clingman and Margaret Levis. Her family had come to Woodford County from Ohio in 1835. Jacob enlisted as a private in the army at Metamora Aug. 22, 1862, and mustered in at Peoria Sept. 18. His entrance documents describe him as a single 19-year-old farmer born in Trumble [Trumbull] County, Ohio but a resident of Metamora; 5-foot 7-inches; black hair; dark eyes; dark complexion. He was attached to Company F of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry for a period of three years. On May 14, 1863 his company took part in the Vicksburg Campaign. It became largely ineffective after April 1864, when it was routed by cavalry at the Battle of Sabine Crossroads near Alexandria, Louisiana. Jacob mustered out as a corporal at Mobile, Alabama July 10, 1865. After the war he farmed 500 acres (the southwest quarter of Section 24 at Partridge); *Portrait and Autobiographical Album of Woodford County, Illinois* described him as 'the proprietor of one of the largest and finest farms in Woodford County.' The 1870 census of Partridge shows them as farmer Joseph Bediger, 35, Ohio; Annie, 37, Illinois; Caroline, 13, Illinois; Adaline [later Almeda], 11, Illinois; John, 8, Illinois; Lewis, 3, Illinois; George, 2, Illinois; and Margaret, 1, Illinois. Anna can be found as Eliza Rediger in 1880, and as Ann E. Rediger on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of Partridge. They are buried in Rediger/Clarke Cemetery.
2) Magdalena 'Lena' Rediger was born in Butler County, Ohio July 18, 1836, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 27, 1912. On Oct. 21, 1855 in Woodford County she married Jacob Rediger (the entry calls them Jacob Rediker and Lenna Rediker; he was also known as Jacob R. Rediger).[251] He was born July 25, 1824, and died Nov. 13, 1895; his parents could not be identified. He sailed from Le Havre on the bark-rigged steamer *John Hancock*, and arrived at New Orleans May 20, 1851. Recall the 1860 census of Partridge mentioned earlier. Jacob and Magdalena appear on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as farmer Jacob Rittiger, 45, Baden; Madelaine, 24, Illinois; Anna, 10, Illinois; Daniel, 8, Illinois; Joseph, 5, Illinois; Jacob, 2, Illinois; and Jacob Schlabach, 70, Baden. They are also found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer Jacob Roddiker, 53, Germany; Lena, 44, born in Ohio to German parents; Joseph, 15, Illinois; David, 9, Illinois; and Noah, 7, Illinois. They resettled at Milford, Nebraska in February 1888, where they are buried in Eastview Cemetery. According to his local newspaper obituary, Jacob had a leg broken when he was kicked by a horse in the last year of his life. Subsequent infections caused blindness. *Herald of Truth*, February 1896: "On the 13th of December [sic] 1895, in Seward Co., Neb., Bro. Jacob Rediger, aged 71 years, 4 months and 18 days. He leaves his wife, three sons and six grandchildren; five children preceded him. He was a faithful member in the Amish church. Buried on the 15th in the Fairview cemetery. Funeral services by Bish. Christian Rediger from *John 14:13*." *Gospel Herald*, March 1912: "Sister Lena, wife of Jacob Rediger, deceased, was born July 18, 1836, in Butler Co., O., died Feb. 27, 1912, at Milford, Nebr., aged 75 y. 7 m. 9 d. Her sickness was stomach and heart trouble. She is survived by three sons and 18 grandchildren. Husband, three sons, two daughters and one grandchild preceded her to the spirit world. Services were conducted by Jos. Schlegel and Jacob Stauffer at the East Fairview Church near Milford, Neb. Texts, *Jno. 14:1-6*, and *II Cor. 5:1-10*."
3) Anna 'Nancy' Rediger was born in Butler County Oct. 16, 1837. We could not identify her after the 1850 census. She may have been the Anna Rediger who married John Smith in Woodford County Jan. 26, 1857, but we could not find a matching couple in the county on the 1860 census.
4) Catherine Rediger was born at Partridge Oct. 4, 1839, and died at Morton Oct. 10, 1915. On Dec. 28, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Peter Wagler (born Peter Jacob Berse). He was born at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace Nov. 29, 1831, and died at Morton Aug. 28, 1903, a son of Jacob Berse/Christian Wagler and Catherine Ulrich. They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer Peter Wagler, 48, born in France to French parents; Catherine, 40, born

[251] On June 15, 1855 a blank marriage license was issued at Metamora, but not returned, for a marriage between 'Andrew Wessel' and 'Magdalene Rediger.' Presumably the ceremony did not take place and this was the Andrew Wessel who married Catherine Kohendoffer in Woodford County Jan. 18, 1856. Andrew appears on the same census page as Redigers at Partridge in 1860, age 38, married to Catharine, age 26, with three small children.

in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from France; and nine children. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

5) David Rediger was born at Partridge March 2, 1840, and died at Richland, Illinois May 25, 1883. In December 1864 at Richland he married Mary Jane Duchesne. She was born in Woodford County June 3, 1842, and died at Peoria March 3, 1931, a daughter of John Baptiste Duchesne and Elizabeth Catherine Voutrain. They are found at Richland in 1870, and on the 1880 census of Richland as farmer David Rediger, 39, born in Illinois to German parents; Mary J., 38, born in Illinois to French parents; and six children born in Illinois. They are buried in Old Salem Cemetery in Marshall County.
6) Jacob Rediger was born at Partridge Oct. 13, 1842, and died at Great Bend, Kansas April 17, 1922. He married Mary Felicite Duchesne. She was born in Woodford County Dec. 29, 1841, and died at Great Bend Feb. 11, 1921, a daughter of John Baptiste Duchesne and Elizabeth Catherine Voutrain. They are found at Richland in 1870, and on the same page of the 1880 census of Richland as brother David: farmer Jacob Rediger, 38, Illinois; Mary, 28, Illinois; and four children born in Illinois. Jacob farmed 160 acres at Richland. They are found on the 1920 census of Great Bend as Jacob Rediger, 77, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Alsace; and Mary F., 69, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Lorraine, France.
7) Barbara Rediger was born at Partridge May 29, 1844, and died at Pekin Aug. 3, 1934. She can be found on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as 16-year-old domestic Barbara Rediker in the household of Jacob Ropp and Elisabeth Schlegel. On Dec. 3, 1865 at Pekin she married John Schrock. He was born at Trenton, Butler County March 26, 1843, and died at Pekin April 20, 1935, a son of John Schrock and Catherine Salzman. They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer John Schrock, 37, born in Ohio to parents from France; Barbara, 36, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; and eight children born in Illinois.
8) Frances 'Fannie' Rediger was born at Partridge March 13, 1846, and died at Pekin Nov. 19, 1934. On April 29, 1866 in Tazewell County she married Isaac Wagler. He was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio Oct. 15, 1840, and died at Groveland March 30, 1920, a son of Jacob Berse/Christian Wagler and Catherine Ulrich. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.
9) Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Rediger was born at Partridge Jan. 11, 1848. On Oct. 5, 1868 in Tazewell County she married David Paith. He had served as a private and corporal with Company K, 78th Infantry regiment Ohio during the Civil War. They can be found on the 1910 census of Pekin, which gives his age as 66, hers as 60; her birthplace and some other information is incorrect. David is buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin, where his headstone gives his military rank and unit. David died several days after an accident while employed by the Pekin Wagon Company. Estate administrator Samuel S. Rediger appealed to the Industrial Board of Illinois on behalf of the widow. The appeal was heard March 4, 1915. David was making $11.60 a week when his foot was cut by a buzz saw at work; the only disputed issue was whether or not he died from infection. Elizabeth was awarded $5.80 a week for 416 weeks.

f. Jacobée Reŭthiger was born at Strasbourg July 30, 1801. Her civil birth entry described the address of her parents *à la porte de Bouchers à l'Isle du Rhin*' [near the Boucher gate on the Rhine island]. It was witnessed by her father Joseph Reuthiger, 44 [yielding a birth circa 1757], and uncle Benjamin Reuthiger, 36 [yielding a birth circa 1765].
g. Jacques Reŭthiger was born at Strasbourg Sept. 21, 1803, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate March 26, 1812. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Joseph Reuttriger and Catherine Unsicker, who lived between the two bridges on the Rhine River. It was witnessed by cultivators Jean Rothacker, 48, and Michel Zehr, 39, both residents of Strasbourg. It was signed 'Joseph Rnŭthignr' (the old-style 'e' looking like an 'n') and 'Joha Rothacker.'

2. Barbara Reűtiger was born circa 1754. She may have died at Rambervillers, Vosges Sept. 13, 1808. In 1771 she married Christian Schertz. He was born circa 1753, and may have died at Gondrexange, Moselle Jan. 16, 1808, a son of Nicolas Schertz and Barbara Burcki.[252] Their children born at Gondrexange include:

a. Andreas/André Schertz was born Sept. 10, 1790. On Jan. 14, 1813 at Rhodes, Moselle he married Barbe Salzman. She was born on Zelle farm near Petit-Tenquin, Moselle April 2, 1792, a daughter of Michel Salzman and Catherine Weiss [Wyss]. He worked as a miller in the mill at Deneuvre, Meurthe-et-Moselle.
b. Anne Schertz was born Feb. 16, 1792, and died at Deneuvre, Meurthe-et-Moselle Oct. 24, 1864. On Dec. 5, 1826 at Deneuvre she married Jean Joseph Grob [Kropf]. He was born at Vieux-Lixheim, Moselle

[252] We found sources that say Christian was born at Haut-Clocher, Moselle, but this may only reflect confusion with a later Christian Schertz born there.

circa 1795, and died at Deneuvre Jan. 11, 1864, a son of Pierre Kropf and Susanne Ringenberg. Their civil marriage entry described his parents as shopkeeper Pierre Grob of Nonpatelize, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Susann Herringueberg [Susanne Ringenberg]. The bride was described as Anne Chertz, born at Gondrexange Feb. 16, 1791, whose parents were Christianne Chertz, who had died at Gondrexange Jan. 16, 1808; and Barbe Reitigiu, who had died at Ramberviller, Vosge Sept. 13, 1808 [we did not find civil death entries at either location]. Witnesses included father-of-the-groom Pierre Grob, 60, a farm equipment operator at Nonpatelize; and brother-of-the-bride and miller André Chertz, 50, a miller in the mill at Deneuvre. Anne signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate; Jean Joseph signed 'KROB'; and his father signed 'PK.' Andre signed 'Andreas Schertz.'

c. Marie Schertz was born April 5, 1796, and died at Gondrexange April 29, 1811. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator Christianne Chartz and Barbe Rediquer. Witnesses were paternal uncle and cultivator Jean Chartz, 36; and brother-of-the-bride and farmhand André Chartz, 21.

3. Magdalena Reűtiger/Madeleine Rediger was born circa 1757 or later (based only on the birth of her first known child circa 1775). She died before her son Joseph's marriage in 1805. She married widower Joseph Detwiller/Dettweiler. He was born circa 1750, and died on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg before Sept. 24, 1779 (only five days before the birth of his second child). See DETTWEILER for background on this couple.

4. Benjamin Reűtiger or Reŭthiger (as he signed his own name) was born circa March 15, 1758, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate as a widower Jan. 15, 1835 (when his age was noted to be 76 years and 10 months). Circa 1784 on the farm La Forge below Imling he married Barbara/Barbe Ringenberg. She was born circa 1764, and died before 1835. The marriage at La Forge strongly suggests that Barbara was a daughter of André Ringenberg and Magdalena Schwartz. This would have made her an aunt to the children of Jean Ringenberg and Marie Engel. Those children included Jean Ringenberg, who married Madeleine Hochstettler and lived at Strasbourg while Barbara was there, perhaps later going to Bavaria (see the footnote); Annette/Anne Ringenberg, who married Barbara's younger half-brother Andreas Reŭtiger/André Rediger at Imling July 22, 1796; and Christian Ringenberg, who married Barbara's younger half-sister Katharina Reŭtiger/Catherine Rediger at Imling Sept. 10, 1796. [253] Benjamin and Barbara lived at Strasbourg after 1785.

a. Benjamin Rediger was born circa 1787, and died in Tazewell County Dec. 3, 1848. Benjamin first married Barbara Geisert. She was born at Freistett, Baden (on the Rhine River 25 miles north of Ichenheim) in 1799, and died there Sept. 20, 1819, a daughter of George Geisert and Barbara Bernert. For the first six months of 1818 they lived at Boissy-St. Léger, a Schulmeister estate 10 miles southeast of Paris. Barbara may have died in childbirth or shortly after in 1820. Their children include:

1) Benjamin Rediger was born at Boissy-St. Legér Feb. 16, 1818 (his headstone says Feb. 18). The entry was found in Boissy records under 'Benjamin Reithiger' by Neil Anne Stuckey Levine, naming the parents as 'Benjamin Reithiger' and 'Barberar Gaiuerine.' The *Grantors Index* says that on March 9, 1842 Benjamin Reddeker paid Sebastian Goembel et al $555 for property in what became Section 29 of Washington. On March 28, 1842 in Woodford County he married Barbara Oyer; the ceremony was performed by minister André Bachmann/Andrew Baughman. Barbara was born at Niderhoff Aug. 20, 1824 (her headstone says Aug. 24, 1825), a daughter of Joseph Oyer and his second wife Magdalena Litwiller. According to the *Grantors Index*, on Dec. 15, 1845 Benjamin Reideger paid John Lindley $150 for property in section 29 of Township 26 (later Washington). They appear on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Benjamin Redger, 32, Germany; Barbara, 26, Germany; Joseph, 6, Illinois; Madeline, 2, Illinois; Phoebe Ower [Jacobine Oyer, Barbara's younger sister], 12; and Catherine Fournes [Farny], 22, Illinois. They lived next door to Barbara's uncle Jacob Ower [Oyer], 72; and Barbara, 50. They also appear on the same census page as Peter Good [Guth] and Nicolas Rhodes [Nicholas Roth]. On the 1860 census of Washington: farmer Benj. Rediger, 42, France; Barbara, 33, France; Joseph, 16; Madalin, 12; Elizabeth, 6; Mary, 4; and Phoebe, 1. On the 1870 census of Washington: farmer Benjamin Reidger, 52, France; Barbaray, 45, France; farm laborer Joseph, 26; Magdalena, 22; Elizabeth, 16; Mary, 14; Jacob [Jacobine], 11; Christian, 9; and Catharine, 5; all children born in Illinois. The 1880 census of Washington shows farmer Benjamin Rediger, 62, born in France to parents from France and Baden; Barbara, 54, born in France to French parents; Magdalena, 28; Mary, 23; Jacobine, 21; Christian, 19; and Catharine, 14; all children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Reno, Kansas shows Benjamin living in the household of his son Christian: farmer Christian Rediger, 45, born in Illinois in February 1855; Magdalena, 40, born in Illinois in

[253] Jean Ringenberg was born circa 1770, a son of Jean Ringenberg and Marie Engel, and a grandson of André Ringenberg and Magdalena Schwartz. On Feb. 14, 1796 at Reichshoffen, Lower Alsace, he married Madeleine Hochstettler. She was born circa 1778, a daughter of Chrétien/Christian Hochstettler and his first wife Barbara/Barbe Nafziger. When a daughter was born at Strasbourg June 26, 1803, she was described as Madeleine Rinckenberg, a daughter of cultivator Jean Rinckenberg and Madeleine Hochstaettler living *à l'Isle du Rhin*. Witnesses included cultivators Jean Rothacher, 34, and David Rothacher, 60. The father signed 'Jean Ringenberg.' See RINGENBERGER for background on this couple.

February 1860; Judith, 20, born in Illinois in July, 1879; Dina, 18, born in Illinois in September 1881; Tillie, 4, born in Kansas in June 1885; and Benjamin, 82, born in Germany in February 1818. They lived next door to Peter Farny/Farney and Barbara Rediger (a daughter of Johannes/John Rediger and Anna Birky). The previous census page shows Illinois transplants named Augustine, Cender, Guth, Habecker, Oyer, and Schrock. Barbara died at Washington Oct. 30, 1881, and was buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. Benjamin died in Kansas March 27, 1906. His body was returned to Illinois to be buried next to his wife. Their children of Benjamin Rediger and Barbara Oyer born at Washington include:

a) Joseph Rediger was born Jan. 9, 1844, and died Jan. 23, 1875. On March 31, 1872 in Tazewell County he married Mary Birky. She was born in Tazewell County March 23, 1848, and died at Morton Oct. 11, 1925, a daughter of Andreas/Andrew Birky and Catherine Litwiller. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

b) Madeleine or Magdalena Rediger was born circa 1847/48. We could not identify her after the 1870 census.

c) Elizabeth Rediger was born June 24, 1855, and died in Kansas March 22, 1911. On Jan. 31, 1875 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Benjamin Stuckey. He was born in Upper Alsace Dec. 24, 1849, and died in Kansas Nov. 30, 1921, a son of Benoit Stucky/Benjamin Stuckey and Verena/Fanny Hochstetler. They are found on the 1880 census of Groveland as farmer Jos. Stuckey, 31, Germany; Elizabeth, 25, Illinois; Ruffina, 2, Illinois; Jos. B., 11 months, Illinois; and sister-in-law Phebe Rediker [Jacobine], 20, Illinois. They also appear on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of Enterprise, Kansas, which give Joseph's immigration year as 1855. They are buried in Sterling Mennonite Cemetery at Nickerson, Kansas.

d) Mary Rediger was born in 1856, and died July 7, 1927. She is found living with her widowed sister Jacobine on the 1920 census of Washington: Phobe Freidenger, 60, born in Illinois to French parents; and Mary Rediger, 63, born in Illinois to French parents (in 1918 Alsace-Lorraine had been freed from German occupation). She is buried in Glendale Cemetery.

e) Jacobine 'Phoebe' Rediger was born Feb. 8, 1859, and died at Washington, Tazewell County June 7, 1934. She married Henry Freidinger. He was born March 10, 1854, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Aug. 5, 1918, a son of John Nicholas Freidinger and Elizabeth Sandmeyer. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.

f) Christian Rediger was born at Danvers, McLean County in the last six months of 1860, and died in Reno County, Kansas Oct. 10, 1930. His headstone in Sterling Mennonite Cemetery at Nickerson, Kansas says he was born in 1855, which is not consistent with his family's census reports, though it is consistent with his last census report. On Feb. 6, 1878 at Danvers he married Magdalena Hildy. She was born at Danvers Feb. 16, 1860, and died in Reno County Jan. 28, 1956, a daughter of Nicolas Hilti/Hilty and Elizabeth Stuckey. They are buried in Sterling Mennonite Cemetery at Nickerson, Kansas.

g) Catharine Rediger was born July 12, 1866. On Feb. 19, 1884 in Tazewell County she married Isaiah Metzler. He was born in Indiana July 25, 1859, and died in Tazewell County July 3, 1926, a son of Christian Metzler and Anna Wagner. Before the marriage he was a boarder in the household of Andrew Roth at Washington. They are found on the 1900 census of Tremont as farmer Isiah Metzler, born in Indiana in July 25, 1859 to a father from Pennsylvania; Cathrin, born in Illinois July 12, 1866 to parents from Germany; and Benjamin, born in Illinois Dec. 31, 1884.

2) Magdalena/Madeleine Rediger was born circa 1820.

On July 20, 1820 Benjamin remarried to Barbara Ehresmann. She was born on the Obermönsheim estate at Wimsheim, Württemberg (26 miles southeast of Karlsruhe) Aug. 27, 1797, and died in Tazewell County Aug. 31, 1861, a daughter of Johannes Ehresmann and Veronika Egli/Egly. The couple farmed on Lärchenhof estate at Wimsheim. Benjamin and the two children from his first marriage sailed from Le Havre on the *Asia*, arriving at New York May 26, 1834. The passenger list shows Benj. Reuttinger, 45; Benjamin, 15; and Madeleine, 14. Fellow passengers included widower Johannes von Gunde (called 'Jean Gundee' on the passenger list and later called John Gundy); Daniel Eyer; Christian Gautsche and Catherine Goldschmidt; and Catherine's brother Jacob Goldschmidt. According to the *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database*, 'Benjamin Rutiger' purchased 168 acres at $1.25 per acre in Section 18, Township 26N Sept. 14, 1838. Benjamin died in Tazewell County Dec. 3, 1848, and his widow

Barbara sailed with her children six months later. The *Carnatic* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York June 23, 1849. The passenger list includes (in order) Joseph Roediger, 24, farmer, Bavaria; Barbara, 48; Barbara, 26; Johannes, 20; Jacob, 18; Elisabeth, 9; Philippe Oesterle, 35; Veronika Roediger, 24; and Barbara Güngerich, 32. In America, German immigrants from this time frame were collectively known as Forty-Eighters, reflecting the political unrest that began in that year. The family is shown on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as Barbara Reiger, 52; Barbara, 28; Fanny, 26, farmer Joseph, 25; laborer John, 22; laborer Jacob, 20; and Elizabeth, 11; all born in Germany. On the page they follow the family of Benjamin Rediger (1818-1906) and Barbara Oyer. Children of Benjamin Rediger and his second wife Barbara Ehresmann born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim include:

3) Barbara Rediger was born at Friedenwiller, Baden Sept. 3, 1821, and died at Morton April 16, 1886. On Feb. 22, 1853 in Tazewell County she became the second wife of minister Michael Mosiman (see MOSIMAN for background on this couple).

4). Veronika/Veronica 'Fanny' Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim Nov. 3, 1822, and died Oct. 25, 1872.

5) Christian Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim Jan. 20, 1824, and died there Sept. 10, 1834.

6) Joseph Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim March 2, 1826, and died at Meadows, McLean County March 8, 1904. There is a family story that he sailed to America and went to Illinois to look for his father circa 1848, then returned to Europe for his mother and siblings. But this sounds very much like a *Pilgrim's Progress*-style temperance lecture told by a minister, typical of the 1880s; we could not verify a passenger list. On Oct. 29, 1850 in Tazewell County he married Veronica 'Fanny' Oyer; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Butler County, Ohio in 1834, and died May 30, 1872, a daughter of Joseph Oyer and his second wife Magdalena Litwiller. On Jan. 18, 1876 in Livingston County he remarried to Anna Farny Oyer, the widow of John Oyer, a daughter of Peter Farny and Anna Kempf. Joseph was ordained as an Amish Mennonite minister in 1863. Like Nicholas Roth and Michael Mosiman, Joseph fellowshipped with his second cousin Henry Egly of Berne, Indiana and was won over. His congregation was the fifth to join the Defenseless Mennonite movement, and became the Salem Defenseless Mennonite Church in 1866. In 1878 Rediger gave the dedication sermon at a new meeting house that became the Defenseless Mennonite Church of Groveland (later the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Groveland). His household is found on the 1880 census of Waldo as farmer Joseph Rediger, 55, born in Baden to a father from France and a mother from Württemberg; Anna, 50, born in Canada to a father from Baden and a mother from Baden; six Rediger children 22-8 years of age; and five Oyer stepchildren 20-12 years of age; and Philip Oestille [Oesterle], 66, brother-in-law from Baden. The entry is found only four households removed from cousin John Ehresman and his wife Catherine Sommer. Joseph, Veronica, and Anna are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Gridley.

7) Johannes/John Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim Nov. 28, 1828, and died March 13, 1882. On March 15, 1853 in Tazewell County he married Anna Birky; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born Jan. 20, 1832, and died Dec. 4, 1901, a daughter of Christian Birki and Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho. 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. Anna is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Gridley.

8) Jacob Rediger was born on the Lärchenhof at Wimsheim June 28, 1831, and died at Waldo Aug. 26, 1861. On Feb. 20, 1853 in Tazewell County he married Anna 'Nancy' Guth/Good; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born at Washington Aug. 20, 1836, and died at Shickley, Nebraska Aug. 25, 1921, a daughter of Peter Guth and Susanna/Susan Oyer. They are found on the 1860 census of Washington as farmer Jacob Rediger, 28; Anna, 23, Illinois; Susannah, 3; and Barbara, seven months. On March 7, 1867 in Tazewell County Anna remarried to Christian G. Roth. He was born at Willmandingen, Baden Dec. 19, 1834, and died at Milford, Nebraska Dec. 28, 1893 (headstone date), a son of Benedict Roth and Jakobina King. *Herald of Truth*, January 1894: "On the 31st of December, 1893 near Milford, Seward Co., Neb., of grippe, Bro. Christian Roth, aged 59 years and 9 days. He was laid to rest in the Fairview cemetery. He lived in matrimony 26 years and 10 months. He leaves his wife and three sons to mourn his departure. Funeral services by Joseph Schlegel. Text, *2 Cor. 5:1-8*." *Gospel Herald*, September 1921: "Anna (nee Guth) Roth was born near Washington, Ill., Aug. 20, 1836; died at the home of her son (Peter Roth) near Shickley, Neb., Aug. 25, 1921; aged 85 y. 5 d. She leaves three sons, two daughters, 37 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren, besides many other relatives and

friends. Husband and three children preceded her to the spirit world. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her youth, and remained faithful until death. Funeral services were conducted by Bros. Ben Schlegel and W. M. Eicher. Burial at Salem cemetery. May God bless the bereaved ones."

