Amish Mennonites

in Tazewell County, Illinois

(INCLUDING WOODFORD COUNTY)

GENEALOGY

Part Five of Five

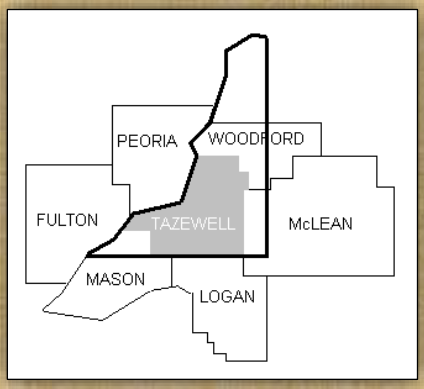
Compiled by Joseph Peter Staker

BELLER - DELLENBACH - DETTWEILER - EGLI - EICHELBERGER - EIMAN
ERNST - GASCHO - GRUBB - HABECKER - HOUSEHOLDER - IMHOFF - JANTZI
KLOPFENSTEIN - MARTIN - MOSER - ORENDORFF - RAMSEYER - ROESCHLEY
SCHANTZ - SCHLABACH - SCHLEGEL - SHARP - SPRINGER - STEIDER
STRUBHAR - STUCKY - WAGLER - WAGNER - YODER

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

Left, Johann Jakob Freudenreich (1639-1711), Protestant Reformed minister at Steffisburg when the church was renovated in 1681. He was described as someone who 'looked through his fingers' at Anabaptists in his parish. Right, current minister Veronika Michel Schaad (Photo Jen Staker, November 2017).

On the cover, clockwise from upper left: Tazewell County, Illinois; Claŭs/Niklaŭs Leuenberger (1612-1653), leader in the Swiss Peasants War of 1653; behind, a stained glass widow from the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg, photos by Jen Staker 2017; the flag of the city of Bern, and the same symbol in stained glass; tto bottom, five French generals who employed Amish Mennonites: Christian III von Pfalz-Zweibrücken (1674-1735), Adam Philippe Comte de Custine (1740-1793), Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821), Karl Ludwig Schulmeister (1770-1853), and Henri Gatien Bertrand (1773-1844); and the author's great-grandfather Christian Staker.



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

Amish Mennonites in Tazewell County, Illinois

(including Woodford County)

Part Five of Five

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Springer

Springer may have been derived from Spring, a surname woven through many of the early genealogies from the area of Lake Thun in Canton Bern. Or, it may have evolved from Sprung or Sprunger, surnames found in Canton Thurgau.

Daniel Springer was born circa 1750, and died before the marriage of his son Christian on Feb. 2, 1809.

Circa 1773 he married Marie Kohler, who was born in 1753. When she died on Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching, Moselle March 28, 1806, the civil death entry said that she was a daughter of Christophe Kohler and Anne Hunssinger of Colmar, Upper Alsace.

Their children include:

1. **Johannes/Jean Springer** was born at Hungerberg, Lower Alsace circa 1774.
2. Catherine Springer was born in 1779.
3. Madeleine Springer was born on Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching circa 1780, and died at Porcelotte, Moselle Feb. 4, 1819. On Oct. 30, 1809 at Porcelotte she married Chrétien/Christian 'Weicz,' a son of Pierre Weiss and Catherine Moser.
4. Christian Springer was born at Plaine-de-Walsch (four miles southeast of Sarrebourg) circa 1782, and died at Dambach, Lower Alsace Jan. 18, 1827, age 45. He is found on his civil death entry as 'Chrétien Spring'; it was witnessed by his brother-in-law Joseph Bachman, a 45-year-old weaver, and Jean Steiner, a 45-year-old cultivator. On Feb. 2, 1809 on Belgrade farm at Bistroff, Moselle he married Suzanne Farny. She was born at Bistroff, Moselle in 1788, a daughter of Christian Farny and Anne Hirschi/Hirschy. One of their sons was Jean Springer, who was known in Tazewell County as John Spring. See DAVID'S COUSIN JEAN SPRINGER/JOHN SPRING.
5. Joseph Springer was born circa 1784.
6. Barbe Springer was born at Plaine-de-Walsch circa 1784, and died at Dambach, Lower Alsace June 14, 1839, age 55. On March 18, 1813 at Gros-Réderching she married weaver Joseph Bachman. He was born on Rinting farm between Bébing and Imling circa 1783, and died at Thuilley-aux-Groseilles, Meurthe-et-Moselle July 7, 1843, a son of Jean Bachman and Barbe Rouvenacht. His death entry created at Thuilley-aux-Groseilles described him as a 60-year-old weaver from Dambach; it was witnessed by their 28-year-old son miller Christian Bachman (he signed his own name Bachmann).

Johannes/Jean Springer was born at Hungerberg, Canton Drulingen, Lower Alsace circa 1774. Hungerberg is on the border of Lower Alsace, across from Niederstinzel, Moselle.

On Jan. 27, 1798 at Struth, Lower Alsace (four miles east of Drulingen) he married Katharina/Catherine Zehr. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Johannes Springer, 21, born at Hungerberg, Canton Drulingen in 1774. He was a son of Daniel Springer and Maria Kohler. The bride was Cathrina Zehr, 19, born at Struth April 15, 1778. She was a daughter of Daniel Zehr and Cattrina Zehr.

They migrated to Bavaria in 1819. There they settled at Solln, a suburb southwest of Munich.

Their children born at Struth include:

1. Daniel Springer was born July 13, 1800; he may be the 'Daniel Sprenger' who died at Augsburg Nov. 8, 1875. He married Veronica Oesch. She was born at Hanfeld, Germany in 1804, and died there March 22, 1829, a daughter of Christian Oesch and Katharina/Catherine Bürki.
2. Madeleine/Magdalena Springer was born Aug. 24, 1803.
3. **David Springer** was born Oct. 14, 1806, and died at Minier in Little Mackinaw Township April 16, 1884.
4. Christian Springer was born July 11, 1810.
5. Johannes/Jean Springer was born May 15, 1815.

David Springer was born at Struth Oct. 14, 1806, and died at Minier in Little Mackinaw Township April 16, 1884. He is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

David married Elisabeth Guth. She was born at Busenberg in the Pfalz Jan. 31, 1803, and died at Tremont Sept. 10, 1849, a daughter of Christian Guth and Barbara Güngerich.

In *Auswanderung die Nordamerika*, Friedrich Blendinger lists the family of David Springer, his wife, and seven children. They emigrated from Solln with 3,000 florins in 1949, stating that their destination was Illinois.

They sailed on the *Minnesota* via Liverpool to New York, where they arrived June 21, 1849. The passenger list shows David Springer, 43; Elisabeth, 43; Catharine, 22; Elisabeth, 19; Johann, 15; Christian, 13; Joseph, 11;

Magdalena, 9; and Barbara, 7. As noted earlier in EIGSTI, their fares from New York to Chicago would have been about $9.50. This would have been equivalent to about $250 in modern buying power.

From there many in their group traveled directly to Central Illinois. The party included 17-year-old Christian Eigsti; the widower Valentine Birky of Gern (now part of Munich) with the youngest five of his 13 children; Jacob Stalter (found as 'Stalder') and his new wife Barbara Birkey, a niece of Valentine Birky; 67-year-old Daniel Zehr of Hanfeld; George Ritthaler, found on the passenger list as George Riedthaler, 30; Andreas Oesch, 26, of Hanfeld; and Elizabeth Egli, 50, of Hanfeld.

Elisabeth died within three months of the family's arrival in Central Illinois. She is buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton.

David initially settled in Tremont (the township was established in 1851). He farmed there for eight years.

He applied for naturalization with a *Declaration of Intent* submitted at Pekin Dec. 29, 1854. In the declaration he described himself as David Springer, 48, a resident of Tazewell County who was born at Strunth, France. He had last been a subject of Matt Milian [Maximilian], King of Bavaria, and had arrived at New York June 26, 1849. It was affirmed Jan. 11, 1855.

In 1858 David resettled at Little Mackinaw, where he is found on the 1860 census.

In 1854 a 'Delavan Prairie meeting' had been formed, meeting every second Sunday in private homes. Some of the first heads of families were Christian Nafziger, Peter Nafziger, Joseph Litwiller, Christian Schlegel, and Christian Birkey. David Springer joined that meeting. It later became known as the Hopedale Amish-Mennonite Church or the German Church. In 1876 a building was constructed to become the Hopedale Mennonite Church.

Children of David Springer and Elisabeth Guth born at Solln near Munich include:

1. Catherine Springer was born in 1829, and died in Woodford County in December 1849. On Dec. 9, 1849 in Tazewell County she married Pierre/Peter Zehr. He was born at Struth June 1, 1819, and died in August 1850, a son of Joseph Zehr and Anna Verly. Catherine must have died within weeks of her marriage; her headstone in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora calls her, "Catharine Springer, *Ehefrau des* Peter Zehr *gest.* 1849." Pierre/Peter died in August 1850.
2. Elizabeth Springer was born July 24, 1830, and died Aug. 30, 1921. On Feb. 2, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Valentine Birky. He was born Oct. 12, 1821, and died at Tiskilwa, Bureau County June 28, 1901, a son of Valentine Birky and Elizabeth Unzicker. He immigrated in 1846 on the brig *Daniel Kilby*. Valentine is listed as 38-year-old farmer Valentine 'Buckey' on the 1860 census of Tremont. The 1880 census of Tremont lists their household as farmer Valentine Burkey, 59; Elisabeth Burkey, 48; and seven children. Every member of the household is erroneously listed as a native of Berne with parents from Bern. For his obituary see BIRKY/BIRKEY.
3. John Springer was born Aug. 28 or 29, 1834, and died May 13, 1896. On March 16, 1857 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Nafziger; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Unterweilbach, Bavaria May 1, 1836, and died Feb. 2, 1908, a daughter of Christian Nafziger and Fröny Bürcky/Veronica Burkey. They are found on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as John Springer, 35, born in Bavaria to a father from France and a mother from Bavaria; Elizabeth, 42, born in Bavaria to Prussian parents; and seven children born in Illinois. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Christian Springer was born Oct. 12, 1835, and died at Peoria July 9, 1920. He is found on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as a farm laborer in the household of Joseph Ropp and Catherine Birky. On Nov. 4, 1860 in Tazewell County he married Frena/Fannie Reeser; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born in Ohio Aug. 19, 1842, and died Feb. 13, 1906, a daughter of John Reeser and Katharina Zimmerman. They farmed 235 acres in Section 2 of Boynton.
5. Joseph Springer was born June 29, 1837, and died at Hopedale March 29, 1902. On March 27, 1860 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. On May 24, 1863 in Tazewell County he remarried to Barbara Nafziger; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Nafziger. She was born in Bavaria July 24, 1841, and died at Hopedale Nov. 24, 1921, a daughter of Peter Nafziger and Katharina Hunsicker/Unzicker. Joseph and Barbara are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery, where their joint headstone spells her surname 'Naffziger.' They appear on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw, and the 1900 census of Minier (a village within Little Mackinaw township). Barbara may be the 69-year-old Barbary Springer in the household of Ben Springer on the 1910 census of Little Mackinaw.
6. Magdalena Springer was born Feb. 2, 1840, and died at Colfax, McLean County July 16, 1921. On March 28, 1859 in Tazewell County she married Christian Litwiller; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. (The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* erroneously lists the groom as Christian Stauler). He was born at Milford, Butler County, Ohio Sept. 15, 1835, and died at Waldo, Livingston County Aug. 13, 1917, a son of Joseph Litwiller and Barbara Ulrich. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery.
7. Barbara Springer was born April 28, 1842, and died at Boynton Jan. 16, 1917. On March 20, 1862 in Tazewell County she married Valentine Nafziger. He was born on the Rohrhof estate at Brühl, Baden Sept. 9, 1834, and died Sept. 22, 1869, a son of Peter Nafziger and Katharina Hunsicker/Unzicker. Barbara is found on the 1900 census of Boynton as mother-in-law Barbara Naffziger, born in Germany in April 1842, immigrated 1849, living in the

household of Henry Schantz, born in Germany in April 1864; and Bertha, born in Illinois to German parents in December 1867. *Gospel Herald*, February 1917: "Barbara Springer Nafziger was born in Germany, April 28, 1842; died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Anna Birky, near Hopedale, Ill., Jan. 16, 1917; aged 74 y. 9 m. 19d. She was married to Valentine Nafziger, who preceded her in death in September, 1869. To this union were born three children who still survive her, namely, Mrs. Anna E. Birky, Mrs. Lena Litwiller, and Mrs. Bertha Schantz, all of near Hopedale, Ill. She also leaves to mourn her death 17 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, two sisters and one brother, besides many other relatives and friends, but who mourn not as those who have no hope. She united with the A. M. Church in her girlhood days, and lived a consecrated Christian life, till death came and she was called home. Funeral services were held at the A. M. Church near Hopedale, Ill., by J. C. Birky and Daniel Nafziger in the German language, and Simon Litwiller in English. The latter's text was *Rev. 14:14*. Interment in the A. M. Cemetery. Rest in peace."

David's Cousin Jean Springer/John Spring

Christian Springer and Suzanne Farny were married on Belgrade farm at Bistroff, Moselle Feb. 2, 1809.

Their son **Johannes/Jean Springer/John Spring** was born at Sturzelbronn, Moselle Feb. 24, 1817. He was not only a cousin to David Springer, but also a cousin to Joseph Stecker/Staker (1808-1872) of Morton.

He may have immigated with Michael Zimmerman and Magdalena Erb, and Johannes Müller and Magdalena Eyer. The packet ship *Poland* departed from Le Havre, arriving at New York May 3, 1839. The passenger list includes Magdalena Spring, 35, and Johannes Spring, 22. This suggests that he had worked with the Zimmermans and Müllers near St. Valentin, Indre, France; their employer was Comte Henri Gatien Bertrand, the former aide-de-camp to Napoleon Bonaparte (see ROTH for background on Bertrand).[1]

In Tazewell County Jean Springer would be known as John Spring. The 1850 census of Tazewell County shows three households in succession. They were situated on the northwest corner of what became Groveland overlapping into Fon du Lac:

- Peter Ringerbarger [Ringenberg], 64, farmer, France; Anne [Schrag], 62, france; Christian, 30, laborer, France; Abraham, 17, Pennsylvania.
- John Oyer, 34, farmer, France; Ann, 23, France; Joseph, 5, Illinois; Catharina, 4, Illinois; Anne, 2, Illinois; Peter, 5 months, Illinois; and Joseph, 36, farmer, France.
- Daniel Miller, 40, farmer, Germany; Adaline, 34, Germany; Martin, 9, Ohio; Madeline, 8, Ohio; John, 6, Ohio; John Spring, farmer, 34, Germany; Catharine Miller, 26, Germany; and John Oyer, 64, Germany.

On Sept. 1, 1850 in Peoria County John Spring married Catherine Farni/Farny/Forney. She was born on Alzing farm at Gosselming Nov. 1, 1828, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Farny and Anne Kempf. Peter/Pierre and his brother Christian were 'the Amishmen who hired Lincoln.'

The 1860 census of Groveland lists these families in succession:

- Farmer John Oyer, 42, France; Anne [Farny], 33, France; and several children born in Ilinois; also in the household, widow Catherine Schrock, 64, France [this was Catherine Oyer, widow of John Schrock].
- Farmer John Spring, 40, France; Catharine [Farny], 30, France; and five children born in Illinois. John would later remarry to Joseph Schrock's widow.
- Farmer Peter Ringenberger, 74; his son Abraham, 32; Barbara [Barbara Stalter, Abraham's wife], 25; and Peter, seven months.
- Widow Catharine Schrock [Catherine Ringenberg, the widow of Joseph Schrock], 34, France; Ann, 9, Illinois; and Peter, three months, Illinois.

Catherine Farny died at Groveland March 28, 1868.

On Nov. 7, 1869 at Groveland John remarried to Catherine Ringenberg, also known as Katie Ringenberger. She was a daughter of Pierre Ringenberg/Peter Ringenberger and Anna Schrag, and the widow of Joseph Schrock. She was born on Hingsange farm at Linstroff, Moselle Nov. 14, 1826.

The 1870 census of Fon du Lac shows them as John Spring, 53, France; Catharine, 43, France; Christian, 18; Peter, 16; Anna, 15; Joseph, 13; John, 11; Daniel, 8; Magdelena, 6; and David, 5; all children born in Illinois. They lived next door to Catherine's brother Abraham Ringenberger and his wife Barbara Stalter.

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[1] A point that may or may not be relevant: Joseph Risser was witness to the death of Joseph Spring, 18, at Jeu le Fois, Indre Sept. 13, 1830. A look at Sturzelbronn records may tell us if Joseph was a brother or cousin to Jean.

The 1880 census of Fon du Lac shows them as farmer Christ Spring [John Spring], 64, France; Catharine, 43, Germany; Peter, 27; John, 20; Sam, 17, 'billious fever'; Madaline, 17; and David, 15. All the children were noted as having been born in Illinois, to parents from France and Canada (though their natural mother Catherine Farny was actually born in France in 1828, and only lived in Canada 1831-34). They were still living next door to 'A. Rinkenberger.'

John died at Groveland Jan. 25, 1891. He and his first wife are buried in Guth Cemetery at Washington under a joint headstone. His second wife Catherine Ringenberg died at Farmdale Jan. 24, 1905. She was buried in Guth Cemetery, though no headstone is found there.

Children of Johannes/Jean Springer/John Spring and his first wife Catherine Farny include:

1. Christian Spring was born in 1852, and died in 1914. On May 21, 1873 in Tazewell County he married Frona Oesterle. She was born Aug. 22, 1854, and died July 21, 1919. They are found on the 1880 and 1910 censuses of Washington. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
2. Peter Spring was born at Morton in April 1954, and died at Limestone Township, Peoria Sept. 2, 1920. He farmed at Washington. He is buried in Glendale Cemetery.
3. Anna Spring was born in January 1856. On Nov. 11, 1877 in Tazewell County she married John Hulse. They are found on the 1880 census of Clayton, Woodford County. The 1900 census of Yakima, Washington shows them as blacksmith J.H. Hulse, 4, born in Illinois in July 1855 to German parents; Anna, 44, born in Illinois in January 1856 to a father from Pennsylvania and a mother from France; and five children born in Illinois.
4. Joseph Spring was born at Farmdale March 27, 1857, and died at Washington Dec. 30, 1927. On April 3, 1884 in Tazewell County he married Margaret 'Maggie' Behrends. She was born at Morton circa 1863, and died there circa 1946.
5. John Spring was born at Washington Dec. 9, 1859, and died at Peoria March 22, 1923. On March 29, 1887 at Washington he married Anna Katherine 'Katie' Geltmacher. She was born at Morton Jan. 6, 1867, and died at Washington Jan. 16, 1942, a daughter of Henry Geltmacher and Anna Margaretha Möhl. They lived at Fond du Lac. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
6. Daniel Spring was born Aug. 15, 1861, and died at Peoria Aug. 27, 1925. Daniel was a painter at Peoria.
7. Magdalena Spring was born Feb. 26, 1863, and died July 23, 1951. On April 2, 1885 in Tazewell County she married Frederick Opper. He was born Feb. 15, 1861, and died March 5, 1936, a son of Charles Opper and Katherine Pauley. They are buried under a joint headstone in Fon du Lac Township Cemetery at East Peoria.
8. David Spring was born at Fon du Lac Dec. 2, 1864, and died at Peoria April 28, 1929. On April 7, 1887 in Tazewell County he married Emma Dinicus. David was a carpenter at Richwood Village, Peoria. They are buried in Springdale Cemetery at Peoria.

McLean County Springers

Gaspard Spring was the father of **Jörg Springer** (he signed his own name 'Jörg,' but it often appeared on civil entries as Georges).[2] Jörg was born circa 1753, and died at Hoff (adjacent to Sarrrebourg), Moselle Dec. 17, 1813.

Jörg may have been an older brother to Daniel Springer born in 1750, but this cannot be verified with documentation. If so it would mean that the Springers of McLean County were cousins to the Springers of Tazewell County.

Jörg married Magdalena/Madeleine Würgler. She was born at Bébing July 8, 1760, and died at Hoff Jan. 5, 1825, a daughter of Rudolf/Rodolphe Würgler and his first wife Barbe Engel

As noted in the supplemental genealogy VERCLER, an official document created at Sarrebourg June 17, 1794 barred Rudolf/Rodolphe Würgler and his son-in-law Jörg Springer from holding Anabaptists meetings in the Mattmühl.

Recall from ENGEL that Jörg attended a meeting of Amish Mennonite ministers in Sarreck mill at Oberstinzel Jan. 7, 1809. A petition requesting exemption from military service was drafted and signed by Jörg, Christian Engel, Hannes Hirschi, Christen Lehman, and Christian Nafziger.

A census of Mennonite families created April 24, 1809 lists Georges Springer as a head of a household at Hoff (11 residents).

Children of Jörg Springer and Magdalena/Madeleine Würgler/Vercler born in the Mattmühl ('grain mill') at Sarrebourg (all except André) include:

1. Chrétien/Christian Springer was born Sept. 21, 1782, and died as an infant.

[2] Gaspard Springer's second wife was Anne Eissin (1732-1798). She was too young to have been the father of his son Georges.

2. Catherine Springer was born Aug. 14, 1783. On Feb. 6, 1807 at Hoff she married Christian Gerber, a son of Johannes/Jean Gerber and Catherine Gingerich. Christian was probably born at Kreutzfeld. An 1839 ship's passenger list gives his age as 52, yielding a birth year circa 1777. A second dubious source, his marriage entry created at a time of high military conscription, stated that he was born at Insviller in 1765.
3. Madeleine Springer was born in 1784, and died at St. Médard, Moselle May 1, 1854.
4. André Springer was born June 15, 1788, and died at St. Médard, Moselle May 2, 1861. On May 25, 1809 at Bourscheid he married Catherine Oesch. She was born at Bourscheid in 1789, and died at St. Médard Sept. 1, 1866, a daughter of Nicolas Oesch/Esch and Madeleine Baechler.
5. Joseph Springer was born Jan. 17, 1790, and died as an infant.
6. Joseph Springer was born May 5, 1791.
7. **Christianne/Chrétien/Christian Springer** (twin) was born Dec. 10, 1792, and died at Stanford, McLean County Oct. 8, 1879.
8. Marie Springer (twin) was born Dec. 10, 1792, and died at Sarrebourg July 14, 1795.
9. Pierre/Peter Springer was born July 24, 1794. On March 15, 1823 at Destry he married Marie/Mary Engel. She was born at Bidestroff, Moselle in 1800, a daughter of Joseph Engel and Magdalena Gerber. They are found on the 1840 census of Liberty Township, Butler County. Peter and 'Mary' can also be found on the 1850 census of Liberty Township; and on the 1860 census of Mosquito Grove, McLean County (this community became Allin in 1867). They are buried in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers as “Peter Springer, June 1800”, and “Mary, his wife, June 1800-Sept. 1870” (near Bachman, Schoenbeck, and Christian Farny/Stecker/Staker).
10. Anne Springer was born Dec. 10, 1795. On Dec. 21, 1822 at Destry she married Jean Engel. He was born Oct. 27, 1796, and died at Dolving Dec. 13, 1843, a son of Joseph Engel and Magdalena Gerber. They lived at Ernestviller.
11. Jean Pierre Springer was born June 19, 1797, and died at Sarrebourg June 28, 1795.
12. Barbe Springer was born April 15, 1799. On July 3, 1825 at Hoff she married Jean Gerber. He was born Jan. 13, 1804, a son of Peter/Pierre Gerber and Barbe Schertz. Witnesses included brothers of the bride Christian Springer, 34, and Peter/Pierre Springer, 28.

Christianne/Chrétien/Christian Springer was born in the Mattmühl at Sarrebourg Dec. 10, 1792.

Amish Mennonites were frequently retained by French officers as servants. The employer's idea was to travel and live within an immediate circle of politically-neutral, nonviolent people. Their communal practices and common religion made each one intimately familiar with the group - and more likely to recognize a stranger in their midst. See EIGSTI for the story of one employer, Napoleon's spymaster Schulmeister.

A biography of a son in *The History of McLean County, Illinois* describes his father Christian Springer: "From 1812 to 1815, he was in the service of, and member of the bodyguard of Napoleon the First." *The Sequicentennial History of Washington* says, "The Springers came from France, where a brother, Christian, served as a personal bodyguard to Napoleon Bonaparte and was in the memorable battle at Waterloo." *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* says: "Christian Springer was a miller by trade, and with four other brothers, served under Napoleon in the War of 1812, in his native country, for a period of four years and then deserted, for the third time, finally coming to the United States."

On Dec. 21, 1822 at Destry Christian married Magdalena/Magdeleine Engel in a double ceremony with sister Anne Springer and Jean Engel. The civil entry said that he was living at Hoste. Witnesses included Gaspard Gerber, 78, and Joseph Schwendi, 44. She was born Feb. 24, 1798, a daughter of Joseph Engel and Magdalena Gerber.[3]

The History of McLean County says that the Springers "...came to the United States, and landed at New Orleans June 12, 1830; went to Hamilton, Butler Co., Ohio, July 5, the same year."

Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County says Christian "...purchased 206 acres of land, where he resided for sixteen years." Christian appears on the 1830 census of Madison Township as a neighbor of Christian Augspurger, and on the 1840 census of Fairfield Township next door to brother-in-law Christian Gerber ('Christian Garver') who married his oldest sister Catherine.

The Butler County Records Center in Hamilton, Ohio holds a naturalization *Declaration of Intent* from the September 1840 court term for Christian Springer, 48, from France; and sons Joseph, 16; Peter, 13; Christian, 11; John, 6; and Andrew, 4.

Christian and Magdalena are absent from the 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County, Ohio. It shows a household with only their children: farmer Joseph Springer, 25, France; Peter, 22, France; Christian, 20, France; Magdalena, 17, Ohio; John, 12, Ohio; Andrew, 10, Ohio; Catharine, 7, Ohio; and Mary, 5, Ohio.

[3] *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* gives the birth date Feb. 2, 1796.

In 1853 sons Joseph and Peter Springer ran a dry goods store at Hamilton, Butler County. It was destroyed by fire in February 1954. Joseph remained in Butler County, while his parents and siblings moved on to McLean County. They arrived at Danvers Nov. 10, 1854, and resettled at Allin in 1856.

On Sept. 26, 1865 three of the younger brothers obtained public land in Allin. The names Christian W., John S., and Andrew J. Springer appear on the purchases of two parcels in Section 10: 107 acres and 53 acres, at $10 per acre.

On the 1870 census of Allin, McLean County Christian is described as an 82-year-old retired farmer from France and 'Magdaleine' as a 77-year-old from France; the household also includes Andrew, 34, Ohio; Mary, 24, Ohio; and servant Mary Sherbine, 16, Ohio.

Magdalena/Magdeleine Engel died at Stanford Sept. 29, 1870. *Gospel Herald*, November 1870: "On the 29th of September, in McLean county, Illinois, Magdalena Springer, aged 72 years, two months and seven days. She lived 48 years in the bonds of matrimony, and leaves a deeply afflicted husband, eight children, and 11 grand-children. She was a member of the Mennonite church since she was 14 years old, and trusted in God unto the end. She was buried on the 2nd of October, and many friends and relations followed her to the grave. Funeral discourses were delivered by Pre. Harris and the writer in English, and by Michael Linsinger in the German language. Chr. Gingerich."

Christian Springer died at Stanford Oct. 3, 1879. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford. Their children include:

1. **Joseph Springer**, also known as Joseph E. Springer, was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle Dec. 21, 1823.[4]
2. Catherine Springer was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle Feb. 21, 1825. She died as an infant.
3. Peter Springer, also known as Peter D. Springer, was born at Lorquin, Moselle Sept. 5, 1826, and died at Stanford, McLean County April 24, 1916. On Nov. 13, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Elise/Eliza Brenneman; their ceremony was performed by minister John Michael Kistler. She was born at Wohra, Hesse Oct. 13, 1831, and died at Stanford June 7, 1911, a daughter of Daniel Brenneman and Elisabeth Jutzi. The 1860 census of Mosquito Grove, McLean County calls her Eliza, 27, born in Ohio; but the 1870 census of Allin (the same community under a new name) describes the household as farmer Peter D. Springer, 43, France; Eliza, 39, Hesse; and four children born in Illinois. After his store in Butler County burned in February 1854, Peter worked for two years in dry good stores at Peoria. In 1856 he resettled at Allin with other members of his family. He was elected to terms as McLean County justice of the peace in 1873 and 1878. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford, McLean County.
4. Christian Springer, also known as Christian W. Springer, was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle Oct. 25, 1828. On March 28, 1871 in McLean County he married Elizabeth Stalter. She was born on the Kirschbacherhof estate at Dietrichingen, Bavaria March 22, 1837, and died in 1929, a daughter of Josef Stalter Jr. and Katharina Reidiger. They are found on the 1880 census of Martin, McLean County as farmer C.W. Springer, 50, France; Elizabeth, 42, Germany; and four children born in Illinois.
5. Magdalena Springer was born at Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio in 1831, and died in 1916. On Dec. 28, 1864 in McLean County she married widower Nicholas Risser. He was born July 15, 1836, and died Aug. 12, 1907, a son of Nicolas/Nicholas Risser and his first wife Catherine Schmitt. He had married Katie Gerber/Garber in Butler County, Ohio March 21, 1858. The ceremony was conducted by minister Nicholas Augspurger, and is listed in *History of the Mennonites of ButlerCounty, Ohio* as 'Nicholas Reaser and Katie Garver.' Katie had one child and died before the 1860 federal census of Fairfield, Butler County 1860.[5] The 1870 census of Allin shows Nicholas and Magdalena's household as farmer Nicolas Resser, 35, born in France; Magdalena, 39, born in Ohio to French parents; Catherine, 63, "living with son," born in France; Barbaray, 12, born in Ohio; Anna M., 1, born in Illinois; and John Riser, 21, born in Illinois; and on the 1880 census of Allin, McLean County as farmer Nickolas Rissor, 46, Germany; Magdaline, 49, born in Ohio to French parents; four children born in Illinois; and Catharine Rissor, mother, 70, Germany. They are buried as Magdalena Risser and Nicholas J. Risser in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford.
6. John Springer, also known as John S. Springer, was born at Madison Township Nov. 13, 1833, and died Jan. 23, 1904. On Nov. 16, 1865 in McLean County he married Susan Sharbine. She was born in Pennsylvania Aug. 5, 1851, and died Nov. 14, 1905, a daughter of John Sharbine and Sophie Lape. John and Susan appear on the 1880

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[4] *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* gives the birth date Dec. 24, 1824. Our date is drawn from the civil record.

[5] His household can be found on the 1860 federal census of Fairfield, Butler County as Nicholas Reesor, 24, Germany; Catherine [his mother], 55, Germany; Barbaray, 1, Ohio; and John Myers, 30, Germany. We could not identify the mother of Nicholas Risser. Her obituary: *Herald of Truth*, August 1892: "July 2, 1892, in McLean Co., Ill., of the infirmities of old age, Catharine Risser, aged 85 years. She was born in France, came to this country in 1856 settling in Butler Co., Ohio, and in 1868 moved to McLean Co., Ill., where she lived with her only son Nicholas, until her demise. Besides her son she leaves five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren to mourn their loss. Buried on the 4th at Stanford. Funeral services by Peter Schantz and Joseph Stuckey from *Rev. 14:13* and *Phil. 1:21*. She was a peaceable member of the church." She is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford.

census of Allin as John Springer, 46, born in Ohio to parents from 'Lourean' [Lorraine]; Susan Springer, 26, born in Pennsylvania; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

7. Andrew Springer, also known as Andrew J. Springer, was born at Madison Township April 24, 1836, and died at Cleghorn, Oklahoma Nov. 29, 1915. On July 22, 1875 in McLean County he married Elizabeth Slabaugh [Schlabach, derived from Schlapbach]. She was born in Allegany County, Maryland May 9, 1851, and died at Cicero, Cook County Feb. 14, 1928, a daughter of Daniel Slabaugh and Marie Brenneman.
8. Catherine 'Kate' Springer was born at Madison Township Aug. 13, 1839, and died at Gibson City, Ford County May 21, 1915. On Feb. 20, 1862 in McLean County she married Peter Schertz. He was born Aug. 18, 1833, and died June 13, 1911, a son of Joseph Schertz and Marie Lehman. They lived at Stanford. They are buried in Gibson City Cemetery.
9. Mary Springer, also known as Mary A. Springer, was born at Madison Township circa 1845, and died at Stanford May 17, 1889. On June 4, 1874 in McLean County she married David Habecker. He was born in Germany Nov. 18, 1835, and died at Stanford June 29, 1924, a son of Johannes Habecker and Maria Magdalena Klein. They are found on the 1880 census of Allin as farmer David Habecker, 44, Germany; Mary A., 37, Ohio; and daughter Emma, Illinois. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Stanford.
10. George Springer died in infancy.

Oldest son **Joseph Springer**, also known as Joseph E. Springer, was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle Dec. 24, 1824. His story not only explains a rift in the Springer family, but crosses over into Tazewell County, and explains the family breakup that saw the Schweizer family of Morton disperse to other states.

On July 21, 1852 in Butler County he married Catherine Kinsinger. She died April 3, 1853. In that year Joseph and his brother Peter were running a dry goods store at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio. When the store was destroyed by fire in February 1854, his parents and siblings decided to resettle in McLean County. He elected to remain in Butler County with his Kinsinger in-laws.

In Butler County he practiced law. Joseph apparently remained at Hamilton, where he represented a mining company with offices there. (Despite this, the name Joseph E. Springer appears as a witness for at least two naturalizations in McLean County in 1864, including Killian Kennel).

In 1868 he decided to buy a farm near his family in McLean County. He made an agreement with his brother John Springer and future brother-in-law Nicholas Risser. Joseph would send money, and they would purchase land for him. In 1868 and 1869 he mailed $2,000 in bank drafts from Ohio to Illinois.

A farm was purchased in February 1869, but the title was placed solely in the name of Nicholas Risser. When Joseph returned to Illinois, he found that his investment had yielded nothing. But his two 'partners' promised to revise the land title to give him partial possession.

On Jan. 11, 1870, at the age of 45, Joseph remarried to 17-year-old Catherine 'Kate' Risser. She was a daughter of Nicolas/Nicholas Risser and Catherine Schmitt, and a sister to the Nicholas Risser who held title to Joseph's land.

Their household is found on the 1870 census of Allin as farmer Joseph E. Springer, 46, born in France; Catherine, 17, born in France; and John Springer, 35, born in Ohio.

As the families of John Springer and Nicholas Risser grew, they came to see the purchased farm as an investment opportunity. They wanted to keep it intact to enhance its rental and resale value. Joseph was repeatedly rebuffed when he asked to have the land title rewritten to reflect his investment.

Eventually Joseph decided to bring suit, naming his brother John Springer and brother-in-law Nicholas Risser as co-defendants. His claim was heard in the circuit court of McLean County in August 1876. Joseph presented evidence that included bank drafts he had sent and letters he had received in Ohio. He won the case, and was given a quarter interest in the farm. He also received an award of $1,334 in damages to compensate for rent he should have received from the other two over the intervening years. The court decision said Joseph had waited "from spring until fall, and fall until spring" to receive the promised proper title.

Local public opinion must have come down on the side of Joseph. He served one term as supervisor of Allin, and two terms as justice of the peace. He and Kate appear on the 1880 census of Stanford as lawyer Joseph E. Springer, 54, born in France to French parents; Catharine, 27, born in France to French parents; and three children born in Illinois.

John Springer delayed paying the damages to his brother as long as he could. In 1885 his appeal reached the Supreme Court of Illinois at Springfield as the case *Springer vs. Springer*. There a judge confirmed the original decision.

The ill will from the lawsuits was so unsettling that many family members left the county. The 1900 census of Buckley Village, Artesia Township, Iroquois County shows Joseph E. Springer, 75, born in France in December 1824 to French parents; Catherine, 48, born in France in August 1851 to French parents; and five of their children

born in Illinois. It also noted that Joseph had been a citizen since 1841, and Catherine had been a citizen since 1858. See SCHWEIZER for background on that family's dispersal after the feud.

Dellenbach of Haut Donon

A *Dällenbach* is a valley brook. The Swiss Dällenbach or Dellenbach family has legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights [Ger. *Heimatorte*] at Langnau and Signau in Canton Bern.

The progenitor of this family line was **Andres Tallenbach/Andreas Dällenbach/André Dellenbach**. He was born at Eriswil, Canton Bern circa 1621 (church records were not kept there until 1633), and died at his home on the road called Saint Philippe at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Feb. 12, 1687.

He married Elsbeth Krayenbühl. Their children include:

1. Stÿni Tallenbach was baptized at Eriswil Jan. 14, 1655.
2. Hans Jacob Tallenbach was baptized at Eriswil Jan. 27, 1661.
3. Anna Tallenbach was baptized at Eriswil July 17, 1663.
4. **Andres Tallenbach/Andreas or André Dellenbach** was baptized at Eriswil April 7, 1665, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 20, 1702.
5. Jean Dellenbach was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 4, 1669, and died there Feb. 28, 1734. On Feb. 22, 1693 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he married Verena/Vérène Müller. She was born near the mine La Burgonde in the hamlet of Fertrupt on the outskirts of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 24, 1670, and died there Nov. 16, 1724, a daughter of Marx Müller and Verena Müller. They had at least eight children. There is nothing to indicate that this family had Anabaptist inclinations. Their youngest child Samuel Dellenbach was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 31, 1717. It is thought that he was the Samuel who sailed to America in 1754. If so, on Aug. 15, 1751 at Wolfisheim, Lower Alsace he married Maria Katharina/Marie Catherine Engels. She was born at Solingen in the Pfalz Sept. 16, 1724, a daughter of Caspar Engels and Catherine Evertz; her family had been living at the foundry town Klingenthal (now on the border of Moselle and Lower Alsace). They sailed from Rotterdam on the *Barclay*, and arrived at Philadelphia in Sept. 14, 1754. Samuel was seen by a physician and took the *Oath of Abjuration* at the Philadelphia Courthouse the same day. He signed the oath with an 'x', indicating he was illiterate. His age at arrival was given as 38. (Passenger list, Samuel Dalabaack; oath list, Samuel De La Bough; physician list, Sammuel Tallebaugh). The couple later lived at Frederick, Maryland, where they belonged to the Protestant Reformed Church. There is no record of Samuel after 1778, and no record of Marie Catherine after 1789. They had no children.

Andres Tallenbach/Andreas or André Dellenbach was born circa 1663, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 20, 1702. He was a weaver [Fr. *tisserand*].

On Feb. 8, 1688 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he married Anne Marguerite Zancker. She was born at nearby Ribeauvillé circa 1663, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 6, 1737. Their children born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines include:

1. Sara Dellenbach was born July 3, 1689, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 26, 1764. On Jan. 7, 1726 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married Jean Michel Hasler.
2. Andreas/André Dellenbach was born March 10, 1691, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 11, 1691.
3. Johannes Jacob/Jean Jacques Dellenbach was born May 22, 1692.
4. Verena/Vérène Dellenbach was born April 3, 1695, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 14, 1769. She married Jean Lautenschlager and Henri Hupscher [Hübsher].
5. Elisabeth Dellenbach was born Oct. 20, 1697, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 9, 1700 or Aug. 31, 1702.
6. Andreas/André Dellenbach was born Oct. 10, 1700, and died Nov. 9, 1701.
7. **Oswald Dellenbach** was born Oct. 29, 1701, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 24, 1746.

Oswald Dellenbach was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 29, 1701, and died there Nov. 24, 1746.

He married Marie Madeleine Knauss at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 12, 1732. She was born at Mittelwihr, Upper Alsace (11 miles southeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) March 5, 1710, a daughter of Johann Jacob Knauss and Magdalena Vogel.

After 1745 they moved north to resettle as cultivators in Salm, the part of the town of La Broque where the prince of Salm had a farm. Swiss Anabaptist families had settled in the area after 1670. The first acknowledged Amish Mennonite religious leader at La Broque may have been Johannes 'Hans *der Jŭng*' [the younger] Güngerich who arrived after 1712.

Children of Oswald Dellenbach and Marie Madeleine Knauss born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines include:

1. Anne Marie Dellenbach was born Feb. 3, 1734, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 18, 1785.
2. Jean Pierre Dellenbach was born Dec. 1, 1735.
3. **Oswald Dellenbach** was born Aug. 14, 1737, and died at Salm in La Broque Jan. 24, 1801.
4. Jean Frédéric Dellenbach was born Sept. 25, 1740.
5. Jean Marc Dellenbach was born Feb. 24, 1742.
6. Madeleine Dellenbach was born May 18, 1744, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 29, 1744.
7. Jean Jacques Dellenbach was born Sept. 8, 1745.

Oswald Dellenbach was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 14, 1737, and died at Salm in La Broque Jan. 24, 1801. He married Sara Forvalt/Forwald [Fordemwald]. She died at Salm July 22, 1792.

On Dec. 21, 1751 property from the Duchy of Lorraine passed to the prince of Salm. They had their family farm in Salm at La Broque, but moved the seat of government to Senones (now in the department of Vosges). The prince became sovereign of a 16-by-16-mile area encompassing 10,000 citizens and 30 villages.

Anabaptists found themselves ideally situated in an entity that did not have to follow French or Alsatian dictates. The principality of Salm was not dissolved until 1793, when it was absorbed by France. Thus 'Salm' might refer to a part of the town of La Broque, or the principality of Salm, or its ruling family. For more on the principality see ROPP.

The children of this couple resettled in the heights along the road *Rue du Donon*. It runs through Raon-sur-Plaine, a village that is now located in the department of Vosges. Neuhausers and Sommers lived there. The road leads east to a hamlet and clearing called Haut Donon, on the west side of Mont Donon, the highest peak in the northern Vosges mountains.[6] The peak is over a departmental boundary into Lower Alsace. From there the road turns, heading south downhill to the mining town of Grandfontaine. It is crisscrossed with streams running east to the Bruche river. Farther downhill is the hamlet of Framont. In the 1700s it was the site of iron foundries and forges. Finally La Broque and Schirmeck sit by the Bruche river. (For more on this area see ROPP).

Children of Oswald Dellenbach and his first wife Sara Forvalt/Forwald include:

1. David Dellenbach was born at La Broque circa 1760, and died at Bourg-Bruche April 13, 1840, age 60. His civil death entry described him as a son of Osvald Dellenbach and Elisabeth Forwald, and the widower of Anne Neuhauser; it was witnessed by his son Jacob Dellenbach, 39. David married Anne Marie Neuhauser. She was born at La Broque in 1763, and died at Bourg-Bruche March 31, 1837, a daughter of Christian Neuhauser and Véronique Vongond. They lived at Malplaquet (near La Broque) and Bourg-Bruche.
2. Elisabeth Dellenbach was born circa 1765. A translation of an entry found in Catholic records from Plaine: "In the year 1790, on the 25th day of March, Elisabeth Dellenbach, 25, of the parish of La Broque has been a resident of Plaine for several months. Having come to the realization that the true church is the way to salvation, of her own volition and without coercion, she has made a profession of faith in the Roman Catholic Church and renounced the Anabaptist heresy." Three weeks later, on April 13, 1790 at La Broque she married Joseph Gerst. He was 30, a son of Henri Gerst and Barbe Kleine of Plaine. The Catholic marriage entry described Elisabeth's parents as "*Owald Dellenback et de Salomé Fortenwald de la religion Anabaptiste*." The bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.
   - **Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach** may belong here. He was born circa 1772, and died at Raon-sur-Plaine Dec. 11, 1819.
3. **Jacob/Jacques Dellenbach** was born at La Broque Dec. 3, 1775, and died at Grandfontaine Nov. 26, 1835.
4. Ulrich Dellenbach was born circa 1781, and died at La Broque May 1, 1794. His civil death entry described him as Ulrich Tallepach, 23, a son of cultivator Osvald Tallepach of Salm. It was witnessed by Christian Gerber and Jacob Beller.

On May 5, 1794 Oswald remarried to Sarah Vagner. She was born at Selestat, Lower Alsace Aug. 3, 1751, a daughter of Jean Vagner and Elisabeth Kheller. They had no children together.

Oswald died at Salm in La Broque Jan. 24, 1801. His civil death entry called him 'Owald Dalebach.' It described him as a 66-year-old cultivator born at Salm in La Broque, who was married to Sara Vagler (an incorrect spelling of Vagner). It said that he was a son of the deceased Owald Dalebach and Magdelaine Knausin. The entry was witnessed by cultivator 'Jaquele Dalebach,' 40 (he was actually about 34); he signed 'Jacob Dellenbach.'

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[6] Mont Donon is a climb in the Tour de France bicycle race and a tourist destination. 5,000-year-old Celtic and Roman artifacts from the Bronze Age such as stone axes, flints, and tools have been found there. They were removed to Strasbourg, but a neo-Roman structure was built in 1869 to shelter them still remains. It is thought that Mont Donon once held a number of buildings devoted to Teutates, a Gaulois diety; then the Romans rededicated it to Mercury.

Sarah Vagner remarried to Christian Baltzli (found as 'Baltzé') at La Broque Feb. 24, 1806. He was born at Freistett, Freibourg near Rhodes (now in Moselle) March 9, 1745, and died at La Broque Jan. 8, 1807, a son of Rudolf Bälzli and Barbe Gerber. Witnesses included minister Jacob Kupferschmidt, 75, and Christian Gerber, 38, as friends of the bride; and Ulrich Von Gond, 55, and Christian Neuhauser, 43, as friends of the groom.

Christian Baltzli was a son to Rudolf Bälzli and Barbara Gerber. He was also a brother to Rudolf/Rodolphe/Rudolphe Bältzli, who was the grandfather of 'Red Joe' Belsley and his brothers, who were early settlers of what would become Woodford County. Thus this second marriage of a Dellenbach stepmother established a brief connection between the Belsley and Dellenbach families. When the Dellenbachs first arrived in Central Illinois they chose to settle near Spring Bay, where Belsleys were already established.

Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach

Occasionally we may state that a Dellenbach event took place in Raon-sur-Plaine or Grandfontaine, where civil records were kept, when it actually took place in the woods of Donon between them. Presumably each village claimed part of the forest.

Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach was born circa 1773, and died at Donon Dec. 12, 1819. The civil death entry created at adjacent Raon-sur-Plaine described him as Christianne Tellenbach, 47.

He married Barbara or Elisabeth Schrensberg (her signature looked like 'Trensberg' and later 'Schvensberg'). She was born circa 1781, and died after 1833.

The couple worked as itinerant laborers, and had children in the departments of Moselle (1799); and Meurthe-et-Moselle (1801, 1803, and 1806); at Schirmeck, Lower Alsace (1810 and 1812); and at Donon, Lower Alsace (1815, record created at Grandfontaine). There may be more locations that have not been accounted for.

Christian's civil death entry, created at Raone-sur-Plaine, described him as a *voiturier* (a carriage driver/porter/valet).

Children of Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach and Barbara or Elisabeth Schrensberg include:

1. Joseph Dellenbach was born at Lagarde, Moselle Jan. 2, 1799, and died at Turquestein, Moselle July 24, 1844. On Jan. 21, 1832 at Raon-sur-Plaine he married Barbe Augster. She was born at Strasbourg Aug. 13, 1810, a daughter of Joseph Augster and Barbara Augspurger. The marriage entry described the groom as a *voiturier* at Raon-sur-Plaine like his father. His widowed mother 'Barbe Scherensberg' was described as a 51-year-old farmer at Donon who was present and consenting. It was witnessed by *voiturier* Christian Bächer, 29. On April 8, 1847 at Hermelange, Moselle Barbe Augster remarried to Jean Kempf, a son of André Kempf and Madeleine Abresol. Joseph's birth at Lagarde suggests a family familiarity with minister Christian Engel, who farmed on Jambrot farm at Lagarde.
2. Elisabeth Dellenbach was born at Verdenal, Meuthe-et-Moselle Aug. 13, 1801. On Aug. 22, 1833 at Raon-sur-Plaine she married François Antoine Aimé. Their civil marriage entry described him as a 27-year-old domestic living at Donon. He was born at Breitenbach, Lower Alsace June 8, 1806, a son of deceased parents Lorenz Aimé and Barbe Claude. Elisabeth was described as 32, a daughter of the deceased Christiane Delabach and Elizabeth Schvenber, who was present and consenting.
3. **Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach** was born at Verdenal, Meurthe-at-Moselle Oct. 30, 1803. His civil birth entry bach called him Christophe Talback, and described his parents as cultivator Christophe Talback of Grandseille and Elizabeth Choinspet.
4. Anne Dellenbach was born at Angomont, Meurthe-et-Moselle Sept. 19, 1806, and died near Salm in 1866. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator Christianne Tallepac, 31, and Elisabeth Choinse. On July 24, 1825 at Raon-sur-Plaine she gave birth to an illegitimate daughter Julie Dellenbach. The civil birth entry was witnessed by Anne's mother, who was described as 'Barbe Schvenberger,' 45, a widow of the deceased Christian Dellenbach; and by laborer Jean Oury, 59. The entry gave Anne's age as 19. When Julie died at Donon July 3, 1827, the civil death entry witness was described as *voiturier* Joseph Dellenbach, 28. On Aug. 30, 1832 at Raon-sur-Plaine Anne married Joseph Neuhauser. He was born at Moussey, Vosges May 7, 1800, and died at Salm in 1868, a son of Nicolas Neuhauser and Elisabeth Sommer. Their civil marriage entry described her parents as the deceased Christian Delbach and Elisabeth Chvensparre, 60, who gave her consent. Anne and Joseph are buried in the cemetery at Salm.
5. Madelaine Dellenbach was born at Schirmeck June 9, 1810. The civil birth entry described her as a daughter of Christianne Thélépach, *annabatiste*, 36, and 'Barbe Scvinparich,' living on Vackenbach at Schirmeck. Her father Christian signed with an 'x', indicating that he was illiterate.
6. Jean/John Dellenbach was born at Schirmeck Aug. 24, 1812. The civil birth entry created the following day described her parents as Christianne Thélépach*, annabatiste*, 39, and 'Babe Schwinpart,' living on Wackenbach stream at Schirmeck. Witnesses included gentleman [Fr. s*ieur*] Sebastian Paradis, 60, a cultivator on the Herenbach; and cultivator Louis Paradis, 50. Christian signed with an 'x'. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Marcia Cleaves,* and arrived at New Orleans July 26, 1840. He appears on the passenger list as laborer 'Jean Delahot,' 27. For the story of his disastrous trip up the Mississippi River see GERBER AND GARBER. The voyage also brought Peter Gerber and Magdalena Güngerich; their names appear immediately after his. Peter Gerber and Magdalena Güngerich had

attended the marriage of their son Chrétien/Christian Gerber at La Broque Jan. 25, 1840. The bride was Madeleine/Magdalena Dellenbach, a cousin to Jean/John. The bride and groom would emigrate in 1842. 'John Delabaugh' appears on the 1850 census of Woodford County. He was living next door to the widow and children of Christian Dellenbach. His is shown as John Delabaugh, 40, France in the household of farmer Nathan Annice, 40, France. After the accidental death of Christian in December 1849, John apparently acted as a stepfather for his children. When Christian's daughter Ann died, accounts identified her as a daughter of John and Barbara Dellenbach, though no marriage between John Dellenbach and Christian's widow was recorded. John died intestate in Woodford County Jan. 16, 1857. Charles Molitor was appointed as executor of his estate Jan. 20, 1857; 22-year-old nephew Christian Dellenbach put up his $230 surety bond. Appraisers were Charles Molitor, Heinrich Rocke, and Joseph Donner. After settling accounts the estate came to $119.10.

7. Pierre Dellenbach (found as 'Tellepach') was born at Donon Aug. 2, 1815. The entry created at Grandfontaine called his parents Christian Dellepach and Barbe Schvensbarg of Framont at Grandfontaine, and gave Christian's age as 42.

Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach was born at Verdenal, Meurthe-at-Moselle Oct. 30, 1803.

On Nov. 20, 1837 in Tazewell County Christian married Barbara Barbara Schrag/Schraque/Schrock. The ceremony was performed by minister Christian Engel (the county register has them as Christian Delebaugh and Barbara Gerar).

Barbara was born as 'Barbe Schraque' at Marsal, Moselle Dec. 14, 1805, a daughter of Hans Schrag/Jean Schraque and his first wife Anne Engel. Thus Christian Engel, who performed the marriage ceremony, was Barbara's uncle.

Barbara brought one child to the marriage, 5-year-old Magdalena. They may have come to America in 1832, when the daughter was 1-year-old (per remarks on the 1900 census), or later with widowed father Hans. Magdalena married Christian's cousin Jacob Dellenbach in 1848.

The *Grantors Index* says that Christian Dellebaugh paid Christian Rocky and his wife $100 for property in Section 29 of Township 27 (likely Washington) July 19, 1839. And C. Dellebaugh paid Mary Engle [Mary Ringenberg Engel?] $100 for lots in Section 29 of Pekin the same day.

The *Illinois Public Land Database* notes that 'Christophe Delebaugh' purchased 80 acres in Section 9 of Township 27N June 10, 1845. Township 27N later became Worth in Woodford County.

The *Mortality Schedule of Woodford County* says 'Christian Delabaugh' was killed by a horse in December 1849. Jacob Dellenbach was appointed executor of his estate. Jacob's surety bond was provided by Peter Bechler. After accounts were settled the estate totaled $2,534.50.

His widow and children are shown on the 1850 census of Woodford County. Their household included Barbary Delabaugh, 45, France; Christian, 15; Barbaray, 12; Ann, 12; and Mary, 10; all children born in Illinois.

Barbara Schrock died in Woodford County Oct. 26, 1852. Christian's cousin Jacob Dallenbach served as executor of her estate. After items were auctioned and accounts were settled her estate totaled only $34.10. Buyers included son Christian Dellenbach, Madeleine/Magdalena Dellenbach's husband Christian Gerber, John Bachman, and Michael Bechler.

Children of Chrétien/Christian Dellenbach and Barbara Schrock born in what would become Woodford County include:

1. Christian Dellenbach was born circa 1835 (1850 census) or 1836 (1860 census), and died between 1865 and 1869. The *Tax Assessment of 1862, District 7*, shows Christian Dellenbach of Worth as a retail dealer paying $20. On March 7, 1865 in Woodford County he married Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Wombacher (found as 'Warnbarger' on the marriage entry). She was born in Woodford County in April 1843, a daughter of John Wombacher and Magdalena Gross. After Christian's death she remarried to Henry Sommer. They are found on the 1880 census of Metamora as farmer Henry Summer, 38, Germany; Elisabeth, 37, born in Illinois to German parents; six children born in Illinois; and stepdaughter Louise Delebach, 14, born in Illinois. Christian and Elizabeth are also thought to have had a son Frank born in 1862 (he was later a policeman at Peoria) and a daughter Magdalena.
2. Barbara Dellenbach (twin) was born circa 1838.[7] She may be the Barbara Delabaugh who married Jacob Schidler in Tazewell County Dec. 28, 1853.
3. Ann/Anna Dellenbach (twin) was born circa 1838, and died March 24, 1862. Her headstone in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora says died at 23 years, 10 months, and [illegible] days. She is found on the 1860 census of Spring Bay as a 21-year-old domestic in the household of Swiss butcher Charles Spillman.
4. Mary Dellenbach was born June 23, 1840, and died at Metamora April 20, 1897. Her headstone says she died April 20, 1897, age 56 years, 9 months, and 27 days. On Nov. 1, 1859 in Woodford County she married George Wagner. He was born at Stolpen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany Aug. 24, 1834, and died at Cruger, Woodford County May 15,

[7] Barbara and Ann are both age 12 on the 1850 census. Their names are bracketed together.

1889. The 1880 census of Cruger shows them as Wagonner, 47; Mary, 38; and seven children born in Illinois. They are buried in Union Cemetery at Washington, where their headstone calls George 'J.G.T. Wagner.'

Jacob/Jacques Dellenbach

Jacques/Jacob Dellenbach was born at Salm Oct. 4, 1775, and died at Grandfontaine Nov. 26, 1835. He married Magdalena/Madeleine Müller. She was born in 1760, and died at Raon-sur-Plaine March 1, 1808.

Their children include:

1. Anne Dellenbach was born at Donon in 1795, and died at Gondrexange, Moselle March 22, 1848. On July 2, 1814 at Grandfontaine she married Jean Ringenberg. The civil marriage entry called them 'Jean Rinckesbeck' and 'Anne Tellepach.' The entry said that he was 25, born at Chazelles, Meurthe (actually Chazelles-sur-Albe, Moselle); his father Jean Ringenberg had died Dec. 14, 1809, and his mother Madeleine Haury had died Dec. 25, 1796. Anne was described as 19, born at Donon, a daughter of 'Jacob Tellepach' who was present and consenting, and the deceased Magdelaine Müller.
2. Elisabeth Dellenbach was born at La Broque Dec. 9, 1800, and died at Grandfontaine May 2, 1863. On May 26, 1830 at La Broque she married Jean Neuhauser. He was born at La Broque Dec. 7, 1806, and died at Grandfontaine Jan. 6, 1856, a son of Pierre Neuhauser and Anne Mosiman.
3. Marie Dellenbach was born at La Broque Sept. 30, 1803, and died before Aug. 20, 1810.

On April 20, 1808 at Grandfontaine Jacob remarried to Marie Neuhauser. She was born at La Broque Dec. 3, 1775, and died in Woodford County March 4, 1872, a daughter of Nicolas Neuhauser and Elizabeth Gerber/Karbre/Karber.

The civil marriage entry described him as Jacques Dalebach, 40, born at Salm (dependence of La Broque) Oct. 4, 1767, a cultivator at Donon, Raon-sur-Plaine, and the widower of Magdeleine Muller, who died March 1, 1808. He was the adult son of Owald Dalebach, who had died at Salm Jan. 17, 1800, and Sara Forvalte, who died there July 22, 1792. Marie was described as 30, born at Salm Jan. 23, 1778, a daughter of Nicolas Neuhauser of Bruche and the deceased Elisabeth Karber [Gerber], who had died Feb. 7, 1783. Witnesses included inn keeper Balthasare Fongond, 47, (he signed his name Bastien Fongond) a friend of the groom from La Broque; and Christiene Karber, 38, a cultivator at Salm (he signed his name Christiane Karbre) and friend of the bride. In this instance the groom signed his name 'Jacob Dellenbach,' and the bride signed with an 'x' indicating that she was illiterate. After the marriage they resided at Donon.

All of their children were born at Donon, and their births were recorded at adjacent Grandfontaine. There records uniformly spelled their surname 'Tellepach':

4. Marie Dellenbach was born Aug. 19, 1810, and died at Grandfontaine Feb. 22, 1813. Her civil birth entry described her father as 'Jacob Tellepach,' 45, and her mother as 'Marie Nayhauser.'
5. A daughter was born and died on the same day Dec. 31, 1811.
6. Madeleine/Magdalena Dellenbach was born Oct. 7, 1814 (her headstone says Sept. 17), and died in Woodford County Jan. 19, 1899. On Jan. 25, 1840 at La Broque she married Chrétien/Christian Gerber. He was born at Gensbourg, Lower Alsace Nov. 2, 1814, and died at Metamora Dec. 9, 1893, a son of Peter/Pierre Gerber and his first wife Magdalena Gingerich. See GERBER for background on this couple.
7. Marie Dellenbach was born April 16, 1816, and died at Grandfontaine June 11, 1817.
8. Joseph Dellenbach was born Oct. 14, 1819, and died in Woodford County Aug. 3, 1855. The 1850 census of Woodford County shows Joseph and mother Marie Neuhauser: farmer Joseph Delabaugh, 29, France; and Mary, 72, France. Joseph's headstone in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora says that he died Aug. 3, 1855, age 35 years, 11 months, and 16 days. His death coincided with an Asiatic cholera epidemic that peaked in July and August of 1855. Joseph Gerber served as executor of Joseph's estate. Probate entries do not mention a widow or other heirs.
9. **Jacob Dellenbach** was born March 10, 1822.

While the two married oldest daughters chose to remain in Europe, the others chose to emigrate. The packet ship *Sully* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 13, 1842. The passenger list shows Christian Gerber, 27, 2 trunks, 1 bed; Magdalena [Dellenbach], 27; Marie Neuhauser [mother of the Dellenbachs], 66, 1 trunk, 1 bed; Joseph [Dellenbach], 22, 2 trunks, 1 bed; and Jacob [Dellenbach], 20, 1 trunk, 1 bed.

The 1850 census of Woodford County shows Marie and her son Joseph: farmer Joseph Delabaugh, 29, France; and Mary, 72, France.

The mother of this family died at Worth March 4, 1872 in the home of her daughter Madeleine/Magdalena and son-in-law Chrétien/Christian Gerber. *Gospel Herald*, April 1872: "On the 4th of March, at the residence of her

son-in-law, Christian Gerber, in Woodford Co., Ill. of the infirmities of age, Maria Dellenbach, aged 97 years, 7 months, and 1 day. Her mortal remains were interred the 6th, in the presence of many friends and acquaintances. Sermon by Christian Esch and Peter Gingerich. Her intellect remained until the end. She was a faithful sister in the Omish Church for 80 years, and a widow 36 years. She was born in France, and came to America about 30 years ago."

Jacob Dellenbach was the youngest of his family. He was born at Donon March 10, 1822, and died in Woodford County Sept. 16, 1884.

On Aug. 17, 1848 in Woodford County he married Magdalena Schrock. She was born June 24, 1831, a daughter of Barbara Schrock (already mentioned as the wife of Jacob's cousin Christian). Judging from her federal census reports, Magdalena may have been born in Germany (1850 and 1900), Bavaria (1860), Württemberg (1870), or Lorraine (1880). And *Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County* described "Jacob and Lena Dellenbach, the former a native of France, and the latter of America."

At the time of the marriage he was 26, she was 17. County records listed them as 'Jacob Delabauch' and 'Madaline Schrock.'

The 1850 census of Woodford County shows them living next door to mother Marie and brother Joseph: farmer Jacob Delabaugh, 27, France; Madaline, 18, Germany; and Joseph, five months, Illinois.

The 1860 census of Worth shows Jacob Dellenbach, 38, France; Madeline, 28, Bavaria; Joseph, 10, Illinois; Maria, 8, Illinois; Lana, 7, Illinois; Christian, 3, Illinois; and Christian Dellenbach, 24, Illinois (he was the son of Christian Dellenbach). The 1865 state census of Worth shows Jacob Dellenbach next door to Joseph Schertz. His household is tallied as two males 10 years of age and under; one male 10-19; one male 40-49 [Jacob]; two females 10-19; and one female 40-49 [Magdalena]. The 1870 census of Worth shows farmer Jacob Delebach, 49, Württemberg; Madeleine, 40, Württemberg; Joseph, 13 [he was actually 20]; Mary, 17; Christian, 12; John, 8; and Jacob, 1; all children born in Illinois.

The farm of 'J. Dellenbach' is found in the northeast corner of Section 36, on the 1873 plat map of Worth Township. It bordered Metamora.

The 1880 census of Roanoke shows farmer Jacob Dellenbach, 58, France; Magdalene, 47, Lorraine; Christ, 22; Jacob, 11; Elisabeth, 9; and Emma, 6; all four children born in Illinois to parents from France and Lorraine. The household of their son Joseph was listed on the same page.

Father Jacob Dellenbach died Sept. 16, 1884.

The 1900 census of Cazenovia shows Magdalena as the 68-year-old mother-in-law in the home of her daughter Elizabeth Ann and son-in-law Peter Bachman. The report indicates that she was born in June 1831, and came to America from Germany in 1832.

Magdalena Schrock died 'from pneumonia and heart trouble' at Cazenovia March 25, 1901. *Herald of Truth*, May 1901: “On March 25th, 1901, in Cazenovia Tp., Ill., of pneumonia and heart trouble, Madgelena, wife of Jacob Dellenbach, deceased, who was born June 24, 1831, and died March 25th, 1901, aged 69 years, 9 months and 1 day. Seven children, thirty-one grandchildren and five great-grandchildrens survive her to mourn her departure, but not as such who have no hope. Funeral services at the house of her son-on-law, Peter Bachman, by Andrew Schertz, from *Psalm 39*, and Peter D. Schertz from *1 Cor. 15:1--6*. At the church by John Smith, from *John 16:22* and Peter Summer, *Matt, 24:44*. Peter Garber.”

Jacob Dellenbach and Magdalena Schrock are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. Their children born at Worth include:

1. Joseph Dellenbach was born in February 1850, and died at Partridge, Kansas June 16 or 23, 1922. He married Louise Helle. She was born in Alsace June 16, 1858, and died at Partridge, Kansas Dec. 23, 1932. The 1880 census of Roanoke shows them as farmer Joseph Dellenbach, 30, born in Illinois to parents from France and Lorraine; Louisa, 22, born in France to French parents; Lena, 3, born in Illinois; and Alfred, 1, born in Illinois. The 1920 census of Partridge, Kansas shows them as Joseph Dellenbach, 69, born in Illinois to parents from Alsace-Lorraine and France; and Louise, 61, born in Alsace-Lorraine to parents from Alsace-Lorraine, immigrated in 1875. They are buried in Partridge Cemetery.
2. Maria/Mary Dellenbach was born Aug. 15, 1851, and died at Floris, Oklahoma Sept. 21, 1915. On Jan. 4, 1873 at Danvers she married Washington Grove; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey.[8] He was born at Washington April 10, 1849, and died at Liberal, Kansas July 12, 1931, a son of Benjamin Grove and Hanna Rinehart. They lived in Kansas and Oklahoma. They are buried in Midway Cemetery at Floris.

[8] The Stuckey marriage list has them as Washington Grove and 'Alary Dellenbach,' likely a misinterpretation of a handwritten 'Mary Dellenbach.'

3. Magdalena Dellenbach was born Jan. 8, 1853, and died May 8, 1907. On Jan. 7, 1873 she married Peter Samuel Gerber. He was born at Washington Aug. 8, 1949, and died at Lowpoint, Woodford County Dec. 12, 1939, a son of Joseph Gerber and Ann Suisse/Schweizer/Switzer. He was ordained as a minister of the Partridge Mennonite Church by minister and elder Joseph Bachman in 1894. They are buried in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery at Metamora. The *Gospel Witness*, May 1907: "Sister Magdalena (Dellenbach) Garber wife of Pre. Peter Garber, was born in Woodford Co., Ill., Jan. 1853. She had been in poor health for several months and at about 3 o'clock on May 6, a paralytic stroke came upon her, from which time she was unconscious; death relieved her at about 11:40 May 8. Her age was 54y. 4m. She became a member of the A. M. Church in her youth and was faithful unto death. On Jan. 7, 1873, she was united in holy matrimony with Peter Garber, which union was blessed with three daughters: Annie, wife of Sol Schertz; Nora, wife of Sam Imhoff and Laura, who is with her father. She leaves, besides her husband and three daughters, four grandchildren, three brothers, three sisters and many friends to mourn her departure, but not as those who have no hope. Her last words were, "This is heaven." Funeral services were held May 11. Bro. Sam Gerber spoke at the house from *I Pet. 1:3-9*, and at the Harmony Church from *Matt. 24:44*, in the English language and Bro. D. W. Slagel in the German from *1 Cor. 5:1-11*. Interment in cemetery nearby."
4. Christian Dellenbach was born June 4, 1857, and died at Norborne, Missouri March 1, 1923. On Feb. 19, 1882 at Washington he married Melissa Belle Brownfield. She was born May 14, 1856, and died at Hardin, Missouri Feb. 1, 1944, a daughter of Thomas Brownfield and Elizabeth Grove. Their household is found on the 1900 census of Roanoke as farm manager Christian Dellenbauch, 43, born in Illinois in January 1856 to German parents; Melissa B., 44, born in Illinois in May 1856 to parents from Virginia and Ohio; and six children born in Illinois and Nebraska. They can also be found on the 1910 census of Egypt, Missouri. They are buried in Fairhaven Cemetery at Norborne.
5. A daughter died as an infant.
6. A son died as an infant.
7. Jacob E. Dellenbach was born March 4, 1869, and died at Flanagan Sept. 22, 1961. On Sept. 28, 1893 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Litwiller. She was born at Delavan Nov. 17, 1868, and died at Peoria June 25, 1918. They can be found on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of Panola. They later lived at Graymont, Livingston County, and are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.
8. Elizabeth Ann Dellenbach was born April 2, 1871, and died March 8, 1936. On Dec. 19, 1889 she married Peter Bachman. He was born at Cazenovia Aug. 28, 1866, and died at Cazenovia April 21, 1940, a son of Jacob Bachman and Jacobine 'Phoebe' Zook. They are buried in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery at Metamora.
9. Emma Dellenbach was born July 1, 1873, and died in Woodford County Aug. 9, 1920. She appears on the 1910 census of Metamora as a 37-year-old cousin in the household of Catherine Dellenbach and Peter Steider. On Sept. 15, 1914 in Woodford County she became the second wife of David Wagner. He was born at Roanoke Feb. 10, 1866, and died at Eureka Aug. 7, 1946, a son of Joseph Lewis Wagner and Magdalena Schertz. He married his first wife Emma Steider Jan. 24, 1888, and she died Dec. 24, 1911. He married his third wife Catherine Plank Oct. 2, 1945.

In addition John Dellenbach was raised by this family. He was born in 1861 or 1862, and likely died before the 1880 census. He appears as an 8-year-old on the 1870 census. Family notes say he may have been a nephew (apparently through the Schrocks) who died at age 19.

See PENNSYLVANIA DELLENBACHS in the Appendix for background on earlier arrivals.

Eiman of Elm Grove

In Canton Bern an *ei* or *ey* is a meadow by a river. The same root that became Eyer or Eier is also found as Eiman or Eymann, describing a person who lived in such a meadow.

The spelling 'Eiman' was the first we found in early records from Steffisburg. *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname include Fahrni bei Thun, Linden, and Langnau.

Although the Eiman/Eymann family plays an extensive part in the history of the Amish Mennonites, we have only followed one family that came to Tazewell County after 1850. Their arrival date falls beyond our original guideline, but the information corrects a general misimpression that they arrived earlier and had other family connections.

Moses Ropp constructed his first sawmill at Sinking Creek in the wooded area south of Allentown Road at Elm Grove. His immediate neighbor and co-worker was Peter Eiman. Despite the coincidence, Peter was not a close relation to Elisabeth Eymann/Eiman, the wife of Andreas Ropp and mother to Moses Ropp.

Pierre Eymann was born at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace in 1735, and died on the farm Le Petit Rombach at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Feb. 25, 1807.

In 1782 he married Barbe Maurer. She was born circa 1759, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 9, 1811. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Maurer, a 52-year-old daughter of the deceased Ulrich Maurer and Marie Roth, and the widow of day laborer Pierre Eymann.

Pierre's civil death entry gave his birth place and said he was age 72; it also named his widow as Margueritte Maurer [the only source that does not say Barbe]. It was witnessed by Chrétien Eyman, 51.

Their son miller **Pierre Eymann** was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 31, 1798, and died at South Easthope, Perth County, Ontario March 27, 1858.

On April 12, 1826 at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine (below Colmar) he married Madeleine Frutiger. She was a daughter of Daniel Frutiger and his first wife Verena Ummel. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Pierre Eymann, 27, who was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mine Aug. 2, 1798 (differing from the birth entry). He was a son of deceased cultivator Pierre Eymann, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 25, 1807, and the deceased Barbe Maurer, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 9, 1811. The bride was Madelaine Frutiger, 29, who was born at Pfastatt Jan. 25, 1804. She was a daughter of the deceased day laborer Daniel Frutiger, who had died at Pfastatt July 9, 1824; and the deceased Verone Umel, who had died at Pfastatt Sept. 6, 1812. The bride was accompanied by her maternal uncle Chrétien Ummel of Pfastatt. Witnesses included shopkeeper Sebastien Peter Schmitt, 73, friend of the groom; and cultivator Joseph Peter Schmitt, 36, friend of the bride (he signed 'Joseph Petter Schmit').

They sailed from Le Havre on the ship *New York*, and arrived at New York Aug. 20, 1855.

Passenger number				
72	Piere Eimann	56	France	(father)
73	Madeleine [Frutiger]	51		(mother)
74	Joseph	27		(son)
75	Daniel	14		(son)
76	Fronika	12		(daughter)
77	Jean	8		(son)
78	Piere	29		(son)
79	Barbe [Roth]	32		(his wife)
80	Christian	11 months	(written between the lines)	
81	Jean	5		

— Passenger 74, François Joseph Eymann, was born at Niederhergheim April 3, 1828.

— Passenger 75, Daniel Eymann, was born at Soultz Nov. 15, 1840, and died at Wayland, Iowa March 2, 1916. He married Barbara Zehr, the widow of Jacob Gingerich. She was born Dec. 10, 1837, and died at Wayland Nov. 5, 1886, a daughter of Peter Zehr and Barbara Roth. They also lived in Tazewell County. Their household appears on the 1870 census of Elm Grove one page before his older brother: Daniel Eimen, 28, Bavaria; and Barbara, 32, New York. The same family is shown on the 1885 state census of Jefferson/Wayne, Henry County, Iowa as Daniel Eimen, 43, France; Barbra, 47, France; and nine children born in Canada, the oldest Barbara, 17. (ROTH explains how Barbara Roth was born in New York and then lived in Ontario). *Herald of Truth*, December 1886: "On the 5th of November in Wayland, Henry Co., Iowa, Barbara, wife of Daniel Eiman, aged 48 years, 11 months and 26 days. She leaves a husband and 11 children to mourn their loss. She was a member of the Amish Mennonite church and was buried on the 7th in the presence of many sorrowing friends and neighbors. Services by S. T. Miller and S. Gerig

from *1 Cor. 15:55-58*." *Gospel Herald*, March 1916: "Daniel Eiman was born in Germany, Oct. 15, 1842; died Feb. 27, 1916, aged 73 y. 4 m. 14 d. He was married to Barbara Zehr who preceded him to the great beyond in 1886. He leaves to mourn four sons, four daughters, 31 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. In his youth he joined the Mennonite Church; later on he was reunited to the Amish Mennonite Church at Pigeon, Mich. Funeral services at the Sugar Creek Church, near Wayland, Iowa, by Daniel Graber and Simon Gingerich."

— Passenger 76, Veronica/Fronika Eymann, also known as Fanny Eiman, was born at Soultz March 5 or 15, 1843, and died Sept. 20, 1899; she is buried in Seward County, Nebraska. On March 6, 1866 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Maurer (also found as Murer and Mourer). He was born in Germany April 5, 1840, and died at Creston, Montana April 22, 1920.

— Passenger 77, Jean/John Eymann, was born at Soultz Sept. 9, 1845. The 1870 census of Tremont shows farmer Peter Garber, 24, Ohio; Mary, 23, Illinois [Peter F. Gerber and Mary Ackerman]; Magdalena, 2, Illinois; Elias, six months, Illinois; and farm laborer John Eiman, 23, Germany. They were next door to Magdalena 'Lena' Staker (daughter of Nicholas Stecker/Staker and Magdalena Eiman) and Andrew James Burkey, and a page before Nicholas Stecker/Staker Jr. John Eiman married Maggie Heinse in Tazewell County Jan. 4, 1873.

According to the late Lorraine Roth, the father Pierre Eymann was listed as an early settler of East Zorra, Oxford County, Ontario. The 1861 census of East Zorra shows the household of John Iman, German, 37; Barby, spinster, 30; Maydilene, Canada, 6; Anna, Canda, 5; and Magdalena [widow Madeleine Frutiger], spinster, Germany, 60.

Pierre Eymann/Peter Eiman was the oldest of 10 children. He was born at Niederhergheim, Upper Alsace (eight miles south of Colmar) May 22, 1826, and died before 1900.

On Sept. 8, 1849 at Soultz, Upper Alsace he married Barbe/Barbara Roth. She was born at Pfastatt (a suburb of Mulhouse) Aug. 19, 1824, and died in Canadian County, Oklahoma Nov. 28, 1902, a daughter of André Roth and Catherine Kauffman. André Roth was a younger half-brother to the Nicolaŭs/Nicolas Roth who married Verena Zimmerman. Verena immigrated as a widow in 1837 and later came to Tazewell County; see ROTH.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Pierre Eimen, 23, living at Soultz. His parents were miller Pierre Eimen, 48, and Madeleine Freidiger [Frutiger], 46, living at Soultz. The bride was described as Barbe Roth, 25, stateless though born at Pfastatt and living at Pulversheim. Her parents were day laborer André Roth, 58, living at Jungholtz, Rimbach who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Kauffmann, who had died at Mulhouse Nov. 23, 1840. One witness was cultivator Chrétien Lehmann, 25. The groom signed his name 'Pntnr Eimnn,' the bride or her father just signed 'Roth.'

In 1855 they were living at Châtenois, Lower Alsace. According to Dominique Dreyer's *Emigrants Haut-Rhinois en Amérique 1800-1870*, the passport application of Pierre Eimen stated that he was from Thann and Niederhergheim, and his intended destination was Indiana. The passport was obtained at Colmar July 4, 1855.

On the 1870 census of Elm Grove: farmer Peter Eimen, 44, France; Barbara, 45; John, 20; Barbra, 9; Catherine, 7; and Mary, 5.

'Peter Eimen' was naturalized at Pekin Nov. 4, 1876, renouncing French citizenship.

The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Peter Eimen, 55, France, parents born in France; Barbara, 55, France; Kate, 17, Illinois; and Mary, 13, Illinois. One household removed was son John Eimer, 29, 'works in sawmill' [of Moses Ropp], Alsace; Emma, 28, Bavaria, with a case of consumption; and George, 8, Illinois.

In 1881 Peter and Barbara's 14-year-old daughter Mary died. She is buried in Railroad Cemetery. Though a substantial part of that cemetery was covered by mining slag in 1906 to create a railroad right-of-way, Mary's headstone is still in place. It is thought that if Peter had died in the area he would have been buried near her.

A handful of employee families accompanied Moses Ropp when he relocated his sawmill operations from Sinking Creek to timberland at Arlington (now Berkley), Carlisle County, Kentucky in 1884. Peter would have been 58 years of age, and Barbara would have been 60. Perhaps Peter did not return to Tazewell County, and is buried in or near the Berkley Cemetery where Ropp was buried in 1891.

Barbe/Barbara's grave in Red Rock Cemetery at what is now Calumet, Canadian County, Oklahoma is unmarked, but she was recorded as Barbara Roth Eimen. She had apparently gone to the county to live with her son Jean/John.

Children of Pierre Eymann/Peter Eiman and Barbe/Barbara Roth include:

1. Jean/John Eiman was born at Soultz, Upper Alsace June 2, 1850, and died at El Reno, Oklahoma May 30, 1929. On Oct. 5, 1873 in Tazewell County he married Emily Frances Potts. She was born at Center, Ohio May 22, 1852, and died at El Reno Jan. 4, 1938, a daughter of Hanson Potts and Elizabeth Turner. The 1880 census of Olathe, Kansas shows John Eimen, 28, Alsace; Emily F, 27, Ohio; and two children born in Illinois. They are buried in El Reno Cemetery (John's headstone says 'John Eimen').

2. Barbara Eiman was born in Illinois Dec. 3, 1860, and died at Fort Cobb, Oklahoma June 10, 1935. On March 13, 1878 in Tazewell County she married John G. Fisher. He was born in Missouri in January of 1848. The 1900 census of Dillon shows them as John V. Fisher, 52, born in Missouri to parents from Maryland and Virginia; Barbara, 39, born in Illinois to parents from France; and six children born in Illinois.
3. Kate Eiman was born in Illinois Nov. 2, 1862, and died at Fremont, Iowa March 19, 1953. Although she was listed as a 17-year-old in the household of her parents in 1880, she may also be the 20-year-old 'Kate Eimen' listed as a housekeeper in the household of Tomas Leonard at Elm Grove the same year. She married Reuben Stam before 1903, and they lived at Fremont. He can be found as a 26-year-old farmer, born in Pennsylvania, on the 1880 census of Elm Grove. In 1911 Kate remarried to Henry Storm. He was born in 1862, and died in 1941; he was buried with his first wife Lulu in Cedar Township Cemetery at Fremont.
4. Mary Eiman was born in Illinois Nov. 29, 1866, and died at Elm Grove July 22, 1881; she is buried in Railroad Cemetery.

Schantz of Lembach

Tschanz/Tschantz/Schantz/Johns, like Janzi/Jantzi and Jenni, is derived from Johannes – Jehovah's gift. Tschanz/Tschantz/Schantz families lived in Buchholterberg, Diessbach, and Schwarzenegg, all communities that fall within the administrative district of the Free Court of Steffisburg.

Many of the Schantzes who came to America originated from the vicinity of Lembach, Lower Alsace in the 18th century. They were closely associated with Güngerich and Nafziger families.

Amish Mennonites farmed on three estates at Lembach. Each estate was surrounded by a hamlet or forest subdivision. The French names of the hamlets and the German names of the estates were: Fleckenstein - Ger. *Fleckensteinerhof*; Froensbourg - Ger. *Frönsburgerhof*; and Katzenthal - Ger. *Katzentalerhof*.[9]

GÜNGERICH AT LEMBACH

Recalling GINGERICH: **Christian Güngerich** was born at Heimberg and baptized at Steffisburg in 1648. In 1668 he married Barbara Rubi. Their descendants account for every known Amish Mennonite Güngerich or Gingerich.

Christian Güngerich was confined at Schwarzenegg in 1692. He escaped and went to Lower Alsace, within walking distance of the Alsatian border with the Pfalz. He is mentioned as a leaseholder at Riedseltz, Lower Alsace in 1698; on the Fleckensteinerhof estate at Lembach 1708-1712; and then on the castle estate Frönsburgerhof at Lembach. He finally leased an estate near Laasphe in the principality of Wittgenstein (now in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia, on its border with Hesse) in 1713.

The Frönsburgerhof estate at Lembach was so called because it fell into a hamlet or forest subdivision of Lembach called Froensbourg. It encompassed the grounds surrounding *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 its owners, the Fleckenstein family, were related to Pfalz-Zweibrücken Wittelsbachs.

Christian's son Hans **'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich** was born at Heimberg, and baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 21, 1669. He lived at Echery from 1693 to 1695, then at La Petite Lièpvre in the same time frame that Jacob Amman was there (1695-1712).

In 1712 the son became leaseholder of the Frönsburgerhof. Over the years he became an extremely influential minister, hosting meetings of ministers at his home. He attended the assembly of ministers held at Essingen in 1759, representing the Froensbourg congregation. He was 90 years old, and died the following year.

Hans 'Hans *der alte*' Güngerich had a sister Barbara who married Johann Schantz. This couple may have been grandparents of the first Schantzes at Lembach.

Lembach would now be described as a village in the Sauer Valley, surrounded by the forests of the North Vosges Natural Park. The ruins of Froensbourg castle and Fleckenstein castle are accessible as tourist attractions.

Schantzes (also found as Schanz) in Upper Alsace fall within two family lines. Their forebearers may have been brothers or at least contemporaries: Michel Schantz. born circa 1720; and Peter Schantz, born circa 1725.

Descendants of Michel Schantz born circa 1720

Michel Schantz was born circa 1720, and died on the Katzenthal estate [Ger. *Katzentalerhof*] at Lembach in 1787.

Michel married Magdalena Güngerich. They lived on the Frönsburgerhof estate. Michel became a minister and represented the Froensbourg congregation at the assemblies of ministers at Essingen in 1759 and 1779, with Christian Joder and Isaac Hochstettler.

Their children include:

1. Johann Georg Schantz was born before 1742. He married Katharina Bürki. She was born circa 1728, and died at Volmunster, Moselle Aug. 10, 1805. They lived at Nehwiller (now Nehwiller-Près-Woerth, six miles southwest of Lembach).
    a. Christian Schantz was born at Niederbronn-les-Bains, Nehwiller Oct. 28, 1762, and died at Sinzing in the Pfalz Feb. 9, 1834. He married Marie Suzanne Birki. She was born at Diemeringen in 1768, and died at Rimling, Moselle March 30, 1802, a daughter of Jean Birki and Freny Leyenberger. They had five children 1787-1802; their first son was named Jean Georges after his grandfather. They are found at Möhling on a 1794 census of Anabaptists in the district of Bitche, Moselle: Christian Schantz, 31;

[9] The Katzenthal estate [Ger. *Katzentalerhof*] was a farm in a secluded valley outside of the village but within the boundaries of Lembach. The valley had been the site of abandoned lead mines that still held veins of goethite, hemimorphite, and pyromorphite.

Marie-Ann Bűrckin, 25; Catherine Schantzin, 6; Georg Schantz, 1; Barbe, 2; Madeleine Stuckin, 20; and Jean Stouki, three months. On Nov. 20, 1802 at Rimling he remarried to Anna Imhof. She was born in the Pfalz in 1779, a daughter of Jacques Imhof and Madeleine Ringenberg. They had eight children. They are found on the Mehlingerhof at Bettviller (on the east side of Gros-Réderching, six miles north of Enchenberg) and on the Schoenhof at Rimling (on the north side of Bettviller). Almost all of his many children went to Bavaria.

b. Katharina/Catherine Schantz was born circa 1765, and died at Reichshoffen (nine miles southwest of Lembach) Jan. 29, 1799, seven months after giving birth to her last child. Circa 1785 she became the third wife of minister Isaac Hochstettler, who was likely born circa 1743. Her civil death entry described her as Catrina Shantzin, 33; it was signed by Isaac Hochstettler, 56. See HOCHSTETTLER for background on this couple.

2. Magdalena/Madeleine Schantz was born circa 1746, and died on the Fleckensteinerhof at Lembach Oct. 3, 1807. She married Peter/Pierre Nafziger. He was born on the Fleckensteinerhof circa 1731, and died there May 3, 1807; his civil death entry was signed by sons Christian, 45, and Valentine, 21. He was a son of Valentin/Velten Nafziger who leased the Diefenbacherhof estate at Riedseltz (we should explain that in *Amish Mennonites in Germany* the Guths chose the name Valentin/Velten as a 'placeholder' for someone who has not been documented; see NAFZIGER). Peter and Magdalena farmed on the Fleckensteinerhof estate. Magdalena/Madeleine's civil death entry identified her as Madelaine Schanz, 61, the wife of Pierre Naffziger. The witness was stated to be son Pierre Naffziger, 45, a resident of the Fleckensteinerhof; but the signature looks like Valentin Nafziger. Their son Valentine Nafziger married his cousin, Jacobine/Jakobina Schantz (more to follow).
3. **Peter/Pierre Schantz** was born on the Frönsburgerhof estate circa 1747, and died at Niedersteinbach (on the northwest side of Lembach) March 14, 1793.
4. Christian Schantz was born circa 1750, and died at Rohrbach-les-Bitche, Moselle Jan. 3, 1817. He married Anna Rubi. She was born circa 1753, and died in 1816, a daughter of Pierre Ruby and Barbe Neuhauser. They are found living at Heiligenbronn (now a farm and forest in Enchenberg) on a 1794 census of Anabaptists in the district of Bitche, Moselle: Christian Schantz, 44; Anne Roubine, 45; Barbe Laub, 25; Joseph Schantz, 19; Madeleine, 14; Christian, 11; Valentin, 6; André, 3; and Eve Hagenstein, 24. Look at the list below and compare birth years with ages; it is obvious that Christian, Valentin, and André had underestimated ages. Their descendants made up the Lorraine branch of the Schantz family.
    a. Joseph Schantz was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen (now in Lower Alsace) Aug. 13, 1775, and died at Bitche, Moselle June 27, 1848. On Sept. 30, 1799 at Rohrbach-les-Bitche he married Catherine Risser. She was born on Janau farm at Rahling Feb. 13, 1778, a daughter of Joseph Risser and Anne Marie Kropf of Singling.
    b. Christian/Chrétien Schantz was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen in 1776, and died at Blies-Ébersing, Moselle July 3, 1840. On March 17, 1807 at Gros-Réderching, Moselle he married Marie Güngerich. She was born at Altroff (now Francaltroff, Moselle) in 1786, and died at Dehlingen, Lower Alsace Nov. 23, 1856, a daughter of Joseph Güngerich and Anne Rubi.
    c. Valentin Schantz was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen circa 1777, and died at the hamlet Singling within Gros-Réderching Sept. 8, 1827. On June 16, 1812 at Gros-Réderching he married Barbe Risser, of the Singling family (a double wedding). She was born at Singling Jan. 20, 1793, and died at Diedendorf, Lower Alsace June 30, 1872. On Oct. 20, 1828 at Gros-Réderching Barbe remarried to laborer and cultivator Joseph Roggy. He was born on the Waderhof estate in 1797, and died at Enchenberg, Moselle Sept. 30, 1840, a son of Jean Roggy and Catherine Birki.
    d. Madeleine Schantz was born on the Waderhof estate at Lorentzen in 1779, and died at Bettviller, Moselle Jan. 7, 1845. On March 30, 1799 at Rohrbach-les-Bitche she married Jean Riser. He was born on Janau farm at Rahling in 1771, a son of Jean Risser and Marie Schneider.
    e. Andreas/André Schantz was born at Rohrbach-les-Bitche in 1780, and died there Sept. 30, 1816. On June 16, 1812 at Gros-Réderching he married Marie Risser, of the Singling family (a double wedding). She was born at Singling in 1789.

■ Joseph Schantz/Joseph Johns may belong here. According to *History of Cambria County* (1907), he was born Nov. 8, 1749. Joseph and his sister Freny/Franey sailed from London on the *Nancy and Sucky*, and arrived at Philadelphia Sept. 1, 1769. In 1775 in Lancaster County he married Freny Holly. She was born at Bern, Berks County March 31, 1757, a daughter of Joseph's employer, Salisbury Township farmer Johannes Holly and Vérène Műller (also called Freny in Pennsylvania).[10] The Hollys had sailed from Rotterdam via Cowes on the *Brotherhood*, and arrived at Philadelphia Nov. 3, 1750. The *Brotherhood* passenger list shows 300 names including Andres Holly, Michel Holly, and Johannes Holly. Joseph and Freny relocated at Berlin, Somerset County. In 1793 they sold this property to Martin Myers, and on Sept. 13 paid 435 English pounds (equivalent to $8.50 per acre) to purchase 1,430 acres of forest. This may have been part of a prior arrangement; either Schantz taught surveying skills to Myers, or Myers to Schantz. Myers served as town surveyor at Berlin, though it is unclear when; Schantz later surveyed his own land. The next spring Joseph built a log cabin, and cleared 30 acres. He platted the remaining land and sold it in parcels,

[10] The Johannes Holly family *Bible* is now in the Ohio Amish Library at Millersburg.

calling it Conemaugh Old Town. By 1800 he had laid out streets and lots arranged for a village center. In 1804 the area became part of Cambria County, and on Nov. 4, 1800 Joseph had a charter approved for a village called Conemaugh. On April 14, 1834 a special act of the state legislature named it Johnstown in their honor. The place where their cabin stood is now the corner of Vine and Levergood Streets in the city of Johnstown.[11] On April 9, 1805 the Schantzes received a deed for 180 acres at what is now Davidsville, Cambria County. They paid 700 English pounds. Their headstones (erected by descendants long after their deaths) can be found in a private graveyard off Davidsville Road. They read, "Joseph Johns, died Jan. 18, 1810, aged 60 yrs. 2 mon. 10 d." and "Franey Johns, died Dec. 15, 1833, aged 76 y. 8 m. 18 d." However, according to *History of Cambria County* there is a deed dated April 9, 1812 that was signed by both. We found one source that says Joseph actually died Jan. 10, 1813. This seems plausible, because it is certain that Joseph died before March 8, 1813, when 'Franey Johns, the widow' signed a letter that declined the opportunity to administer his estate. The estate was settled Nov. 3, when the family properties passed to their oldest son.

- Freny or Franey Schantz may also belong here. She was born circa 1751, and died in Somerset County Sept. 23, 1833. She sailed with her older brother Hans/John on the *Sally*. Circa 1773 in Berks County she married Hans/John Christner. He is generally thought to have been born circa 1748, and died in Somerset County in 1808 or 1816. One source gives him the birthdate Nov. 8, 1848, but this may have been derived from the birthdate attributed to his brother-in-law Joseph Schantz: Nov. 8, 1849.[12] He sailed from Rotterdam via Cowes on the *Sally*, and arrived at Philadelphia Oct. 29, 1770; the passenger list shows Hans Christian. The Christners and Hollys migrated to Brothers Valley [Ger. *Brueders Thal*], Bedford County, Pennsylvania. On April 24, 1775 John Christner received a warrant for 100 acres there. He obtained the patent (full ownership) after making the final payment April 1, 1796; by then the land had been surveyed and found to be 192 acres. A 1779 tax lisst of Brothers Valley shows the household of John Christner with 100 acres, one horse, and two cattle. Parts of Bedford County later became Somerset County (1795) and Cambria County (1804). The community where they lived is now described as Brothersvalley, Somerset County. We could not identify the couple on either the 1800 or 1810 federal censuses of Brothers Valley; presumably they were living in the households of their children at Elk Lick. They may be buried in the Christner Farm Cemetery there.

5. Johannes Schantz was born before 1757. He married Magdalena Stutz. They are only known to us through the marriage entry of a daughter born circa 1777.
    a. Catharina Schanz was born on the Diefenbacherhof estate at Riedseltz, Lower Alsace circa 1777. On Jan. 31, 1803 at Reichshoffen she married Jacob/Jacques Jordi (also found as Jordÿ). See JORDY for background on this couple.
6. Katharina/Catherine Schantz was born between 1764 and 1771 (ages found on the birth entries of her children and her civil death entry vary considerably). Circa 1788 she married Johannes/Jean Habecker. He was born at Hofstätten circa 1767, a son of Johannes Habecker and Veronika Imhof. For background on their descendants who came to Tazewell and McLean Counties see HABECKER.

Peter/Pierre Schantz was born on the Frönsburgerhof estate at Lembach circa 1747, and died at Niedersteinbach (five miles northwest of Lembach) March 14, 1793.

He married Catherine Nafziger.

Their only child was:

1. Elisabetha Schantz was born circa 1779. A civil death entry created at Dambach (adjacent to Windstein) Feb. 15, 1812 noted the death of Elizabetha Schantz, 32, born at Fischbach (Fischbach bei Dahn, four miles north of Dambach and Windstein), and living on the Wineckerthal estate at Neuhoffen, Dambach. Her parents were described as day laborer Pierre Schantz and Catharina Netzuigen. The entry was witnessed by cultivator Pierre Kurtz, 40.

Circa 1782 Peter/Pierre remarried to Magdalena Wagler. She was born at Diemeringen or Rahling before 1755, a daughter of Jean Wagler and Anne Birki. They farmed on the Katzenthal estate at Lembach. In 1787 Peter/Pierre was ordained as a minister there, joining Hans Güngerich, and Peter Nafziger.

The civil marriage entry of their son Christian, created at Riedseltz in 1812, said that his mother Magdalena had died at Niedersteinbach June 1, 1794. No civil entry is found there.

Children of Peter/Pierre Schantz and his second wife Magdalena Wagler include:

2. Catherine Schantz was born on the Katzenthal estate at Lembach March 8, 1783; was baptized Jan. 25, 1804; and died in America Aug. 4, 1866. On March 28, 1804 at Puttelange-lès-Farschviller, Moselle she married Christian Nafziger. He was born at St. Avold March 29, 1771, and died on the Diessburgerhof at Eiffel, Luxembourg April 25,

[11] Johnstown is best known for the Johnstown Flood on May 31, 1889. A dam holding back Conemaugh Lake collapsed, and a 70-foot wave passed through the valley. Every structure was crushed or washed away, and 2,000 people died.

[12] According to the late J. Virgil Miller, Hans/John Christner may have been born at Windstein as early as 1732. But he offered no explanation beyond the names of a couple who may have lived in the area.

1849, a son of Johannes/Jean Nafziger and Catherine Schantz. They farmed on the Frönsburgerhof at Lembach, Lower Alsace. During the Napoleonic Wars Christian and Katharina relocated to live on the Mottenhof near Lebach in the Saar Region. The family fell into poverty, partly owing to the move. They later lived on the Reckeringhof near Grevenmacher, Luxembourg.[13] Christian died in Luxembourg April 25, 1849. Catherine emigrated in 1849. The couple had nine children; one is particularly relevant to other parts of this text. Joseph Nafziger was born on the Mottenhof estate near Lebach in the Saar region Aug. 11, 1807, and died at German, Fulton County, Ohio Jan. 16, 1889. He was a cousin to John Bachman, Barbe Schertz, and John Schertz. He and his wife Magdalena/Madeleine Weicz (this family is usually found in America as Wyse) sailed on the packet ship *Erie* in 1838 with Steckers and John Bachman (see NAFZIGER for more on Joseph Nafziger).

3. Jacobea/Jacobine Schantz was born Nov. 23, 1785, and died in Wayne County, Ohio Nov. 25, 1866. On June 10, 1808 at Lembach she married her cousin Valentine Nafziger. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by Pierre Naffziger, 45, cultivator at Fleckenstein (a son of Peter Nafziger and Magdalena/Madeleine Schantz, likely the groom's older brother and bride's cousin). Valentine was born on the Fleckensteinerhof estate June 10, 1782, and died in Wayne County March 10, 1857, a son of Peter Nafziger and Magdalena Schantz. We found six civil entries for children born on the Fleckensteinerhof between 1809 and 1826. In 1833 they emigrated from Europe and settled in Canaan Township, Wayne County. Valentine was naturalized in Wayne County in 1836; the entry gives his age as 54, and said that he had immigrated in 1831. They are buried in Mount Zion Church of Christ Cemetery at Smithville. *Herald of Truth*, December 1866: "On the 25th of November, in Wayne Co., Ohio, near Smithville, of dropsy, Jacobina Nafziger, aged 81 years and 2 days. She was buried on the 7th at Hof's Meeting-house. She was a faithful member of the Omish Church. She leaves seven children and forty-six grand-children. A funeral address was delivered by the writer from *Matt. 24:44* and by John Shumaker from *John 11:25-29*. Chr. K. Jotder."
4. **Christian/Chrétien Schantz** was born circa Oct. 2, 1788.

Christian/Chrétien Schantz. One document to support his marriage announcement said that he was born at Niedersteinbach Oct. 7, 1778, a son of Jean Pierre Schanz and Madeleine Wagler. However, this document created in 1812 may have served the purpose of inflating his age to avoid military conscription for the Napoleonic wars. Later entries are inconsistent, but do not support such an early birth, which may have been off by a decade. His obituary gives Oct. 2, 1788.

On Nov. 14, 1812 at Riedseltz he married Catherine Roggi. Their civil marriage entry described him as cultivator Chrétien Schanz, born at Niedersteinbach, Lower Alsace Oct. 7, 1778, and a resident there. His parents were the deceased cultivator Jean Pierre Schantz, who had died at Niedersteinbach March 14, 1793, and the deceased Madeleine Wagler, who had died there June 1, 1794 [already noted as erroneous]. The bride was Catherine Roggi, born at Riedseltz May 3, 1793, and a resident there. Her parents were cultivator Jean Roggi, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Elisabethe Eyer, who had also been a resident of Riedseltz. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Roggi, 51. Signatures looked like Christian Schantz, Catharina Roggÿ, Johannes Roggi, and Christen Roggÿ.

They departed from Le Havre on the *France*, and arrived at New York July 12, 1833.

THE *FRANCE* PASSENGER LIST

Page 2 lists Jacob Augspurger, 18, France. Farther down the page is a family that would be residents of Wayne County, Ohio: Christian Schantz, 46, France; Catharine [Roggi], 40; Magdelina, 19; Christian, 19; Christian, 16; Peter, 14; Peter, 14; Elizabeth, 11; Jacob, 8; and Barbara Summer [Sommer], 21.

On page 5 is a couple that would be residents of Spring Bay, Woodford County in 1850: Bendict Stucky, 25, France; Elizabeth [Elisabeth Liechti], 40; Peter [Pierre Kauffman, Elisabeth's nephew],10; and Joseph, 5 [a son from Elisabeth's first marriage to Pierre Kauffmann].

Farther down that page is a family that would be residents of Butler County, Ohio, and Elm Grove: carpenter Peter Ulrich, 30, France [actually Jacob Berse, who would later be known as Isaac Wagler]; Catharine [Catherine Ulrich, his wife and cousin], 33; and Peter, 2 [Peter Jacob Berse]. One line later Catherine's parents Peter Ulrich, 60, France, and Catharine Lowbers [Lauber], 55.

Within the year the Schantzes arrived in Wayne County, Ohio, where Christian's sister Jacobine was already settled. Christian was naturalized in Wayne County in 1836; the entry gives his age as 47.

Christian served as one of the first ministers at Smithville and Wooster. The 1850 census of Milton Township, Wayne County shows farmer Chriseon Shontz, 69, Germany; Catharine, 60, Germany; Jacop, 24, Ohio; Joseph, 15, Ohio; and Matty Gerrig, 23 [female].

[13] Sources that have this couple at Dahlem, Moselle may reflect confusion with Dalheim, a part of Grevenmacher, Luxembourg.

Christian ordained Jacob Yoder as a minister of the Wooster (later Oak Grove) congregation in 1848, then appointed Yoder as elder before he departed to live in Butler County in 1850. Yoder was a horse and mule trader who spent liberally. He ran up significant debts and declared bankruptcy. Eventually he was expelled from the congregation for misconduct and later joined the Church of the Brethren.

Christian and Catherine resettled at Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio. The 1860 census of Madison Township, Trenton post office, Butler County, shows farmer Jacob Augsberger, 43, France; Elizabeth [Schantz], 38, France; Chris, 9, France; Catharine Augsberger, 17, Ohio; Mary, 15, Ohio; Magdalena, 13, Ohio; Anna, 11, Ohio; Frances, 9, Ohio; George, 5, Ohio; Chris. Schantz, 72, France; Catharina, 66, France; and three farm hands.

Catherine died before 1870. The 1870 census of Madison Township, Jacksonborough post office, Butler County shows Joseph Shantz, 34, Ohio; Catharine, 27, Ohio; three children born in Ohio; and Christian Schantz, 85, France, 'living with son.'

The *Ohio Obituary Index* states that Christian Schantz died at Milton, Wayne County Oct. 22, 1879, age 93. *Herald of Truth*, January 1880: "Schantz - Oct. 22nd [1879] in Wayne County, Ohio, of the infirmities of age; the aged father, and bishop in the Amish church, Christian Schantz; at the advanced age of 91 years and 20 days. He was born in Alsace, France, Oct. 2nd, 1788; he immigrated to America in 1833, and settled in Wayne County. Funeral services were conducted by J.K. Yoder from *I Peter 1:22-25*."

Children of Christian/Chrétien Schantz and Catherine Roggi include:

1. Magdalena/Madeleine Schantz was born at Riedseltz Sept. 7, 1813. The civil birth entry listed her father's age as 32.
2. Jean Schantz was born at Riedseltz Oct. 29, 1815; his civil birth entry listed his father's age as 27. When Jean died at Riedseltz May 8, 1816, his death entry identified his parents as Dieffenbach laborer Chrétien Schantz, 27, and Catherine Roggi, 24. It was witnessed by maternal grandfather Jean Roggi, 62.
3. Christian/Chrétien Schantz was born at Riedseltz March 5, 1819, and died in Fulton County, Ohio May 14, 1907. The civil birth entry listed his father's age as 28. According to his obituary in the June 1907 issue of *Herald of Truth*, he first came to Wayne County in 1833. In 1837 he married Rebecca Grieser, and they had seven children together. They relocated from Wayne County to Fulton County in 1842. The 1850 census of German Township, Fulton County shows Christian Schantz, 33, Germany; Rebecca, 32, Pennsylvania; and six children born in Ohio. Rebecca died Nov. 26, 1851. On Nov. 5, 1852 in Wayne County he remarried to Mary Gingerich. She was born near Smithville, Wayne County Aug. 18, 1827, and died at Trenton, Butler County, Ohio in the home of a daughter Jan. 25, 1913 or 1917. They had eight children together. The 1870 census of German Township, Fulton County, Ohio shows farmer Christian Schantz, 53, France; Mary, 43, Ohio; and six children born in Ohio. In 1870 the assembly of ministers [Ger. *Diener Versammlung*] was held on their farm, two miles from Archbold. The 1900 census of German Township shows Christian Schantz born in Germany in March 1817, immigrated in 1833; Mary, born in Ohio to German parents in August 1827; and two grown children born in Ohio. They are buried in Eckley Cemetery in Fulton County.
4. Peter/Pierre Schantz was born at Riedseltz Sept. 5, 1819, and died at Grove Township, Davis County, Iowa Aug. 21, 1884. The civil birth entry listed his father's age as 31. He married Anna Roth. She died in Lee County of lung disease Nov. 22, 1882. Her obituary in the January 1883 issue of *Herald of Truth* said she was age 67 years, 5 months, 19 days (yielding an approximate birth date of June 3, 1815), and had come to America at the age of 11 (circa 1826). They relocated from Ohio to Iowa in 1846. The 1860 census of Pleasant Ridge Township, Lee County shows them as farmer Peter Schantz, 40, France; Anne, 40, France; and four children born in Iowa. The 1870 census of Pleasant Ridge Township shows them as farmer Peter Schantz, 50, France; Anna, 49, France; and five children born in Iowa. *The History of Lee County* (1879) lists farmer Peter Shantz in Section 26, Post Office Denmark, Pleasant Ridge Township. On March 26, 1885 Peter remarried to widow Sara Miller Rees at Stiles, Davis County, Iowa. The application described the groom as a son of Christian Schantz and Marian Rougy, and the bride as a daughter of John Miller and Magdalena King. As a minister Peter led his congregations into the Central Conference Mennonite Church. *Herald of Truth*, September 1885: "On the 21st of August, in Davis County, Iowa, after a protracted illness of dropsy of the heart, Preacher Peter Schantz, aged 65 years and 11 months. Funeral services were held at the house on the same day, from *Rev. 14:13*, which text he himself had selected several days before he died. He died in a good hope and with a heart filled with joy. In accordance with his previously expressed wish, he was buried in Lee County, where had lived during the greater part of his life." Peter Schantz and Anna Roth are buried in Denmark, Lee County.
5. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Schantz was born at Riedseltz July 18, 1821. The civil birth entry listed her father's age as 29. She married Jacob Augspurger, a son of Christian Augspurger and Katharina Hauter. He was born at Strasbourg Feb. 4, 1817. They appear on the 1880 census of Madison Township, Butler County as farmer Jacob Augspurger, 63; Elizabeth, 58, France; with three grown children born in Ohio.
6. Jacob/Jacques Schantz was born at Riedselz Sept. 2, 1825, and died at Milton Township, Wayne County Aug. 16, 1898. His civil birth entry listed his father's age as 38. In Wayne County in 1858 he married Elizabeth Blough. She was born in Wayne County Aug. 5, 1834, and died there March 20, 1899, a daughter of Peter Blough and his first wife Leah Yoder (Peter Blough later remarried to Magdalena Nafziger, a daughter of Valentine Nafziger and

Jacobine/Jakobina Schantz). A census of young men taken in June 1863 shows farmer Jacob Shantz, 37, France, as a resident of Milton. 'J. Schantz' is found on the *1897 Atlas of Wayne County* as the owner of 240 acres in Milton Sections 27 and 28.

7. Joseph Schantz was born in Ohio Aug. 6, 1835, and died at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio in April 1931. On Sept. 9, 1862 at Trenton, Butler County he married Catherine Augspurger. She was born Dec. 1, 1843, and died Feb. 3, 1883, a daughter of Jean Augspurger and Jacobine Holly, and a granddaughter to Christian Augspurger and Katharina Hauter. The ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger; it is listed in Grubb's *History of the Amish Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* as 'Joseph Shanes and Katie Augspurger.' They are found on the 1880 census of Madison Township, Butler County as farmer Josep Shantz, 44, France; Catharine, 36, France; and seven children born in Ohio. The 1900 census of Trenton Village, Madison Township shows Joseph Schatz, 65, born in Ohio in August 1834; and Maria, 41, born in Germany in May 1859 (she immigrated in 1870). .Joseph was buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Trenton. His death entry said that he was a son of Christian Schantz and Katherine Rochey [Roggi], and the husband of Catherine Augspurger.

Descendants of Peter Schantz born circa 1725

While Michel Schantz remained in the area of the Frönsburgerhof estate, another Schantz who may have been his brother or cousin moved north.

Peter Schantz was born circa 1725, and died on the Henriettenthalerhof at Wörsdorf above Idstein Sept. 6, 1801. His first wife was Magdalena Ullman. His second wife was Veronika, born circa 1727; her surname could not be determined.

Recalling UNZICKER:

> Nassau-Weilburg was a princely domain far north of Alsace. One reached it by traveling north (downstream) on the Rhine River, beyond the Upper and Lower Pfalz on the west bank and Hesse-Darmstadt on the east.
>
> In 1775 the chancellor for Prince Carl Christian of Nassau-Weilburg visited a royal property, the Münsterhof estate at Dreisen in the Pfalz. It was leased by Amish Mennonites. The chancellor was so impressed by their progressive methods that he commissioned farm manager David Holly to find families willing to come to Nassau-Weilburg. His proposal offered generous 12-year leases on princely estates, on the condition that the leasers cultivate underdeveloped acreage and share their knowledge with neighboring landowners.
>
> Four family heads accepted the arrangement: Peter Unzicker of Wörth, Johannes Nafziger of Alsace, **Peter Schantz** of Alsace, and Peter Schwarzentruber/Schwarzentraub/Schwartztaub. Peter Unzicker brought several brothers who also claimed properties. According to Guth, Holly received a 200 gulden reward from the chancellor.

In 1775 Peter and Veronika accepted David Holly's offer of a lease on the *Hofgut* Merenberger at Merenberg, four miles above Weilburg. Two nearby locations were associated with Amish Mennonite Unzicker families: Gräveneck, four miles south of Weilburg, and later Heckolshauzen, adjacent to Merenberg.

Nassau-Weilburg was represented at the Essingen assembly of ministers in 1779 by Peter Schantz and Johannes Nafziger. In 1780 Peter Schantz, Hans Naffziger, and Peter Unsicker were noted to be ministers from Nassau-Weilburg on the Dutch *Naamlijst*. In 1781 Peter Schantz was among ministers placing his signature on a minister's manual made up from the letters of influential minister Johannes/Hans Nafziger of Essingen.

Their 12-year lease on *Hofgut* Merenberger expired in 1787. Then Peter and Veronika relocated to live with their son Caspar. Caspar had leased the Henriettenthalerhof at Wörsdorf above Idstein. Idstein is 20 miles south of Merenberg; it was the center of a thriving leather trade from the late 18th century to the mid-20th.[14]

Children of Peter Schantz and his second wife Veronika include:

2. Magdalena Schantz was born at Lembach May 4, 1758. She married Peter Nafziger. He was born on the Ludwigsburgerhof estate at Seelbach, Nassau-Weilburg circa 1748, and died there Nov. 13, 1813. His first wife had been Katharina Nafziger; they had nine children together.
3. Peter Schantz was born at Lembach circa 1762, and died on the Rotherhof at Dierdorf (10 miles north of Koblenz) Jan. 22, 1830. He married Elise Unzicker. She was born circa 1762, a daughter of Peter Unzicker of Gräveneck and Katharina Holly of Mühlhofen. Their son Peter Schantz was born on the Henriettenthalerhof Feb. 24, 1797, and died on the *Hofgut* Langwiesen at Montabaur (20 miles west of Weilburg) Feb. 11, 1835. He married Elizabeth 'Barbara' Unzicker. She was born in 1800, and died on the Eichelscheiderhof near Waldmohr in the Pfalz April 6, 1873. On May 16, 1840 she remarried to Christian Heinemann. He was born at Gommerscheid, a neighborhood of Neuwied in 1805, and died on the Krayerhof at Andernach (next to Neuwied) in 1863, a son of Georg Heinemann and Christine Schlabach (this couple leased an estate in Gommerscheid at Neuweid on the north side of the Rhine

[14] Idstein was part of Nassau-Usingen from 1728 to 1806, then became part of the Duchy of Nassau. The Duchy of Nassau later became the middle portion of three parts of the state of Hesse.

River, then the Krayerhof at Andernach on the opposite side). The Heinemann family from the estate Langenau near Siegen became Mennonite through a marriage in 1771.

4. **Caspar Schantz** was born at Lembach circa 1768, and died on the Henriettenthalerhof Dec. 24, 1813.

Caspar Schantz was born at Lembach circa 1768, and died on the Henriettenthalerhof Dec. 24, 1813. His first wife was Magdalena/Madeleine Unzicker. His second wife was Elisabeth Unzicker. She was born circa 1780, and died in 1813, a daughter of Joseph Unzicker and Katharina Güngerich.

In 1807 at Trippstadt in the Pfalz, Jakob Unzicker of Grävenеck married Elizabeth Jordy of Wilenstein. They would become the parents of Morton settler Peter Unzicker. Three witnesses were described as uncle-of-the-bride farmer Christian Imhof, 50, living at Wilenstein; farmer Jean Imhof, 46, living at Wilenstein; and farmer 'Gaspard Schantz,' 39, living on the Wachenhof estate at Idstein.

Children of Caspar Schantz and his first wife Magdalena/Madeleine Unzicker include:

a. Caspar Schantz was born circa 1783. He married Maria Güngerich. She was born at Hunighausen, Waldeck Oct. 19, 1788, a daughter of Peter Güngerich and Katharina Algeyer. Their son Caspar/Kasper Schantz was born circa 1804. Circa 1822 he married Elisabeth Stähly. She was born on the Obertraisa estate in 1810, a daughter of Jakob Stähly and his second wife Elizabeth Brenneman (Jakob Stähly can be recalled from NAFZIGER as a step-grandfather to 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger). They lived at Lörzenbach in the Odenwald of Hesse-Darmstadt, 60 miles southeast of Idstein. After the early death of Caspar, his widow Elisabeth Stähly remarried to Daniel Unzicker of the Stoffersbergerhof estate near Landsberg am Lech.

b. Barbara Schantz was born circa 1784, and died on the Henriettenthalerhof in 1813. She married Johannes Nafziger. He was born on the Ludwigsburgerhof at Seelbach, Nassau-Weilburg June 24, 1781, and died on the Horderhof at Blessenbach Jan. 9, 1825, a son of Valentine Nafziger and Elisabeth Nafziger. [15]

c. **Christian Schantz** was born circa 1790.

d. Valentine Schantz was born circa 1790.

Christian Schantz was born circa 1790. Schantz family notes suggest that he was the likely father of an Illinois settler born circa 1822. (Presumably Christian wins an elimination process: the children of Peter born in 1762 and Caspar born circa 1783 are documented, and Valentine born circa 1790 is thought to have died unmarried. However, genealogy assumptions like this are often wrong, when there are so many unknowns).

Jacob Schantz and Catherine Deissen sailed from Bremen on the *Oneco* Aug. 24, 1848, arriving at New Orleans Oct. 24, 1848.[16] The passenger list shows Jacob Schantz, 23; then one name removed, Catherine Deis, 26. (The 1860 census would reflect an exact match to these ages; thus Jacob was born circa 1825, Catherine circa 1822). *The Daily Picayune* reported the arrival in its Oct. 25 issue, noting that the 147-foot ship carried 235 passengers in steerage.

The couple came into New Orleans at the peak of a cholera epidemic. See STEIDER for the story of a not-so-fortunate family that arrived in New Orleans only a month later, and background on the journey up the Mississippi River.

Details of the Schantzes' lives can be gleaned from an inaccurate rags-to-riches sketch of their well-known son, minister Peter Schantz. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church*: "...Jacob and Catherine Deissen Schantz came from Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany to America on their wedding trip. Jacob Schantz was born about 1822, Catherine Deissen 1824. They came to America in about the year 1847, and settled on a farm near Congerville."

The Schantz family is found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Jacob Chaunce, 31, Germany; Catharine, 28, Germany; and Barbara, 1, Illinois. They lived next door to Michael Kinsinger and Magdalena Naffziger in what is now Congerville, Montgomery Township.

On Oct. 9, 1854 the Schantzes put in a formal claim on their land. The *Illinois Public Land Database* shows that 'Jacob Shantz' registered 40 acres in SESW Section 22 of Montgomery Township. The land was free because it was categorized 'RR' - in this case not 'railroad,' but 'Rock River.' The Rock Creek cut the lot evenly in half, running north to south. Their neighbors to the north were minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger and Barbara Beck; their

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[15] A real estate document written by Count von Weid of Runkel says that when Johannes assumed the least on the Horderhof near Blessenbach in 1833, "...Co-leaseholders had an interst in the estate, namely the widow of the teacher Menk of Salzburg, jurisdiction of Rennerod; Johannes Unzicker, born on the estate Henriettental, jurisdiction of Idstein, and his wife, Barbara Nafziger; Caspar Schantz, estate owner of Lörzenbach, Duchy of Hesse; and Valentine Nafziger, leaseholder of the Schmiedhof [Schmitthof] near Kraft-Solms." Blessenbach is is adjacent to Aumenau, eight miles south of Weilburg.

[16] Oneco was a character in Catherine Maria Sedgwick's romantic fiction *Hope Leslie, or Early Times in the Massachusetts* (1827).

neighbors to the east were Magdalena Naffziger (daughter of Peter and Barbara) and her husband minister Michael Kinsinger.

The 1860 census of Montgomery shows farmer Jacob Gants, 35, Hesse; Catherine, 38, Hesse; Barbara, 11, Illinois; Peter, 7 , Illinois; Jacob, 4, Illinois; and an illegible name [Elizabeth], eight months, Illinois.

History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church: "They lived in an old log cabin with two rooms until December 1863, when they built a new house." Jacob died that spring, in April 1864. Catherine died there in September 1866.

The *1873 Atlas of Woodford County* shows that the land that had belonged to the Schantzes passed into the hands of Valentine Strubhar. Strubhar also owned 160 acres below it.

Children of Jacob Schantz and Catherine Deissen born at Congerville, Montgomery Township include:

1. Barbara Schantz was born Aug. 25, 1849, and died at Gridley, McLean County Jan. 15, 1924. On Dec. 20, 1866 in McLean County she married minister Étienne/Stephen Stahley. He was born at Combe, Canton Neuchâtel, Switzerland March 30, 1842, and died at Danvers Feb. 26, 1916, a son of Christian Stähli and Helena Ramseyer. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Helvetia*, arriving at New York May 10, 1861. He served as a minister for the Flanagan Mennonite Church from 1885 until his death. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.
2. **Peter Schantz** was born April 14, 1853, and died at Normal, McLean County July 24, 1925.
3. Jacob Schantz was born April 1, 1856, and died at Pekin Jan. 28, 1836. On Dec. 24, 1879 he married Anna Lorenz. She was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio Dec. 17, 1861, and died at Bloomington, McLean County April 12, 1929, a daughter of Charles F. Lorenz and Sophie Ernestine Roeder. Jacob is found as a widower on the 1930 census of Bloomington. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.
4. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Schantz was born Sept. 10, 1859, and died at Bloomington Feb. 26, 1940. On Dec. 21, 1876 in McLean County she married George Sherman. He was born at St. Louis, Missouri Feb. 29, 1852, and died March 20, 1910, a son of Adam Sherman and Magdalena Basha. They are buried in Troyer Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.
5. Louis Schantz was born Jan. 20, 1863, and died at Washington April 23, 1924. On Jan. 29, 1885 in Tazewell County he married Fannie Schick; the ceremony was performed by Peter Stuckey. She was born at Washington Jan. 18, 1864, and died Dec. 21, 1943, a daughter of Joseph Schick and Magdalene Augspurger. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.

History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church on **Peter Schantz**: "...In April 1864 Rev. Schantz's father died, and in September 1866 his mother, leaving him an orphan at the age of twelve. He was thrown upon his own resources to make his way in the life, because he was the second child in the family and so did not receive help from brothers and sisters."[17] "His school advantages were very near nil, getting only a few months of school each year. After the death of his mother he was taken into the home of Rev. Christian Imhoff until he was twenty." (For more on Christian Imhoff Jr. see STRUBHAR).

Peter was baptized by minister Joseph Stuckey in 1872, and became a member of the North Danvers Mennonite Church. On Dec. 23, 1875 in McLean County he married Anna 'Annie' Kinsinger, in a ceremony performed by minister Stuckey. She was born at Congerville March 1, 1854 (her headstone says March 3), a daughter of minister Michael Kinsinger and Magdalena Naffziger.

*History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church: "*After his marriage he moved on the farm of his father-in-law and lived there until 1877 when he bought the farm." "The outstanding leader of the Central Conference Mennonite Church for a quarter of a century (1896-1921) was Rev. Peter Schantz..." "...In 1882 Peter Schantz was called to the ministry in the North Danvers Church and was ordained by Bishop [elder] Joseph Stuckey. Up to this time the North Danvers Church had quite a few older men as ministers such as Rev. John Strubhar, Rev. Joseph Stuckey, Rev. John Stahley, Rev. Christian Imhoff, Rev. Joseph Stalter, Rev. Michael Miller, and Rev. Jacob Miller. By 1882 the following had died: Rev. Michael Miller, and Rev. Christian Imhoff. The rest of the ministers were getting very old, so Rev. Stuckey felt he needed younger men in the ministry. He appealed to the congregation and they elected two young men, Joash Stutzman and Peter Schantz..."

"In 1900 he was ordained as a bishop and thus had to deal more with the official matters of the church. In the later years of his ministry he devoted a great part of his time to extension work." "In the winter of 1892 he moved to the White Oak district. There he lived on a farm until August 15, 1910, when he moved to Normal, Illinois. He died at Normal at the home of his son, July 24, 1925."

Annie died at Normal June 8, 1906. Though her name and dates are inscribed on a joint headstone in Troyer Cemetery, where Peter is buried, she is actually buried in East White Oak Cemetery.

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[17] Widow Catherine Deissen Schantz may have remarried in McLean County Jan. 5, 1865. An entry for Catharine Schantz and Charles Wagner is found in the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index*.

Dettweiler of Zofingen

In Bernese dialect a *Dätwyler* was someone who lived in a *Dättwil* or soldier's encampment. *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname include Oftringen and Vordemwald in Canton Aargau, once part of Canton Bern.

Jakob Detweiler was the progenitor of the Dettweiler family. Some sources say he was born in the medieval walled city of Zofingen (in a part of Canton Bern that became Canton Aargau) July 9, 1693. Others are reluctant to specify this birth because there were several Jakob Detweilers born in the area.

It is thought that his wife was named Maria. They obtained a lease on the Steinisch estate near Langensteinbach in Baden-Durlach in 1728. His co-leaseholder was Benedikt Eyer [Sr.]. Eyer became a representative of the Baden-Durlach congregations at the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759

Jakob died on the Storrwoog estate near Pirmasens in the Pfalz Sept. 26, 1763. Pirmasens was situated in an 'enclave' or island of land belonging to Darmstadt.

1. **Jakob Dettweiler** was born circa 1723.
2. **Joseph Dettweiler** was born circa 1725.

JAKOB DETTWEILER

This is the story of a Peoria family with an Amish Mennonite background. It involves Woodford County by taking in Barbe/Barbara Dettweiler (1814-1874), who became the wife of John Engel of Metamora; and Magdalena Bachman (1826-1881), who was living at Roanoke at the time of her marriage. And it gives us a chance to tell the story of Henry Detweiller, who took a wife from Woodford County. He rose from a shop assistant to become a riverboat captain and Civil War celebrity. His rags-to-riches adventures made him a hero to German-speaking boys in Central Illinois.

Jakob Dettweiler was born circa 1723. He married Maria Dettweiler. They leased the Haseneck estate near Pirmasens in 1750, and were living on the Ransbrunnerhof estate at Eppenbrunn in the Pfalz in 1771. Eppenbrunn is two miles above the border with what is now the French department of Moselle.

In 1779 Jakob purchased the Stuppacherhof estate at Hornbach for 3,000 *Gulden*. Hornbach was located about six miles south of the city of Zweibrücken, on the border of Pfalz-Zweibrücken with Moselle, just north of Volmunster, Moselle.

In the same year Jakob attended the assembly of ministers at Essingen, representing the Zweibrücken congregation with Jakob Bachmann and Andreas Leyenberger. He became elder of the Zweibrücken Amish Mennonite congregation.

On Sept. 9, 1780 Jakob acted on behalf of Essingen minister Johannes/Hans Nafziger, who was involved in a dispute in the Principality of Speyer. Jakob sent a document endorsing Nafziger's good character to the ministry of the Pfalz. The ministry forwarded the endorsement with a notation describing Jakob as, "One of the most prominent Anabaptists in this region, without whom his fellow believers would undertake nothing of consequence."

Jakob died in the forester's house near Kork, Baden, the home of his son Josef June 1, 1784. [18]

Despite the apparent prosperity of the family, it was headed toward financial ruin. Jakob may have believed that others were going to join him on the Stuppacherhof estate. Over several years he spent more than five times the value of the estate to remove old structures and construct new buildings. It is also possible that loans were made to friends and relatives in Alsace, where the economy was shaky. By 1787 the family was bankrupt and the Stuppacherhof estate was sold at auction.

Jakob and Maria had nine children. We believe that only two of their children had descendants who came to Tazewell County.

One was a daughter whose first name could not be identified. She married Daniel Eyer of Remchingen, Baden. They were the parents of Anna Maria Eyer, who married Andreas Zimmerman; in turn, they were the parents of sons Michael and Andreas/Andrew and a daughter Verena who came to Central Illinois via Butler County, Ohio (see ZIMMERMAN).

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[18] When son Christian/Chrétien died at Dehlingen in 1831, the municipal clerk apparently misunderstood the form for a civil death entry. Rather than write the dates of the deaths of his parents, he wrote their ages at death. Father Jakob had died at age 61, and mother Maria at age 32. Thus, also knowing Jakob's date of death, we have a good idea when Jakob was born.

The other was a son **Christian/Chrétien Dettweiler**. He was born at Hornbach May 6, 1761, and died at Dehlingen, Lower Alsace Feb. 10, 1831. He is thought to have married a Burki before remarrying to Anna/Anne Wagler. Anna/Anne was born at Diemeringen circa 1768, and died there Sept. 11, 1810, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Wagler and Anna Bürki/Birki. Christian/ Chrétien and Anna/Anne settled on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen, Lower Alsace at about the same time the Stuppacherhof estate was auctioned.