9) Elizabeth Rediger was born Sept. 5, 1839, and died March 15 or 25, 1861. Her name is not found in the Wimsheim *Familien Register*, and she may have been born elsewhere or adopted into this family.

b. Anne Rediger was born on the farm La Forge below Imling Jan. 4, 1789, and died in 1827. On June 24, 1809 at Strasbourg she married Christian/Chrétien Hochstettler. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Hochstettler, 18, a resident of Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace who was born at the mill Katzenwangen at Bennwihr, Lower Alsace July 20, 1790, a son of cultivator Chrétien Hochstettler and Barbe Roggi, residents of Eckbolsheim. The bride was described as Anne Rethiger, 20, a resident of *l'Isle du Rhin* at Gelbenguth, Strasbourg who was born on the farm La Forge near Sarrebourg, Meurthe Jan. 4, 1789, a daughter of cultivator Benjamin Rethiger and Barbe Ringenberger. Their signatures looked like 'Anna Reuthiger' and 'Chrétien Hochstetler.' They had two children at Eckbolsheim in 1812 and 1814, then two at Bennwihr in 1821 and 1824. Christian/Chrétien died Oct. 11, 1841.

■ Magdalena Reidiger was an Anabaptist single parent [Ger. *eine ledige Mennonit*] noted in the *Evangelische* register at Ichenheim in 1823, 1826, and 1833. There is a strong likelihood that her name was given accurately each time a child was registered, because the birth registration of Anabaptist children at an established church was a legal requirement in Baden after 1815. And the recorder would have known the residents of the Ottenweierhof estate. The mother was certainly not a minor on any of the three dates; in that case the name of the maternal grandfather would have been included on the entry. Thus by process of elimination, we can guess that she was a daughter of Benjamin Reutiger/Reuthiger and Barbara/Barbe Ringenberg, born between Anne and Jean. There is a three-year widow between 1789 and the initiation of the *état civil* record keeping system (and gaps even earlier) when her birth may have occurred. Her three children include:

1) Jacobea Rediger was born March 20, 1821, and died May 27, 1823.
2) Magdalena Rediger was born Sept. 7, 1826, and died Nov. 9, 1855.
3) Jakob Rediger was born Sept. 17, 1833, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Sept. 25, 1910. He immigrated in 1850 (per the 1900 census) or 1851 (per the 1910 census). He sailed from Le Havre on the bark-rigged steamer *John Hancock*, and arrived at New Orleans May 20, 1851. The passenger list shows passengers 101-107 from Baden as Christian Giesler, 26; Jacob Rediger, 25; Francois Sell, 19; Barbara Geisler, 25; Elisabeth Rediger, 30; Jacques Rediger, 17; and Barbara Eglé, 20.
   - — Christian Giesler, 26. He may have been born at Müllheim, Baden (31 miles southwest of Denzlingen) Jan. 1, 1825, a son of Johannes Giesler and Katharina Zimmerman. He is found as a 45-year-old farmer from Baden on the 1870 census of Tippecanoe, Indiana.
   - — Jacob Rediger, 25. Also known as Jacob R. Rediger, he was born July 25, 1824, and died Nov. 13, 1895. He married Magdalena 'Lena' Rediger in Woodford County in 1855. She was a daughter of Joseph Rediger and Anne Schmitt. See her information for background on this couple.
   - — Francois Sell, 19.
   - — Barbara Geisler, 25.
   - — Elisabeth Rediger, 30. Born circa 1821, she was a daughter of Daniel Reidiger/Rediger and Elisabeth Eyer, residents of Blumberg, Baden. She had already had two illegitimate children who died at Blumberg before this voyage.
   - — Jacques Rediger, 17. Also known as Jakob or Jacob Rediger, born Sept. 17, 1833.
   - — Barbara Eglé, 20. We suspect but cannot prove that she was an illegitimate child. Nicolas Egli was born circa 1771. Before 1800 he married Christina Hunzicker. Older son Jacob Egli (Mulhausen Baden April 22, 1800-Blotzheim Oct. 30, 1851) married Anne Marie Freyenberger at Blotzheim, Upper Alsace Jan. 12, 1832 (see FREYENBERGER in the Appendix). "After their father died in 1851, the children emigrated to the U.S., settling in Ringgold County, Iowa. Surname 'Egly' in the U.S." Younger son Christian Egli (circa 1806-1889) married widow Marie Hilty Suter. Christian and Marie sailed from Le Havre on the *Rattler*, and arrived at New York May 21, 1856. They later lived in Wayne County, Ohio; Allen County, Indiana; and Reno County, Kansas. *Evangelische* records at Denzlingen, Baden suggest that Nicolas and Christina also had a daughter. On March 21, 1830 Maria Egli [found with the German feminine suffix -in, as Eglin]

gave birth to an illegitimate daughter, Barbara. The maternal grandfather was noted to be Nikolaus Egle, *ein Menoniten*.

On March 13, 1852 in Butler County, Ohio, Jacob Rediger (as he was now known) married Veronica 'Fannie' Schmidt/Smith (headstone 'Fannie Schmitt'). She was born at Mill Creek, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Aug. 10, 1833, and died at Normal, McLean County Jan. 21, 1914 (headstone dates), a daughter of Johannes or Jean Peter Schmidt/John P. Smith and Christine Schwarz. (Note that this Veronica 'Fannie' Schmidt/Smith is easily confused with a niece of the same name, a daughter of her older brother John, who in 1875 in Livingston County married Benjamin Reidiger/Benjamin B. Rediger). They are found on the 1900 census of Bloomington as cooper Jacob Rediger, 67, born in Germany in September 1832, immigrated in 1850; Fannie A., 67, born in Pennsylvania in August 1832 to parents from Germany; and daughter Minnie, born in Illinois in October 1872. The 1910 census of Bloomington describes J. Readiger, 77, born in Germany, married 57 years, immigrated in 1851; his occupation was cooper (barrel maker) in the candy business, where he had worked 50 years (suggesting his employer was the Paul F. Beich Candy Company in Bloomington); and Mrs. J. Readiger, 77, born in Pennsylvania to French parents, mother of 13 children, of whom nine were living. Jacob and Fannie are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

c. Barbe Rethiger (as she signed her own name) was born circa 1792. On Feb. 12, 1818 at St. Maur-des-Fossés (on the southeast outskirts of Paris) she married Johann Friedrich Lindenlaub. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer Frederic Lintenlaub or Lentenlaup. He was born at Mintersheim [a location we could not identify] May 28, 1792, a son of Christian Lentenlaup and Elisabeth Routderine. She was described as Barbe Rediguères, born at Strasbourg Aug. 25, 1794 [we could not find a civil entry there for this date, and it conflicts with her brother Jean; we suspect her age was lessened]. Her parents, cultivator Benjamin Rediguires and Barbe Ringenberg, were present and consenting. Their signatures appear as Johann Friedrich Lindenlaub, Barbe Rethiger, Benjamin Reithiger, and Barbara Ringenberg. Barbe died at St. Maur-des-Fossés Jan. 29, 1826. Her civil death entry described them as Barbe Reithiger, 34 [thus born circa 1792] and Frederic Lindenlaub, 34. Their children born at St. Maur-des-Fossés include:
   1) Jean Lindenlaub was born Jan. 12, 1817. He was mentioned on the marriage entry.
   2) Elisabeth Lindenlaub was born March 21, 1825.

d. Jean Rediger was born at Strasbourg Feb. 6, 1794, and died there Oct. 2, 1794. His civil birth entry described his father as an *Anabaptiste*, and was witnessed by Joseph Zehr, 40, *Anabaptiste*. His civil death entry described his father as someone living near *la porte de 9 Thermidor* in Strasbourg.

e. Chrétien Rediger was born at Strasbourg May 28, 1795. His civil entry said his parents lived á *la porte de la Fedèration* in Strasbourg.

f. Jean Rediger was born at Strasbourg at midnight of Aug. 25, 1797, and died there Nov. 15, 1827. His civil birth entry described his parents as living á *la porte de Boucher* by the two bridges at Strasbourg. His civil death entry described him as bachelor miller Jean Reuthiger, 29, born at Strasbourg, having died at *l'Hospice Civil*, a son of miller Benjamin Reuthiger and Barbe Ringelberg.

g. Jacques/Jacob Rediger was born at Strasbourg Dec. 16, 1799, when his parents were living á *la porte de Boucher*. His civil birth entry described father Benjamin as a cultivator. He died at Levallois-Perret, Hauts-de-Seine (less than two miles north of l'Arc de Triomphe in Paris), July 27, 1882. He married Victoire Constance Aubry.

h. Pierre Rediger was born at Strasbourg Aug. 19, 1802. His civil birth entry was witnessed by cultivator Jean Ringenberg, 34.

i. André Rediger was born at Strasbourg Jan. 13, 1805, and died at Villiers-St. Georges, Seine-et-Marne, France March 24, 1838. His civil birth entry described his father as a 45-year-old cultivator. He married Victoire Adélaide Decornable.

j. Jacobée Roethiger (as her name appeared on her civil death entry) was born circa September 1807, and died at Strasbourg Aug. 15, 1808. Her civil death entry said she had died on *l'Isle du Rhin* at 11 months of age; her parents were described as Benjamin Roethiger and Barbe Rinckenberger.

5. Sebastian Reűtiger (Jr.) was born circa 1763, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate Oct. 29, 1836. He married Magdalena Güngerich. She was born on the Schafbusch estate at Steinseltz, Lower Alsace June 12, 1774, and died at Ichenheim May 24, 1835, a daughter of Christian Güngerich and Anna Holly.[254] *Landesarchiv Baden-Württemberg - Staatsarchiv Freiburg L10 Band 2445* says she died May 29, 1835, age 60, the wife of Sebastian Reidiger and daughter of Christian Gingrich and Anna Hölle. Sebastian [Jr.] assumed the lease on the Ottenweierhof estate upon the death of his father in 1791. In 1815 a birth entry at Ichenheim described him as a *Mennonit Pachter* [Amish Mennonite tenant]. To understand the Stalter marriages that follow, it is helpful to know that Christian (who married

[254] Ferme Schafbusch is still an active entity.

Elisabeth Rinkenberger), Josef [Sr.] (who married Susanne Hauter and Barbara Reidiger), and Johannes (who married Magdalena Reidiger) were brothers. Further, all of the children who went to Pfalz-Zweibrücken were known as 'Reidiger' while there, though some became 'Rediger' after moving on to America. Children of Sebastian Reűtiger [Jr.] and Magdalena Güngerich born on the Ottenweierhof estate include:

a. Magdalena Rediger was born in 1792. On Jan. 29, 1812 on the Ottenweierhof estate she married Johannes Stalter (the event was recorded in the *Evangelische* register Feb. 7). He was born in 1789 (*Ortsippenbuch*) or in 1794, and died in 1828, a son of Christian Stalter and Magdalena Hauter. They farmed on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate at Mittelbach-Hengstbach, Pfalz-Zweibrücken.

b. Jakobea Rediger was born at Offenburg, Baden Nov. 7, 1796, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County July 19, 1869. She married Johannes König. He was born in Baden June 24, 1791, and died in Europe in 1857, a son of Christian König and Maria Zimmerman. Jakobea arrived at Montgomery, Woodford County as a widow with children circa 1858. See KING for background on their family.

c. Anna Rediger was born in 1797, and died in Moselle Sept. 3, 1823. On April 14, 1818 in Auenheim parish (Auenheim is adjacent to Kehl on its north side) she married Christian Hauter. He was born on the castle estate Gutenbrunnen at Asswiller, Lower Alsace June 23, 1797, a son of Johannes Hauter and Barbara Oesch. On Dec. 31, 1863 at Sarrewerden, Lower Alsace Christian remarried to Barbara Sommer. She was born at Bischtroff-sur-Sarre, Lower Alsace Sept. 27, 1804, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Magdalena Martin.

d. Barbara Rediger was born Sept. 14, 1802, and died on the Monbijou estate at Deitrichingen, Bavaria May 4, 1867. On Feb. 3, 1822 on the Ottenweierhof estate she became the second wife of Josef Stalter [Sr.] (his first wife was Susanne Hauter). He was born on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate at Mittelbach-Hengstbach March 27, 1786, and died on the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen Jan. 25, 1853, a son of Christian Stalter and Magdalena Hauter. Josef became a deacon.

e. Johannes Rediger was born May 9, 1806, and died Nov. 11, 1867. On Feb. 19, 1828 at Dietrichingen he married Elisabetha Stalter. She was born May 9, 1809, and died Nov. 11, 1867, a daughter of Josef Stalter [Sr.] and his first wife Susanne Hauter. Johannes returned to the place where his grandfather had lived. In an 1858 issue of *Zweibrűcker Wochenblatt* Hohann Reidiger was mentioned as *Gutsbesitzer von Hornbach* [landowner]. Johannes and his son Johannes became deacons of the Amish Mennonite congregation on the Stuppachrhof at Hornbach, Zweibrűcken.

   1) Johannes Rediger was born Nov. 24, 1829. On Dec. 4, 1856 at Salem, Baden he married Barbara Zimmerman, a daughter of Jacob Zimmerman and Magdalena Roth.

f. Katharina/Catharina Rediger was born April 5, 1808, and died at Arrowsmith, McLean County Jan. 1, 1877. On March or May 23, 1830 on the Ottenweierhof estate she married Josef Stalter [Jr.]. He was born Sept. 15, 1807, and died at Arrowsmith Oct. 22, 1888, a son of Josef Stalter and his first wife Susann Hauter. He emigrated from Europe in 1853 after getting into financial troubles. She immigrated in 1855 to join her husband in Butler County, Ohio, and in 1859 they came to McLean County. He became a minister of the Rock Creek Meeting. See STALTER for background on this couple.

g. Elisabeth Rediger was born circa 1812, and died in Europe in or before 1853. On Feb. 18, 1835 on the Ottenweierhof estate she married Johannes/John Stalter. He was born on the Monbijou estate Sept. 15, 1812, and died at Gridley, McLean County May 18, 1897, a son of Josef Stalter [Sr.] and his first wife Susanne Hauter. They leased the Kirschbacherhof estate near Hornbach. Elisabeth died in Europe, and her widowed husband emigrated in 1853. See STALTER for background on this couple including Johannes's later marriages and life in Livingston County .

h. Christian Rediger was born Sept. 2, 1815, and died on the Ottenweierhof estate Jan. 13, 1837. His *Evangelische* birth entry described his father as a *Mennonit Pachter* [Amish Mennonite tenant].

i. Susanna Rediger was born Feb. 23, 1820, and died June 27, 1821.

Children of Sebastian Reűtiger/Reidiger [Sr.] and his second wife Anna Lederach were born on the Ottenweierhof at Ichenheim, Baden. They include:

6. Jakob Reűtiger was born March 6, 1773, and died on the Ottenweierhof Jan. 1, 1843. Circa 1790 he married Jakobea/Jakobina Güngerich. She was born on the Schafbusch estate at Steinseltz April 15, 1779, a daughter of Christian Güngerich and Anna Holly. She was a younger sister to Magdalena, the wife of Jakob's half-brother Sebastian [Jr.]. In 1815 a birth entry at Ichenheim described Jakob as a *Mennonit Pachter* [Amish Mennonite tenant]. From 1817 to 1837 Jakob leased land on the Scheibenhardt estate farm [Ger. *Hofgut*] on the outskirts of Karlsruhe, Baden, then returned to the Ottenweierhof.[255] In 1833 the *Agricultural Weekly of the Grand Duchy of Baden* [Ger.

[255] Hofgut Scheibenhardt was constructed around a three-story hunting lodge/castle in 1698. In present day studios of the Karlsruhe State Academy of Fine Arts are located there.

This property is easily confused with the community of Scheibenhardt. Although the community is only 12 miles west of Karlsruhe, it is located in the Rhineland-Palatinate on the west side of the Rhine River, on the border with Lower Alsace.

Landwirthschaftliches Wochenblatt für das Grossherzogthum Baden] announced that 'Rediger von Scheibenhardt' had won the first prize for land management with horses, receiving a large silver medal and three ducats. Some sources say Jakobea/Jakobina died, and Jakob remarried to Magdalena Güngerich. But *Landesarchiv Baden-Württemberg - Staatsarchiv Freiburg L10 Band 2446* says that when Jakob died at Ichenheim Jan. 1, 1845, the entry said his wife was Jacobine Gingerich, and his parents were Sebastian Reidiger and Anna Ketterer (a misreading of Lederach). Even if she had died before that, it is apparent that she was his last wife. Children of Jakob Reűtiger and Jacobea/Jakobine Güngerich include:

a. Magdalena Reidiger was born circa 1795, and died at Hegenheim, Upper Alsace July 8, 1834. Her marriage to Johannes/Jean Zimmerman was entered in records at Auenheim, Baden (adjacent to Kehl on its north side) and at Ichenheim Nov. 19, 1815. He was born at Hochburg, Baden Oct. 17, 1791, and died at Archbold or Pettisville, Ohio Jan. 25, 1873, a son of Christian Zimmerman and Elisabeth König. See ZIMMERMAN for background on this couple, his second marriage, and emigration.

b. Daniel Reidiger/Rediger was born circa 1799, and died at Blumberg, Baden July 17, 1867. He married Elisabeth Eyer. They initially leased land on the grounds of the Jesuitenschloss estate at Merzhausen (three miles south of Freiburg im Breisgau). Merzenhausen was a Catholic community touching the lower boundary of Freiburg.[256] The communal farm Steppacherhof at Blumberg (70 miles southeast of Ichenheim, on the border of Swiss Canton Schaffhausen) is at least as old as the 12th century.[257] Daniel's death entry identified by Helmut Gingerich described him as Daniel Rediger, 68, widower of Elisabeth Schrag [this may or may not indicate a second marriage], and son of Jakob Rediger and Jakobea Gungerich. In no particular order:

   1) Elisabetha Rediger was named as the mother of Johann Rediger, born at Blumberg March 26, 1839; he died there Feb. 13, 1843. She was again named as the mother of Andreas Rediger, born on the Steppacherhof at Blumberg March 24, 1841; he died March 26, 1842. Both birth entries name maternal grandparents Daniel Rediger and Elisabetha Eyerin. She was the Elisabeth Rediger, 30, found on the passenger list of the bark-rigged steamer *John Hancock.* It sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New Orleans May 20, 1851.
   2) Barbara Eyer was named as the mother of Heinrich Rediger, born at Blumberg March 26, 1845. The entry named the maternal grandparents as Daniel Rediger and Elisabetha Eyerin. On Jan. 9, 1868 at Blumberg Heinrich married Barbara Tschantz.
   3) Josef Rediger and Verena Müller were named as the parents of Daniel Rediger, born at Blumberg April 8, 1852.
   4) Anna Rediger was named as the unmarried mother of Maria Rediger, born at Blumberg July 13, 1853.

c. Christian Reidiger was born June 5, 1805, and died in March of 1860. According to his journal he was born at Freiburg, and this has led to confusion with the city Freiburg im Breisgau. But Ichenheim in the municipality of Neuried is situated in the district of Ortenau in Freiburg Region of Baden-Wűrttemberg. On Jan. 18, 1829 on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate at Mittelbach-Hengstbach, Bavaria he married Magdalena Stalter. She was born on the Wahlerhof estate at Mittelbach-Hengstbach Dec. 10, 1805, and died in Livingston County Jan. 5, 1877, a daughter of minister Christian Stalter and Elisabeth Rinkenberger, who were tenants on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate. Magdalena Rediger Stalter (daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger [Jr.]), who was already living on the Bickenashbacherhof estate, would have been a cousin to the groom and aunt to the bride; she had married Johannes Stalter, who was an uncle to the bride. The couple farmed on the Bickenaschbacherhof estate, where Christian would have been known as a 'Reidiger.' After his death Magdalena came to America. *Herald of Truth*, February 1877: "Jan. 5th, in Livingston Co., Ill., of the infirmities of age, Sister Magdalena Rediger, 72 years and 26 days. Buried the 7th, when the largest number of brothers and sisters that ever attended a funeral in the county assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to the departed sister. She leaves five deeply bereaved children to mourn their loss. Funeral services by John P. Schmitt, Jacob Zehr, and Christian Schlagel, from *2 Cor. 5*." We could only identify three of their five children:

   1) Magdalena Rediger was born at Mittelbach-Hengstbach Oct. 25, 1829, and died at Gridley, McLean County April 23, 1896. In Butler County, Ohio in 1864 she married widower minister Pierre Schrag/Peter Schrock. Pierre/Peter was born at Gondrexange, Moselle June

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In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, p. 50, Hermann Guth wrote that, "Jakob Reidiger is named on the estate [*Gut*] Gottesaue in 1718; he belongs to the Reidiger family on the Ottenweier estate." The estate of Gottesaue Palace [Ger. *Schloss*] is located in Karlsruhe. We believe Guth meant to write that Jakob Reidiger (1773-1843) was there in 1818 rather than 1718.

[256] The Jesuitenschloss estate sits on a hill above Merzhausen. The Society of Jesuits occupied it before 1777. At the time Daniel was living there it belonged to the von Kagenack family. They were prominent administrators and landholders, and descendants of Johann Friedrich Friedolin *Freiherr* von Kageneck, who had been imperial chamberlain to Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II. The Jesuitenschloss is now a popular tourist destination with a winery and restaurant.

[257] The Steppacherhof at Blumberg is now an ostrich farm [Ger. *Straussenfarm*].

15, 1802, and died at Trenton, Butler County Sept. 17, 1887, a son of Joseph Schrag and Marie Neuhauser. For backgound on this couple see SCHROCK.

2) Jacobina 'Phebe' 'Phoeba' 'Bena' Rediger was born in Germany Feb. 2, 1845, and died at Bloomington, McLean County March 7, 1922. On Dec. 3, 1874 in McLean County she married widower Ludwig/Louis Stalter. He was born at Trippstadt (below the city of Kaiserslautern) in what is now the Rhineland-Palatinate Nov. 25, 1841, and died at Hanna City, Peoria County Oct. 15, 1914, a son of Magdalena Schrag.[258] He and his mother sailed from Le Havre on the *Splendid*, and arrived at New York Nov. 28, 1856; the passenger list showed them as Madeleine Stalter, 50, and Louis, 14. He had married his first wife Anna Schrock in at Spring Bay May 11, 1861, and she died Feb. 19, 1874. Louis and Jacobina are found on the 1880 census of Morton as grocer Louis Stalter, 37, Germany; Phoeba, 34, Germany; Lena, 17; Anna, 14; Peter, 12; and Louis, 10; all children born in Illinois. Louis served two terms as sheriff of Tazewell County. Louis divorced Jacobina and married a third time. On Nov. 7, 1888 in Tazewell County he remarried to widow Roseanna Dearth Kerrr Harris. She was born in 1852, and died in 1927, a daughter of Rudolph Dearth and Elizabeth Fuhrman. Her first husband was name Harris. They appear on the 1900 census of Elmwood, Peoria County, where Louis is a bit younger, born in France in November 1843. Louis was buried beside his first wife. A joint headstone in Waldo Cemetery says, 'Louis Stalter, 1841-1914, Anna Stalter, 1840-1874.' The 1920 census of Gridley, Livingston County shows widow Bena Stalter, 73, born in Germany, immigrated in 1868. Her death entry calls her Jacobina Stalter, but says she was a daughter of Christian Rudiger and Magdaline Stalter; resided at Gridley; and is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. Her headstone says simply 'Bena Stalter, Feb. 2, 1845-March 7, 1922.'

3) Christian Rediger was born in Germany Aug. 26, 1849, and died at Aurora, Nebraska in 1938. According to *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* (1926), he was baptized by minister Josef Stalter in 1863. He did not emigrate from Europe until 1867. On March 25, 1875 he married Katharina Risser. She was born in 1857, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Nov. 18, 1919. He was ordained as a minister in 1878, and helped to organize the Flanagan Mennonite Church. He was ordained as an elder by Joseph Stuckey in 1885. He left Illinois in that year and relocated at Aurora, where he organized the Pleasant View Mennonite Church. They are buried in Aurora Cemetery.

d. Jacob Reidiger/Rediger was born June 30, 1807, and died at Milford, Nebraska June 15, 1889. He married Magdalena Schrag. The *Ortsippenbuch Ichenheim* says she was born at Erzingen. This village is on the border with the Swiss Canton Schaffhausen, 85 miles southeast of Ichenheim. She was born circa 1813, and died at Milford April 11, 1882, a daughter of Johannes Shrag and Elisabeth Eyer (they farmed on the Heimbrunnerhof estate at Königsbach, Baden; Königsbach and adjacent Remchingen are

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[258] John Stalter and Magdalena Imhof were named as Ludwig/Louis's parents when information was provided for his 1888 marriage. However, a birth entry for Lutvig Stalter created at Trippstadt Nov. 25, 1841 names only his mother, Magdalena Stalter. This suggests that he was her illegitimate child.