Children of Christian/Chrétien Dettweiler and his second wife Anna/Anne Wagler born at Diemeringen include:

1. Jacob/Jacques Dettweiler was born Nov. 15, 1787, and died at Diemeringen Feb. 2, 1824. On June 8, 1813 at Pisdorf (now Bischtroff-sur-Sarre, five miles southwest of Diemeringen) he married Madeleine Sommer. She was born at Pisdorf Feb. 14, 1795, and died on the Lutterbacherhof estate at Voellerdingen May 14, 1859, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Anne Madeleine Mardy [Martin]. On Dec. 20, 1824 at Diemeringen she remarried to cultivator Valentin Rogÿ. He was born at Lorentzen Jan. 10, 1795, a son of Valentin Roggy and Barbara Schertz civil marriage entry described them both as residents of the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen. Witnesses included Christian Dettweiler, 65, of Dehlingen; and Joseph Rogÿ, 25, of Lorentzen.
2. Magdalena/Madeleine Dettweiler was born Aug. 5, 1789, and died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio Sept. 19, 1871; she is buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Smithville. On Nov. 10, 1808 at Diemeringen she married Andreas Bürki/André Bircky. He was born on the Neumatte estate at Diemeringen Nov. 25, 1784, and died there April 30, 1826, a son of Valentin Bürki/Birki and Katharina Ehrismann. As a widow she came to America with her children. See BIRKEY for a list of her children and further details.
3. Jean Christian Dettweiler/John Detweiler was born Jan. 12, 1791, and died at St. Louis in 1842. He married Madeleine Schertz. She was born at Oberstinzel, Moselle July 16, 1800, and died at Dehlingen April 5, 1822, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Barbe Schertz. On June 14, 1824 at Dehlingen he remarried to Anna Halther. She was born at Hinsbourg, Lower Alsace March 25, 1786. 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 (for details of the voyage see KENNEL). The passenger list shows John Detweiller, 36, France; Anna, 38; and Joseph, 2. They arrived at Peoria in 1833, where they operated the St. Croix Tavern on Water Street. 'John Detweiller' was naturalized in Peoria County Aug. 3, 1839.
4. Catherine Dettweiler was born April 16, 1792, and died in the city of Zweibrücken in 1814. On May 12, 1812 at Diemeringen she married miller Christian/Chrétien Hauter. He was born in the city of Zweibrücken Nov. 30, 1788, and died there June 5, 1829, a son of miller Joseph Hauter and Magdalena/Madeleine Schertz. In 1814 he remarried to Catherine Güngerich. She was born on the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen in 1797, a daughter of Michel Güngerich and Barbe Hauter. Two sons from this second marriage, Jacob and Joseph, came to Tazewell County. See HAUTER for background on this family.
5. Anne/Anna Dettweiler was born Feb. 17, 1798, and died at Ixheim in 1826. On April 22, 1823 at Dehlingen she married Joseph Hauter. He was born at Ixheim Dec. 2, 1799, and died at Zweibrücken Feb. 12, 1858, a son of Andreas Hauter and Katharina Imhof.
6. Christian Dettweiler was born April 26, 1802, and died at Peoria in 1863. On Nov. 29, 1829 at Dehlingen he married Catherine Schwartz/Katharina Schwarz. She was born at Blies-Ébersing (within Moselle, on the border with the Saarland) Sept. 23, 1800, and died at Peoria in 1888, a daughter of Nicolas Schwarz/Schwartz and Marie Bertschi/Bertschy. They may be the family that sailed from Le Havre on the *Sydney*, and arrived at New Orleans Nov. 11, 1840, despite discrepancies on the passenger list. It shows farmer Christian Dettwill, 30; Catherine, 30; Christin, 12; Anna, 9; André, 5; and Christian, 3. They are found on the 1860 census of Peoria as Christian Detwiler, 60, France; Kathrin, 59, France; Ann, 28, Illinois; and John, 8, Illinois. The 1880 census of Peoria shows Catharina Detwiller, 79, as the mother-in-law in the household of 45-year-old Magdalena Detwiller. They are buried in Springdale Cemetery at Peoria as 'Detweiller.'

On Sept. 3, 1811 at Diemeringen Christian/Chrétien Dettweiler remarried to Katharina/Catherine Schertz. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as merchant-trader [Fr. *négociant*] Chrétien Dettweiler, 50, a widower with children, born at Hornbach May 6, 1761, a son of merchant-trader Jacques Dettweiler and Marie Dettweiler. The bride was described as Catherine Scherz, 29, born at Keskastel, Lower Alsace March 15, 1782, a daughter of miller Joseph Scherz and Barbe Nafziger. It was witnessed by cultivator Jean Barcky, 25, of Lorentzen. Signatures on the document included Christian Detweiller, Joseph Schertz, and Johannes Birkÿ.

Their son Jean Christian and his second wife Anna Halther sailed to America on the *De Rham* in 1830 (see KENNEL for an account of the voyage). If the remainder of the family intended to follow, their plans may have been disrupted by the death of the father only a few months later.

Though he did not emigrate from Europe, father Christian/Chrétien was described in *The History of Peoria County, Illinois:* "Mr. Detweiler, Sr., was engaged in farming and milling, and also the transfer business, in which he amassed quite a large fortune, but meeting with reverses during the war of 1812 and 1813, from which he never recovered, he died in 1832, in straightened circumstances." Actually he lost his fortune and died a debtor at

Dehlingen, Lower Alsace (four miles north of Diemeringen) Feb. 10, 1831. His civil death entry created Feb. 11 described him as a 72-year-old shopkeeper [Fr. *proprietaire*] from Deuxpont, Bavière [Zweibrücken, Bavaria] living on the Klappach estate at Dehlingen.

Children of Christian/Chrétien Dettweiler and his third wife Katharina/Catherine Schertz include:

7. Elisabeth Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen Oct. 3, 1812, and died at Peoria in March 1838.
8. Barbe/Barbara Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen March 26, 1814, and died at Metamora June 10, 1874. On July 16, 1839 in Tazewell County (the part that later became Woodford County) she married Jean/John Engel. Their ceremony was performed by minister John Nafziger. Jean/John was born May 22, 1801, possibly at Lagarde, a son of Christian Engel and his second wife Barbe Brunner.
9. Catherine Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen, Lower Alsace Dec. 23, 1815, and died at McDonald Township, Missouri Aug. 27, 1871. On April 23, 1839 in Tazewell County she married Jean/John Vercler; the ceremony was performed by minister John Nafziger. Jean/John was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle June 24, 1813, and died at McDonald Township, Missouri Aug. 22, 1891, a son of Joseph Vercler/Verkler and Jacobine Engel. See VERCLER for background on this couple.
10. Joseph Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen May 28, 1817, and died there Aug. 21, 1817.
11. Joseph Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen May 23, 1818, and died at Dehlingen July 25, 1824.
12. Henri Dettweiler was born at Diemeringen Oct. 2, 1820, and died there Oct. 13, 1820.
13. A stillborn child was born at Deimeringen Jan. 4, 1822.
14. **Henri Dettweiler or Henry Detweiller** was born at Dehlingen, Lower Alsace July 19, 1824, and died at Peoria April 2, 1903.

It is suspected that Catherine and her children Elisabeth, Barbe/Barbara, Catherine, and Henry sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Poland*. The presence of one Amish Mennonite bound for Butler County makes it only slightly more likely that other Amish Mennonites bound for Illinois were among the illegible names. However, it is reasonable to leave open the possibility.

THE PACKET SHIP *POLAND*

The *Poland* departed from Le Havre, arriving at New York July 26, 1837. Recall from KENNEL that the voyage was unusual: "Secretary of the Treasury Levi Woodbury endorsed the reliability of the packet ships when he chose them to transport the interest on a debt from the government of France to the government of the United States in 1837 and 1838. Gold bars and gold 20-franc pieces from the firm *Messrs. de Rothschild, Freres* were delivered to the Bank of America at New York by the *Poland*, *Albany*, *Utica*, *Havre*, *Sully,* and *Burgundy.* Their six shipments totaled $800,599. The modern equivalent in buying power would be approximately 21 million dollars; however, it has been calculated that the impact of a total loss at sea on the national economy in 1838 would have been equivalent to the loss of three billion dollars today."

The ship carried approximately 180 passengers and crew. However, much of the passenger list faded before it could be microfilmed by the National Archives. Only 18 or so names are legible on the seven-page reproduction.

One name that is visible is that of Johannes Kennel, 21. He was coming from Dreisen, Germany. He was bound for Butler County, Ohio, where he would spend the remainder of his life as 'Big John' Kennel (see KENNEL).

In this time frame widow Catherine Schertz Dettweiler and her four children are known to have immigrated with Michel Bältzli/Michael Belsley (1783-1848) and his wife, who was also named Catherine Schertz (circa 1793-1864).

History of Peoria County, Illinois (1880): "In the spring of 1837, Mr. D. [Henri Dettweiler/Henry Detweiller, then 12 years of age] traveled to the United States with his mother and three sisters, landing at New York after a voyage of sixty-eight days on the ocean. Through the instigation of an older brother, John, who had located in Peoria three years previously, only they came on to this city, consuming forty-two days on the route." *Peoria City and County, Illinois, Volume Two* (1912) also describes a 110-day journey, adding, "They traveled from New York to Rochester and thence to Buffalo by canal, from there by way of the lakes to Cleveland, and then to Cincinnati by canal. From there they went by boat down the Ohio River to the Mississippi and then up the Illinois to Peoria."

If the accounts of a lengthy 68-day voyage are strictly accurate, the party could not have sailed on the packet ship *Poland.* Its final records indicated that in seven years of making the transits it had averaged 35 days each way.[19] The shortest crossing was 23 days, the longest 61.

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[19] The packet ship *Poland* sailed to Le Havre and next returned to New York Oct. 20, 1837 - about 86 days for the remainder of the stay in New York, the transatlantic voyage, time in port at Le Havre, and the return voyage.

Other immigrants who sailed from Le Havre to New York on this ship included Jacob Schoenbeck of Butler and McLean Counties (1838, see STAKER); Johannes/Jean Springer/John Spring of Tazewell County (1839, see SPRINGER); and Michael Zimmerman and his second wife Magdalena Erb of Butler County and Tazewell County (1839, see ZIMMERMAN).

The *Poland* departed from New York on its last voyage May 11, 1840. On the 16th its main mast was struck by lightning 25 miles south of Nantucket. The embers ignited bales of raw cotton and flour sacks in the hold. The passengers and crew were evacuated into lifeboats that remained tethered to the hull. Though the cargo burned slowly, it melted the tar and caulking that

However, in both accounts the story of a 110-day journey fails to account for 2-4 weeks travel from the Dettweiler's starting point in Moselle or Lower Alsace to the port of Le Havre. It is also possible that Henry had counted the days 'on the ocean' from the point when his family arrived at the port and boarded the vessel for the first time. The packet ships permitted fare-paying passengers to live onboard prior to their scheduled departure times.

Other Illinois immigrants who sailed in this time frame were Jean George Engel/John Engel (1788-1871) and Magdalena/Madeleine Frey (circa 1786-1864), described in ENGEL. Did the Engels accompany the Dettweilers and Belsleys? Engel and Belsley were both born at St. Jean-Kourtzerode, Moselle, and had belonged to the same congregation. Note the identical route described in *Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County:* "John Engel [Jean George Engel], was born in the same place [as his daughter Catherine], and was reared and married and lived there until 1837. In that year he came to America with his wife and three [two] children, setting sail from Havre, and landing in New York after a voyage of six weeks. He came directly to Illinois by the way of the Hudson River, Albany and Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by Lake Erie to Cleveland, and from there on the canal to Cincinnati, and from there to his destination by the way of the Ohio, Mississippi, and Illinois rivers. After his arrival at Peoria, he set out for this county and bought a tract of government land in Worth Township, and built a log house with home-made furniture."

Another immigrant from St. Jean-Kourtzerode who arrived in Illinois in this time frame was Catherine Bechler (1805-1860), a daughter of Jacob Bächler/Bechler and his second wife Anne Marie Gerber. On May 27, 1838 in Tazewell County she married Christian Schmitt/Smith; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Engel. See SMITH, THE SMITHS OF ZIMMING for background on this couple.

Minister Jean/John Nafziger and his family from Bourscheid (adjacent to St. Jean-Kourtzerode) followed. They sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Marengo*, arriving at New Orleans Nov. 25, 1837. See NAFZIGER, THE NAFZIGERS OF WASHINGTON for background on this family.

The Dettweilers reunited with Jean Christian Dettweiler (now just 'John Detweiler') at Peoria Sept. 15. He had settled at Peoria in 1833, where he was managing the St. Croix Tavern on Water Street.

Catherine Schertz died at Peoria Feb. 19, 1838.

The story of youngest son **Henri Dettweiler or Henry Detweiller** (he signed his name 'Detweiller') is told in *The History of Peoria County, Illinois*, published in 1880, and the *Old Settlers of Peoria County* souvenir booklet, published in 1897.

He was born at Dehlingen, Lower Alsace July 19, 1824.

At Peoria he worked a year for his brother, John. Then he worked for the Samuel Voris & Co. clothing store, and clerked in Charles W. McClellan's shoe store on Main Street.

On April 15, 1841 he went aboard the steam boat *Frontier* for a transit from Peoria to Peru. One version of his story says that he held a position in a steam engine factory, and this gave him the idea to hire on as an apprentice pilot on steam boats. Another version says he was stocking the bar for his brother when he befriended the captain. Either way, at 3 a.m. *o*n Sept. 2, 1842 he was piloting the boat near Little Detroit when the *Panama* crossed before him. He was forced to run the *Frontier* aground to avoid a collision. He was correct in saving the passengers, but the hull was destroyed.

Over the next six years he was second pilot on the *Chicago* and *Raritan,* and pilot on the *Governor Briggs*, the *Domain*, and the *Danube.* In 1847 he captained the *Governor Briggs* to transport Mexican War supplies between St. Louis and Alton.

Henry married Magdalena Bachman in Woodford County Nov. 5, 1848. Their names appear on the marriage entry as Henry Detweiler and Madaline Baughman. Magdalena was born circa 1827, a daughter of David Bachmann and Anna Bächer, and likely arrived at New Orleans in 1846 (see BACHMAN, BACHMANN OF ROANOKE).

On May 17, 1849 Henry was on the bridge of the *Danube* when it came into St. Louis. At 9 p.m. that evening the boiler of the paddle-wheeled steamboat *White Cloud* exploded at moorage. The blast threw burning debris that lit 23 other steamboats and nine flatboats. They floated downriver, generating embers that ignited structures along the shore. By 8 a.m. the following morning, 200 homes and 230 other structures were consumed.

Later that year the *Danube* transported passengers fleeing a cholera epidemic in St. Louis. Henry contracted the disease, and took nine months to completely recover (see STEIDER for more on the St. Louis Cholera Epidemic of 1849).

During the 1850s he was captain of the *Governor Briggs,* captain and co-owner of the *Mauvaisterre* [Badlands], and captain and owner of the *Minnesota.* On Oct. 5, 1858 he struck up an acquaintance with a prominent *Minnesota* passenger, according to an article *Speech at Pekin, Illinois,* published in the *Peoria Transcript* the following day:

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sealed the boards in the hull. On the 18th everyone was able to board the *Clifton*, which was heading into New York from Liverpool. Two hours later the *Poland*'s hull split, and it sank out of sight.

"Mr. Lincoln was welcomed to Tazewell County and introduced to the audience by Judge Bush in a short and eloquently delivered speech, and when he came forward, was greeted with hearty applause.

He commenced by alluding to the many years in which he had been intimately acquainted with most of the citizens of old Tazewell county, and expressed the pleasure which it gave him to see so many of them present. He then alluded to the fact that Judge Douglas, in a speech to them on Saturday, had, as he was credibly informed, made a variety of extraordinary statements concerning him. He had known Judge Douglas for twenty-five years, and was not now to be astonished by any statement which he might make, no matter what it might be.

He was surprised, however, that his old political enemy but personal friend, Mr. John Haynes - a gentleman whom he had always respected as a person of honor and veracity - should have made such statements about him as he was said to have made in a speech introducing Mr. Douglas to a Tazewell audience only three days before. He then rehearsed those statements, the substance of which was that Mr. Lincoln, while a member of Congress, helped starve his brothers and friends in the Mexican war by voting against the bills appropriating to them money, provisions and medical attendance.

He was grieved and astonished that a man whom he had heretofore respected so highly, should have been guilty of such false statements, and he hoped Mr. Haynes was present that he might hear his denial of them. He was not a member of Congress, he said, until after the return of Mr. Haynes' brothers and friends from the Mexican war to their Tazewell county homes - was not a member of Congress until after the war had practically closed.

He then went into a detailed statement of his election to Congress, and of the votes he gave, while a member of that body, having any connection with the Mexican war. He showed that upon all occasions he voted for the supply bills for the army, and appealed to the official record for a confirmation of his statement.

Mr. Lincoln then proceeded to notice, successively, the charges made against him by Douglas in relation to the Illinois Central Railroad, in relation to an attempt to Abolitionize the Whig party, and in relation to negro equality.

After finishing his allusions to the special charges brought against him by his antagonist, Mr. Lincoln branched out into one of the most powerful and telling speeches he has made during the campaign. It was the most forcible argument against Mr. Douglas' Democracy, and the best vindication of and eloquent plea for Republicanism, that we ever listened to from any man.

...He returned to Peoria on the steamer *Minnesota*, which had stopped at Pekin so Capt. Detweiller and crew could hear the speech. Learning that Lincoln was bound for Peoria, the captain insisted on taking him. The steamer had no sooner left the dock than Lincoln was up on the hurricane deck with him, where they had a long and pleasant chat all the way to Peoria."

The 1860 census of Peoria shows pilot Henry Detweiler, 33, France; Madeline, 32, Darmstadt Gy.; Henry Jr., 11, Illinois; Amelia, 8, Illinois; Matilda, 6, Illinois; and Emma, 3, Illinois.

In 1862 Henry became master of the federal dispatch boat *Jenny Lind*. It accompanied a fleet of 30 steamers with 30,000 troops onboard being transported from Island No. 10 to Pittsburg Landing in southwestern Tennessee. The *Jenny Lind* became the first steamboat to arrive after the surprise Confederate attack that initiated the Battle of Shiloh at Pittsburg Landing April 6-7.

For the remainder of the war he was master of the steamboat *Yankee* as it moved troops and supplies. To discourage would-be attackers, the *Yankee* occasionally traveled downriver at night disguised as a gunboat. In October 1863 the *Yankee* sailed from St. Louis to New Orleans with cargo valued at more than $250,000.

In Henry's absence Magdalena served as a volunteer for the Women's Christian Home Mission and the Women's Relief Corps.

From the end of the war until 1873 Henry was captain of the *Beaver*. His household at 606 Hamilton Street in Peoria appears on the 1870 census as steamboat captain Henry Detwiller, 45, France; Madaline, 40, Hesse-Darmstadt; steamboat clerk Henry, 20; Amelia, 18; Tilla, 18; Thomas, 8; William, 4; and Matty, 3; all children born in Illinois.

Henry invested in the ice business in 1870. In 1874 he quit the river altogether, and established the Detweiller Ice Cream Company at 108 South Adams Street. He attended a Universalist church, invested in city properties, served five terms as Peoria city treasurer, belonged to the veterans organization Grand Army of the Republic, and served 13 years as president of the Old Settlers Organization.

Magdalena died at Peoria Dec. 10, 1888. Her headstone gives her year of birth as 1826, though censuses suggest 1828 or 1829.

The 1900 census of Peoria City, Ward 2: ice dealer Henry Detweiter, 74, born in France in June 1825 (he did not report his year of immigration); Amelia, 37, born in Illinois in November 1862; Tillie, 36, born in Illinois in March 1864; and Thomas, 31, born in Illinois in November 1868. On the same census page we find Emma Detweiler, 22, born in Illinois in April 1878; she was a domestic servant in the household of Henry Sandmeyer.

Henry died at Peoria April 2, 1903.

None of the children of Henry and Magdalena married.[20] The family is buried together in Springdale Cemetery at Peoria surrounding an obelisk decorated with an anchor.

JOSEPH DETTWEILER

Joseph Dettweiler was born circa 1725, and died in 1784.

His son **Joseph Detwiller/Dettweiler** was born circa 1752, and died on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg before Sept. 24, 1779 (five days before the birth of his second child).

His first wife was Magdalena/Madeleine Bernhart, who died between 1775 and 1779. Their son was:

1. **Joseph Detwiller/Dettweiler** was born on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg, Baden Aug. 28, 1776, and died at Beauzée, Meuse March 12, 1848.

Joseph remarried to Magdalena Reűtiger/Madeleine Rediger. She was born circa 1757 or later (based only on the birth of her first known child circa 1775), and died before her son Joseph's marriage in 1805.

Their child was born only five days after Joseph's death:

2. Magdalena Detwiller/Dettweiler was born at Freistett, Baden Sept. 28, 1779 (per her marriage entry). On Aug. 28, 1798 at Keskastel, Lower Alsace she married miller Joseph Schertz. He was born at Keskastel July 8, 1773, a son of miller Joseph Scherz and Barbara Nafzgerin [Nafziger]. The parents of the bride were described as the deceased Joseph Detwiller and Magdalena Rediger, who was a resident of Offenburg. The first two witnesses were Joseph Detwiller, 22, brother of the bride; and Andreas Eyer, 22. The signatures looked like Joseph Schartz and Magdalena Dötweilerin.

Joseph Detwiller/Dettweiler was born on the Spitalhof estate at Offenburg, Baden Aug. 28, 1776, and died at Beauzée, Meuse March 12, 1848.

A marriage pre-announcement published Dec. 30, 1804 said that cultivator Joseph Dettweiler, 28, was a resident of the Bakelhoff at Zweibrücken but was born at Korck, Baden. His deceased father Joseph Dettweiler had been a farmer on the Spitalhof near Strasbourg. The intended bride was 19, a daughter of miller Joseph Hauter and Mdaeleine Schertz.

On Jan. 4, 1805 in the city of Zweibrücken he married Magdalena Hauter.[21] She was born at Hornbach, Pfalz-Zweibrücken July 22, 1785, and died at Bar-le-Duc, Meuse March 31, 1868, a daughter of Joseph Hauter and Magdalena Schertz. Her father was a miller at the ducal palace mill.

They had 13 children born at Zweibrűcken between 1805 and 1827. The youngest, Christine, was born at Louppy-le-Château, Meuse April 9, 1829. Her civil birth entry described her as a daughter of miller Joseph Doetveiler, 51, and Magdelaine Hauter, 42. Her father signed Joseph Dätenvnilnr.

Joseph's civil death entry described him as Joseph Detveiller, 73, an elderly miller [Fr. *ancien meunier*], and the husband of Madeleine Hauter, 64. He was a son of the deceased Joseph Detveiller and the deceased Madeleine Bernhart. He had died in the home of his son, who was also a witness, described as Jean Detveiller, 39.

Magdalena's civil death entry described her as Madeleine Hauter, 83, born at Hornbach, Bavière [Bavaria], the widow of Joseph Doetweiler, and a resident of *Rue de Chalens No. 21* at Bar-le-Duc. One witness was her son miller Christophe Doetweiler [as he signed], 54.

One son was **Jean Dettweiler/Detweiler,** born at Zweibrűcken Sept. 17, 1808. He died in Meuse circa 1859. His biographical sketch (to follow) said he went from Bavaria to the region of Lorraine in about 1824.

On March 30, 1834 at Louppy-le-Château, Meuse he married Catherine Moser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller's assistant [Fr. *garcon meunier*] Jean Dottveller, 25, born at Deux Ponts [the French equivalent of Zweibrűcken]. His parents were the miller Joseph Dottveller and Magdelaine Hauter at Louppy-le-Château. The bride was Catherine Mozer, 25, a dressmaker and a resident of Vittel, Vosges. She was a daughter of the deceased Jean Mozer and miller Marie Blanc.

Catherine was born at Denting, Moselle Nov. 10, 1808, and died at Vittel, Vosges Sept. 2, 1839.

Children of Jean Dettweiler/Detweiler and his first wife Catherine Moser born at St. Mihiel, Meuse include:

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[20] Their son Thomas donated Detweiller Park to the city in 1927.

[21] Sarrbrücken was occupied by French revolutionary troops in 1793. France did not cede it untl 1815, when it became part of the Prussian Rhine Province.

1. Madeleine Detveiler was born Sept. 25, 1835. On June 16, 1853 at St. Mihiel she married Joseph Saltzmann. He was born at Gueblange-lès-Dieuze, Moselle Nov. 8, 1827, there Sept. 25, 1835, a son of Christian Saltzmann and Magdalena Schertz. She was born there Nov. 16, 1815, a daughter of Jean Schertz and Barbe Guerber.
2. **Jean/John Detweiler** was born Aug. 13, 1838. His civil birth entry described his parents as miller Jean Dotweiler, 30, at the mill called l'Abbaye on the *rue Place du Collége*, and miller Catherine Moser, 29. The father's signature looked like Jean Dotweiler.

On May 7, 1840 at Longeville-lès-St. Avold, Moselle Jean remarried to Anne Schertz. She was born there Nov. 24, 1811, a daughter of Jean Schertz and Barbe Guerber.

Children of Jean Dettweiler/Detweiler and his second wife Anne Schertz born at Beauzée, Meuse include:

3. Elisabeth Dotviller was born April 16, 1842. Her civil birth entry described her parents as miller Jean Dotviller, 36, and Anne Schertz, 32, living at the *papéterie*. It was signed Jean Dotveiler.
4. Josephine Dettweiler (found as Dotveiler in the 10-year civil index) was born Oct. 1, 1852.

Jean/John Detweiler was born at St. Mihiel, Meuse Aug. 13, 1838, and died at Congerville, Woodford County Oct. 23, 1914.

Recall from MILLER that circa 1845 he accompanied his uncle and aunt Jacob Műller/Miller and Magdalena Moser to America, where he became their adopted son. Recall from MILLER that the *Gallia* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 9, 1850. The passenger list shows a traveling company of 10 from France: Pierre Beller, 50; Jakob Műller, 39; Magdalena, 44; John Dettweiller, 12; André Zehr, 29; Catharine, 33; Magdalene, 5; Catharina, 3; Joseph, 2 (the last five bound for Lewis County, New York]; and Catharina Bokÿ [Birky or Rogi?], 60.

On Oct. 20, 1864 in Woodford County he married Elizabeth Gerber. She was a daughter of John Gerber and Barbara Gerber. She died in 1883.

On Dec. 18, 1883 he married Elizabeth Műller/Miller. She was born in Bavaria Aug. 18, 1852, and died at Congerville, Montgomery Township March 1, 1938, a daughter of Peter Műller and Elizabeth Wolber.

The 1910 census of Montgomery has John Detwiler, 71, France; and Elizabeth, 57, Germany.

They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County (1889):

> John Detweiler, general farmer and stock raiser, resides on a good farm of 120 acres, which is well improved and located on section 21, Montgomery Township, to which he came in 18-7 from section 10, same township, and has continued to live in this place until the present.
>
> He came to Illinois in 1850 and after living some months in this county, removed to McLean County, and two years later returned to this county, where he has remained ever since. He was born in the province of Lorraine in 1838 on the 13th of August. He is therefore a Frenchman, although this province is now a part of the German Empire.
>
> The father of our subject, John Detweiler, was born in Bavaria, and was a miller by trade. When sixteen years old he went to Lorraine and was apprenticed to a miller to learn the trade, and while a resident of that province, married Miss Catherine A. Moser, who was born and reared in Lorraine but came of German and Swiss ancestry.
>
> After marriage this couple lived in Lorraine, throughout their comparatively uneventful life, the mother leaving the scene of her earthly pilgrimage, when her son, our subject, was thirteen months old. The father survived his faithful wife some twenty years, when he too fell asleep and was gathered to his fathers.
>
> Following the death of his mother our subject was taken to the home of his uncle, Jacob Miller, and accompanied him to America in 1850. They having no children of their own adopted him, and to them he has always given a son's love and devotion.
>
> On arriving in America, they set out for the West and located in Montgomery Township, this county, and while here Mrs. Miller died July 18, 1889, being in her eighty-fifth year. Mr. Miller still survives and makes his home with his adopted son, Mr. John Detweiler. Although seventy-eight years old he is yet active and healthy and his cheerful hearty disposition makes him a welcome and agreeable member of the family of his son.
>
> Our subject received the elements of a good education in France, becoming a fluent conversationalist in German and French, and later became quite proficient in the use of English and can still speak all three languages.
>
> He was first married in this county to Miss Elizabeth Gerber, a native of Lorraine, and who came to America in 1846 while a mere child, making the journey in the care of her parents, who made only a short stop in New York, coming at once to this county, where they built up a comfortable home. Mrs. Detweiler departed this life in 1883 being then thirty-eight years old, leaving besides her husband three children to mourn her loss Joseph, John and Elizabeth, who are all at home. Mrs. Detweiler was the daughter of John and Barbara (Gerber) Gerber. The father died in this township several years ago. The mother is yet living on a farm with her son.
>
> Our subject was married a second time near Dry Grove, McLean County, to Miss Elizabeth Miller, a native of Bavaria, Germany, where she was born Aug. 18, 1852, being a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Woelber) Miller, who were

also natives of Germany, the father being a farmer in that country and coming to the United States with his family in 1868. Immediately on their arrival in New York, they started Westward, locating in this county and later removed to Dry Grove Township, McLean County, where they yet reside. Mr. Miller is seventy-two years of age and his wife is sixty-eight, but although so old, they are yet vigorous and active and enjoy a fair share of health and good spirits. They are devoted members of the old school Mennonite Church, and reflect great credit upon their religious principles. Mrs. Elizabeth Detweiler, was reared and educated in Germany, where she received a good training in school and at home and came to this country with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Detweiler are the parents of one child Ida Amelia. They are members of the Mennonite Church and good, consistent Christians. Mr. Detweiler takes very little active part in political affairs, but has been prevailed upon to accept some minor offices, which he fills with credit, casting his ballot with the Republican party.

Gascho: Cachot of Merlebach

This surname does not have a Swiss origin. To the French a *cachot* is a prison cell or dungeon keep.

In 1570 the Peace of St. Germain-en-Laye concluded three years of fighting between majority French Catholics and minority Protestants influenced by John Calvin and Martin Luther.[22] The lull came to an abrupt end Aug. 22, 1572, when someone attempted to assassinate Admiral Gaspard de Coligny, a Protestant member of the king's council. The following evening Charles IX decided to avert reprisals by closing the gates of Paris. He ordered his Swiss guards to kill at least two dozen Protestant leaders including de Coligny. Given the example of their king, the general population rose up on the day of the feast of St. Bartholomew. In Paris they killed Protestants for three days. Massacres on a smaller scale took place in a dozen other communities throughout France.

On April 13, 1598 the rights of French Protestants were formally protected from the Catholic majority by the Edict of Nantes. But in October 1685 the Edict of Fontainebleau reversed direction and declared Protestantism illegal. Many Protestants converted, but about 200,000 found havens in the Dutch Republic, Great Britain, Prussia, South Africa, Switzerland, and North America. Persecution of Protestants in France did not subside again until 1724.

A family story holds that Cachots left France in the era of Protestant persecution. The colorful and memorable 'Gascho' is the way a German-speaking person would write 'Cachot.'

Freedom to worship and civil rights were not restored until the Edict of Versailles Nov. 7, 1787. Protestants gained equal rights in France in 1789 under the *Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen*. A further law passed in 1790 invited the descendants of exiled Protestants to return to France: "All persons born in a foreign country, and descending in any degree of a French man or woman expatriated for religious reasons, are declared French nationals, and will benefit from rights attached to that quality if they come back to France, establish their domicile there, and take the civic oath." Gaschos may have returned from the Pfalz after protection was restored.

By the mid-1850s the surname Gascho could be found among Amish Mennonites in Moselle, the German states, Canada, and several American states that eventually included Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, and Illinois. Our initial impression was that this must be a family with an old Anabaptist tradition. But we found the Amish Mennonite line descending from a single couple who died before 1797.[23]

François Gascho was born before 1750. He married Anne Chraque [Schrag]. She was likely born before 1750. They were millers at Merlebach [Ger. *Freymingen-Merlenbach*], seven miles northeast of St. Avold in Moselle.

A Roman road that determined the northern edge of the village is now part of the French national border with Germany.[24] Merlebach was a transit point for Palatine Amish Mennonites seeking to travel to North America. They formed groups at Kaiserslautern, then traveled southwest to Forbach, Moselle to pay border tolls. As they passed

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[22] 'Huguenot' is a catchall description of French Protestants in this era. It was meant to be derogatory. There was no Huguenot movement or organization. The origin of the word is uncertain.

[23] As an example of a nearby family using similar spellings, we found a Gachot/Gasho/Gascho family at Sarre-Union, Lower Alsace, 30 miles southeast of Merlebach. Sarre-Union was created in 1794 when the villages of Bouquenom (Ger. *Bockenheim*) and Ville Neuve de Sarrewerden (Ger. *Neu-Sarrewerden*) on oppposite sides of the Sarre River merged for administrative purposes. **Paul Gaschot** was born at Courcelles-Chaussey (10 miles west of St. Avold, now in Moselle) Sept. 14, 1685. On Nov. 25, 1710 at Diedendorf, Lower Alsace he married Anne Marie Billard. Their son **Jean Paul Gachot** was born at Ville Neuve de Sarrewerden circa 1732. He married Marie Ester Gangloff. They were the parents of at least four sons: Heinrich (as he signed his own name)/Henry Gascho born circa 1762; Ludwig/Louis Gascho born circa 1764; Samuel Gasho born circa 1765; and Jacob/Jacques Gascho born circa 1771. Heinrich's wife Sophie Charlotte Guth died at Sarre-Union Aug. 6, 1817. Louis Gascho's first wife Elisabeth Klein died at Rimsdorf (adjacent to Sarre-Union) Jan. 20, 1817. The civil death entry called him Louis Gacho, but was signed 'Lŭdwig Gascho.' It described him as a 53-year-old cultivator. At Rimsdorf on Sept. 25, 1817 he remarried to Caterine Brodt. She was born at Lixheim Oct. 17, 1770, a daughter of Paul Brodt and Marie Sophie Brodt. That entry called him Louis Gaschot, and said that his father was the deceased Paul Gashot. When Samuel married Elisabeth Behr at Sarre-Union Sept. 7, 1794, the civil entry called him Samuel Gachot, but he signed 'Samŭell Gasho.' When Jacob/Jacques married Maria Elisabath Frantz at Sarrewerden (adjacent to Sarre-Union) May 30, 1802, he signed their civil entry 'J. Gachot,' though the index spelled his surname 'Gascho.' When he remarried to Catherine/Katharina Fällma at Sarre-Union July 12, 1810, the text and index of the civil record called him Jacque Gascho, while he signed 'J. Gachot.'

[24] It was administratively combined with adjacent Freyming [Ger. *Freimengen*] in 1971, and is now called Freyming-Merlebach in canton Forbach, France. The present population is approximately 670.

through Merlebach and Freyming they joined French travelers and continued on through Metz, Paris, and Rouen to Le Havre.

This geography suggests that the Cachot exodus into the Pfalz may have involved a move no farther than the village of Nassweiler (now in Saarbrücken, Germany) adjacent to Merlebach. We found mentions of Cachot marriages there in the 1720s.

We strongly suspect that Anna Chraque was a daughter of Caspar Schrag and Elisabeth Weiss (see SCHROCK).[25]

François and Anne had two sons, André and Joseph, who married Zwalter sisters (See the Appendix, ZWALTER for background on the family). The broad dispersal of their children was the outcome of the depressed economy in Moselle following the Napoleonic wars.

ANDREAS/ANDRÉ GASCHO

Andreas (as he signed his own name)/**André Gascho** was born circa 1768, and died at Imling, Moselle April 24, 1812. He was employed as a miller at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle (20 miles south of Gondrexange), then as a day laborer and domestic servant at Imling.

Before 1794 he married Anne Zwalter, whose sister Catherine later became the wife of his older brother. She was born in 1769, and died at Pellheim, Bavaria Feb. 14, 1839 (where she had been living with her daughter Barbara and son-in-law Nicholas Augustin, who was minister of the congregation there circa 1829-1841). She was a daughter of Christian Zwalter and Marie Risser.

The earliest mention of André we found in records came from the civil marriage entry of Magdalena Zwalter and Christian Neuhauser. They were married at Gondrexange April 20, 1794. He is listed as witness André Cachon, 26, brother-in-law of the bride.[26]

Andreas/André and Anne lived at Desseling in the Dieuze Ponds area of Moselle from 1797 to 1805 or later. The tiny village, 11 miles northwest of Gondrexange, has a present population of approximately 110. It is situated on *Le Neuf Etang* ('pond nine').

His civil death entry created at Imling April 24, 1812 described him as servant [Fr. *domestique*] André Cachot, 47, husband of Anne Zwalter.

Children of Andreas/André Gascho and Anne Zwalter include:

1. Marie Anne/Maria Anna Gascho was born circa 1795. Circa 1815 she married Christian Birki. See BIRKY/BIRKEY for more on this couple.
2. Chrétien/Christian Gascho was born circa 1796, and died May 8, 1871. He married Maria Güngerich. According to Helmut Gingerich, she was born Oct. 21, 1800. They farmed on the von Spreti estate at Arzbach bei Dachau.
3. Joseph Gascho's birth date is found in many sources as May 16, 1793 (perhaps figuring from his obituary or headstone count), but the *Karlskron Familienbuch* says that he was born at Desseling, Moselle (found as 'Dötzlingen im Lothringen') Nov. 2, 1797. No civil birth entry was found there. When he died at Hay, Huron County, Ontario Jan. 17, 1882, his obituary said he was 89. In January of 1824 at Arzbach bei Dachau he married Magdalena Ingold. Magdalena was born on the Lindenbrunnerhof estate at Annweiler Nov. 1, 1803 (her headstone says 1799), and died at Zurich, Hay County, Ontario Feb. 21, 1891, a daughter of Jakob Ingold and Elizabeth Baumann/Bachman. Joseph and Magdalena initially settled at Probfeld in the *Donaumoos* or Danube Marsh. The family's passport was annulled by the Bavarian government Feb. 19, 1851 because their son Joseph had a military obligation. Medical certificates dated March 20, 1851 and March 31, 1851 declared him fit for service. He was prohibited from emigrating by a court order. The family departed without him. They probably took a coach to Donauworth, then a new rail line from there through Leipzig to Hamburg. We could not identify a passenger list or a date for their arrival in North America,

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[25] Anne Chraque's proposed family relationship is based on circumstance. Though there may have been other Swiss Schrags in Lorraine that we have not identified, only one branch of one family has been identified as Amish Mennonite. Caspar Schrag and Elisabeth Weiss had a son Caspar (circa 1744-1794) who married Barbe Rouvenacht and Marie Blaser. He worked as a miller at Bischwald mill and a cultivator on Belgrade farm at Bistroff. Thus he was a business partner with the Engel family. Their son Joseph Schrag (1772-1830) was born on Belgrade farm but lived at Gondrexange. He married Marie Engel (1774-circa 1800), and they had a number of children at Gondrexange. Note that Anne's son Joseph Cachot/Gascho also lived at Gondrexange. This is a coincidence in a tiny community (though the population has grown in two centuries to its present 490). Note also that Joseph Cachot/Gascho's immigration companions in 1831 included Peter Engel. If Anne was a sister to Caspar (circa 1744-1794), the only documented Amish Mennonite Schrag in her age bracket in the region, then her parents were Caspar Schrag and Elisabeth Weiss.

[26] André signed that entry 'Andreas Gascho.' The bride and groom were described as Christian Neyhouser, 27, and Magdalene Swalter, 22. Another witness was Catherine Swalter, 26.

though we found a note that the ship they sailed on was the *Neptune*. They initially settled at East Zorra, Ontario. [27] Note that they were in the area at the same time as Joseph's cousin Christian Gascho, who had moved up from Pennsylvania to Wilmot in 1848. Joseph and Magdalena later resettled at Zurich, Hay Township, Huron County, Ontario. On the 1881 census of Hay German Mennonite Joseph Gascho, 85, and Lanah, 77, are found in the household of their son John. *Herald of Truth*, March 1882: "On the 17th of Jan., in Hay, Huron Co., Ont., Joseph Gascho, aged 89 years. He left an aged companion, and four children with large families. He was for many years a faithful member of the Amish Menn. church and an early settler of the township when the surrounding country was yet a wilderness." *Herald of Truth*, March 1891: "On the 21st of Feb., 1891, in Huron Co., Ont., Lena Gascho, aged about 92 years. In the morning she was as well as usual but before night she was a corpse. She was one of the first settlers in this neighborhood and was a member of the Amish Mennonite church. Services by J. Bender and J. Gasho, from *John 5: 24 - 30*, and *Mark 13: 33 - 37*." Their children born at Probfeld, Bavaria (birth dates and early death dates drawn from the *Karlskron Familienbuch*) include:

a. Anna Gascho was born Nov. 8, 1824, and died at Hopedale Jan. 7, 1912. In 1849 in Ontario she married Joseph Wutherich/Wittrig [Vitrich]. He was born at Grostenquin, Moselle Jan. 18, 1816, and died at Hopedale Sept. 17, 1902, a son of Nicolas Vitrich and Anne Ommel [Ummel]. He immigrated to New York State in 1838. In 1840 at Croghan, New York he had married Lena Ringenberg, and they went to Ontario in 1846. She died in childbirth in 1847. He was ordained as a minister June 24, 1849, serving the Blake Amish Mennonite Church at Zurich, Hay Township, Huron County, Ontario. After his remarriage to Anna, they relocated to Iowa in 1855, remaining there until 1883. In 1883 they relocated to Tazewell County. They are found on the 1900 census of Boynton as Joseph Wittrig, 83, born in Germany in June 1816 to Swiss parents, married 49 years, immigrated in 1838; and Annie, 75, born in Germany to German parents in June 1824, immigrated in 1850. *Gospel Herald*, February 1912: "Anna Wittrig (maiden name Gascho), widow of Joseph Wittrig, died at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, C. H. Birkey, near Hopedale, Ill., Jan. 7, 1912, of pneumonia. She was taken sick on the day of the funeral of her grand-daughter, Emma Birky, and after an illness of two weeks she also went home; aged 87 y. 6 m. She was a member of the A. M. Church since her youth and remained faithful to the end. She leaves 5 sons, 4 daughters, and a large number of grandchildren, to mourn their loss, which is her gain. She was buried Jan. 9. Funeral sermons by J. C. Birky, Simon Litwiller and Dan Nafziger, all of Hopedale, Ill."

b. Magdalena Gascho is described in the *Karlskron Familienbuch* as someone who was born at Probfeld Aug. 28, 1827, and died in 1829. However, her headstone at Hopedale says she was born June 24, 1826. She may have been in Canada at least 18 months before the arrival of her parents. On Feb. 10, 1850 she married Johannes/Jean/John Egli. Some sources say he was born at Eisingen, Baden (below Hochberg) June 16, 1821. According to Duane L. Egel, descendant Mark Egli found an entry in Catholic records at Kirchdorf, Baden, serving adjacent Űberauchen. The Mantelhof estate associated with the Egli family was located four miles north at Villingen [now Villingen-Schwenningen]. He died at Minier Dec. 11, 1907, a son of Johannes/Jean/John Egli and Maria Geisert. See EGLI for background on this couple.

c. Joseph Gascho was born Jan. 28, 1830. According to an erroneous entry in the *Karlskron Familienbuch*, he died in 1830. His first medical certificate saying that he was fit for military service was issued March 20, 1851; it said that he was 21 years old. According to a family story, he remained in Germany for military training while the remainder of the family emigrated. We could not determine whether he emigrated later.

d. Barbara Gascho was born Aug. 4, 1831 according to an entry in the *Karlskron Familienbuch* (though her headstone count of 44 years, 10 months, and 27 days would suggest circa Dec. 20, 1830), and died at Zurich, Ontario Nov. 16, 1875. On Feb. 18, 1855 in Huron County she married John Oesch. He was born at Baden, Ontario circa April 15, 1828 (his headstone gives the count 73 years, 10 months, and 8 days), and died at Hay Feb. 23, 1902, a son of Johannes/John Oesch and Barbara Schultz. They are buried in Lakeview Conservative Mennonite Cemetery in Huron County.

e. Maria/Mary Gascho was born Dec. 25, 1833, and died in Lyon County, Kansas Nov. 13, 1893. She married Christian Steckley. He was born at Xouaxange, Moselle Feb. 8, 1829, and died in Nebraska Feb. 18, 1906, a son of Hans/John Steckly and his first wife Barbara Steinman. [28] They resettled in Kansas. He is buried in West Fairview Mennonite Cemetery at Beaver Crossing, where his headstone says 'Steckly.' *Herald of Truth*, December 1893: "Steckley - On the 13th of November 1893, in Lyon Co., Kansas, Sister Maria, wife of Bro. Christian Steckley, aged 60 y., 10 m., 19 d. Buried on the 15th in J.J. Borntreger's grave-yard. Sister Steckley was a kind and loving mother who admonished her children and directed them to Christ. Nine children attended the funeral of their beloved mother. Sister Steckley had

[27] The website of the Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario says, "Through old letters we know of Joseph's brothers John in Illinois, Christian and Andrew in Bavaria, and a sister Barbara Eigsti in Illinois."

[28] Barbara Steinman was born at Grostenquin, Moselle Feb. 8, 1799, and died at Wilmot in 1851, a daughter of Christian Steinman and Elizabeth Gingerich. Jean/John Steckly was born in France Jun 5, 1800, and died at Mornington Township, Perth County, Ontario March 12, 1879.

an abiding faith in her Redeemer, and had a desire to depart and be with Christ. Funeral services by J.P. Stuckey and J.J. Borntreger from *Psa. 23 and 90* and *Rev. 14:13*."

f. Christian Gascho was born July 20, 1836.

g. Johannes/John Gascho was born Oct. 27, 1838, and died May 28, 1919. He married Veronica 'Fanny' Steckly. She was born at Wilmot Sept. 19, 1840, and died during childbirth Feb. 28, 1882, a daughter of Hans/John Steckly and his first wife Barbara Steinman. She is buried with the child in Lakeview Conservative Mennonite Cemetery. John remarried to Anna Baechler Schwartzentruber. He served as a minister for the Blake Amish Mennonite Church at Zurich, Hay Township, Huron County, Ontario 1876-1908. *Gospel Herald*, July 1919: "John Gascho was born Oct. 27, 1838; died May 28, 1919; aged 80 y. 7 m. 1 d. On July 25, 1858, he was married to Fannie Steckley who preceded him on Feb. 17, 1882. This union was blessed with 12 children of whom one died in infancy, the rest still living. On June 20, 1882, he was again married to Annie Schwartzendruber. This union was also blessed with seven children of whom one is dead. He leaves a wife, 18 children, 34 grandchildren, and 82 great-grandchildren. He was buried on May 31. Services in church at Zurich, Ont., conducted by Bro. Jonas Snider assisted by the writer. The departed brother served in the ministry for 43 years."

h. Andreas/Andrew Gascho was born April 24, 1841, and died at Elkton, Michigan Aug. 31, 1927. In 1860 he married Lydia Gingerich. She was born Aug. 20, 1831, and died Feb. 10, 1906. They had children in Waterloo County, Ontario in the 1860s, then resettled at Elkton. They are found on the 1900 census of Elkton as farmer Andrew Gascho, 59, born in Germany in April 1841 to a father from France and a mother from Germany, immigrated in 1851; Lydia, 68, born in Germany in August 1831 to German parents, immigrated 1850; and adopted daughter Mary, 11, born in Michigan in October 1888 to German parents. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Elktown.

4. Barbe/Barbara Gascho was born at Desseling, Moselle Nov. 10, 1800, and died at Macon, Bureau County Dec. 26, 1880. She married Nicholas Augustin in Bavaria in 1822. After the death of her husband in Bavaria in 1850, she traveled directly to Morton. She is buried in Willow Springs Mennonite Cemetery at Tiskilwa, Bureau County.[29] See EIGSTI for more on this couple.
5. Andreas/André Gascho was born at Desseling, Moselle July 20, 1802, and died at Sickenhausen, Bavaria in 1858. His civil birth entry called his parents André Cachot and Anne. He was living at Sickenhausen (next to Reutlingen, 20 miles south of Stuttgart) in 1857. He did not emigrate from Europe. His son Josef moved to Moosach, where he built the neo-Renaissance Gascho Villa at 37 Pelkovenstrasse. The villa has been preserved as a heritage site.
6. Anne Gascho was born at Desseling Dec. 22, 1805, and died there Jan. 1, 1806. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator André Cachot, 36, and Ann Svalter; it was witnessed by 48-year-old farm equipment operator Jean Christophe Aire [Eyer?].
7. **Johannes/Jean/John Gascho** was born in France in 1808 (according to his obituary), and died in Livingston County Sept. 7, 1870.[30]
8. Jacob Gascho was born at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle Nov. 5, 1809. His civil birth entry described his parents as miller André Gaschog, 43, a resident of Badonviller, and Anne Zwalter. His father signed 'Andreas Gascho.' He died as an infant.
9. Jacob/Jacques Gascho was born at Imling, Moselle Feb. 28, 1811. His civil birth entry described his parents as day laborer André Cachot, 45, living at Imling; and Anne Zwalter. His father signed 'Andreas Gascho.'

Johannes/Jean/John Gascho was born in France circa 1808, and died in Livingston County Sept. 7, 1870.

John married Magdalena von Gund. She was born at Schwarzberg, Bavaria Jan. 13, 1810, and died in Livingston County April 21, 1881, according to her headstone at Waldo Cemetery. The *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois* describes this couple as "the father born in France, the mother born in Bavaria, Germany."

See ROPP for an explanation of the issues that created the spurious 'Fly Whisk Incident' resulting in the French occupation of Algeria. Military conscription to support the occupation did not exempt Amish Mennonites.

The Gaschos sailed with a large party from Le Havre on the *Massasoit*, and arrived at Baltimore May 21, 1831. Passengers included:

111	Joseph Gacho	53	Farmer	France	*Father, actually 58 years old*
112	John	23			*Nephew to Joseph*
113	Joseph	22			*Son of Joseph*
114	Woodoline	21			*Wife of John*
115	Madaline Newhauser	30			*Niece to Joseph*
116	Barbara	9			*Her child*
117	Joseph	5			*" actually seven years old*

[29] To the best of our knowledge the French genealogist Jean François Lorentz was the first person to find her civil birth entry and understand the connection.

[30] Sources that say he was born in France in 1810 are relying on census reports.

118	Christiana [Christian]	3	*" actually five years old*
119	John	6	*" actually three years old*

We suspect that Johannes/Jean/John Gascho was passenger 112. His wife Magdalena von Gund would have been passenger 114. His cousin Joseph Gascho was passenger 22; Joseph's father Joseph may have been passenger 111. The two Josephs would have immigrated to join their son and brother Christian, who had been in Lancaster County as early as 1825. Passenger 115 was Joseph Gascho's niece, Magdalena/Madeleine Neuhauser Kennel; she was the recent widow of Joseph Kennel.[31]

Other surnames in the immigration group included Suisse, Engel, Roggi, Schertz, Zimmerman, Salzman, Gerrard (a pseudonym for Schrock), and Bachel (a pseudonym for Belsley). See the Appendix, THE *MASSASOIT* VOYAGE OF 1831.

The *Illinois Public Land Tract Sales Database* indicates that 'John Cacho' purchased 80 acres at $1.25 per acre in Section 5, Township 27N (in what is now Woodford County) Aug. 19, 1839.

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[31] On Dec. 14, 1820 at Imling Magdalena/Madeleine Neuhauser married Joseph Kennel. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as farm equipment operator Joseph Kaenel, 20, born at Oberstinzel Nov. 29, 1799, the illegitimate son [Fr. *fils naturel*] of Barbara Kennel, who was present and consenting and residing on the farm Misel Ban. The bride was described as Magdelaine Neihauser, 21, born at Imling Sept. 2, 1799, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Christian Neihauser who had died at Imling Jan. 1, 1814, and the deceased Magdelaine Zwalter, who had died at Imling Jan. 1, 1814. Witnesses included Jean Neihauser, 43, uncle by marriage of the groom; and farm equipment operator Christiane Ebersol, 32, second cousin of the bride. Signatures included Joseph Kennnel, Magtalena Naŭhaŭser, and Christian Ebersol. Joseph died within nine months of the voyage. Magdalena/Madeleine gave birth to her fifth child in Pennsylvania, only six days after her arrival in Baltimore. Their children include:

1. Barbara Kennel was born circa 1822.
2. Joseph Kennel was born at Bébing, Moselle June 17, 1823 (his obituary says June 24), and died at Atglen, Pennsylvania June 25, 1913. In 1845 in Pennsylvania he married Veronica 'Fanny' Petersheim. She was born in Lancaster County April 19, 1825, and died there July 19, 1906, a daughter of John Petersheim and Elizabeth Stoltzfus. They are found on the 1850 census of Lower Leacock, Lancaster County as farmer Joseph Kennel, 26, France; Faronica L., 25, Pennsylvania; John P. Kennel, 2, Pennsylvania; laborer William Parker, 15, Pennsylvania; carpenter Samuel Kennel [Joseph's brother], 18, Pennsylvania; and Christiana Petersheim, 12, Pennsylvania. *Gospel Herald* , July 1913: "Joseph Kennell was born in France June 24, 1823; died June 25, 1913, from infirmities of old age; aged 90 y. 1 d. His widowed mother and five children emigrated to America when he was eight years old, crossing the Atlantic in a sailboat. They landed in Philadelphia and settled in Lancaster Co., Pa., where he lived the rest of his life (except 4 1-2 years in Fauquier Co., Va.) and the last seven years near Atglen, Chester Co., Pa., where he spent his earlier years. He united with the Amish Mennonite Church in his youth and remained a consistent member all his life. In 1845 he was married to Fannie Petersheim. To this union were born three sons, all of whom preceded him to the spirit world. His companion died 13 years ago. He leaves to mourn his departure a widowed daughter-in-law, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Funeral June 27. Services at the house by Daniel Stoltzfus in German and John M. Stoltzfus in English. Text, *Job 14:14*. At the Millwood A. M. Church by Gideon Stoltzfus in German (Text *II Tim. 4:7, 8*) and by John S. Mast in English (Text, *Heb. 11:9, 10*). Buried in adjoining cemetery."
3. Christian Kennel was born at Dolving, Moselle March 19, 1825, and died in Baltimore County, Maryland Dec. 6, 1862. He married Anna 'Nancy' Mast. She was born in Lancaster County Dec. 20, 1832, a daughter of John Mast and Elizabeth Kurtz. Christian and his brother John purchased 33 acres at Hartley Mill in the Long Green Valley of Baltimore County, Maryland in 1851. Christian and Anna are buried in Long Green Mennonite Cemetery, where Anna's headstone is barely legible because of erosion.
4. Jean/John Kennel was born at Dolving, Moselle June 7, 1827, and died in Long Green Valley, Baltimore County, Maryland Jan. 21, 1876. On Nov. 13, 1851 he married Mary Mast. She was born in Lancaster County July 2, 1827, a daughter of John Mast and Elizabeth Kurtz. Their household appears on the 1860 census of the 11th District, Baltimore County, Maryland as John Kennel, 33, France; Mary, 33, Pennsylvania; John, 10; Susanna, 7; Emma, 5; and Elizabeth; all children born in Maryland. *Herald of Truth*, March 1876: "Jan. 21st, in Baltimore Co., Md., of inflammatory rheumatism, John Kennel, aged 48 years, 7 months and 14 days. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn their loss. A very affecting sermon suitable to the occasion was delivered by John P. Mast from *2 Cor. 5:1*."
5. Samuel Kennel was born in Pennsylvania June 11, 1831, and died there Nov. 14, 1912. He married Elizabeth Riehl. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania May 22, 1830, and died in Union County, Pennsylvania June 3, 1895, a daughter of John Riehl and Levina Yoder. Samuel is found as an 18-year-old carpenter born in Pennsylvania in the household of his brother Joseph at Lower Leacock, Lancaster County in 1850. In 1851 he purchased 36 acres at Long Green Valley from Isaac Hertzler. In 1868 he purchased another 63 acres, then relocated to Union County the following year. In 1870 his household is found at East Buffalo, Union County as carpenter Samuel Kennel, 40, Pennsylvania; Elisabeth, 40, Pennsylvania; Joel, 7, Maryland; Fanny, 5, Maryland; and Dana, 1, Maryland.

The 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) shows John and Magdalena on the same page as Christian Smith, John Kennel (found as Kendle), Jacob Donner, and Joseph Belsley, indicating that they were farming at what is now Spring Bay: farmer John Cartshaw, 40, Germany; Madaline, 40, Germany; Anne, 11; Joseph, 9; John, 7; Andrew, 3; and Catharine, 2; all children born in Illinois.

The 1860 census of Worth, Woodford County shows them as farmer John Gasher, 50, France; Magdalene, 50, Bavaria; Joseph, 19; John, 16; Catherine, 12; and Barbara, 7; all children born in Illinois. John Gascho is found on an 1865 agricultural schedule of Worth, but by 1870 they were living at Waldo, Livingston County. They are found on that census as farmer John Gocho, 60, France; and Fanny, 60, France.

Herald of Truth, December 1870: "On the 7th of September, in Livingston county, Ill., John Gasho, aged 62 years. He was buried on the 8th, followed by a large concourse of friends and relatives. Funeral sermons were preached by John Egly, John P. Schmitt and Christian Schloegel [Schlegel] from *I Cor. 15*, and *I Thess. 4:13-18*. He was a pious man, beloved by all and a light in our Church. He observed daily prayer with his family, came regular to meeting and appreciated humility. He often complained about the pride prevailing among our young people. He also said before he expired that he had a desire to depart and to be with Christ. He was a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite Church." He is buried in Waldo Cemetery.

The 1880 census of Waldo shows Magdalena as a 70-year-old mother-in-law in the home of her daughter Barbara and son-in-law Joseph Schlegel. Her place of origin as well as that of her parents is given as Schwarzburg.[32]

Herald of Truth, August 1884: "On the 21st of April, in Livingston Co., Ill. Magdalene Gascho, aged 74 years, 3 months and 8 days. On the 23d the body was consigned to the grave, when many friends and relatives from far and near manifested their high respects and followed her to the grave. Services were held by Daniel Steinman, Christian Schlegel, and John P. Schmidt. Sister Gascho was a true and worthy member of the Amish Mennonite Church, and much beloved by all who knew her."

Children of Johannes/Jean/John Gascho and Magdalena von Gund born at Spring Bay include:

- The Gaschos may have had two sons named Christian who died as infants.

1. Anna Gascho was born Nov. 28, 1839, and died Dec. 25, 1873. On March 5, 1859 in Woodford County she married John Albrecht.[33] He was born Nov. 20, 1833, and died Feb. 12, 1900, a son of Jacob Albrecht and Katharina Ackerman. They farmed at Waldo, and are buried in Waldo Cemetery. On Nov. 22, 1874 John remarried to Barbara Nafziger and had eight more children. *Herald of Truth*, April 1, 1900: "On the 12th of February, 1900, in Livingston Co., Ill., Pre. John Albrecht passed peacefully away at the age of 66 years, 2 months and 22 days. Deceased was born in Bavaria, Germany, on the 20th of November 1833. When he was four years old his parents moved to Bureau Co., Ill. He was married to Anna Gascho in 1859. To this union were born six sons, of whom four preceded their parents, the mother dying fifteen years after marriage. Bro. Albrecht married again in 1874, his second wife being Barbara Nafziger. To this second union were born four sons and three daughters, all of whom followed their father to the grave. Although the words of *Psalm 128* were fulfilled to Bro. Albrecht in temporal as well as in spiritual matters his heart was not set upon earthly things. He was afflicted for sometime with heart and kidney trouble and seven days before his death he was rendered helpless by a slight stroke of paralysis. He remained conscious however to the end, and suffered no pain. Although not as eloquent or fluent a speaker as some, he was honest and earnest, and a faithful counsellor, and his loss in the church as well as in the family will be deeply felt. On the 15th of Feb. his remains were laid to rest, followed by a large concourse of relatives and friends. Funeral services at the M. H. by J.P. Schmitt in German from *2 Cor. 5*, and by Joseph B. Zehr in German from *2 Tim. 4:7,8* and *Matt. 25:23*. Daniel Orendorff also spoke from *2 Cor. 4:17,18*. Besides his wife and nine children, deceased leaves eight grandchildren, three brothers, four sisters and many other relatives and friends."
2. **Joseph Gascho** was born Dec. 14, 1841, and died Feb. 3, 1902.
3. John Gascho was born Feb. 27, 1844, and died in Livingston March 18, 1883. On Feb. 8, 1869 in Livingston County he married Catherine Schlegel. She was born at what became Tremont on the 8th or 18th of April, 1843, and died at Washington May 5, 1916, a daughter of Christian Schlegel and Salome 'Sarah' Sommer. The 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows them one page apart from John's parents and brother Joseph: farmer John Gasho, 26, Illinois; Catharine, 26, Illinois; and Joseph, six months, Illinois. They can be found on the 1880 census of Chenoa, McLean County as laborer John N. Gascho, 36, Illinois; Catherine, 37, Illinois; and three children born in Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, April 1883: "March 18th, in Livingston Co., Ill., John Gascho, aged 39 years and 21 days. His remains were laid to rest on the 20th, followed by many relatives and friends, assembled from far and near to pay their last respects to their departed friend. Services were held in the house of Christian Schlegel by Peter Schantz, of Lee County, Iowa, who was in that vicinity on a visit. And at the meetinghouse by Joseph Grieser and Peter Schantz, from *1 Cor. 15*, and some words at the grave by J. Schmidt. Brother Gascho suffered much from phthisic

[32] Schwarzburg is in Thuringia; we assume this was meant to be Schwarzberg, Bavaria.
[33] Woodford County records list them as John Albright and Anna Gasho.

for a number of years. Oftentimes he spent the entire night in his chair. He suffered more than ordinarily about five days. A few minutes before he died, his wife asked him whether she should send for the doctor. He replied: No one can help me: the Lord has released many, he too can release me, and so he died. He was a member of the Amish Church, and leaves a sorrowing companion and four children, the youngest being only 2 weeks old. He also leaves an aged mother who could not follow him to the grave." He is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan. On Oct. 15, 1895 Catherine remarried to widower John Guth of Washington. He was born May 10, 1840, and died Oct. 8, 1896, a son of Peter Guth and Susanna/Susan Oyer. Despite this marriage, she is buried in Waldo Cemetery as Catherine Gascho.

4. Andrew Gascho is shown as a 2-year-old on the 1850 census, but does not appear on later censuses, suggesting he died young.
5. Catherine Gascho was born July 18, 1848, and died Dec. 13, 1907. On Feb. 7, 1869 in Livingston County she married Jacob Streid. He was born at Strasbourg, Lower Alsace Oct. 2, 1842, and died Aug. 23, 1915, a son of Joseph Streid and Françoise Fordemwald. His family immigrated in 1843, settling in Holmes County, Ohio. His father farmed on 62 acres before coming to McLean County in 1864. At Chenoa he farmed 120 acres. After marriage Joseph rented land for four years, then purchased 80 acres at Pike Township; he served as Pike Township school director for 20 years. In 1894 they moved onto 160 acres in Section 8 of Chenoa, McLean County. They are buried in Pike Township Cemetery at Graymont, Livingston County.
6. Barbara Gascho was born Sept. 21, 1853, and died at Hydro, Oklahoma June 30, 1926. On Feb. 4, 1872 in Livingston County she married Joseph Schlegel. He was born in Tazewell County Dec. 8, 1847, and died July 12, 1914, a son of Christian Schlegel and Salome 'Sarah' Sommer. See SCHLEGEL for more on this couple including their obituaries.

Joseph Gascho was born at Spring Bay Dec. 14, 1841, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 3, 1902. He is buried in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford as Rev. Joseph Gascho.

On March 14, 1868 in Woodford County he married Mary Birky/Birkey.[34] She was born in Illinois Dec. 28, 1850, and died Dec. 25, 1938, a daughter of Joseph Birky/Birkey and Barbara Eigsti.

They are found on the 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County living next to his parents: farmer Joseph Gasho, 28, Illinois; Mary, 21, Illinois; and John, eight months, Illinois. In 1878 they relocated to Precinct O (now Milford), Nebraska. The 1880 census of Precinct O shows them as farmer Joseph Gascho, 38, Illinois, parents France and Germany; Mary, 30, Illinois; John, 10, Illinois; Joseph, 9, Illinois; Maggie, 7, Illinois; Christopher, 5, Illinois; Jacob, 4. Illinois; Benjamin, 2, Nebraska; and Barbra, less than one year, Nebraska.

The 1900 census of Precinct J (now Milford), Seward County, Nebraska has farmer Joseph Gascho, 58, born in Illinois in December 1841 to a French father and a Bavarian mother, married 32 years; Mary, 49, born in Illinois in November 1850 to Bavarian parents; farmer Christian, 25, born in Illinois in September 1874 to parents form Illinois; farm laborer Barbara, 20, born in Nebraska in March 1880 to parents from Illinois; farm laborer William, 16, born in Nebraska in February 1884 to parents form Illinois; Lydia, 11, born in Nebraska in August 1888 to parents from Illinois; Arthur, 9, born in Nebraska in July 1890 to parents from Illinois; and Mary, 7, born in Nebraska in April 1893 to parents form Illinois.