We could not determine Magdalena Stalter's place or date of death. She is last found in the home of her daughter Elizabeth at Washington, Tazewell County in 1870. It is possible that she is buried in an unmarked grave at Guth Cemetery in Sunnyland.in Washington

Louis had an older sister Elisabethe/Elizabeth Stalter. She was born at Trippstadt April 28, 1825, and died at Morton April 16, 1888. Her birth entry also named only her mother, Magdalena Stalter. On Oct. 4, 1849 at Trippstadt she married Heinrich Schmalenberger. The marriage entry named his parents, but not hers. He was born at Trippstadt Dec. 5, 1825, and died at Washington Dec. 5, 1869, a son of Johannes Schmalenberger and Katharina Jung. (Trippstadt is adjacent to the village of Schmalenberg). He sailed from Le Havre on the *Samuel M. Fox*, arriving at New York Nov. 11, 1851. This was the same voyage that brought the Sutor/Sutter family. The passenger list shows tailor Henri Schmalenberger, 25, and carpenter Henri Jung, 48, from Hesse. The 1860 census of Groveland has H. Smallberry, 34; Elizabeth, 35; Eva, 10; Ann, 8; Laura, 2; and Barbara, four months. Henry Schmalenberg of Bavaria was naturalized at the courthouse in Peoria Sept. 28, 1860. The 1870 census of Washington shows Elizabeth Smallberry, 44, Germany; Ernest, 17, New York; Leana, 12, Illinois; Barbara, 10, Illinois; Andrew, 8, Illinois; Peter, 6, Illinois; and Lena Stalter, 60 Germany. They lived next door to Benjamin Rediger (found as Reidger) and Barbara Oyer. In 1880 the census shows them as Smallberg. Heinrich's headstone in Guth Cemetery calls him Henry Smallberry; Elizabeth is buried there as Elizabeth Schmallenberger.

Another older sister Barbara Stalter was born at Trippstadt May 18, 1835, and died at Fon du Lac Jan. 15, 1922. On May 28, 1859 in Tazewell County she married Abraham Rinkenberger. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania March 28, 1833, and died at Fon du Lac April 15, 1915, a son of Peter Rinkenberger and Anna Schrock. The 1900 census of Fon du Lac shows them with errant information likely provided by one of their children: farmer Abraham Rinkenberger, 65, born in Pennsylvania in March 1835 to German parents; Barbara, 60, born in Germany in March or May 1840, immigrated in 1840 but only in the country 50 years; with four adult children and a grandchild born in Illinois. The 1910 census of Fon du Lac gives their ages as 74 and 72; they were living with three grown children. They are buried in Rinkenberger Cemetery at Robein.

located 100 miles northeast of Ichenheim). In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth wrote that after leaving the Ottenweilerhof estate in 1868 Jacob and Magdalena were last at Merzhausen. Perhaps they were actually there at the time of brother Daniel's death in 1867. Jacob fulfilled the last obligations of Daniel's lease on the grounds of the Jesuitenschloss, and presumably divided the refunded lease deposit among Daniel's heirs. Jacob and Magdalena sailed from Bremen on the steamer *New York*, and arrived at New York March 25, 1868.[259] The first page of the passenger list shows German farmer Jac. Reidiger, 58, and Magdl., 54. On the eighth page we find their children and two companions: German farmer Chr. Reidiger, 26; Cathr., 22; Jos., 21; Benj., 19; Joh., 15; Elisab., 9; Chr., 9 [a male]; and German farmers Henry Grieser, 19; and Jac. Walber, 20.[260] The 1885 state census of Olio, Woodford County shows Jacob Rediger, 77, Baden; and Magdalen., 72, Baden. They were living next door to their daughter Magdalena and her husband Johannes/John Teuscher. Jacob is found as a 78-year-old in the household of his son Joseph on the 1885 state census of Precinct O (later Milford), Seward County, Nebraska. *Herald of Truth*, August 1889: "On the 15th of June, near Milford, Seward Co., Nebraska, Preacher Jacob Rediger, aged 81 years, 11 months and 17 days. He was a laborer in the ministry for fifty-three years, and worked faithfully until the last six months of his mortal life. He seldom missed an appointment. He lived in matrimony 47 years and had 12 children, of which three, together with his wife, preceded him. Nine children, 42 grandchildren, and one great-grand child followed him to the grave. Services by Joseph Gascho and Joseph Schlegel from *2 Cor. 5:2* and *Matt. 25:23.* He was buried in the Mennonite graveyard." Jacob and Magdalena are buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford, Nebraska. Their children include:

1) Magdalena Reidiger/Rediger was born at Ichenheim Aug. 5, 1838, and died at Fisher, Champaign County July 7, 1917. On Nov. 13, 1859 she married Johannes/John Teuscher. He was born in 1833, and died May 14, 1887. They departed from Hamburg on the *S.S. Holsatia*, and arrived at New York April 10, 1874. They were accompanied by her sisters Elisabeth and Maria Rediger, and Maria's husband Christian Egle. The passenger list shows farmer Joh. Teuscher, 41; Magd., 31; Jacob, 13; and Wilh., 9. *Gospel Herald*, August 1917: "Magdalena Teuscher (Rediger) was born Aug. 5, 1838, in Baden, Germany; died July 7, 1917, at Fisher, Ill., aged 78 y. 11 m. 2 d. Death was due to mitral regurgitation, from which she had been a sufferer for the past five years. She was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church which she joined in her younger years. She was united in marriage to Johannes Teuscher Nov. 13, 1859, and came to Eureka, Ill., in 1873. To this union were born four sons and one daughter. For the last ten years she has made her home with her son John of Fisher. She leaves to mourn her departure four sons, 22 grandchildren, four brothers, three sisters, and a host of relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the Amish Mennonite Church conducted by Bro. Samuel Garber, assisted by Bro. Peter Zehr. Her selected text was *II Pet. 1:12-15*. Interment was made in the cemetery nearby."
2) Jakob Reidiger/Jacob Rediger was born at Ichenheim Sept. 15, 1839, and died at Flagler, Colorado Jan. 10, 1931. He emigrated from Europe in 1865. On Aug. 19, 1866 in Woodford County he married Catherine Schertz. She was born in Illinois June 30, 1843, and died at Yuma, Arizona Dec. 24, 1892, a daughter of David Schertz and Catherine Schrag. His letters to Baden encouraged his parents to follow him. *Herald of Truth*, February 1893: "On the 24th of Dec., 1892, in Arapahoe Co., Colo., of dropsy of the heart, sister Catharine, maiden name Schertz, wife of Bro. Jacob Rediger, aged 49 years, 5 mos., 25 days. She had been receiving medical treatment at Yuma, and died while there. She leaves her sorrowing husband and children; five children preceded her. Buried on the 27th near Thurman. Funeral services by Joseph Rediger of Seward Co., Neb., and Jacob Roth, and Joseph Schlegel of Thurman." The 1900 census of Precinct 22, Lake County, Colorado shows Jacob Rediger, 62, born in Germany in September 1837 [1839], immigrated in 1860; miner Benjamin, 26, born in Illinois in September 1873 to parents from Germany and France; miner Peter, 25, born in Illinois in May 1875 to parents from Germany and France; Lena, 17, born in Nebraska in April 1881 to parents from Germany and France; and Lydie, 13, born in Nebraska in July 1886 to parents from Germany and France, 'at school.' Jacob was living with his son David and daughter-in-law Barbara Ruby when their home was damaged by a tornado at Thurman Aug. 10, 1924.[261] He is found as a 90-year-old from Baden, who

[259] A passport application filed by Jacob Wolber at Peoria in 1880 estimated the date of their departure as March 7.

[260] Jacob Wolber was born at Königsbach Feb. 13, 1849, and died at Deer Creek Oct. 17, 1931, a son of Christien Wolber and Susanna Hochstettler. In Tazewell County he married Magdalena Zehr and possibly Phoebe Zehr, daughters of Jakob/Jacob Zehr and Elizabeth Ehresman. See ZEHR for background on these couples, or WOLBER in the Appendix for background on the Wolber family. Henry Grieser will be noted as a son of Christian Grieser and Katharina Rediger.

[261] Two tornado funnels came to earth at Thurman, Colorado on Sunday, Aug. 10, 1924. While the husbands were out scouting one funnel, the other devastated a home where their wives and children were celebrating completion of the harvest.

immigrated in 1860 [1865], in their household on the 1930 census of Thurman. *Gospel Herald*, January 1931: "Jacob Rediger was born in Baden, Germany, Sept. 15, 1839; died Jan. 10, 1931; aged 91 y. 3 m. 26 d. In 1865 he came to America as a young man, making his home in Eureka, Ill. In 1879 he moved to Milford, Neb., and in 1890 to Arickaree, Colo. For the last seventeen years he has made his home with his son David of Flagler, Colo. In 1865 he was married to Katherine Schertz. Eleven children were born to this union, eight sons and three daughters. His wife, five sons, one daughter, six grandchildren, his parents, one brother, three sisters preceded him in death. He leaves two daughters (Lydia Schrock, Lena Lichti), three sons (David, Ben, Peter), 31 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, three brothers, and two sisters. He accepted Christ as his Savior in his youth and remained faithful unto the end, ever seeking the welfare of his family and admonishing his children in the Lord. Funeral services were conducted by H. Kuhns on Jan. 13. Text, *Heb. 13:14*. The body was laid to rest in the cemetery adjoining the church near Thurman, Colo."

3) Christian Reidiger/Rediger was born at Ichenheim Nov. 27, 1840 (he wrote that he was born at Freiburg), and died at Milford, Nebraska Jan. 21, 1932. On June 25, 1878 in Tazewell County Christian married Elizabeth Eigsti. She was born at Metamora, Woodford County March 7, 1856, and died at Hartford, Kansas Nov. 13, 1895, a daughter of Joseph Eigsti and Susan Nafziger. *Herald of Truth*, December 1895: "Elizabeth Rediger died in Hartford, Kans., November the 13th, 1895. She and a part of the family came here from Colorado four weeks before her death. She was 39 years, eight months and six days old. She was mother of 13 children of which one went before her. She leaves 12 children and a husband to mourn their loss, but they need not mourn as those that have no hope. What was most sad, Bro. Rediger and part of the family did not arrive here until the day after her death. She was buried on the 16th. Funeral services in the Hartford Christian church by John Steckley and D. D. Kauffman in German, and Joseph Schlegel in English. Text, *Psalm 90: 12*. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite church. Joseph Schlegel." *Gospel Herald*, February 1932: "Christian Rediger was born in Baden, Germany, Nov. 27, 1840; died at the home of Perry Stutzman, Jan. 21, 1932; aged 91 y. 1 m. 24 d. He was united in marriage to Elizabeth Eigsti June 25, 1878. To this union were born 13 children, seven sons and six daughters. He came with his parents from Germany to Woodford Co., Ill., in the year 1868. In 1883 he with his family came to Milford, Nebr., where they lived until the year 1889. They later located at Thurman, Colo. From there they moved to Hartford, Kans., and because of the death of his life companion, he moved again to Milford, Nebr., in the year 1899. In this community he remained the rest of his life. During the last 20 years he lived with one of his children. His wife, two sons, one daughter, two brothers, and three sisters preceded him in death. He is survived by 10 children: Edward, Phoebe, Joseph, Susie, Lena, Benjamin, Emma, Christian, William, Lydia. He is also survived by two brothers and two sisters, 65 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He accepted Christ as his personal Savior in his youth and united with the Mennonite Church of which he was a member when he died. He was apparently in good health until the last few days of his life when pneumonia set in, which caused his death. Funeral services were held at the East Fairview Church, conducted by J. E. Zimmerman and Ben Schlegel. Text, *Rom. 8:18*. Interment in the adjoining cemetery."

4) Veronika Reidiger/Veronica Rediger was born at Ichenheim Jan. 10, 1842 (the date given on her marriage entry; her obituary says Feb. 7), and died at Boynton Dec. 4, 1922. On Nov. 12, 1865 at Königsbach, Baden she married Rudolph Ehrisman; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Egly of Mönsheim. Rudolph was born at Königsbach Nov. 21, 1842, and died in their home at Linn, Woodford County Nov. 19, 1895, a son of Jakob Ehresmann and Katharina Eyer. For background on this couple see EHRESMAN.

5) Catherine Reidiger/Rediger was born at Ichenheim April 22, 1843, and died at Manson, Iowa Aug. 3, 1937. On Jan. 31, 1869 in Woodford County she married John Ulrich. He was born at East Peoria Aug. 18, 1845, and died in Woodford County July 15, 1912, a son of Peter Ulrich and his first wife Anna Oyer. For her obituary see ULRICH.

6) Joseph Reidiger/Rediger was born at Ichenheim May 13, 1845, and died at Milford, Nebraska Aug. 28, 1938. On July 3, 1873 he married Magdalena Birky. She was born Jan. 4, 1853 (calculated from her obituary) or February 1854 (per the 1900 census of Milford), and died at Milford, Nebraska May 28, 1924, a daughter of Joseph Birky and Barbara Eigsti. She appears on the 1860 census of Morton as Nancy Birky, 6, suggesting she was born an Anna in 1854 (Nancy was considered the fashionable American equivalent in immigrant communities where there were many, many Annas). *Gospel Herald*, June 1924: "Magdalena

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Ten persons were killed and eight injured. The bodies of the dead were laid out in the damaged home of David Rediger pending burial. One thousand persons attended the subsequent group funeral.

(Birky) Rediger was born at Morton, Ill., Jan. 4, 1853; died at their home in Milford, Nebr., May 28, 1924; aged 71 y. 4 m. 24 d. She was married to Joseph Rediger July 3, 1873. In 1881 they came to Milford and labored faithfully for the lord until she was called to the glory world. Not having any children of their own, their love and sympathy for others was manifested by caring and providing for others, among whom were Mary Teuscher and Barbara Ehrisman. She leaves a husband, two brothers, and three sisters. Two brothers and two sisters preceded her in death. At the time of her departure all the remaining brothers and sisters were present. Her death was due to cancer, suffering a year or more. She finally underwent an operation, but nothing could be done to improve her condition. A longing to see Jesus and to meet Him were her wishes." *Gospel Herald*, September 1938: "Joseph Rediger was born in Baden, Germany Mar. 13, 1847; died Aug. 28, 1938 at the home of Henry Teuscher, Milford, Nebr.; aged 93 y. 5 m. 15 d. He was married to Magdalena Birky July 3, 1873. Those preceding him in death were his wife, three brothers, and four sisters. He leaves his two foster children (Mary Teuscher and Barbara Ehrisman of Milford, Nebr.), one brother (Benjamin of Hoopston, Ill.), one sister (Lizzie Wekler of Los Angeles, Calif.), and many relatives and friends. At the age of 23 he with his parents came from Germany and located at Eureka, Ill. Later, in 1881, he moved to Milford, Nebr., with his parents, where he lived on the farm southwest of town for many years. They then moved to town, where his wife died. Having no children of their own, their love and sympathy for others was manifested by caring and providing for others. He gave his heart and life to God in his youth."

7) Daniel Reidiger was born at Ichenheim Nov. 12, 1846, and died there Dec. 9, 1846.
8) Benjamin Reidiger/Benjamin B. Rediger was born at Ichenheim Aug. 17, 1848, and died in Breckinridge County, Kentucky June 12, 1943. Birth entry witnesses included Christian Eyman and Christian Griesser. On Feb. 14, 1875 in Livingston County he married Veronica 'Fannie' Schmidt/Smith. She was born at Charleston, Lee County, Iowa in November 1858, and died in 1919, a daughter of Johannes Peter Schmidt/John P. Smith and Catherine Birckelbach/Burgelbaugh/Birkelbaw. Benjamin was naturalized in Livingston County March 22, 1877. They appear on the 1900 census of Waldo, Livingston County as day laborer B.B. Rediger, 51, born in Germany in August 1848, immigrated in 1868; Fanny B., 41, born in Iowa in November 1858 to French and Canadian parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County. The 1920 census of Chenoa, McLean County has Ben B. Rediger, 71, born in Germany, immigrated in 1868; Albert, 33, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Iowa; and Pheobe, 25, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Iowa. The 1940 census of Hoopston, Vermilion County shows Benjeman Rediger, 91, Germany, as a father-in-law to Eugene Smith, 22, Illinois.
9) Maria Reidiger/Rediger was born at Ichenheim Sept. 14, 1850, and died at Merzhausen Aug. 13, 1859. Birth entry witnesses included Christian Eiman and Christian Griesser. Maria was the last of the children recorded in *Evangelische* records at Ichenheim.
10) Johannes Reidiger/John Rediger was born Jan. 11, 1853, and died Feb. 9, 1913. He married Hannah Wright. She was born Oct. 12, 1849, and died Oct. 11, 1911. The 1880 census of Hudson, McLean County shows farmer John Rediger, 27, Baden; Hannah, 29, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Virginia; and two children born in Illlinois. The 1900 census of Normal, McLean County has farmer John Rediger, 47, born in Germany in January 1853, immigrated in 1868; Hannah, 50, born in Illinois in October 1849 to parents from Ohio and Virginia; Mary, 21, born in Illinois in October 1878; and Franses [male], 17, born in Illinois in May 1883. They are buried in Kaufman Cemetery at Hudson, McLean County.
11) Elisabetha Reidiger/Elisabeth Rediger (twin?) was born at Merzhausen or Freiburg im Breisgau, Baden April 8, 1858, and died in Los Angeles Jan. 11, 1945.[262] On May 10, 1876 she married Christian Wirkler. He was born in Switzerland July 10, 1840, and died in Los Angeles Oct. 1, 1932, a son of Christian Wirkler and Lydia Ummel. They are found on the 1900 census of Harvey, Kansas as Christian Wirkler, 59, born in Switzerland in July 1840; Lizzie, 42, born in Germany in April 1858; Mary A., 23, born in Illinois in February 1877; Lizzie R., 22, born in Kansas in March 1878; and John E., 20, born in Kansas in July 1879. They are buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park at Glendale, California. *Christlicher Bundesbote*, Jan. 23, 1845: "Mrs. Elisabeth Wirkler, youngest daughter of minister and Mrs. Jacob Rediger, was born on April 8, 1858 in Freiburg, in Baden, Germany. When she was nine years old she came with her parents to Eureka, Ill. Here she grew up, and was baptized

[262] Merzhausen was the home of Daniel Rediger and Elisabeth Eyer. The birth was recorded there. Merzhausen touches the lower boundary of Freiburg (also called Freiburg im Breisgau).

into the confession of her faith, and joined the Mennonite congregation whose faithful member she remained. She married Christian Wirkler, and the young family lived until 1888 on a farm near Wichita, Kansas. Then, to be again among Mennonites, they moved near Halstead, and in 1893 to Newton, where they lived 24 years, and then made their last earthly home in Los Angeles. Here her faithful husband was called up into the upper home in 1932. His wife fell in October 1841, causing a fracture of the hips. She was confined to a wheelchair, nursed in love by her daughter Elizabeth. On Jan. 11, 1945, her often repeated wish, 'I want to be home' was fulfilled. The funeral reception took place Jan. 15, with the preachers D.D. Eitzen and H.B. Dirks talking in the Church of the Heather, and Otto Hirschler playing German Christian songs on the organ. The burial took place at the Forest Lawn Cemetery next to the tomb of her husband. The dear ones love the children dearly: Mary; Mrs. C.E. Krehbiel and family; Elisabeth at home, and John E. Wirkler and family, of Oberlin, Ohio."

12) Chr. Reidiger (twin?) is listed among the children on the 1868 passenger list. He was nine years old, the same age as Elisabeth, and marked down as a male. Jacob's obituary said that he had 12 children. Chr. must have died before 1889 to make the total of three also described there. We suspect but cannot prove that, because there was already a Christian in the family, his full name was actually something like Christian Jakob or Christian Johannes. He may also have been adopted, a grandchild, or a tagalong.

e. Katharina Reidiger was born in 1810, and died at Beuren June 9, 1850. Joe Springer identified her death entry, calling her Catharina Rettiger. She married Christian Grieser. He was born circa April 22, 1806, and died at Beuren (now part of Salem, Baden-Württemberg Jan. 17, 1853, a son of Heinrich Grieser and Barbara Barth. They farmed at Beuren. Christian's death entry was identified by Joe Springer; it names his second wife as Catharina Gussler. She died at Beuren Nov. 30, 1855, age 37.

1) Jakobina 'Phoebe' Grieser was born in September 1834 (per her headstone), and died at Milford, Nebraska June 22, 1901. She is found as servant Jacobina Grieser, 40, in the household of Jacob Rocke on the 1880 census of Yates, McLean County. The 1900 census of Precinct O, Seward County, Nebraska has her as cousin Phoebe Grieser, 65, born in Germany in January 1835, immigrated in 1870, in the household of farmer Joseph Rediger (son of Jacob Reidiger/Rediger and Magdalena Schrag). *Herald of Truth*, July 1901: On the 22nd of June, 1901, Jakobina Grieszer, aged 65 years and eight months. She leaves three brothers and one sister. Deceased suffered with liver complaint. Services on Sunday, June 23rd, by N.E. Roth and Jos. Schlegel." She is buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford.

2) Barbara Grieser was born at Ichenheim Dec. 20, 1839, and died at Milford Sept. 6, 1899. She may be the 'Barba. Grieser, 29' found on the passenger list of the *Cimbria*. It sailed from Hamburg via Le Havre, and arrived at New York Sept. 24, 1869. On March 6, 1871 in Livingston County she married Jean Staufer/John Stauffer. He was born at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace March 19, 1841, and died at Milford May 7, 1914, a son of Jean Staufer and Barbe Kaufmann (the father signed his civil birth entry 'Staufer'). They relocated to Milford later that year. On Nov. 12, 1901 John remarried to remarried to Maria/Mary Ringenberg. She was born Sept. 19, 1844, and died at Manson, Iowa Sept.22, 1929, a daughter of Jean/John Ringenberger and his first wife Anna Gerber or Garber. Her first husband had been Johannes König/John R. King. He was born Sept. 16, 1825, and died in Livingston County April 25, 1895, a son of Johannes König and Jakobea Rediger (who was a daughter of Sebastian Reŭtiger and Magdalena Güngerich). On the 1910 census of Precinct O, Seward County, Nebraska John gave his date of immigration as 1868. Barbara, John, and Mary are buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford.

3) Daniel Grieser was born at Ichenheim, Baden Dec. 12, 1840, and died at Dewey, Champaign County Feb. 19, 1824, where he was a minister. His *Evangelische* birth entry was witnessed by Jakob Reidiger, a *Mennonit Pachter* [Amish Mennonite tenant] on the Ottenweierhof. On Oct. 30, 1864 he married Magdalena Güngerich/Gingerich. She was born June 24, 1838, and died at Dewey July 5, 1922. They are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens at Fisher, Champaign County. The 1880 census of Hopedale shows farmer Daniel Greaser, 40, Baden; Lena, 43, Baden; Lizza, 16, Baden; Lena, 14, Baden; Mary, 13, Baden; Jacob, 10, Baden; Henry, 8, Baden; Christian, 5, Baiern [Bayern/Bavaria]; Kate, 3, Baiern; and George, 2, Baiern. The two couples immediately before them were minister Joseph Litwiller and Catherine Birkey, and August Unzicker and Elizabeth Birkey; the two couples immediately after them were minister Christian Nafziger and Elizabeth Zehr, and Daniel Koch/Cook and Jakobina 'Phebe' Stalter. Daniel was naturalized in Tazewell County April 3, 1889; one witness was Louis Stalter. They are found on the 1900 census of East Bend as farmer Daniel Grieser, 59, born in Germany in December 1840, immigrated in 1878; Magdalena, 62, born in Germany in June 1837, immigrated in 1878; and son and farm laborer George, 22, born in

Germany in January 1878, immigrated in 1878. The 1920 census of Condit, Champaign County has Daniel Grieser, 79, immigrated in 1879, naturalized in 1884; and Maglena, 81, immigrated in 1879, naturalized in 1884.

4) Elisabetha Grieser was born at Ichenheim Feb. 2, 1843, and died there Nov. 15, 1843.
5) A stillborn daughter was born June 7, 1845.
6) Christian Grieser was born at Ichenheim June 24, 1846. He sailed from Bremen on the *Donau*, and arrived at New York March 9, 1874. He married his cousin Magdalena Grieser, a daughter of his uncle Joseph Grieser and Verena Zimmerman. In 1880 they were living in Nebraska, Livingston County. The household is found as farmer Christian Greeser, 34, Prussia; Malinda, 28, Prussia; Malinda, 10, Prussia; Fannie, 7, Illinois; Joseph, 4, Illinois; Willie, 2, Illinois; Mary, two months, Illinois; unemployed father-in-law Joseph, 72, Prussia; and unemployed aunt Barbara Rogue, 68, Prussia. The next three heads-of-households on the census page were Valentin Augstin, John R. King, and C. Rinkenbarger. The 1910 census of St. Paul, Minnesota shows Christian Griser, 63, Germany, immigrated in 1874; Lena, 57, Germany, immigrated in 1874; a son; a daughter; and two granddaughters.
7) Heinrich/Henry Grieser was born at Beuren May 13, 1848, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Aug. 12, 1929. As noted earlier, he sailed from Bremen on the steamer *New York*, and arrived at New York March 25, 1868. On Feb. 24, 1874 he married Elizabeth Smith, a daughter of John P. Smith [Peterschmidt] and Catherine Birckelbaw. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. The 1920 census of Pike, Livingston County shows farm laborer Henry Grieser, 72, Baden, immigrated in 1866, naturalized in 1878; and Elizabeth, 66, born in Iowa to parents from Pennsylvania and Canada. *The Biographical Record of Livingston County* (1900) says Henry "...lost his mother when only two years old, and his father died two years later. He was thus left an orphan at the early age of four years. He was reared and educated in his native land, and emigrated to America in 1868, locating in Woodford County, Illinois, where he made his home for four years. In 1872 he came to Livingston County and located in Waldo township."
8) Catharina (birth entry identified by Joe Springer)/Katharina/Catherine 'Kate' Grieser was born at Beuren June 9, 1850, and died at Meadows, McLean County Aug. 15, 1922. She sailed from Hamburg on the *S.S. Rhein*, and arrived at New York April 15, 1871. The passenger list shows Cathrine Grieser, 21, Baden. On Feb. 11, 1872 in Livingston County she married Jakob Stalter, also known as Jacob Z. Stalter. He was born Oct. 20, 1840, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Dec. 18, 1922, a son of Jakob Stalter and Veronika Zimmerman. See STALTER, NEPHEW JAKOB STALTER for background on this couple. Her *Gospel Herald* obituary is given there; it notes that she immigrated in 1870, and upon her death she left three surviving brothers but no sisters.

f. Anna Reidiger was born May 22, 1812, and died at Reichenberg, Germany Oct. 3, 1897. On the Gassenbach estate near Idstein she married Jakob Stähly [Stähli]. He was born on the Obertraisa estate (also found as Obertraysa) 32 miles east of Hochheim in the Odenwald area of Hesse-Darmstadt March 19, 1808, and died at Reichenberg, Germany June 4, 1892, a son of Jakob Stähly and his first wife Elisabeth Brenneman (see NAFZIGER for background on the Stählys and the Obertraisa estate).
g. Barbara Reidiger was born at Ichenheim June 27, 1815, and died at Karlsruhe Dec. 21, 1836 (according to an *Evangelische* entry there). Her *Evangelische* birth entry described her father as an Amish Mennonite tenant [Ger. *Mennonit Pachter*].
h. Elisabetha Reidiger/Elisabeth Rediger was born on the Scheibenhardt estate farm Feb. 18, 1820, and died Feb. 8, 1910. On Sept. 14, 1845 at Wimsheim she married Jakob Egle [Egli]. He was born on the Lärchenhof farm at Wimsheim, Württemberg Feb. 11, 1817 (per his marriage entry) or June 11, 1817 (per his death entry), and died at Möttlingen (14 miles southeast of Pforzheim) Nov. 29, 1854, a son of Heinrich Egli and Jacobine Ehrismann. After his death Elisabeth lived with her younger sister Marie and her husband Christian Egle (Jakob's younger brother). They sailed from Hamburg on the *SS Holsatia*, and arrived at New York April 10, 1874. The passenger list shows their party as farmer Christian Egle, 57; Marie Egle [born Reidiger], 48; Mary, 8; Elisabeth Egle [born Reidiger], 50; Marie, 20; farmer Joh. Teutscher, 41; Magd. [born Magdalena Reidiger, a daughter of Jacob Reidiger/Rediger and Magdalena Schrag who had immigrated in 1868], 31; Jacob, 13; and Wilh., 9. Marie Egle, who came with her mother to America, was born at Riet Aug. 29, 1865.
i. Marie Reidiger//Mary Rediger was born on the Scheibenhardt estate farm near Karlsruhe March 24, 1824, and died at Waldo, Livingston County June 6, 1909. From 1845 to 1848 Marie lived with her sister Katharina and her husband Christian Grieser at Beuren. On Nov. 24, 1850 at Riet (below Vaihingen an der Enz, Wűrttemberg) she married Christian Egle [Egli]; the ceremony was performed by minister Jacob Zimmerman. Christian was born on the Lärchenhof farm at Wimsheim, Württemberg Dec. 15, 1822, and died at Waldo Jan. 18, 1892, a son of Heinrich Egle and Jacobina Ehresman. Christian and his brother Heinrich Egle leased the Leinfelderhof estate at Enzweihingen (20 miles

northwest of Stuttgart). Their adjoined house and stable still exists. Their marriage was registered in the *Evangelische* church at nearby Riet. They remained there until March of 1871, when they relocated to the Hof Haidach on the outskirts of Pforzheim. However, they returned to the Leinfelderhof the following year. In 1872 or 1873 their son Jacob was drafted into the Prussian army, but deserted. After their arrival at New York they first resided at Eureka, Woodford County for two years. They are found on the 1880 census of Waldo as farmer Christian Egle, 58, Wurtemburg [Württemberg]; Mary, 56, Baden; Christian Jr., 22, William, 19; Mary, 16; all children born in Württemberg. Marie/Mary is also found on the 1900 census of Waldo in the household of her son Christian: Mary, 76, born in Germany in May 1824, immigrated in 1874. Marie and Christian are buried in Waldo Cemetery.[263] For additional background see Duane L. Egle's two-part article *Christian Egle and Marie Reidiger Family* in *Mennonite Family History* Oct.-Nov. 2015.

7. Katharina Reűtiger /Catherine Rediger was born circa 1774. On Sept. 10, 1796 at Imling she married Christian Ringenberg. See RINGENBERGER for background on this couple.

8. Andreas Reűtiger/André Rediger was born March 13, 1775, and died at Blanche-Eglise, Moselle Nov. 9, 1828 (though no civil entry is found there). On July 22, 1796 at Imling, Moselle he married Annette/Anne Ringenberg. This was about the time that French troops first crossed into Kehl. Annette/Anne was born at Imling March 10, 1779, a daughter of Jean Ringenberg and Marie Engel. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as André Rediger, a son of the deceased laborer Sebastian and Anne Lederach living at Ottenweiyher. The bride was described as Annette Ringueberg, daughter of the deceased laborer Jean Ringueberg and Marie Engel. Neither signed the entry, indicating they were illiterate. They settled on Rinting farm at Bébing, Moselle. Their children born there include:
    a. Jacobé/Jacobina Rediger was born May 13, 1797, and died at Bébing March 16, 1804.
    b. Anne/Anna Rediger was born Oct. 14, 1798, and died at Bickenholtz, Moselle May 23, 1866. On May 12, 1813 at Bébing she married Christian Rouvenacht. He was born on Les Bachats farm at Rhodes, Moselle June 12, 1790, and died at Bickenholtz, Moselle Jan. 3, 1853, a son of Jean Rouvenacht and Madeleine Engel. For background on their children who came to Central Illinois, see RUVENACHT.
    c. Pierre Rediger (as found in the civil index) was born Oct 14, 1800. He was likely the Joseph Rediger who died at Bébing April 21, 1804, age three years and six months.
    d. André Rediger was born May 24, 1802, and died at Bébing March 30, 1804.
    e. Marie Rediger (found in the civil index as Rethiger) was born Jan. 10, 1804. She gave birth to an illegitimate daughter Catherine at Bébing Nov. 4, 1820. (Catherine came to Illinois in 1853; see the information after Pierre/Peter).
    f. Jean Rediger was born at Reding April 30, 1806.
    g. Jacobé Rediger was born April 26, 1808. We suspect but cannot prove that she was the Jacobine Rediger who became the second wife of Johannes/John Stalter in Bureau County Jan. 28, 1868. If so, she died in Livingston County Feb. 22, 1877. He was born on the Monbijou estate at Zweibrücken Sept. 15, 1812, and died at Gridley, McLean County May 18, 1897, a son of Josef Stalter [Sr.] and his first wife Susanne Hauter. His first wife had been her cousin Elisabeth Reidiger, a daughter of Sebastian Reűtiger (Jr.) and Magdalena Güngerich. See STALTER, BROTHER JOHANNES/JOHN STALTER for background on this couple.
    h. André Rediger was born July 13, 1810, and died at Rimaucourt, Champaigne-Ardennes March 24, 1886. On Nov. 20, 1830 at Trois Fontaines l'Abbaye, Marne he married Anne Rouvenacht. She was born at Rhodes Jan. 13, 1808, and died at Rimaucourt Oct. 22, 1896, a daughter of Jean Rouvenacht and Madeleine Engel. Her declaration of French citizenship signed Sept. 22, 1872 said she was born at 'Roth' Jan. 14, 1808, and resided at Rimaucourt. Of their seven known children, only son Pierre/Peter came to America. He was born at Frebécourt, Vosges April 4, 1838, and died at Hubbard, Oregon May 12, 1913. On Feb. 11, 1868 at Seraumont, Vosges he married Elisabeth Schweitzer. She was born at Einville au Jard, Meurthe-et-Moselle Nov. 24, 1839, and died at Maixe. Meurthe-et-Moselle April 5, 1808, a daughter of Conrad Schweitzer and Madeleine Zehr. He is found on the 1910 census of Township 5, Clackamas County, Oregon as farmer Peter Rediger, 76, born in France to German parents. After his death his probate papers said he had a son Joseph living in France. *Gospel Herald*, May 8, 1913: "Peter Rediger was born near Metz, France; he died at the residence of Daniel Erb near Hubbard, Oreg., April 12, 1913; aged 77 y. 10 d. About 40 years ago he came to America, and spent a number of years in Illinois and Arkansas. In the spring of 1892 he came to Oregon where he lived a hermit's life for the past 21 years. In early life he united with the Amish Mennonite (Old Order) Church. While the declining last 10 years of his life were idly misspent, he fell away from all church connections, until one month before he died he professed repentance and requested to be restored in peace and fellowship; after which his mind rapidly failed him, in which condition he passed away. Very sad that man should waste any part of

[263] Background on Marie can be found in a Duane L. Egle's *Mennonite Family History* magazine two-part series, *Christian Egle and Marie Reidiger Family*, Oct.-Nov. 2015.

this life. Funeral services conducted at the Zion A.M. Church by the brethren Dan Roth and Edward Z. Yoder. Text, *Heb. 13:14*. Laid to rest in the cemetery nearby." He is buried in Zion Mennonite Church Cemetery at Hubbard.

i. Madeleine Rediger was born Jan. 15, 1813, and died at St. Urbain-Maconcourt, Haut Marne May 12, 1883. On Sept. 30, 1834 at Dolving, Moselle she married Joseph Guerber. He was born at Dolving Oct. 25, 1807, and died at Coussey, Vosges May 25, 1888, a son of Valentin Guerber and Anne Hirschy. On a *French Citizenship Declaration* Sept. 28 1872 Madeleine described herself as someone born at Bébing Jan. 15, 1813, and a resident of Maconcourt, Haut-Marne married to a Guerber.

j. Pierre/Peter Rediger was born on June 9, 1815, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Oct. 23, 1898. The 10-year index of Bébing civil birth entries called him Pierre Reydiquer. The entry described his parents as cultivator André Reÿdiquer and Anne Reinqueberg of Rinting farm, and said that his birth took place *aujourd'hui à minuit* - today at midnight. The entry was witnessed by cultivator Pierre Reinqueberg, 36. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Athens*, and arrived at New Orleans May 13, 1853. The passenger list shows Barbara Rediger, 26; Cathrin, 32; Anna, 24; Jacobina, 40; Anna, 13; and Pierre, 35; all from France. Though we could not identify the entire traveling party, we believe 'Catherine, 31' was the Catherine Reydiquer found in Bébing civil birth entries as an illegitimate daughter of Marie Reydiquer born Nov. 11, 1820 (her mother Marie was born there Jan. 10, 1804, a daughter of André Rediger and Anne Rinkenberg, thus Catherine was a niece of Pierre/Peter), who became the second wife of John Burkey Jr. 'Anna, 24' was likely the Anna Rediger who married Heinrich Bachmann/Henry Bachman in Woodford County in 1853 (see BACHMAN), and later lived with him at Senachwine, Putnam County. Woodford County records say Peter Rediger and 'Magdalena Scenter' married there June 28, 1857. Magdalena Cender was born at Niedernai, Lower Alsace Sept. 28, 1817, a daughter of Christian Cender and Magdalena Eymann. Her civil birth entry describes her as Madelaine, and her parents as cultivator Chrétien Zehnter and Madeleine Eymann. They sailed from Le Havre on the *John Hancock*, and arrived at New York June 20, 1855. The passenger list shows farmer Christian Zender, 58, France; Madelaine, 58; Madelaine, 35; Barbara, 28; Jean, 25; Catherine, 21; and Madelaine, 9. The 1880 census of Roanoke shows retired farmer Peter Rediger, 65, France; Magdalena, 63, France; and Catharina, 22, Illinois. When Peter was naturalized in Woodford County Nov. 7, 1892, his witness was Peter Belsley. In 1900 his widow is found as an 83-year-old Magdalena Rediger, born in Germany in September 1817, who immigrated in 1855. She was living with granddaughter Martha M. Bachman, 19, born in Illinois in October 1881. The 1910 census described her as a 93-year-old great-great aunt, born in France, who immigrated in 1855. She spoke German at home, and had her own income. She was living with Emil W. Rediger, 32, born in Illinois to parents form Germany and Illinois; and Martha M., 28, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, Jan. 15, 1914: "Magdalena Rediger, nee Cender, was born in Germany Sept. 28, 1817. She emigrated to America in May 1855, locating near Metamora, Illinois. In August 1856 she was united in matrimony with Peter Rediger, moving to Bureau County, Illinois. In 1863 they again located in Woodford County near Roanoke, where she spent the last fifty years of her life. To this union were born two children, Pheobe and Catherine. Her life was the scene of many sorrows and disappointments, the early deaths of her children causing her many sad hours, yet her faith in God was unshaken.... Her husband preceded her to the better world in 1898, thus leaving her the only survivor of her family. .... She passed to her reward on Dec. 24, 1914, at the ripe old age of 96 y. 2 m. 26 d. ...." They are buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery as '*Peter Rediger Gest. 8 Juni 1815 Gest. 23 Oct. 1898, Alter 83 Jahr. 4*

9. Maria Magdalena Reűtiger was born circa 1778, and died at Willmendingen, Baden Aug. 25, 1826. On June 2, 1795 on the Obernimburg estate between Nimburg and Bottingen, Baden she married Benedict 'Benz' König/King. He was born there circa 1774, and died in Fulton County, Ohio circa 1856, a son of Christian König and Elisabeth Stucki. Benedict renewed his family's lease on the Obernimburg estate after the death of his father, and later leased the Steckenhof estate at Denzlingen with his brother Jacob. In 1805 he replaced Jacob Zimmerman as elder of the Hochburg congregation. As a widower he sailed to America in 1832, at the age of 60. In Butler County, Ohio he became minister and elder of the Collinsville congregation, playing a part as a mediator in the religious division of 1835. See KING for background on this couple.

Why Reidiger and Rediger?

Why did Reűtiger become Reidiger?

After stepbrother Hans was confirmed in Baden-Durlach in 1754, the minister corresponded with the minister at Boltigen so that register entries could be made in both locations (this retained the family's *Heimatrecht* citizenship rights). Brothers Hans/Johannes, Barthlome, and Sebastian were all mentioned. Before this all entries at Boltigen had been spelled 'Reűtiger.' The entries coming from what is now Baden-Wűrttemberg were spelled 'Reŭtiger.' And

the *Ortsippenbuch* for Ichenheim, a town lineage book published in 1909, called Sebastian's children Reűtiger or Reŭtiger. So we cannot say that the family made a collective decision to change its name.

Why do many sources show the spelling 'Reidiger'?

It certainly appeals to family historians looking for a standardized form of the name. Typists and English-language publishers are reluctant to work with pronunciation marks.

One theory holds that it refers to a high pasture called the Reidigen or Reidige, three miles west of the village center of Boltigen. Before 1724 it may have held a few communal barns, but there was no village or hamlet there. Activity rose and fell seasonally, as it provided an open area for livestock handlers from nearby villages to let their cattle graze. Local residents would have been joined there (and influenced) by others from lowland villages.

We cannot say that their home at Rŭren/Rŭhren was easily accessible from or even in the shadow of the Reidigen/Reidige. The pasture is north, while Rŭren/Rŭhren is south of Bäderhorn Mountain. The mountain rises to 6,591 feet above sea level, at least 1,325 feet higher than its local surroundings. It is actually the peak of a long ridge running east-west, forming a stone wall between the two locations.

And we have already noted that other spellings were associated with the three emigrant brothers and their half-brother. In sum, the Reidigen/Reidige theory is a near-match distraction, albeit an attractive one.

It has also been suggested that perhaps their expulsion from Zweibrűcken was incentive to change the spelling. The surname Reűtiger had appeared in the public announcement there. But it is unlikely that the barely literate Reűtiger family would change a vowel sound to mislead.

Despite these ideas, Reidiger was likely just the evolution of the spelling and sounds over the next generations to more closely resemble what could already be found in Baden. We think of the very common Rűdiger, Reitinger, and Riedinger, and the less common Reidinger, Rittinger, and Röttinger. The German verb *Vereidigen* means to swear someone in for a post or office by having them take an oath, such as an oath of loyalty. When we recall that in German the letter 'g' is pronounced as 'k,' the difference between Reűtiger and Reidiger - a vowel sound pronounced by someone who spoke either German or French - becomes insignificant.

But this is not the only reason. One legal consideration gave the transition a 'push.'

In 1526 Martin Luther published the *Deutsche Messe und Ordnung des Gottesdiensts* [German-language mass and order of worship]. From that point forward Lutheran churches held masses in ecclesiastical or church Latin on weekdays, and in German on Sundays. Liturgical rites such as baptism were conducted in ecclesiastical Latin. This language form had been composed within the Catholic church to express theology and academics, and was never spoken as a native language.

While living in Baden as Anabaptists, the Reűtigers were required by law to register family births, marriages, and deaths in a Lutheran or Catholic church. Birth registrations were generally recorded as baptisms, though they may not have been considered as such by the parents. As with other liturgical rites, they were recorded under 'Latinized' surnames. They were often kept on loose sheets at the back of baptism registers.

For example, in a baptism at Zell (now Zell-Weierbach), a hamlet within the municipality of Offenburg (in the archdiocese of Freiburg im Breisgau) Jan. 31, 1803 mother Maria Magdalena Reűtiger was described as Mariae Magdalenae Reidiger, and her twin sons Joseph and Maximilian as Josephus and Maximilianus Reidiger.

This brought additional considerations. When the only proof of residence of an individual was his or her birth registration written in ecclesiastical Latin, future legal contracts such as property leases often followed that spelling. Since most European genealogies are reconstructed from church and legal records, we obtain a distorted view of the prevalence of these spellings which may not have been found in everyday use.

Why did Reűtiger become Rediger?

Because Reűtiger resembles the French verb *rédiger*, 'to write.'

Many descendants of Sebastian obtained their travel documents at Strasbourg, Lower Alsace or Metz, Moselle. When French local municipal clerks encountered a surname that did not 'sound French,' they felt they were doing a favor by adjusting the spelling. The initial encouragement of this practice stemmed from a requirement to prove three generations on French soil before claiming citizenship.

During and after the Napoleonic wars French influence pervaded Europe. Some members of the family spoke French as well as German. Others may have favored a French spelling because they were avoiding military training requirements at their original home in Baden.

Note that when Sebastian [Sr.]'s youngest son Andreas Reűtiger married Annette/Anne Ringenberg in 1796, bride and groom did not sign the entry, indicating they were illiterate. But the entry spelled the groom's name 'André Rediger,' and that was the spelling used by this family on Rinting farm at Bébing, Moselle.

Almost all of the European emigrants in this family departed from Le Havre and crossed the Atlantic on French ships. Their passenger lists were made up before coming into port. Receipts and the documents of the

passage were kept with travel documents. And as often as not, the immigrant was illiterate and relied on the whims of others. Naturally some arrived as Reutigers or Reidigers, others as Redigers.

The earliest Rediger American immigrants we found were associated with Anabaptists. The packet ship *Utica* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York Aug. 1, 1837. The passenger list shows Anna Rediger, 50; Magdalina, 34; Anna, 32; Johannes, 19; Lisabeth, 17; and Barbara, 12. Their traveling party (found before and after on the passenger list) included Rebers and Egles (including a child who later became minister Henry Egly, founder of the Defenseless Mennonite Church).

Another factor that is rarely considered is that someone planning to emigrate from Europe had corresponded with or read letters from those already in America. The immigrant to North America already knew the spelling 'Rediger' would be accepted there.

Peter Reűtiger of Boltigen and New Bern

Because of the baptism entry gap 1627-1709 we could not identify the birth or parents of an early American immigrant. We suspect but cannot prove that Peter Reűtiger was a son of Jacob Reűtiger and Salome Schnizgebel, who were married at Zweisimmen Jan. 12, 1683, and did not have children baptized there.

Peter contracted what one skeptical Bernese official called the *Rabies Carolinae*, and resisted attempts to dissuade him from emigrating.

In 1710 his travels took him from Boltigen to the city of Bern to Rotterdam to Great Yarmouth, England, and finally to North America.

At this time the Council of Bern was still encouraging emigration by poor residents. Peter's group of 120 volunteers were exempted from the emigration tax and given passports. 106 received subsidy payments. This attitude and cooperation would change within a few years.

They would be accompanied by 56 Anabaptists being forced into exile. The boat departed from the city of Bern on the Aare River March 18, 1710. One Anabaptist boarded but was then taken back to prison, where he died; another escaped at Basel.

About 32 of the Anabaptists were put ashore at Mannheim on the Rhine River. It was felt that they were too old, sick, or feeble to travel further north or return to Canton Bern. The remaining 22 reached the Netherlands, and were released April 9 when the Dutch government refused to confine them.

The Anabaptists had been threatened with execution if they returned to Canton Bern, but many of them expressed the desire to go back as far as Mannheim. On May 2, 1710, the Committee of the Mennonites at Amsterdam sent 1,200 florins to Mannheim for their upkeep.

The volunteer passengers set sail again May 30, and arrived at Great Yarmouth, England June 4. On June 11 they were in the shipyard at Newcastle-upon-Tyne (275 miles to the north) for provisioning.

At Newcastle-upon-Tyne, expedition organizer Christoph von Graffenried (1661-1743) was recruiting potential Carolina colonists for a transatlantic voyage. These were made up of *Pfalzer*, other Germans, and Swiss who were undecided about their future plans.

An earlier group had left from Newcastle-upon-Tyne in January of 1710. They lost more than a third of their passengers at sea to disease.

About 100 passengers sailed from Newcastle-upon-Tyne July 11, and another was born on the voyage. According to von Graffenried's memoir they were boarded at sea by privateers who took their belongings. However, this is conspicuously missing from the correspondence of others. They arrived on the Virginia coast Sept. 11. By that time nine passengers had died.

A letter by Samuel Jacob Gabley [Gobeli] and Margreth Pfund, April 9, 1711, from New Bern to Zweisimmen:

> "On the 18th of March, as you know, we departed from Bern; the 9th of April we came to Rotterdam; there we remained seven weeks and two days at our own expense; the 30th of May we set sail at Rotterdam; the 4th of June we arrived at Yarmouth in England; we sailed on farther, until the 11th ditto we arrived at New Castle in north England; there we remained five weeks. After that on the 11th of July we sailed from there upon the sea and stood at anchor for seven days waiting for the fleet, whither a great number of ships came together. On the 24th ditto we sailed away, and sailed eight weeks long upon the sea and went through storm-wind and other dangers. Yet the great God brought it quickly to an end. On the 10th of September we saw land. The 11th we cast anchor in Virginia. After that we made another long journey, now by water, now by land, probably about eighty hours, to where we live on the river, which is called Neuse."

Peter's name is found on a map of New Bern, North Carolina published in 1710. A letter written by Christian Janzen or Christen Jantz from New Bern April 30, 1711 mentions his son-in-law:

> "We lie along a stream called the Neuse. Here six years ago the first people were English, until two years ago Swiss people began cultivating. The English are, it seems to me, rather rich in cattle, all sorts of crops, and the finest fruit trees (and those yielding fruit most of the year, except two months). It is natural that we are behind in that regard, but we have hope through God's blessings to catch up. We came shortly before Christmas. By God's blessings my daughter Ziona, son-in-law Petter Reutiger, and I, and others besides, have much stronger houses than the English; we have also cleared land, and much has fences."

Another letter from Janzen calls him 'Peter Röhtiger.'

Clarification is found in *List of Swiss Emigrants in the Eighteenth Century to the American Colonies, Volume II* (1925). Authors Albert Bernhardt and Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh drew on documents held by the state archives of Canton Bern. He plainly identifies Peter Reűtiger of Boltigen. He was married to a daughter of Christen Janz; another unmarried daughter was named Dichtla. Another settler named Ziörjen (Ziörin from Zweisimmen adjacent to Boltigen) was married to Salome Műhlenen of Boltigen. At New Bern the farms of Reűtiger, Janz, and Ziörjen adjoined one another.

What Peter and the other colonists did not know was that Christoph von Graffenried was an irresponsible adventurer. He was born in Castle Worb (eight miles southeast of the city of Bern), but ran up debts and left them to his father. He had only gone to London to escape creditors. There he met John Lawson, surveyor general of Carolina. In 1709 he formed a company of investors. He was awarded title on 10,000 acres on the Neuse and Cape Fear Rivers in North Carolina, and given the title Baron of Bernberg by a British government agency called the Land Proprietors of Carolina.