Herald of Truth, March 1902: "Pre. Joseph Gascho was born in Woodford Co., Ill., Dec. 14, 1841, died near Milford, Seward Co., Neb., Feb. 3, 1902, aged 60 years, 1 month and 20 days. He was married in 1868 to Maria Buerky, with whom he lived in happy matrimony for 33 years, 10 months and 21 days. To this union were born seven sons and five daughters, two sons preceding him in death. He united with the Amish Mennonite church, and for thirty years he served the church as a minister of the gospel. His earnest admonitions to follow Jesus will not soon be forgotten. His affliction was cancer in the face. He suffered greatly, but patiently, and when it became evident that the malady was incurable he was resigned and said, "God's will be done." When the end drew near he called to his side his beloved companion who had so loyally and lovingly ministered to his needs and who had for so many years shared with him the joys and sorrows of life, and earnestly admonished her to remain faithful unto the Lord. He also called his children, one by one and gave them loving, fatherly counsel, entreating them to be faithful and obedient to their dear mother and to follow Jesus. May the admonitions of a loving father never be forgotten. His end was peace. Funeral services were conducted at the house by Nicholas Roth, of Milford, Neb., and at the M. H., by Chr. Rediger, of Hamilton, Neb., and P. P. Hershberger and Chr. Beller, of Shickley, Neb. May the God of all comfort sustain the bereaved ones in their affliction."

After Joseph's death, Mary lived with some of her children in Precinct O (now Milford), Nebraska. The 1910 census shows Benjamin Gasho, 27, Nebraska; Mary Gasho, 66, Illinois; Christian, 34, Nebraska; Barbara, 24, Nebraska; Arthur, 19, Nebraska; Mary, 17, Nebraska; and cousin Joseph Burkey, 20, Nebraska. The 1930 census of

[34] Woodford County records call the bride Mary Burke.

Township O, Nebraska shows her as mother-in-law Mary, 79, in the household of her daughter Lydia, 42, and Ammon Hershberger, 44.

Gospel Herald, January 1939: "Mary Gascho, daughter of Joseph and Barbara Burkey, was born in Woodford Co., Ill., Dec. 28, 1850; died at the home of her daughter near Milford, Nebr., Dec. 25, 1938. She was united in marriage to Joseph Gascho March 14, 1868. They moved to Seward Co., Nebr., in 1877 where she lived most of her life. This union was blessed with 7 sons and 5 daughters. Her husband preceded her in death in the year 1902. Two sons, John and Jacob, and one daughter, Mrs. Katie Bawel of Wood River, also preceded her. She leaves five sons and four daughters: Mrs. Lena Roth, Ben, Chris, and Will Gascho and Mrs. Ammon Hershberger of Milford, Nebr.; Joseph Gascho and Mrs. Will Stutzman of Wood River, Nebr.; Arthur Gascho of Broken Bow, Nebr.; and Mrs. Peter Stutzman of Julesburg, Colo.; and also 39 grandchildren, 52 great-grandchildren, one sister (Mrs. Jacob Saltzman) and one brother (Peter Burkey) both of Milford, Nebr.; and a host of friends and acquaintances. 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. Funeral services by Bro. J. E. Zimmerman assisted by Bro. L. O Schlegel."

Children of Joseph Gascho and Mary Birky/Birkey include:

1. John Gascho was born in Illinois Sept. 17, 1869, and died at Milford, Nebraska March 20, 1885. He is buried as Johnnie Gascho in East Fairview Cemetery at Milford, Nebraska. *Herald of Truth*, May 1886: "On the 22d of March, near Milford, Seward Co., Neb., John Gasho, son of Joseph and Mary Gasho, aged 16 years, 6 months and 3 days. He was buried in the Amish Mennonite graveyard. Funeral services were held by Joseph Shlegel and Joseph Rediger from *1 Cor 15:22*."
2. Joseph Gascho was born near Flanagan, Livingston County Feb. 11, 1871, and died at Cairo, Nebraska Aug. 22, 1954. In 1898 he married Jakobina 'Bena' 'Phoebe' Roth. She was born March 24, 1873, and died at Wood River, Nebraska March 3, 1945, a daughter of Jacob Roth and Marie Lauber. They are buried in Wood River Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, April 1945: " Gascho. - Jacobina, daughter of the late Jacob and Mary Roth. was born March 24, 1873, near Wilmendingen, Germany; left our family circle to join the heavenly hosts March 3, 1945; aged 71 y. 11 m. 7 d. She arrived in New York on her sixteenth birthday, accompanied by one brother and one sister. They came directly to Milford, Nebr., to the home of relatives. She worked out until 1898, when she was married to Joe Gascho. They lived near Milford until 1908, when they moved to their present home north of Wood River, Nebr. Two sons and five daughters were born to this union. She leaves to mourn her departure her loving husband, two sons (Alvin, Wood River; and Harry, Beltsville, Md., C.P.S. Camp), two daughters (Ida and Kathryn, at home), 18 grandchildren, one daughter-in-law, one step-granddaughter, one great grandchild, one brother (Ben Roth, of Milford), and many other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by three daughters (Mary-Mrs. Abe Roth, Minnie-Mrs. Sid Beckler, and Anna-Mrs. Royden Jantzi), one granddaughter, her parents, three sisters, and 11 brothers. At the death of her daughter Mary in 1930, she opened her home to four of her grandchildren (Robert, Delmar, Josephine, and Irene Roth), which is still home to them. Early in life she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church. When she came to America she transferred her membership to the Mennonite Church, remaining faithful until her death. In her many duties as mother and grandmother she served with a steady zeal and a quiet, consistent life. Her influence for good touched many lives. The last fourteen months of her life she patiently endured her illness, due to heart trouble and complications, and spent the last week of her life in a hospital. The end came without a struggle as she was beginning to eat her breakfast. Often during her illness she quoted the Saviour's invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Funeral services were conducted March 6 at the home by Peter Kennel and at the Wood River Church by W. R. Eicher. Text *Job 21:23-26*. Interment was made in the adjoining cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, October 1954: "Gascho, Joseph, son of Joseph and Mary (Birkey) Gascho, was born near Flanagan, Ill., Feb. 11, 1871; passed away at his home in Cairo, Nebr., Aug. 22, 1954; aged 83 y. 6 m. 11 d. He had been in failing health, caused mainly by hardening of the arteries, for over two years and was confined to his home the last three months. He was married to Jacobina Roth in 1898. This union was blessed with two sons and five daughters. His wife preceded him in death in 1945. Three daughters also preceded him (Mrs. Mary Roth in 1930 and Mrs. Anna Jantzi and Mrs. Minnie Beckler in 1935). His parents, three sisters, four brothers and three grandchildren also preceded him. Surviving are two sons (Alvin and Harry, both of Wood River, Nebr.), two daughters (Ida and Katie, at home), two sisters (Mrs. Mary Stutzman and Mrs. Lydia Hershberger, both of Corry, Pa.), two brothers (Ben and Chris both of Milford, Nebr.), 21 grandchildren, and 30 great-grandchildren. In his youth he accepted Christ as his Saviour and became a member of the Mennonite Church at Milford. Later he and his wife transferred their membership to the newly organized Wood River Mennonite Church where he willingly lent a helping hand in erecting the building and establishing the congregation. Funeral services were held at the Wood River Church by W. R. Eicher and Sam Oswald. Interment was made in the adjoining cemetery."
3. Magdalena 'Maggie' 'Lena' Gascho was born at Gridley, McLean County Oct. 18, 1872, and died at Hutchinson, Kansas Sept. 18, 1939. On Oct. 27, 1892 she married Michael Roth. *Gospel Herald*, October 1839: "Roth. Magdalene, daughter of the late Joseph and Mary Gascho, was born Oct. 13, 1872, at Gridley, Ill.; died at the Grace

Hospital, Hutchinson, Kans., after a short illness of three days while visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Edward Kauffman; aged 66 y. 11 m. In her youth she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church. She was a faithful member of the East Fairview congregation of Milford, Neb., at the time of her death, and had been making her home near Milford with a daughter (Mrs. Jonas Bontrager), at which place she will be greatly missed. On Oct. 27, 1892, she was united in marriage to Michael Roth who preceded her in death a little more than a year. This union was blessed with nine children, one son having preceded them in death. The following children (Joe L., William, Mrs. Fannie Beckler, Jake, Albert and Mrs. Alma Bontrager, near Milford; Edward and Mrs. Frieda Kauffman, of Hutchinson, Kans.) are a living testimony of the influence of this Christian mother. She also leaves 30 grandchildren, three sisters, five brothers, and many other relatives and friends. She was of a very quiet and kind disposition and was at all times a credit to her community. Short services conducted by Bro. Harry Diener at the Hutchinson Funeral Home in Kansas. Bro. Wm. R. Eicher had charge of the services at the East Fairview Church near Milford, where interment was made."

4. Christian/Christopher Gascho was born at Flanagan, Livingston County Sept. 21, 1874, and died at Milford, Nebraska March 10, 1958. *Gospel Herald*, April 1958: "Gascho, Chris, son of Joseph and Mary (Burkey) Gascho, was born near Flanagan, Ill., Sept. 21, 1874; passed away March 10, 1958; aged 83 y. 5 m. 17 d. He came to Nebraska with his parents at the age of four and lived there practically all his life. Surviving are one brother (Ben, Milford, Nebr., with whom he resided), 2 sisters (Lydia-Mrs. Ammon Hershberger and Mary-Mrs. Peter Stuzman, both of Corry, Pa.), and many nieces and nephews. His parents, 5 brothers, and 3 sisters preceded him in death. In his youth he accepted Christ as his Saviour and became a member of the East Fairview Mennonite Church, remaining faithful until death. Funeral services were held at the East Fairview Church in charge of Ammon Miller and Oliver Roth. Burial in the adjoining cemetery."
5. Benjamin Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska March 14, 1878, and died there Sept. 21, 1962. On Dec. 16, 1915 he married Mary Eichelberger. On Oct. 13, 1835 he remarried to Lizzie Yeackley Eicher. *Gospel Herald*, October 1963: "Gascho, Ben, son of Joseph and Mary (Burkey) Gascho, was born near Milford, Nebr., March 14, 1878; died at his home at Milford on Sept. 21, 1963; aged 85 y. 6 m. 7 d. On Dec. 16, 1915, he was married to Mary Eichelberger, who passed away Sept. 12, 1930. On Oct. 13, 1935, he was married to Lizzie Yeackley Eicher, who survives. Also surviving are 6 stepdaughters and one stepson (Flonie Roth, Esther Stutzman, Stella Roth, Roy Eicher, Mattie Roth, Jessie Hobson, and Doris Roth), 25 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 2 sisters (Lydia-Mrs. Ammon Hershberger, and Mary-Mrs. Pete Stutzman). Preceding him in death were 6 brothers and 3 sisters."
6. Barbara Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska March 28, 1880, and died at Parnell, Iowa Aug. 5, 1945. She is buried in West Union Mennonite Cemetery at Greene Township, Iowa. On Feb. 5, 1914 she married William N. Stutzman. *Gospel Herald*, August 1945: "Stutzman. - Barbara, daughter of the late Joseph and Mary Gascho, was born near Milford, Nebr., March 28, 1880; passed away at her home near Parnell, Iowa, Aug. 5, 1945; aged 65 y. 4 m 8 d. In her youth she was received into the Mennonite Church and remained a faithful member until death. On Feb. 5, 1914, she was united in marriage to William N. Stutzman, who survives. They made their home near Wood River, Nebr., until 1944 when they moved to Iowa. Surviving are 3 children (Arthur, Eda, and Wilma, at home), one stepdaughter (Mrs. Malinda Schweitzer, Cairo, Nebr.), 14 step grandchildren, 2 sisters (Mrs. Lydia Hershberger, Union City, Pa.; and Mrs. Mary Stutzman, Spartansburg, Pa.), 4 brothers (Chris and Ben, Milford, Nebr.; Joe, Wood River, Nebr.; and Arthur, Cairo, Nebr.), and many other relatives and friends. Her father and mother, one stepdaughter, 3 brothers, and 2 sisters preceded her in death. She was in failing health for the last five months, suffering from cancer. It was her desire to be anointed and on June 26 this ordinance was observed, at which time she committed her all into the hands of the Lord. She was patient in her suffering and desired to get well, but was willing that the Lord's will might be done in her life. Funeral services were held at the Wellman Mennonite Church, in charge of W. S. Guengerich and Geo. S. Miller. Burial was made in the West Union Cemetery."
7. Catherine 'Katie' Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska Aug. 15, 1882, and died at Grand Inland, Nebraska Feb. 26, 1929. On Feb. 27, 1902 she married John E. Bawel. *Gospel Herald*, July 1929: "Kate (Gascho) Bawel, daughter of Pre. Joseph and Mary Gascho, was born near Milford, Nebr., Aug. 15, 1882; died at the St. Francis Hospital, Grand Inland, Nebr., following an operation for appendicitis, Feb. 26, 1929; aged 46 y. 6 m. 11 d. In youth she united with the A. M. Church, remaining faithful till the end. On Feb. 27, 1902, she was united in marriage to John E. Bawel. To this union were born eight children. Two daughters preceded her in death. She leaves her husband and the following children: Emma G., Nellie G., Velma F. Beckler, Henry J., Viola D., and Bessie B. She also leaves her aged mother, four sisters, and five brothers (Ben, Christ, Mrs. Lydia Hershberger, Mrs. Lena Roth, Joe, Arthur, Mrs. Barbara Stutzman, William, Mrs. Mary Stutzman). She left a testimony that she was ready to depart. Funeral services were held at the home of a brother, near Cairo, Nebr., by Bro. A. E. Stoltzfus and at the Wood River church by Bro. D. G. Lapp of Roseland, Nebr. Interment in the cemetery nearby."
8. William Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska in Feb. 14, 1884, and died at Albany, Oregon June 21, 1941. *Gospel Herald*, July 1941: "William Gascho, son of the late Joseph and Mary (Birkey) Gascho, was born Feb. 14, 1884, near Milford, Nebr.; passed to his eternal reward on June 21, 1941, near Albany, Oreg.; aged 57 y. 4 m. 7 d. He always had Milford as his home, although he was often at different places of relatives, working as a day laborer. He spent most of the last year near Willman, Iowa, with his brother-in-law, John Bawel and family. He had been in Oregon only a short while. His death came very suddenly while at work Saturday morning. He accepted Christ as His Saviour in youth, holding his membership with the East Fairview Mennonite Church near Milford. He leaves to

mourn his sudden departure four brothers and three sisters (Joseph, and Barbara Stutzman, of Wood River; Ben, Chris, and Lydia Hershberger, of Milford; Art, of Broken Bow, and Mary Stutzman of Julesburg, Colo.). He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and two sisters. Funeral services were held at Fairview Mennonite Church near Albany, Oregon, on Sunday afternoon, conducted by Nick Birky and Melvin Schrock. The body was then sent to Milford, Nebr., to the home of his brother Ben, where services were held Wednesday afternoon, conducted at the home by Ammon Miller, and at the East Fairview Church by Wm. R. Wicher and Jos. E. Zimmerman. Interment in adjoining cemetery."

9. Lydia Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska Aug. 20, 1888, and died at Corry, Pennsylvania Sept. 10, 1983. She married Ammon Hershberger. He was born at Milford, Nebraska Oct. 29, 1885, and died at Corry, Pennsylvania June 5, 1968, a son of Abner Hershberger and Sarah Stutzman. They lived at Milford, then at Union City, Pennsylvania. *Gospel Herald*, October 1963: "Hershberger, Lydia, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Burkey) Gascho, was born in Milford, Neb., Aug. 20, 1888; died at Corry, Pa., Sept. 10, 1983; aged 95 y. She was married to Ammon Hershberger, who preceded her in death. Surviving are two daughters (Esther-Mrs. Irvin Roth and Ruth-Mrs. Clayton Troyer), two sons (Clyde and Willard), 20 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren, and five greatgreat-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one daughter (Arlene-Mrs. Cecil Reynolds). She was the oldest member of Beaverdam Mennonite Church, where funeral services were held on Sept. 13, in charge of James Hershberger; interment in Beaverdam Cemetery."
10. Arthur Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska July 8, 1890, and died at Cairo, Nebraska Jan. 8, 1948. He is buried in Wood River Cemetery at Wood River Nebraska, where his headstone gives the dates 1891-1948. *Gospel Herald*, February 1948: "Arthur, son of the late Joseph and Mary (Berkey) Gascho, was born near Milford, Nebr., July 8, 1890; died at his home, Cairo, Nebr., Jan. 8, 1948; aged 57 y. 6 m. Death resulted from a stroke. In his youth he united with the Mennonite Church of which he remained a member until death. On Feb. 10, 1918, he was united in marriage to Barbara Stutzman, of Wood River, Nebr., who passed away April 18, 1942. To this union were born five children. He was united in marriage to Laura Stutzman on Sept. 19, 1943, since which time he resided at Cairo, Nebr. Surviving are his wife, two daughters (Mrs. Dean Veeder, Cairo, Nebr.; and Mary, Broken Bow, Nebr.), two sons (Glen A., of Broken Bow; and Chester W., at home), two grandchildren, three brothers (Joseph, Wood River, Nebr.; and Ben and Christ, Milford, Nebr.), and two sisters (Mrs. P. B. Stutzman, Spartansburg, Pa.; and Mrs. A. A. Hershberger, Union City, Pa.). One infant son, three brothers, and three sisters predeceased him. His pleasant smile and kind words lightened the burden of many sad hearts. Funeral services were conducted Jan. 11 at the home and at the Wood River Mennonite Church by W. R. Eicher, assisted by Ezra Roth. Burial was made in the Mennonite Cemetery adjacent to the church."
11. Mary Gascho was born at Milford, Nebraska April 23, 1893, and died at Titusville, Pennsylvania Oct. 12, 1976. On Oct. 18, 1911 she married Peter Stutzman. He was born at Milford March 30, 1888, and died at Corry, Pennsylvania June 9, 1969, a son of Aaron Stutzman and Barbara Beckler. They lived at Spartansburg, Pennsylvania. *Gospel Herald*, July 1969: "Stutzman.- Peter B., son of Aaron and Barbara (Beckler) Stutzman, was born at Milford, Neb., Mar. 30, 1888; died at his home near Corry, Pa., June 9, 1969; aged 81 y. 2 m. 9 d. On Oct. 18, 1911, he was married to Mary Gascho, who survives. Also surviving are 7 children (Gladys-Mrs. Lester Heliker, Frieda-Mrs. Frank Ehrhart, Dorthy-Mrs. Maynard Troyer, Frank B., Clifford L., Leonard J., and Walter C.), 20 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, and 2 sisters (Mrs. Cora Boshart and Mrs. Barbara Stutzman). He was preceded in death by 2 children and 3 grandchildren. He was a member of the Beaverdam Church, Corry. Pa., where funeral services were held June 11, with Donald D. Nofziger officiating." They are buried in Lawn Cemetery at Beaverdam, Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH GASCHO

Joseph Gascho was born circa 1773, and died in North America (likely Somerset County, Pennsylvania) after 1831.[35]

On Aug. 7, 1797 at Gondrexange he married Catherine Zwalter. She was born in 1768, a daughter of Christian Zwalter and Marie Risser (see the Appendix, ZWALTER for background on the family). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farm hand Joseph Cachot, 24, living on *La Canardière*, a son of Francois Cachot and Anne Chraque, "who in life had been millers at Meresbach, Moselle." The bride was described as Catherine Swalter [Zwalter], 28, a daughter of Christiane Swalter and Marie Richard [Risser]. Witnesses included Jean Chartz [Schertz], 40, and Christiane Chartz, 48. It was signed 'Joseph Gascho.'

The couple lived on *La Canardière* ['the farm stock yard', Ger. *Entenhof* or *Antehof*] at Gondrexange in the Dieuze Ponds area of Moselle. (The location *La Canardière* has confused some researchers who placed the Gaschos at an estate with the same name near Strasbourg).

[35] We found several sources that say he died at Imling, Feb. 24, 1812, the same place and year as his brother. Though there is a civil death entry there for his brother, there was none for him.

Other locations surrounding the village of Gondrexange included the pond [Fr. *L'Étang de Gondrexange*]; the Kaisermatt fields [Ger. *Gut Haut-Ghor*]; and the castle estate Ketzing [Ger. *Keitzingen*] leased by Ringenberg, Nafziger, and Schertz families.[36]

Catherine Zwalter presumably died before 1831. Joseph immigrated as a 58-year-old with his son Joseph, sailing from Le Havre on the *Massasoit* and arriving at Baltimore May 21, 1831 (as noted earlier). They may have reunited with his oldest son Christian, who was in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania as early as 1824.

Children of Joseph Gascho and Catherine Zwalter include:

1. Christian Gascho was born at Gondrexange April 23, 1798 (he is found on a civil birth entry as Christianne Gachot), and died in Waterloo County, Ontario Nov. 23, 1870. In 18254 in Lancaster County he married Christina Petersheim. She was born at Lippe, Germany April 19, 1806, and died in Waterloo County July 27, 1882, a daughter of George Petersheim and Christina Nissley. Her family had immigrated before 1818. In 1837 they purchased her uncle's farm in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Christian Gascho is found on the 1840 census of Somerset, Somerset County. They relocated to Wilmot Township, Ontario in 1848. They are found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as Mennonite farmer Christian Gascho, 54, Luderinger [from Ger. *Lothringen*, or Lorraine]; Christena, 45, Defermery [we viewed the script, but could not interpret this]; Magdalena, 24, Pennsylvania; John, 22, Pennsylvania; Christian, 12, Pennsylvania; David, 10, Pennsylvania; Susan, 5, Pennsylvania; and Jacob, 3, Pennsylvania. They were living next door to Christian Steinman and Veronika Eyer. They are also found on the 1861 census of Wilmot; in 1871 Christina is found as a 65-year-old widow with children David, Magdalena, and Susannah. Children of Christian Gascho and Christina Petersheim include:[37]
    a. Veronica Gascho was born in Somerset County Nov. 9, 1825, and died there Feb. 17, 1827.
    b. Magdalena Gascho was born in Somerset County July 11, 1827, and died in Waterloo County, Ontario Feb. 4, 1917. She is found on the 1901 census of Wellesley Township as a 73-year-old Mennonite lodger born July 11, 1827, in the household of Barbara Gascho born Oct. 5, 1853 (Barbara Ramseyer, the widow of Magdalena's younger brother David Gascho). *Gospel Herald*, February 1917: "Magdalena Gascho was born July, 1827, near Johnstown, Pa., and died at Poole, Ont., Feb. 4, 1917; aged 89 y. 6 m. Buried Feb. 7, funeral services by Jacob Lichty and Nicholas Nafziger. Text, *II Cor. 5:1-10; Luke 2:29-32*."
    c. Johannes/John P. Gascho was born in Somerset County Feb. 21, 1830, and died of heart failure in Waterloo County Dec. 13, 1909. On Sept. 21, 1852 in Waterloo County he married Barbara Erb. She was born there July 13, 1831, and died at Wilmot Aug. 6, 1876, a daughter of John Erb and Veronica Swartzentruber. John was ordained as elder of the Steinmann Mennonite Church at Wilmot in 1872. On Nov. 6, 1877 John remarried to Barbara Erb. She was born at Baden, Ontario Feb. 2, 1835, and died there March 23, 1931, a daughter of Christian Erb and Elizaabeth Schultz. *Gospel Herald*, May 1831: "Barbara Erb, widow of the late Bishop John Gascho, was born near Baden, Ont., Feb. 2, 5; died at the home of one of her step-grandchildren (Mrs. Jacob B. Iutzi. in Baden), March 23, 1931; d 96 y. 1 m. 21 d. She was the second wife of the late Bishop John Gascho who proceeded her in death a little over 21 years ago. No children were born to this union. In her early years she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and united with the Amish Mennonite Church in Wilmot, of which she was a faithful member until death. She was the last member of a family of 11 children and died of infirmities from of old age. She leaves the following children: Mrs. John Steinman, Christian, Jacob, Mrs. D.H. Steinman, David, Menno, Daniel, and many other friends and relatives. Funeral services were conducted at the house by Bro. Peter Boshart and at the Steinmann Church by Dan Lebold and Jacob R. Bender. Burial in the adjoining cemetery." They are buried in Steinmann Mennonite Cemetery at Wilmot.
    d. Barbara Gascho was born in Somerset County Nov. 17, 1832, and died there in 1836.
    e. Daniel Gascho was born in Somerset County March 21, 1836, and died there in 1838.
    f. Christian Gascho was born in Somerset County Nov. 1, 1838, and died in Waterloo County Oct. 22, 1872. He married Mary Schwartzentruber. She was born in Ontario Oct. 22, 1840, and died there Nov. 15, 1915, a daughter of John Schwartzentruber and Catherine Blank. Despite his relative youth he was ordained as elder of the Amish Mennonite congregation at Mornington. He is buried in the Riser-Reschly Plot at Kingwood, adjacent to the Reformed Mennonite Cemetery. After his death Mary remarried to John Erb.
    g. David Gascho was born in Somerset County March 7, 1841, and died at Wellesley Sept. 19, 1893. On Jan. 29, 1871 at Wilmot he married Barbara Ramseyer. She was born Oct. 3, 1853 (per death entry), and died at Wellesley Oct. 6, 1930, a daughter of Joseph Ramseyer and Barbara Klopfenstein. They are buried in Maple View Mennonite Cemetery at Wellesley.
    h. Samuel Gascho was born in Somerset County March 4, 1844, and died there Feb. 12, 1846.

[36] Local records show Nafziger as 'Naxier', and Schertz and 'Chartz.'

[37] The Christian Gascho family *Bible* is now held by the Mennonite Archives of Ontario at Conrad Grebel College.

i. Susanna Gascho was born in Somerset County June 16, 1846, and died in Waterloo County, Ontario Feb. 2, 1892.
j. Jacob Gascho was born in Waterloo County, Ontario Aug. 26, 1848, and died there Dec. 5, 1852.

2. Joseph Gascho was born Dec. 2, 1801, and died as an infant.
3. Catherine Gascho was born Sept. 24, 1803, and may have died young.
4. Joseph Gascho/Gashow was born at Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle Aug. 1, 1808, and died in Lagrange County, Indiana July 30, 1866. His civil birth entry described his parents as miller Joseph Gaschog, 30, and Catherine Zwalter. His father signed 'Joseph Gacho.' Joseph sailed from Le Havre on the *Masssoit*, and arrived at Baltimore May 21, 1831. He went from there to Somerset County, Pennsylvania, where he married Susanna Stutzman circa 1833. She was born at Berlin, Somerset County Feb. 17, 1806, and died in Somerset County Oct. 31, 1865, a daughter of John Stutzman and Anna Speicher. Joseph Gasho is found on the 1840 census of Somerset, Somerset County. Their household is found on the 1850 census of Somerset Township, Somerset County as farmer Joseph Gashaw, 41, France; Susanna, 44, Penna.; Moses, 16; Nancy, 14; Henry, 9; Eli, 5; John 3; all children born in Pennsylvania; and Barbara Niely, 74. The 1860 census of Somerset Township shows Joseph Gashaw, 51, France; Susannah, 53, France; Henry, 19, Pennsylvania; Elias, 16, Pennsylvania; John, 13, Pennsylvania; and Elizabett, 11, Pennsylvania. *Herald of Truth*, February 1866: "On the 13st of Octobe, 1865, in Somerset Township, Somerset Co., Pa., Susanna, consort of Joseph Gashaw, aged 59 years, 8 mos., and 14 days. Her maiden name was Stutzman. She was buried on the 2nd day of Nov. A funeral discourse was delivered by the writer from *I Thess. 4:13-18*. She was a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite Church, until called to the future world, where we hope she will meet the Savior, in mansions above, where all tears shall be wiped from her eyes, and where there shall be no more sorrow, nor pain, nor death. Abner Yoder." *Herald of Truth*, September 1866: "On the 30th of July, at the residence of Bro. Christian Yoder, in Lagrange County, Indiana, Joseph Gascha, aged about 57 years. He came here from Somerset County, Pennsylvania, about three months ago. His wife died in Pennsylvania about seven months ago. He was buried on the 1st of August. Funeral sermon by Christian Miller from *Jn. 5: 26-30* and *1 Thess 4: 13-18*. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of people. He was a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite church. Daniel D. Miller." Descendants spell their surname 'Gashow' and 'Gashaw.' Their children born in Somerset County include:
    a. Moses Gashow was born Feb. 27, 1834, and died at Rock Creek Township, Carroll County, Illinois July 30, 1880. He married Susanna Kimmel. She was born in Somerset County Sept. 29, 1836, and died at Rock Creek May 6, 1886. Before 1869 they relocated to Illinois. The 1880 census of Rock Creek shows them as farmer Moses Garshaw, 46, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Susan, 44, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pensylvania; and four children born in Pennsylvania. They are buried in Dutchtown Brethren Cemetery at Milledgeville, Carroll County, Illinois. His headstone says he died July 31, 1880, age 46; hers that she died May 6, 1888, age 50.
    b. Anna 'Nancy' Gashow was born Jan. 13, 1836, and died at Sunnyvale, California June 2, 1923. On April 20, 1854 in Somerset County she married Joseph Hunter. He was born in Somerset County Nov. 13, 1831, and died at Des Moines, Iowa July 16, 1887, a son of Alexander Hunter and Anna 'Nancy' Trent.
    c. Henry Gashow was born circa 1841. He married Lucinda Long, a daughter of Levi Long and Catherine Walker. According to the newspaper *Somerset Democrat*, Henry Gashaw was drafted into military service at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania March 10, 1865, and was due to report between March 27 and 31.
    ■ There may have been a child Elizabeth who was born in 1843 and died before 1849.
    d. Elias Gashow was born June 24, 1844, and died at Boswell, Somerset County Feb. 7, 1929. On Oct. 27, 1867 at Conemaugh, Somerset County he married Catherine 'Katie' Kaufman. She was born in Somerset County Aug. 29, 1848, and died at Jenner March 16, 1928, a daughter of Jacob Kauffman and Elizabeth Yoder. *Gospel Herald*, April 1928: "Catherine Kauffman Gashaw, daughter of Jacob and Lizzie Kaufman, was born Aug. 29, 1848; died in Jenner Township, Somerset Co., Pa., Mar. 16, 1928; aged 79 y. 6 m. 16 d. She was united in marriage to Eli Gashaw over 60 years ago, and soon after their marriage she and her husband united with the Mennonite Church of which she remained a faithful member until death. She is survived by her husband, four daughters, and one son. One daughter preceded her in death seven years ago. She is also survived by one brother, thirty-six grandchildren, twenty-seven great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends. Her husband has been afflicted for several years, and it was her very anxious desire to live longer than he in order to take care of him, but God saw better otherwide. Funeral services were conducted in the home by James Saylor. In the Thomas Church, L. A. Blough conducted the opening exercises, S. G. Shetler based the sermon on 'Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory' and James Saylor added some fitting remarks. A large concourse of people were assembled for the occasion. The remains were laid away in the Thomas cemetery."
    e. John Gashow was born March 2, 1847, and died in Somerset County Dec. 7, 1935. He married Mary Keim. She was born in Somerset County June 6, 1846, and died there Sept. 9, 1911. They are found on the 1880 census of Jenner. John remarried to Elizabeth Zimmerman. She was born Jan. 16, 1846, and died in Somerset County March 2, 1934, a daughter of Henry Zimmerman and Sarah Foust.
    f. Elizabett Gashaw, 11, is found on the 1860 census of Somerset Township.

- There is a family story that the youngest child was named Valentin Gascho. Could he be the 'Gasho' who carried pocket knives to Lancaster County in 1834? According to *Volume 19, Number 3* of *Nafzger Heritage News*, Daniel Güngerich (married to Elisabeth Schwartzentruber) of Freinsheim, Germany (12 miles southwest of Worms) sent a letter dated March 24, 1834 to Jakobina Nafziger in America. It was addressed care of John Lapp of Paradise, Lancaster County. It stated that "...three of Imhoff's children are coming over."[38] It added that they were bringing eight pocket knives, and "...Gasho also took along seven pocket knives for you." We can only guess that this was the elusive Valentin Gascho, whose father and two older brothers were already in Pennsylvania.

PENNSYLVANIA AND INDIANA GASCHOS can be found in the Appendix.

[38] The 'three' were likely children of Johannes Imhoff and Anna Maria Schwartzentruber. They lived on the Ormsheimer Hof near Frankenthal, seven miles east of Freinsheim (see IMHOFF). Hermann Guth wrote that Christian Imhof and two sisters immigated in 1834.

Orendorff: Orndorf of Freudenberg

The farm Hof Ohrndorf was situated in the hamlet Büschergrund, adjoining the northern outskirts of Freudenberg in the district of Arnsberg, now in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Henne zu Orndorf was born there circa 1560. Circa 1584 he married Katharina. When he died on Hof Orndorf June 12, 1616 the event, like many to follow, was recorded by the Protestant Reformed Church at Freudenberg.[39]

Their son **Stephen Ohrendorf** was born on Hof Orndorf circa 1597, and died at Bocksiefen (now part of Büschergrund) circa 1632. On Aug. 26, 1625 at Freudenberg he married Gela Wagoner. She died July 6, 1634.

Their son **Hermann 'Mannus' Ohrndorf** was born at Bockseifen Jan. 1, 1632, and died in the hamlet of Halmenhof (now part of Büschergrund) Jan. 3, 1676. On March 9, 1656 he married Margaretha Dicke, and they farmed at Halmenhof. Hermann appeared as a court witness many times between 1661 and 1672. Margaretha died at Halmenhof three days after her husband.

Hermann and Margaretha had two sons: **Johanes Henrik Ohrendorf** (1661), and **Christian Ohrendorf** (1672). The descendants of the older son form the Orendorff family of Hopedale. Their first immigrant came over in 1741. The descendants of the younger son led to Daniel Orendorf, the Amish Mennonite immigrant of 1826.

The Hopedale Branch

(Reformed, Moravian)

The older son of Hermann and Margaretha was **Johanes Henrik Ohrendorf**. He was born at Halmenhof April 2, 1661, and baptized at Freudenberg 13 days later.

On Feb. 12, 1685 at Freudenberg Johanes Henrik married Agnes Gieseler. They later lived at Eichen (6 miles northeast of Freudenberg). There Agnes captured attention.

On Aug. 2, 1698 Rorich Waschenbach of Eichen complained to the local authorities that Agnes and his wife Maria were fighting. The struggle had ended up with his wife in a fish pond. Both were restricted to their own homes for a few days. Agnes had to be warned not to continue her feud. Their children would later marry.

Johanes Henrik Ohrendorf died at Eichen, and was buried at Freudenberg Jan. 2, 1708.

Their son **Christian Ohrndorf** was born at Eichen Aug. 15, 1693, and baptized at Freudenberg Aug. 20 (his uncle Christian born in 1672 was godfather).

On Jan. 29, 1714 at Freudenberg he married Agnes Waschenbach. She was born Oct. 19, 1697, and died circa 1751, a daughter of Rorich Waschenbach and Maria. They farmed at Kieselberg (a nearby hamlet that no longer exists).

Christian and Agnes, their son Johann Christian, daughter Louisa, and son-in-law Philip Musse sailed from Rotterdam via Cowes on the *St. Mark*, and arrived at Philadelphia Sept. 26, 1741.[40] According to the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, "Approximately seventy percent of German-speaking immigrants to Great Britain's American colonies came to Pennsylvania... Between 1727 and 1775, more than 70,000 arrived... The Commonwealth required an *Oath of Allegiance* to be administered to the non-British immigrants beginning in 1727. The *Oaths of Fidelity and Abjuration* were begun in 1729; the first specifically required the oath-taker to disavow any ties to other monarchs and embrace the British ruler; and the second to abjure, or renounce, any previous connection to the Pope....The Governor and the council required all foreign males age sixteen and over to take an oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain, a requirement that remained in force until the end of the colonial

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[39] The Protestant Reformed Church was introduced into German territory by Elector Frederick III. It spread outward from his capital, Heidelberg in the Pfalz. The elector sponsored the creation of a catechism that was published as a book. In 1566 he was called before the Diet of Germany at Augsburg to defend it. His personal presentation May 14, 1566 was accepted. In Germany today the Protestant Reformed Church [Ger. *Evangelische Reformierte Kirche*] is a combination of the beliefs and practices of this older church with Lutheran beliefs and practices.

[40] The 1741 immigrant Chistian Ohrndorf also had a third cousin who came to Pennsylvania 12 years later. Like Christian, Philip Heinrich Ohrndorf was a great-great-grandson of Henne zu Orndorf. He was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Burbach (7 miles southeast of Siegen) Dec. 6, 1716, and married Anna Elizabeth Wuhl at Burbach Feb. 12, 1743. They sailed from Rotterdam on the *Edinburgh* with four children, and arrived at Philadelphia Oct. 2, 1753. He appears on the passenger list as Philip Heinrich Arndorff. Philip Heinrich died at Vincent, Chester County, Pennsylvania May 31, 1777. Their descendants make up an 'Orndorff" branch.

period in 1776." The two lists describe 'Christian Orrentorff' or 'Christian Ohrndorf,' and his son as 'Johann Ohrendorf.' 'Philip Mees' [Musse] is also found.

Circa 1746 they settled on Tulpehocken Creek in the Lebanon Valley of Lancaster County. There Agnes died.

In 1749 widower Christian was living at Fredericksburg, Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County in the Swatara valley (between the Second and Blue Mountains). He is found on the Heidelberg tax list in 1753. There he joined a Moravian congregation.[41] Their records called him Christian, and showed that he was from 'Kiselberg in Freudenberg.' His son-in-law Philip Musse is also found in their records. Christian remarried to Elizabeth Von Müller/Miller from the Moravian congregation.

The 1753 *Assessment List* of Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County shows Christian Orendorf as a taxable person. He was naturalized in 1758.

Christian died at Fredericksburg April 16, 1772, and may have been buried in the Moravian Cemetery at Bethel Township.

Johann Christian Orndorff/Christian Orendorff was born near Freudenberg Nov. 15, 1726. On April 2, 1749 in Lancaster County he married Elizabeth Ann Hoffman. She was born in 1732.

In America he was known simply as Christian Orendorff. A *National Register of Historic Places* nomination form describes, "Orndorff's Mill or Mumma's Mill...at Mount Pleasant located just north of Maryland Route 34 west of the Antietam Creek between Sharpsburg and Keedysville in Washington County, Maryland...a two-story three-bay log dwelling set on very low stone foundations...Accounts of the Orndorff family indicate that Christian Orndorff established a mill on the Antietam [Creek] shortly after he purchased 503 acres from James Smith for 654 pounds on Nov. 17, 1762...The Mount Pleasant property is also important for its association with significant military events in United States history. Several members of the Orndorff family were officers of the Maryland Militia. According to family history, the Orndorff house, during the Revolution, was the scene of many military and policy-making conferences hosted by Christian Orndorff, member of the Maryland Committee of Safety. General Horatio Gates is said to have been one of many military officers who stayed in the Orndorff home."

Other accounts say Johann Christian purchased 292 acres on the Antietam Creek and 11 acres on the Potomac River at Sharpsburg in Washington County, Maryland Dec. 9, 1762, and moved his family there.

On July 18, 1776 he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Maryland Militia. Records describe him as a lieutenant in the 'Maryland Flying Camp' in 1776. The entire grouping was led by Brigadier General Rezin Beall; 'Christian Orendorf' is found in First Battalion under Colonel Charles G. Griffith.

He was captured circa November of 1776; we know this because he had been a prisoner for two-and-one-half years in May of 1779.

Brigadier General Rezin Beall (1723-1809) was elected captain of the First Independent Maryland Company by the Convention of Maryland Jan. 2, 1776. As a captain, he was struck in the shoulder by a rifle shot and in the hip by a cannon shot during an engagement at St. George's Island July 16, 1776. He was then elected brigadier general of the 'Flying Camp' of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware, and served with them until Dec. 1, 1776. He only participated in two battles in this time frame. The Battle of Long Island Aug. 26, 1776 was a disaster for the Continental Army, but in the end, General Washington managed to evacuate everyone without a single loss.

Thus the most likely event for the capture of Johann Christian was the Battle of Fort Washington Nov. 16, 1776. Fort Washington was at the northern end of Manhatttan Island. It was across the Hudson River from Fort Lee, New Jersey, named for General Charles Lee before he fell into disfavor.

This was a decisive British victory. After 59 troops were killed, another 2,837 from the garrison of Fort Washington on Manhattan Island, New York were confined by the British.

The King of England did not recognize captured American patriots as prisoners of war. Many officers were held on old hulks in Wallabout Bay in the East River between Manhattan and Brooklyn (now the location of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and Williamsburg Bridge). Prisoners who could write were encouraged to correspond with their old officers or families, to request money for food and clothing. Nevertheless between 10,000 and 11,500 died of neglect.

A record survives of Johann Christian's correspondence with General Horatio Gates regarding a planned exchange of prisoners. Despite the Long Island address, he may have been in Wallabout Bay. A portion of the Battle of Long Island was fought in that vicinity, and Wallabout Bay was downriver from Fort Washington.[42]

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[41] This location has caused some confusion for descendants. Fredericksburg is above the town of Lebanon, and just below Swatara State Park. It is now in Lebanon County, but at the time he lived there it was in Lancaster County. Lebanon County was not established until 1813.

[42] Fort Washington was at the northern end of Manhatttan Island. It was across the Hudson River from Fort Lee, New Jersey, named for General Charles Lee before he fell into disfavor.

Christian Orendorff to Gates Long Island, May 20, 1779

Sir:

From my former acquaintance with your excellency, I am induced to request your interest in my behalf, as it is believed a partial exchange is about to take place. My confinement here for upwards of two years and half, out of the line of serving myself or country, tenders time disagreeable. As it is natural for every officer to feel for another in a state of captivity, can I convince you to exert yourself on my behalf, which will be gratefully remembered. By your excellency, most obliged, Lieut. Christian Orndorff, 6th Maryland Regiment

His name appears as 'Christian Orendorff' on a list of prisoners exchanged Oct. 25, 1780. Of the 2,837 prisoners taken from Fort Washington, only 800 survived.

Portrait and Biographical Record of Tazewell and Mason Counties, Illinois, *Portrait and Biographical Record of Tazewell and Mason Counties, Illinois* erroneously embellished, "...Christian served in the Revolution, was taken prisoner, and while a captive fell in love with the daughter of an English officer, who he afterward married."

In *Records of the Revolutionary War*, Johann Christian is again found as 'Christian Orendorff' in retirement:

Hon. Secretary of War Register's Office , Nov. 16, 1791

Sir:

Lieutenant Christian Orendorff, of the sixth Maryland regiment, has made application at this office to know whether there is any charge against him on the books of the Treasury. I have examined the records of the Department, and cannot find that any settlement has taken place with him. He alludes to an arrearage of pay and rations due to him while he was a prisoner. If you can point out any particular reference which may be obtained in this office that will show light on the nature of his claim, it shall be attended to. Your obedient servant, Joseph Dawson

A number of family sources call him a major, and say that he returned to active service in the 'Indian wars.'

THE BATTLE OF FALLEN TIMBERS

The Battle of Fallen Timbers climaxed the Northwest Indian War. It took place to settle the question of settlement rights in the Northwest Territory. This was bounded on the west by the Mississippi River, on the south by the Ohio River, and in the northeast by the Great Lakes. It effectively ended hostilities for another 16 years.

The federal government felt its citizens had a right to settle in the region because of concessions in the Treaty of Paris. Their nearsightedness denied civil rights to the only population that actually resided there.

In 1792 President George Washington ordered General 'Mad' Anthony Wayne to create a new army, the Legion of the United States, to crush resistance to settlement. In 1794 his force of 4,600 men marched west.

Blue Jacket had chosen the site of present day Maumee, Ohio as his battlefield. There a stand of trees had been blown down by a recent storm. He positioned 1,500 of his warriors and a company of Canadian militia in among the timbers, considering this his best chance to offset Wayne's cavalry. (A modern strategist would have suggested that he not mass his warriors at all, and simply wait for winter, when the federal troops would have abandoned their mission for lack of shelter).

On Aug. 20, 1794 Wayne's men charged among the timbers with bayonets. The outnumbered defenders tried to escape, but were easily outflanked in the open by horsemen. Blue Jacket retreated to a fort held by Canadians. But the Canadian commander was unwilling to take on Wayne, and locked him out. Wayne freely burned crops and villages in the area and retreated. The remaining supporters of Blue Jacket dispersed.

Very few men were actually killed in the skirmishing - Blue Jacket may have lost 40, Wayne may have lost 33 - but the point was made. The Treaty of Greenville was signed at Fort Greenville, Ohio Aug. 3, 1795. In exchange for goods valued at $20,000 ($368,000 in modern buying power), the assembled tribal representatives signed away land reaching from Ohio to a site that became Chicago.

Johann Christian Orndorff/Christian Orendorff died at Sharpsburg, Maryland Dec. 10, 1796.[43]

On April 10, 1810 his heirs sold their farm and the adjoining graveyard where he was buried to Jacob Mumma. His widow Elizabeth Ann died at Hagerstown, Maryland July 19, 1829, and was buried beside him. During the Civil War the area became the site of the Battle of Antietam, and Mumma Graveyard is now incorporated into the Antietam National Battlefield Park.[44]

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[43] Some sources have erroneously taken his will, created Dec. 28, 1795, as evidence that he died in that year.

[44] The Battle of Antietam, also known as the Battle of Sharpsburg, was fought Sept. 17, 1862. It was the culmination of the Maryland Campaign of 1862, the first invasion of the north by General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. The twelve hours of fighting by 100,000 troops marked the bloodiest one-day battle in American history. By the end of the day the Army of Northern Virginia had lost over 15,000 dead or wounded, and the Union Army had lost 8,000. The following day Lee retreated across the Potomac River.

Johann Christian/Christian Orendorff and Mary had a son **Christian Orendorff** who was also an officer in the Revolutionary War. He was born in Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County (in a part that became Lebanon County in 1813), and baptized in the Trinity Tulpehocken Reformed Church at Millardsville Oct. 15, 1752.[45]

On March 21, 1775 in Washington County he married Mary Thomas. She was born in Frederick County (adjacent to Washington County) in 1754, a daughter of Hans Michael Thomas and Barbara Klotter.

On April 1, 1778 'Christian Orendorf' was commissioned as a captain in the First Regiment, Maryland Continental Line, under Colonel Otho H. Williams.

SORTING HISTORY

Historic Shepherdstown published in 1910 stated: "...Capt. Christian Orndorff distinguished himself in the battles of Bennington and Skeenborough. He lived at Sharpsburg, Md., and did not move to the neighborhood of Shepherdstown until after the Revolution. He had a very beautiful daughter whom, it is said, General Horatio Gates wanted to marry. She refused him, and married Jonathan Hagar, who named his town Elizabeth Town in her honor. Afterwards the name was changed to Hagerstown."

Skeenborough is also found as Skeensborough or Skenesborough on the Hudson River (now Whitehall, New York). Before Benedict Arnold's arrest for treason, he was a Continental officer who built boats at Skenesborough for his surprise attack on Fort Ticonderoga with Ethan Allen. The Battle of Valcour Island resulted in the surender of the fort.

The Battle of Bennington took place at Walloonsac, N.Y., about 10 miles from Bennington, Vermont, Aug. 16, 1777. It pitted militia against a detachment sent out by British General John Burgoyne. Burgoyne's army was reduced by 1,000 troops, a factor in his later loss at Saratoga. This success may have been a factor in Christian's commissioning seven months later.

The 'beautiful daughter' Elizabeth was actually a daughter of Johann Christian Orndorff and a sister to Christian Orendorff. Mary Magdelena Orendorff was born at Sharpsburg Oct. 20, 1767, and died June 8, 1845. On Nov. 17, 1783 at what is now Hagerstown, Washington County, Maryland the 16-year-old married a much older Jonathan Hager. He was born there Dec. 13, 1755, and died in December 1798, a son of the Hessian couple Jonathan Hager and Anna Elizabeth Kirschner. They are buried in Zion Reformed United Church of Christ Cemetery at Hagerstown, where Mary Magdalena's surname is spelled 'Ohrendorff.'

General Horatio Gates would have been astonished to know that his name would be linked in history with Mary Magdalena. When she was born in 1767, he was a married 39-year-old. Her father did know Gates, and when Gates's first wife died in the summer of 1783, he would have known Mary Magdalena. He would have been 56 years old. Perhaps the association with Gates grew out of humorous observations about the older man she would marry later that year, Jonathan Hager.

An affidavit for the pension application of Thomas Watson Sr., 79, was signed at Chariton County, Missouri Nov. 20, 1833. Though Christian Orendorff is mentioned only once, that portion gives an idea of his later service:

"...Again in the month of January 1778 into the service of the United States in Shepperds Town in Virginia by enlistment in the Continental Army of the United States, I enlisted for the term of five years with eight other persons, the names of some of whom I now recollect, to wit: George Waynes, Philip Sloan, John Houle, John Shepherd & George Wills. I enlisted under Captain Christian Orenduff under the command of the aforesaid William Darke, who had now a commission in the Continental Army of the United States. From Shepperdstown we marched to little York in Pennsylvania, and remained there about three months, and were then ordered to Fort Pitt [now Pittsburgh] where we arrived shortly after, and remained there and in the neighborhood until my time expired, and was discharged having served five years."

We have revised some of the writing below for the sake of clarity. It is a deposition taken in June 1781, from *Letters to the Governor and Council of Maryland*, regarding a conspiracy in Washington and Frederick Counties - written from the viewpoint of the recording clerk.

DEPOSITION OF CHRISTIAN ORENDORFF

About a Fortnight ago, Henry Newcomer of Washington County came to him [Orendorff] in Shaftsburg [Sharpsburg], and called him out of his Father's House, and asked what he thought of these Times. He answered, "The Times were very bad & precarious."

He [Newcomer] then asked if he thought the King would overcome this Country. He [Orendorff] answered he thought he might. [Newcomer replied] "I'm sure he will overcome the Country, and Orendorff, if you will keep it a secret, I lead you into a Matter of great Importance. [When Orendorff replied that he would keep it in confidence] he said, "We

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[45] This church is now called the Tulpehocken Trinity Church, United Church of Christ.

Portrait and Biographical Record of Tazewell and Mason Counties, Illinois (1894) erroneously stated that he was born Nov. 23, 1752.

have raised a Body of Men for the Service of the King, and we thought proper to make application to you to go to New York for a Fleet." [To pick up arms and powder].

And asked how many Men they had raised, he [Newcomer] said: "Upwards of 6,000." Asked who was the Commanding officer of the Party, [Newcomer] answered "one Fritchy of Fredericktown, a Dutch Man, don't know his Christian Name." [Newcomer] ordered Orndorf to go to his House, and he would shew him the Man. [Orendorff] went to his House and rode with him to Fredericktown, but did not go to Fritchy's House. Newcomer informed him Fritchy would not see him in Town, but would meet him ten Miles from Town.

He [Fritchy] met him, and then took him aside and said he understood Orndorf was let in to a Matter that was carrying on now. Orendorf said to him, "I understood you are the commanding Officer." Fritchy said he was, and told Orndorf the Name of the Man in Virginia from whom he received Instructions to recruit, but [Orendorff] has forgot the name.

Asked why they picked him, [Orendorff] said, because he had been in New York so long they thought he was the fittest Person if he would undertake it--though they were not quite ready for a Thing of that sort. Orndorf desired him to get the Names of all the Officers which he promised to do. Before they parted, Fritchy told him not to disclose what he had communicated. Orndorf replied he would sooner sacrifice his Life than do it.

Orndorf told him to get ready as soon as he could, and let him know it [the list of names], and he said he would & as soon as he was [in possession of the list] Orndorf should be informed of it--and then he said some of his officers were so violent for it that he was afraid it would be made public. Asked who they were, he [Newcomer] said: one Kelly a Lawyer & an Irishman who lives in the mountains about twelve or fourteen miles from Fredericktown. [Orendorff] had no further Conversation with Fritchy.

After Orndorf rode four or five miles along the main Road, Newcomer said, "Orndorf you look so dead I'm afraid you ruin the matter; answered not at all Sir. [Newcomer] says, "Keep it a Secret whatever you do, for we will soon give these Fellows a damn Thrashing. [Newcomer] said as we are not ready, I must send my Boy up to the South Mountain and let them know We are not ready yet. Our Boys are so violent we can hardly keep them in. [Newcomer] said he sent an Express last week to Lancaster to hush them a little while longer.

He slapped Orndorf on the shoulder and said, "I am so glad, as if I had 10,000, [because] we have got you, Orndorf, for they could not get one so proper for the Expedition as you are. [Newcomer] said: "we have consulted one another a great while, and were afraid to mention the Matter on your Father's Account, as we knew him to be a violent Rebel" And then they parted, and Newcomer went towards Hagers Town. Newcomer lives within five or six Miles of Hager's Town.

Two or three Days after Orndorf got Home, Bleacher, one of the Captains, came to him and called him out aside and said: "I understand you are let into a Secret that is going on now." [Orendorff] answered he was, and said, "I suppose you are one of the Officers?" Bleacher said he was. Orndorf asked him what Rank he was. He answered, "A Captain." Orndorf asked how many men he had recruited; he said he had fifty men. Orndorf asked him to let him look at his Warrant. He said he had it not about him, and made it a Rule not to carry it about him. Orndorf asked him to put it in his pocket and bring it to his House and shew it to him. He said he would. And then Orndorf asked him how he managed to make known his Doings to those he wanted to join him. He said he had applied to twenty that had refused him, and asked Orndorf how he thought he must have felt after being refused.

He said to Orndorf, "You are acquainted with our Secrets, and if you expose them you must abide by the Consequences." Orndorf asked him how he thought they would do if he went & brought the Fleet to George Town, for you have no arms. Bleacher said they would mount on Horses and ride down there, and receive their arms, for the Troops in the State could not hinder them. And further said he could take the Magazine in Fredericktown with their Men. And then they parted.

Orndorf was at one Tinkles (who lives nigh to Kelly), who told him Jacob Young was informed of the Matter. [Orendorff] asked, "Why is Jacob Young informed of the Matter?" [Tinkles] said he was. Orndorf said: 'Why Jacob Young will certainly expose the Matter for he is a Magistrate" He [Tinkles] said he would not.

At about this time Christian's father sent a letter to General Horatio Gates. The illegibility of his handwriting makes it difficult to interprete, but it is clear that he was aware of the conspiracy.

June 17, 1781
Sharpsburgh

Dear General:

General Lee was home last night. He is gone today to Hagers Town. He is strongly suspected by us for his friendships. We have catched six in Sharpsburgh today. [Illegible number] are suspected, which I hope by tomorrow evening to have. You will therefore keep yourself in readiness at a moment's warning, that is, you must be ready. I am much confused and in haste, therefore you will excuse me; and believe me, General, to be your sincere and humble friend.

Christian Orendorff

GENERAL CHARLES LEE

General Charles Lee was a mercenary soldier who came to the Colonies in 1773. He purchased an estate that he renamed Prato Rio in a part of Virginia that is now Leetown, West Virginia (13 miles southwest of Sharpsburg, 9 miles southwest of Shepherdstown).

When the Revolutionary War became imminent, he expected to be nominated as commander-in-chief. George Washington got the position, and Lee became a resentful major general. After losses in the early winter of 1776 (including Fort Washington) he lost faith in Washington and began to obstruct his efforts with delay. About this time one of his personal letters criticizing Washington was opened and read by Washington.

On Dec. 13, 1776, Lee was arrested by British troops in his dressing gown in White's Tavern at Basking Ridge, New Jersey, three miles from his own troops. 80 years later evidence turned up that while under arrest he was collaborating with his British captors. After providing them with a proposed plan of attack, he was returned to service with the Continental Army in a prisoner exchange.

At the Battle of Monmouth Lee declined an order to advance, and instead retreated. His troops ran back into General Washington's troops. Subsequently the two generals exchanged some choice words. Lee was later court-martialed and relieved of command. His appeal to the Continental Congress was turned down, and he began a letter-writing campaign against Washington. He was challenged to several duels by Washington's supporters, and was wounded in one. He was released from duty Jan. 10, 1780, and died at Philadelphia Oct. 2, 1782.

THE TORY CONSPIRATORS

Henry Newcomer came from a German Mennonite family, originally from Eggiwil in Canton Bern. He was apparently wealthy, because in 1775 he and a brother had purchased 692 acres in Washington County, Maryland for 5,000 pounds (comparable to $678,000 in modern buying power). As a result of the deposition, he was tried for "...enticing and persuading to return to and acknowledge dependence on the Crown and Parliament of Great Britain."

On July 6, 1781 Newcomer was convicted on two counts of treason. He spent two years in the Fredericktown jail. He apparently hid his money or divied it out among relatives; after pleading poverty his 1,000-pound fine was reduced to 75. His prosperity returned soon after his release, and he continued to construct mills and be an influential businessman in the community.

Seven men were sentenced to death. The three that actually had their sentences carried out included Caspar Fritchie. Judge Alexander Contee Harrison pronounced sentence July 25, 1781: "You shall be carried to the goal of Fredericktown, and be hanged therein; you shall be cut down to the earth alive, and your entrails shall be taken out and burnt while you are yet alive, your heads shall be cut off, your body shall be divided into four parts, and your heads and quarters shall be placed where his Excellency the Governor shall appoint."

Communication of news in the colonies was achingly slow, and the Tories engaged in this conspiracy were obviously unaware that the war was going disastrously for their side. Fighting would end with General Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown only four months later, in October 1781.

Christian resigned his commission May 15, 1782. The Revolutionary War technically ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris Sept. 3, 1783.

After the war Christian and Mary farmed at Shepherds Town, a community southwest of Sharpsburg, four miles down the Sharpsburg Road. At the time it was in Virginia; it is now Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

In 1805 they resettled at Adairville, Logan County, Kentucky. Christian died at Russellville (the county seat) Sept. 14, 1823; his widow Mary Thomas died there 10 days later on Oct. 4, 1823. They are buried in Hummer Cemetery at Adairville. Christian's original stone says, "To the memory of Christopher Orendorff" with illegible dates. A modern headstone says, "Lt. Christopher Orndorff, a descendant of Christian Ohrendorf of Pennsylvania and Germany, and of Major Christian Orendorf of Maryland, bought land on this site in 1795. In 1805 he brought his family from Maryland, built a home at a nearby spring, and a mill on Red River. Orndorff Mills served Logan County for over one hundred years. He, his wife, and five of eleven children are buried on this site. - J.K. Orndorff, 1990." The other side of this stone says, "Christopher Orndorff, 1752-1923, In God alone do put your trust when you build a mill. - C.O."

Descendants in Logan County spell their surname 'Orndorff.' But four of their children born at Sharpsburg, Maryland came to Tazewell County:

- Aaron Orendorff was born Feb. 6, 1784, and died at what became Hopedale Feb. 18, 1846. On Sept. 2, 1813 at Adairville, Kentucky he married Martha McDowell. She was born at Cowpens, North Carolina Jan. 29, 1790, and died at Adair, Kentucky June 27, 1849. They are buried in Orendorff Cemetery at Hopedale.
- Absolom Orendorff was born Jan. 13, 1786, and died unmarried at what became Hopedale April 15, 1838. His headstone in Orendorff Cemetery at Hopedale reads, "Mr. Orndorff selected the site for this cemetery soon after coming to this country in 1827, and was afterwards the first person buried here. He gave as his reason for choosing this spot was that it was the highest point near the timber in this vicinity and a large and tall oak tree standing here at that time was a conspicuous land mark that could be seen for miles from any direction on the surrounding prairie."
- **Esau Orendorff** was born Jan. 17, 1790, and died in Tazewell County May 8, 1877. On May 18, 1815 in Logan County, Kentucky he married Mary 'Polly' Milliken. She was born in Guilford County, N.C. June 29, 1796, and died in Tazewell County Feb. 4, 1872.

- Enoch Thomas Orendorff was born Nov. 29, 1799. On Dec. 6, 1827 in Tazewell County he married Rosanna Orendorff. She was born at Spartanburg, South Carolina in 1806, a daughter of Christopher Orendorff and Elizabeth Phillips. Enock T. Orendorff is found on the 1830 census of Mackinaw, and Enoch J. Orendorf is found on the 1840 census of Tazewell County. They appear on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Enoch T. Orendorff, 51, Pennsylvania; Romania, 42, South Carolina; Quintius, 21, Illinois; Charles, 17, Illinois; John, 15, Illinois; and Eliza, 12, Illinois. Enoch is last found in Tazewell County on the 1855 state census of Illinois, and may have died before 1860.

Aaron Orendorff was a civil engineer. He and his brother Enoch Orendorff came to Tazewell County to scout land in the fall of 1826. They returned to Kentucky, but Aaron came back to Illinois with his family in 1827. Aaaron/Aron Orendorff is listed in the database *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales.* We found 39 purchases beginning on Oct. 27, 1829. He eventually owned 6,000 acres. He built the first brick house in Tazewell County, and was later acknowledged as the first settler of what later became Hopedale. His son Thomas Hogg Orendorff performed the plat survey that determined the boundaries of Hopedale in 1852, and served terms as supervisor (mayor) in 1855 and 1863.

Enoch, Absolom, and Esau Orendorf also settled in Tazewell County. Enoch is found with 14 land purchases under his name beginning Oct. 27, 1829. On May 18, 1835 Absolom purchased 40 acres. We found 11 purchases under Esau's name beginning Oct. 18, 1833. All of these purchases were public land selling for $1.25 per acre.[46]

The Spring Bay Branch

(Reformed, Amish Mennonite, and Mennonite)

Christian Ohrendorf was the younger son of Hermann 'Mannus' Ohrndorf and Margaretha Dicke. He was born at the hamlet Helmenhof Dec. 4, 1672, and baptized at Freudenberg Aug. 20, 1672.

He farmed in the vicinity of Siegen, a town 18 miles northwest of the university town of Giessen, Hesse.

In 1731 Hermann 'Mannus' Bender leased the Homrighausen estate near Berleburg (now Bad Berleburg, 30 miles northeast of Siegen) with his wife Barbara Oswald Güngerich. After a number of disputes with underlings of Count Casimir of Sayn-Wittgenstein-Berleburg in 1737, Bender secretly departed from the estate with all his family members, servants, and possessions (see Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Germany* for more on the dispute). The two sons of Christian Ohrendorf took up the lease on the Homrighausen estate:

1. Johannes Ohrendorf. By 1749 he was a co-leaseholder of the Casimirsthal estate at Wittgenstein (18 miles northeast of Siegen) with 'Mennes' Bender (thought to have been the son of Hermann 'Mannus' Bender) and Conrad Kniep.
2. **Johann Heinrich Ohrendorf** was born between 1693 and 1702. Just as Christian's older brother Johann Heinrich named a son after him, he named this son after Johann Heinrich.

Johann Heinrich Ohrendorf was born between 1693 and 1702. After his shared lease on the Homrighausen estate expired, he went to live on the Lohe estate at Ferndorf (9 miles north of Siegen) with a daughter Maria Barbara and her husband Michael Jutzi. He was there in 1749.

Maria Barbara Ohrendorf was born at Freudenberg (12 miles northwest of Siegen) Sept. 30, 1723, and died in the hamlet of Sensenstein (near Escherode east of Kassel, Hesse, it no longer exists) Dec. 13, 1798. Her husband Michael Jutzi was born circa 1722, and died at Giflitz (adjacent to Edertal, then in the Principality of Waldeck) Dec. 11, 1772. Their descendants are tracked in Neil Ann Stuckey Levine's *Transplanted German Farmer*, a narrative translation of the diaries of Butler County, Ohio settler Christian Iutzi. Michael and Maria Barbara were the progenitors of Jutzis/Iutzis who came to Butler County.

We suspect an **unidentified forefather** here - a brother to Maria Barbara who would have been the father of **Johannes Ohrendorf**. Johannes married Anna Risser/Reisser and held a lease on the Merzhausen estate at Rosenthal, Hesse (33 miles north of the university town of Giessen).