In 1711 von Graffenried occupied a site that had been a seasonal village of the Tuscarora tribe. He declared himself Landgrave of Carolina. According to his memoir, he and Lawson and a servant were captured on an exploratory walk. The tribe killed Lawson and the servant, but released von Graffenried, believing he was the governor. Von Graffenried then returned to New Bern, only to find it charred and abandoned.

In 1714 von Graffenried returned penniless to Worb. He lived on a small income from the sales of his autobiography, *Relation of my American Project* (1716). As the only one who returned to Europe, there was no one to prove or disprove his account.

He spent his later years waiting out an inheritance from his father, who had paid off his debts. He is buried under the church at Worb.

New Bern is now better known as the home of Bradham's Pharmacy, where Pepsi Cola was first formulated in 1898.

Kinsinger: Kŭnzi or Künzi of Buchholterberg

In Old Germanic a *Kuni* was a family or clan. Kŭnzi or Künzi is a diminutive form. [264]

Diessbach was eight miles north of the town of Thun, Canton Bern. In 1870 it was renamed Oberdiessbach.

Ŭli Kŭnzi and Cathrina Schön were the parents of **Ŭli/Ŭllrich Kŭnzi**, who was baptized at Diessbach Jan. 15, 1609.

On Nov. 19, 1632 at Diessbach Ŭli/Ŭllrich married Anna Jenni.[265] Their children baptized there include:

1. **Peter Kŭnzi/Künzi/Küenzi** was baptized Dec. 15, 1633. His entry describes his parents as Ŭllrich Kŭnzi and Anna Jenni of Kŭrzenberg.[266]
2. Babi Kŭnzi was baptized Feb. 21, 1636. Her entry describes her parents as Ŭlli Kŭnzi and Anni Janni.

Lease documents and family notes say **Peter Kŭnzi/Künzi/Küenzi** was born at Buchholterberg (on Diessbach's east side, with Kŭrzenberg above it). He was baptized at Diessbach Dec. 15, 1633.

The village of Kŭrzenberg (now found as Kurzenberg) has not existed since 1945. It was located in what is now Linden, on the north side of Buchholterberg. 'Kurzenberg' is still used to describe the geographic area, a school, and a parish. Kŭrzenberg was also the ancestral home of the Amish Mennonite Holi/Holli/Holly family.

A Protestant Reformed Church was established at Buchholterberg in 1820, but before that both of these small rural communities were part of Diessbach Parish.

On Dec. 18, 1654 at Diessbach Peter married Catrin/Cathri Schenk. Their third child had been baptized there a week earlier. Apparently Peter and Catrin were obliged to wait to marry until the first Sunday after his 21st birthday.

Hermann Guth in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*: "The Mennonite Kinzingers probably go back to one Peter Kuentzi, who immigrated in 1685 from Buchholterberg near Thun in Switzerland to Eppstein in the Pfalz. In 1687 he is at the Diemersteinermuhle…"[267]

In 1687 Peter met with representatives of Countess Maria of the House of Orange-Nassau (1642-1688). He or his oldest son Peter signed a hereditary lease for a mill, receiving a specific guarantee of freedom of worship. The mill was situated on the grounds of ruined Diemerstein Castle, between two ridges in the forest at Diemerstein, 15 miles west of Eppstein and 10 miles east of Kaiserslautern.

Thus we can say that the father Peter would have been roughly 18 or 19 years of age at his marriage and the birth of his first child; 52 when he emigrated; and 54 when he or his oldest son of the same name signed a hereditary lease in the Pfalz (while his oldest son would have been roughly 35).

His descendants appear as Kentsingers in Neukirchen-Mehlingen (eight miles northwest of Diemerstein, now simply called Mehlingen) near Kaiserslautern, where subsequently Kinsingers are named as members and elders of the Sembach congregation. From here Kinsingers early emigrated to Hesse and Waldeck"

Künzi evolved into Kinzing, Kinsing, Kintzinger, Kinzinger, Kensinger, Kentzinger, and Kinsinger because of local dialect pronunciations.

Children of **Peter Kŭnzi/Kunzi/Küenzi** and Catrin/Cathri Schenck baptized at Diessbach include:

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[264] Some sources say Kuno and Konrad are derived from *Kuni*, while others say those surnames were derived from *kuonno*, an Old Germanic word meaning 'brave.'

[265] Finding the parents of Ŭli is problematic. We looked for an Ŭli or Ŭllrich baptized at Diessbach between 1600 and 1613, and found only one - and the parents on that entry were Ŭli Kŭnzi and Cathrina Schön. We could not identify their marriage in Diessbach records. Three other possibly related couples did marry there between 1600 and 1612: Hans Kŭnzi and Cathrin Räber of Kŭrzenberg Oct. 19, 1601; Niclaŭs Cŭntzi and Barbel Steiner April 8, 1605; and Peter Cŭntze and Barbe Kneubŭhl Nov. 5, 1612.

[266] A coincidental 'near miss': on June 30, 1633 Joseph Kŭnzi and Barbara Rüsser of Buchholterberg had twin sons baptized at Diessbach, Adam and Peter. Joseph and Barbara had been married at Diessbach Jan. 14, 1620; their marriage entry called them Joseph Cŭntze and Barbli Rüssera. We gave preference to Ŭli/Ŭllrich Kŭnzi and Anna Jenni because of the odd coincidence of their son Peter's delayed marriage ceremony.

[267] A few histories and online genealogy forums looking at Kinsingers have become hopelessly garbled by confusion with a contemporary Peter Künzi, who was also an Anabaptist. His *Doppelganger* married at Grosshöchstetten, Canton Bern Jan. 19, 1652. The entry describes the couple as *Peter Künzi von Wÿl* and *Margret Steiman von* ---- [illegible, ending in stein, but likely not nearby Trimstein]. Their children were born at Wÿl (adjacent to Grosshöchstetten, and since 1902 Schlosswil) between 1652 and 1670. They arrived in the Pfalz in 1672 and were aided by Dutch Mennonite relief, according to Dutch records.

1. Susanna Kŭnzi was baptized Aug. 10, 1651. Her baptism entry described her parents as Peter Kŭnzi and Catrin Schänck.
2. Peter Kŭnzi/Künzi was baptized Dec. 12, 1652. His baptism entry described his parents as Peter Kŭnzi and Catrin Schänck of Buchholterberg.
3. Christ Künzi was baptized Dec. 10, 1654. His baptism entry described his parents as Peter Künzi and Trini Schenk of Kŭrzenberg. He died as an infant.
4. **Christ Künzi** was baptized Jan. 10, 1658. His baptism entry described his parents as Peter Künzi and Cathri Schenck of Buchholterberg.
5. Michel Künzi was baptized Sept. 9, 1660. His baptism entry described his parents as Peter Künzi and Cathri Schenck of Buchholterberg.
6. Barbli Künzi was baptized June 5, 1664. Her baptism entry described her parents as Peter Künzi and Cathri Schenk.

Christ Künzi/Christian Kentzinger was baptized at Diessbach Jan. 10, 1658, a son of Peter Kŭnzi or Künzi and Cathrin Schenk.

The *Global Anabaptist Encyclopedia Online* says, "Kinsinger (Kenzinger, Kentzinger, Kinnzinger, Kinzinger, Kitzinger) was a Swiss Mennonite family name occurring in the Pfalz Mennonite census lists under various spellings in 1717, 1724, 1743 and 1759. A Christian Kentzinger, whose name appeared in 1724, was the ancestor of those carrying this family name in South Germany."

A 1724 census actually shows Christian Kentsinger as a hauler and farmer living at Neukirchen-Mehlingen (eight miles northwest of Diemerstein) with married sons Abraham, a linen weaver, and Johannes, a wool spinner.

Older son Abraham may have been an early emigrant. The *Mortonhouse* arrived at Philadelphia from Rotterdam Aug. 19, 1729. The standard passenger list contains 'Abraham Kensinger'; the signature on a Declaration of Fidelity to the Crown reads 'Abraham Keysinger'; and the signature on an Oath of Allegiance taken at the Philadelphia City Hall that afternoon reads 'Abraham Kinsinger.' He was accompanied by his wife Anna Barbara and his daughter Freni (a nickname for 'Verena,' found as 'Frenee'). Typical Swiss surnames on the lists include Bumgarner [Baumgartner], Crebil [Krayenbühl], Eshelman [Aeschliman], Huber, and Reis. According to the *Lancaster County Warrant Register*, 'Abraham Keynsingher' took out a warrant for 150 acres in Lebanon Township and Bern Dec. 19, 1737. The warrant was not patented, indicating payments were not completed before his death in 1749. Over the years some information has been passed down about him in America, but the original source can no longer be identified: he was born at Neukirchen (now merged into Mehlingen) and his father was a Mennonite named Christian.

Younger son **Johannes Kinsinger**, born in 1698, is found with three children on censuses of Frankenstein (adjacent to Diemerstein) in 1743, 1753, and 1759. In 1753 and 1759 two sons may have reached maturity, because there is a second Johannes Kinsinger (presumably expressing a father and son) and a Jacob Kinsinger (presumably another son) listed at Frankenstein.

There is a strong likelihood that the son Johannes was the individual later known as **Johannes Kinsing or Kinsinger** (assuming that Abraham did not leave sons behind when he emigrated).

Johannes Kinsing or Kinsinger was born before 1732, and died at Weisenheim am Berg before April 1788. He married Maria Magdalena Schwarzentruber. She was born circa 1737, a daughter of Johannes Schwarzentruber (recall him as a minister mentioned in SCHWARZENTRAUB). When she died at Weisenheim am Berg Dec. 30, 1810, the death entry described her as 'Madeleine Schwartztraub,' age 73, and also called her deceased husband 'Jean Kinsing,' but was signed by their 53-year-old son 'Jean Kinsinger.'

Johannes and Maria resettled at Weisenheim am Berg after 1759. The village is only 10 miles northeast of Diemerstein and Frankenstein, half covered by forest, at the edge of the Hardt Mountains.

Their children include:

1. **Johannes Kinsinger** was born at Herxheim am Berg in 1758, and died at Weisenheim am Berg May 15, 1828.
- Daniel Kinsinger was born in 1765. He may belong here. For an explanation and background on his children who settled in Central Illinois, see DANIEL KINSINGER.
2. Jacobine Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg circa 1766, and died after August 1823. She married Christian Imhof. He was born on the Weilensteinerhof estate at Trippstadt (eight miles below Kaiserslautern) in 1755, a son of Christian Imhof and Katharina Danner.
3. Jacob Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg circa 1768, and died after September 1825. He married Anna Elisabetha Roggy. She was born at Neidenfels (12 miles southwest of Weisenheim am Berg) circa 1778, a daughter of Christian Roggy.
4. Katharina Kinsinger was born at Kaiserslautern before 1770, and died at Nieder-Modau, Darmstadt (about 40 miles northeast of Weisenheim am Berg) circa 1824. She married Samuel Maurer. He was born at Kaiserslautern before 1772, and died on the Gersweilerhof estate at Erlenbach before August 1823.

5. Maria Magdalena Imhof was born at Weisenheim am Berg after 1770. She married Joseph Imhof. He was born in 1768, a son of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy.
6. Maria Elisabeth Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg after 1770, and died before August 1823.
7. Johann Peter Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg circa 1774, and died at Walshausen (25 miles southwest of Kaiserslautern) March 14, 1816. On Nov. 24, 1798 at Contwig in the French occupation department of Mont-Tonnére he married Magdalena Hauter. She was born in the mill at Ixheim (now a district in the city of Zweibrücken) March 30, 1780, and died at Walshausen May 17, 1851.
8. Maria Susanna Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg Feb. 21, 1778, and died at Fechingen (now in Saarland) Jan. 1, 1803. On March 16, 1800 on the Weilensteinerhof estate at Trippstadt she married Johannes Hauter. He was born in 1779, a son of Andreas Hauter and Katharina Imhof.
9. Anna Barbara Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg circa 1781, and died there Feb. 7, 1799.

Johannes/Jean Kinsinger was born at Herxheim am Berg (adjacent to Weisenheim am Berg) in 1758, and died at Weisenheim am Berg May 15, 1828.

He married Veronica Imhof of the Wilensteinerhof estate at Trippstadt (seven miles south of Kaiserslautern). She was born circa 1771, and died at Weisenheim am Berg May 31, 1806, a daughter of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy.

He may have remarried to Maria Kropf. She was born circa 1761, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 17, 1839. Her civil death entry described her as Marie Kropff, 78, widow of the deceased Chrétien Kintzinger [Johannes/Jean?], who had died at Weisenheim. It was witnessed by cultivator Henry Goldschmidt, 57, and Chrétien Augsburger, 32, and signed 'Heinrich Goldschmidt' and 'Christian Augspurger.'

Five of the seven sons came to America: Samuel and Joseph in 1826, Jacob in 1830, Christian circa 1840 (after his son Johannes/John had sailed in 1834), and Peter likely in 1850. Oldest son Johannes did not emigrate, and youngest son Daniel died as an infant.

Children of Johannes/Jean Kinsinger and his first wife Veronica Imhof born at Weisenheim am Berg include:

1. Johannes Kinsinger was born Oct. 29, 1789, and died on the Stausteinerhof estate at Kleinsteinhausen near Pirmasens Nov. 13, 1834. On April 14, 1810 at Contwig he married Christina Schrag. She was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig circa 1794 (she was 16 at her marriage, he was 20), and died in Butler County, Ohio after 1870, a daughter of Johannes Schrag and Christine Esch. The marriage entry described Jean as a cultivator at Weisenheim am Berg. Witnesses included his father cultivator Jean Kinsinger, 52; cultivator Jacques Kinsinger, 46; and cultivator Christian Schwarzentruber, 75. In 1860 widow Christina Schrag is found as 'C. Kinsinger, 64, Hesse Cassel' on the census of Oxford, Butler County, living in the household of her daughter Barbara and her son-in-law Christian Zimmerman. In 1870 she was living with her daughter Veronica and her son-in-law Moses Augspurger at Madison, Butler County, where she is found as 'Christena Kinsinger, 76, lives with daughter, France.' One of their children had an Illinois connection. Barbara Kinsinger was born Jan. 1, 1820, and died at Washington Nov. 17, 1896; she is buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington. On Sept. 8, 1850 in Butler County, Ohio she married Christian Zimmerman. The ceremony was conducted by minister Nicholas Augspurger. Christian was born at Bourgfelden, Upper Alsace March 27, 1827, died in Tazewell County June 23, 1879, and was buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove, a son of Christian Zimmerman and Catherine Sommer. For more on this couple, see ZIMMERMAN.
2. Jacob Kinsinger was born Sept. 14, 1791, and died in Davis County, Iowa after the 1870 federal census. On July 2 or 19, 1817 at Weisenheim am Berg he married Marie Madeleine Augspurger. She was born on Point du Jour farm at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines or at Ixheim (now a district in the city of Zweibrücken) in 1793, and died in 1856, a daughter of Christian Augspurger and Maria Magdalena Kropf. They sailed from Le Havre on the *De Rham*, remained onboard when the ship arrived at Boston, and disembarked at New York Dec. 21, 1830. The passenger list shows them as Jacob Kingsinger, 39; Marie, 36; Magdaleine, 10; Jacob, 9; Catherine, 8; John, 6; Lisa, 5; Christian, 3; and Peter, 1. For the story of this voyage and their encounter with the Great Snow of 1830, see KENNEL. Jacob signed a *Declaration of Intent* for naturalization at Hamilton, Butler County in September 1840; it was witnessed by Conrad Schmidtman and Augustus Breitenbach. Jacob is found on the 1860 census of Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa as a 69-year-old farmer in the household of Anna Miller. On the 1870 census of Roscoe, Davis County he is found as an 80-year-old living in the household of his son Christian Kinsinger, 43.
3. **Christian Kinsinger** was born Sept. 22, 1794, and died in Davis County, Iowa in 1860.
4. Peter Kinsinger was born in 1795, and died in Butler County Dec. 12, 1864 (his headstone gives only his date of death and that he was 69 years old). He is buried in Collinsville Cemetery, Butler County. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Onward*, and arrived at New York July 13, 1850; the passenger list shows farmer Pierre Kinzinger, 54, Bavaria. He is found in the household of his brother Joseph on the 1850 census of Milford described as farmer Peter Kinsinger, 55, Germany. The 1860 census of Milford shows the household as farmer Peter Kinsinger, 64, Germany; Magdalene, 56, Germany; and six children born in Ohio, presumably the children of his companion's earlier marriage. *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* states that he did not marry.

5. Samuel Kinsinger was born in 1799, and died in Butler County circa 1840. He and his younger brother sailed from Le Havre on the *Howard*, and arrived at New York Sept. 27, 1826. He appears on the passenger list as S. Kingsinger, 26. On Sept. 25, 1828 in Butler County he married Catherine Augspurger. She was born at Ixheim Feb. 26, 1808, a daughter of Christian Augspurger and Katharina Hauter. On June 20, 1848 in Butler County Catherine remarried to Samuel's nephew Joseph Kinsinger (son of Christian Kinsinger and Magdalena Schrag).
6. Joseph Kinsinger was born Sept. 6, 1801, and died in Butler County Dec. 16, 1857. He appears on the *Howard* passenger list as J. Kingsinger, 24. On April 1 or Oct. 5, 1830 in Butler County he married Magdalena Augspurger. She was born on the Meinau estate at Strasbourg Dec. 13, 1809, and died in Butler County Oct. 19, 1884, a daughter of Christian Augspurger and Katharina Hauter. According to *History of the Mennonites of Butler County,Ohio*, "He came to America and settled in Butler County in May, 1826. On Oct. 5, 1830 he united in marriage with Magdalena Augspurger. Soon after his arrival he identified himself with the Augspurger congregation, and in 1844 he was elected a minister, and was ordained by Reb. Jacob Augspurger." In 1835 Joseph purchased 110 acres at 1075 Oxford-Middletown Road, Milford from his father-in-law Christian Augspurger. They appear on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County as farmer Joseph Kinsinger, 49, Germany; Magdalen, 40, Germany; seven children born in Ohio; farmer David Summers, 28, Ohio; and brother Peter Kinsinger, 55, Germany. Joseph served as a minister of the Augspurger 'hook-and-eye' congregation until his death. *Herald of Truth*, November 1884: "On the 19th of October, in Butler County, Ohio, Magdalena Kinsinger fell asleep in Jesus. She was the widow of Pre. Joseph Kinsinger who died in 1857. She leaves 9 children, 26 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren; 8 children and 8 grandchildren have gone before her to their eternal home. She had been affected many years with heart disease. She was a faithful wife, an exemplary mother, a kind friend and an earnest, devoted Christian. She taught her children the saying: "Do not disrespect thy friend and thy father's friend." She was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church and died in a blessed hope of eternal life. Peace to her ashes." They are buried in Union Cemetery at Collinsville.
7. Daniel Kinsinger was born April 19, 1804, and died April 21, 1805.

Christian Kinsinger was born at Weisenheim am Berg Sept. 22, 1794, and died in Davis County, Iowa in 1860.

On Nov. 1, 1814 at Contwig (then in the French occupation department of Mont-Tonnére) he married Magdalena Schrag. She was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig in 1798, and died there May 9, 1824, a daughter of Johannes Schrag and Christine Esch. They lived on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate.

Children of Christian Kinsinger and his first wife Magdalena Schrag born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig include:

1. **Johannes/John Kinsinger** was born Oct. 21, 1815.
2. Christian Kinsinger was born Feb. 2, 1817 (birth entry; Feb. 7 in his obituary and Feb. 11 on his headstone), and died in Cass County, Missouri Feb. 7, 1872. He married Anna Bertsche. She was born March 1, 1828, and died March 1, 1878, a daughter of Michael Bertsche and Katharina Nafziger. Anna was an aunt to the Bertsches who married children of Johannes/John. They are found on the 1870 census of Camp Branch, Cass County, Missouri as farmer Christian Kinsinger, 53, Bavaria; Anna, 42, Bavaria; Katie, 20, Bavaria; Joseph, 13, Ohio; Samuel, 7, Ohio; and Anna, 4, Ohio. *Gospel Herald*, March 1873: "February 7th, in Cass county, Missouri, of lung fever, Christian Kinsinger, aged 55 years, 11 months, and 24 days. He leaves a wife and 4 children to mourn his removal." They are buried at Clearfork Cemetery, Garden City, Cass County, Missouri.
3. Jakob Kinsinger was born April 11, 1818, and died April 21, 1818.
4. Josef/Joseph Kinsinger was born June 13, 1819. On June 20, 1848 in Butler County he married Catherine Augspurger. She was born at Ixheim Feb. 26, 1808, a daughter of Christian Augspurger and Katharina Hauter. She was the widow of Joseph's uncle Samuel Kinsinger, mentioned earlier. They are found on the 1850 census of Fairfield, Ohio as farmer Joseph Kinsinger, 31, Germany; Catharine, 40, Germany; Catharine, 20, Ohio; laborer Christopher, 18, Ohio; John, 17, Ohio; Elizabeth, 12, Ohio; Samuel, 21, Germany; Elizabeth Oyer, 18, Germany; Daniel Brannan [Brenneman?], 30, Germany; and Joseph Brannan, 66, Germany. They are listed two families removed from John Staker and Barbara Schertz. The 1880 census of Grove, Davis County, Iowa shows them as J. Kinsinger, 60, Germany; and Catharine, 58.
5. Jakob Kinsinger was born Oct. 27, 1827, and died Nov. 20, 1820.
6. Peter Kinsinger was born Nov. 25, 1821, and died Aug. 9, 1822.
7. Magdalena 'Ellen' Kinsinger was born May 27, 1824. We could not follow her after she is found as a 27-year-old on the 1850 census of Wayne, Butler County.

On June 26, 1827 at Contwig Christian remarried to Elizabeth Sommer. She was born at Contwig in 1794, and died at Pulaski, Davis County, Iowa after 1870, a daughter of miller Christian Sommer and Barbara Kempf.

Their household is found on the 1860 census of Grove, Davis County: farmer Christian Kinsinger, 66, Germany; Elizabeth, 70, Germany; Elizabeth, 28, Germany; and Barbara, 22, Germany. Their son Daniel lived next door.

Children of Christian Kinsinger and his second wife Elizabeth Sommer include:

8. Jakob Kinsinger was born Jan. 17, 1828.
9. Peter Kinsinger was born Feb. 6, 1829, and died March 15, 1830.
10. Daniel Kinsinger was born May 14, 1830, and died at Grove, Davis County, Iowa May 28 or 29, 1898. On Nov. 12, 1854 in Davis County, Iowa he married Mary Miller. She was born at New Hamburg, Ontario April 22, 1836, and died Aug. 31, 1925, a daughter of Michael Miller and Phoebe Nafziger. They are found on the 1885 state census of Grove as Daniel Kinsinger, 54; Mary, 49; with seven children. They are buried in Pulaski Cemetery.
11. Elisabetha/Elizabeth Kinsinger was born July 4, 1831. We could not follow her after she is found as a 28-year-old on the 1860 census of Grove.
12. Samuel Kinsinger (twin) was born July 16, 1834. At Bloomfield, Davis County he married Margaret Ann Godsey. She was born in Meigs County, Tennessee March 20, 1832, a daughter of Drury Godsey and Sarah Cox. The 1900 census of Bloomfield shows their household as storekeeper Samuel Kinsinger, 45; Margaret A. Kinsinger, 45; and six children. He is found on the 1900 census of Marion, Davis County, Iowa as widower farmer Samuel Kinsinger, 65, born in Germany in July 1834; with four children born in Iowa between 1869 and 1876; immigrated in 1846.
13. Peter Kinsinger (twin) was born July 16, 1834, and died at Prairie, Davis County, Iowa Nov. 23, 1910. On Sept. 8, 1857 in Pulaski, Davis County, Iowa he married Catherine Miller. She was born at New Hamburg, Ontario May 3, 1840, and died Feb. 24, 1920, a daughter of Michael Miller and Phoebe Nafziger. They last appear on the 1910 census of Prairie as Peter Kinsinger, 75, Germany; and Catherine, 69, Germany. Peter's death entry gave his burial place as Peoria, Illinois.
14. Barbara Kinsinger was born March 12, 1837, and died at Pulaski Feb. 7, 1894. We could not follow her after she is found as a 33-year-old on the 1870 census of Grove.

According to *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Christian "...remained on the Heckenaschbacherhof, at first with his brother-in-law Christian Schrag and then as sole leaseholder after Christian Schrag's early death. Christian married twice and had in all fourteen children, and he was in constant financial difficulties. Because he was behind in lease payments, he had to leave the estate in 1840. He leased the Faunerhof at Epenbrunn. Due to the poor soils, he had no luck there either and finally emigrated to the U.S.A." By April 1841 Christian owed an amount equivalent to two years of payments on the Faunerhof. The family emigrated from Europe in 1846.[268]

They are shown on the 1850 census of Wayne, Butler County as farmer Christian Kinsinger, 55; Lesbin or Leslie, 55; Daniel, 20; Samuel, 16; Peter, 16; Ellen, 27; Elizabeth, 19; and Barbara, 13; the entire family born in Germany.

Christian and his brother Jacob resettled briefly near Charleston, Lee County, Iowa. In 1853 they relocated about 40 miles farther west at Pulaski, Davis County. An 1856 state census of Davis County shows Christian Kinsinger, 63; Elizabeth, 63; Elizabeth, 25; Peter, 22; and Barbara, 19; all born in Germany. The 1860 census of Grove, Davis County, Iowa shows Christian's household as farmer Christian Kinsinger, 66; Elizabeth, 70; Elizabeth, 28; and Barbara, 22; all born in Germany. They lived next door to the households of sons Daniel Kinsinger, 30; and Peter Kinsinger, 26. The 1870 census of Grove shows only Elizabeth Kinsinger, 79, Bavaria; and Barbara Kinsinger, 33, Bavaria.

Johannes/John Kinsinger was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig Oct. 21, 1815.

He sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Sully*, and arrived at New York Nov. 5, 1834. He appears on the passenger list as Jean Kinzinger, 19, Bavaria.

John is found on tax lists at Wayne Township, Butler County in 1836 and 1837. In 1837 in Butler County he married Barbara Peter Schmidt, who was also known as Barbara P. Smith. She was born at Ruederbach, Upper Alsace Jan. 8, 1811 (her civil birth entry calls her 'Barbara Peterschmitt'), and died in Butler County in 1860, a daughter of Jacob Petter Schmid and Barbara Lauber.

'John Kensenger' signed a *Declaration of Intent* for naturalization at Hamilton, Butler County in February of 1840. 'John Kensinger' can be found on the 1840 census of St. Clair. The tally shows one male and one female 20-30 years of age, and one male and one female under five years of age.

The 1850 census of Fairfield shows farmer John Kensinger, 34, Germany; Barbara, 34, Germany; Malinda, 12; Barbara, 10; Jacob, 8; John, 6; Anne, 4; and Elizabeth, three months; all children born in Ohio; laborer John Reddiger, 26, Germany; and Wendel Greaser, 28, Germany.

Barbara died in the first six months of 1860.

Children of Johannes/John Kinsinger and his first wife Barbara Peter Schmidt born in Butler County, Ohio include:

[268] According to the 1900 federal census remark of Samuel Kinsinger.

1. John Kinsinger was born circa 1838, and died before 1850.
2. Magdalena 'Melinda' Kinsinger was born at Hamilton, Butler County Feb. 14, 1840, and died at Big Horn, Wyoming July 30, 1931. On May 19, 1859 in Tazewell County she married David Garber. He was born in Ohio June 30, 1838, and died at Big Horn, Wyoming Feb. 25, 1924, a son of John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe. See GERBER AND GARBER for background on this couple.
3. Barbara Kinsinger was born in October 1842, and died in May 1921. On Jan. 16, 1862 in Butler County she married Jacob Augspurger. He was born in Butler County May 25, 1838, and died at Middletown, Butler County Dec. 12, 1912, a son of Nicholas Augspurger and Magdalena Gautsche. They are found on the 1900 census of Lemon Township, Butler County as farmer Jacob Augspurger, 62, born in Ohio in May 1838 to German parents; Barbara, 57, born in Ohio in October 1842 to German parents; and two children born in Ohio.
4. Jacob Kinsinger was born circa 1842, according to the 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County. He served in the Civil War as a private in Company G, 108th Illinois U.S. Infantry. His records describe him as born in Butler County, Ohio but living at Groveland; age 21; height 5 foot-6; dark eyes; dark complexion; brown hair. He signed a one-year enlistment at Springfield Oct. 1, 1864. 23-year-old Noah Garber of Elm Grove (a son of John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe) and 18-year-old Christian Smith Jr. (a son of Christophe Schmitt/Christian Smith and Magdalena Schrag/Schrock) enlisted with him. During Jacob's enlistment the 108th moved from Memphis to New Orleans. On March 27 they engaged Confederates at Spanish Fort, a defensive point on Mobile Bay, Alabama. The siege lasted 13 days. From there they were repositioned at Montgomery, Alabama, where Jacob transferred to the 47th Illinois Infantry. He mustered out at Montgomery Oct. 14, 1865.
5. John Kinsinger was born in Butler County circa 1844, and died in Dade County, Missouri in 1882. Circa 1876 he married Fontanella Aiken.
6. Anna Kinsinger was born at Fairfield, Butler County May 24, 1847, and died at Trenton, Butler County Nov. 9, 1930. On Nov. 16, 1865 in Butler County she married Christian Mosiman/Moseman. He was born at Milford, Butler County March 12, 1841, and died there in 1934, a son of Christian Mosiman and Barbe Schmitt/Smith. *A History and Biographical Cyclopaedia of Butler County, Ohio:* "Christian Mosiman, the son of Christian Mossiman, Sen., and Barbara Smith, was born in Milford Township March 12, 1841, and was married on the 16th of November, 1865 to Anna Kinsinger, daughter of John Kinsinger and his first wife Barbara P. Smith. She was born in Fairfield Township May 24, 1848, her parents coming here in 1831, as did those also of Mr. Mosiman. Mr. Mosiman has been school-director, being elected in 1879. He is a farmer, and has a well-cultivated place. He is a member of the Mennonite Church." A road in Madison and Middletown is now named in his honor. Samuel K. Mosiman, a son of this couple born in Butler County Dec. 17, 1867, was president of Bluffton College 1910-35.
7. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Kinsinger was born at Fairfield, Butler County May 3, 1850, and died in McLean County Nov. 18, 1913. On March 21, 1878 in McLean County she married Andrew Benjamin Salzman. He was born in Butler County July 29, 1855, and died Nov. 10, 1930, a son of André/Andrew Salzman and Barbara Peter Schmidt/Smith. See SALZMAN for more on this couple.

After Barbara's death John came to Tazewell County and worked on the farm of Christian Beckler. The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows laborer 'John Kissinger,' 44, Bavaria, living in Bechler's home. The 1864 plat map of Elm Grove shows Christian Beckler living in a home on his timberland in Section Two just west of Pleasant Grove, on the north side of Allentown Road across from theWaglers and Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. Presumably Christian and John entered into a 15-year agreement trading John's work for future landownership.

The land that John purchased from Beckler is near the Tremont line, which has caused some confusion. Beckler did have another 101 acres on the Tremont side of the town boundary, but that parcel was sold to Nicholas Stecker/Staker Jan. 5, 1858; full payment was made Feb. 4, 1859. The boundary between the two townships confuses many because it actually cuts off the western side of the merchant area Tremont Village.

On March 10, 1861 in Tazewell County John remarried to Barbara Wagler; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in Butler County Feb. 19, 1837, and died at Tremont Oct. 9, 1902, a daughter of Jacob Berse/Christian Wagler and Catherine Ulrich. He was 45, and she was 24.

Their household appears on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as farmer John Kinzinger, 56, Bavaria; Barbara, 32, Brunswick; Catharine, 8, Illinois; Phillipine, 6, Illinois; Veronika, 3, Illinois; and Sarah, five months, Illinois; next door to George Ritthaler.

On Jan. 15, 1876 Beckler sold John the Section 2 land that he had worked, and then relocated across the town boundary into Tremont. The one-dollar transaction was legally documented in the county deed book.

John could read and write English, and often acted as a business mediator or appeared in court for his German-speaking neighbors.

In 1880 the household contained farmer Jno. Kinsinger, 64, born in Germany to German parents; Barbara, 40, born in Ohio to French parents; Katie, 16; Pheba, 15; Fannie, 14; Sarah, 10; Samuel, 8; and Willie, 3; all children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Elm Grove shows retired farmer John Kinsinger, 84, born in Germany in Septebmer 1815 to German parents, immigrated in 1834; Barbara, 71, born in Ohio in March 1829 to French

parents; farmer Samuel, 27, born in Illinois in July 1872 to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio; William B., 22, born in Illinois in March 1878 to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio; and Carrie E., 19, born in Illinois in June 1880 to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio.

John died at Elm Grove in October 1900, and Barbara died there Oct. 9, 1902. They are buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove.

Children of Johannes/John Kinsinger and his second wife Barbara Wagler born at Elm Grove include:

8. Katharina 'Katie' Kinsinger was born Dec. 27, 1862, and died at Dillon Oct. 7, 1903. On Feb. 2, 1882 at Pekin she married Christian Oesch. He was born at Pekin May 30, 1854, and died at Dillon Jan. 15, 1890; he is buried in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery, a son of Christian Oesch and Magdalena Zehr. In 1901 Katharina remarried to Christian King. He was born at Liberty, Butler County Oct. 13, 1840, and died at Deer Creek Nov. 23, 1924, a son of Michael King and Elizabeth Barnett. See KING for an accounting of Christian's three wives.
9. Jacobine 'Phoebe' Kinsinger was born Jan. 11, 1864, and died at Chicago July 20, 1953. On Jan. 11, 1891 in McLean County she married her cousin Johannes/John Bertsche; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Johannes/John was born on the Erlenkophof estate at Eppenbrunn on the German-Lower Alsace border Jan. 11, 1864, and died at Waldo, Livingston County May 27, 1938, a son of Johannes/John Bertsche and Katherina Hauter. *Gospel Herald*, July 1938: "Bertsche - John, son of John and Katherine (Hauter) Bertsche, was born Jan. 13, 1864, near Erlenkoph, Hof, Pirmasens, Bavaria, Germany; died at his home near Flanagan, Ill., May 27, 1938, following a brief illness of influenza and complications; aged 74 y. 4 m. 14 d. In 1873 he came to America with his parents and lived near Hamilton, Ohio, for two years, later moving to a farm near Weston, Ill., where he lived for one year, then moving to the community where he spent the rest of his life. He became a member of the Mennonite Church in his youth and remained a faithful member unto the end. From boyhood throughout life he was called upon to bear much suffering, but through God's grace he bore all pain bravely and was never known to complain, believing that 'all things work together for good to them that love God.' He left a beautiful testimony of his faith in God. On January, 1891, he was united in marriage to Phoebe Kinsinger of Groveland, Ill. This union was blessed with seven children. He leaves a sorrowing wife and six children: Almon, Nyle, Sarah, and Lucile of Flanagan, Ill.; Orville, Indianapolis, Ind.; and Mrs. Linda Jacobs of Pontiac, Ill. He is also survived by 15 grandchildren, three sisters (Mrs. Lena Gyssler of Flanagan, Mrs. Barbara Kinsinger of Meadows, and Phoebe Bertsche of Chicago), and many relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter (Alta Lillian), a grandchild, and three brothers and three sisters. Funeral services were held at the Salem Mennonite Church on Monday, May 30, in charge of G.I. Gundy and Emanuel Ulrich." They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.
10. Veronica 'Fannie' Kinsinger was born Oct. 16, 1866, and died at Goodland, Indiana June 19, 1927. On Feb. 16, 1892 in McLean County she married her cousin Peter Bertsche; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born on the Erlenkophof estate at Eppenbrunn Aug. 1, 1867, and died at Goodland, Indiana Sept. 7, 1921, a son of Johannes/John Bertsche and Katharina Hauter.
11. Sarah Kinsinger was born Feb. 11, 1870, and died in Tazewell County June 21, 1891. *Herald of Truth*, July 1891: "On the 21st of June 1891, near Groveland, Tazewell Co., Ill., of consumption, Sarah, daughter of John and Barbara Kinsinger, aged 21 years, 4 months and 10 days. Sarah was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite church, and expressed a living hope in Christ Jesus. Her parents, 8 sisters, 3 brothers, and many friends mourn their loss. The funeral on the 23d was largely attended. Services by Peter [illegible], Chr. King, and John P. Schmitt, from *John 5: 24, 25*." She is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery.
12. Samuel Kinsinger was born July 28, 1873, and died at Morton April 18, 1924. Circa 1908 he married Bernice Sankey. She was born in Missouri in 1872 (headstone), circa 1878 (age 42 on the 1920 census of Morton), or circa 1881 (age 29 on the 1910 census of Groveland). She died in 1942. They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin. [269]
13. John Kinsinger was born March 23, 1875, and died Jan. 27, 1879. He is buried in Landes Mennonite Cemetery as 'Johnnie Kinsinger.'
14. William Daniel 'Willie' Kinsinger was born April 21, 1876, and died in Livingston County July 27, 1935. He is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. He had cognitive disabilities. He can be found as a 43-year-old on the 1920 census of Morton, living with older brother Samuel.
15. Carrie E. Kinsinger was born June 3, 1880, and died at Mineral, Bureau County July 31, 1945. On Jan. 7, 1902 in Woodford County she married Joseph D. Ulrich. He was born in Woodford County Aug. 10, 1872, and died at Rock Island March 23, 1930, a son of Peter Ulrich and Elizabeth King.

[269] Was Bernice an orphan? The 1880 federal census of children at the Catholic Orphan School, 5th Ward, St. Louis includes Nettie Sankey, 8, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois, and Fanny Sankey, 10, born in Missouri to parents from Missouri.

Daniel Kinsinger

Daniel Kinsinger was born in 1765. Earlier we proposed that he was a child of the prosperous couple Johannes Kinsing/Kinsinger and Maria Magdalena Schwarzentruber, parents of the main line family.

A number of sources seem to say, "Well, it looks like he belongs here. But he is not found on lists of their heirs."

Johannes died in 1788, and his widow in 1810. Because they had wealth, there was a significant lapse before two lists of heirs were created. One held in the archives at Speyer was signed Aug. 19, 1818, and names all claimants including grandchildren. Another was signed Dec. 11, 1823. Oldest son Johannes represented the interests of those not present at inquiries.

Why was Daniel not listed? There are a number of possible explanations that would be consistent with family practice and German law at the time:

— The oldest son intended to manage at Weisenheim am Berg until his own death, and did so. Consequently the next-oldest son Daniel received money from his wealthy parents (either before or after the father's death) to lease his own property elsewhere. This would have been considered an advance on his inheritance. Daniel's first child would be born at Marburg, Hesse in 1807; this location is roughly 100 miles north of Weisenheim am Berg.
— Daniel was unsuccessful in his ventures, or became estranged from his siblings, or both.
— Daniel was dead when the first list of claimants was drawn up, and his widow did not make a claim on the estate for any number of other reasons (including the possibility of her death as well). *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* said this about one of his sons: "Michael [born in 1814] was the third of five children. After the death of his father he, being practically homeless, lived with a man called Gingve [likely 'Gingre' for Güngerich] near Marburg, Germany, for ten years." Michael is thought to have sailed to America as a 15-year-old in 1829. Thus his father Daniel had died in 1818 or possibly even earlier – either way, before claims by the heirs were first listed.

So the possibility of this family relationship remains open – probable, but not provable.

"A man called Gingve" who took in Peter and likely the other children was almost certainly Vinzenz Güngerich. 'Gingre' has often been found as a familial form of Güngerich. According to Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany,* Vinzenz was born in 1760, and died at Bürgeln in 1845, a son of Christian Güngerich (the minister who represented Waldeck at the assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in 1779) and Verena Schwarzentruber. He was married to Helene Kinzinger. She was born on the dairy farm Twiste in 1764, and died at Bürgeln in 1821. The village of Bürgeln is seven miles northeast of the university town Marburg, which is also the seat of their administrative district [Ger. *Landkreis*].

In 1805 Daniel married Catherine Schwarzentruber. She was born in 1771, and is thought to have died in 1834.

Their children include:

1. Jacob Kinsinger was born at Marburg Sept. 12, 1807, and died at Meyersdale, Somerset County, Pennsylvania Jan. 20, 1894. He immigrated in 1832 with his pregnant wife, Valentine Tice, and Tice's pregnant wife Catherine Güngerich. In late May Jacob's wife died in childbirth at sea. Valentine and Catherine had their first child at sea July 24. In *From Hazelbrush To Cornfields, The first one hundred years of the Amish-Mennonites in Johnson, Washington, and Iowa counties of Iowa, 1846-1946* (1994) Katie Yoder Lind wrote that, "Jacob and his young wife left Hesse-Cassel, Germany, on May 2, 1832, and according to their records, the ship did not arrive in port at Baltimore until five months later…Now a century and half has passed since the birth of those two little ones, it makes less difference that the Tice records shows the year of emigration to have been 1833." Soon after arrival, Jacob remarried to Catherine Beachy in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. She was born in the county May 3, 1809, and died there Dec. 13, 1892, a daughter of Peter Beachy and Barbara Hershberger. On April 9, 1839 they purchased 223 acres at Springs (later Elk Lick), Somerset County. They are buried in the Old Order Amish Cemetery at Niverton, Somerset County. Five of their 10 children relocated to Iowa; Peter Kinsinger (1839-1923) served as minister/elder for a congregation in Johnson County, Iowa.
2. Daniel Kinsinger was born at Marburg in 1810. Was he the 'Dan.l Kinsinger, 60, Germany, works on farm' found in the household of farmer Peter M. Clark on the 1870 census of Lemon, Butler County, Ohio? If so, it might be a link between this line of Kinsingers and the main line. Five of the next six households listed are Ehrisman, Sticker (Stecker/Staker), Moselman (Mosiman), Salzman, and Schertz. Recall the numerous earlier mentions of these Butler County families.
3. **Michael Kinsinger** was born at Marburg Oct. 10, 1814, and died at Danvers, McLean County June 28, 1895.
4. Peter S. Kinsinger was born at Hessenthal (92 miles southeast of Marburg) July 10, 1818, and died at Somerset, Somerset County, Pennsylvania Sept. 27, 1896. He and his younger sister Anna departed from Bremen on the *Europa*, and arrived at Baltimore June 23, 1841. The passenger list shows farmer Peter Kintzinger, 25, and Anna, 20.

They were accompanied by tailor Joseph Bender, 24, who would later become Joseph D. Bender in Iowa. On April 15, 1853 in Somerset County Peter married Rachel Knagy/Gnagey. She was born in Somerset County Feb. 1, 1827, and died there Oct. 18, 1889. They are found on the 1870 census of Summit, Somerset County as farmer Peter Kinsinger, 53, Hesse-Cassel; Rachel, 43, Pennsylvania; Jacob, 16; Abraham, 15; John, 11; Savilla, 10; Amanda, 6; and Belinda, 2; all children born in Maryland. They lived next door to Moses Gnagy, 42, and his family all born in Maryland.

5. Anna Kinsinger was born May 16, 1821, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County May 16, 1889. She arrived at Baltimore in 1841 with her older brother Peter. On Feb. 5, 1844 in Somerset County she married Henry Patton. He was born near Salisbury, Somerset County May 9, 1820, and died at Dry Grove April 1, 1888, a son of Robert Patton and Eve Glotfelty. *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* (1887): "…His bride was Annie E. Kinsinger, who was of German birth and parentage and emigrated to America in 1842. After a brief time spent in Baltimore, she located in Pannsylvania. Shortly after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. P. located in Maryland, where they remained for a period of nine years. They then returned to Pennsylvania, to the old homestead, where they spent one year and then, in 1853, Mr. Patton came to Illinois to look over the country. He was well pleased with the prospects in the Prairie State, and the following year removed his family, locating in Woodford County. For two years they farmed upon rented land and then came to McLean County, which has since been his home. In 1864 Mr. Patton purchased 322 acres on Section 1, of wild prairie land, and at once entered upon its improvement and cultivation…The family is connected with the German Reform Church." Henry is buried in Havens Cemetery at Hudson, McLean County.

THE BENDERS

Joseph Bender or Joseph D. Bender, the traveling companion of Peter S. Kinsinger and his sister Anna Kinsinger in 1841, was born at Langendorf, Hesse Dec. 22, 1816, and died at Washington, Johnson County, Iowa Oct. 26, 1894, a son of Daniel Bender and his second wife Elizabeth Baumann. Circa 1843 he married Magdalena Schwarzentruber. She was born at Mengeringhaüsen, Hesse March 21, 1811, and died at Washington Dec. 6, 1892, a daughter of Christian Schwarzentruber and Catherine Roth. They appear on the 1860, 1870 and 1880 censuses of Washington. They are buried in Lower Deer Creek Cemetery in Johnson County, where Magdalena's headstone calls her Magdalene.

Joseph's older brother Wilhelm Bender was born Aug. 22, 1815, and died in Somerset County May 29, 1894. He arrived at Baltimore in 1831 or 1832. Wilhelm did not have the cost of the fare, intending instead to enter America as a redemptioner. His traveling companion paid his fare. (This may have been Peter's older brother Jacob Kinsinger, who lost his wife on a voyage in 1832). In Baltimore the owner of a tree nursery gave the companion the amount of Wilhelm's fare, and then accepted Wilhelm as an indentured employee. The companion then went on to Somerset County, Pennsylvania, on the state line with Garrett County, Maryland. There he explained the situation to minister/elder Benedict Miller. Miller managed to arrange payments for the debt. In 1838 Wilhelm married his first wife, Catherine Miller, a daughter of the minister/elder. Wilfred is buried in the Old Order Amish Cemetery at Niverton, Somerset County.

By the time Wilhelm and Joseph Bender had saved enough to bring the remainder of their family from Europe, their father Daniel Bender had died. Their widowed mother Elizabeth Baumann and four sons departed from Bremen on the bark *Elizabeth Hall*, and arrived at Baltimore Aug. 23, 1842. They appear on the passenger list as Elisab. Bender, 48; Christ.n, 22; John., 18; Jacob, 14; and Michael, 12. They soon reunited with the sons in Wilhelm's house at Grantsville, Garrett County, Maryland.

Michael Kinsinger was born at Marburg Oct. 10, 1814, and died at Danvers, McLean County June 28, 1895. Recall from *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* (1927): "Michael was the third of five children. After the death of his father he, being practically homeless, lived with a man called Gingve [likely 'Gingre' for Güngerich] near Marburg, Germany, for ten years. He first learned the blacksmith's trade and then later the distilling business. He came to America in 1829 and settled in Butler County, Ohio. He came to America on his wedding trip. His wife died on the ocean."[270] [It is unlikely that he would have been a newlywed at age 15, and this assertion was not mentioned in any other account].

On Nov. 12, 1837 in Butler County he married Magdalena Naffziger. Magdalena Naffziger was born at Hochheim (now a district of Worms) May 3 or Aug. 1, 1818, and died Aug. 9, 1895, a daughter of minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger and Barbara Beck. The ceremony was performed by her father.[271]

History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church says that, "In 1837 Peter Donner, Sr., and family came from Butler County; Ohio, in a wagon and settled in Dry Grove, a few miles east of Danvers. This was the first Amish family in Dry Grove Township. In the same year Valentine and Peter Strubhar, with their mother and Rev. Michael Kinsinger, came from Butler County to Danvers Township." "They [the Kinsingers] came to McLean County, Illinois, in 1838. They lived in Bloomington a short time and then rented land in Danvers Township. They

[270] Michael's profile in *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* repeats the misconception that his father Daniel died in 1828, suggesting that at least some of the information was taken from county vanity publications.

[271] The county entry lists them as Michael Kensinger and Magdalena Noffseger.

were parents of twelve children. The children were raised in a log house 16x18 feet, divided into two rooms and ground for the floor." In *Old Professions and New Ideas*, Robert Dirks says that, "Bloomington's first professional distiller, Michael Kinsinger, a native of Marburg, was Hessian Amish."

Michael and Magdalena are found on the 1850 census of Woodford County as farmer Michael Kinsinger, 34; Malinda, 30; Catharine, 12; Peter, 12; Daniel, 8; Jacob, 6; Christian, 4; and Barbaray, 2. They lived next door to Jacob Schantz [found as Chaunce] and Catherine Deissen. [272] They are found on the 1860 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County as farmer Michael Kensinger, 45, Hesse; Magdalena, 45; Catherine, 22; farm laborer Peter, 20; Daniel, 18; Jacob, 16; Christian, 14; Barbara, 12; Magdalena, 10; Anna, 8; Phebe, 6; Caroline, 4; and Killian, 1.' They lived next door to Magdalena's father minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger, who was separated from his wife and living in the household, and her brother Peter Jr.

Minister and elder John Michael Kistler (who had also lived in Butler County) ordained Michael as a minister of the Hessian South Danvers congregation in 1862.

The Kinsingers were omitted from the 1870 federal census, but there is little doubt that they were still living on their first homestead. An 1873 plat map of Montgomery shows the 'M. Kinzinger' farm as the southeast quarter of Section 22. The Rock Creek ran through its 160 acres. Adjoining farms are labeled P. Noffsinger, J. Schrock, V. Strubhar, Jos. Maurer, and M. Zimmerman.

They are found on the 1880 census of Montgomery as farmer Michael Kinsinger, 64, born in Hesse to a father from Prussia and a mother from Germany; Magdalena, 61, born in Darmstadt to parents from Darmstadt; and August, 18, born in Illinois. They lived one home removed from 'Apostle Peter,' found on the census as Peter Naffsinger, 91.

Michael died at Congerville (an area within Montgomery Township) June 28, 1895. Magdalena died there Aug. 9, 1895.