Children of Johannes Ohrendorf and Anna Risser/Reisser include:

1. Christian Ohrendorf was born at Rosenthel, Hesse April 15, 1793, and died in Garrett County, Maryland in 1858. Circa 1834 he married Barbara Schwartzentruber, who brought a son Benjamin to the marriage. She was born in

[46] These four brothers also had a cousin who arrived in Central Illinois as early as 1817 - Christopher Orendorff married to Elizabeth Phillips. When he died Dec. 18, 1829, his will was the first to be probated in Tazewell County (in a part that is now McLean County). Although he was known as Christopher, his will was signed 'Christian Orendorff.' Though he lived in Tazewell County, in a part that became Logan County, he is beyond our scope.

Waldeck (likely at Freienhagen) Aug. 31, 1803 (their headstone says 1804), and died in Garrett County in 1876, a daughter of Peter Schwartzentruber and Wilhelmina Oesch.[47] A family document states that, "Christian Orendorf, son of the Mennonite John Orendorf and his wife Anna, maiden name Reifer, was born April 15, 1793, in Merzhausen in the electorate of Hesse; and on the 12th of April, 1839, from the bailiwick of Frankenburg, in Hesse, received a pass to Bremen."[48] A quarterly abtract of passengers who arrived at Baltimore July-September 1839 lists an extended party that includes German farmer Christian Ohrendorf, 42; Barbara [Schwartzentruber], 35; Benjamin, 13; Christian, 4; Jacob, 40; German farmer Christian Schwarzentraub [Barbara's older brother], 36; Barbara [Bender], 36; Helena, 5; Jacob, 5; Catherina Fuhrer, 25; Anna Schonbeck, 8; and Barbara Schantz, 25. In America they first settled at Berlin, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. In 1847 the resettled near Grantsville, Allegany County, Maryland (now in Garrett County).[49] The 1850 census of Allegany County, Maryland shows German laborer Christian Orndorff, 55, Germany; Lana, 45, Germany; Benedict, 21, Germany; Christian, 14, Germany; Lana, 10, Germany; Eli, 8, Pennsylvania; and Joel, 3, Maryland; they are found on the same census page as minister Joel Beachy (1818-1894), who became the elder there; Elias Ohrendorf married his daughter Lydia Beachy.[50] In May of 1855 Christian and Barbara purchased 25 acres near the Forks in Allegany County. They are buried in Orendorf Cemetery at Bittinger, Garrett County.

2. Jakob/Jacob Ohrendorf was born circa 1799. We could not follow him after his arrival in America.
3. **Daniel Ohrendorf** was born on Grübenbach farm at Burg-Gemünden, Hesse-Darmstadt in 1803.

Daniel Ohrendorf on Grübenbach farm at Burg-Gemünden in 1803. Burg-Gemünden is in the valley of the Ohm River, 20 miles northeast of the university town of Giessen. In 1803 it was part of the Landgraviate of Hesse-Darmstadt. According to Hermann Guth, another tenant on Grübenbach farm was Peter Güngerich/Jüngerich; a Bender family lived on Hof Sorge at Burg-Gemünden at the same time.[51]

'Daniel Orndorff, 23' appears in a National Archives *Abstract* of passengers who sailed from Rotterdam on the *Brig William*, arriving at Baltimore March 12, 1826.[52]

From Baltimore Daniel may have made his way to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. There he would have met ministers who made arrangements for him to continue on to Wilmot, Ontario. Its unique appeal to Amish Mennonite immigrants was its affordability. It was possible to claim a lot with no money out of pocket. He is found on the 1830 surveyor's plat map of Wilmot as the claimant on Lot 11 on the north side of Erb's Road.

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[47] Some sources say she died Dec. 15, 1864. However, this was the date of death of her sister-in-law Barbara Bender Schwartzentruber, her immigration companion, who was a resident of Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

[48] The information came from an appendix in the church book of Rosenthal.

[49] Garrett County was formed from part of Allegany County in 1872.

[50] In June of 1864 Joel Beachy and Moses Yoder of Somerset County made a train tour of the Midwest to scout farmland. They traveled via Chicago to Wisconsin, and then to St. Louis, before resting in Central Illinois on their return trip. They returned to Illinois in September, and Yoder purchased 160 acres at Arthur, on the boundary of Douglas and Moultrie Counties. Beachy purchased 320 acres, though he never resettled there. This was the origin of the presentday Amish Mennonite congregation in the area of Arthur.

Letters from the time indicate that the two were searching for land that had a lower acidity level than the soil in Maryland. That soil had to be regularly treated with pulverized limestone and chalk, wood ash, and bone meal. It might take several years to neutralize the topsoil on a newly cleared area. The population was growing, the price of land was increasing, and the Midwest offered a practical alternative for the resettlement of the next generation.

[51] The Landgraviate of Hesse-Darmstadt became the Grand Duchy of Hesse after the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire in 1806. In 1971 Burg-Gemünden was administratively consolidated with six other villages into the community of Gemünden. The six villages were Ehringhausen, Elpenrod, Hainbach, Nieder-Gemünden, Otterbach, and Rülfenrod. They lay on the rivers Felda and Ohm. In the 18th and early 19th centuries Rülfenrod was the site of a noble property where Amish Mennonite services were held. Gemünden would now be described as a community in the district of Fulda, in the state of Hesse.

[52] Other passengers on the same passenger list page include Peter Unzicker and Elizabeth [Elisabeth Schönbeck]; Daniel Brenneman and Maria [Bender] with their eight children (see BRENNEMAN); Christian Schwarzetraub [Schwartzentruber], 20; and John Schonbeck, 28.

An article by David I. Miller in the October 2012 issue of *The Historian* says, "Onboard were Peter and Elizabeth [Scheenbeck] Unzicker, Magdalena Swartzentruber, and three single young men, Daniel Ohrendorf, Christian Swartzentruber, and John Schenbeck. Of this group, only Daniel and Maria, with their children, settled in the Casselman River area [in Maryland]. Magdalena Swartzentruber died at sea. John Schoenbeck went to Holmes County, Ohio. The Unzickers, Daniel Ohrendorf, and Christian Swartzentruber went to Wilmot Township, Ontario."

Peter Unzicker was born on the Windhof at Ahausen (28 miles east of Bremen) in 1786, a son of Josef Unzicker and Katharina Güngerich. Christian Schwartzentruber was born Dec. 22, 1805, and died at Petersburg, Ontario Dec. 7, 1874, a son of Johannes Schwartzentruber and Katharina Schlabach. He married Catherine Steinmann and Veronica Erb. John Schönbeck/Schoenbeck was born Oct. 29, 1798, and died in Adams County, Indiana March 24, 1865. He married Katharina Oesch. In 1830 Wilmot plats were held by Daniel Orendorf, Daniel Brenneman, Peter Unzicker, and Michael Schwartzentruber (Christian's uncle); only Schwartzentruber had completed his settlement duties by fully clearing his land and the facing road..

His traveling companions Peter Unzicker and Elisabeth Schönbeck may have accompanied him to Ontario. They appear on censuses of Waterloo Township (adjacent to Wilmot) from 1829 to 1831.

Daniel may have moved south to Butler county, Ohio in 1831-32 with others including Brennemans, Danner/Donners, Farni/Farnys, Goldschmidt/Goldsmiths, Naffzigers, Ropps, and Unzickers. The issues that led these families to leave Wilmot are explained in ROPP.

We could not determine whether Daniel lived in Butler County, or when he may have flat-boated down the Ohio River to the Illinois River. It was natural for someone approaching Tazewell County from the river to settle near the shore at Spring Bay on land that later became part of Woodford County. He is thought to have arrived in Illinois in 1842, and is found at Spring Bay in 1844.

Katharina Albrecht was born in Bavaria July 8, 1815, and died at Spring Bay in 1859, a daughter of Christian Albrecht and Elizabeth Engel. She had married a Heimer in Germany and had one son. They likely came to Spring Bay in 1837, at the same time the remainder of her family arrived. They had one son together, John born circa 1835. When Heimer died there before 1844, Katharina remarried to Daniel Orendorf.

Their household is found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Daniel Orndoff, 49, Germany; Catharine, 40, Germany; Eliza, 6, Illinois; Jacob, 4, Illinois; Daniel, 1, Illinois; and John Orndoff, 15, Germany (the son of Heimer).

The 1860 census of Spring Bay was so wildly inaccurate that it may have shown a completely different family: farmer Daniel Orendorf, 50, Bavaria; Barbara, 16, Bavaria; Peter, 14, Bavaria; William, 12, Illinois; Margaret, 10, Illinois; and John, 8, Illinois. This was exceptional, even in a census that was notorious for its purposeful inaccuracies.

Daniel is found on the 1870 census of Morton: Daniel Orendorff, 70, Hesse-Darmstadt; farm laborer Joseph, 18, Illinois; and farm laborer Christian, 13, Illinois. They were living in the household of daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Christian Eigsti.

On July 27, 1872 Daniel died at Morton, where he had been living with his daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Christian Eigsti. His headstone in Landes Mennonite Cemetery calls him 'Daniel Orendorf,' the way he was known most of his life, and does not give a date of birth.

WHEN DID HE KNOW?

Daniel's surname was spelled 'Orendorff' on the 1870 census. This was the spelling used by the Hopedale family of early settlers. All of Daniel's children subsequently adopted the spelling as well.

When did Daniel realized that he was related to the Hopedale branch? When he arrived at Baltimore in 1826, did he realize that another branch of his family had arrived at Philadelphia in 1741, and had lived in Maryland since 1762? When he chose to settle at Spring Bay, was he aware that Orendorffs were living 30 miles to the south?

He may have been aware as early as 1858. On July 1, 1858 in Tazewell County Enoch Thomas Orendorff, a son of Esau Orendorff and Mary 'Polly' Milliken, married Helene (also known as Helen C.) Brenneman. She was born at Turtle Creek, Ohio March 21, 1836, and died at Whiting, Iowa Feb. 2, 1915, a daughter of Daniel Brenneman and Elizabeth Jutzi. Enoch Thomas was born in Logan County, Kentucky Aug. 19, 1835, and died at Fergus Falls, Minnesota May 4, 1920. He served terms as supervisor (mayor) of Hopedale in 1879, 1882-85, and 1890-92. They are found on the 1860 census of Boynton as Thos. Orendorff, 25, Germany; Helen, 24, Germany; and Isabella, 5 months, Illinois; on the 1880 census of Hopedale; and on the 1900 census of Whiting, Iowa.

Daniel Orendorf of Spring Bay was only third cousin to the groom's grandfather, but any conversation with the Orendorffs of Hopedale would have brought up shared recognition of place names from Germany.

Children of Daniel Ohrendorf/Orendorf and Katharina Albrecht born at Spring Bay include:

1. Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Orendorff was born July 21, 1844, and died of typhoid fever June 26, 1881. On Feb. 5, 1863 at Eureka, Woodford County she married Christian Eigsti.[53] He was born at Pellheim, Bavaria Feb. 15, 1832, and died at Morton March 5, 1903, a son of Nicholas Augustin and Barbara Gascho. They are listed on the 1870 census of Morton as 'Christian Eigstein,' a 35-year-old farmer from Bern; Elizabeth, 26, born in Illinois; and four children. Elizabeth's 70-year-old father Daniel Orendorff of Hesse-Darmstadt and two younger brothers were living with them. They are listed on the 1880 census of Morton (at the same address) as 'Christ Eigstin,' 45, and Elizabeth, 36, with seven children. Elizabeth is buried at Landes Mennonite Cemetery, where her stone in the Eigsti grouping says, "Lizzie wife of C. died June 27, 1881 at 36 years, 11 months, nine days." For a list of their children and details of Christian's other marriages see EIGSTI.
2. Jacob Orendorff was born June 19, 1846 (though the 1900 census erroneously reported July 1847), and died at Chenoa, McLean County Nov. 4, 1925. On March 19, 1872 he married Elizabeth Sommer in McLean County; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Their household is found on the 1880 census of Yates,

[53] Woodford County records list them as Christian Eigstin and Elizabeth Orendorff.

McLean County as farmer Jacob Orandoff, 35, born in Illinois to a father from Hesse-Darmstadt and a mother from Bavaria; Catharine [Elizabeth], 33, born in France to French parents; Mary E., 7; Jacob E., 4; and Anna, 2; all children born in Illinois to a father from Illinois and a mother from France; and farm laborer Miky Hassanfratz, 24, France. They appear on the 1900 census of Yates as farmer Jacob Orendorf, 52, born in Illinois in July 1847 to German parents; Eliza B. [Sommer], 52, born in France in December 1847 to French parents; Mary Ella, 25, born in Illinois in May 1875 to parents from Illinois and France; Edward J., 23, born in Illinois in July 1876 to parents form Illinois and France; and Matilda, 20, born in Illinois in November 1879 to parents from Illinois and France. Eliza B. [Sommer] Orendorff is buried in Chenoa Cemetery at Chenoa, McLean County as Eliza B. Orendorff, 1845-1917. Jacob is buried in there as Jacob Orendorff, 1846-1925.

3. **Daniel Orendorff** was born Nov. 8, 1848, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Jan. 14, 1918.
4. Joseph Orendorff was born Bay July 4, 1852, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County June 25, 1884. On Feb. 28, 1876 in Livingston County he married Barbara Steinman. She was born Sept. 22, 1857, and died at Flanagan March 19, 1937, a daughter of Daniel Steinman and Catherine Birky. For the details of her second and third marriages to Joseph Yoder and Daniel Eigsti and her obituary see STEINMAN. *Herald of Truth*, August 1884: "On the 25th of June, in Livingston Co., Ill., of consumption, Joseph Orendorff, aged 32 years, less 10 days. Funeral services were held by Christian Schlegel, Joseph Gascho, and John P. Schmidt. Many friends and acquaintances nearby and from a distance attended the funeral to follow him to the grave. He was a faithful member of the Amish Mennonite Church. His seat in the church was seldom vacant so long as he was able to attend the church services." They are buried under a joint headstone in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.
5. Christian Orendorff was born at Spring Bay Oct. 22, 1856, and died at Wayland, Iowa April 30, 1943. On Sept. 19, 1878 at Flanagan he married Magdalena 'Lena' Steinman. She was born at Tremont Feb. 27, 1861, and died at Wayland, Iowa Jan. 29, 1948, a daughter of Daniel Steinman and Catherine Birky. They are found on the 1900 census of Waldo, Livington County as farmer Christ Orrendorf, 43, born in Illinois in October 1856 to German parents; Lena, 40, born in Illinois in February 1860 to German parents; Liddy, 16, born in Illinois in February 1884 to parents from Illinois; John, 14, born in Illinois in September 1895 to parents from Illinois; and Alice, 4, born in Illinois in July 1895 to parents from Illinois. They lived next door to Joseph Yoder, 77, and Barbara [Barbara Steinman who had been married to Joseph Orendorff], 42; they had one child Joseph Orendorf, 12, and one Ida Yoder, 10. Christian and Magdalena relocated to Jefferson, Iowa in 1902, where they appear on the 1910 census. *Gospel Herald*, May 1943: "Christian Orendorff, son of Daniel and Catharine (Albright) Orendorff, was born near Spring Bay, Ill., Oct. 22, 1856, and passed away at the home of his son, D.W. Orendorff, Wayland, Ia., April 30, 1943, at the age of 86 y. 6 m. 8 d. He was left motherless at the age of two years, and was taken into the home of an only sister, Mrs. Chris Eigsti. Other members of his family included three brothers - Jacob, Daniel and Joseph - all of whom preceded him in death. He was received into the Amish Mennonite Church in his youth by water baptism, and remained a faithful member until death. He was united in marriage with Lena Steinman, Sept. 19, 1878. They lived on a farm near Flanagan, Ill. Here their family of six children were born; one son Samuel passed away at the age of two years. In the spring of 1902 they moved to a farm near Wayland, Ia., in which community he spend the remainder of his life. His quiet and unassuming disposition won for him many friends. He was always much concerned about the welfare of his wife and children. Together he and his wife shared the joys and sorrows of wedded life more than 64 years. Those left to mourn are his wife, five children (Daniel W., Wayland, Ia.; Amelia, wife of P.H. Conrad, Peoria, Ill.; Lydia K., wife of P.H. Roth, Wayland, Ia.; John R., Spencer, Ia.; Alice M., wife of E.F. Gingerich, Iowa City, Ia.), 18 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and a large number of relatives and friends. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at the Sugar Creek Church, conducted by Bro. Simon Gingerich and assisted by Bro. Willard Leichty. Interment in adjoining cemetery." See STEINMAN for Magdalena's obituary.

Daniel Orendorff was born at Spring Bay Nov. 8, 1848, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Jan. 14, 1918.

On Feb. 15, 1872 at Roanoke, Woodford County he married Mary Yordy. She was born at Elm Grove Oct. 19, 1849, and died at Flanagan Feb. 8, 1823, a daughter of Peter Yordy and Mary Birkey. They are found on the 1880 census of Nebraska, Livingston County.

He was ordained as a minister in 1890, and served the Waldo Mennonite Church until his death.

They are shown on the 1800 census of Nebraska Township; then on the 1900 census of Flanagan Village, Nebraska Township, Livingston County as farmer Daniel Orendorff, 51, born in Illinois in November 1848 to German parents; Mary, 50, born in Illinois in October 1849 to German parents; Ada, 10, born in Illinois in 1890 to parents from Illinois; and Katie, 25, born in Illinois in June 1874 to parents form Illinois. They lived next door to Daniel Steinman.

Gospel Herald, January 1918: "Daniel Orendorff was born near Spring Bay, Ill., Nov. 8, 1848; died at his late home near Flanagan, Ill., Jan. 14, 1918, where he resided since 1873; aged 69y. 2m. 6d. He united with the A.M. Church in his youth. He served as Sunday school superintendent for a number of years, and in June, 1890, was ordained to the ministry. He performed his duties faithfully. He was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Mary Yordy near Roanoke, Ill., Feb 15, 1872. They lived together happily for nearly 46 years. To this union were

born five daughters and two sons. One daughter, two sons and one grandson preceded him to the spirit world. He leaves his faithful companion, four daughters (Lizzie Roeschley, Katie Conrad, Emma Conrad, and Ada), two brothers (Jacob and Christian), 27 grandchildren, and many relatives and friends. He will be greatly missed by the family, neighbors, and by the whole congregation, where his seat was seldom vacant. He was on time and with a kind word and smile for everyone. Funeral services at the house by A.H. Leaman and at the church by D.W. Slagell, A.H. Leaman, and Geo. Summer. He chose his own funeral text, *II Tim. 4:7,8*. Buried at Waldo Cemetery. Blessed are the dead which died in the Lord, from henceforth. Yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

An excerpt from the *Flanagan Home Times*: "The following are those from out of town who were at the obsequies: Mr. and Mrs. Chris Orendorff, Mrs. P. H. Conrad, Mrs. Lydia Roth and Mr. Daniel Orendorff, Wayland, Iowa; Mr. Ray Zehr and Misses Olive and Ella Zehr, Manson, Iowa; Mrs. Fannie Yeackley, Milford, Nebraska; Mr. and Mrs. Jake Eigsti, Mr. John Eigsti, Mr. Joe Eigsti, Mrs. Jonas Litwiller, Mr. Alvin Bachman, Morton, Ill.; Mr. Henry V. Albrecht, Mr. Chris Albrecht, Mr. J. J. Albrecht, Mrs. Nafzinger and Mss Hoffart, Tiskilwa, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Burcky and Mr. John Schrock, Fisher, Ill.; Miss Anna Yordy, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yordy and Mr. Aaron Yordy, Secor, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Jake Yordy, Eureka, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Yordy, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Yordy, Roanoke, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bachman, Cazenovia, Ill."

Gospel Herald, March 1923: "Mary Yordy was born near Pekin, Ill., Oct. 19, 1848; died at her home near Flanagan, Ill., Feb. 8, 1923; aged 73 y. 3 m. 20 d. She was united in matrimony with Daniel Orendorff, Feb. 15, 1872. He preceded her to the life beyond, Jan. 14, 1918. To this union were born seven children, five daughters and two sons. Two sons and three grandchildren preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn her loss four daughters (Mrs. C. M. Conrad and Mrs. J. D. Conrad of Sterling, Ill.; Mrs. J. D. Roeschley and Miss Ada Orendorff of Flanagan, Ill.), 25 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters, and many relatives and friends. Bro. and Sister Orendorff moved to their late home in 1872, at which place they resided until the Lord was pleased to call them to their long home. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful and consistent member until death. Sister Orendorff was a kind and loving wife, mother, and neighbor and was loved and respected by all who knew her. Short services were held at the home Feb. 11, by Bro. D. W. Slagel (Text, *Psa. 16*), and at the church by Bros. J. D. Hartzler and Samuel Gerber. Texts, *I Cor. 15:35-38; Phil 1:21*. Interment in the Waldo cemetery."

The next six portions of text are part of a larger story. Christian Schlegel (SCHLEGEL) married Catherine Ernst (ERNST). They arrived in New York in 1825, and Tazewell County in 1835. Sisters Madeleine and Elisabeth Röschli (RÖSCHLI) married Jacob Wagler (WAGLER) and Joseph Wagner (WAGNER). The two couples lived at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace prior to their emigration. Joseph was Christian Schlegel's nephew. The couples sailed together, and arrived in New York and Tazewell/Woodford Counties in 1854. In Illinois Steiders (STEIDER) married Wagler and Wagner sons.

Schlegel of Grandvillars

Male descendants of Anabaptist Schlegels are haplogroup R-M269, subgroup U152. See HELVETII in the Appendix for background on this genetic identification.

A *Schlegel* is a blacksmith. The surname Schlegel originates from several locations in Switzerland, notably Riggisberg, Guggisberg, and Grindelwald. [54]

Some older sources link this family to the baptism entry of Christen Schlegel created in *Sankt Petrus Kirche* [Saint Peter's Church] at Thierachern, Canton Bern Nov. 10, 1667. His parents were Christen Schlegel and Maria Stoller. In the 17th century this parish (which included Uetendorf) was home to Nafzigers, Joders, and Eichers.

Niglaus 'Nigi' Schlegel may have been born at Bretten April 2, 1750. We could not identify the original source of this widely-copied place and date, or identify his parents with certainty.[55] The village of Bretten is located in Dannemarie parish of the eastern Sundgau Region, at the southern end of Upper Alsace bordering Switzerland.

He signed his name 'Niglaus' (pronounced Niklows), but 'Nicolas' describes him on French documents. Among friends he would have been known as 'Nigi' (pronounced Nikky). The German and English form 'Nicholas' only appears in this family after descendants migrated from Europe to North America.

In the area of Nigi's birth, Anabaptist meetings were led by Niglaus Engel of Montreux [Ger. *Münsterol*, about seven miles south of Bretten] and Michel Müller of Chavannatte (about 10 miles south).[56]

Gratz: "Meetings of the Anabaptists of this region were first held in the Montreux community as far as is known...About 1750 the Montreux church divided into two groups because of the great distance that many had to travel to go to meetings. The northern group formed what was known as the La Maie church [Ger. *Lamaenergemeinde*], named after the main farm where they met near Belfort, and the other called the Florimont church, or in German *Blumbergerwald*. [57] Meetings of the latter group were most frequently held at the farms of Chalembert [in the commune of Grandvillars] and Beuchat in the commune of Boron, some four kilometers away from the Normanvillars settlement."

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[54] The surname Schlegel is generally associated with the village of Guggisberg. Rüschegg-Graben was once part of Guggisberg. We could not determine if Winterkraut was part of Guggisberg or its parish as well, but it is usually associated with nearby Schwarzenburg.

The surname Schlegel appears once in the early Ropp generations. Christian/Chrétien Ropp was likely a great-grand-uncle to Andreas Ropp. He married Anna/Anne Schlegel (found as 'Schlaigle'). See ROPP.

Grindelwald is also a *Heimatort* for the surname Schlegel. It is located about 11 miles southeast of Lake Thun, and 3,390 feet above sea level, at the foot of the Eiger in the Alps. Gratz associates it with the families Aeschlimann, Gfeller, Ösch, Rubi, Schlunegger, Stoller [later Stoll], and Wyss. We found Schlegel immigrants to North America from Grindelwald in the 1700s.

We found only one mention of an Anabaptist Schlegel in Canton Bern. Paul Hostettler's *About the Anabaptists in the Land of Schwarzenburg 1580-1750* was published in 1996. It contains a list of residents at Winterkraut, Canton Bern in 1715. They include Lisbeth Schlegel, the widow of Anabaptist minister Peter Hostettler. Winterkraut is a hamlet just above Rüschegg-Graben, and west of Riggisberg in the parish of Mühlethurnen.

[55] One source says his parents were Jean Schlegel and Marguerite Grandidier, who were married at Porcelette (now in the department of Moselle) May 10, 1740. However, their son Nicolas Schlegel died at Porcelette April 8, 1809. Another source says his parents were Christen Schlegel and Lisbeth Hochburger. This sounds like a garbled description of his wife's parents.

[56] Montreux is now Montreux-Château [castle], Montreux-Vieux [old], and Montreux-Jeune [young]. We found one mention of 'Glaus Engel' specifically from 'Montreux aux Gouttes' – from the drop, cliff, or waterfall at Montreux. The Cassini map shows 'La Grande Goutte' just south of Montreux-Château.

[57] The notion that the meetings on Chalembert and Beuchat farms formed a 'Florimont Church' is misleading. The Amish Mennonite families Kauffman and Luginbühl did live in Florimont, and traveled to those meetings to keep their ties intact. However, most of the Anabaptist families at Florimont were from the Reist (Mennonite) faction. These included the Amstutz, Bösiger/Basinger, Hilti, Steiner, and Thüler families.

On May 24, 1768 Nigi Schlegel married Madeleine Ummel on Chalembert farm.[58] The bride and groom were both 18 years of age. Her birthday had taken place only four days earlier.

Madeleine was born at Reppe on May 20, 1750. Her 1827 death entry named her parents as the deceased Christ Hummel [Ummel] and Elisabethe Hoescheleikler [Hochstettler/Hostetler?].[59]

Before the French Revolution of 1789, foreign nationals or stateless persons could not purchase French land. A family had to prove two previous generations on French soil to begin the naturalization process. Anabaptists generally felt that this was unnecessary and undesirable, because citizenship came with a greater obligation for military service. They leased properties, often for many decades. Nigi and Madeleine may have had numerous addresses over the years. However, their activities seem to have revolved around Chalembert farm, where Madeleine had relatives.[60]

Grandvillars is 10 miles south of Reppe. Both communities are in the *Territoire de Belfort* (this translates to 'district of Belfort'), though Reppe is on the departmental border with Upper Alsace. The *Territoire de Belfort* centers on the fortified town of Belfort at the Belfort Gap. The gap is a passage between the French Vosges Mountains on the north and the Swiss Jura Mountains on the south. The *Territoire de Belfort* became a possession of France under the Treaty of Westphalia that ended the Thirty Years War (1618-1648). It is now the smallest *départemen*t in France, located in the Franche-Comté Region, with the town of Belfort as its capital.

A 1779 census of Grandvillars shows 559 residents, including 22 Anabaptists from five families living on Chalembert farm. By 1804 there were 40 Anabaptists there. Families included Ernst, Joder, Klopfenstein, Luginbühl, Schad, Stucki, and Wyse/Weiss.

In the 1780s the tolerant congregations east of Belfort fell into disagreement with their parent congregation at Montbéliard. This has been seen as a natural rivalry between two families from the same Bernese village – the Richen and Klopfenstein families of Frutigen. Montbéliard elder and prosperous farmer Hans Richen (1730-1798) had been ordained as a minister in 1760. He may have felt that his authority was being challenged by prosperous farmer Peter Klopfenstein (1733-1801), who was ordained as a minister at Montbéliard in 1777.[61]

Johannes/Hans Nafziger of Essingen, Germany was the leading minister of his day. He visited many of the European congregations, traveling as far as Holland to advise on doctrine and participate in the ordination of new ministers and deacons. In 1787 or 1788 he wrote a letter to his friend Christian Schowalter of Earl, Pennsylvania describing recent events: "...In southern Alsace they have had great unrest for years; the ministers of Montbéliard and Belfort have come into great disunity with each other, so much so that they called for help, and when we had made several trips to them and could not bring them to peace, we also came into disunity with them because both parties had a following, so much so that for a while we feared a division. The congregations in the Basel district and in *Weltschneuberg* [Neuchâtel] also got involved in it. Finally the ministers from Markirch interceded and sought to settle the matter but with distress of mind and much deliberation." He later recollected, "...I went often to southern Alsace to Hans Rychen [Montbéliard] and Peter Klopfenstein [*Territoire de Belfort*] because of their disunity, yet we hope for improvement..."

An entry in the congregational record of Montbéliard created Jan. 6, 1788 mentions events "*in der Blumbärger Gemeindt*." Montbéliard minister Hans Richen had baptized three persons at the Stauffer residence on Chalembert farm. An additional note on the visit says that *"Nicolas Schlegel a été réadmis par Hans Roth"* – Nigi Schlegel was readmitted by Montbéliard minister Hans Roth. Apparently Nigi had been placed under the ban, then retracted or corrected his transgression to the satisfaction of the ministers.

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[58] Some confusion has been caused by a typed transcript of Montbéliard records that mistakenly says Niklaus married Madeleine Kennel rather than Madeleine Ummel (FHL microfilm 1809847). This was a misreading of difficult handwriting.

[59] Reppe was a village of less than 400 people in 1800. Reppe was also known by the German name 'Riesbach,' or its variant 'Riespach'; this made it easy to confuse with the Alsatian village Riespach (about 20 miles southeast of Reppe). It is also easily confused with Roppe, a village that is only 3 miles northeast of the town of Belfort.

[60] Grandvillars has also been spelled 'Grandvilart' by French speakers, and 'Grandweiler' by German speakers. This has been a point of confusion for family genealogists who could not locate a modern day Grandweiler. They have often settled for 'Belfort,' the district, and further confused that with the town.

In presentday a hiker can leave Grandvillars and walk only three miles south across fields to reach the Swiss border.

[61] The Rychen/Richen family left Frutigen in 1711. Hans Richen was born on Des Gouttes farm at Exincourt May 30, 1730, and died at Villars-sous-Écot, Montbéliard Feb. 20, 1798, a son of Daniel Rychen and Anneli Roth. On Oct. 28, 1760 he married Barbara Kauffman. Hans was ordained as a minister in 1760 and became elder in 1765. He traveled to the Netherlands to settle congregational disputes in 1766; an uncle and cousins who were church leaders there. He represented the Montbéliard congregation at the assemblies of ministers at Essingen May 1, 1759 (with Hans Roth) and Nov. 2, 1779 (alone). Peter Klopfenstein and Michel Müller represented the Münsterol/Blumbergerwald congregation at both assemblies.

The next note in the register may pertain to Nigi's transgression. As it appears in Pierre Widmer's typewritten transcript: *"So hat man such den Beschluss mit samt Dienner und der versammelten Bruderschaft gemacht von wägen denen Bartschärer, wann sie das nit wollen untersägen lassen und der Bart lassen wachsen wie uns Gott erschaffen hat nach seinem äbenbilt so sollen sie mit dem Bann gestaft wärdten als ungehorsame widter steinige mönschten nach lutt Gottes Wordt unde seiner heiligen Ordnung ohme alsächten der Persohn ich Hans Richen bezügen."* "Thus, the decision has been made with the agreement of the servants/servers [the ministers] and the assembled brotherhood [congregation] concerning those who cut their beards, because they [the congregation] want to forbid this and let their beards grow the way God created us, after His image. They [those who trim their beards] should be punished with the ban as disobedient or obstinate persons according to the word of God and his holy order, regardless of the person involved. I, Hans Richen, witness in agreement."

Three political changes between 1789 and 1792 meant that Anabaptists in the *Territoire de Belfort* would not avoid the effects of the Napoleonic wars:

- Montbéliard was taken from Württemberg and absorbed into France. General uncertainty over this event led 36 families to leave Montbéliard and the *Territoire de Belfort* and migrate to what is now Poland. Those that remained petitioned the new government over the issue of military training. They obtained a temporary exemption from service in the French National Guard that was superceded in 1798 by the Jourdan Law. This law mandated universal conscription but conceded that Anabaptists could serve in noncombatant roles.

- The *Territoire de Belfort* became part of Upper Alsace [Fr. *Haut Rhin*]. It would remain in Upper Alsace until the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71), when the older portion of the department was annexed by Germany.

- A third change took away a place of political refuge. In 1792 the Prince-Bishopric of Basel became part of the Republic of France as *Département Mont Terrible*. An Anabaptist petition requesting exemption from military training was denied there.

After Napoleon became emperor in 1804, he reformed the tax system. The welfare of the average farmer gradually improved. But the Schlegel family may not have shared in this relative prosperity.

Nigi and Madeleine had 10 children between 1769 and 1792. Their son Joseph was born in 1782. A civil judgment at Belfort Nov. 22, 1805 cited Joseph for being a *'conscrit réfractaire*' – a military conscript who refused to perform service. He was in violation of the Jourdan Law of 1798, which made every single and childless male on French property between the ages 20-25 liable for military service. The 2,000-10,000 franc cost of a substitute was out of reach for anyone but the upper classes.

Joseph was subject to arrest. His name and those of his parents, 'Nicolas Schlegel et Magdaleine Homel,' were placed on a public list with draft evaders and deserters. It was posted in the communities of the *Territoire de Belfort* throughout the war years.[62]

A typical annual income for a servant, laborer, or farmer was 1,000 francs. A *conscrit réfractaire* and his parents were obligated to share a fine of up to 1,500 francs. Administrators also punished relatives of insubordinates and deserters with the *garnisaire* system. The relatives became responsible for the expenses of one soldier. In some cases on the frontiers they were required to actually billet a soldier in their home.

We do not know how the situation was ultimately resolved. Joseph may have served a term of imprisonment before his death at Reppe in 1829. Nigi did not survive a siege of the fortress of Belfort in 1814. The hardship and ill feelings from these events may explain the dispersal of the next generation into neighboring areas and abroad.

Most of the communities already mentioned were to the east or southeast of the town and fortress of Belfort. The fortress was built to protect the main road leading west. Thus the Schlegels' living places were in the path of armies allied against France as they approached it.

THE FIRST SIEGE OF BELFORT, 1813-14

On Dec. 23, 1813, an infantry column, 600 cavalrymen, and 16 cannon from the 1st Bavarian Division reached Belfort. The fortress protected the only road that was passable for heavy supply wagons and artillery caissons.

The following morning the commandant of the fortress was offered surrender terms. He declined. The French not only held back the initial attack, but sent out sorties to harass small detachments that had bypassed them.

A prolonged artillery bombardment took place on the night of Dec. 29. However, on the following day an allied commander heard rumors that the French were about to receive relief troops. A number of Bavarian troops were diverted

[62] A copy of the list was found by Philippe Tovena of Belfort in *Dossier 2 R 39* at the departmental archives of the *Territoire de Belfort*. He was also kind enough to direct us to information on the French system of military conscription.

to patrol lines of approach. As weeks went by, Bavarian soldiers outside the gate gave way to Austrian soldiers, and they gave way to Russian soldiers and snow.

The French defense tied up Allied resources until an armistice finally came March 24. The French commandant refused to open the gates until the last Russian soldier had withdrawn. Finally, on April 12, he yielded to the requests of hungry troops and villagers and re-opened the city.

We do not know if the family was permitted to take refuge in the fortress, and suffered from the intermittent bombardments, or if they remained outside and died from typhus, starvation, or harassment. Typhus was carried by the flea and lice-infested uniforms of troops. Farmers who chose to flee south into the Jura Mountains abandoned their property to hungry looters, both friend and foe. The contents of root cellars were confiscated in mid-winter.

Some sources say that Nigi Schlegel died March 14, 1814, age 63. At the time the area was occupied by Russian troops attempting to storm the fortress. Records of the Montbéliard congregation signed by minister Hans Lugbüll [Luginbühl] say that 'Nigi Slngnl' was buried in the Burgerwald forest at Montbéliard March 23, 1814.[63] The armistice came the following day.

THE SECOND SIEGE OF BELFORT, 1815

In the 1790s Claude Jacques Lecourbe led a French division in the occupation of the Swiss cantons. He attained the rank of general, but in 1805 he resigned his commission over a political argument.

When Napoleon abdicated, the restored royal family rewarded Lecourbe by making him a count and restoring his commission.

Napoleon returned from exile on Elba March 15, 1815. Surprisingly, General Lecourbe offered his services and took command of the Army of the Jura. Perhaps he knew he was approaching the end of his life.

Lecourbe took a different view of the fortress at Belfort than his predecessors. They had simply withdrawn to the fortress and returned artillery fire. Instead of waiting for an enemy to set up cannons below the walls of the fortress, Lecourbe prepared for their return by arranging mobile batteries of cannons outside the fortress walls. His placements overlooked approach roads. The idea was to use the walled area as an 'entrenched encampment,' providing support to an outer ring.

On June 18 Napoleon was forced to retreat from the battlefield at Waterloo. About a week later 40,000 Austrian troops arrived in the *Territoire de Belfort* to press an attack on the fortress.

Lecourbe's 8,000 troops put up a stiff resistance. The allies were naturally reluctant to march down a main road into a funnel of crossfire, and moved forward cautiously.

The effects of occupation were felt by local farm families. On July 1, Austrian soldiers pillaged the area around La Maie farm, burning two homes at Menoncourt, 60 of 64 homes at Phaffans, 94 of 114 homes at Bessoncourt, and 39 of 53 homes at Denney.

On July 8 King Louis XVIII arrived in Paris to usher in the Second Restoration. Napoleon's return has lasted just 111 days. On July 11 Lecourbe and Von Colloredo-Mansfeld agreed to a ceasefire, after 15 days of fighting.

Lecourbe retired from the Army. He remained at Belfort and died only a few months later, on Oct. 22, 1815.

A formal peace came with the second Treaty of Paris Nov. 20, 1815. The French National Guard at Belfort was released to return home in July 1816, and the cavalry dispersed in November 1816.

Widow Madeleine Ummel died at Reppe Feb. 16, 1827. Her civil death entry gave her age as 80, named her deceased husband as 'Nicolas Schegel,' and named her parents as the deceased Christ Ummel and Elisabethe Hoescheleikler. It was witnessed by grandsons Joseph and Jean Wagner.

Children of Niglaus 'Nigi' Schlegel and Madeleine Ummel include:

1. Elisabeth/Lisbeth/Lisi Schlegel was born at Grand Charmont (eight miles west of Grandvillars, above Montbéliard) April 10, 1769, and died in the *Territoire de Belfort* July 9, 1807. On April 8, 1792 she married Isaac Conrad. He

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[63] When Anabaptists were expelled from Alsace in 1712, Duke Leopold-Eberhard invited numerous families to settle on his properties near Montbéliard, located 7 miles west of Grandvillars. They joined others who had resettled from the Jura Mountains or the Prince-Bishopric of Basel.

From 1397 to 1796 the city was not French, but was the capital of the gravure of Montbéliard, a political island/enclave possessed by Württemberg. It was once a principality, but passed into the hands of descendants who did not bear that title, becoming a gravure. Amish Mennonites in Montbéliard began to keep a congregational register in 1750. This may have been the first place in Europe where Anabaptists felt safe to keep written records.

Anabaptists were buried in the Burgerwald forest after 1760, in an area that is now the Mont Chevis Cemetery. The Rue du Mont Chevis is on the northwest outskirts of the city.

After 1796 the congregations had the same language disputes as those in America, as the older generations struggled to maintain the German language against the wishes of the younger, more assimilated French-speaking generations.

Montbéliard is now best known as the home of the Peugeot Motor Company.

was born near the town of Belfort circa 1765. Their marriage was entered in records of the Montbéliard congregation April 17, 1792, where he was described as Isaac Kunradt, the son of the deceased Rudy Kunradt. He was a son of Hans Rüdi Conrad, who was described as Rüdolph Künradt when he married Verena/Freni Linder at Montbéliard Jan. 6, 1751. Isaac was accidentally killed when a wall of stacked bricks fell at a brick kiln at Belfort July 29, 1798. The same accident killed his brother-in-law Pierre Schlegel. The death entries gave their residences as the street Faubourg des Barres at Belfort.[64] A list of their children can be found in CONRAD in the Appendix.

2. Barbe Schlegel was born at Grandvillars Nov. 12, 1773 (also found as Jan. 13, 1772), and died at Reppe Sept. 5, 1845. On April 27, 1792 at Hericourt (five miles southwest of the town of Belfort) she married Jacob Bocler. The marriage entry described her as a 20-year-old resident of Grandvillars and a daughter of Nicolas Schlegel and Madeleine Hummel. The groom was a resident of Belfort born at Diessbach, Canton Bern Dec. 12, 1749, a son of Jean Bocler and Laeticia Schwartz. The bride and groom were illiterate. Barbe likely remarried to Christ Wagner before 1798, the year their first child was born. Christ was born circa 1762, died at Riespach, Upper Alsace Feb. 17, 1827, and was buried at Reppe, a son of Jean Wagner and Elisabeth Murry. Christ died one day after his mother-in-law, Madeleine Ummel. For more on this family including their son immigrant Joseph Wagner see WAGNER.
3. Peter/Pierre Schlegel was born in the *Territoire de Belfort* circa 1774. He was accidentally killed by falling bricks with his brother-in-law Isaac Conrad at Belfort July 29, 1798. The death entry called him 'Pierre Schligue,' son of 'Nicolas Schlegue.'
4. Johannes/Hans/Jean Schlegel was born in the *Territoire de Belfort* June 8, 1776, and died at Wahlheim March 12, 1827. He married Anne Marie Müller. They resided at Froeningen , Upper Alsace. On Sept. 6, 1823 at Luemschwiller Joseph Boshart married Catherine Conrad, Hans's niece. Hans Schlegel appears on the marriage entry as witness Jean Schlägel, 50. The ceremony was almost certainly attended by the Ropps of Luemschwiller.[65] Unfortunately, it is difficult to discern the later lives of this generation. The father Hans was literate enough to sign his name on many entries – not always the same, and often 'Johannes Chellegue.' His death entry described him as a 62-year-old Anabaptist cultivator and farmer of the *maison herities*; it stated that his widow Anne Müller was a resident of Wahlheim, and was witnessed by his son Chrétien Schlegel, 22.
    a. Michel Schlegel was born at Chavannatte, *Territoire de Belfort* March 21, 1796, and died at Reiningue, Upper Alsace (five miles above Froeningen) June 1, 1860. On Nov. 7, 1827 at Walheim, Upper Alsace he married his cousin Freni/Verene/Véronique Conrad (the entry calls him Michel Schlagel). She was born at Belfort March 9, 1794, a daughter of the deceased Isaac Conrad who had died at Belfort July 19, 1798, and Elisabeth Schlegel who had died at Belfort April 7, 1807. She was a servant in the home of farmer Jean Joder at Barthlyhütten, Largitzen. Witnesses included cultivator Joseph Bossard [he signed Joseph Boshart] of Lumschwiller, 37-year-old brother-in-law of the bride; and Chrétien Schlegel, 22, a resident of Walheim who was a brother of the groom.
    b. Jean Schlegel was born at Vézelois (seven miles northwest of Grandvillars) Sept. 24, 1798; his civil birth entry calls him 'Jean Schelegue.'
    c. Elisabeth Schlegel was born at Vézelois April 5, 1801 (found as 'Elizabeth Schelegue') and died there Aug. 13, 1801. A death entry created at Belfort described the father as a domestic living at Belfort. It was signed by grandfather 'Niklaus Schlegel,' age 53.
    d. Christian/Chrétien Schlegel was born at Belfort Feb. 8, 1805. As a 22-year-old witness at the marriage of his older brother Michel Schlegel and Freni/Verene/Véronique Conrad at Walheim he was described as a cultivator and resident of Walheim.
    e. Maria Schlegel was born at Belfort Oct. 26, 1807.
    f. Anne Marie Schlegel was born in the *Territoire de Belfort* in 1809, and died at Reiningue, Upper Alsace Feb. 11, 1860.
    g. Nicolas Schlegel was born at Froeningen, Upper Alsace June 13, 1810, and died there Sept. 13, 1810.
    h. Jacques Schlegel was born at Froeningen July 22, 1811.
    i. Barbara Schlegel was born at Burg, Canton Aargau May 15, 1814, and died Oct. 9, 1856. On March 16, 1838 at Hirtzbach she married Michel Kaufmann. He was born on Montigo farm at Levoncourt, Upper Alsace Dec. 11, 1811, a son of Michel Kaufmann and Anna Ummel, and resided at Carspach. Their ceremony was witnessed by her brother Chrétien Schlegel, 31.
5. Joseph Schlegel was born on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars circa 1779 (the location and age 50 are indicated on his death entry), and died at Reppe April 23, 1829. He was considered to be a disobedient or resistant military conscript in a civil judgment in 1806. His civil death entry created at Reppe also described him as a bachelor day laborer, named his parents, and was witnessed by cultivator Joseph Wagner, 25.
6. Maria/Marie Schlegel was born at Belfort Jan. 8, 1780. On Oct. 28, 1807 at Couthenans (10 miles northwest of the town of Belfort) she married Johannes/Jean Drösch/Trasch. He was born at Frédéric-Fontaine in 1777, and died Nov.

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[64] This was a street on an elevation at the edge of town. It was reconstructed as Les Barres Fort 1865-70.

[65] Joseph Boshart's older sister Catherine Boshart had remarried to Christ Joder at Luemschwiller April 19, 1824 (see YODER). Witnesses on that occasion had included Jean Ropp and Joseph Ropp of Luemschwiller, sons of Joseph Ropp and Elisabeth Maurer and cousins to Andreas Ropp.

15, 1840, a son of Hans Jacob Trosht and Catherine Hochstetler.[66] The marriage entry described Marie as a 28-year-old. Her parents were 'present and consenting,' and were named in the entry as Nicolas Schlegel, 57, and 'Catherine Humler,' 56, of Belfort. The groom 'Jean Trech' was described as a native of Frédéric-Fontaine who was living at Couthenans. Witnesses included cousin-of-the-groom Pierre Graber, 56, of Couthenans; cousin-of-the-bride Jean Stauffer (found as 'Jean Chetaoufre'), a 38-year-old resident of Belfort (his relationship will be explained later); and brother-of-the-bride Michel Schlegel, 23. Their children born at Belfort include:

a. 'Magdeleine Treusche' (triplet) was born July 6, 1814. One source says she died there Dec. 24, 1814 (during a siege of the fortress). We did not find a civil death entry.
b. 'Joseph Treusche' (triplet) was born July 6, 1814. One source says he died there Dec. 26, 1814.
c. 'Christophe Treusche' (triplet) was born July 6, 1814.
d. 'MarieTreusche' was born Nov. 19, 1816.
e. 'Catherine Treusch' was born March 20, 1820.

7. Magdalena/Madlena/Madeleine Schlegel was born at Belfort March 2, 1783 according to her marriage entry (the date is also found as April 16, 1781). On April 24, 1803 at Couthenans she married Daniel Drösch/Trasch.[67] He was born at Frédéric-Fontaine April 30, 1773, a son of Hans Jacob Troscht and Catherine Hochstetler. The marriage entry described 'Daniel Teuch' as a laborer living at Couthenans but native to Frédéric-Fontaine. Witnesses included cousin-of-the-groom Jean Fluckinger, 36, a cultivator; brother-of-the-bride Nicolas Schlegel, 22; and brother-of-the-bride Michel Schlegel. The parents of the 20-year-old bride were described as 'consenting but absent.'[68]

a. 'Christophe Trasch' was born March 26, 1804 and died at Belfort April 14, 1804. The death entry created at Belfort described his father as Daniel Tresch, day laborer at Montbéliard, and his mother as Madelaine Schlégel. It was signed by grandfather-of-the-deceased Niglaus Schlegel, age 54, day laborer at Belfort.
b. 'Elisabeth Treusch' was born at Belfort April 10, 1805. The birth entry was witnessed by Jacques Joder, 47.
c. 'Christophe Treusch' was born at Belfort Sept. 12, 1807.
d. 'Anne Treuche' was born at Belfort April 16, 1814.
e. 'Pierre Treuche' was born at Belfort March 6, 1816. His birth entry was witnessed by his uncle, cultivator Christ Wagner, 54.
f. 'Nicolas Treusch' was born at Belfort March 20, 1820.

8. Nicolas Schlegel was born at Rougemont April 20, 1783, and died at Mulhouse April 4, 1842. On Jan. 24, 1806 at Pfastatt he married Madeleine Ummel. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as servant Nicolas Schlegel, 22, a resident of Pfastatt employed by Daniel Frutiger. He was born at Rougemont April 20, 1783, a son of Nicolas Schlegel and Madleine Aumle [Ummel], residents of Belfort. The bride was Madeleine Umel, 22, born at Grandvillars Oct. 19, 1783. She was accompanied by her brother-in-law Daniel Frutiger. Her parents were the deceased Chrétien Umel and Madleine Stocky *en Pologne* [Christian/Chrétien Ummel and Barbara Stŭckÿ went to Poland in 1790, and he died there in February of 1795; Barbara later returned and died at Pfastatt]. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Ummel, 29, brother of the bride; farmer Daniel Frutiger, brother-in-law of the bride and employer of the groom; Christian Brechbuhl, 47, neighbor; and Jacques Hochstetler, 38, *proprietaire* and uncle of the bride.[69] The bride and groom signed with an 'x,' indicating they were illiterate. (Yes, Nicolas and his wife had the same names as his parents). They resided at Froeningen, Upper Alsace, then relocated to Mulhouse in 1809-10. Nicholas was described as a 48-year-old resident of Mulhouse when he witnessed the marriage of Joseph Kauffman and Anne Marie Goldschmitt at Michelbach-le-Haut, Upper Alsace May 9, 1830. He died at Mulhouse April 4, 1842, and Madeleine died there Aug. 17, 1849. Their children include:

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[66] Catherine Hochstetler was descended from Christ Hochstetler and Elisabeth Ulrich who came to Clairegoutte before 1723.

[67] Montbéliard records say that Jacob Troscht and Catherine Hochstetler were married *im Schwabhof* Nov. 29, 1762. The death of the father Hans Jacob Troscht of Neudorf is noted in Montbéliard congregation records. He died at Magny d'Anignon (now called Magny-Danigon) adjacent to Frédéric-Fontaine and Clairegoutte Dec. 18, 1779, and the register noted that he left three sons. All three sons were members of this congregation and their marriages were recorded.

A Troxell family was living in Canton Bern before 1100. Circa 1100 a village near Sumiswald (16 miles south of Thunstetten) was called Trachselwald. The castle-prison Trachselwald (Ger. *Schloss Trachselwald*) which was used to confine Anabaptists still stands there (see the cover of Part Three). The form Trachsel was found in Frutigen and Steffisburg, Canton Bern in the 1600s. It is also found as Traschl and Trascht.

Since the 1500s the form 'Trösch' has also been found at Thunstetten, Canton Bern. It may be derived from *Dreschler* or 'wood turner.' Variations include Drösch and Trasch.

[68] The entry described the absent father of the bride as Nicolas Schlegel, 'Suisse,' and the mother mistakenly as Elisabeth Stauffer, 54, of Belfort.

[69] Christian Brechbühl was born May 28, 1759, a son of Martin Brechbühl and Anna Bachman. He married Elizabeth Roup, becoming an uncle to Andreas Ropp. Christian and Elizabeth lived at Soultz, 12 miles north of Pfastatt. See ROPP.

Daniel Frutiger is mentioned in EYMANN.

a. Madeleine Schlegel was born at Froeningen Jan. 22, 1807, and died the following day. Her civil birth entry described her parents as *Baptiste vasal et cultivateur* Nicolas Schlegel, 26, living at Froeningen, and Madeline Omel.

b. Nicolas Schlegel was born at Froeningen Jan. 17, 1808, and died at East Zorra, Ontario June 10, 1877. On Dec. 27, 1827 at Schweighouse-Thann [Ger. *Schweighausen*], Upper Alsace he married Barbara Roth. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Nicolas Schlegel, 19, born at Froningen. He was a son of cultivator Nicolas Schlegel and Madeleine Ummel, residents of Mulhouse. The bride was Barbe Roth, 23, born at Richwiller and a resident of Schweighausen. She was a daughter of cultivator Nicolas Roth and Anne Tschantz, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included day laborer Nicolas Zimmerman, 50. Signatures looked like Niclaŭs Schlegel, Barbara Roth, Niclaŭs Roth, and Niclaŭs Schlngnl. Barbara was born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace Nov. 7, 1804, and died at East Zorra, Ontario Dec. 5, 1877, a daughter of Nicolas Roth and Anna Schantz. Nicolas obtained travel documents at Mulhouse March 4, 1839. He was described as a 30-year-old cultivator from Froeningen, destined for New York. They departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Charles Carroll*, and arrived at New York April 4, 1839. The passenger list shows Nicholas Schlalegel, 30. Barbara Roth and their children are found farther down the list as Barbara Schel, 34; Catharine, 9; Nicolas, 6; Matter [Magdalena], 4; and Charlene, 1/3 [Christine, presumably four months of age]. They settled in Ontario (called Canada West at the time), where they became early members of the East Zorra Amish Mennonite congregation. They purchased 128 acres at South Easthope, Perth County for 80 pounds sterling Aug. 5, 1843. These were Lots 11 and 12, Concession IV, on the boundary with Wilmot, Waterloo County. (South Easthope, Perth County is often confused with nearby Tavistock, Oxford County). The farm is still held by Schlegel descendants (see *Mennonite Family History*, July 1994, *The Amish Schlegel Immigrants)*. When Nicolas died, the event was registered in Oxford County by Dr. Peter Zehr; the entry stated that Nicholas Schlegal was a 69-year-old Mennonite yeoman [farmer] from France. Their children include:

1) Catherine Schlegel was born at Heimsbrunn, Upper Alsace (below Schweighouse-Thann) Sept. 6, 1829, and died at South Easthope Jan. 25, 1892. On Sept. 20, 1853 she married John Brenneman. He was born at Wilmot, Ontario Sept. 11, 1832, and died of tuberculosis at South Easthope Oct. 30, 1867, a son of Daniel Brenneman and Catherine Sommer. *Herald of Truth*, February 1892: "In South Easthope, Perth Co. Ont., of heart trouble, widow Catharine Brenneman (maiden name Schlegel), aged 62 years, 4 months and 18 days. Of her six children three survive her. She also leaves nine grandchildren. She was a faithful and beloved sister in the church. Buried on the 27th, followed to the grave by many friends. Funeral services by Chr. Litwiller and Jacob M. Bender, from *1 Tim. 6:12*."
2) Barbe Schlegel was born at Heimsbrunn Dec. 16, 1830, and died there March 2, 1832. Her birth has occasionally been overlooked because her entry (numbered 30) was mistakenly omitted from the index list at the end of that year.
3) Anne Schlegel was born at Heimsbrunn March 19, 1832, and died there March 31, 1832.
4) Nicolas Schlegel was born at Heimsbrunn July 30, 1833, and died at South Easthope Nov. 12, 1896. On Feb. 2, 1858 he married Barbara Bender. She was born at New Hamburg, Ontario Nov. 16, 1837, and died at South Easthope Dec. 16, 1927, a daughter of Jacob Bender and Magdalena Brenneman. They are found on the 128-acre farm on the 1861 census of South Easthope as farmer Nicolas Schlegel, 28, France; Barbara, 24, U.S.; and Magdalena, 1, U.S. *Herald of Truth*, March 1897: "On the 12th of Nov., 1896, in South East Hope Twp., Oxford Co., Ont., of stomach and heart trouble, Bro. Nicholas Schlegel, aged 63 years, 3 months and 12 days. He was born in Alsace, France (now Germany), on the 30th of July, 1833; he came with his parents to America in 1839, and was married to Barbara Bender with whom he lived in happy matrimony 38 years, 9 months, 10 days. Of their nine children seven survive with their mother to mourn his death. Buried on the 14th in the East Zorra graveyard. Funeral services by Chr. Litwiller and Jacob Bender to a large concourse of friends."
5) Madeleine/Magdalena 'Mattie' Schlegel was born at Heimsbrunn April 19, 1835, and died Dec. 12, 1905. On May 24, 1858 she married Joseph Brenneman. He was born at Wilmot, Ontario April 18, 1839, and died Sept. 19, 1901, a son of Daniel Brenneman and Catherine Sommer. They occupied his father's house at Wilmot. They are buried in Steinmann Mennonite Cemetery east of Baden.
6) Anne Marie Schlegel was born at Heimsbrunn March 8, 1837, and died there April 8, 1837.
7) Christine Schlegel was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace Dec. 30, 1838, and died at South Easthope July 7, 1915. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator Nicolas Schlegel, 31, born at Froeningen, and Barbe Roth, 34. Witnesses included uncle and shopkeeper Benjamin Schlegel, 24, and cultivator Jacques Zimmerman, 55, both residents of Mulhouse. On March 30, 1858 she married Jacob Bender. He was born in 1830, and died Dec. 12, 1901. *Gospel Herald*, August of 1915: "Christena Bender (nee Schlegel) was born

in Muhlhaussen, Alsace, Dec. 31, 1838; died July 7, 1915; aged 76y. 6m. 7d. She came with her parents to Canada when young, where they settled near Tavistock, Ont., and she lived in the same neighborhood ever since. She united with the A.M. Church in her early youth and was a faithful member to the end. She was married to Jacob Bender March 30, 1858, and lived in matrimony 44 y. 8m. 12d., and was a widow over 12 years. To this union were born two sons and three daughters. Her husband, one son, and four grandchildren have gone to the spirit world before her, and she leaves to mourn one son, three daughters, 17 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. The last three years of her life she was unable to walk without crutches, caused by a fall in the house and from which she never fully recovered. She bore it with Christian patience and always had a good word for everybody. Her husband was ordained to the ministry and to him she was a faithful companion. Buried at the East Zorra A.M. Cemetery where a large concourse of relatives and friends had gathered to pay their last tribute to the departed and beloved sister. Services at the home of her son Jacob S. Bender were conducted by Bro. Dan Yutzi reading the *90th Psalm* and at the meeting house by Bros. Chr. Kropf and Mich. K. Yantzi from *I Jno. 1:6-8*, the same being chosen by our departed sister and both brethren having the same text. May God comfort and bless the bereaved ones."

8) Jacobina Schlegel was born at South Easthope Oct. 18, 1840, and died there April 3, 1921. On Oct. 13, 1863 she married Peter Zehr. He was born at South Easthope Dec. 19, 1842, and died there Jan. 15, 1909, a son of Dr. Peter Zehr and Barbara Roth. Jacobina became a midwife. They are buried in the East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery.

9) Barbara Schlegel was born at South Easthope Aug. 12, 1842, and died at East Zorra, Oxford County July 15, 1917. On March 19, 1872 she married Joel Ramseyer. He was born in Stark County, Ohio April 30, 1847, and died at East Zorra April 11, 1917, a son of Joseph Ramseyer and Barbara Klopfenstein. *Gospel Herald*, July 1917: "Barbara Schlegel Ramseyer was born in South Easthope, Perth Co., Ont., on Aug. 12, 1842; died at her home near Tavistock in East Zorra, on July 15, 1917; aged 74 y. 11 m. 2 d. Joel Ramseyer was born in Stark Co., Ohio, April 30, 1847; died in E. Zorra, near Tavistock, Ont., on April 11, 1917; aged 69 y. 11 m. 11 d. Bro. Ramseyer came with his parents to Canada when a young boy and when he married moved to the farm where he lived till his death, which came so suddenly. He had been working at a steam-engine when he got caught by the belt, being hurled into eternity, instantly. Bro. and Sister Ramseyer lived in matrimony 45 y. 3 m. 4 d. To this union were born four children, two sons, and two daughters. One daughter preceded them. Two sons, one daughter, and 11 grandchildren survive them. Buried side by side at the East Zorra A. M. Church of which congregation they were faithful members. Funeral services at Bro. Ramseyer's funeral were conducted by Brethren Jac. R. Bender and Michael K. Jantzi. Text, *Isa. 38:12, 13*. Funeral services for Sister Ramseyer were conducted by Brethren Christian Kropf and Jacob R. Bender. Text, *II Tim. 4:6-8* and *Rom. 5:18, 19*. On both occasions a large number of friends had gathered to pay their last tribute to the departed ones."

10) Anna/Nancy Schlegel was born at South Easthope March 5, 1846, and died at Schickley, Nebraska Dec. 14, 1918. On Dec. 30, 1866 at South Easthope she married Christian Lichti. He was born at St. Agatha, Waterloo County Sept. 1, 1844, and died at Schickley March 31, 1911, a son of Nicholas Lichti and Anna Ernst. In 1877 they relocated from St. Agatha to Wayland, Iowa. Circa 1887 they went to Thurman and later Longmont, Colorado. Finally in 1904 they went to Schickley, Nebraska. *Gospel Herald*, January 1919: "Nancy Anna Schlegel was born at Zorra, Ont., March 5, 1846; died near Shickley, Nebr. Dec. 14, 1918; aged 72 y. 9 m. 9 d. She joined the Mennonite Church in her youth and was a faithful member until death. She was married to Christian E. Lichti Dec. 30, 1866, and lived in matrimony 44 y. 3 m. 1 d. To this union were born 10 children. Her husband, two daughters, and two grandchildren preceded her to the Spirit world. She leaves four sons, four daughters, 32 grandchildren, one sister in Canada, and many relatives and friends. The last two years she suffered with heart trouble and rheumatism. Funeral sermon by the home ministers. Texts, *Psa. 90, Heb 4:9*, and *II Cor. 5:1*. She was buried Dec. 18."

- The late Lorraine Roth listed a son Daniel Schlegel born in 1848. If so, he must have died young.

c. Joseph Schlegel was born at Froeningen April 30, 1809, and died in Davis County, Iowa in 1866. On Nov. 26, 1830 at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine, Upper Alsace he married Madeleine Peter Schmitt. Their ceremony was witnessed by miller Jean Peter Schmitt, 36, an uncle of the bride. She was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine May 17, 1814, and died at Edna Mills, Indiana Sept. 16, 1878, a daughter of

François Joseph Peter Schmitt and Magdalena Bäecher.[70] Joseph may have made a preliminary voyage to America with his brother Nicolaus/Nicholas in 1839 - ' Joseph Schlalegel, 27,' is found immediately after 'Nicholas Schlalegel, 30' on the passenger list of the packet ship *Charles Carroll*. If so, Joseph returned to Europe very soon afterward; a son Chrétien was born at Raedersheim, Upper Alsace Sept. 8, 1839. According to *History of Tippecanoe County, Indiana*, in a brief biography of John Zimmerman (who married Joseph and Madeleine's daughter Magdalena), in a reference to Joseph Schlegel: "...The father, also a native of Alsace, was a prosperous farmer, and in 1853 he and his family accompanied John Zimmerman to America. Mr. Slagel settling in Davis County, Iowa, where he bought eighty acres of land which he developed. He died when about 62 years old." They obtained their travel documents June 19, 1854. Joseph was described as a 45-year-old accompanied by his wife and two children, destined for New York. A copy of the *Ausbund* hymnal that he brought to America, given to him by his parents, is still held by descendants. They purchased their farm Aug. 21, 1856. They are found on the 1860 census of Grove Township, Davis County, Iowa as Joseph Slagle, 51, France; Malinda, 46, France; Joseph, 23, France; and Anna, 18, France. Their son Joseph became a minister and elder with responsibilities in the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Oregon, and Colorado.[71]

d. Christian/Chrétien Schlegel was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace Nov. 6, 1810, and died at Grove Township, Davis County, Iowa April 13, 1884. His birth entry describes his father as a 36-year-old domestic servant living at Belfort; one witness was cultivator Christ Wagner, 29. On May 31, 1838 at

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[70] Her headstone in Mennonite Cemetery at Edna Mills calls her Magdalena Slegel, and states that she died Sept. 16, 1878 at 63 years of age. Edna Mills was the home of her daughter Magdalena. The daughter's joint headstone says, "John Zimmerman, Feb. 20, 1832-Dec. 20, 1909" and "Magdalena, his wife, Aug. 10, 1832-June 13, 1888."

[71] Joseph Schlegel was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace Nov. 11, 1837, and died at Milford, Nebraska on Christmas Day 1913. According to his obituary, "While a youth he moved with his parents to Ontario, Canada, lived there a few years, then with his parents moved to Davis Co., Iowa." On Aug. 25, 1864 at Davis, Iowa he married Marie/Mary Miller. She was born at Hamburg, Ontario (now encompassed by Wilmot) Feb. 14, 1847, and died at Milford, Nebraska April 25, 1923, a daughter of Peter Miller and Margretha Anna Mesen or Mason (see NAFZIGER for background on this couple).

Joseph was ordained a minister at Wayland, Iowa in 1867. In 1868 he was asked to take on the duties of minister Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith (see STAKER) as elder. He moved to Milford, Nebraska in 1879. His household is found on the 1880 census of Precinct O, Seward County, Nebraska (now Milford, Grover/East Milford, West Mill, and Camden) as farmer Joseph Schlagle, 42, born in Prussia to Prussian parents (Alsace was occupied after the Franco-Prussian War); Mary 33, born in Canada to Prussian parents; seven children born in Iowa, and one 4-month-old born in Nebraska. The 1900 census of Milford shows them as clergyman Joseph Schlegel, 62, born in Germany in November 1837 to German parents (Alsace-Lorraine was occupied by Germany 1870-1918), immigrated in 1852; and Mary, 53, born in Canada in February 1847 to German parents, immigrated in 1854.

Joseph traveled widely by train. He was moderator or assistant moderator of the Western District Amish Mennonite Conference 10 times between 1890 and 1904. The recollections of Christian E. Martin of Hopedale, from the August 1974 issue of *Mennonite Heritage:* "In the afternoon the old moderator [Joseph Schlegel] of the Conference had M.S. Steiner give a report of the mission work in Chicago which was something very new in the Mennonite church. I don't think the Mission had been going over three or four years. He started giving the report in English. The moderator, old Joe Schlegel from Nebraska, had a voice like a bear, and he says, 'Swiss Deutsch!' It means speak German. M.S. Steiner got a big smile on his face. He said, 'Brother Schlegel has got the gift to bestow the gift of tongues on me," and then he started talking German... ...Joe Schlegel was an outstanding leader in his day. Now he wouldn't rate very high. He was a big man with a big voice and a dominating personality and he was a good administrator. Then the other one was Sebastian Gerig of Nebraska. They took turn about. They were the two men in the Western AM [Conference] as far as administration were concerned."

Gospel Herald, January 1914: "Bish. Joseph Schlegel was born Nov. 11, 1837, near Mulhausen, Alsace, Germany; died of cirrhosis of the liver and arterial sclerosis, near Milford, Neb., Dec. 25, 1913; aged 76 y. 1 m. 14 d. While a youth he moved with his parents to Ontario, Canada, lived there a few years, then with his parents moved to Davis Co., Iowa. He was married to Mary Miller, Aug. 25, 1863, lived in matrimony 50 y. 4 m. To this union were born 13 children, eight sons and five daughters. Two daughters, 13 grandchildren, one great-grandchild preceded him to the spirit-world. He leaves to mourn his departure his beloved companion, eight sons, three daughters, 34 grandchildren, and many friends and neighbors, brothers and sisters in Christ. ... He could say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at the day." Funeral services were held on the 28th at the East Fairview Church, conducted by the bishop and ministers, Peter Kennel, Jake and Joseph Birkey, Fred Gingerich, Christian Rediger, Joseph Zimmerman. Texts. *II Tim. 4:6-8; John 5: 28,29; Heb.9:27."*

Gospel Herald, May 1923: "Mary Miller was born Feb. 14, 1847, near New Hamburg, Ont.; died April 25, 1923, at the home of her daughter, Lena Kremer, Milford, Nebr.; aged 76 y. 2 m. 11 d. At the age of nine years she with her parents immigrated to Davis County, Iowa, at which place she accepted Christ. She joined the Amish Mennonite Church and remained a loyal and faithful member until she peacefully fell asleep in Jesus. On Aug. 25, 1863, she was married to the late Bishop Joseph Schlegel. To this union of 50 years, were born 13 children, eight sons and five daughters. Her husband and two daughters preceded her in death. She is survived by eight sons, three daughters, 37 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren, one brother, Mike Miller of Pulaski, Iowa, and a host of other relatives and friends."

Mulhouse he married Vérène Ummel. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as dairymen [Fr. *laitier*] Chrétien Schlegel, 27, a resident of Mulhouse, and a son of Nicolas Schlegel and Madeleine Ummel who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Vérène Kummle, 17, a resident of Mulhouse, born at Mulhouse June 15, 1821, a daughter of shopkeeper Étienne Kummle and Vérène Jenni, who were present and consenting.[72] One witness was shop keeper Jean Georges Huglin, 26, a brother-in-law of the groom. Vérène died at Mulhouse April 16, 1841. The civil death entry for 'Vérène Hummlé' describes her husband as Chrétien Schlegel, 30, porter [Fr. *cartier*]. On May 5, 1843 at Heimsbrunn, Upper Alsace Christian remarried to Elisabeth Goldschmitt. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as dairyman Chrétien Schlegen, born at Mulhouse Nov. 6, 1810, the widower of Vérène Hummlé, and the son of cultivator Nicolas Schlegel, who had died at Mulhouse April 4, 1842, and Madeleine Ummel, who was present and consenting. The bride was described as Elisabeth Goldschmitt, 25, a resident of Heimsbrunn who was born at Issenheim, Upper Alsace July 13, 1817. She was a daughter of Heimsbrunn farmer Jacques Goldschmitt, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Schlatter, who had died at Rougemont Feb. 21, 1943. Witnesses included brother-of-the-groom Benjamin Schlegel, 27, tailor; and brother-of-the-bride Jean Goldschmitt, 35, cultivator. They resided at Mulhouse, where they had four children. The family obtained travel documents Feb. 11, 1857. The father was described as a 39-year-old cultivator from Mulhouse, accompanied by his 39-year-old wife, three daughters, and a son, as well as bachelor brother-in-law Jean Goldschmitt, 48. They sailed from Le Havre on the brig *Tornado*, arriving at New York April 15, 1857. The passenger list shows farmer Christian Schlegel, 46; Elisabeth, 39; Madeleine, 11; Catherine, 9; Caroline, 7; Benjamin, 3; and farmer Jean Goldschmidt, 46; all from France. Their traveling companions on that voyage were Joseph Joder and Catherine Schott of Heimersdorf, Upper Alsace, whose destination was stated to be Quebec.[73] Christian and Elisabeth settled at Grove Township, which had been the home of Christian's older brother Joseph Schlegel (Joseph lived there from 1856 until his death in 1866). The 1880 census of Grove Township shows farmer C. Schlegel, 75; E., 62; Katie, 29; Caroline, 27; farmer B., 25; and teacher Mary, 21; all born in France. *Herald of Truth*, May 1884: "On the 13th of April, at Pulaski, Davis Co., Iowa, of lung and bilious fever, Christ. Schlegel, aged 73 years and 4 months. He was buried on the 15th. Services by Ph. Roulet from *1 Thess. 4:13-15*." A joint headstone in Union Cemetery in Davis County holds three names: "Christian Schlegel, d. April 13, 1884, age 74; Elizabeth G., wife, d. Jan. 13, 1899, age 91; and uncle John Goldsmith, d. March 7, 1879, age 70."

e. Jean Schlegel was born at Mulhouse July 2, 1812. On April 22, 1847 at Mulhouse he married Caroline Baer. Their civil marriage entry said that his mother Madeleine Ummel was present and consenting. Caroline was 17 years of age, born July 23, 1829; her parents were Jean Baer, 54, and Catherine [illegible], 54.

f. Nicolas Benjamin Schlegel was born at Mulhouse Oct. 24, 1813. He was described as 24-year-old shopkeeper and resident of Mulhouse Benjamin Schlegel on an 1838 birth entry of his niece Christine; and as 27-year-old tailor on the civil entry for the 1843 remarriage of his older brother Christian/Chrétien. He married Marie Thérése Heitz. She was born at Hombourg, Upper Alsace Jan. 14, 1826, a daughter of Marie Heitz.

g. Barbe Schlegel was born at Mulhouse Dec. 21, 1814. On Jan. 5, 1843 at Mulhouse she married Jean Klein. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Klein, born at Mulhouse April 13, 1810, a son of the deceased Jean Georges Klein, who had died at Mulhouse Nov. 25, 1841, and Madeleine Bricker, 38, who was present and consenting. The bride was born at Mulhouse Dec. 21, 1814, a daughter of the deceased Nicolas Schlegel and Madeleine Ummel, 64, who was present and consenting. Two illegitimate children were adopted by the groom: Madeleine Schlegel, born at Walheim in 1830, and Nicolas Schlegel, born at Mulhouse in 1832.

h. Catherine Schlegel was born at Mulhouse March 20, 1817. Before May 1838 she married Jean George Huglin, who was described on the 1838 marriage entry of her older brother Christian/Chrétien as a 26-year-old shopkeeper.

9. Michael/Michel Schlegel was born at Belfort Sept. 12, 1785. He was a witness at the weddings of his sisters Magdalena (Couthenans1803) and Maria (Couthenans 1807).

10. **Christian Schlegel** was born at Belfort Aug. 9, 1792. He died in Tazewell County in 1863 or later.

Christian Schlegel was born in the town of Belfort Aug. 9, 1792.

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[72] Her birth is recorded in the 10-year index of civil entries under the surname 'Kummle.'

[73] They are found on the passenger list as farmer Joseph Joder, 40, France; Jean [Joseph's father], 70; Barbe [Goldschmitt, Joseph's wife], 42; Elisabeth [Joseph's sister], 36; Anne [Joseph's sister], 32; Catherine [Schott, Joseph's mother], 70; Catherine, 59; and infant Joseph [born at Heimersdorf June 25, 1825, an illegitimate son of Anne Joder].

In 1816 Christian was farming at Chavannatte. A *ban* posted at Froidefontaine and Chavannatte June 22, 1816 announced that he had visited the mayor's office at Chavannatte to request marriage to Catherine Ernst. The ceremony would take place at Froidefontaine July 3, 1816.

Christian had no record of his birth, which was required by marriage laws. His birth had not been recorded in the *état civil* system of record keeping because the system was not instituted until Sept. 20, 1792. Fortunately, a document from the mayor of Rougemont dated June 14, 1816 was sent to the officials who would preside over his marriage ceremony. The Rougemont mayor attested that Michel Klopfenstein (1740-1817), an '*anna á Baptiste*,' was born at Rougemont and still lived there. Michel was the minister and elder who led the congregation at La Maie farm. He vouched that 'Christ Sleglere,' son of 'Nicolas Sleglere' and 'Madelene Hommele,' was born at Belfort in 1792 in the presence of David Stholle [Stoll] and Jacques Joder, residents of Belfort.[74]

The marriage entry created at Froidefontaine stated that 'Christ Schelegue' was born at Belfort Aug. 9, 1792. His father was 'Nicolas Schelegue.' The entry did not mention that Nigi had died two years earlier – that would have required a copy of a civil death record (we could not find one in local civil records, perhaps because the family was still at odds with civil authorities). His mother was 'Magdalena Ommelet' [Ummel], described as a day laborer at Chavannatte. The bride was 'Catherine Erneste' [Ernst] born at Boron Sept. 8, 1794, daughter of 44-year-old weaver 'Simon Erneste' and 'Cathrine Rode' [Catherine Roth] living at Froidefontaine. Witnesses included Jean Joder, 53, a weaver from Froidefontaine. The entry was signed 'Hans Joder,' and it was indicated that the groom, bride, and bride's father were illiterate. At the time of the marriage Catherine Ernst was seven months pregnant with their first child.

The first few years of their married lives must have been extremely arduous. While the farmers of the region tried to recover and amend damage caused by the occupations of the Napoleonic wars, they suffered from an extended natural disaster that affected all of Europe.

ROPP told the story of European weather changes resulting from the explosion of Mt. Tambora in Indonesia and other atmospheric disturbances. They caused three successive extended winters in 1816, 1817, and 1819, later called a 'Little Ice Age.' Although the weather changes slowed travel throughout Europe, and emigration as well, the seed was created that led to later emigration.

Anabaptists in the *Territoire de Belfort* were encouraged to emigrate. Many followed the example of an Anabaptist exodus from the Münstertertal valley in the Jura Mountains to Wayne County, Ohio.

When Christian and Catherine chose to emigrate in 1825, they followed the path of Catherine's aunt Anna Ernst, whose husband had once lived in the Münstertal valley. See ERNST for background on this couple.

Christian Schlegel and Catherine Ernst boarded the *Superior* at Le Havre in the spring of 1825.[75] Their traveling companions included Johannes Neuenschwander, a cousin to Michel Neuenschwander.[76] Their collective luggage consisted of "1 bag bed & bedding."

From the passenger list:

Passenger number		*Age*	
32	Christian Slaigle	33	Belfort
33	Catherine Slaigle	32	
34	Catherine Slaigle	7	
35	Christian Slaigle	6	
36	Barbara Slaigle	4	
37	Elisabeth Slaigle	3	
38	Pierre Slaigle	1	

The *Superior* arrived at New York City June 18, 1825. While Johannes Neuenschwander traveled directly to Ohio, the Schlegels remained in New York City.

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[74] Jacob/Jacques Joder was born at Brevilliers Sept. 16, 1761, and died at St. Ulrich Oct. 21, 1838, a son of Christ Joder and Anne Hochstettler. He married Anneli Graber and Marie Ann Guemann. In later life he farmed at Hochstatten, Upper Alsace.

On Jan. 24, 1779 David Stoll married Jacob/Jacques Joder's sister Barbara 'Babi' Joder. She was born in 1753, and died at Danjoutin April 22, 1822.

[75] This was the same ship that would take Oyers and Mosimans to New Orleans in 1830 under the same master, Benjamin F. Harrod (see OYER).

[76] Johannes Neuenschwander (found on the passenger list as 'Jean Neuschander' origin Langnau) was born at Souboz in the Münstertal valley of the Jura Mountains April 7 or 8, 1776, a son of Benedikt Neuenschwander and Elisabeth Lehmann. On Dec. 2, 1806 he married Katharine Furimann of Rohrbach. They went to Holmes County and then Wayne County, Ohio. In 1836 they resettled near Bluffton to live near Anna Ernst and Michel Neuenschwander.

Why did the family 'drop out' of the westward migration? The Schlegels were certainly aware that Michel Neuenschwander and Anna Ernst had lost a child on the arduous overland journey from New York to Wayne County, Ohio. And in the summer of 1825 handbills advertised the impending opening of a water route to Ohio - the Erie Canal from Albany on the Hudson River to Buffalo on Lake Erie. A formal opening would took place Oct. 26. We can only speculate that the Schlegel family chose to wait out winter ice. They may have remained in the city because of the poor health of a child or the relative prosperity they found there.

In 1825 the most famous Frenchman in America was the Marquis de Lafayette. The 67-year-old Revolutionary War hero had been invited by President James Monroe to tour all 21 states as a celebration of the approaching 50th anniversary of the founding of the country. The Marquis left France on a merchant vessel and arrived at New York City in August 1824. By the time of the Schlegel arrival he had completed his tour and was back in New York State, anticipating a September departure. Christian Schlegel would later describe seeing the Marquis in the city.

12, 1820

For nine years the Schlegels lived on the Lower East Side of the borough of Manhattan. 'Christian Slagell' can be found in the *Manhattan New York City Directory of 1829-30.* He was described as a milkman living at 81 Sheriff Street.[77] Later, in Illinois, the Schlegels would recall seeing the top-hatted mayor of New York City traveling to work each day in his carriage. It is probable that they were describing Cornelius Van Wyck Lawrence, who was in office at the time of their departure.

From New York Christian may have corresponded with Andreas Ropp; recall that two of Christian's brothers resided at Froeningen, Upper Alsace, the home of Andreas's sister Catherine.

In the summer of 1835 the Schlegels resettled at Ten Mile Creek in Washington, Tazewell County. In retrospect their move was fortunately timed. On Dec. 16 and 17, 1835, during two nights of below-zero temperatures, the Great New York Fire destroyed 600 buildings on 17 blocks of the Lower East Side.

They may have made the trip to Illinois with André/Andrew Burkey and Catherine Ackerman, who arrived at New York that year, and whose son Joseph Burcky married their daughter Catherine 'Katie' Schlegel that year.

Lydia Slagel Smith wrote:

> "They had a long, tiresome journey, partly by boat and partly by wagon pulled with oxen. They were in peril of robbers, and had to keep a close watch over their possessions. They came through Fort Dearborn (Chicago) when there were only five houses there.
>
> A grandson thought they came to Illinois after a 'stopover in Canada,' so it is probable that they spent sometime in Waterloo County, Ontario, where they had relatives. They may have intended to locate there, deciding later to go on to Illinois as many others did."

According to the *Grantors Index*, 'Christian Slagle' paid Armstrong Goings $203 for land in Section 4 (no indication where) Aug. 3, 1840. On Nov. 26, 1840 'Christian Slagle' also purchased 40 acres of public land on Ten Mile Creek at $1.25 per acre.[78] In *Early History of Washington, Ill. and Vicinity*, resident Simon Thomas recalled, "The Slagle family lived on the bluff west of Washington. He [Christian] used to say he settled in the timber there because the prairie land east of Washington was full of sloughs, and the green head flies were so bad the stock could not stand it."

In Illinois the Schlegels worshipped with the Partridge Creek meeting.

'Christopher Slagel' appears on the 1845 census of Tazewell County. The entry shows one adult male, one adult female, and two sons. The family can be found on the 1850 census of unincorporated Tazewell County as Christian Slagel, 59, born in France; Catharina, 60, born in France; Nicolas, 21, born in New York; and Benjamin, 19, born in New York. Head of household Christian Schlegel is listed at Washington on a state census of 1855.

The place and date of Catherine Ernst's death is entirely unknown. It is often cited as Ten Mile Creek/ Washington circa 1855 (that is, at her known home after the 1850 census and before the 1860 census). The 1860 census of Washington shows a household containing Christian Slagle, 67, France; his son Benjamin, 29, New York;

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[77] Sheriff Street ran between Columbia and Pitt Streets, and extended from Houston to Grand Streets. Within a decade its cottages gave way to large brick buildings. In the mid-1800s the area was known as Little Germany, or *Kleindeutschland*. A book called *81 Sheriff Street* was published by Gertrude Ford in 1981. It describes the tenement life of Jewish immigrants around the turn of the century. One block of Sheriff Street still remains, just south of Houston Street.

[78] The *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database* shows this purchase as SESW, Section 4, Township 26 N (Washington), Range 03W, Meridian 3, Christian Slagle of Social Status A, Tazewell County, Volume 790 , page 60. The tract is now the proving grounds of the Caterpillar Tractor Company.

and daughter-in-law Ann, 29 [Marie Anne Klopfenstein]. Christian transferred the title on his farm to son Benjamin in 1863 and died shortly afterward.

Children of Christian Schlegel and Catherine Ernst include:

1. Catherine 'Katie' Schlegel was born at Chavannatte Sept. 5, 1816, died in 1894, and is buried at Flanagan, Livingston County. Her birth was recorded at Froidefontaine. The civil birth entry described her parents as Criste Schelegue, an *anabatiste* day laborer living at Chavannatte, and Catherine Erneste. In 1835 she married Joseph Burcky. He was born at Söcking, Bavaria in March 1810, a son of André/Andrew Burkey and Catherine Ackerman. Joseph sailed from Hamburg with his older brother John on the brig *Montano*, arriving at New York Sept. 5, 1833. The passenger list identified the brothers as distillers; gave Joseph's age as 23 years, 3 months, 29 years, 2 months; and said they were coming from 'Seking' in Bavaria bound for Kentucky. Joseph then returned to Europe, and sailed again with his parents and younger sister in 1835. In the same year Joseph married Katie, either in New York or Illinois. The household of Joseph and Katie appears on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Joseph Berkey, 40, Germany; Catharine, 34, France; and Joseph, 13, Illinois. They appear on the 1870 census of Roanoke as farmer Joseph Burkie, 60; Catharine, 54; Theodor, 26; John, 19; Andrew, 16; and Peter, 12; all stated to be born in Bavaria.
2. **Christian Schlegel [Jr.]** was born Jan. 17, 1819, and died in Livingston County Nov. 26, 1884. The 1880 census gave his birthplace as Switzerland.
3. Barbara Schlegel was born at Froidefontaine Aug. 2, 1820. Her civil birth entry calls her Elizabethe, and describes her parents as day laborer Christe Schelegue, 27, and Catherine Erneste. The *Superior* passenger list gave her age as 4 in 1825.
4. Elisabeth Schlegel was born at Bourogne Jan. 13, 1823, and died March 21, 1901 (also found as March 17, 1902). Her civil birth entry describes her parents as 'Christe Schlégle,' 30, valet and laborer living at Bourogne, and 'Catherine Herste.' On June 10, 1842 at Washington she married Jacob Ropp, a son of Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann (see ROPP). The European connection between the two families: Andreas Ropp and Elisabeth Eymann came to North America in 1826 from the communal farm Barthel Hutte at Largitzen, Upper Alsace. They shared that farm with the couple Johannes/Jean Joder and Marie Conrad. Marie was a niece to Christian Schlegel and Catherine Ernst.
5. Pierre Schlegel was born at Bourogne Sept. 12, 1824. His birth entry names his parents as 'Crétien Schlegle,' 37 [he was 32], a valet and laborer living at Bourogne, and 'Catherine Hernest.' Pierre appears on the *Superior* passenger list from 1825 as a 1-year-old.
6. Nicholas Schlegel/Slagle was born in New York City June 10, 1828, and died Feb. 15, 1908. On Feb. 12, 1851 he married Sophia Trimmer. She was born Sept. 7, 1832, and died in 1916, a daughter of Wilhelm/William Trimmer and Anna Margaretha Eckert. They are found on the 1870 census of Fon du Lac as miller Nicholas Slagel, 42, born in New York; Sophia, 38, born in Germany; and four children born in Illinois: Julia, 12; Charles, 11; George, 2; and Henry, 2. Nicholas served two terms as supervisor of Fon du Lac and was the first mayor of East Peoria. They are buried under the surname 'Slagle' in Fond du Lc Township Cemetery.
7. Benjamin Schlegel/Slagle was born in New York City in May of 1831, and died Feb. 14, 1906. On April 20, 1852 in Tazewell County he married Marie Anne Klopfenstein; the ceremony was performed by minister John Nafziger. She was born in the *Territoire de Belfort* May 11, 1831, and died Nov. 7, 1875, a daughter of Johannes/Jean/John Klopfenstein and Catherine Klopfenstein. They are found on the 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer Benjamin Slagle, 49, N.Y.; Eanna, 39, France; Benj. R., 17; Caty, 14; John, 12; Josephine, 8; Lena, 7; and Marg., 3; all children born in Illinois. Benjamin appears on the 1880 census of Waldo as farmer 'Benjiman Slagle,' a 49-year-old widower born in New York to parents from France, with six children born in Illinois: John, 22; Josephine, 18; Lena, 17; Mary, 13; Emanuel, 10; and Anna, 6.

Christian Schlegel [Jr.] was born Jan. 17, 1819.

On May 16, 1842 in Tazewell County he married Salomé 'Sarah' Sommer.[79] She was born on Sommerhof at Neuviller-la-Roche, Lower Alsace July 1, 1819, a daughter of Ulrich Sommer and Barbe Göerig/Guérich. See SOMMER for the story of her family.

After marriage the couple settled at what are now Elm Grove and Tremont, villages that were established in 1849-50. They worshipped with the Dillon Creek meeting, a group that met in homes and evolved into the Pleasant Grove congregation (the 'Ropp church').

Their household is shown on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Christian Slagel Jr., 35, France; Sally, 30, France; Eliza, 8; Catharine, 7; Christian, 5; Madaline, 4; Joseph, 3; Nicholas, 1; all children born in

[79] It is odd that an Amish Mennonite chose to name his child after the Biblical Salomé, the temptress who asked Herod for the head of John the Baptist. In Catholic France it was more common to find Marie Salomé, who witnessd the crucifixion and discovered the rock rolled away from the tomb of Christ.

Ulrich signed his daughter's birth entry Ŭlric Sŭmmer.

Illinois. The 1855 state census of Tazewell County shows the household of 'Christ Slagel': one male 30-40 years of age, one male 10-19, one male 30-39, one female under 10, two females 10-19, and one female 30-39. They must have been living along Allentown Road at Elm Grove near the Gerber farms, as their neighbors include Peter Ropp, John Ropp, P. Gerber, and John Forney.

Christian was ordained as a minister in 1855. According to Harry F. Weber's *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929*, 'Christ Slagel' began to minister at Hopedale in 1857. This later became known as the Delavan Prairie Church.

They appear on the 1860 census of Tremont as farmer Christian Slagele, 41, Germany; Sarah, 41, Germany; Catharine, 17; Christian, 15; Magdalene, 14; Joseph, 12; Nicholas, 10; Benj., 9; Sarah, 5; and Mary, 2, all children born in Illinois. The family moved onto a farm at Pike, Livingston County in 1863. The 1865 state census of Pike has the household of Christian Slagll: one male 40-49 years of age, seven males 10-19, one male nine or under, one female 40-49, two females 20-29, and three females nine or under.

Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929 lists Christ Schlegel as an attendee at the *Diener Versammlung* assembly of ministers hosted by the Rock Creek congregation at Danvers in 1866.

In 1867 the Waldo Mennonite Church was constructed four miles south of Flanagan.

In 1870 the family appears on the census of Pike as farmer Chris Slagle, 57, France; Sarah, 57, France; Benjamin, 19, Illinois; Sarah, 14, Illinois; Mary, 13, Illinois; Lydia, 9, Illinois; and Daniel, 6, Illinois. They appear again on the 1880 census of Pike as farmer Christian Slagel, 61, born in Switzerland to Swiss parents; Sara, 61, born in France to French parents; Lydia, 19, Illinois; and farm laborer Daniel, 16, Illinois.

Christian died at Pike Nov. 26, 1884, and Salomé died there July 20, 1890. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery.

Herald of Truth, December 1884: "On the 26th of November, in Livingston Co., Ill., of cancer of the stomach, Bishop Christian Schlegel, aged 65 years and 9 months. The funeral was very largely attended. Services were held by Joseph Griester, Andrew Rhodes of Tazewell Co., John P. Schmitt and Christian Rhodes. Bro. Schlegel bore his sufferings with much patience. He leaves a widow and eleven children to mourn his departure. The deceased was a bishop in the Amish Mennonite Church. He administered with the gift he had received from God."

Herald of Truth, August 1890: "On the 20th of July, in Livingston Co., Ill., of infirmities, Salome, widow of the late Bish. Christian Schlegel, aged 71 years, 1 month and 3 days. Buried on the 22d. A large number of friends and acquaintances from near and far assembled at her burial. Services at the house of her son-in-law, August Albrecht, where she had spent the last days of her life, by Daniel Orendorff from *Psa. 90*, and at the meetinghouse by Joseph Ackermann, Daniel Orendorff and John P. Schmitt from *1 Cor. 15: 120.* In the last week of her life Sister Schlegel became weaker and weaker in body and mind, and at last the Lord took her home, thus fulfilling a wish she had often expressed. At the close of the funeral services the beautiful hymn was sung, *'I'm going home to die no more.'* She was a faithful member of the Old Amish Mennonite church, and leaves 11 children, 46 grandchildren, and 28 great grandchildren. Four children preceded her."

Their children include:

1. Elizabeth 'Eliza' Schlegel was born at Ten Mile Creek/Washington March 7, 1842, and died at Eureka, Woodford County June 8, 1925. On April 5, 1870 in Livingston County she married Joseph H. King; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born in Ohio circa 1842, and may have died in 1898. A marker for Joseph H. King in the East Bend Memorial Gardens Cemetery (formerly East Bend Mennonite Cemetery) at Fisher, Champaign County gives only his age, 56. They appear on the 1870 census of Pike as carpenter Joseph King, 27, Ohio; Elizabeth, 28, Illinois; and farm laborer Nicholas Slagel, 21, Illinois (Elizabeth's younger brother). They can be found on the 1880 census of Gridley, McLean County as carpenter Joseph H. King, 38, born in Ohio to parents from Württemberg; Elizabeth, 38, born in Illinois to parents from France; five children born in Illinois; and Peter Kauffman, 25, born in Illinois to parents from Anhalt and Illinois.[80] *Gospel Herald*, June 1925: "Elizabeth King (nee Slagle) was born near Washington, Ill., March 7, 1842; died at the Home for the Aged near Eureka, Ill., June 6, 1925; aged 83 y. 2 m. 29 d. In her youth she moved with her parents to near Meadows, Ill. There she was married to Jos. H. King. To this union were born six children, of whom five are living. Her husband died while they were living on a farm in Champaign Co., Ill., after which she went to live with her children in Minnesota [Heron Lake], where she remained until she came to the Home at Eureka, Aug. 8, 1922, where she resided until death. Funeral

[80] There may be a clue in this. Their next-door neighbor at Gridley was Jacob Augspurger, a 32-year-old farmer from Ohio, and his wife Lena [Zehr], 32, born in Anhalt; her father George Zehr, 74, lived with them. Jacob was a son of David Augspurger and his first wife Magdalena Unzicker (David later remarried to Elizabeth Schertz). The Augspurgers came from St. Clair, Butler County, Ohio to McLean County (David Augspurger can be found on the 1850 census of Madison and the 1860 census of St. Clair). Jacob Augspurger and Magdalena 'Lena' Zehr were married in McLean County Jan. 8, 1871. Did Joseph H. King, born in Ohio circa 1842, also come from St. Clair?

services at the Home in charge of Brethren Ezra Yordy, Samuel Gerber, and A. A. Schrock. Her death was due to old age. She leaves five children, one brother, and two sisters."

2. Catherine Schlegel was born at what became Tremont on the 8th or 18th of April, 1843, and died at Washington May 5, 1916. On Feb. 8, 1869 in Livingston County she married John Gascho. He was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County Feb. 27, 1844, and died in Livingston County March 18, 1883, a son of Johannes/John Gascho and Magdalena Gundy. See GASCHO for his obituary. On Oct. 15, 1895 Catherine remarried to widower John Guth of Washington. He was born May 10, 1840, and died Oct. 8, 1896, a son of Peter Guth and Susanna/Susan Oyer. He married his first wife Maria/Mary Ehresman May 5, 1861. She was born in Ohio Nov. 10, 1839, and died at Washington May 8, 1894. John Guth and his first wife are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.
3. Christian Schlegel/Slagell [Jr.] was born at what became Tremont Dec. 8, 1844, and died at Normal, McLean County Feb. 26, 1913. He is buried as 'Christian S. Slagell' in Gridley Cemetery. On Feb. 8, 1869 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena Turck; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Ropp. She was born in France in January 1845, a daughter of Peter Turck and his wife Anna, who were living at Morton. They settled at Gridley, McLean County. She is also buried there as 'Magdalena Slagell 1845-1922.' *Gospel Herald*, April 1913: "Christian S. Slagell was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., on Dec. 8, 1845, married to Magdalena Turck on Feb. 8, 1869. To this union was born one daughter. He died at Brokaw Hospital in Normal, Ill., where he underwent an operation for stone in the bladder Feb. 27, 1913. Short services were held at his home in Gridley, from which place they took him to the Ness Amish Church of which he was a member. He leaves besides his wife, one daughter and 10 grandchildren. Buried at the cemetery nearby."
4. Magdalena 'Malinda' Schlegel/Slegell was born at what became Tremont May 3, 1846, and died July 3, 1921. On Feb. 26, 1865 at Gridley she married minister Peter Zimmerman; the ceremony was performed by minister Chistian Ropp. He was born in Ohio Dec. 15, 1842 or 1844, and died at Garden City, Missouri May 5, 1931, a son of Michael Zimmerman and his second wife Magdalena Erb (see ZIMMERMAN for his obituary). They can be found on the 1870 census of Pike, Livingston County living next door to Magdalena's parents as farmer Peter Zimmerman, 28, Ohio; Melinda, 24, Illinois; and three young children born in Illinois. Peter was ordained as a minister of the Roanoke Church in 1878. In 1886 they moved to Larned, Kansas. He was later elder of the Shelbyville, Illinois congregation. *Gospel Herald*, August 1921: "Magdalena, daughter of Christian and Salome Slagle, was born in Tazewell County, Ill., May 3, 1846, where she resided with her parents until her marriage with Peter Zimmerman which occurred on February 26, 1865. To this union were born four children: William of Carthage, Ill.; Edward of Garden City, Mo.; Jonathan of Colume, S. Dak., and Mrs. Lydia Helmuth of Roanoke. All were present with the bereaved husband and father when she passed to her reward on July 3 at her home in Roanoke, aged 75 y. and 2 m. Deceased united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful and consistent member until her death. She leaves to mourn her loss besides her husband and children, nineteen grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, two brothers: Benjamin of Wayland, Iowa, and Daniel of Flanagan, Ill,; three sisters: Mrs. Elizabeth King of Heron Lake, Minn., Mrs. Salome Yordy of Roanoke, and Mrs. Lydia Smith of Flanagan. The funeral was held July 5 from the Harmony Mennonite Church. Bro. Joseph Reber of Shelbyville and Bro. Peter Gerber of Cazenovia conducted the services. Interment was made in the Metamora township Mennonite cemetery five miles west and two miles north of Roanoke." Excerpt from Peter's obituary in the *Gospel Herald*, July 1931: "...He united with the A. M. Church in his young manhood and was a member of the same at the time of his death. He was ordained to the ministry in 1878 at the Roanoke Church, in which capacity he served for over fifty-one years--including the congregations at Larned, Kans.; Garden City, Mo.; Delaplaine, Ark.; and later returning to Roanoke, Ill., where he remained until the last six years which were spent with his children in their different homes." They are buried in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery at Metamora.
5. Joseph Schlegel was born at what became Tremont Dec. 8, 1847, and died at Long Bow, Oklahoma July 12, 1914. On Feb. 14, 1862 in Livingston County he married Barbara Gascho. She was born near Spring Bay Sept. 21, 1853, and died at Hydro, Oklahoma June 30, 1926, a daughter of Johannes/John Gascho and Magdalena Gunden. They can be found on the 1900 census of Jackson, Lyon County, Kansas; and on the 1910 census of Long Bow, Blaine County, Oklahoma. *Gospel Herald,* July 1914: "Joseph Slagell was the son of Bishop Christian and Saloma Slagell. He was born Dec. 8, 1847, in Tazewell Co., Ill.; died July 12, 1914, near Hydro, Okla; aged 64 y. 7 m. 4 d. He was married to Barbara Gascho, Feb. 4, 1872. This union was blessed with 12 children, two of whom preceded him to the spirit world. The living are: Saloma Rich, Katie Detweiler, Anna Smith, Chris P., Joe. G., Ben, Dan, John, and Barbara. He also leaves two brothers and five sisters, eight of the family preceding him to the spirit world. At the age of 18 he united with the A. M. Church, was ordained to the ministry in 1889, ordained bishop in 1891. He had been sick with a complication of diseases, suffering much in the last few months, but expressed himself ready and willing to go if it was the Lord's will. Funeral services at the house conducted by Brethren Eyster, Gish, Yoder, and Johns. Text, *Amos 4:12* (latter clause) and *Matt. 24:44*. Peace to his ashes." *Gospel Herald*, July 1926: "Barbara Schlegel, daughter of John and Magdalena Gascho, was born near Spring Bay, Ill., Sept. 21, 1853; died at her home north of Hydro, Okla., June 30, 1926; aged 72 y. 10 m. 28 d. She accepted Christ and united with the Amish Mennonite Church in her youth and remained a faithful member to the end. She was married to Joseph Schlegel near Chenoa, Ill., Feb. 14, 1872, where they lived for 17 years. They then moved to Thurman, Colo., at which place Bro. Schlegel was ordained a minister and later ordained bishop. They remained there seven years, when they moved to Lyon Co., Kans., and remained there until they moved to their present home, where Bro. Schlegel preceded her

almost 12 years ago. To this union were born twelve children, ten of whom are living: (Lena Swartzendruber, Salome Rich, Katie Detweiler, Annie Smith, Christian, Joseph, Benjamin, Daniel, John, and Barbara Stutzman). She also leaves 44 grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Sister Schlegel was in her usual health, took sick after ten o'clock Tuesday night, suffered only several hours where she peacefully fell asleep at 2 a. m." They are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery at Hydro.

6. Nicholas Schlegel/Slegell /Slagell was born at what became Tremont (the village was established later that year) in 1849, and died at Flanagan June 28, 1913. He is found on the 1870 census of Pike as a farm laborer in the household of his brother-in-law Joseph H. King and sister Elizabeth Schlagel. On Sept. 7, 1873 in Livingston County he married Mary Steinman. She was born at Tremont Dec. 13, 1855, and died at Flanagan Oct. 23, 1932, a daughter of Daniel Steinman and Catherine Birky. They lived at Pike in 1880; at Brown, Champaign County in 1910; and at Nebraska Township, Livingston County in 1920. *Gospel Herald*, July 1913: "Nicholas H. Slagell was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., April 22, 1849; moved with his parents to Livingston Co. in 1863; united with the Amish Mennonite Church in his youth and remained faithful to the end. He was married to Mary Steinman, Sept. 7, 1873. To this union were born five sons and three daughters. In January, 1913, he moved from near Fisher, Ill., to near Flanagan, Ill., at which place he died of cancer of the stomach June 28, 1913. He was bedfast a few weeks, being very patient through all. He leaves a loving companion, five sons and three daughters who were present at the time of his death with the exception of one daughter. He also leaves seven grandchildren, one adopted grandchild, three brothers and five sisters and many friends to mourn his departure. He was ready and willing to go. Funeral services were held at the house by Bro. Dan Orendorff from *Prov. 39:5*, and at the church by Bro. Peter Zehr in German and Bro. Geo. Sommers in English from *II Cor. 5:1*. Interment in the Waldo Cemetery. 'For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.'" *Gospel Herald*, April 1932: "Mary Slagell, daughter of Bishop Daniel and Katharine (Burcky) Steinman, was born Dec. 13, 1855, in Tazewell Co., Ill. At the age of 10 she moved with her parents to Livingston Co. near what is now Flanagan. On Sept. 7, 1873, she was united in marriage to Nicholas H. Slagell of near Chenoa, Ill. They resided in Ford and Livingston counties most their married life, which was nearly 40 years. In March, 1913, they moved to a farm near Flanagan where he died June 28 of the same year. After his death, she and her two sons remained on the farm for several years. Later she made her home with her oldest son, Aaron and family near Flanagan, where she suffered a stroke of paralysis on April 13, 1929. She has been ill since that time. Oct. 23, 1932, she went to her daughter Katie's home where she peacefully and quietly fell asleep after being entirely speechless for 3 days. Age 76 y. 3 m. 12 d. She leaves five sons (Aaron, Daniel, Samuel, Ray, and Roy), three daughters (Sallie, Katie, and Alice). One infant preceded her in death. Also surviving are 27 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. In her youth she united with the Mennonite Church and remained a consistent member. She also leaves one brother, four sisters, and one step-sister. She was always much concerned about her family, always willing to do everything and sacrificing for them in many ways. Her children should indeed arise and call her blessed. May they follow her peaceful example. Funeral services were conducted by J. D. Hartzler and J.W. Davis at the Waldo Church."
7. Benjamin Franklin Schlegel/Slagell/Slagel was born at Tremont Feb. 8, 1851, and died at Wayland, Iowa Nov. 10, 1922. On Aug. 31, 1876 at Flanagan he married Catherine Steinman. She was born at Tremont Feb. 23, 1859, and died at Wayland, Iowa Sept. 18, 1923, a daughter of Daniel Steinman and Catherine Birky. They lived at Panola, Woodford County in 1900, and Jefferson, Henry County, Iowa in 1910. *Gospel Herald*, November 1922: "Benjamin F. Slagel was born near Pekin, Ill., Feb. 8, 1851, died at his home near Wayland, Ia., Nov. 10, 1922; aged 71 y. 9 m. 2 d. He accepted Christ as his personal Savior when a young man, uniting with the Amish Mennonite Church and remaining a faithful member until called by death. On Aug. 31, 1876, he was married to Catharine Steinman. This union was blest with nine children, four sons and five daughters. One son preceded him in death. Some six years ago it was discovered that he was afflicted with diabetes. For a time he seemed to battle with the disease successfully but a few weeks ago his condition became worse and in spite of all that loving hands could do he passed away. While he still had full control of his mind he realized that his end was near, and gave instructions for the funeral and admonitions and warnings to the immediate members of his family. He leaves his wife, three sons, five daughters, one brother, three sisters, 19 grandchildren, and a large concourse of relatives, friends and neighbors to mourn his loss. The funeral was held at the Sugar Creek Church near Wayland, Iowa, on Sunday afternoon conducted by the home minister. Text, *I Sam. 20:18* the latter clause. Interment in the cemetery nearby." *Gospel Herald*, October 1923: " Catharena (Steinman) Slagel was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., Feb. 23, 1859; died at her home near Wayland, Iowa, Sept. 18, 1923; aged 64 y. 6 m. 25 d. She accepted Christ as her Savior while in her teens, uniting with the Amish Mennonite Church, and was a devoted and loyal member until called by death. On Aug. 31, 1876, she was married to Benjamin F. Slagel. To this union were born five daughters and four sons. They lived in Illinois until the spring of 1906 when they moved to a farm near Wayland, Iowa. Sister Slagel was a devoted and loving mother. Her gentle, unassuming disposition won for her many friends. Her strong Christian character and undaunted loyalty made her a very desirable member of the Church. Her husband, who died Nov. 10, 1922, and one son preceded her in death. She leaves five daughters, three sons, eighteen grandchildren, two foster-grandchildren, five sisters, one brother, and a large number of friends and neighbors to mourn their loss. The funeral was held on Thursday afternoon at the Sugar Creek church near Wayland, Iowa, conducted by the home ministers. Texts used, *II Tim. 4:7, 8; II Cor. 4:16, 17.* Interment in the cemetery nearby."
8. Simon Schlegel was born at Tremont Jan. 5, 1853, and died May 3, 1854.

9. Barbara Schlegel was born at Tremont Sept. 19, 1854, and died Oct. 15, 1854.
10. Salomé 'Sally' Schlegel was born at Tremont Sept. 6, 1855, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County Feb. 21, 1938. On Oct. 15, 1874 at Livingston County she married Christian Yordy. He was born July 29, 1848, and died at Roanoke July 10, 1922, a son of Peter Yordy and Mary Birkey. *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 Salome 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 (Somer) 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, one 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."
11. Mary Schlegel was born at Tremont June 18, 1857, and died at East Peoria June 27, 1911. On Nov. 6, 1875 in Livingston County she married Joseph R. King. He was born at Hudson, McLean County May 25, 1854, and died at Eureka, Woodford County Aug. 18, 1943, a son of Christian King and Marie Bechler. *Gospel Herald*, July 1911: "King. - Mary A. Slagel was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., June 18, 1857; died at East Peoria, Ill., June 27, 1911; aged 54 y. 9 d. On Nov. 7, 1895, she was united in marriage with Joseph King, which union was blessed with 12 children; four of whom preceding their mother to the spirit world. She leaves to mourn her loss, her husband, five sons, three daughters, 10 grandchildren, five brothers and five sisters. Funeral services were held at the Free Methodist Church by Bro. Val Stubbar. Her remains were laid to rest in the East Peoria cemetery."
12. Jacob Schlegel/Slegell was born at Tremont Sept. 16, 1858. He died before the 1860 census.
13. Lydia Schlegel was born at Tremont Sept. 25, 1860, and died at Goshen, Indiana Oct. 20, 1941. However, she is buried with her first husband in Waldo Cemetery as 'Lydia Slagell Smith.' On Jan. 13, 1887 she married August Albrecht. He was born at Waldo June 16, 1861, and died Feb. 16, 1892, a son of John Albrecht and Anna Gascho. She remarried to widower John Smith in Nov. 16, 1899. He was born at Hanover (later Metamora) Nov. 27, 1843, and died there July 6, 1906, a son of Christian Smith and Catherine Bechler (see SMITH for his obituary). *Gospel Herald*, November 1941: "Smith. - Lydia H., daughter of Christian and Salome Slagel, born Sept. 25, 1860, in Tazewell Co., Ill., the thirteenth in a family of fifteen children, peacefully fell asleep at her home near Goshen, Ind., Oct. 20, 1941; aged 81 y. 25 d. On Jan. 13, 1887, she was united in marriage to August Albrecht. To this union one daughter, Agnes, was born. Four years later he departed this life, after which she made her home with her brother Dan until her marriage to Bishop John Smith of Metamora, Ill., Nov. 1899. After living together six and one-half years, he was suddenly called to his reward. In 1912 she moved with her daughter, Mrs. C. J. Gunden at Flanagan, Ill., where she lived for eighteen years, after which she moved with the family to Goshen, Ind. She leaves to mourn her departure her daughter, Mrs. Agnes Gunden of Goshen; also J. D. and S. E. Smith and Mrs. Ella Oyer of Eureka, Ill., Mrs. Emma Schertz of Goshen, C. Henry Smith of Bluffton, Ohio, 30 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, a brother, Dan, of Flanagan, a host of nieces and nephews, and many more relatives and friends. At an early age she united with the Mennonite Church to which she remained faithful until death. She was much interested in the work of the Church and one of her greatest pleasures was that of giving to a needy cause. She taught in the Sunday school for a period of about fifty years, having been one of the first teachers at the Waldo Church near Flanagan. In the last number of years she often expressed her desire to be at home with her Lord. All of her family was able to be present at the services with the exception of a granddaughter, Lois Gunden, who sailed for France on Oct. 4 to do relief work. Funeral services, conducted by Bro. S. C. Yoder, were held at the home where she stayed at Goshen, Ind., and at the Waldo Mennonite Church near Gridley, Ill., conducted by Bro. Ezra Yordy of Eureka, Ill., and Bro. J. D. Hartzler of Gridley, Ill. Burial took place in the cemetery near by."
14. Daniel Webster Schlegel/Slegell/Slagel was born at Pike March 26, 1864, and died at Flanagan Jan. 1947, the last of his generation. On Feb. 2, 1888 he married Mary Catherine Roeschley. She was born at Eureka, Woodford County Aug. 9, 1869, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Oct. 19, 1928, a daughter of John Roeschley and his wife Elizabeth. They lived at Nebraska Township, Livingston County. *Gospel Herald*, November 1928: "Mary Roeschley Slagel, youngest daughter of John and Elizabeth Roeschley, was born in Eureka, Ill., Aug. 9, 1869; died Oct. 19, 1928 at the Mennonite Hospital, Bloomington, Ill.; aged 59 y. 2 m. 10 d. At the age of 15 she united with the Mennonite Church and maintained this fellowship until the time of her death. In 1888 she was united in marriage to D. W. Slagel, and since then for a little over 40 years they have lived in the vicinity of Flanagan, Ill. She is survived by her husband, seven sons (Arthur, Amos, George, Willis, Edwin, Gilbert, Milton), four daughters, Alma,

Emma, Edna, Irene), 15 grandchildren, one brother (John, Flanagan, Ill.), one sister (Mrs. Joe. Yordy, Eureka, Ill.), one daughter, Mrs. John Nenhauser, preceded her to the spirit world in 1923. About two weeks previous to her death, she underwent an operation which seemed to be successful. She was getting along well and expected to go home soon. On the evening of her death after eating supper and going to bed as usual, she suddenly felt faint. Her daughter Edna, a senior nurse at the hospital, was called from duty. Mother told her she was dying and asked that the rest of the family be sent for, but death came very shortly afterward, the immediate cause being a blood clot in the blood stream. Funeral services were held at the Waldo Mennonite Church on Oct. 22, 1928, conducted by Bros. A. C. Good of Sterling, Ill., and J. D. Hartzler of Gridley, Ill. Interment in the Waldo Cemetery. Among the things for which she will be remembered by those who loved her and knew her best are her patience, even temper and sympathy, her trust in an abiding Heavenly Father, her confidence in those about her, and her sacrifices for others." *Gospel Herald*, January 1947: "Slagel, Daniel W., youngest son of the late Christian and Salome Slagel, was born near Meadows, Ill., March 26, 1864; passed away at the home of his daughter (Mrs. Edward Eigsti), Flanagan, Ill., after several years of failing health, Jan. 4, 1947; aged 82 y. 9 m. 9 d. In 1888 he was married to Mary Roeschley, Eureka, Ill., who preceded him in death on Oct. 19, 1928. One son (Arthur), two daughters (Laura and Emma), and one grandson also predeceased him. Surviving are six sons (Amos, La Belle, Mo.; George, Willis, Edwin, and Gilbert of Flanagan; and Milton, Chicago, Ill.), three daughters (Alma-Mrs. Edward Eigsti, of Flanagan; Edna-Mrs. Ray Dillman, Fisher, Ill.; and Irene-Mrs. Elmer Byler, Freeport, Ill.), 18 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. In his youth he became a member of the Mennonite Church and on July 3, 1909 he was ordained to the ministry, in which capacity he served faithfully as long as his health permitted. Funeral services were held Jan. 6 at the Waldo Mennonite Church, Flanagan, in charge of A. H. Leaman, of Chicago. Text: *II Tim. 4:6, 7.* Interment was made in the Waldo Cemetery."

15. Sophia Schlegel was born at Pike Dec. 4, 1865, and died 10 days later.

Ernst of Bois Lachat

See the preface to ZIMMERMAN *for new information about the genetic background of the Ernst family.*

The Ernst family was associated with Dättlikon, a village 15 miles northeast of Zürich. The earliest Ernst found there was Heini Ernst, in 1416.

Whether it was illiteracy, or the way it refused to roll off the French tongue, or simply the disinterest of municipal clerks, it is readily apparent that the surname 'Ernst' suffered under the *état civil* system of record keeping. Civil entries in the *Territoire de Belfort* show Ernst as Aistre, Haistre, Hernst, Herst, Haiste, Hernert, Hernest, Herneste, Hairneste, Hernets, Hernetz, and even Hairnchetz.

Our account of the family of Tazewell County settler Catherine Ernst starts with two Anabaptist brothers, thought to have been born in 1731 and circa 1734.

OLDER BROTHER CHRISTIAN ERNST

Christian Ernst was born circa Dec. 16, 1731, and died on La Maie farm at Menoncourt Aug. 16, 1811. His death entry created at Eguenigue described him as 'Christe Herneste,' an Anabaptist cultivator on La Maie Farm at Menoncourt and the widower of 'Babelÿ Nafsere.' He was 79 years, nine months old. The entry was witnessed by his son-in-law Joseph Gerig.

Christian married Barbara Nafziger. She is found in some sources as someone born at Wangen, Canton Schwyz June 4, 1737, a daughter of Christ Nafziger and Barbara Hochstettler. She died on La Maie farm (possibly on May 25, 1800, though it is not found in civil records).

Their children include:

1. Barbe Ernst was born circa 1757, and died at Grandvillars Aug. 5, 1841, age 84. Circa 1776 she married Jost/Juste Joder. He was born at Fontaine (next to Reppe) circa 1755, and died at Grandvillars Oct. 5, 1852, a son of Christen/Christ Joder and his first wife Barbe Gerig. See JODER for background on this couple.
2. Marie Anne Ernst was born on La Maie farm at Menoncourt Jan. 11, 1758, and died there April 10, 1830. On April 20, 1782 at Courtelevant (on the east side of Florimont) she married Joseph Göerig/Gerig. He was born at Sevenans (five miles below the town of Belfort) Aug. 15, 1758, and died at Eguenigue Dec. 28, 1813. Her death entry created at Eguenigue described her as the 72-year-old widow of Joseph Gérige, and a daughter of 'Christe Ernst' and 'Barbe Anflatrel' who died on La Maie farm. It was witnessed by son Christe Gérigue, 36, and son-in-law Christe Klopfenstein, 44. All three were residents of La Maie farm.
3. 'Madeleine Erste,' 90 (thus born circa 1762), died in the home of Christe Klopfenstein on La Maie farm at Menoncourt March 10, 1852. She was described as the widow of Andre Gérique, and the mother of witness Christ Gérique, 55, a cultivator.

YOUNGER BROTHER JACOB/JACQUES ERNST

Jacob/Jacques Ernst was born circa 1734. He married Catherine Lemann [the same surname as the German form 'Lehman'], who was born circa 1749. They were laborers in the forest of Normanvillars at Florimont, then farmers and weavers at Boron.

Jacob died on Beuchat farm at Boron May 14, 1794. The Boron death entry of 'Jochit Aistre' [Jacob Ernst] was witnessed by his son 'Simon Aistre,' 24, and 'Christe Chalbairt,' 50, of the dairy on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars. It said that Jacob died in his home on Beauchat farm, age 60. Catherine died at Froidefontaine July 3, 1809, age 60. Her death was reported by 'Jean Jodre *Anabaptiste*,' a 50-year-old weaver. It does not mention that Jean Joder had once been maried to her sister Elisabeth.

Their children include:

1. **Simon Ernst** was born circa 1772.
2. Anna Ernst was born in 1780 (according to her headstone), and died at Bluffton, Ohio Feb. 13, 1846. She is buried in the Old Swiss Cemetery of the Reformed Mennonite Church, between Pandora and Bluffton on the Putnam County-Allen County line. On July 15, 1809 at Florimont she married cooper/barrelmaker Michael/Michel Neuenschwander. He was born at Boron March 9, 1778, and died at Bluffton, Ohio March 10, 1852, a son of Michel Neuenschwander and Barbe Steiner. Their marriage entry says that he was born at Langnau, Canton Bern (his family's *Heimatort,* but not his actual birthplace). It described 'Anne Hernst' as a 30-year-old servant at Montigny, Sonnenberg (now Montignez, on the opposite side of the French-Swiss border from Florimont). It also noted that her mother had died only two days earlier. One witness was Anna's younger brother 'Jean Hernest,' who was described as a 28-year-old

weaver living at Froidefontaine. Both Anna and Jean signed the entry with a mark, indicating that they were illiterate. In his diary Michel Neuenschwander described his wife's family as "Sigmund [the German equivalent of 'Simon'], Anna my wife, Marie, Hans, and Verena who was the youngest." When he was six weeks old Michel's family relocated to the Münstertal valley. However, in 1798 Michel had returned to French territory to work as a cooper. In 1823 the couple decided to emigrate. On May 15 Michel, a pregnant Anna, and three children left their home at Faverois. They passed through Montbéliard, and spent the night in Paris May 30. The following morning they headed north to the port of Le Havre. The family arrived at the port June 5. They purchased passage on the ship *Aeolus*, and moved aboard to prepare for the journey. On June 11 Anna gave birth to a son onboard the *Aeolus*. The *Aeolus* departed Le Havre June 12, and arrived at New London, Connecticut July 25. After replenishing water and supplies it sailed south. It passed New York City July 28, and arrived at Perth Amboy, New Jersey July 29. The Neuenschwanders disembarked at Perth Amboy and traveled 18 miles overland to New York City. From there they began their journey west. A 6-year-old son contracted dysentery and died at Pittsburgh Sept. 16. On Oct. 4 the remaining family arrived at Green, Wayne County, Ohio. On March 29, 1823, less than six months after arriving in Wayne County, the Neuenschwander family spent $90.55 to purchase 74.75 acres at Green. The seller was Jacob Schrag, a son of Bendicht Schrag. In 1833 they resettled near Bluffton, Allen County, Ohio, becoming the 'pioneer family' there. Anna died there in 1846. Michel, now known as Michael, died there in 1852.

3. Marie Ernst was born circa 1782. Because of a number of coincidences – name, range of birth year, family connections, geography – it is likely that she is the Maria Ernst who had an illegitimate child named Anna Ernst Oct. 13, 1806.
    a. Anna Ernst was born Oct. 13, 1806, and died at Wilmot, Ontario Aug. 12, 1871. She presumably accompanied one of her cousins Jean/John or Christe/Christian when they sailed to New York in 1827 and 1828. The brothers went to Ontario in 1828, where they claimed lots at Wilmot. She married Nicholas Leichty/Lichti at Wilmot Nov. 2, 1832, and died there Aug. 12, 1871. Nicholas was born at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace June 5, 1811, and died at Wilmot Jan. 28, 1907, a son of Johannes Lichty and Magdalena Joder. Nicholas can be found as a 13-year-old on the passenger list of the *Elizabeth* as it sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York July 9, 1825 with passengers named Neuenschwander [found on the list as Neuschwander], Steiner, Luginbühl, and Amstutz. Nicholas and Anna can be found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as Nicholas Lichti, 41, France, Amish yeoman; Anna, 48, France, Amish; with seven children born in Canada and mother-in-law Magdalena (Joder) Lichti, 79, France, Amish.

   Marie later married a Schmidt and had three more daughters.[81] Diane Beller has identified the two youngest daughters:
    b. Unidentified.
    c. Barbara Schmidt was born circa 1813, and died at North Easthope, Ontario June 2, 1897. Circa 1834 at Wilmot she married Christian Kuepfer. He was born at Valangin, Neuchâtel June 12, 1791, and died in August or September 1842.
    d. Magdalena Schmidt was born circa 1816, and did Aug. 27, 1869. She married Peter Kuepfer. He was born in Switzerland June 29, 1803, and died in August 1855.
4. Johannes/Hans/Jean Ernst was born on Chalembert farm Aug. 26, 1783, and died at the nearby farm Les Grabeusets at Boron Jan. 12, 1860. On Feb. 18, 1810 at Grandvillars he married Anneli/Anne Klopfenstein. She was born on Chalembert farm Oct. 17, 1785, and died at Grandvillars Feb. 12, 1819, a daughter of Peter Klopfenstein and Freni Jodter. The marriage entry called them 'Jean Haimchez' (a second generation embellishment on the misspelling 'Hernetz') and 'Anne Klopstein.'
    a. Freni Ernst was born at Grandvillars Dec. 22, 1810. Her birth entry described her as 'Fresne,' and her parents as day laborer 'Jean Hairneste' and Anne Klopfenstein.
    b. Anne Ernst was born at Grandvillars Sept. 13, 1812, and died at Boron Aug. 21, 1871. Her birth entry described father Jean as an '*Anabaptiste*' laborer. Her death entry described her as 'Marie Ann Ernst,' giving her residence as Grandvillars, and was signed by brother Jean, 49.

   On Aug. 16, 1820 at Boron Hans remarried to Anna Hochstettler. She was born at Chagey Sept. 14, 1798, and died on Beuchat farm at Boron April 7, 1865, a daughter of Pierre Hochstettler and Marguerite Parrot.[82] Their marriage entry described Jean as the widower of Anne Klopfenstein, and a weaver living at Boron, a son of the deceased 'Jacques Herneste' and 'Catharina Leiman.' It stated that Anna's father had died July 16, 1811, but that her mother

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[81] The Kuepfers were sons of Johann Peter Kuepfer of Le Locle, Neuchâtel and Barbara Streit of Lauterbrunnen, Canton Bern (five miles south of Lake Thun). They were married at Sumiswald Feb. 26, 1786. Descendants spell the surname 'Kipfer.' Another Kuepfer son, Jacob Kuepfer, was born in Switzerland May 3, 1798, and died at Wilmot Aug. 23, 1862. On July 22, 1827 at Wilmot he married Maria Liechty/Lichti, a sister of Nicholas Liechty/Lichti.

[82] Anna's birth entry calls her 'Jeanne Hostetler.' Peter/Pierre Hochstetler was born in 1769, and died at Coin du Bois in 1811. He was a farmer at Chagey. His parents were Peter Hochstetler (born at Clairegoutte in 1722 and died at Chagey Feb. 18, 1798, age 76) and Anna Roth. Peter was a son of Christ Hochstetler and Elisabeth Ulrich, who came from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines to live at Clairegoutte by 1723. Christ Hochstetler was born in 1673, and died at Magny d'Anignon (adjacent to Clairegoutte) Jan. 11, 1759.

was 'present and consenting.' Anna's death entry calls her 'Anne Hochztedler,' age 67. One witness to her death was her son Jean Ernst, 44, living on Beuchat farm. At least two of their children emigrated:

c. Jean Ernst was born at Boron Aug. 4, 1821. The entry names his father 'Jean Hernets,' 38, weaver at Boron, and his mother 'Catherine Hastanteler.' He was a 38-year-old witness on his father's death entry in 1860. He was living on Beauchat farm in 1865.

d. Christian/Criste Ernst was born on Beuchat farm at Boron Aug. 30, 1823 (civil entry; headstone Aug. 31), and died at Noble, Iowa April 5, 1891. His birth entry names his parents as 'Jean Hernst,' a 40-year-old weaver, and 'Anne Hostenteleur.' He applied for a passport at Florimont Oct. 5, 1846. The application described him as 23-year-old weaver Christ Ernst of Boron, and gave his destination as New York. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Art Union*, arriving at New York May 5, 1854. Circa 1858 in Washington County, Iowa he married Magdalena Wenger. She was born in Ontario Jan. 24, 1842, and died at Noble April 24, 1883, a daughter of Christian Wenger and Anna Marie/Mary Roth. *Herald of Truth*, May 1883: " On the 24th of April, in Noble, Washington Co., Iowa, of liver complaint, Magdalene, wife of Christian Ernst, maiden name Wenger, aged 41 years and 2 months. She lived in a firm trust in Jesus, and a hope of an eternal home in heaven. Three children went before her to the eternal world. Funeral services were held by S. Gehrig and Benj. Eicher." *Herald of Truth*, May 1891: "On the 5th of April, 1891, near Noble, Washington Co., Iowa, Bro. Christian Ernst, aged 67 years, 8 months and 4 days. Buried on the 7th, in the Sommer graveyard in the presence of many friends and relatives, who wished to show the last tribute of respect to the departed brother. Eight children remain to mourn the loss of a beloved father. Services by S. Gerig and Benj. Eicher, from *Ps.39:5-9*."

e. Elisabeth Ernst was born at Boron Oct. 20, 1825.

f. Pierre Ernst was born at Boron July 7, 1828.

g. Catherine Ernst was born at Boron Nov. 3, 1830.

h. Marie/Mary Ernst was born at Boron June 25, 1833. The entry named her 'Marie Ertz,' and described her parents as 'Jean Ertz,' a 50-year-old weaver from Boron, and Anne Hosteren, 36. She married Jean Wenger, born in 1832, an older brother of Magdalena Wenger. Their household appears on the 1880 census of New Philadelphia, Ohio as wagon maker John Wenger, 49, Switzerland; Mary, 48, Switzerland; and five children ages 11-21 born in Ohio.

5. Verena 'Freni' Ernst was born circa 1783, and died at Grandvillars Jan. 6, 1814, during a siege of the fortress. Her death entry clearly names her parents as Jacques Ernst and Catherine Lemann, and describes them as laborers in the forest of Normanvillars. It described her as a farm operator [Fr. *manoeuvre*], and was signed by her cousin Jost Joder.

a. Catherine Ernst. On May 21, 1810 Freni gave birth to an illegitimate daughter Catherine on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars. The entry described the mother as 'Frenÿ Hairneste,' day laborer and native of Boron. Catherine Ernst married Pierre Mueller at Belfort May 31, 1837. He was born March 20, 1790, a son of Michael Mueller and Barbara Rich. On March 30, 1815 at Rougemont he had married Elizabeth Barbara Klopfenstein, a daughter of Jacques Klopfenstein and Anna Becher. She died Dec. 2,1835, leaving 11 children below the age of 18. Pierre and Catherine had four more children between 1838 and 1848.

Simon Ernst was born circa 1772. He signed his father's death entry with an 'x', indicating that he was illiterate.

Simon married Catherine Roth at Boron Jan. 7, 1794.[83] Simon and Catherine were weavers. They lived in the Bois Lachat – the forest west and north of Grandvillars.