Herald of Truth, July 1895: "On the 28th of June 1895, near Congerville, Woodford Co., Ill., of general debility, Michael Kinsinger, aged 80 years, 8 months, 18 days. He was born in Hesse Darmstadt in 1814, was married to Magdalena Naffziger, Oct. 12th 1837 [*sic*], came to Illinois in 1839, where he has since resided. He leaves his aged and infirm companion and eleven children; also 49 grandchildren and two great grandchildren; four children preceded him. He was for many years a minister in the South Danvers Cong. Buried on the 29th. Funeral services at the North Danvers M. H. by Chr. Guengrich in German and Joseph King in English. Services at the Imhoff graveyard by Joseph Stucky."

Herald of Truth, September 1895: "On the 9th of August 1895, in Woodford Co., Ill., of the infirmities of old age, Magdalena Kinsinger, maiden name Naffziger, aged 77 years, 8 days. Her husband died just six weeks previously. Her remains were laid to rest in Imhoff's graveyard beside her husband. Funeral services in the North Danvers Mennonite M. H. by Chr. Guengrich, Jno. Kingsinger, Val. Strubhar, and Joseph Stucky. She leaves 11 children, 49 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren."

They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers, under the spelling 'Kinzinger.'

Children of Michael Kinsinger and Magdalena Naffziger include:

1. Catherine Kinsinger was born in Butler County July 14, 1838, and died at Normal, McLean County Dec. 14, 1927. On Feb. 25, 1864 in McLean County she married Joseph Frye. He was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace Aug. 3, 1828, and died in McLean County Jan. 11, 1910, a son of Jean/John Frei and Catherine Sommer. Catherine is found as a widowed 71-year-old mother-in-law in the household of Thomas E. Adams and her daughter Kate on the 1910 census of Bloomington. They are buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers, where the joint headstone calls her 'Catherine Kensinger.'
2. Peter F. Kinsinger was born at Congerville Dec. 13, 1839 (headstone date) or Dec. 17 (death entry), and died at Washington Jan. 25, 1921. On June 25, 1867 he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Nafziger. She was born Nov. 11, 1838, and died Oct. 30, 1883, a daughter of Valentine Nafziger and Anna Catharina Nafziger. They are found on the 1880 census of Morton as Peter Kinsinger, 40, servant; Lizzie, 35; with two children born in Illinois. She is buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton as 'Elisabeth, wife of Peter F. Kinzinger.' On Aug. 3, 1886 in Tazewell County Peter remarried to Paulina Wilhelmina Russe. She was born in 1851, and died in 1921. They were living at Washington in 1920. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
3. Daniel O. Kinsinger was born at Congerville March 5, 1842, and died at Washington Dec. 15, 1922. On March 11, 1875 in Tazewell County he married Mary A. Schick. In 1880 they were living at Sheridan, Missouri: Daniel Kinzinger, 39, born in Illinois to parents from Hesse; Mary A., 25, born in Illinois to parents from Prussia [Alsace was occupied by Germany 1870-1918]; Rosalie, 2, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; and Fannie, 11 months, born in Missouri to parents from Illinois. On Nov. 4, 1884 in Tazewell County Daniel remarried to Mary Plank. She

[272] One home removed was Michael Kinsinger, 30, Germany; Catharine, 28, Germany; Anna, 4, Ohio; Catharine, 3, Ohio; and Lena, 1, Illinois.

was born at Montgomery, Woodford County Jan. 2, 1855, and died Feb. 19, 1930, a daughter of Jean Blanck/John Plank and Catherine Engel. The 1900 census of Washington shows Daniel Kinzinger, 58, born in Illinois to German parents; Mary, 45, born in Illinois in January 1855 to French parents; three children; and sister-in-law Susan Plank. Their household is found on the 1910 census of Washington as Daniel Kinsinger, 68, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio; Mary, 52, born in Illinois to parents from Fr. Germany; Arthur, 23, born in Missouri to parents from Illinois; Ray, 16, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois; sister-in-law Susan Plank, 68, born in Illinois to parents from Fr. Germany; and sister-in-law Lena [Plank] Kistler, 49, born in Illinois to parents from Fr. Germany. The 1920 census of Washington shows them as retired farmer Dan Kinsinger, 77, born in Illinois to German parents, and Mary, 64, born in Illinois to French parents.

4. Jacob Kinsinger was born at Congerville July 5, 1844, and died in McLean County Nov. 21, 1914. On Jan. 11, 1877 in McLean County he married Helen Kiehn. She was born Sept. 8, 1854, and died in McLean County May 23, 1940, a daughter of David Kiehn. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.
5. Christian W. Kinsinger was born at Congerville July 11, 1846, and died March 25, 1914. On Jan. 10, 1871 in McLean County he married Magdalena Strubhar; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born at Danvers, McLean County Feb. 12, 1849, and died June 16, 1935, a daughter of John Strubhar and Anna Schertz. They are buried in the North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
6. Barbara Kinsinger was born at Congerville Aug. 22, 1848, and died in Nebraska Feb. 7, 1890. She is buried as 'Barbara Zook, wife of David' in Fairview Cemetery at Dawson County, Nebraska. On Aug. 11, 1878 in McLean County she married David Alexander Zook. He was born in Ohio Aug. 11, 1848, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County Feb. 4, 1922 (headstone date) of Feb. 6 (death entry), a son of David Zook and Barbara King. He is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County. They were living at White Oak in 1870 and 1880.
7. Magdalena/Helena/Ellen Kinsinger was born at Congerville July 18, 1849 (headstone date, 1850 is also found), and died Nov. 29, 1932. On Jan. 14, 1869 in McLean County she married Jacob Gundy; the ceremony was peformed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Jacob was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio Nov. 26, 1846, and died in McLean County April 26, 1919, a son of John von Gunden/Gundy and Mary Schwartzentruber. They lived at White Oak. Their joint headstone in the North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery calls her 'Helena Kinzinger.'
8. Anna/Annie Kinsinger was born at Congerville March 1, 1854 (twin)(her headstone says March 3), and died at Normal, McLean County March 8, 1906. On Dec. 23, 1875 in McLean County she married minister Peter Schantz; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* called him “The outstanding leader of the Central Conference Mennonite Church for a quarter of a century (1896-1921).”
9. Jakobina 'Phoebe' Kinsinger was born at Congerville March 1, 1854 (twin), and died Feb. 19, 1939. On Feb. 9, 1886 in Tazewell County she married widower Joseph Strubhar. He was born Aug. 8, 1853, and died at Danvers June 20, 1916, a son of Peter Strubhar and Barbara Schweizer. His first wife had been Jacobine Ropp, who had died Aug. 9, 1883. All three are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
10. Caroline Kinsinger was born at Congerville Dec. 7, 1855 (headstone date), and died at Normal, McLean County July 30, 1924. She is buried in Park Hill Cemetery at Bloomington, McLean County. On Oct. 16, 1884 in McLean County she married George L. Kirchner; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. George was born in Germany in August 1847. The 1910 census of Dry Grove, McLean County lists them as George L. Kirchner, 63; Caroline, 43; and four children born in Illinois. They are found on the 1920 census of Normal, McLean County as George L. Kirchner, 72; and Caroline, 54.
11. Killian M. Kinsinger was born at Congerville Oct. 12, 1858, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Feb. 12, 1945. He is found at Montgomery in 1860, and White Oak from 1880 to 1930. He did not marry. He is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.
12. August Valentine Kinsinger was born at Congerville Aug. 26, 1860, and died Feb. 28, 1956. On Sept. 19, 1889 he married Minnie Florence Rhadovi. She was born April 27, 1865, an died in McLean County Aug. 23, 1938. He is found at Montgomery in 1880, and they are found at White Oak in 1900. They are buried in the North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery under the name 'Kinzinger.'

Ringenberger: Ringenberg of Fribourg

Ringgenberg is a village located near Interlaken on Lake Brienz, just below Lake Thun in Canton Bern. Under the *Heimatrecht* legal rights system it is the *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for citizenship rights for almost all Swiss citizens named Ringgenberg, Ringenberg, and Rinkenberg.

Not a single Ringenberg or Ringenberger appears on census lists of the core followers of Jacob Amman at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines after the Amish Division. Historian Delbert Gratz wrote a 200-page book called *Bernese Anabaptists* (including pages of lists of Anabaptists in Canton Bern as late as 1823) without once mentioning the surname.

In the early 1700s they came from what is now Moselle in the region of Lorraine to the Bärbelsteinerhof at Erlenbach in the Pfalz, a property that became a sort of training ground for future ministers. Eventually the lease on the property passed to a Ringenberg. By 1800 it was impossible to imagine a congregation in the region of Lorraine without some link to this family.

We describe the first-known members of this family as Ringenberg because that is the way they signed their names. Later spellings Ringenberger, Rinkenberg, and Rinckenberger reflect a German influence.

Christian Ringenberg is known to us as the father of the groom on a marriage entry in the Catholic church book of the administrative district/parish of Niederschlettenbach in the Pfalz (now just above the border of the German state of Rheinisch-Pfalz with Lower Alsace). It documented a ceremony performed by Anabaptist minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly on the grounds of the Bärbelsteinerhof at Erlenbach bei Dahn May 23, 1720. He is described as "*Christiani Ringenberg, comorantis in Dominatu Friburg pago Langenberg*," living at Freibourg [Ger. *Freiburg*] in the parish of Languimberg [Ger. *Langenberg*]. Fribourg is now in Moselle (the department was not established until 1794) in the region of Lorraine.

His son **Christian Ringenberg** was born circa 1690. He became a laborer and farmer on the castle estate Ketzing near Gondrexange, nine miles northwest of Fribourg.

He married Anna Maurer in the 1720 ceremony. Anna Maurer was likely the daughter of Michel Murer born circa 1660, who had migrated from the area of Diessbach and Münsingen in the parish of Steffisburg to resettle at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Steffisburg records indicate that his surname was originally Mŭrer, as it is still spelled in Canton Bern.

Christian returned to what is now Moselle, perhaps after the death of Anna. He also remarried.

Christian died at Danne-et-Quatre-Vents [Ger. *Vierwinden*] on the west side of Phalsbourg (now in Moselle) April 6, 1780. The death entry calling him 'Chrétien Ringenberg' described him as an Anabaptist laborer and farmer at Ketzing, and gave his age as 90. It stated that he was buried in the garden of landlord [Fr. *aubergiste*] Antoine Ulrich. In addition it described him as the widower of 'Elizabette Pflegtiger' (possibly Elisabeth Fluckinger).

Children of Christian Ringenberg and his first wife Anna Maurer include:

1. Hans/Jean Ringenberger was born before 1723, and died in 1763. In 1743 he came from the castle estate Ketzing to the Bärbelsteinerhof to marry Magdalena Holly, a daughter of minister-leaseholder Christian Holi/Holli/Holly. Her father died in 1748, and she died the following year, leaving him with the lease on the Bärbelsteinerhof estate. He remarried to Anna Rupp. His death left three children who have not been identified. Anna continued on the estate with Tobias Kiefer as her co-leaseholder 1763-1772. Kiefer had been a co-leaseholder of the Steinbacherhof estate near Asswiller, with his brother Jacob Kiefer and Christian Nafziger. Perhaps he introduced widower Isaac Hochstettler of Asswiller to widow Anna; Isaac and Anna married in 1766. She had two more children, one Peter Hochstettler, whose descendants came to Tazewell County. Anna died in 1784.
2. **André Ringenberg** was born between 1723 and 1728, and died at Rhodes April 9, 1793.
3. **Christian/Christophe Ringenberg** was born circa 1730.

The Bavarian Peter Ringenberger

Elm Grove, Third Cousin to the French Peter Ringenberger

André Ringenberg was born between 1723 and 1728, and died at Rhodes April 9, 1793.

He married Magdelena Schwartz (also found as the French equivalent Madeleine Noir). She was born circa 1729, and died in the hamlet La Blanche Allemande (between Blâmont and Hattigny) Jan. 19, 1800. Her death entry described her as 'Magdalaine Noire,' 70, the widow of the deceased 'André Ringberich.' The entry was

witnessed by Pierre Suisse, who was described as her son-in-law and a resident of Blâmont. He signed with an 'x', indicating that he was illiterate. They farmed at Hattigny.

1. **Jean Ringenberg** was born circa 1741.
2. Joseph Ringenberg was born at Gondrexange (in what is now Moselle) circa 1748, and died at Hellocourt (four miles west of Gondrexange) Oct. 27, 1829. He married Anne Letwiller, who was born circa 1752. She may have been a sister to Christian Leutweiler of Schupfholtz, Baden (see LITWILLER). Their son André Ringenberg was born at Sarrebourg (seven miles northeast of Gondrexange) circa 1770, and died at Nancy, Meurthe-et-Moselle June 24, 1822. He married Elisabeth Stalter at Imling (between Sarrebourg and Gondrexange) May 2, 1796. Elisabeth Stalter was born circa 1777, a daughter of Heinrich Stalter and his second wife Catherine Imhof. See STALTER for background on her family. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a 26-year-old resident of Imling, 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 Imling. A civil death entry created at Nancy, Meurthe-et-Moselle June 25, 1822 said that André Languebert, 42, had died in the St. Charles hospital a day earlier. He was described as someone born at Sarbourg, a resident of Nancy and husband of Elisabeth Staldre, and the son of Jean Languel and Anne Detwiller. We would not have recognized this garbled information except that when a son Henry was married at Nancy May 17, 1831 his civil marriage entry gave the same date. It said that his father day, laborer André Rinqueberg, had died at Nancy June 24, 1822, while the widow Elisabeth Stalter was consenting. Children of André Ringenberg and Elisabeth Stalter born at Sarrebourg and Imling include André, 1797; Catherine, 1798; Joseph Ringenberg, 1800; Jean, 1801; Jacob Ringenberg, 1803, who died in 1808; Henry. 1805; Mathieu, 1808; Elisabeth, 1814; Marguerite, 1817, who died that year; and David, 1817.
3. Anne Ringenberg was born circa 1761, and died at Moyenmoutier, Vosges Dec. 1, 1817. On Nov. 23, 1793 at Chazelles-sur-Albe she married Pierre Suisse. He was born at Salm circa 1758, and died at Blamont May 27, 1808, a son of Peter/Pierre Suisse and Anne Bächer. See SCHWEIZER, CANADIAN SCHWEITZERS for background on this couple.
4. Marie Ringenberg was born circa 1769, and died at Dolving, Moselle July 22, 1823.
5. Suzanne Ringenberg was born at Languimberg (Fribourg), Moselle circa 1772, and died at Senones, Vosges July 17, 1823. On Oct. 22, 1793 at Tanconville, Meurthe-et-Moselle she married Pierre Kropp. See GRUBB for background on this couple.

Jean Ringenberg (as his signature appears on the birth entry of his youngest child) was born circa 1741, and died at Sarrebourg, Moselle Feb. 13, 1794 (the 10-year index gives age 52). He was a miller and cultivator.

He married Marie Engel. She was born in 1747, and died at Bébing, Moselle Jan. 27, 1813, a daughter of Christian Engel (born in 1707).

They lived on the farm La Forge below Imling, which is adjacent to Bébing; then on Sarixing farm at Bébing. Marie's age was given as 65 on the marriage entry of her son, Joseph Ringenberg, created at Bébing May 18, 1812; witnesses at that event included ‘cousins of the groom’ Michel Engel and Joseph Engel.

Her death on Rinting farm at Bébing was reported by son-in-law Andreas Reidiger/André Rediger.

Children of Jean Ringenberg and Marie Engel born on the farm La Forge below Imling (now in Moselle) include:

1. Johannes/Jean Ringenberg was born in 1770. On Feb. 14, 1796 at Reichshoffen, Lower Alsace he married Magdalena/Madeleine Hochstettler. She was born in 1778, a daughter of Chrétien/Christian Hochstettler and his first wife Barbara/Barbe Nafziger of the Lauterbacherhof at Reichshoffen. At Reichshoffen minister Christian Engel and his father-in-law Christian Nafziger were marriage witnesses. Christian Engel was actually cousin to the groom and uncle to the bride; the bride was a stepdaughter of Magdalena/Madeleine Nafziger of the Steinbacherhof at Durstel, Lower Alsace, who was a sister to Christian Engel's first wife Katharina/Catherine Nafziger. Signatures on the Reichshoffen entry look like Jean Ringenberg, Isaac Hochstattler, Magdalen Hochstattlerin, Joseph Unsicker, Christian Nafziger, Christian Engell, Christian Hochsttler, and Christian Naftzigger. When a daughter was born at Strasbourg June 26, 1803, she was described as Madeleine Rinckenberg, a daughter of cultivator Jean Rinckenberg and Madeleine Hochstaettler living *à l'Isle du Rhin*. Witnesses included cultivators Jean Rothacher, 34, and David Rothacher, 60. The father signed 'Jean Ringenberg.' In 1813 they migrated to Bavaria. Reiterating from HOCHSTETTLER: In 1795 Maria Leopoldine of Austria-Est became the second wife of the Bavarian Elector Karl Theodor. She was 18, he was 70. In 1799 he suffered a stroke and died. In 1801 she purchased the Stepperg Castle near Neuberg an der Donau and a brewery at adjacent Rennertshofen. Johannes/Jean Ringenberg and Madeleine's brother Christian Hochstettler became tenant farmers on the grounds of the estate.
2. **Christian Ringenberg** was born in 1771, and died on the Samhof estate at Friedrichshofen, Bavaria in 1829.
3. Anne Ringenberg was born March 10, 1779. On July 24, 1796 at Imling she married Andreas Reidiger/André Rediger. He was born on the Ottenweierhof estate at Ichenheim, Baden March 13, 1775, and died at

Blanche-Eglise, Moselle Nov. 9, 1828, a son of Sebastian Reŭtiger and his second wife Anna Lederach. They settled on Rinting farm at Bébing.

4. Pierre Ringenberg was born June 29, 1783, and died between 1815 and 1818. On July 9, 1802 at Gros-Réderching he married Susanne Guingerich, a daughter of Joseph Guingerich and Anne Rubi, and a stepdaughter of Michel Engel. Their marriage entry was signed by stepfather Michel Engel and mother Anne Rubi, residents of Linstroff. They lived on Weidesheim, the Roggy family estate at Kalhausen; then on Rinting farm at Bébing. Pierre's age was difficult to pin down; when he witnessed a civil entry at Bébing for the birth of a daughter Madeleine to Andreas Reidiger/André Rediger and his sister Anne Ringenberg in 1813, his age was given as 38, when he was in fact 30. After Pierre's death, Susanne became the second wife of Joseph Engel (1778-1818). Pierre and Susanne's son Nicholas Ringenberg married Caroline Jutzi in Butler County, Ohio June 2, 1839; minister Benedict König/King performed the ceremony. In 1843 Nicholas's brother Jacob Ringenberg married Caroline's sister Johanna Jutzi. The two sisters were daughters of Johannes Jutzi and Johanna Sommer. The two brothers and their wives later resettled at Lockport on the Erie Canal.
5. Joseph Ringenberg was born March 25, 1786. On May 18, 1812 at Rimling he married Catherine Schantz. She was born at Bettwiller Aug. 26, 1787, a daughter of Christian Schantz and his first wife Marie Birki, who was living at Brandelfing farm. Witnesses included Michel Engel, 40, of Brandelfing farm; and Joseph Engel, 34, of Kalhausen, described as cousins of the groom; Christian Gerber of Wising farm at Vahl-Ebersing; and Valentin Nafziger, 40, living on Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching.
6. Catherine Ringenberg was born Sept. 15, 1788, and died Sept. 25, 1863. On Feb. 6, 1806 at Hellocourt she married Joseph Vercler. He was born Oct. 6, 1771, and died Feb. 19, 1818 at Hellocourt. On Dec. 21, 1819 at Hellocourt she remarried to Peter Engel, son of minister Christian Engel (later elder of the Partridge Creek meeting). At the time of their marriage she was living on Boule farm at Bühl, belonging to General Charles Louis Dieudonné Grandjean. See ENGEL for more on this couple.
7. Barbe Ringenberg was born in 1792, and died in 1821. She married Christian Nafziger of the castle estate Ketzing near Gondrexange.
8. Jacobeé/Jacobine Ringenberg was born April 1, 1793, and died at Brandelfing farm April 23, 1823. On June 23, 1812 at Gros-Réderching she married cultivator Jean Guingerich of Brandelfing farm. He was born circa 1792, and died Aug. 28, 1832 on Brandelfing farm, a son of Joseph Guingerich and Anne Rubi (who later remarried to Michel Engel).

Christian Ringenberg was born on the farm La Forge below Imling (now in Moselle) in 1771, and died on the Samhof estate at Friedrichshofen, Bavaria (two miles west of Ingolstadt) in 1829.

On Sept. 10, 1796 at Imling he married Katharina Reűtiger/Catherine Rediger.[273] The Siege of Kehl was taking place at the time.

She was born on the Ottenweierhof at Ichenheim, Baden circa 1774, a daughter of Sebastian Reűtiger/Reidiger [Sr.] and his second wife Anna Lederach. Their civil marriage entry described Catherine Röediger as a daughter of laborer Sebastien Röediger and Anne Lederich of Ottenwiller, Germany. It described the groom as Christian Ringueberg, a son of the deceased cultivator Jean Ringueberg and Marie Engel.

Around 1810 they resettled on the Samhof estate at Friedrichshofen, two miles west of Ingolstadt, Bavaria. Ingolstadt was a university town. When Elector Max Joseph became King Maximilian I Joseph of Bavaria in 1799, he made changes in the law that lessened the influence of Jesuits at Ingolstadt and permitted religious freedom there for the first time. He had seen what Anabaptist farmers had done in Pfalz-Zweibrücken, and welcomed them to settle in the area. Catholic properties were secularized in 1802. A number of Anabaptist families move eastward onto Bavarian soil, coinciding with the occupation of the Pfalz by French troops.

Within a few years about 50 families such as Oesch, Oswald, Ingold, and Güngerich were given formerly Catholic properties in the 16 miles from Ingolstadt east to Neuburg an der Donau, as the government encouraged cultivation of the Old Bavarian *Donaumoos*, also called the Danube Marsh. There were enough families to form a congregation about 1810, and more families came in 1820. They remained in the area until the '48er emigration. For more on this area see SUTTER and STEINMAN.

In 1839 their sons Jean and Christian won the annual land management gold medal from the General Committee of the Regional Agricultural Council of Munich. They were described as *Mennoniten* tenants at Samhof. The *Königlich-bayerisches Kreis-Amtsblatter von Oberbayern* (1864), a gazette published by the government district, lists the owner of the Samhof estate as Joseph Ringenberg, and the owner of the Radershofen estate [at Berching, 28 miles north of Friedrichshofen] as Christian Ringenberg.

Children of Christian Ringenberg and Katharina Reidiger/Rediger include:

1. Jean Ringenberg was born at Imling April 11, 1798 (found as Rinkenbere).

[273] This ceremony is not listed in the 10-year index of civil entries.

2. Magdalena Ringenberg was born at Imling March 28, 1800 (found as Rinkenbere), and died there Sept. 21, 1800.
3. Christianne/Christian Ringenberg was born at Imling July 31, 1801 (found as Rinkenbere).
4. Joseph Ringenberg was born at nearby Xouaxange July 21, 1803. He married Magdalena Eichelberger. She was born circa 1809, and died on the Samhof estate in 1886, a daughter of Christian Eichelberger and Barbara Birki.

- Jakob Ringenberg may or may not have existed. He is mentioned in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. He is supposed to have been born at Imling in 1806, and married Magdalena Gűngerich, a daughter of Jakob Gűngerich and Magdalena König. No listing is found in the 10-year civil index of Imling.[274]

5. **Peter Ringenberg/Ringenberger** was born circa July 31, 1810.

Peter Ringenberg/Ringenberger was born in Bavaria circa July 31, 1810. This was about the time his parents relocated from Imling to the Samhof estate.

Our use of the spelling 'Peter Ringenberger' is arbitrary. He came from the Ringenberg family, the surname derived from the Bernese village Ringgenberg. He signed his own name 'Petter Rinckenberg.' His children employed the spelling 'Ringenberger.'

This Bavarian Peter was a third cousin to the French Peter.

Christian Ringenberg born circa 1690
↓

Christian	**André**
born circa 1730	**born between 1723 and 1728**
↓	↓
Pierre/Peter	**Jean**
born in 1786	**born circa 1741**
↓	↓
Pierre/Peter of Groveland,	**Christian**
the French Ringenberger	**born in 1771**
born in 1815	↓
	Peter of Elm Grove,
	the Bavarian Ringenberger
	born in 1810

He appears as 'Peter Ringenberg' on the passenger list of the bark *Atlantic* as it arrived at New York from Bremen Sept. 12, 1838.[275] He is found in steerage with his second cousin Christian Ackermann (1813-1903), who later spelled his name 'Ackerman.' The list did not give their ages.