Their children include:

1. Catherine Ernst was born at Boron Sept. 8, 1794. She married Christian Schlegel at Froidefontaine July 3, 1816, and they emigrated in 1825. See SCHLEGEL for backround on this couple.
2. Marie Ernst was born at Boron March 10, 1796. Her birth entry named her parents as 'Simon Haistre' and 'Catherine Rote.' She was 20 when she married her 52-year-old grand-uncle Jean/Hans Joder at Froidefontaine Feb. 2, 1816. See JODER for background on this couple.
3. Marie-Anne Ernst was born circa 1798, and died at Grandvillars May 19, 1809. Her death entry described her parents as 'Simon Hairnchetz' and 'Catherine Rode,' weavers living at Grandvillars, and stated that Marie-Anne was 11 years old. Though the Ernst were living at Boron in 1798, no birth entry was found there. It is possible that

[83] Two versions of indexes made by the Boron municipal clerk are shown on FHL microfilm, but the actual entry is not given. The first index page gives only the name of the bride and groom and the date, but every item is lined out. The date is Jan. 7, 1794. One wonders what the actual entry looked like, because the index is incorrect. The name of the groom is given as 'Simon Hernest,' and the date under the Republican calendar was '18 Nivose an 2.' But the bride was named as 'Cathrine Lemans' – the name of the groom's mother. The index page was rewritten, this time with the incorrect date '18 Nivose 3' (Jan. 7, 1795) and the groom as 'Hersint Simon' and the bride as 'Cetherine Lement.

Marie-Anne was adopted into this family. Only one Marie-Anne was born at Boron in 1798: Marie-Anne Doriant, a daughter of farm equipment operator François Doriant and Marie Bermon. François Doriant died at Boron Nov. 5, 1808.

4. Christe Ernst was born at Boron Jan. 11, 1799. We found an *état civil* birth entry, but none for his death, though he presumably died before December 1800.
5. **Christian/Christe Ernst** was born at Boron Dec. 10, 1800, according to a civil birth entry. The barely legible entry names him 'Criste Herste.'
6. Anne Ernst was born at Grandvillars Feb. 7, 1805, and died at Froidefontaine July 31, 1810. Her birth entry names her parents as 'Simon Ernst *Anabaptiste*' and Catherine Rodt *tisserant* ' [weaver], living in the *Bois Lachat.* The witness was Juste Joder, 50, a cultivator and Anabaptist living at Grandvillars. Her death entry described her father as 'Simon Hernetz,' 42.
7. Johannes/Jean/John Ernst was born at Grandvillars Dec. 4, 1806, and died at New Hamburg, Ontario Feb. 1, 1886. He married Maria Lugebiehl [Luginbühl]. She was born at Grandvillars Feb. 7, 1805, an illegitimate daughter of 'Catherine Luquebil,' and died at Wilmot Sept. 28, 1840.[84] John Ernst appears on the Feb. 11, 1830 report of surveyor Samuel Street Wilmot as someone who purchased a lot on the south side of Bleams Road "under the terms of Christian Naffziger." The document *Wilmot Township Land Registry Records* held in the Archives of Ontario notes a transaction where John Ernst acted as a go-between for German and French speakers. There is also a letter to Pierre Robinson in French written by 'Jean Ernst de Wilmot' with the note 'says he cannot write in English.' He became the first postmaster of Petersburg in 1840; chairman of the Wilmot Township Board of Commissioners in 1843; councillor with the Wellington District Council 1842-50; Township Deputy Reeve in 1850; and Township Reeve (administrator) in 1851-53 and 1857-59. On June 17, 1841 he remarried to Juliana Zöger/Zoeger. She was born at Sinsheim (now in Baden-Württemberg) March 10, 1823, and died at Petersburg, Ontario Oct. 21, 1869, a daughter of Leonard Zöger and Margaretha Schmitt. In 1848 he established the Blue Moon, an inn that is now on the Canadian Register of Historic Places. Its brick shell was not completed until 1855. When a new railroad line diverted traffic, Ernst sold it and moved on to other business interests. The inn is still operating as the Blue Moon Restaurant. It is located at 1677 Snyder's Road, in the village of Petersburg in the township of Wilmot. John's household appears on the 1851 census of Wilmot (the township that included Petersburg) as John Ernst, 45, France, Protestant merchant; Juliane, Germany, Protestant; Christian, 19; Marie, 17; Peter, 16; Katherine, 9; Barbara, 7; Henry, 5; all children born in Ontario. The 1861 census of Wilmot shows John Ernst, 53, and Julia, 38. The 1871 census of Wilmot shows John as a widower, 64. The 1881 census of Wilmot shows John Ernst, 74, France, Lutheran, no profession. He was living in the household of Frederick Holwell, the man who purchased the Blue Moon Inn from him. John, Maria, and Juliana are buried in the Emanual Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery at Petersburg. *New Hamburg Independent*, Feb. 11, 1886: "John Ernst, Sr., who died at New Hamburg on the 1st inst., was born at Grand Village, near Belford, Lorraine, France, on the 4th of Dec., 1807[1806]. He emigrated to America in the year 1827, landing in New York in the same year, where he remained but one year, long enough to enable him to learn the English language somewhat. He came to Wilmot township in 1828 where he took up land, cleared his lot, and remained on the same for a long time. During his time there (1837) the cholera broke out, and while the sad epidemic lasted he helped to bury many of his neighbours, even making coffins from rough lumber and taking them to the burying ground with his ox team, and attending to the burial all by himself. After that he removed to Petersburg, where he engaged in the general store business and hotel keeping. Sometime after that he owned and ran the New Dundee mills, also the tannery at Petersburg. He was a man of good judgment, and a man on whose word you could rely. Any appointment he made he was sure to fulfill; he was a man of temperate habits although a hotel keeper for over 40 years. Some years ago he withdrew from actual business pursuits, but was always ready to enter into conversation on the topics of the day, as well as render any assistance where needed if at all in his power to do so. About six weeks ago he was attacked with bronchitis, then heart trouble set in from which he never rallied. Although far advanced in years he bore his sufferings with Christian fortitude and was prepared to meet his Maker. In years gone by he held different municipal offices, was Justice of the Peace and also issuer of marriage licences. He was postmaster at Petersburg for 44 years, and was one of the first postmasters in the County of Waterloo. In politics he was a staunch Conservative, and was ever ready to do a good turn for his party. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and was an old member of that body. His remains were taken to Petersburg, for internment on Wednesday Feb. 3rd. He leaves one daughter and three sons to mourn his loss; his wife preceded him some fifteen years ago." Children of Jean/Johann/John Ernst and his first wife Maria Luquebil/Lugebiehl [Luginbühl] include:
    a. John Ernst was born at Wilmot Oct. 14, 1830, and died at New Hamburg Jan. 14, 1877. In 1851 he married Sophia Reichert. She was born at Eschelbrunn, Baden-Württemberg Sept. 13, 1828, and died at New Hamburg Jan. 19, 1916. *County of Waterloo Gazeteer and Business Directory for 1864*: "The village [Wilmot] contains a tannery, established in 1844, with thirty vats, owned by John Ernst, junior, who employs six hands, and turns out about twelve thousand dollars worth of leather per annum." The 1881 census of New Hamburg shows widow Sophia Ernst, 51, Lutheran, ethnic origin German and born

[84] The mother lived with her brother 'Christ Luquebil' on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars. She was described as an Anabaptist servant, a daughter of the deceased 'Christ Luquebil.' The birth was witnessed by Jost/Juste Joder, 50, Anabaptist cultivator, who signed 'Jost Joder.'

in Germany, with seven children between the ages 7-21 all born in Ontario. John and Sophia are buried in Riverside Cemetery at New Hamburg.

b. Christian Ernst was born at Wilmot circa 1832. His household appears on the 1881 census of New Hamburg as Christian Ernst, 49, ethnic origin French, born in Ontario, hardware merchant, Lutheran; Catharine, 46, ethnic origin German, born in Ontario, Lutheran; John B. Ernst, 19, ethnic origin French, born in Ontario, deputy post master, Lutheran; Henry Allan Ernst, 12, ethnic origin French, born in Ontario; and Caroline Horn, 25, ethnic origin 25, born in Ontario, servant, Lutheran. They are found in the same location in 1891 as postmaster Christian Ernst, 58, France, ethnic origin Swiss; Catherine 55, Germany; and grocer Henry Ernst, 22, born in Ontario, Lutheran. The *Cemetery Index* for Riverside Cemetery lists a Christian Ernst born in 1832, who died May 3, 1898.

c. Marie Ernst was born at Wilmot Dec. 28, 1834, and died at Preston, Ontario March 3, 1861. Circa 1852 she married furniture manufacturer Friedrich/Frederick Guggisberg. He was born at Uetendorf, Canton Bern Sept. 19, 1818, and died at Preston Feb. 29, 1888, a son of Christian Guggisberg and Magdalena Mosher. On Oct. 4, 1880 he remarried to Veronika Anna Maria Hagenbuch.

d. Peter Ernst was born at Wilmot Sept. 11, 1836. On May 24, 1862 in Waterloo County he married Elisabeth Schaefer. She was born in Germany Jan. 14, 1842. Peter was alive in 1886, according to his father's obituary.

Children of Johannes/Jean/John Ernst and his second wife Juliane Zöger include:

e. Catherine Ernst was born at Petersburg circa 1841. On Oct. 25, 1861 at Wellesley in 1861 she married John William Walden, a son of William Walden and Susannah Rudd. He was 24, she was 19; the ceremony was performed by a Presbyterian minister. They are found on the 1881 census of Waterloo as physician John W. Walden, 43, ethnic origin English, Presbyterian; Catherine, 38, ethnic origin French, Presbyterian; and five children, with the entire family born in Ontario.

f. Barbara Ernst was born at Petersburg circa 1844, and appears on the 1851 census. She died before 1886.

g. Henry Ernst was born at Petersburg Sept. 14, 1846, and died Dec. 6, 1895. On May 22, 1873 at New Hamburg he married Yetta Merner. She was born in Waterloo County Nov. 24, 1853, and died June 29, 1927. The 1881 census of New Hamburg shows their household as Henry Ernst, 34, ethnic origin French, born in Ontario, book keeper, Lutheran; Jedidah, 24, ethnic origin Swiss, born in Ontario, Evangelical Association; Louisa Henrietta Ernst, 6, ethnic origin French, born in Ontario; and Herbert Walter Ernst, 4, born in Ontario. Henry and Yetta are buried in Riverside Cemetery at New Hamburg.

On Oct. 4, 1821 at Grandvillars **Christian/Christe Ernst** married Madeleine Jebach [only two generations earlier this surname was Schűpbach]. The marriage entry described 'Christe Hernets' as a weaver born at Boron, living at Grandvillars, age 20 years, nine months, and 24 days. His parents were identified as 'Simon Hernets,' weaver, and 'Catherine Roote.'

Madeleine was described as 28 years, three months, and four days old, suggesting a rough birth date of July 31, 1793. She was a daughter of the deceased Christian Jebach, who died at Le Vermont Sept. 16, 1801, and the deceased Elizabeth Hertigre [Hertig], who died at Le Vermont Sept. 16, 1802. Later entries for the births of her children call her 'Chepach'; the family *Bible* of her son Christian calls her 'Magdalena Chepas.'[85] She was two months pregnant at the time of her marriage.

In the spring of 1828 Christian/Christe and a very pregnant Madeleine (possibly accompanied by his cousin Anna/Anne Ernst) embarked on a journey to North America. A clue to their path is found in the *état civil* index of births for Foulaine, Haut Marne – about 100 miles west of Belfort. 'Christian Harnest' and 'Madeleine Chepas' had a son Christian born there April 11, 1828.

In New York Christian and Madeleine may have reunited with his younger brother Johannes/Jean/John, who had arrived there a year earlier. He may have stayed with his older sister Catherine Ernst and her husband Christian Schlegel, who had lived on the Lower East Side of Manhattan since 1825. His obituary says that he arrived at New York in 1827, and did not settle in Ontario until the following year. So it is probable that the two brothers traveled together to the German Block at Wilmot, Ontario.

The following is taken from ROPP, where more information on this Amish Mennonite settlement may be found.

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[85] Le Vermont in the *département* of Vosges, 90 miles north of Grandvillars. There were no entries there for the 1801 and 1802 deaths. Information from other sources suggests that 'Elizabeth Hertigue' was a daughter or niece of Christian Hertig and Marie Stibi (see ROESCHLEY for more on this couple). It is also probable that 'Christian Jebach' was a son of Ulrich Schlabach of La Petite Fosse (born circa 1744) and Marie Adam (born circa 1743, widow of Christe Müller), who were married at Urbeis, Lower Alsace in 1769 and lived in the Le Hang basin near Bourg-Bruche. Ulrich Schlabach was a son of Jean Schlabach, born at Urbeis in 1711, and Catherine Reber, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1715.

"Christian Nafziger's agreement provided 50 acres of land for each settler. The stakeholder could apply for free ownership rights after seven years, provided a substantial dwelling was constructed and adjacent roads were cleared. Every 50-acre parcel had a 150-acre parcel behind it; many settlers assumed they would later purchase the 150 acres at discounted prices.

But the progress of settlement was upset in 1828. The Canadian government gave all of the 150-acre parcels in the German Block to King's College (now the University of Toronto). The school offered to sell the parcels of land, but only at a price that was roughly double what the settlers had expected. Many settlers felt betrayed. They bided their time, hoping to meet the settling requirements, receive title to their 50-acre portions, and then profit from the sale of their lots."

At Wilmot the Ernst brothers claimed lots on adjacent parallel streets. Among their neighbors were many other figures from these genealogies, such as Andreas Ropp, Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith, Peter Donner, Christian Farny, Peter Farny, and Peter Naffziger.[86]

On the 1830 survey map of Wilmot 'Christian Ernst' is found as the claimant on a lot on the north side of Snyder's Road. His family is also found on the 1851 census of Wellesley (eight miles northwest of Wilmot) as Christian Ernst, 53, France, Mennonite farmer; Magdalene, 60, France, Mennonite; John, 24, France, Mennonite laborer; Barbara, 18, Canada, Mennonite; and Joseph, 14, Canada, Mennonite. [87]

And there we might conclude, except for an odd twist. In later life Christe/Christian Ernst resided with a son and a daughter in Central Illinois.

At the time of his death he was living at Pike, Livingston County with his daughter Barbara and son-in-law Joseph Ingold. They were neighbors to Christe/Christian's nephew Christian Schlegel [Jr.] and Salomé 'Sarah' Sommer.

Herald of Truth, June 1874: "April 25th, in Livingston Co., Ill., Christian Ernst, aged 73 years. Five years ago he had a stroke of the palsy, since which time he has not been able to help himself, and most of the time he spent in the chair. Yet with patience the aged brother bore his Cross, until death released him from his trials. Sermon by Noah Augspurger, and Christian Naffziger, from *1 Cor. 15*."

Children of Christe/Christian Ernst and Madelaine Chepach include:

1. Catherine Ernst was born at Grandvillars May 14, 1822, and died there Dec. 22, 1823. The birth entry names her parents as 'Christ Hernets' and 'Madelaine Chopack.'
2. Catherine Ernst was born at Grandvillars Aug. 21, 1824, and died in Perth County, Ontario July 8, 1886. Her birth entry describes her parents as weaver 'Christ Hernetz,' 24, and 'Madeleine Chepack.' Circa 1843 she married Peter Brunk. He was born in 1811, and died in Perth County in 1895 They are found on the 1851 census of Wellesley as farner Peter Brunck, 37, France, Roman Catholic; Catherine, 24, Canada, Mennonite; Christian, 7; Ellen, 6; Barbara, 5; Catherine, 3; and Margaret, 2; all children born in Canada and Mennonite.
3. **Jean/John Ernst** was born at Grandvillars May 15, 1826. His birth entry incorrectly names his uncle Jean Ernst as his father, but correctly names his mother as 'Madelaine Chepach' (fortunately uncle Jean had a son John in 1830, removing all doubt on this point).
4. Christian E. Ernst was born at Foulaine, Haut Marne April 11, 1828, and died at Shields, Holt County, Nebraska Nov. 9, 1900. On Feb. 21, 1854 at Wellesley, Ontario he married Susanna Kennel. She was born on Belgrade farm at Bistroff, Moselle Jan. 14, 1833, and died at Shields May 3, 1906, a daughter of Christophe Kennel and Magdalena Jantzi. They appear on the 1861 census of Wellesley, Ontario as Christian Arnst, 33, France, Mennonite carpenter; Susan, 28, France, Mennonite; and John, 1, Ontario, Mennonite. They are also found at Wellesley in 1871 and 1881. The 1900 census of Shields shows them as Christian E. Ernst, born in Germany in April 1828, and Susanna, born in

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[86] Another Mennonite Ernst came from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania to Waterloo Township in May of 1826. According to Ezra Eby's *A Biographical History of Waterloo Townshi*, "John Reist was born July 18th, 1763 [and died near Kossuth Dec. 2, 1843]. On Dec. 28th, 1790, he was married to Susannah Huber who was born May 21st, 1771, and died September 15th, 1850. In May, 1826, they with their large family moved to Canada and settled in Waterloo Township, near the village of Bridgeport...To them were born twelve children..." Their daughter Susannah Reist was born at Warwick Township, Lancaster County Jan. 4, 1799, and died March 3, 1873. She may have married Henry Ernst before her family's migration to Canada. Henry was born in Pennsylvania Nov. 24, 1803, and died Nov. 20, 1878. No more is known about him than is given by Eby, and some descendants suggest the issue has been confused by alternate spellings such as 'Earnest.' However, the surname Ernst appears on a 1759 tax list for Warwick Township. They had seven children. With birth years and mates: 1. John Ernst, 1826, Sophia Rank (this John is buried in Schantz Mennonite Cemetery at Wilmot). 2. Henry Ernst, 1828. 3. Joseph Ernst, 1831, Mary Bechtel. 4. Jacob Ernst, 1835, Rebecca Hagey. 5. David Ernst, 1836, Magdalena Bechtel and Susanna Gingrich. 6. Nancy Ernst, 1838, Jacob Miller. 7. Samuel Ernst, 1841, Rebecca Bricker. Henry and Susannah appear on the 1851 census of Woolwich, Waterloo Township, Ontario.

[87] Schmidtsville was surveyed in 1842, seven miles northwest of Wilmot. It was renamed Wellesley Township on the census of 1851, and incorporated in 1852. Waterloo County was established in 1852 or 1853, and took in both Wellesley and Wilmot. It was dissolved in 1973, and is now Waterloo municipality.

Germany in January 1832, both naturalized in 1884. (In 1900 Susanna's birthplace was occupied by Germany, but Christian's was not). They are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska.

5. Barbara Ernst was born at Wilmot, Ontario circa 1833, and died in Livingston County Dec. 8, 1887. She is found on the 1851 census of Wellesley. On Jan. 14, 1872 in Tazewell County she married widower Joseph Ingold. He was born in Bavaria Jan. 24, 1826, an illegitimate child of Barbara Ingold (who later married Daniel Zehr). His first wife had been Barbara Unzicker (1844-1871), who he married in Tazewell County Nov. 8, 1863; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman.[88] See ZEHR for background on her mariage to Ingold.
6. Joseph Ernst was born at Petersburg/Wilmot, Ontario circa 1837. He is found on the 1851 census of Wellesley.

The 1861 census of Ellice, Perth County, Ontario (14 miles southwest of Wellesley or 14 miles west of New Hamburg) shows Christian's son **John Ernest**, 35, a laborer from France; Catherine, 27, France; and Joseph, 5, Ontario.[89]

However, another odd turn finds John in the wooded land south of Allentown Road at Elm Grove. On the 1870 census of Elm Grove, the next-door neighbors of Moses Ropp and Lydia Garber appear as John Ernst, 44, laborer, France; Catherine, 38, France; and Joseph, 14, Canada. The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows farmer John Arnst, 54, France, and his wife Kathrena, 46, France. Their neighbors still included Moses Ropp, who would leave within a few years to re-establish his saw mill business in Kentucky.

We could not find dates of death or burial places for John and Magdalena, but these may turn up when his father Christian's place of burial in Livingston County is determined.

Joseph Ernst was born in Ontario May 26, 1856, and died June 16, 1933. He married Ella Berry in Tazewell County Dec. 22, 1875.[90] She was born Aug. 31, 1858, and died March 13, 1913. They are buried in Highland Cemetery, Ottawa, Franklin County, Kansas.

Their household is found on the 1880 federal census of Spring Hill, Kansas, and on the 1895 state census of Appanoose, Kansas. At Appanoose they appear as Joseph Ernst, 38, born in Canada; Ellen, 36, born in Illinois; Blanche, 15; Maggie E., 13; J.A. (male), 11; Clara W., 9; Anna V., 7; Benjamin E., 5; Bessie A., 3 (all children born in Kansas); and mother-in-law Nancy Berry, 61, born in Kentucky.

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[88] Minister Christian Schlegel [Jr.] delivered a eulogy at the funeral of Joseph Ingold's first wife Barbara Unzicker. *Gospel Herald*, June 1871: "On the 7th of April, in Livingston County, Illinois, Barbara Ingold**,** wife of Joseph Ingold, aged 27 years, 3 months and 10 days. Funeral discourses were delivered Christian Schlegel and John P. Schmitt, from *I Cor. 15th and 1 Thessalonians*. She was buried on the 8th. She was a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite church. She was a pious and faithful sister. She was always anxious to attend divine services, and when she could not do so she spent her time in reading and prayer. On the day she died, she was washing, and while engaged at her work she sang the hymn: *'Was mich auf dieser Welt betruebt, Das waehret kurtze Zeit.*' She had determined to commit this hymn to memory and had mastered several verses of it. She eat dinner with a good relish. At half past one o'clock, she went out before the house and stooped down to the earth; her husband saw her from a distance and thought she was looking for something, but seeing her fall, he hastened to her, but she said not a single word, and died instantly. Let us take warning and be also ready when the messenger comes. J.P. Schmitt."

[89] Ellice Township was established in 1830. It is mainly farmland. The township includes a corner of the city of Stratford (population 30,000), the county seat of Perth County. Stratford is three miles northwest of South Easthope, where there was a large Amish Mennonite congregation.

[90] Ella's family is found on the 1860 census of Downs, McLean County as William Berry, 37, Virginia; Nancy, 30, Kentucky; Albert, 4, Illinois; and Ellen, 2, Illinois. Albert and his family were living with Joseph and Ella/Ellen on the 1880 census.

Roeschley: A Variation of Röschli

The surname Röschli appears at least once in the religious history of Switzerland. In 1522, a Röschli was one of the two curates of the city of Zurich who sided with Ulrich Zwingli and acceded to the transition from a Catholic to a Protestant Reformed Church. But the surname is not found among Anabaptists.

In Alsace one branch begins with a Swiss émigré, Jean Roeschly. He was named as the father of the groom at a wedding that took place in Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Sept. 19, 1724. The name appears in the online database *Une genealogie Sainte-Marienne*, compiled by French genealogist Jean Jacques Malaisé.

We searched entries created by the Protestant Reformed Church there. The groom was Mathias Roeschly. We can assume that he was born before 1704. He died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 20, 1746. His bride was Anne Marie Redelsperger. She was born circa July 21, 1702, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 4, 1766, a daughter of Michel Redelsperger.

Their children included:

1. Suzanne Marguerite Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 14, 1725, and died there March 12, 1784. On Oct. 12, 1745 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married Jean Jacques Bouvier.
2. Anne Marie Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April , 1729, and died there Sept. 20, 1776. She married Jean Jacques Eichelsberger. He was born at Reinach, Canton Bern (in a part that became Canton Aargau) circa 1717, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 19, 1796. He remarried twice, in 1776 to an Antenat and in 1787 to a Hotz.
3. Anne Vérène Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 28, 1731, and died there Oct. 19, 1735.
4. Elisabeth Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 31, 1736. She married Jean Linder.
5. Anne Vérène Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 21, 1739, and died Sept. 29, 1800. She married Jean Jacques Mathis.
6. Jean Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 2, 1743.
7. Elisabeth Barbe Roeschly was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 19, 1746. She married Jean Ernest Uhlenhuth.

Independently from all this, we found a **Jean Richely** (as written by a French clerk) in French civil records. He was likely born before 1722 (considering he had a son circa 1742). He married Magdalena/Madeleine Eichelsperger. Taken altogether - the coincidence of surnames in a small area population - it is fair to assume that Johannes/Jean was related in some way to Mathias, perhaps as a brother or cousin.

Jean Richely and Magdalena/Madeleine Eichelsperger had a son **Johannes/Jean Röschli**. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1742.

He married Elisabeth Hertig. It is likely that she was born at Echery circa 1739, a daughter of Christian Hertig and Magdalena/Madeleine Schörtz.[91]

Johannes/Jean died in the home of his son David at La Croix-aux-Mines (six miles southeast of Le Saulcy) Dec. 28, 1812. His civil death entry provides a wealth of information. It described him as a 70-year-old native of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. He was the husband of Elisabeth Hertique, and they worked on Harcholet farm (now the

[91] We found Hertigs at Hilterfingen and Steffisburg, Canton Bern in the 16th century, but the family is most often found at Rüderswil (22 miles north of Steffisburg). The association of the Hertig family with the Eymann family goes back at least as far as a marriage of Peter Eymann and Verena Hertig at Steffisburg April 23, 1680. Eymann was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 3, 1656, and died at Aubure, Upper Alsace Feb. 13, 1729. Verena may be the same Frena Hertig who appears on a list of Anabaptist heads of households created at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1708; perhaps the list was created in the absence of her husband.

Christe Hertig is found as a head of household on a list of Anabaptists in the area of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1732. Christe's children may include these three, known to be Anabaptists: ■ Cecile Hertique [Hertig], born circa 1728, who died at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines May 26, 1809. Her civil death entry stated that she was 81 years old, and was born at Echery, a daughter of Chrétien Hertique and Magdelaine Shart [likely Schörtz/Schertz]; she was the widow of the deceased Nicolas Eyman. The entry was witnessed by cultivator Chrétien Eyman, 54, and cousin Jean Rebre, 60. Chrétien was their son, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1755. ■ Christian Hertig was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1731, and died at Le Vermont, Vosges May 10, 1803. He married Marie Stibi/Stiby. She was born circa 1742, and died at Le Vermont Jan. 18, 1806, a daughter of Pierre Stibi/Stiby and Barbe Gerber. The April 17, 1795 marriage entry of a daughter Marie to Pierre Erb described parents-of-the-bride Christian and Marie as Anabaptists living on Genêvre farm at Le Vermont. Christian signed with his initials. ■ Elisabeth Hertig, born circa 1739, who married Johannes/Jean Röschli.

village Le Harcholet in the hamlet of Quieux above Le Saulcy, Vosges).[92] His parents were named as the deceased Jean Richely and Madeleine Eichelsperger. Madeleine was living at Echri [Echery, the hamlet below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines that had once been home to Jacob Amman]. The entry was witnessed by his son David Richely, 26; and Nicolas Roth, 54 (Roth had come to La Croix-aux-Mines from Echery in 1780; see WAGLER for more on him).

One source says Elisabeth Hertig died in the home of her son Daniel at Lafrimbolle, Moselle in 1816, age 77. However, at the second marriage of her son Jean Crétien in 1809 the civil entry described her as deceased.

Children of Johannes/Jean Röschli and Elisabeth Hertig born on Harcholet farm (now Le Harcholet) at Le Saulcy (in what became Vosges) include:

1. **Johannes/Hans/Jean Röschli** was born Aug. 15, 1761, and died at Marckolsheim, Upper Alsace Dec. 17, 1828.
2. Jean Chrétien Roeschly was born May 17, 1763, and died at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace March 26, 1832. Before 1790 he married Véronique Hyser. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1752, and died there Feb. 2, 1808, a daughter of Nicolas Hyser and Anne Schmucker. Her civil death entry described her as Véronique Hysser, 55, wife of weaver Christian Reschly, 46. She was a daughter of the deceased Nicolas Hysser and Anne Schmucker, who had been residents of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. On Sept. 16, 1809 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jean remarried to widow Madeleine Liechti. She was born at St. Amarin, Upper Alsace May 15, 1776, and died at La Croix-aux-Mines Sept. 10, 1833, a daughter of Friedrich/Frédéric Liechti and Barbara Frey. Her first husband François Miller had died in 1805. Their mariage entry said that the groom had been living at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines for 20 years, and was a son of cultivator Jean Reschely from Saucy and the deceased Elisabeth Hertique. It was witnessed by cultivator Jean Reschely, 45, brother-of-the-groom; and Barbe Frey, 73, mother of the bride. Jean Chrétien's civil death entry described him as weaver Chretien Räschli, 74; gave his birthplace; and said that his widow was Madeleine Leichti. It was winessed by his son weaver Jacques Räschli, 23, a resident of Ribeauvillé; and Jean Wagler, 68, living at Muesberg [Muesbach]. It was signed Jacob Reschlin, and marked 'x' by 'Chretien Roschli' (presumably another son of Chrétien).
3. Anne Marie Richely was born circa 1764, and died in 1828. On Oct. 21, 1798 at Le Puid, Vosges she married Jacob/Jacques Erb. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jacque Erb, 26, living at Breitenbach, a son of Daniel Erb and Marie Stokÿ. The bride was described as Anne Marie Reicheli, 25, living at Vermont [Le Vermont, Vosges], a daughter of cultivator Jean Reicheli and Elisabeth Herdick living at Harcholet, *commune de Saucy*. They were accompanied by father and son Christian Herdick, 66, and Christian Herdick, 31, maternal uncle and cousin of the bride, living at Vermont. Witnesses included cultivator Pierre Erb of Vermont, 30, brother of the groom. It was signed Jacob Erb and Anne Roschli.
4. Daniel Richely was born circa 1777, and died at La Frimbolle, Moselle Oct. 5, 1851. He lived at La-Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges in 1812. On Sept. 26, 1819 at St. Quirin Metaires, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married widow Barbe Schmitt. She was born at Lafrimbolle Aug. 2, 1793, and died there July 3, 1847, a daughter of Sébastien Schmitt and Anne Stroubar. She had been married to Michel Salzmann, who died in 1818. After the marriage Daniel and Barbe lived at LaFrimbolle.[93]
5. Joseph Richely was born circa 1780, and died at Le Saulcy, Vosges Dec. 25, 1812. He married Marie Barbe Wagler. She was born circa 1776, and died in 1836. She may have been a daughter of Isaac Wagler and Barbe Eymann. Joseph's death entry is not included in the online departmental archives, perhaps because it was too faint or damaged to reproduce. The marriage entry of their daughter Madeleine created at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 4, 1822 says she was born at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges Dec. 23, 1803 (no civil entry is found there), a daughter of the deceased

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[92] Le Saulcy is found on many older documents as Saucy. In medieval times the abbey of Senones owned a parish that included Le Saulcy, Belval, Le Mont (now St. Jean du Mont), St. Stail, Le Puid, and Le Vermont. Its administration was assumed by the Protestant count of Salm in 1571. These communities now fall in the department of Vosges.

[93] Their son Joseph Richely (also found as Richely, Roeschly, Reschley, and Reschly) was born at St. Quirin Metaires Nov. 17, 1819, and died at Wellesley, Ontario March 5, 1903. In 1847 Joseph was living on La Haute Guieisse farm at Les Harcholins, Moselle. On Dec. 25, 1847 at Lafrimbolle, Moselle he married Anne/Anna Suisse; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Maurer. She was born at Anglemont March 21, 1819, and died at Wellesley, Ontario Oct. 19, 1865 (her headstone says Oct. 21), a daughter of Joseph Suisse [Schweizer] and his first wife Barbara Hodler. She was buried in the Riser/Reschly Burial Plot Cemetery at Wellesley, which was later plowed over. They may have immigrated on separate ships. Joseph sailed from Le Havre on the *Flora MacDondald*, arriving at New York Oct. 14, 1854. The passenger list shows him as Joseph Roschle, 42, France. However, *Joseph Reschly and Anna Schweitzer Family History and Genealogy* by Irwin Steckly and Elizabeth Bast (2003) says that 'the family' (presumably Anne Suisse and their three daughters) left their home or Le Havre Oct. 23, 1854 and sailed six weeks. It is certain from one of Joseph 's letters that the husband, wife, and children arrived at the Wilmot home of minister Peter Litwiller Dec. 16, 1854. They leased a farm at Musselburg in 1855, which they later purchased. Joseph Roeschly was later ordained as a minister, and farmed at Mornington, South Easthope, and Wellesley. Joseph was one of the few North American immigrants who made a return trip to Europe. The *France* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York June 16, 1875. The passenger list shows farmer Joseph Roeschly, 55, coming from France, destination Canada. That list also shows farmer Pierre Leichty, 57, coming from France, destination Ohio; and Christ Leichty, 48, coming from France, destination Ohio.

Joseph Reschely, who had died at Saucy Dec. 25, 1812, and Marie Barbe Wagler, 46, who was present. Madeleine's new husband was Joseph Miller, a son from Madeleine Lichti's first marriage; Madeleine was the second wife of Jean Crétien Roeschly. Jean Crétien and Madeleine both witnessed the entry.

6. Madeleine Röschli was born Dec. 10, 1782. On Feb. 27, 1803 at Breitenbach, Lower Alsace she married Daniel Erb. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Daniel Erb, 23, born at Breitenbach in 1780, a son of cultivator Daniel Erb and Marie Stockÿ of Breitenbach. The bride was described as Magdelon Roschli, 22, born at Sassir in 1781. Witnesses included cultivator Nicola Stibi, 44, an uncle; cultivator George Gerber, 46, a brother-in-law; cultivator Nicolas Erb, 36, the bride's brother; and cultivator Joseph Gerber, 30, a friend. It was signed by Daniel Erb. Madeleine signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. Though the actual marriage enetry neglects to name the parents of the bride, the prior *ban* announcement names them as laborer Jean Röschlÿ and Elisabeth Hertique living at Sasire. Erb died at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines June 14, 1809. His civil death entry stated that his widow Magdelaine Richly was left with three children; it was witnessed by cultivator Chrétien Eyman, 53, and cultivator Jean Gerber, 36 (he signed 'Hans Graber'). On Oct. 25, 1810 she remarried at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines. The groom was described as farm operator Jean Jacob Kupfer, 28, born at Altheim July 29, 1782, a son of the deceased Jean Jacob Küpfer and Salomé Brechbühler who was present and consenting. The bride was described as Magdelaine Richely, 27, born at Saucy Dec. 10, 1782, the widow of Daniel Erb, and a daughter of cultivators Jean Richely and Elisabeth Hertique of Saucy.
7. David Richely was born Jan. 7, 1786. On April 12, 1803 at La Croix-aux-Mines he married Magdelaine Berse. She was born circa 1768, a daughter of Abraham Berse and Catherine Küpferschmidt. She was 35 years old at her marriage; he was 17 (though perhaps his age should be taken with a grain of salt). The civil entry describes Richely as a 17-year-old weaver's assistant born on Harcholet farm at Le Saulcy Jan. 7, 1786; it is possible that his age was adjusted downward to help him avoid military service, though at this time the marriage alone would have been sufficient as a disqualifier. His age remained consistent on all subsequent La Croix-aux-Mines entries. He was described as a son of Jean Richly, a cultivator on Harcholet farm, and Elisabeth Hertigue. Magdalena Berse was described as *de la secte annabatiste*, and a daughter of the deceased Abraham Berse, who had been a cultivator at La Croix-aux-Mines, and 'Catherine Copfrechmett.' The groom signed 'David Richeli.' Witnesses included the bride's brother 'Isac Berse,' 42; and her brother-in-law cultivator 'Jean Grapiel,' 50.
8. Catherine Reschly was born on Harcholet farm at Le Saulcy June 2, 1790, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 31, 1818. On Feb. 4, 1816 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married widower Nicolas Ulrich. He was born at Rosheim, Lower Alsace March 7, 1761, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 11, 1833, a son of Jean Ulrich and Elisabeth Murer. Their civil marriage entry noted that he was 55, she was 25; her parents were named as the deceased Jean Richly and his widow Elisabeth Hertique who was present. Nicolas's first wife Marguerite Eymann had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines July 5, 1811. The entry was witnessed by weaver David Richely, 28. Catherine's death entry was not witnessed by her husband, and erronously described her parents as the deceased Christian Reschly and Catherine Hertig.

Johannes/Hans/Jean Röschli was born at Le Saulcy (now in Vosges) Aug. 15, 1761, and died at Marckolsheim, Upper Alsace Dec. 17, 1828.

On Dec. 30, 1801at Bindernheim, Lower Alsace he married Elisabeth Wagler. Their civil marriage entry written in German described the groom as Johannes Reshli, age 44 years and four months, born at Le Saulcy Aug. 15, 1661, a son of Johannes Reshli and Elisabeth Hertig. The bride was described as Ellisabethe Wagler, age 25 years and nine months, born at Zellenberg (below Ribeauvillé) March 25, 1777, a daughter of Johannes Wagler, a plowman and resident of Bindernheim, and Elisabetha Mŭrer. It was signed with Hans's almost illegible signature, while Elisabeth signed an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. It was witnessed by Michael Ulrich, Elisabeth's father, and Joseph Conrath.

Hans's characteristic signature appears on a number of Alsatian *état civil* administrative entries for births and marriages. It actually looked like 'hansrmschli' (the short 'e' sound written to look like an 'm' in the old German style). Nevertheless, the signatures of his children and his death entry show the Swiss surname Röschli. Hans was generally called 'Jean' in the text of these entries, despite his signature below.

The couple lived at Mussig for the births of daughters in 1803, 1806, 1807, and 1808. During the height of the Napoleonic wars, or perhaps because of the death of Hans's father in 1812, they relocated to live near Hans's birthplace in the Vosges Mountains (38 miles northwest of Mussig). The births of sons were recorded at adjacent Moussey, Vosges in 1812 and 1813. The family relocated to Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace (5 miles southeast of Mussig) between 1814 and 1826.

Hans died at Marckolsheim Dec. 17, 1828. His civil death entry created the following day described him as Jean Roschli, 69, husband of Elisabeth Wagler, born in a place that could not be identified, and last living in the house at Marckolsheim called *La Hueb*. His deceased parents were identified as laborer Jean Roschli and Elisabeth Hertig. It was witnessed by laborer Jacques Wagler, 22, and signed 'Jacob Wagler.'

Elisabeth Wagler died at Marckolsheim Dec. 1, 1842. She was identified on her civil death entry as Elisabethe Wagler, 70, the widow of Jean Röschli. Her place of birth was given as Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and her deceased parents were identified as Jean Wagler and Elisabethe Murer.

Their children Magdalena (wife of Jacob Wagler), Elisabeth (wife of Jacob Wagner), Johannes, and Barbe sailed from Le Havre on the *Mercury*, arriving at New York May 20, 1854.

Children of Johannes/Hans/Jean Röschli and Elisabeth Wagler include:

1. Magdalena/Madeleine Röschli was born at Mussig, Lower Alsace Nov. 4, 1803, and died at Waldo Nov. 30, 1877. Her civil birth entry called her Madeleine Roeschlé. On April 11, 1830 at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace (five miles south of Mussig) she married Jacob Wagler. He was born at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace April 29, 1806, and died at Waldo, Livingston County Feb. 13, 1872, a son of Jacob/Jacques Wagler and Anne Marie Sommer. For more on this couple see WAGLER.
2. Anne Marie Röschli was born at Mussig April 19, 1806, and died on the Rheinfelderhof estate at Rustenhart, Upper Alsace April 23, 1890. On April 17, 1827 at Marckolsheim she married Johannes/Jean Risser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Jean Risser, born at St. Hippolyte, Upper Alsace (above Ribeauvillé) Jan. 15, 1798 but living at Fraize, Vosges (adjacent to La-Croix-aux-Mines, six miles southeast of Le Saulcy). He was a son of miller Jean George Risser and Ann Ropp, who had both died at St. Hippolyte. The bride was described as Anne Marie Roeschlé, born at Mussig April 19, 1806 but living at Marckolsheim, a daughter of Jean Roeschlé, living at Marckolsheim and present and consenting, and the deceased Elisabeth Wagner [interchangeable with Wagler]. Witnesses included second cousin of the groom Jean Lehman, 26; and second cousin of the bride Joseph Wagner, 24. It was clearly signed 'Jean Risser' and 'Anna Röschli.' Jean died at St. Hippolyte April 16, 1865. Anne Marie's death entry describes her as Anna Roschli, and also says that her mother was a Wagner.
3. Elisabeth Röschli was born at Mussig July 19, 1807. On May 23, 1830 at Reppe in the Territory of Belfort she married Christian Schlegel's nephew Joseph Wagner. For more on this couple see WAGNER.
4. Barbe/Barbara Röschli was born at Mussig, Lower Alsace Nov. 4, 1808. Her civil birth entry called her 'Barbe Röschlé.' It described her parents as cultivator Jean Roschlé, 39, and Elisabeth Wagler, and was witnessed by weaver Jean Wagler, 69, living at Mussig (Elisabeth's father). The *Mercury* passenger list shows her as Barbe Roschle, 44. On Oct. 8, 1854 in Tazewell County she married widower Pierre/Peter; their ceremony was performed by minister John Nafziger, and his register entry spells her surname 'Reschly.' Pierre/Peter was born on Berfang farm at Folschviller, Moselle June 20, 1800, a son of Pierre Beller and Barbe Hirschi. For more on this couple see BELLER.
5. **Joseph/Johannes Röschli** was born at Moussey, Vosges June 7, 1812, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County May 19, 1881.
6. David Röschli was born at Moussey, Vosges Dec. 10, 1813. His civil birth entry called him 'David Richely,' and described his parents as cultivator Jean Rechely, 40, and Elisabeth Vargler.

Joseph/Johannes Röschli was born at Moussey, Vosges June 7, 1812, and died at Roanoke, Woodford County May 19, 1881. His civil birth entry was created at Moussey June 8. The name of the newborn was given as 'Joseph Richely' in the entry and the index. His parents were described as cultivator Jean Rechely, 45, and Elizabeth Vocker.

Joseph's name may have changed after the death of his grandfather only six months later, or after the death of his father in 1828. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Mercury* with family members, and arrived at New York May 20, 1853. The passenger list showed him as Joh. Roschli, 43. Excerpts from the list are given in the Appendix.

In America Joseph/Johannes became John, and settled at Spring Bay.

On Jan. 28, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Saltzmann; their ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Neufmaisons, Meurthe-et-Moselle Sept. 11, 1826, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Saltzmann and Catherine Sommer. Her civil birth entry called her Elisabeth Salsmann, and described her parents as *Anabaptiste* farmer Jacob Salsmann, 25, and Catherine Sommer. It was witnessed by farmer Uherlihe Sommer, 56. Signatures looked like Jacob Saltzmann and Ŭlli Sŭmmer. She sailed from Le Havre on the ship *Havre*, and arrived at New York July 9, 1855.

They are found on the 1860 census of Washington.

The *Atlas of Woodford County* (1873) shows John Roeschley as a farmer on 160 acres in Section 31 of Roanoke, Worth Township, Woodford County. The 1880 census of Roanoke shows the family as retired farmer John Roschelz, 68, France; Elisabeth, 53, France; Jacob, 23; Lena, 22; John, 20; Elisabeth, 18; and Mary, 10; all children born in Illinois.

John died May 19, 1881. His headstone in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery says, "*John Roeschley, starb. May 19, 1881, 69 Jahre, 5 Monat, und 11 Tag alt*." This would yield a birth date Dec. 8, 1811. The longevity stated on the headstone must have been an incorrect guess made from the best available information. Someone who did not

know his true date of birth simply took the date of his arrival in America (May 20, 1854) and deducted 43 years (the passenger list age) to guess his birth date, then calculated the longevity.

Elizabeth's headstone in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery says, "Elizabeth Roeschley, gest. d. 7 Jan. 1891, 60 Jahre alt."

Their children include:

1. Jacob D. Roeschley was born at Washington, Tazewell County in March 1857, and died in 1909. On July 22, 1880 in Tazewell County he married Lydia A. Zehr. She was born at Deer Creek March 29, 1863, and died there Oct. 9, 1835, a daughter of Christian Zehr and his second wife Marie/Mary Oyer. They are found on the 1900 census of Montgomery as Jacob Roeschley, 42, born in Illinois in March 1859 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 found on the 1900 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County. They are buried in Mount Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek.
2. Magdalena 'Malinda' Roeschley was born at Washington, Tazewell County March 29, 1858, and died at Bloomington, McLean County April 17, 1899. On Feb. 5, 1878 at Roanoke, Woodford County she married Christian Zehr. He was born at Deer Creek March 12, 1857, and died at Olio, Woodford County Oct. 12, 1926, a son of Christian Zehr and his second wife Marie/Mary Oyer. 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.
3. John Roeschley was born in Woodford County Aug. 25, 1859, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Nov. 24, 1947. On Jan. 18, 1891 at Eureka, Woodford County he married Elizabeth Orendorff. She was born Dec. 24, 1872, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Feb. 26, 1960, a daughter of Daniel Orendorff and Mary Yordy. They are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.
4. Elizabeth Roeschley was born at Spring Bay July 20, 1862, and died Feb. 3, 1953. On Jan. 1, 1882 at Roanoke she married Joseph P. Yordy. He was born at Elm Grove Nov. 7, 1857, and died at Eureka Feb. 19, 1925, a son of Peter Yordy and Mary Birkey. See YORDY for their obituaries.
5. Mary Roeschley was born at Eureka, Woodford County Aug. 9, 1869, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Oct. 19, 1928. In 1888 she married Daniel Webster Schlegel/Slagel. He was born at Pike, Livingston County March 26, 1864, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County Jan. 4, 1947. See SCHLEGEL for more on this couple including their obituaries.

Wagler of Muesbach

According to the late Delbert Gratz, the Bernese surname 'Wagler' was derived from 'Wagner,' and described a wagon maker. The English equivalent would be 'wainwright' or 'cartwright.'

Muesbach [Ger. *Muesberg*] is a pocket valley in mountains between Ribeauvillé and Aubure, Upper Alsace. It has a creek running through it, but the dryness of the surrounding soil prevented habitation by more than a few families. Waglers, Sommers, and Eymanns lived there up to 1850. Only overgrown stone foundations remain. No vital records were kept there.

There is no surviving documents that might tell us when Waglers first came to Muesbach. **Johannes Wagner/Hans or Jean Wagler** was the leaseholder in 1764, and turned the lease over to his son.

A civil death entry for Johannes was created at Ribeauvillé Oct. 25, 1793. The text described him as Johannes Wagner, while the 10-year civil index listed him as Jean Wagler. He was 91 years of age. Witnesses were Johannes Eymann, 24, and Niklaŭs Roth, 35 (he signed Nigklaŭs Roth).

Isaac Wagler was born circa 1729, and died at Muesbach April 18, 1804. In 1760 he married Barbe Eymann. She was born at Ribeauvillé circa 1731, and died there Jan. 21, 1811, a daughter of Nicolas Eymann and Frena Kropf. Isaac and Barbe passed the lease on to their sons Jacob and Christian.

Children of Isaac Wagler and Barbe Eymann born at Muesbach include:

1. Johannes/Jean Wagler was born in 1764, and died at Muesbach Oct. 15, 1846. On June 4, 1794 at Ribeauvillé he married Anne Catherine Liechti. She was born at St. Amarin (now in Upper Alsace) in 1769, and died at Muesbach Nov. 3, 1833, a daughter of Friedrich Liechti and Barbara Frey. They were living at Ribeauvillé in 1823, where Johannes/Jean was a weaver. He was described as Jean Wagler, 68, a weaver from Muesberg, on the death entry of Chrétien Röschli created at Ribeauvillé March 27, 1832.
2. Nicolas Wagler was born in 1767, and died at Muesbach July 26, 1803. On April 16, 1795 at Lièpvre, Upper Alsace he married Barbe Sommer. She was born at St. Stail (now in Vosges) Aug. 21, 1769, and died at Senones, Vosges March 1, 1820, a daughter of Jean Sommer and Barbe Hüsser.
3. **Jacob/Jacques Wagler** was born Feb. 25, 1769, and died at Muesbach Jan. 16, 1846.
4. Barbe Wagler was born circa 1770, and died after July 1829. On Sept. 6, 1799 at Ribeauvillé she married Jacob/Jacques Haas. He was born circa 1764, and died at Lièpvre, Upper Alsace July 25, 1829.
5. Christian Wagler was born in 1775, and died in 1851. On May 13, 1807 at Ribeauvillé he married Anne Marie Sommer. She was born at Bambois de Plaine (now in Lower Alsace) in June 1783, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Barbe Hüsser. The Waglers of Ontario are their descendants.

- Marie Barbe Wagler may belong here. She was born circa 1776, and died in 1836. She married Joseph Richely Röschli]. He was born on Harcholet farm (now Le Harcholet in the department of Vosges) at Le Saulcy circa 1780, and died here Dec. 25, 1812. See ROESCHLEY for more on this couple.

6. Elisabeth Wagler was born in 1778, and died at Muesbach June 13, 1848. On April 20, 1805 at Ribeauvillé she married Christian Sommer. He was born at Bambois de Plaine in March 1775, and died at Ribeauvillé Sept. 15, 1815, a son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Hüsser.

Jacob/Jacques Wagler was born at Muesbach Feb. 25, 1769, and died there Jan. 16, 1846. On Nov. 14, 1804 at Ribeauvillé he married Anne Marie Sommer. She was born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace Sept. 4, 1779, and died at Muesbach Nov. 17, 1839, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Anna Maurer.

Their son **Jacob Wagler** was born at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace April 29, 1806, and died at Waldo, Livingston County Feb. 13, 1872.[94]

On April 11, 1830 at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace he married Magdalena Röschli (found as Roeschli, Rechely, and Reschly). She was born at Mussig (five miles north of Marckolsheim) Nov. 4, 1803, and died at Waldo Nov. 30, 1877, a daughter of Hans/Jean Röschli and Elisabeth Wagler. Their marriage entry described the groom Jacques Wagler as a 24-year-old laborer born at Muesbach, and the bride Madelaine Röschlÿ as a 25-year-

[94] Jacob's brother Jean Baptiste Wagler was born at Ribeauvillé June 20, 1810, and died in Ontario in 1869 or 1887. On Oct. 5, 1837 at Ribeauvillé he married his cousin Barbe Wagler. She was born at Muesbach July 6, 1815, a daughter of Christian Wagler and Anne Marie Sommer. They sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Louis Philippe*, and arrived at New York May 13, 1842. The passenger list names Jean Wagler, 32, France; Barbara, 26; and Barbara, 2. They can be found on the 1861 census of South Easthope, Ontario as Mennonite farmer John Wagler, 50, France; Barbara, 45, France; Magdalena, 16, Ontario; Anna, 11, Ontario; and John, 6, Ontario.

old. Witnesses included miller Jean Risser, 30, a brother-in-law of the groom; weaver Jean Wagler, 25, a cousin; laborer Joseph Wagler, 26, a second cousin; and laborer Jean Wagler, 24, a cousin.

Marckolsheim is on the Rhine River, on the intersection of two borders. First, it is on the Lower Alsace side of the departmental border with Upper Alsace. Then, it is on the French side (the west bank) of the border with Baden, Germany (the east bank). Jacob and Magdalena were residents of Marckolsheim at the time of their marriage, and resided there for the births of seven daughters 1831-44. The birth entries describe the father as a farmer or cultivator. He signed each one legibly.

About a month after their marriage, Jacob and Magdalena journeyed 59 miles southwest for another wedding. On May 23, 1830 Magdalena's sister Elisabeth became the wife of Christian Schlegel's nephew Joseph Wagner. The ceremony took place at Reppe in the *Territoire de Belfort* (on the departmental border with Upper Alsace). The marriage entry lists witness Jacques Wagler of Marckolsheim, 23.

After marriage Joseph and Elisabeth came to live with or near Jacob and Magdalena at Marckolsheim.

Both couples sailed from Le Havre on the *Mercury*, arriving at New York May 20, 1854. The passenger list shows farmer Jac. Wagner, 48; Magd., 49; Magd., 23; Barbe, 21; Marie, 19; Elisab., 17; Cath., 17; Anna, 13; Reg., 9; and Joh., 9. More of the list is given in the Appendix.

The 1855 state census of Washington, Tazewell County shows the household of Jacob Wagler as two males under 10 years of age; one male 10-19; one male 20-29; one male 50-59; one female under 10 years of age; five females 10-19; and one female 30-39. The household of Christian Schlegel appears on the same census page.

The Jacob Wagler household is found on an 1865 state census of Waldo, Livingston County as one male under 10 years of age; one male 50-59; one female 10-16; and one female 50-59. The next names on the census page are their sons-in-law Jacob Sutter and Christian Springer.

Jacob was ordained as a minister for the Gridley Prairie (now Waldo) congregation before 1866. He attended the assembly of ministers at Danvers in 1866, and hosted an assembly at Gridley Prairie in 1871.

Jacob and Magdalena are found twice on the 1870 federal census. They appear in the Metamora household of son-in-law John Steider and their daughter Elizabeth: John Stider, 34, France; Elizabeth, 34, France; Catharine, 6, Illinois; Sara, 5, Illinois; Phoeba, 3, Illinois; Mary, 1, Illinois; Jacob Wagler, 65, Bavaria (Alsace was annexed by Germany 1870-1919); Madalade, 68, Bavaria; and Catherine Stider, 67, France. They are also found in the household of daughter Reine/Regina at Waldo: farmer John Deerberger, 26, Bavaria; Rachel [Reine/Regina], 25, Bavaria; Jacob, 4, Illinois; Malinda, 3, Illinois; John, 2, Illinois; Catherine, six months, Illinois; Malinda Resley, 66, Bavaria; and Jacob Wagler, 64, Bavaria.

Herald of Truth, April 1872: "On the 13th of Febr., in Livingston co., Ill., Pre. Jacob Wagler, of the Amish church, aged 65 yrs., and 10 months. He bore his suffering with Christian patience. Three weeks before his death, his wife was so sick that she was not expected to live; at this he was very much grieved, and frequently expressed a desire to go first, saying that he was ready, and had a desire to be with Jesus. After an illness of nine days he went to his Savior, who will wipe all tears from his eyes. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.' He was buried the 15th, in the presence of many friends and acquaintances. Services by Chr. Schloegel, and John P. Schmidt." (The minister Christian Schlegel was a son of the immigrant).

Gospel Herald, January 1878: "Nov. 30th, in Livingston co., Ill., very suddenly, Magdalena Wagler, aged 74 years and 20 days. Her disease was bronchial consumption. Buried Dec. 2nd, followed to the grave by many to pay the last tribute of respect. She was a beloved sister of the Amish Mennonite Church. She was at communion on Sunday previous, and said, that would be the last time she would partake. Services by Joseph Gascho and J. P. Schmitt."

Children of Jacob Wagler and Magdalena Röschli born at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace include:

1. Madelaine/Magdalena Wagler was born Jan. 13, 1831, and died at Pike, Livingston County Dec. 7, 1870. She had an illegitimate child born at Marckolsheim; it died as a three-month-old Feb. 2, 1849. On Aug. 30, 1857 in Tazewell County she married Christian Ehresman [Jr.]; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Ropp. He was born Oct. 18, 1832, and died Feb. 14, 1893, a son of Christian Ehresman and his first wife Magdalena Barnett. For background on this couple and his second wife see EHRESMAN.
2. Barbe/Barbara Wagler was born March 13, 1833.
3. Anne Marie/Mary Wagler was born Nov. 28, 1834 (her birth entry called her Anne Marie Wagner), and died Feb. 14, 1894. On Dec. 13, 1855 in Tazewell County she married Daniel Zehr; their ceremony was performed by minister John Nafziger. He was born at Söcking, Bavaria May 3, 1828, a son of Daniel Zehr and his first wife Barbara Ingold. For background on this couple see ZEHR.
4. Elisabethe/Elizabeth Wagler was born June 7, 1836, and died in Nebraska Dec. 26, 1907. On July 1, 1863 in Woodford County she married Jean/John Steider. He was born at Diane-Capelle in March 1837, and died at Milford, Nebraska circa 1900, a son of Joseph Steider and Catherine Miller. *Herald of Truth*, January 1908: "Elizabeth

Steider was born in Markirch, Alsace, France, on June 15, 1836, and died Dec. 26, 1907; aged 71Y., 6 M., 11 D. Her maiden name was Wagler. She was married to John Steider. To this union were born nine children, four sons, five daughters, 38 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her husband and one son preceded her to the eternal world. The Lord comfort the mourning friends with the rich promises of his word." See STEIDER for more on this couple.

5. Catherine Wagler was born March 23, 1838, and died at Milford, Nebraska July 30, 1908. On Feb. 18, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Sutter; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born at Probfeld, Bavaria Nov. 27, 1833, and died at Milford, Nebraska Feb. 26, 1923, a son of Johannes/John Sutter and Barbara Oesch. See SUTTER for background on this couple.
6. Anne/Anna Wagler was born Oct. 28, 1839, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Sept. 10, 1906. She was admitted to Jacksonville State Hospital Aug. 18, 1861 after suffering seizures, and discharged Jan. 8, 1862.[95] In Peoria County May 10, 1862 she married Christian Springer. He was born in 1834, and died at Aurora Aug. 12, 1907. They are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery there. On Sept. 30, 1871 Christian purchased 40 acres of public land for $440 in Section 14 of what is now Rook's Creek (adjacent to Waldo). They are found on the 1880 census of Waldo, Livingston County as farmer Christian Springer, 46, France; Anna, 40, France; and seven children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Precinct G, Seward County, Nebraska (now the city of Seward) shows them as farmer Chris Springer, 64, born in France to a German father and French mother in September 1834, immigrated 1856; Anna, born in 60, born in France in October 1839, immigrated 1854; and two children born in Illinois. *Gospel Witness,* October 1906: "Anna, beloved wife of Christian Springer, was born in Lorraine, Germany; died at the home of her son, B. W. Springer, near Aurora, Neb., Sept. 10, 1906; aged 67y., 10m., 18d. She was sick only a few hours. She united with the A. M. church at the age of fourteen and remained a faithful member until death. She leaves a sorrowing husband, with whom she lived in happy union, in joy and sorrow, for 41 years. To them were born ten children, two having preceded her to the spirit world. Besides a husband, she is survived by eight children, twenty-seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, two sisters and a host of relatives and friends. She was a good loving mother and we sadly miss her, but our loss is her gain, and we pray to meet her in that heavenly home where she awaits our coming. Funeral services were held at the Mennonite church conducted by Chr. Rediger in German and Andrew Oesch in English. Interment in the Fairview cemetery. A daughter." *Gospel Witness*, September 1907: "Christian Springer was born near Nance, France, Apr. 1834; died at the home of his son Benjamin, of Aurora, Neb., Aug. 12, 1907; aged 73 y. 4 m. He suffered for sometime with cancer of the stomach. He united with the A. M. Church in his youth and was a faithful member until his death. His prayer during his suffering was that Christ should take him home, so we feel that we need not mourn as those who have no hope. There remain to mourn the loss of a kind and loving father, three sons, five daughters, thirty grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His wife died about eleven months ago and two children died in their youth. Funeral services at the Mennonite Church on Aug. 14, by Pre. A. Oesch in English and Pre. C. Rediger in German. By a daughter."
7. Reine/Regina Wagler was born April 4, 1844, and died in Livingston County Aug. 13, 1871. On April 22, 1866 in Livingston County she married John Dierberger. He was born at Neudingen, Baden May 10, 1840, a son of Valentin Dierberger and Veronika Kammerer. The 1870 census of Waldo, Livingston County shows them as farmer John Deerberger, 26, Bavaria; Rachel, 25, Bavaria; Jacob, 4, Illinois; Malinda, 3, Illinois; John, 2, Illinois; Catherine, six months, Illinois; Malinda Resley, 66, Bavaria; and Jacob Wagler, 64, Bavaria. *Gospel Herald*, November 1871: "On the 13th of August, in the same county, also of sore throat, Regina Dierberger, daughter of Jacob Wagler, aged 27 years, 4 months and 9 days. On the 14th her remains were buried, followed to the grave by a large concourse of friends and relatives. Funeral discourses were preached by the same as the above. She bore her suffering with patience, was willing to die, and desired to be with Christ. A few minutes before she died, she was asked if she wanted water. 'No,' she replied, 'I have now better water to drink than that.' She leaves a husband and 4 children. She was a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite church." On March 17, 1872 in Tazewell County John remarried to Mary Neuhauser. She was born in Butler County, Ohio Jan. 9, 1847, and died April 25, 1883, a daughter of Peter Neuhauser and Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt. *Herald of Truth*, June 1883: "On the 30th of April, in Tazewell Co., Ill., in child-bed, Mary Dierbarger, daughter of Peter and Mary Neuhauser, aged 36 years, 3 months and 21 days. On the 2nd of May she and her infant child were consigned to mother earth, on which occasion services were held by John P. Smith, of Livingston Co., Ill., from *1 Cor. 15*, and by Peter Stuckey in English, from *2 Cor. 5:1*. She leaves a husband and seven children, four of them step-children, of whom she was much beloved and who sadly mourn their loss. She was a faithful sister in the Amish Mennonite Church. Her aged parents followed her remains to the grave, which makes the fourth time that they follow one of their children to their last resting place. This was a very solemn and affecting occasion. Peace to her ashes." As a widower John appears on the 1900 census of J Township, Seward County, Nebraska in the home of his son Samuel as farm laborer John Dierberger, 60, born in Germany in May 1840, immigrated in 1856.

[95] She was described as Anna Wagler, 21; her father as Jacob Wagler of Washington, Tazewell County.

Jacob Berse becomes Christian Wagler

Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Ste. Croix-aux-Mines are adjacent west-to-east. The village center of Aubure [Ger. Altwihr] is six miles below them, but their boundaries touch. All three are in Upper Alsace. La Croix-aux-Mines is 11 miles west of Aubure, in the department of Vosges.

'Wagler' may not be the true original surname of the family that came to America in 1833 and settled at Elm Grove in 1844. However, we have only recently discovered how complicated this question can be.

Abraham Berze or Berse was born at Aubure circa 1720.

He married Catherine Küpferschmidt (also found as 'Cofechemette'). She was born at Walbach, Upper Alsace circa 1727, and died in the home of son-in-law David Richely at La Croix-aux-Mines Nov. 29, 1813.

The couple farmed at Chipal, a valley hamlet near La Croix-aux-Mines.[96] The earliest Berze/Berse civil entry we found there documented Abraham's death at age 75 on Dec. 28, 1795. It names Catherine Coffechemette as his widow, and was witnessed by two neighbors and a son-in-law, 'Jean Grapierre' (later found as 'Jean Crabiel').

Catherine's civil death entry described her as Catherine Copfrechemeth, 86, the widow of the cultivator Abraham Berse. It was witnessed by farm equipment operators David Richely, 26, and Nicolas Roth, 54, both sons-in-law, and gave her birthplace as Valpach, Upper Alsace.