Sebastian Reŭtiger born circa 1720
↓

First wife Susanne Detweiler	**Second wife Anne Lederach**
Josef Reutiger or Joseph Reŭthiger	**Katharina Reidiger/Rediger**
b. 1753 m. Katharina Hunziger/Catherine Unzicker	**b. ca. 1774 m. Christian Ringenberg**
↓	↓

[274] *État civil* administrative information for births, deaths, and marriages was recorded in two ways. First, an entry was made and signed by witnesses. This gave ages and names of parents or spouses. At a much later date, these entries were listed in a 10-year index. The index only gave the names of the subjects and the date the event was first recorded. There is no Jacques Ringenberg born at Imling in 1806 found in the 10-year index. However, we do know that a marriage entry for Christian Ringenberg and Katharina Reidiger/Rediger was created at Imling in 1796; yet that ceremony was inadvertently omitted from the 10-year index. During this COVID period we can view the indexes online, but we do not have access to the initial entries.

[275] Some sources say that he was the *Burgundy* passenger Pierre Ringenberg, found on the passenger list as a 24-year-old native of Switzerland. It sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York June 1, 1839. However, the *Burgundy* passenger was the Peter Ringenberger who is found on the 1860 census of Holmes County, Ohio as 45-year-old farmer Peter Ringenberger of Switzerland. He later appears on the 1880 census of Lincoln, Iowa as farmer Peter Ringgenberg, 65, Switzerland; Anna, 49, Switzerland, and six children born in Ohio with two grandchildren born in Iowa. The 1885 state census of Iowa shows him as a 70-year-old in the household of his son-in-law George Harris and daughter Amelia. *The History of Polk County, Iowa* (1880): "Ringgenberg, Peter Sr. - Farmer, section 27, P O. Palmer. Was born in Switzerland February 28, 1815, and in 1839 moved to this country, settling in Holmes county, Ohio. He lived there until he came to this county, in 1868. He owns 160 acres of land, well improved, also 160 acres on section 34, all of which he has made since coming to this country. He was married in Ohio March 7, 1841, to Miss Anna Duttler, who was born near the same place as himself. They are the parents of fourteen children..."

Katharina Reidiger/Catherine Rediger
b. ca. 1783 m. Jakob Ackermann
↓
Christian Ackermann/Ackerman
b. 1813 m. Anna/Anne Belsley

Peter Ringenberg/Ringenberger
b. 1810 m. Sybilla Garber

Recall from ACKERMAN that Christian Ackermann/Ackerman began his journey from Köfering near Regensburg, Bavaria. Upon arrival at New York he went directly to Butler County, Ohio, where he stayed for six months before continuing on to Spring Bay. In 1839 he married Anna/Anne Belsley. Christian and Anna settled at what is now Groveland in 1841, and near Evans Corner at Morton (now north of Route 74) in 1852.

On Feb. 7, 1848 in Tazewell County Peter married Sybilla Garber. She was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1827, and died before 1880, a daughter of John Garber and Eva Caroline Paithe.

Their household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as Peter Ringenberger, 35, Germany; Siba, 23, Ohio; and farm laborer Christian Schlabach, 30, Germany. The names surrounding their entry - such as Sybilla's brother Emanuel Garber, the Ropps, and blacksmith Jacob Unzicker - indicate that they were already living in what would become Elm Grove.

Sybilla was admitted to Jacksonville State Hospital July 10, 1854, and discharged Sept. 1, 1854. The admissions record lists her as "Sibila Ringenberg, 24...nativity Germany, next of kin Peter Rigenberg of Pekin."

The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows them as Peter Ringenbarger, 48, Bavaria; Phebe, 33, Ohio; Catharine, 9; Joseph, 8; Jacob, 3; and Daniel, five months; all children born in Illinois. They lived next door to Sybilla's brother Emanuel Garber. The 1864 plat map of Elm Grove shows 'P. Ringenberger' on 40 acres between the properties of Andrew Ropp and Sybilla's brother. The 1870 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Peter Ringenberg, 60, Bavaria; Sibilla, 44, Ohio; Joseph, 18, Illinois; Jacob, 13, Illinois; Emily, 9, Illinois; and Mary, 6, Illinois.

Sybilla died before the 1880 census of Elm Grove: Peter Ringenberger, 69, Germany; Katie, 29, Illinois; Mary, 16, Illinois; Katie Saltons, 8 [Katie Saltonstall, Mary's daughter], Illinois; J. [Jacob] Ringenberger, 23, Illinois; and servant Sam Rahler, 20. She is thought to be buried in Railroad Cemetery. A number of markers and graves there were deeply covered when a rail bed was built up on its north side.

At the time of his death Peter was living with his oldest son Jacob in Precinct K, Seward County, Nebraska which has become the town of Goehner. *Herald of Truth*, February 1893: "On the 31st of December, 1892, in Seward County, Nebraska, suddenly, Peter Ringenberg. He appeared as well as usual and was sitting on a chair beside the stove when, without warning, he fell from the chair. They laid him on a lounge nearby, but he was dead a moment after. His age was 82 years, 5 months. Funeral services by Joseph Schlegel and Jacob Stauffer." He is buried near Goehner.

Children of Peter Ringenberg/Ringenberger and Sybilla Garber born at Elm Grove include:

1. Joseph Ringenberger was born May 19, 1850, and died in Seward County, Nebraska Nov. 18, 1917. On March 4, 1875 in Tazewell County he married Arnetta Hollstein. She was born in Illinois circa 1854, and died in Seward County Aug. 31, 1915. They are found on the 1910 census of Precinct K, Seward County as Joseph Ringenberg, 62, born in Illinois to a father from Germany (Alsace-Lorraine was occupied by Germany 1870-1918) and a mother from Pennsylvania; Arnete, 56, born in Illinois to German parents; and John, 16, born in Nebraska to parents from Illinois.
2. Catherine 'Katie' Ringenberger was born Dec. 29, 1851, and died at Limestone, Peoria County Jan. 6, 1836. On May 19, 1870 in Tazewell County she married Thompson J. Saltonstall; he is found on the 1870 census of Pekin as saloon keeper Thompson Saltenstall, 21, Illinois. The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows Catherine divorced with a daughter, living with her widowed father. On Oct. 27, 1889 she remarried to Noah Augsburger. He was born at Paradise, Lancaster County Feb. 18, 1850, and died in Tazewell County Nov. 27, 1892, a son of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman. He is buried in Railroad Cemetery. On Aug. 19, 1900 in Tazewell County 'Katherine Ringsburger Augsburger' married a third time to Peter Vandyke. He was born in Tazewell County circa 1862, and died at Pekin Sept. 16, 1935, a son of Peter Van Dyke Sr. and his first wife Minerva Brown.[276]
3. Jacob Ringenberger/Ringenberg was born Nov. 16, 1857, and died at Eustis, Frontier County, Nebraska April 20, 1938. On July 12, 1883 in Tazewell County he married Wilhelmine 'Minnie' Feith. She was born in April 17, 1863, and died at Clearwater, Frontier County, Nebraska June 12, 1919, a daughter of Rudolph Feith and Elisabeth Weisman. Her family is shown on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as laborer Rudolph Faith, 36, Prussia; Annie, 40, Prussia; Wilhelmina, 17, Prussia; and August, 9, Prussia. They are found on the 1910 census of Clearwater, and

[276] We had difficulty finding Peter Jr., but no problem finding his father Peter Van Dyke Sr. He was born in Canada April 10, 1820, and died in Tazewell County Nov. 14, 1893. Minerva Brown was the first of his three wives. He had 20 children. The 1880 census of Hittle shows him as Peter Van Dyke, 60, Canada; wife Elisabeth A. [Spencer], 35; and six children 13 and under born in Illinois. Peter Sr. and third wife Elizabeth Spencer are buried in Danforth Cemetery at Hopedale.

Jacob is found there as a widower in 1920 and 1930. They are buried in Eustis City Cemetery as Jacob Ringenberg and Wilhelmine Ringenberg.

4. Daniel Ringenberger was born circa 1860, and died before 1870.
5. Amelia Sybilla 'Emily' Ringenberger was born Oct. 29, 1862, and died at Davenport, Iowa June 28, 1931. On Jan. 12, 1890 at Minier she married widower John R. Whisler. He was born in Crawford County, Ohio May 15, 1846, and died at Danville, Vermillion County July 28, 1915, a son of Joseph Whisler and Emeline Emery. They are found on the 1910 census of Mackinaw as John R. Whisler, 63, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; Emelia, 50, born in Illinois to German parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried at Mackinaw.
6. Mary Ringenberger was born circa 1864, and died in 1888. On Dec. 20, 1883 in Tazewell County she married Frederick Miller. He may have been the Frederick W. Miller who died in August of 1905 and is buried in Fon du Lac Township Cemetery at East Peoria. Their daughter Louise Sybilla Miller was born at Fon du Lac in November of 1887; she was still living there as the wife of John Danz in 1940, and died at East Peoria Sept. 14, 1954.

The French Peter Ringenberger

Groveland

Christian/Christophe Ringenberg was born circa 1730, and died in the home of a daughter at Sotzeling, Moselle March 30, 1796. He farmed on the ruined castle estate Hingsange farm at Linstroff in what is now Moselle. Other families found there included Abresol, Blank, Oesch/Esch, Farni/Farny, Hirschi, Meyer, Oyer, Schmitt, Stecker, and Vitrick (this became Widrick in America). See STAKER for more on this location.

He married Marie Schertz. They had children on Hingsange farm in 1765 and 1772. Marie died, and before 1786 he remarried to Catherine Kempf. Catherine died at Dolving, Moselle Aug. 23, 1821.

Christian attended the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759 as a representative of the Morhange area [Ger. *Mörchingen*; Linstroff is seven miles northeast of Morhange].

Christian/Christophe and his second wife Catherine Kempf were the parents of weaver **Pierre Ringenberg/Peter Ringenberger**. He was born on Hingsange farm June 12, 1786, and died at Elm Grove May 5, 1861.

On Jan. 13, 1810 at Haut-Clocher, Moselle he married Anna/Anne Schrag/Schrock. She was born at Rhodes in May of 1787 (her headstone says 1790), and died at Elm Grove in April 1859, a daughter of Caspar Schrag and his second wife Maria Blaser.

Their marriage entry calls the groom 'Pierre Ringenberier,' a son of 'Christophe Ringenberier' and 'Catherine Kampf.' The bride was 'Ann Schraque,' a daughter of 'Gaspart Schraque' and 'Marie Blaser.' The father of the bride had died 20 years earlier, while her mother had died 19 years earlier. One witness was Jean Herges [Hirschi], 58, a farmer from Sarrelfing farm at Haute-Clocher and cousin of the groom. The groom signed his name 'Petter Rinckenberg,' and the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. Catherine Kempf also signed with an 'x'.

They emigrated from Europe in 1830. Their youngest child was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1833. They also spent time in Butler County, Ohio before resettling at what is now Groveland in 1837.

Anna was a half-sister to Catherine Schrag (1771-1823) who married Joseph Oyer (1774-1845). Catherine died in childbirth, and Joseph remarried to Magdalena Litwiller. Anna's family's move from Butler County to Groveland in 1837 apparently prompted the Oyers to make the journey and purchase land in Groveland the following year.

The Ringenberg/Ringenbergers can be found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as Peter 'RingerBarger', 64, France; Anne, 62, France; laborer Christian, 30, France; and laborer Abraham, 17, Pennsylvania; next door to Oyers.

After Anna's death in 1859, Peter lived with his youngest son Abraham. The 1860 census of Groveland lists the household as Peter Ringenberger, 74, France; his son Abram [Ringenberger], 32, Pennsylvania; Barbara [Stalter], 25, Bavaria; and grandson/son Peter, three months, Illinois.

When Peter died May 5, 1861, it was reported by his son Abraham. His estate was administered by Jacob Zimmerman. His application listed the heirs as John, Peter, Christian, Ann, Barbara, Mary, Catherina, and himself.

Peter and Anna are buried in Rinkenberger Cemetery at Fon du Lac.

All their children except the youngest were born on Hingsange farm at Linstroff, where their birth entries employed the spelling 'Ringenberg.' We know that Peter signed his name 'Petter Rinckenberg.' Perhaps because of this, many of his descendants have chosen the spelling 'Rinkenberg.'

Children of Pierre Ringenberg/Peter Ringenberger and Anna/Anne Schrag/Schrock include:

1. Joseph Ringenberg was born at Linstroff Oct. 15, 1810, and died there Aug. 7, 1817.

2. Jean Ringenberg/John Ringenberger was born July 17, 1811, and died in Livingston County Oct. 29, 1886; he is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Gridley. According to the *Grantors Index*, on Feb. 19, 1841 John Reinkenberger paid John Leonard and his wife for property in Sections 29 and 31 of Township 27 (later Washington). Circa 1843 he married Anna Gerber. She was born at Hoff, Moselle March 14, 1817 (her headstone says March 15, 1817), and died in Livingston County Feb. 1, 1902, a daughter of Christian Gerber and Catharine Springer. According to daughter Mary's obituary, they lived in Woodford County, then relocated to Tazewell County in 1854. Before 1870 they divorced, and Anna went to live with her children in Nebraska Township, Livingston County. John remarried to Catherine Baker (Baker may have been the surname of her first husband). The 1873 plat map of Montgomery shows 72 acres belonging to 'J. Ringenberger' in the southwest corner of Section 11, Montgomery Township (his brother Peter lived in the northeast corner of the same section). His household is found on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township as farmer John Rinkenberger, 68, France; Catherine, 50, New Jersey; and stepson Linhart Baker, 15, Illinois. The 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County shows Anna Rinkenbarger, 64, France, as well as her daughter Anna, 25, Illinois, in the household of son 'C. Rinkenbarger, 33.' *Herald of Truth*, February 1887: "In Livingston county, Ill., of the infirmities of old age, John Ringenberger, in his 75th year. Services by John P. Schmidt from *John 5:24-25*. Deceased united with the Amish Mennonite church in his youth." "Anna wife of John Rinkenberger" is buried in Gridley Cemetery. Children of Jean/John Ringenberger and his first wife Anne/Anna Gerber include:
    a. Mary Rinkenberger was born at Mackinaw Dells (formerly Farnisville) in Montgomery Township, Woodford County Sept. 19, 1844, and died at Manson, Iowa Sept. 22, 1928. On July 15, 1863 she became the second wife of Johannes König/John R. King. He was born in Baden Sept. 16, 1825, and died in Livingston County April 25, 1895, a son of Johannes König and Jakobea Rediger. His first wife had been Fanny Ehresman. See KING for more on him including his obituary and their common censuses. The 1900 census of Flanagan Village, Nebraska Township has Mary R. King, 55, born in Illinois in September 1844 to a German father and French mother; and daughter Maudie R., 13, born in Illinois in November 1886 to a German father and a mother from Illinois. On Nov. 12, 1901 at Milford, Nebraska Mary remarried to widower Jean Staufer/John Stauffer. He was born at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace March 19, 1841, and died at Milford, Nebraska May 5, 1914, a son of Jean Staufer and Barbe Kaufmann. His first wife was Barbara Grieser (see REDIGER). *Gospel Herald*, October 1929: "Mary Rinkenberger was born in Woodford Co., Ill., Sept. 19, 1844; died at the home of her son (C. R. King) at Manson, Iowa, where she was visiting at the time; aged 85 y. 3 d. At the age of 10 she with her parents moved to Tazewell Co., Ill. July 15, 1863, she was married to John R. King of Tazewell Co., where they lived on a farm, later moving to Livingston Co. To this union were born nine children, one dying in infancy. Those who survive their mother are Mrs. Phoebe Shafer, John R., D. E., N. E., Mrs. Anna Bachman, Chris, and Will, and Mrs. Maud Graber. Her husband preceded her in death April 26, 1895. She also leaves one brother and one sister, thirteen grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren, also many relatives and friends. Nov. 12, 1901, she was married to John Stauffer of Milford, Nebr. After the death of her husband she resided there until the marriage of her youngest daughter, when they came to Nobel, Ia., where she has since made her home. Sister Stauffer accepted Christ as her personal Savior, united with the Mennonite Church, and remained a consistent member. At the time of her death she had her church home with the Sugar Creek church near Wayland, Iowa. In her passing the children lose an affectionate mother. Her pleasant personality won her many friends. She rests from her labors, and her works do follow her. Her remains were brought to the home of her daughter in Flanagan where, on Sept. 26, services were held and at the Waldo church by the brethren J. D. Hartzler and D. W. Slagel. Internment in the Waldo cemetery by the side of her husband."
    b. Christian Rinkenberger was born at Mackinaw Dells Sept. 28, 1846, and died in Livingston County March 28, 1924. On March 7, 1871 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Augsburger. She was born at Minier May 20, 1854, and died at Gridley Jan. 4, 1936, a daughter of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman. They are shown on the 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County as 'C. Rinkenbarger, 33; Lizzie, 25; four children born in Illinois; his mother Anna, 64; and his sister Anna, 25. They also appear on the 1900 census of Gridley Village, Livingston County. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
    c. Peter Rinkenberger was born at Mackinaw Dells Jan. 24, 1850, and died at Gridley April 30, 1933. On April 1, 1875 in Livingston County he married Christina Funk. She was born May 18, 1848, and died at Gridley March 31, 1927 (her headstone says April 3), a daughter of George Funk and Elizabeth Hoerr. They are found at Rinkenburger' on the 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County; on the 1910 census of Gridley; and Peter is found as a widower at Gridley in 1930. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
    d. Anna Rinkenberger was born at Mackinaw Dells Sept. 28, 1853, and died May 23, 1888; she is buried in Gridley Cemetery.
    e. Sara Rinkenberger was born in Tazewell County Nov. 1, 1857 (headstone date), and died at Gridley Aug. 19, 1944. On Oct. 20, 1874 in Livingston County she married Frederick W. Schultz. He was born Feb. 17, 1848, and died at Gridley June 20, 1903. They are found on the 1900 census of Gridley as

farmer Frederick W. Schultz, 52, born in Germany in February 1848, immigrated in 1860; Sarah R., 42, born in Illinois to German parents in September 1857; and six children born in Illinois. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.

3. Christian Ringenberg was born in February of 1814, and died at Linstroff May 23, 1814.
4. **Pierre Ringenberg or Peter Ringenberger** was born at Linstroff June 2, 1815.
5. Christophe/Christian Ringenberg/Ringenberger was born at Linstroff May 26, 1817, and died at Washington, Tazewell County July 17, 1871. On March 12, 1852 in Tazewell County he married Jockobina Kettner (actually Jakobina 'Bena' Kettner; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. See KETTNER for background.
6. Anne Ringenberg or Anna Ringenberger was born at Linstroff Nov. 6, 1819, and died at Alvin, Vermilion County July 17, 1871; she is buried in Rinkenberger Cemetery. On Oct. 25, 1846 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Burkey; their ceremony was conducted by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born April 26, 1816, possibly at Obersanding Bavaria, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Dec. 12, 1887, a son of Johannes/Hans/Jean/John Bircki/Burkey and Freni Swalter.
7. Barbe Ringenberg or Barbara Ringenberger was born at Linstroff Sept. 25, 1821, and died at Walnut, Bureau County Jan. 4, 1864; she is buried in Red Oak Cemetery at Walnut. On Jan. 7, 1844 in Tazewell County she became the second wife of Jacob Albrecht (his first wife was Katharina Ackerman, 1813-1842); their ceremony was conducted by minister Michel Mosiman. He was born at Hochspeyer in the Pfalz Dec. 9 or Jan. 9, 1805, and died at Princeton, Bureau County Feb. 11, 1878, a son of Christian Albrecht and Elizabeth Engel. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery at Princeton.
8. Marie Ringenberg/Mary Ringenberger was born at Linstroff Oct. 1, 1823, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Aug. 24, 1905; she is buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery at Flanagan. On Oct. 15, 1844 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Zimmerman, also known as Jacob J. Zimmerman; their ceremony was conducted by minister Michael Mosiman. He was born on the Schlatthof at Tiengen bei Freiburg, Baden April 18, 1818, and died at Flanagan Oct. 15, 1849, a son of Michael Zimmerman and Barbara Roggy. He is buried in Center Cemetery at Flanagan. The 1900 census of Nebraska, Livingston County has Mary M. Zimmerman, 33, born in Illinois in March of 1867to a father from France and a mother from Germany; mother Mary, 76, born in Germany in October of 1823, immigrated in 1830; and nephew Eli Stucky, 24, born in Illinois in June of 1875 to parents from Germany and Illinois.
9. Catherine Ringenberg/Katie Ringenberger was born at Linstroff Nov. 14, 1826, and died at Farmdale Jan. 24, 1905. She is thought to be buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington, though no headstone is found there. On Nov. 20, 1849 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Schrock. The county marriage register lists the marriage of 'Joseph Srock' and 'Catharin Rinkeybarger.' They had a second civil ceremony June 12, 1859 (perhaps to correct the earlier recordkeeping error for purposes of future inheritance). Joseph was a son of Catherine Oyer, and his stepfather was John Schrock. They are found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County (in a part that became Groveland) as farmer John Schrock, 77, Germany; Catherine [Oyer], 57, Germany; farmer Joseph Schrock, 27, Germany; and Catherine [Ringenberger], 23, Germany. Joseph died before the 1860 census. Catherine appears as 34-year-old widow 'Catherine Schrock' on the 1860 census of Groveland, with two children, 7-year-old Anna and 3-month-old Peter, living next door to her widowed father Peter Ringenberger. On Nov. 7, 1869 in Tazewell County she remarried to neighbor Jean Springer/John Spring. See SPRINGER for more on this couple.
10. Magdalena/Madeleine Ringenberg was born May 12, 1829, and died in infancy.
11. Abraham Ringenberg /Ringenberger was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania May 28, 1833, and died April 15, 1915. On May 19, 1859 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Stalter; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born at Trippstadt in the Pfalz May 18, 1835, and died at Washington Jan. 15, 1922, a daughter of Magdalena Stalter. 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 [Bavaria]; and eight children born in Illinois. They belonged to the Defenseless Mennonite Church of Groveland. They are buried in Rinkenberger Cemetery.

Pierre Ringenberg or Peter Ringenberger was born on Hinsange Farm at Linstroff, Moselle June 2, 1815 (per birth entry), and died Jan. 18, 1892.

He may have been the Pierre Ringenberg who departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Burgundy*, and arrived at New York June 1, 1839. The passenger list shows Pierre Ringenberg, 24, Switzer.

In Ohio he married Catherine 'Katie' Garber. She was born in Alsace in June of 1813, and died April 24, 1901.

They are found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Peter Ringenberry, 35, France; Catharine, 25, France; Anna, 5, Illinois; Gideon, 3, Illinois; and Peter, 2, Illinois. Before 1860 they moved from Farmdale to a part of Montgomery Township called Congerville.

They are found on the 1860 census of Montgomery as farmer Peter Rinkenberger, 44, France; Catherine, 44, France; Anna, 15, Illinois; and Gideon, 13, Illinois.

After the 1860 census the family employed the spelling 'Rinkenberger.' In that year the oldest child, daughter Anna, turned 15. She had attended Railroad Schoolhouse in Elm Grove, and may have been the first fully-literate person in her family. The decision may have been hers.

The 1873 plat map of Montgomery shows 'P. Rinkenberger' as the owners of 160 acres in the northeast corner of Section 11. The 1880 census of Montgomery shows Peter Rinkenberger, 65, France; Catherine, 66, France; 7Gideon, 33, Illinois; Abraham, 22, Illinois; and Catherine, 26, Illinois.

Peter and Catherine are buried in Gridley Cemetery, McLean County as 'Peter Rinkenberger born June 1815 died Jan. 1892' and 'Katie Rinkenberger born June 1813 died Apr. 1901.'

Children of Peter Ringenberger and Catherine 'Katie' Garber include:

1. Mary Ringenberger (twin) was born June 6, 1845, and died Dec. 6, 1845.
2. Anna Ringenberger/Rinkenberger (twin) was born June 6, 1845, and died at Carlock, McLean County Oct. 26, 1911. She married Christian M. Miller. He was born May 1, 1842, and died May 14, 1907. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville in Montgomery Township.
3. Gideon Ringenberger/Rinkenberger was born Dec. 21, 1846, and died June 2, 1931. He is buried in Gridley Cemetery.
4. Peter Ringenberger/Rinkenberger was born Nov. 17, 1848. He is thought to have died in 1866; he is not shown on the 1860 census of Montgomery.
5. Rachel Ringenberger/Rinkenberger was born Sept. 9, 1850, and died at Gridley Feb. 25, 1954 - age 103 years, five months, and 16 days. In 1874 she married Henry Funk. He was born in Baden June 1, 1845, and died at Gridley Nov. 1, 1905, a son of George Funk and Elizabeth Hoerr. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
6. Catherine 'Kate' Ringenberger/Rinkenberger was born Aug. 18, 1853, and died Jan. 29, 1940. She is buried in Gridley Cemetery.
7. Lydia Ringenberger was born and died in 1855.
8. Abraham Rinkenberger/Rinkenberger was born July 19, 1857, and died at Gridley April 3, 1940. In 1877 he married Lydia Zimmerman. She was born Feb. 22, 1857, and died June 2, 1951, a daughter of Michael Zimmerman and Katharina/Catherine Naffziger. They lived at Montgomery, then at Hancock, Minnesota for 30 years, and finally at Gridley. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.