Children of Abraham Berze or Berse and Catherine Küpferschmidt include:

1. Marie Berse was born at Aubure Aug. 21, 1754, and died at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace Feb. 5, 1799. She married Peter/Pierre Ulrich (also found in French entries as 'Voilrich'). He was born at Mortzwiller circa 1739, and died at Heimersdorf (below Hirtzbach) Sept. 13, 1807, a son of Johannes Ulrich and Rosina Bächler. When their son Pierre Ulrich married Catherine Lauber at Bourg-Bruche Aug. 24, 1794, the parents of the groom were noted as Pierre Voilrich [Ulrich] and Marie Vagler. (Note that Marie's younger brother Isaac would later take on the surname Wagler as well).
2. **Isaac Berse** was born circa 1760. He is found in civil documentation at La Croix-aux-Mines as 'Isac Berse.'
3. Elisabeth Berse was born circa 1761, and died at La Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Feb. 9, 1786. On Jan. 25, 1780 at La Croix-aux-Mines she became the first wife of weaver Nicolas Roth (he would remarry twice). He was born at Altwihr/Aubure circa 1759, and died at Burtzweiller, an annex of Illzach, Upper Alsace Aug. 19, 1840. Their grandchildren became the Roths of Central Illinois. For background on this couple, see ROTH.
4. Anne Berse married cultivator Johannes/Hans Krayenbühl, who signed his own name 'Krahenbuhl' and is also found as Jean Crabiel. He was born at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines circa 1752, but resided at Chipal and appears as a witness on many Berse family entries created at La Croix-aux-Mines. A civil entry for his death created at La Croix-aux-Mines April 18, 1810 was witnessed by brother-in-law Nicolas Roth, 51, and brother-in-law David Richely [Rüschli], 23. It stated that he was 58, the son of cultivator Pierre Craipiel [Krayenbühl] and Anne Aousboure [Augspurger], cultivators at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.
5. Jacob/Jacques Berse was born before 1668, and died at Colroy-la-Grande, Vosges Jan. 6, 1795.[97] The year of his civil death entry is missing from their records. He married Catherine Reber. She was born at Urbeis, Lower Alsace circa 1761, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 11, 1823, a daughter of Chrétien Reber and Catherine Bachmann. On April 13, 1798 at Colroy-la-Grande she remarried to widower Chrétien Maurer. He was born at Rosheim circa 1746, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 4, 1830, a son of Nicolas Maurer and Barbe Robi [Rubi]. His first wife had been Anne Sommer of Ban de la Roche. At the time of his second marriage he was a laborer on the Nickyhof at Rosheim. They relocated eight miles east to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in May of 1815. Her civil death entry described her as the 62-year-old wife of cultivator Crethien Muhrer, born at Urbeiss; and a daughter of the deceased Cristhan Reber and Catherine Bachmann, residents of Urbeiss. Witnesses included Jean Goerig, 43, described as her son-in-law [he married one of Chrétien's earlier children]; and Jacques Goldschmidt, 39. Their children include:
    a. Barbe Berse was born circa 1788, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 31, 1823. On July 16, 1805 at Rosheim, Lower Alsace she married Chrétien Maurer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as *anabatiste* laborer Chrétien Maurer, 31, born at Strutthoff, Schirmeck, Vosges. He was a son of laborer Chrétien Maurer, 59, a resident of the Nickeyhoff at Rosheim, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Anne Sommer [his second wife would be Barbe's widowed mother Catherine Reber]. The bride was described as Barbe Wagler [crossed out] Wackler, 17, a resident of Nickyhoff. Her parents were the deceased Jacques Wagler, who had died at Colroy-la-Grande, and Catherine Reberin, who was consenting. Signatures looked like Christian Maŭrer and Barbara Wagler.

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[96] Chipal's homes were destroyed in the summer of 1914, leaving only a church standing. The site was plowed under to establish a farm in 1919. Its administrative records were kept at nearby La Croix-aux-Mines, and the farm is now called Le Chipal and is part of that community in Vosges.

[97] Colroy-la-Grande was administratively merged into Provencheres-et-Colroy Jan. 1, 2016.

b. Catherine Berse was born at Chipal, La Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 12, 1789, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 18, 1840. On Nov. 16, 1816 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married Joseph Haury. He was born at Senones, Vosges Nov. 6, 1789, and died at Fertrupt (below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) Feb. 3, 1859, a son of Chrétien Haury and Marie Barbe Hertig/Hertique. Their civil marriage entry described her as Catherine Berse, 27, born at Chipal Feb. 12, 1789; a daughter of the deceased Jaques Berse and his widow Catherine Raiber, who had been living at St. Marie-aux-Mines for 18 months. It was witnessed by mother-of-the-bride Catherine Raiber, 50, who was consenting; brother-in-law Jean Fortemwald, 34; brother-in-law Chrétien Maurer, 41; Joseph Bacher, 57; and Michel Maurer, 50. Signatures looked like Joseph Haurÿ and Catharina Wagler. On April 12, 1841 at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace Haury remarried to Marie Wagler. She was born at Walscheid, Moselle Oct. 19, 1819, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Nov. 12, 1861, a daughter of Jean Wagler and Marie Barbe Eymann.

c. Madeleine Berse was born at La Croix-aux-Mines Sept. 25, 1790. On Dec. 21, 1812 at Rosheim she married Joseph Eimann. Their civil mariage entry described the groom as weaver Joseph Eimann, born at Pres du Chien [Prés du Chêne or Meadows of the Oak, a farm at Lubine, Vosges] March 19, 1780. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Voily Eimann, who had died at Lubine April 14, 1796; and Regine Proqueriu, a resident of Pres du Chien. The bride was described as 'Madelaine Berse *appellé* Wacklaire' [called Wagler]. She was born at La Croix-aux-Mines Sept. 25, 1790, and was a resident in the communal forest at Rosheim. Her parents were the deceased Jacques Vacklaire, who had died at Coroy-la-Grande Jan. 6, 1795; and Catherine Reber, living in the communal forest, now the wife of Chrétien Maurer, present and consenting. One witness was her stepfather, *Anabaptiste* cultivator Chrétien Maurer, 69. Madelaine and her mother Catherine both signed 'x', indicating they were illiterate. On Nov. 28, 1843 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines 'Madeleine Wagler' remarried to cultivator Jean Schilt. He was born at Moussey, Vosges in May of 1798, a son of Pierre Schilt and Anne Riss. Their civil marriage entry noted that the bride had been born Madeleine Berse, and identified her father as Jacob Berse.

6. Madeleine Berse was born in 1768. She was 35 years old at the time of her marriage to David Richely at La Croix-aux-Mines April 12, 1803. The groom was 17 (though perhaps this should be taken with a grain of salt). The civil entry describes Richely as a 17-year-old weaver's assistant born on Le Harcholet farm at Le Saulcy, Vosges Jan. 7, 1786; it is possible that his age was adjusted downward to help him avoid military service. It remained consistent on all La Croix-aux-Mines entries. He was a son of Jean Richely [Röschli], a cultivator at Harcholet farm, and Elisabeth Hertique [Hertig]. Magdalena Berse was described as *de la secte annabaptiste*, and it was explained that her birth date had not been recorded and was not known. She was the daughter of the deceased Abraham Berse, who had been a cultivator at La Croix-aux-Mines, and 'Catherine Cophrechmetre' [Küpferschmidt]. Witnesses included the bride's brother 'Isac Berse,' 42; and her brother-in-law cultivator 'Jean Grapiel,' 50.
7. Abraham Berse was born circa 1770. He lived at Aubure and Chipal, and married Barbe Hone [Hoen?]. They are only known to us from an entry documenting the stillbirth of a child at Chipal Dec. 17, 1807. The entry was witnessed by paternal uncles Johannes/Hans Krahenbühl and David Richely. *At Last!...That Elusive 1819 Ship 'List' Surfaces* was the name of an article by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine and Joe Springer in the July 2004 issue of *Mennonite Family History*. The wealth of varied information in this excellent article is astounding. The colorful title celebrates the discovery of a previously unknown typewritten passenger list documenting the voyage of the *Montgomery.* The ship departed from Le Havre April 30, 1819, and arrived at Philadelphia June 18 or 19, 1819. It brought passengers named Augspurger, Erb, Frey, Goldschmidt, Grieser, Güngerich, Kropf, Müller, Rothacker, Schwarri, Sommer, and Stücki. The most complete record of the passengers on the voyage is a typewritten transcript page kept at Le Havre. According to Levine and Springer, one of the parties was Berse, 50, Croix-aux-Mines, with his wife and four children. By surname and age alone, it is likely this was Abraham Berse.
8. Marie Barbe Wagler was born at La Croix-aux-Mines circa 1776, and died there Nov. 26, 1836. On Oct. 3, 1814 at Le Saulcy, Vosges she married Pierre Jantzy. He was born in 1775, and died at La Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 23, 1851, a son of Jean Jantzy and Anne Gasser. Their marriage is listed in the 10-year civil index of Le Saulcy as Pierre Yeanesy and Barbe Bresse; the actual text of the entry has been lost. Marie Barbe's civil death entry described her as Marie Barbe Berse, 60, the wife of farm equipment operator Jean Pierre Jasqué, 60; she was a daughter of the deceased Abraham Berse and Catherine Cofter[illegible]. The widower's signature is barely legible but appears to say Jonnyse.

Cultivator **Isaac Berse** was born circa 1760, and died at Chipal Dec. 2, 1826.

He married Anna Krahenbühl, who died before 1798. She was a daughter of Jean Krayenbühl/Krahenbühl and Anne Augspurger (a daughter of Jacob Augspurger and Elisabeth Ummel; Augspurger is found as 'Augsbourger' in French entries related to this family); she was also a stepsister of Noé Augspurger, who married Julie Diebler, starting the chain of Augspurgers who later lived at Hanfeld, Bavaria and came to Tazewell County (where their surname is spelled 'Augsburger').

The child of Isaac Berse and Anne Krahenbühl was:

1. Joseph Berse (1) was born at Chipal in 1788, and died there Feb. 23, 1798. A civil entry for his death was created at La Croix-aux-Mines Feb. 23, 1798. It states that he was 10 years old, mentions that his mother Anne Krahenbühl was deceased, and was witnessed by his uncle Jean Crapierre (presumably Johannes/Hans Krahenbühl).

Isaac remarried to Elisabeth Marchal in 1799. Children born at Chipal include:

2. Barbe Berse (1) was born in March 1800, and died at Chipal Nov. 12, 1805 age five years, eight months.
3. Joseph Berse (2) was born April 15, 1802. On Feb. 13, 1826 at Bruebach, Upper Alsace he married Barbe Hodler. The civil marriage entry described him as a 23-year-old weaver from La Croix-aux-Mines, and correctly identified his parents. It described her as 'Barbe Hedler,' 30 years and 11 months old, born at Biesheim, Upper Alsace. Her parents were Jacques Hedler [Jacob Hodler], a day laborer living at Bruebach, and the deceased Elisabeth Roth. Three neighbors of the bride signed as witnesses.
4. **Jacob Berse** was born Nov. 30, 1803, and died at Pekin as **Christian Wagler** Dec. 22, 1877.
5. Isaac Berse was born in August 1805, and died at Chipal Nov. 25, 1805.
6. Barbe Berse (2) was born July 2, 1807, and died at Chipal March 21, 1816, age 9.

In 1826 two events prompted the family to relocate in the Sundgau region of Upper Alsace. On Feb. 13, oldest son Joseph Berse married Barbe Hodler at Bruebach, a village just below Mulhouse. On Dec. 2, father Isaac Berse died at Chipal. Widowed mother Elisabeth Marchal and her younger son Jacob presumably relocated to join Joseph and Barbe, though Bruebach was more than 55 miles to the south.

On April 7, 1831 at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace **Jacob Berse** married his cousin Catherine Ulrich. He appears on the civil entry as Jacques Berse, a 28-year-old finishing carpenter born at La Croix-aux-Mines but living at Bruebach.[98] His parents were described as the deceased cultivator Isaac Berse and the widow Elisabeth Marchal, who was living at Bruebach.[99]

Though her age is given as 31 on her 1831 marriage entry, bringing it closer to the groom's, Catherine Ulrich was actually born at Hirtzbach (next to Hirsingue) March 2, 1797, a daughter of Hirsingue weaver Peter/Pierre Ulrich and Catherine Lauber.

Catherine Ulrich had been baptized as a 15-year-old on the Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach, Upper Alsace Nov. 27, 1812. The farm was associated with the Rich and Hirschi families. Before 1826, Andreas Ropp had lived only three miles away at Largitzen.

On the civil entry for the marriage ceremony of Jacob Berse and Catherine Ulrich, two of the witnesses were described as Chrétien Hirschÿ [Christian Hirschi], a 41-year-old cultivator, and Jacques Hirschÿ, a 35-year-old cultivator, both from the Birkenhof farm at Ruederbach. Christian Hirschi was born at Sigolsheim March 3, 1793, and died on the Birkenhof at Ruederbach May 19, 1864. His father, minister Jacob Hirschi, had been a co-worker with Johannes Ropp at Sigolsheim and later lived at Bollwiller. On Sept. 8, 1813 Christian married Anne Marie Ropp, a cousin to Andreas Ropp. She was born Feb. 18, 1792, and died on the Birkenhof Aug. 23, 1864.

Catherine Ulrich's younger brother Peter/Pierre and younger sister Barbara/Barbe sailed from Le Havre to New York in May-July 1831. Jacob and Catherine soon joined the exodus caused by military conscription for the French occupation of Algeria. Their ship *France* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York July 12, 1833. As Gary L. Yordy first discovered, it is probable that Jacob traveled on the passport obtained much earlier by his younger brother-in-law.

THE *FRANCE* PASSENGER LIST

Page 2 lists Jacob Augspurger, 18, France. Farther down the page is a family that would be residents of Wayne County, Ohio: Christian Schantz, 46, France; Catharine [Roggi], 40; Magdelina, 19; Christian, 19; Christian, 16; Peter, 14; Peter, 14; Elizabeth, 11; Jacob, 8; and Barbara Summer [Sommer], 21.

On page 5 is a couple that would be residents of Spring Bay, Woodford County in 1850: Bendict Stucky, 25, France; Elizabeth [Elisabeth Liechti], 40; Peter [Pierre Kauffman, Elisabeth's nephew],10; and Joseph, 5 [a son from Elisabeth's first marriage to Pierre Kauffmann].

Farther down that page is a family that would be residents of Butler County, Ohio, and Elm Grove: carpenter Peter Ulrich, 30, France [actually Jacob Berse, who would later be known as Isaac Wagler]; Catharine [Catherine Ulrich, his wife and cousin], 33; and Peter, 2 [Peter Jacob Berse]. One line later Catherine's parents Peter Ulrich, 60, France, and Catharine Lowbers [Lauber], 55.

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[98] Fr. *menuisier* denotes a finishing carpenter, usually a craftsmen who might also make furniture (a joiner) or carve wooden ornamentation.

[99] Jacob Berse, Catherine Ulrich, Peter Ulrich, Catherine Lauber, and Elisabeth Marchal all signed the civil marriage entry with an 'x', indicating they were illiterate.

Just as Jacob Berse had become 'Peter Ulrich' aboard ship, he became **Christian Wagler** in Ohio. In an earlier version of the text we wrote, "It has been proposed that the Berse family was a Wagler family several generations earlier; however, to the best of our knowledge this has not been demonstrated." We know that it predates his emigration from Europe; when Joseph Roth married Barbe Schlatter at La Croix-aux-Mines, Vosges in 1824, the civil entry described his parents as Nicolas Roth, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Elisabeth Vaquelaire. This was Elisabeth Berse, a daughter of Abraham Berze or Berse and Catherine Küpferschmidt (also found as 'Cofechemette')

It has also been observed that a name change was a prudent precaution for an emigrant evading military conscription. More on this a little later.

The 'Christian Wogler' household appears on the 1840 census of Ross, Butler County. It is checked off as two males under 5 [Christian H. and Joseph]; one male 5-10 [Peter]; one male 10-15; one male 30-40 [Christian]; one female under 5 [Barbara]; one female 5-10 [Katharina/Catherine]; and one female 30-40 [Catherine Ulrich]. Christian worked as a finishing carpenter in Ohio.

The family came to Tazewell County in 1844. The *Grantors Index* says that on Aug. 20, 1849 Christian Wagler paid Stephen Dudley $600 for property in Section 11 of Township 24 (later Elm Grove).

The household appears on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Christian Wagler, 51, France; Catharine, 54, France; Peter, 17, France; Catharine, 16, Ohio; Christian, 14, Ohio; Barbara, 13, Ohio; Joseph, 12, Ohio; and Isaac, 10, Ohio. From the names of their next-door neighbors, it is apparent that they were already living on Allentown Road at Elm Grove: Valentine, Andrew, and Joseph Birky were holding land awaiting the arrival of their father Valentine from Bavaria.

The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Christian 'Wagner,' 58, France; Catharine, 60, Switzerland; Christian, 23, Ohio; Barbara, 20, Ohio; Joseph, 19, Ohio; and Isaac, 18, Ohio. The household of the oldest son appears as Peter Wagler, 27, France; Catherine, 21; Illinois; and Christian, 7 months, Illinois. On the 1870 census Peter's family has moved to Morton, while the parents and two sons remain on the Elm Grove farm: farmer Christian Wagler, 67, France; Catharine, 71; Joseph, 35; and Christian, 34.

Christian Wagler died at Pekin Dec. 22, 1877, and was buried in Railroad Cemetery.[100]

The 1880 census of Elm Grove shows widow Catherine, 83, living with her son Joseph Wagler, 42. She died at Pekin May 21, 1887, and was buried beside her husband.

Children of Jacob Berse/Christian Wagler and Catherine Ulrich include:

1. Pierre Jacques Berse (later Peter Wagler) was born at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace Nov. 28, 1831, and died at Morton Aug. 28, 1903. His civil birth entry described his parents as day laborer Jacques Berse, 28, *Annabaptiste*, and Catherine Ulrich, 32. His father's nearly illegible signature looks like 'Jakob Berse.' On Dec. 28, 1858 in Tazewell County he married Catherine Rediger; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Washburn, Woodford County Oct. 4, 1839, and died at Morton Oct. 10, 1915, a daughter of Joseph Rediger and Anna Schmidt. They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer Peter Wagler, 48, born in France to French parents; Catherine, 40, born 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.
2. Catherine Wagler was born in Butler County, Ohio June 8, 1834, and died Sept. 2, 1910. On Oct. 5, 1850 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Heiser; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp (the county register calls them Jacob Hiser and Catharine Wauble). Jacob was born at Arzbach bei Dachau, Bavaria Feb. 20, 1816, according to a birth entry recorded at nearby Pellheim Feb. 15, 1817, and died at Morton Dec. 24, 1877, a son of Jacob Heiser and his first wife Katharina Oesch. See HEISER for background on this couple.
3. Christian H. Wagler was born in Butler County July 9, 1836, and died in Seward County, Nebraska Jan. 6, 1917; he is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. On May 14, 1875 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Oyer. She was born in December of 1838, and died at Milford, Nebraska, a daughter of David Oyer and Susan Farney. They are found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove as farmer C. Wagler,42, born in Ohio to French parents; Barbara, 23, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Canada; and John, 2 born in Illinois. They can be found on the 1900 census of District 49, Precinct J., Seward County, Nebraska (now the town of Ruby) as Christian Wagler, 61, born in Ohio in July 1838 to a father from France and a mother from Germany; and Barbara, 41, born in Illinois in December 1858 to a father from Germany and a mother from Canada. They had a son John born in 1878 , but he died in 1881; in Nebraska they adopted a daughter, Zola May.

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[100] According to *Tazewell County, Illinois Cemeteries Volume Two*, Christian Wagler's headstone says he was born Jan. 30, 1803; that he lived 73 years, 10 months, and 22 days; and that he died Dec. 22, 1877. However, there have been several interpretations of the headstone, and in November of 2007 we found it impossible to read. The white stone is located midway along the north rail (on the side of the abandoned railroad way), amid the lower branches of a small tree. Many of the graves in Railroad Cemetery have been completely overgrown and headstones buried. The cemetery was once completely enclosed by the Gerber farm, within sight of Railroad Schoolhouse.

4. Barbara Wagler was born in Butler County Feb. 19, 1837, and died at Tremont Oct. 9, 1902 (though her headstone says November 1839-October 1902). On March 10, 1861 at Groveland she became the second wife of Johannes/John Kinsinger. He was born on the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig Oct. 21, 1815, and died at Tremont in October 1900, a son of Christian Kinsinger and Magdalena Schrag. See KINSINGER for more on this couple.
5. Joseph 'Bachelor Joe' Wagler was born in Butler County in 1838, and died at Tremont Feb. 20, 1909. *Peoria Journal*, Feb. 22, 1909: "Joseph Wagler, a prominent farmer of Elm Gove township, was found dead in his home Saturday afternoon. Death was due to heart trouble, with which he had been afflicted for the past several months, and not to unnatural causes, as was reported Saturday evening. The report which came to Pekin was that he had committed suicide, but this is untrue. Mr. Wagler had lived alone at his home three and one-half miles northwest of Tremont practically all of his life. He was an eccentric man, yet kind and accommodating to his neighbors. For his friends he would do almost anything, and many there are who will be deprived of his charity and assistance. Mr. Wagler was aged 70 years, and a member of one of the early families of the county. By hard work and good management he had acquired a farm of 115 acres in Elm Grove township, considered one of the best tracts in that locality. It is said that he left a will, by which he bequeathed all of his real estate and personal property to his nephew, Samuel Kinsinger. The land is valued at about $150 per acre. Mr. Wagler had in his possession one of the first stoves manufactured, and it is certainly a curiosity. It is said that at the time of the world's fair in Chiago that he was offered the sum of $100 to permit this stove to be taken there for exhibition. But, fearing that something would happen to it, the offer was refused. He is also said to have had a watch which strikes the hour and half hours, one of the first of the kind ever made. Mr. C.G. Muehlman this city had paid frequent visits to Mr. Wagler, and he was confident that he would get along all right. He [Wagler] had frequent attacks of heart trouble, and his physician had warned him that he ought not to live alone when he was liable at any time to be stricken. He was a good man and his passing has left a void in the community which cannot be filled."
6. Isaac Wagler was born at Hamilton, Butler County Oct. 15, 1840, and died at Groveland March 30, 1920. On April 29, 1866 in Tazewell County he married Frances 'Fannie' Rediger. She was born at Washburn, Woodford County March 13, 1846, and died at Pekin Nov. 19, 1934, a daughter of Joseph Rediger and Anna Schmidt. They are buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Revisiting the question of Jacob Berse's name change...

To *berse* an infant is to rock it in its cradle. Perhaps its similarity to *berce* made the surname undesirable. Berce is the french name for an invasive herb found throughout the northern hemisphere. Its toxic sap causes immediate burns and blistering of the skin. A giant form can grow up to 14 feet tall. This would have presented a hazard to day laborers clearing land for cultivation, or someone collecting specimens for herbal remedies. In North America the plant is called hogweed or cow parsnip.

Jacob was born in 1803, and married in 1831 under his own name. He sailed in 1833 under the name of, and presumably carrying a passport in the name of his brother-in-law Peter Ulrich, who was already in America. It was only after arriving in Ohio that he became 'Christian Wagler.' At first this seemed straightforward. However, we have recently come across an illiterate Berse who openly used both surnames - Berse and Wagler - when Jacob was only nine years old.

On July 16, 1805 at Rosheim, Lower Alsace 31-year-old Anabaptist Christian Maurer of the Struthof at Schirmeck married Barbe Wagler (actually found on the civil marriage entry as 'Wackler'). She was described as a 17-year-old daughter of the deceased Jacques Wagler, who had lived at Colroy-la-Grande, Vosges, and Catherine Reberen [Reber], who was present and consenting.

On June 24, 1812 Napoleon and his armies crossed the Neman River to begin a disastrous invasion of Russia. On Sept. 7, they won a victory at the Battle of Borodino. But as the months wore on, they suffered with inadequate clothing, food, and transport in the severe winter. The campaign turned into a brutal route and a wholesale retreat. At the height of their misery another wedding ceremony took place at Rosheim, Lower Alsace.

A marriage entry dated Dec. 12, 1812 describes the groom as Joseph Eimann, who was born on Prés du Chêne farm at Lubine, Vosges March 19, 1780 (this was also the birthplace of Elisabeth Eymann, the wife of Andreas Ropp), and was living at Lièpvre near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. His parents were named as cultivator Voily [Ulrich] Eimann, who had died on Pré du Chêne farm April 14, 1795; and Regine Proquerin, who was still living there.

The bride was described as *Madeleine Berse appellé Vacklaire*, or 'Magdalena Berse called Wagler.' She was born at La Croix-aux-Mines Sept. 25, 1790, and was living at Rosheim. Her father was named as Jacques Vaklaire [Wagler], who died at Colroy-la-Grande, Vosges Jan. 6, 1795.[101] Her mother was named as Catherine Reber, who

[101] What surname did the Jacques who died at Colroy-la-Grande in 1794 have on his death entry? The Republican calendar year III (1794) is the only year missing from the town's *état civil* death records.

had remarried to Chrétien Maurer and was living at Rosheim. They were both present, and Chrétien signed as a witness. Magdalena Berse/Wagler and Catherine Reber were illiterate, and signed with an 'x'.[102]

Thus the bride at the second Rosheim wedding (1812) was the younger sister of the bride at the first Rosheim wedding (1805). However, while the first bride was described as a 'Wackler,' the second was described as a 'Berse appellé Vacklaire' ─ when we might have expected the surname of her stepfather, Maurer.

With all this in hand, we lose one question and gain another. When Jacob Berse took on the name Christian Wagler, it may have been a prudent precaution after evading military conscription. Wagler was a familiar Anabaptist surname. We now know that the surname Berse had been used by a Wagler several years earlier. Was there a deeper connection between the two families?

[102] Two days after the 1812 wedding, the first French troops retreating from Moscow managed to reach the border of what is now Poland. The news reached Alsace about two weeks later.

Wagner of Belfort and Contwig

While Wagler is very well known and widespread, the equivalent surname Wagner is found relatively rarely among Amish Mennonites. However, to a German-speaker, *Wagler*, *Wagner*, *Vagler*, and *Vagner* were all descriptions of a wagon maker. Wagoner and cartwright are English equivalents.

Belfort

Territoire de Belfort

Laborer **Jean Wagner** was the father of weaver **Johannes/Jean Wagner/Wagler**. The son was born at Altwiller, Lower Alsace circa 1735, and died at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace Dec. 6, 1819. His civil death entry describes him as an 84-year-old born at Altwilyr, a son of the deceased laborer Jean Wagner and an unknown mother. It was witnessed by his laborer son-in-law Jean Roeschly, 54.

He married Elisabeth Mürer/Mury/Mourer/Maurer [Mŭrer]. Their children include:

1. **Christ Wagner** was born circa 1762.
2. Jacob Wagner was born circa 1768. On June 28, 1795 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he married Barbe Schlatter. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farm hand Jacob Wagner, 27, a son of Anabaptist cultivator Jacob Wagner and Elisabeth Murer, who were local residents. The bride was described as Barbe Schlatter, 26, a resident of Woglinshoffen [Voegtlinshoffen], Upper Alsace; a daughter of the deceased Anabaptist cultivator Daniel Schlatter and Catherine Hunsinger. It was witnessed by father-of-the-groom and Anabaptist cultivator Jean Wagner, 60; Cristiane Goldschmitt, 22; brother-in-law Michel Ulrich, 35; and cultivator Joseph Formevald, 43, of Lièpvre.
3. Elisabeth Wagler was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 25, 1777, and died at Marckolsheim, Upper Alsace Dec. 1, 1842. On Dec. 30, 1801 at Bindernheim, Lower Alsace (14 miles north of Marckolsheim) she married Johannes/Hans/Jean Röschli. He was born Aug. 15, 1761, and died at Marckolsheim Dec. 17, 1828. See ROESCHLEY for more on this couple.
4. Marie Barbe Wagner was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 1, 1777, and died at Saulcy-sur-Meurthe July 6, 1815. On Jan. 10, 1801 at Saulxures she married Jean Haury. He was born May 18, 1781, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 17, 1860, a son of Chrétien Jautzi and Marie Barbe Hertig.
5. Joseph Wagner married Madeleine Haury [Hauri] at Grandfosse, Vosges March 2, 1826. His civil marriage entry is partially illegible. The lefthand margin erroneously says that it is an entry for Jean Vagner and Magdeline Haoery. In the text is says 'Joseph Vagner' was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and gives an age that appears to be 46, suggesting a birth year of 1780. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Marckolsheim resident Joseph Vagner, a son of the deceased Jean Vagner, who died at Marckolsheim Dec. 9, 1819, and Elisabeth Maurer. The bride was described as Grandfosse resident Magdelaine Haoery, 28, born at Saulxures March 1, 1797, a daughter of Jean Hauery and Barbe Nayhauser. Witnesses included brother-of-the-bride Jean Haoery, 36. The signatures of the groom and bride looked like 'Joseph Vagner' and Magdeline Hary.'

Christ Wagner was born circa 1762.

Christ's future wife Barbe Schlegel was born at Grandvillars in the *Territoire de Belfort* Nov. 12, 1773 (also found as Jan. 13, 1772), and died at Reppe Sept. 5, 1845. She was a daughter of Niglaus 'Nigi' Schlegel and Magdalena Ummel, and an older sister of Ten Mile Creek settler Christian Schlegel. See SCHLEGEL for more on her family.

On April 27, 1792 at Hericourt (eight miles southwest of the town of Belfort) she married Jacob Bocler. The marriage entry described her as a 20-year-old resident of Grandvillars and a daughter of Nicolas Schlegel and Madeleine Hummel. The groom was born at Diessbach, Canton Bern Dec. 12, 1749, and living at Belfort, a son of Jean Bocler and Laeticia Schwartz. The bride and groom were illiterate

We presume that Barbe remarried to Christ Wagner before 1798, the year their first child was born. Civil entries described them as cultivators at Reppe in the *Territoire de Belfort*.

They were at Belfort for the births of their children, then worked as cultivators at Reppe after 1813.

Christ Wagner died at Reppe Feb. 2, 1827. His death entry described him as a 63-year-old cultivator, and named his parents and widow. It was witnessed by his sons Joseph and Jean. Christ died one day after his mother-in-law, suggesting a common illness.

Barbe Schlegel died at Reppe Nov. 5, 1845. Her death entry described her as an 86-year-old resident of Reppe, the widow of Christe Wagner; and that she was born at Grandvillars to parents Nichly Schlegel and Magdeline

Hummel (see SCHLEGEL). It was witnessed by her son Christ Wagner, 37, a rsident of Fontaine; and her son-in-law George Bairet, 43.

Children born at Belfort include:

1. Barbara/Barbe Wagner was born Sept. 13, 1798. On March 1, 1824 at Reppe she gave birth to an illegitimate son named Pierre Wagner. The birth entry described her as a daughter of Christ Wagler, 62, a farmer and resident of Reppe. It was witnessed by her brother, Joseph Wagner, described as a 21-year-old cultivator at Reppe. On Sept. 26, 1826 at Reppe she married day laborer George Bairet. He was born at Reppe July 26, 1802, a son of Joseph Bairet and Marie Cousin. This legitimized the son Pierre, and his birth entry was amended.
2. Joseph Wagner was born Oct. 29, 1800, and died at Belfort May 26, 1801.
3. **Joseph Wagner** was born March 26, 1802. His civil birth entry named his parents as cultivator Christ Wagner and Barbe Schlegel. It was witnessed by cultivator Jean Schlegel, 27, a resident of Vezelois [Christ's younger brother, who signed numerous entries]; and Elizabeth Schlegel, 33, the widow of Paul Conrad living at Belfort [actually she was Christ's older sister, the widow of Isaac Conrad who had died in 1798]. Because Christ was illiterate, Jean signed for him. The signature actually says 'Johannes Schlegel.'
4. Jean Wagner was born April 11, 1804, and died at Reppe May 29, 1868.
5. Pierre Wagner was born April 18, 1806. On Aug. 20, 1834 at Reppe he married *coutourier* Marie Rose Nidelisse. She was born at Reppe Sept. 6, 1806, a daughter of day laborers Jacques Nidelisse and Jeanne Marie Petit. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by his brother day laborer Joseph Wagner, whose age was given as 38.
6. Christ Wagner was born Sept. 2, 1808. He was living at Fontaine (adjacent to Reppe) in 1845, and witnessed the death entry of his mother.
7. Jacob/Jacques Wagner was born April l 6, 1811, and died at Bourogne, *Territoire de Belfort* Oct. 4, 1855. Circa 1837 he married Barbe Eicher. She was born at Aspach, Upper Alsace March 14, 1814, and died at Cedar Valley, Wayne County, Ohio Nov. 14, 1904, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Eicher and Catherine Klopfenstein. She is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery there.
8. Nicolas Wagner was born Jan. 13, 1813.

Joseph Wagner was born at Belfort Feb. 19, 1802. The two sieges of the fortress of Belfort in 1813-14 and 1815 must have had a significant impact on his early life. See SCHLEGEL for background.

On May 23, 1830 at Reppe he married Elisabethe Röschli [the original form of this surname]. At the time of the marriage she was a cultivator at Marckolsheim. The ceremony was witnessed by brother-of-the-groom Jean Wagner, 26; Jacques Wagler of Marckolsheim [originally from Muesbach], 23, brother-in-law of the bride [he married her sister Madeleine]; and the groom's brother-in-law George Bairet.

Elisabethe Röschli was born at Mussig, Lower Alsace July 18, 1807. Her civil birth entry calls her Elisabeth Röschlé. It described her parents as laborer Jean Röschlé, 38, and Elisabeth Wagler. It was witnessed by weaver Jean Wagler, 64. Two signatures said Hans Reshli and Hans Wogler.

Civil entries at Marckolsheim variously describe Joseph Wagner as a laborer, farmer, or cultivator. They show nine births attributed to Joseph Wagner and Elisabethe Roeschly. Only two survived childhood. Two more children were born elsewhere before emigration.

Jacques/Jacob Wagler and Madeleine Röschli also had children at Marckolsheim in this time frame.

The Wagners sailed from Le Havre on the *Mercury*, arriving at New York May 20, 1854. They appear on the passenger list as Joseph Wagner, 54, and his wife Elisabeth Röschli, 46, with their children Joseph, 18; Anna, 17; Barbe, 7; and Elis., 4. More of the list is given in the Appendix.

Both Joseph and Elisabth died soon after arrival in Illinois, and were buried in Union Cemetery at Washington, Tazewell County. The timing suggests that they were victims of a cholera epidemic. Joseph's badly weathered.headstone says that he died in September 1854, age 53. Elizabeth's says that she also died in September 1854, age 47.

Children of Joseph Wagner and Elisabethe Röschli (found as Roeschly at Marckolsheim) include:

1. Christ Wagner was born at Marckolsheim Oct. 5, 1831, and died Oct. 7, 1831. Like several of the other entries, this one shows that the father was born at Belfort and the mother was born at Mutssig.
2. Elisabeth Wagner was born at Marckolsheim Oct. 26, 1833, and died Oct. 28, 1833.
3. Joseph Wagner was born at Marckolsheim July 17, 1834, and died after one hour.
4. **Joseph Wagner** was born at Marckolsheim July 17, 1835 (exactly one year after his older brother of the same name).
5. Anne/Anna Wagner was born at Marckolsheim Feb. 25, 1837, and died in June 1885; she is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland. On July 8, 1855 in Tazewell County she married André/Andrew Oyer. He was born at Lagarde, Moselle June 23, 1829, and died in Reno County, Kansas in 1916, a son of Johannes/Hans/Jean Oyer and Catherine Kennel. See OYER for more on this couple.
6. A daughter was stillborn at Marckolsheim Oct. 8, 1838. Her civil death entry named the father as Joseph Wagler.

7. Jean Wagner died at Marckolsheim at 6 a.m. April 29, 1841, age 10 hours.
8. Chrétien Wagner was born at Marckolsheim July 16, 1843, and died there Dec. 24, 1843. His birth entry called the family Wagler, while his death entry correctly used Wagner.
9. Elisabeth Wagner was born at Marckolsheim Nov. 30, 1844, and died April 1, 1845.
10. Barbe/Barbara Wagner was born in Switzerland March 15, 1846 (per her death certificate), and died at Van Buren, Missouri Sept. 2, 1923 (despite Sept. 3 on her headstone); she is buried in Sarcoxie Cemetery at Sarcoxie, Missouri. On April 5, 1866 in McLean County she married Michel/Michael Kempf. He was born at Brouville, Meurthe-et-Moselle July 18, 1835, and died at Ritchey, Missouri June 6, 1905, a son of miller Michel Kempf and Marguerite Abresol. As a widow with three sons Marguerite had sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York in 1847. The Kempfs initially settled at New Bremen, Lewis County, New York. Michel/Michael and Barbara later farmed at Bloomington, Eureka, Roanoke, and East Lynn. Circa 1889 they resettled at Ritchey, Missouri (15 miles southeast of Joplin). Barbe/Barbara's death certificate erroneously states that her parents were Joseph Wagner of France and a Schlegel (her grandmother was a Schlegel).[103]
11. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Wagner was born in Switzerland (1895 Kansas state census and 1900 census) in 1849 (headstone) or May 1851 (1900 census). She may have married Peter Hahr in McLean County Feb. 25, 1870. After 1885 she married widower Andrew Oyer, whose first wife had been her older sister Anne/Anna. See OYER for more on this couple.

Joseph Wagner was born at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace July 17, 1835, and died in Woodford County Feb. 7, 1894.

On May 2, 1859 in Woodford County he married Magdalena Schertz. She was born at Aingeville, Vosges Sept. 2, 1836, and died at Eureka Nov. 2, 1899, a daughter of David Schertz of Oberstinzel and Catherine Schrag of Aingeville. For more on this family see SCHERTZ.

The 1860 census of Metamora shows farm laborer Joseph Wagoner, 24, France; and Madeline, 23, France.

Joseph's father-in-law David Schertz and Christian Ropp were the first ministers of the Roanoke meeting. Joseph was ordained as a minister for the Mackinaw congregation in 1866, and served the Roanoke congregation after 1873. He attended the national assemblies of ministers in 1871, 1875, and 1878.

The 1870 census of Roanoke has farmer Lewis Wagner, 35; Magdaline, 34; farm laborer Peter, 11; Joseph 4; David, 4; Christian, six months; all born in Illinois; and domestic servant Mary Bates, 13, Hanover. The name 'Lewis,' an obvious error, has been repeated in some genealogies. They lived one household removed from Christian Schertz, 28 [son of Daniel 'David' Schertz and Catharine Bachman], Madaline, 26 [daughter of Christian Schertz and Katharine/Catherine Engel; and David, 2; all born in Illinois. The 1880 census of Roanoke has farmer Joseph Wagner, 45, Elsance [Ger. *Elsasse*, Alsace]; Magdaleine, 44, Lodering [Ger. *Lothringen*, Lorraine]; farmer Peter, 19; Joseph, 14; David, 14; Christ, 10; and mother-in-law Catherine Schertz [born Catherine Schrag], 73. On the same census page was Swiss Benedict Weyeneth (who brought the Apostolic Christian movement to Illinois) and Diebold Householder (see HOUSEHOLDER).

Herald of Truth, March 1894: "On the 7th of February 1894, in Woodford Co., Ill., from the effects of la grippe, died Bro. Joseph Wagner, aged 58 years, 5 months, 8 days. Bro. Wagner suffered for several months. He was a minister in the Amish Mennonite congregation at Roanoke. He was beloved and esteemed by all, a kind and affectionate husband and father, and charitable never closing his hand from the poor or the door against the beggar. He is sadly missed in his family, consisting of his widow and four sons, as well as in the church, but we believe that our loss is his gain. The remains were interred on the 9th in the Roanoke cemetery. Funeral services by D. Orendorf, Christian Reasor and John Smith. J.S."

Note that the age count given in this obituary by minister John Smith would equate to a birth date of Aug. 30, 1835. Joseph was actually born July 17 according to his civil birth entry.

Metamora Herald Nov. 9, 1899: "Saturday afternoon at the Amish Church five miles northeast of town, funeral services were held for Mrs. Magdalene Wagner, who died Thursday of dropsy of the heart at her home near Eureka. Mrs Wagner was an esteemed German lady sixty three years of age, and had been a widow for several years. Four married sons, Peter, Joseph, David, and Christian survive her."

Children of Joseph Wagner and Magdalena Schertz include:

1. Peter Wagner was born in Woodford County March 28, 1861, and died at Eureka Nov. 27, 1939. On May 27, 1886 in Woodford County he married Lena Schrock. She was born in Alsace Sept. 17, 1866, and died at Eureka Aug. 2, 1916. *Woodford County Farmers and Breeders 1917* shows Peter Wagner on 240 acres in Section 9, Olio. They are

[103] The background information on Barbara Wagner has been revised since the last version of this text, working from a death certificate provided by Jeannine Wormington. The certificate also indicates that she died from a cerebral hemorrhage in 1923 at 77 years of age, after having lived in the United States for 69 years - thus, her arrival matches the 1854 passenger list.

buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. *Metamora Herald*, Dec. 1, 1939: "Peter Wagner, 78, retired farmer died at 2 o'clock Monday morning at the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Garber, east of Eureka. His death was due to a paralytic stroke, which he suffered sometime during the evening. When the family returned from attending church he was found slumped over in a chair. He had been in his usual health until stricken. Mr. Wagner, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wagner, was born on a farm four miles east of Eureka March 28, 1861, and all his life had been spent in the vicinity of Eureka. He was united in marriage May 27, 1881, with Miss Lena Schrock. He was preceded in death by his wife in 1916, and three sons and two daughters also preceded him. Surviving are his daughter, Mrs. Matilda Garber, and three brothers, Christian and Joseph Wagner of Eureka, and David Wagner of Metamora. Funeral services were held Wednesday, at 1:30 p.m. at the residence and at 2 o'clock at the Roanoke township Mennonite church, with the Rev. Ezra Yordy in charge. Interment was in the church cemetery."

2. David Wagner (twin) was born at Roanoke Feb. 10, 1866, and died at Eureka Aug. 7, 1946. On Jan. 24, 1888 in Woodford County he married Emma Lydia Steider. She was born at Metamora June 18, 1868, and died at Peoria Dec. 25, 1911 (headstone date), a daughter of Joseph Steider and Anna Stauffer. *Gospel Herald* January 1912: "Emma Wagner (nee Steider) was born near Metamora, Ill., June 18, 1868. She was taken to the St. Frances Hospital in Peoria, Ill., where she underwent an operation on Thursday and Sunday morning she fell asleep never to awaken this side of eternity, making her age 43 y. 6 m. 6 d. She united with the Amish Mennonite Church at the age of 18 years, being a faithful member till death. Jan. 24, 1888, she was united in marriage with David Wagner. This union was blessed with two sons and five daughters, who with their father survive the death of one whom they loved. She also leaves her father, one brother, one sister and many friends to mourn her departure. Funeral services Dec. 27, 1911, conducted at the home by Bro. A. A. Schrock (text, *Psa. 39*), and at the Roanoke Church by Bro. P. D. Schertz from *Matt. 11:26-30*, and by Bro. A. A. Schrock from *II Cor. 4:16-18*. Interment in nearby cemetery." On Sept. 15, 1914 in Woodford County David remarried to Emma Dellenbach. She was born July 1, 1873, and died in Woodford County Aug. 9, 1920, a daughter of Jacob Dellenbach and Magdalena Schrock. She appears on the 1910 census of Metamora as a 37-year-old cousin in the household of Catherine Dellenbach and Peter Steider. *Woodford County Farmers and Breeders 1917* shows David Wagner and Emma Dellenbach on one acre of Setion 12, Metamora. David married his third wife Catherine Plank Oct. 2, 1945. *Gospel Herald* September 1946: "David, son of Joseph and Magdalena Wagner, was born near Roanoke, Ill., Feb. 10, 1866; passed away at his home in Eureka, Ill., after a short illness, Aug. 7, 1946; aged 80 y. 5 m. 27 d. On Jan. 24, 1888, he was married to Emma Steider, who preceded him in death Dec. 24, 1911. On Sept. 15, 1914, he was married to Emma Dellenbach, who predeceased him on Aug. 9, 1920. On Oct. 2, he was married to Kathryn Plank, who survives. Also surviving are seven children (Clara, Battle Creek, Mich.; Anna, of Eureka; Henry, of Roanoke; Mrs. Laura Donze and Mrs. Rose Donze, both of El Paso, Ill.; Elmer, Twin Falls, Idaho; and Mrs. Beulah Bachman, of Eureka), two brothers (Joseph--a twin and Chris), 19 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. One brother (Peter) preceded him in death. In his youth he accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, remaining faithful unto death. He was of a cheerful disposition and will be greatly missed in the home, church, and community. Funeral services were in charge of Ezra B. Yordy, assisted by John L. Harnish. Burial was made in the church cemetery."

3. Joseph Wagner (twin) was born at Roanoke Feb. 10, 1866, and died at Morton Dec. 30, 1946. On Feb. 5, 1889 at Metamora he married Lena L. Steider. She was born at Metamora Dec. 24, 1869, and died at Morton Oct. 23, 1946, a daughter of Peter Steider and Catherine Gerber/Garber. *Woodford County Farmers and Breeders 1917* shows Joe Wagner and Lena Steider on 200 acres of Section 28, Roanoke. *Gospel Herald*, November 1946: " Wagner - Lena, daughter of Peter and Katherine Steider, was born near Metamora, Ill, Dec. 24, 1869; passed away at her late home, Morton, Ill., Oct. 23, 1946; aged 76 y. 9 m. 29 d. On Feb. 5, 1889, she was united in marriage to Joseph Wagner, who survives. For one month before her death they made their home with Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Roth, Morton, Ill. In her youth she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church, remaining faithful to her baptismal vow until death. Surviving, besides her widowed husband, are four children (Nora Ulrich, Eureka, Ill.; Sadie Roth, of Morton; Walter, Peoria, Ill; and Lucile Dixon, Chicago, Ill.), seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, seven brothers and sisters (Joseph, Samuel, Sara, Chris, Barbara, Henry and Peter). One infant son, two daughters, one sister (Martha) and one brother (Andrew) predeceased her. Funeral services were held Oct. 26 at her late home, in charge of Roy Roth, and at the Roanoke Church, Eureka, in charge of Ezra Yordy and John Harnish." *Metamora Herald*, Jan. 3, 1947: "Joseph Wagner, 88 [80], died at noon Monday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alvin Roth, 529 South Main street, Morton. Funeral services were held at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Allen Roth residence and at 2 p.m. at the Roanoke Mennonite church. Burial was in the church cemetery. He was born at Eureka Feb. 10, 1866, a son of Joseph and Magdalina Schertz Wagner. On Feb. 5, 1889 he married Miss Lena Steider of Metamora. She died two months ago. Surviving are the following children: Mrs. Nora Ulrich of Eureka, Mrs. Sadie Roth of Morton, Walter of Peoria, Mrs. Lucille Dixon of Chicago; seven grandchildren and a brother, Chris Wagner of Eureka. He was a member of the Roanoke Mennonite church and was a farmer until his retirement 23 years ago. He made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Roth, for the past three months."

4. Christian Wagner was born in Woodford County March 13, 1870, and died at Eureka July 2, 1958. On Dec. 27, 1894 at Metamora he married Barbara Sauder. She was born at Washington, Tazewell County March 3, 1874, and died at Eureka March 19, 1954, a daughter of Henry Sauder and Katherine Zeicet. *Woodford County Farmers and Breeders 1917* shows Chris Wagner and Barbara Sander on 240 acres of Section 29, Roanoke. They are buried in Roanoke

Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, April 1954: " Wagner, Barbara, daughter of Henry and Katherine (Zeicet) Sauder, was born March 3, 1874, near Washington, Ill.; passed away after a prolonged illness on March 19, 1954, at her home in Eureka, Ill.; aged 80 y. 16 d. She accepted Christ at an early age and united with the Mennonite Church where she served the Lord faithful until He called her home. On Dec. 27, 1894, she was united in marriage to Christian Wagner. To this union were born eight children (Freida-Mrs. Joseph J. Wagner, Chicago; Alvina-Mrs. Walter Zook; Pearl-Mrs. Forrest Yoder; Celesta-Mrs. Lloyd Stalter, all of Eureka; Rose-Mrs. Chris Schertz, Washington, Ill.; Ezra C., Chenoa, Ill.; and E. Sanford, San Mateo, Calif.). One son (Noah), one brother, and four sisters preceded her in death. She was the last remaining member of the Henry Sauder family. A number of college students made their home with the Wagners and to these she was both a counselor and friends. During the latter days of her illness she enjoyed hearing passages read from her well-marked Bible by her grandson (Larry Stalter), who lived next door. Funeral services were held at the Roanoke Mennonite Church, March 21, in charge of Sanford C. Yoder, with Ezra B. Yordy assisting. Burial was made in the church cemetery." *Gospel Herald*, September 1958: "Wagner, Christian, youngest son of Joseph and Magdaline (Schertz) Wagner, as born near Eureka, Ill., Mary 13, 1870; passed away July 2, 1958; aged 88 y. 3 m. 19 d. He had been in failing health for the past year. He accepted Christ at an early age, united with the Roanoke Church and was very faithful in church activities. On Dec. 27, 1894, he was married to Barbara Sauder. Surviving are seven children (Frieda, Chicago; Alvina Zook, Rose Schertz, Pearl Yoder, Celesta Stalter, all of Eureka; Ezra C., Chenoa; and E. Sanford, San Mateo, Calif.), 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. His wife, one son (Noah), and three brothers preceded him in death. He was the last remaining member of the Joseph Wagner family. Funeral services were held at the Roanoke Church, July 4, in charge of Wesley E. Jantz, with burial in the church cemetery."

Contwig
Pfalz-Zweibrücken

These Wagners were employed on estates owned by the dukes of the Duchy of Zweibrűcken. The ducal palace was located in the city of Zweibrűcken (and was reconstructed there after World War II). Two miles to the east is Contwig, and two miles farther east is Stambach. After 1759 Wagners worked side-by-side with and almost certainly worshipped with the Amish Mennonites leaseholders and employees there.

The Heidelbingerhof was a ducal estate two miles below Contwig. It was less than three miles east of the city of Zweibrücken, south of the Heckenaschbacherhof estate at Contwig, and two miles north of the Monbijou estate at Dietrichingen and the Kirschbacherhof, and three miles west of the Wahlbacherhof.

Recall from BACHMAN that the earliest Anabaptist leaseholder on the Heidelbingerhof was Hans Heinrich Bachmann, who arrived there in 1713 after being expelled from Ste. Marie-aux-Mines.

Peter Wagner was born on the Heidelbingerhof Dec. 7, 1747, and died there March 27, 1784. According to the marriage entry of his youngest son, Peter's age at death was 36 years, four months, and 20 days, and he was the master shepherd of the Heidelbingerhof.

Circa 1770 Peter married Catharina/Catherine Schilb. She was born at Wellesweiler (11 miles northwest of the city, and now in the Saarland) circa 1746, a daughter of Georg Schilb and Magdalena Wilhelm. She died on the Heidelbingerhof Dec. 23, 1831. Her civil death entry described her as Catharina Schilb, 85, born at Wellesweiler, the widow of shepherd Peter Wagner. It was witnessed by grandson Georg Jacob Wagner, 27.

Children of Peter Wagner and Catharina/Catherine Schilb include:

1. Johann Nicolaŭs Wagner was born at Bottenbach (five miles southeast of the Wahlbcherhof) circa 1770, and died at Contwig Nov. 2, 1836. His civil death entry described him as born at Bottenbach, a son of Peter Wagner, and a resident of the Wahlbacherhof. He married Catherine Laŭdemann. The Wahlbacherhof was a ducal estate, a property of the house of Zweibrücken-Birkenfeld until 1797.[104]
2. **Johann Michael/Jean Michel Wagner** was born on the Heidelbingerhof circa 1773-78, and died at Contwig Jan. 15, 1840.
3. Johann Christian Wagner was born on the Heidelbingerhof circa 1776, and died at Stambach Sept. 7, 1860. His civil death entry described him as plowman Johann Christian Wagner, 84, born on the Heidelbingerhof, a resident of Stambach. He was the widower of Susanna Maria Sprau, and a son of shepherd Peter Wagner of the Heidelbingerhof and Catharina Schilb. It was witnessed by Daniel Wagner, 35.
4. Johann Jacob Wagner was born at Bottenbach March 8, 1782. His birth entry described his parents as Peter Wagner, a master shepherd on the Heidelbingerhof, and Catharina. On Feb. 26, 1818 at Bottenbach he married Maria Catharine Hŭther. Their marriage entry described the groom as Johann Jacob Wagner, 35, a shepherd on the Huberhoff. He was a son of Peter Wagner, who had died on the Heidelbingerhof May 24, 1784, and Catharina

[104] The Wahlbacherhof is still an active farm operated by a Nafziger family.

Schilb, 71, a resident of the Oberstamhoff. The bride was Maria Catharina Hŭther, age 28 years and two months. She was born at Bottenbach Sept. 10, 1808, a daughter of the deceased George Hŭther, a plowman at Bottenbach who had died there Sept. 19, 1815, and Maria Catharina Weber.

Johann Michael/Jean Michel Wagner (often found as Michael Wagner, the way he signed his own name) was born on the Heidelbingerhof May 11, 1776.

On Dec. 18, 1801 at Contwig he married Marie Susanne/Maria Brenckmann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as shepherd Jean Michel Wagner, aged 25 years and seven months. He was a son of the deceased shepherd Pierre Wagner, who had died on the Heidelbingerhof, and Marie Catherine Schild [Schilb], who was a resident of Stambach. The bride was Marie Susanne Brenckmann, age 22 years and six months. She was born at Stambach June 5, 1779, a daughter of the deceased shepherd Conrad Brenckman of Webenheim [10 miles west of Contwig, now in Saarland], and the deceased Anne Marguerite Fricker. Witnesses included cultivator Martin Fricker, 40, a paternal uncle of the bride. The groom signed Michanl Wagnnr (old-style German vowel 'e' looking like an 'n').

After marriage they resided at Stambach and at the hamlet and former ducal estate Offweilerhof at Contwig. [105]

OFFWEILERHOF

In 1719 Duke Gustav Samuel gifted the Offweilerhof to Baron Johann von Phyl, who had recently retired as a colonel and commander of a Swedish-Zweibrűckische regiment.

It later fell into disrepair when descendants went elsewhere on military assignments, and ducal administrators eventually repossessed it. Beginning in 1759 the estate was traditionally leased or maintained by Amish Mennonites or Mennonites.

When Duke Christian IV died in 1775, the new duke Karl II August von Pfalz-Birkenfeld-Zweibrücken took ownership. He presented it to his wife Maria Amalia/Marie Amalie, a daughter of the Elector of Saxony. She was a cousin to King Louis XVI of France.

During the French Revolution the property became a target for vandalism by anti-royalists. Perhaps because of this, Amish Mennonites Johann Stalter (1712-1806) and his son Josef/Joseph (1753-1817) were awarded the lease in 1791.

In 1797 all of the territory absorbed by France was formally organized into four new departments: Roer, Rhine-et-Moselle, Sarre, and Mont-Tonnèrre. Pfalz-Zweibrücken became part of Mont-Tonnèrre. The estate was nationalized under French administrators. However, in February of 1799 Maximilian Joseph became Elector Maximilian IV Joseph of Bavaria. He interceded to have ownership returned to his sister-in-law Maria Amalia.

In 1809 Maria Amalia sold a number of properties to chancellery director Friedrich Böhmer. These included the Offweilerhof, Ruppenthalerhof, Wahlbacherhof, Monbijou, Kirschbacherhof, Kirschbacherműhle, and Heckenaschbacherhof.

In 1817 the lease on the Offweilerhof was taken up by Andreas Roggy and Elisabeth Hauter, and the property is now held by Roggy descendants. In present day the location of the Offweilerhof would be described as a municipality with Contwig, Stambach, and Ludwigslust in zip code 66497, in the administrative district of Sűdwestpfalz.

In 1838 Johann Michael/Jean Michel was working as a day laborer on the Ruppenthalerhof estate (a mile above Contwig and Stambach).[106]

He died at Contwig Jan. 15, 1840. His civil death entry described him as plowman Michael Wagner 66, who was born on the Heidelbingerhof. He was the husband of Maria Brenckmann, 70. It added that he was a son of shepherd Peter Wagner, who had died on the Heidelbingerhof, and Catherine Schilb, who had died at Contwig. It was witnessed by his son Johann Jacob Wagner, 30, a resident of Stambach.

Five of their 11 children came to America. Daughter Marie/Mary departed from Le Havre with her future husband Johann Imhof/John Imhoff on the *Charles C. Carroll* and arrived at New York in 1832, went to Ohio, then resettled in Woodford County in 1851. Johann Jacob and Daniel sailed from Le Havre to New York on the *Edwina* and the *Serampore* in 1847 and 1848, and then went directly to Woodford County. Susanne and Catharina accompanied Daniel on the *Serampore* as far as New York in 1848, but we could not follow them further.

Children of Johann Michael/Jean Michel Wagner and Marie Susanne/Maria Brenckmann include:

1. Michel Wagner was born at Contwig Sept. 20, 1802. His civil birth entry described his parents as shepherd Michel Wagner and Maria Brenckmann, residents of Stambach.
2. Georges Jacques/Georg Jacob Wagner was born at Contwig Dec. 15, 1804.

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[105] In present day Stambach has been merged administratively into Contwig.

[106] Today the Ruppenthalerhof is considered an outlying farm [Ger. *Einröde*] of Contwig, with its district office (county seat) at Zweibrűcken.

3. Pierre/Peter Wagner was born at Contwig April 6, 1807, and died there Feb. 25, 1829.[107] His civil death entry described him as Peter Wagner, 21, a plowman at Stambach. It described his parents as Michel Wagner, 55, and Maria Brenckmann, 53, and was witnessed by his father.
4. **Jean Jacques/Johann Jacob Wagner** was born at Contwig April 9, 1809, and died at Partridge, Woodford County May 22, 1875. His civil birth entry described his parents as shepherd Michel Wagner, 30, and Maria Brenckmann, residents of the Offweilerhof.
5. Marie/Mary Wagner was born at Contwig Nov. 6, 1810, and died at Cazenovia, Woodford County May 28, 1890. The packet ship *Charles Carroll* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York April 27, 1832. Its passenger list shows consecutive entries for Jacob Wagner, 27, France, and Mary Wagner, 21, France. On the same page was farmer Johannes Emhoff, 25. On April 1, 1834 in Ohio she married Johannes Imhof/John Imhoff. Their story is told in IMHOFF. If older brother Johann Jakob Wagner accompanied Maria/Mary on her immigration voyage, he returned to Europe.
6. Susanne Wagner was born at Contwig May 24, 1813, and died at Stambach Oct. 21, 1814 (registered at Contwig). Her civil death entry was witnessed by neighbor and cultivator Joseph Stalter, 62, of the Offweilerhof.
7. Catherine Wagner was born at Contwig Nov. 30, 1814, and died before Jan. 24, 1821.
8. Heinrich Wagner's death entry created at Contwig Jan. 25, 1817 said he was born and lived on the Offweilerhof, and gave his age as two months.
9. Susanne Wagner was born at Contwig May 26, 1818. On her civil birth entry one witness was plowman Joseph Stalter *alt*, 65. Her illegitimate child died at Stambach Jan. 13, 1844. The mother was described as Susanna Wagner, 25, of Stambach; one witness was Johan Jacob Wagner (as he signed his name), 34 [her older brother]. She sailed on the *Serampore* in 1848.
10. Catharina Wagner was born at Stambach Jan. 24, 1821. Her civil birth entry described her parents as shepherd Michel Wagner, 48, who was born on the Heidelbingerhof and lived at Stambach, and Maria Brenckmann, 44. She sailed on the *Serampore* in 1849.
11. Daniel Wagner was born at Stambach Nov. 18, 1823 (a civil entry was not created until the 22nd), and died at Partridge Dec. 18, 1881. His civil birth entry describes his parents as Michel Wagner, 47, born on the Heidelbingerhof, and Maria Branckmann, 45, born at Stambach. He sailed on the S*erampore* in 1848. *The Past and Present of Woodford County* says he came to this country Aug. 4, 1848; perhaps he only arrived in the county on that day, 11 days after arriving at New York. On March 6, 1853 in Woodford County he married Eva Schuck. She was born at Hochspeyer, Germany Feb. 7 or 17, 1835, and died at Partridge Oct. 27, 1906, a daughter of Johann Georg Schuck and Margaretha Vogt. Her family is found on the 1850 census of Woodford County as farmer George Shook, 60, Germany; Margareth, 55, Germany; farmer Jacob, 27, Germany; Eve, 14, Germany; Susanna, 11, Illinois; and Mary, 11, Illinois. She was a sister to Jacob Schuck, who married Magdalena Imhoff. Daniel and Eva's marriage registration is found in county records as Daniel Waggoner and Eve Shook. Daniel and Evan joined a German Reformed congregation that met in homes at Partridge and Worth, and held services solely in the German language. This grew into the German Evangelical/German Methodist congregation that maintained Black Partridge Cemetery. On April 24, 1855 Daniel Wagner was naturalized in the Metamora Courthouse, stating that his country of origin was Bavaria. They are not found on the 1860 federal census; however, the 1865 state census shows Daniel Wagner as a head of household at Partridge. The 1870 census of Partridge shows farmer Daniel Wagner, 40, Bavaria; Eva, 35, Bavaria; Mary, 12, Illinois; Catharine, 11, Illinois; Annie, 9, Illinois; Jacob, 7, Illinois; Laura [Louisa], 5, Illinois; John, 2 Illinois; and farmhand Peter Walter, 21, Illinois. The 1873 plat map has 'D. Wagner' on 80 acres in the northeast corner of Section 36 at Partridge. They nearly lived next door to the Imhoffs, who farmed 160 acres over the town line in Cazenovia. *The Past and Present of Woodford County* (1878): "Wagner, Daniel. far.; Sec. 36; P.O. Metamora; Presb.; Rep.; born in Germany Nov. 10, 1823; came to this country Aug. 4, 1848; married Eva Chuck March 6, 1855; she was born in Germany Feb. 7, 1835; have nine children living and one dead - Maggie, born Dec. 28, 1855, died Aug. 12, 1856; Mary, born Dec. 30, 1856; Kate, born May 6, 1859; Hannah, born May 24, 1861; Jacob, born Jan. 6, 1863; Louisa, born June 3, 1865; John, born Feb. 21, 1868; Susan, born Sept. 21, 1870; Amanda, born Dec. 6, 1873; Wm. Martin, Nov. 11, 1876. Held the office of School Director six years." They are also found on the 1880 census of Partridge (adjacent to Cazenovia) as farmer Daniel Wagner, 56, Germany; Eva, 45, Germany; Kate, 22; Hannah, 19; Jacob, 17; Lewis [Louisa], 15; John Wagner, 11, born in Illinois to parents from Rheinfaltz [Rheinpfalz]; daughter Susan, 9; and daughter Amanda, 7. The 1900 census of Partridge has widowed landlady Eva Wagner, 65, born in Germany in February 1835; mother of 10 children, six surviving; immigrated in 1837. Eva's obituary was published in the English-language Evangelical Association bulletin *Evangelical Messenger* Nov. 21, 1906. Daniel and Eva are buried in Black Partridge Cemetery at Cazenovia.

Jean Jacques/Johann Jacob Wagner (known in Illinois as Jacob) was born at Contwig April 9, 1809.

He may have been the 'Jacob Wagner, 27,' who accompanied his sister Maria/Mary Wagner from Le Havre to New York on the packet ship *Charles Carroll* in 1833. If so, he returned to Europe.

On Nov. 6, 1838 at Stambach he married Maria Susanna Staŭter.

[107] The index page after the 1807 entries erroneously gives the date April 16.

A supporting statement in the Stambach civil register created Nov. 3, 1838 summarized the bride's birth information. It said that on Aug. 9, 1812 cultivator Pierre Stauter, 24, declared that a daughter had been born there Aug. 7 to his wife Marie Catherine Sutter. The daughter would be named Marie Sussanne. Two witnesses from Contwig had verified the information. In the lefthand corner is a remark saying that this was completed in preparation for a marriage that took place Nov. 6; the signature looks like Maria Sŭssanna Staŭtnr.

On the same day Johann Jacob also made a supporting statement at Stambach summarizing his birth information. It stated that his parents shepherd [Fr. *berger*] Michel Wagner, 30, and Marie Brenckman were residents of Offweiler, Contwig. On April 10, 1809, they had presented their new son born on the Offenweilerhof. The child had been born a day earlier, and they chose to name him Jean Jacques. This page had a similar note in the lower lefthand corner, and the signature below it looked like Johaniacob Wagner.

The ceremony was recorded on a preprinted form Nov. 6, 1838. It described the groom as Johann Jacob Wagner, born on the Offweilerhof of Contwig April 9, 1809. He was a son of Michel Wagner and Maria Brenckmann, residents of the Ruppenthalerhof. The bride was Maria Susanna Stauter, born at Stambach Aug. 7, 1812. She was a daughter of Peter Stauter and Marie Catherine Sŭder.

As noted in EIGSTI, the weather throughout Europe was especially severe in the fall of 1847, causing the harvest to fail. The Wagners joined the Forty-Eighters, a wave of German-speakers who came to North America in this time frame.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County (1889):

> "...In due course of time he [Johann Jacob] married and settled down in his native land and continued to live there till 1847. In that year he determined to better his condition if possible by emigration to America, and seek in this land the opportunity denied him in his own to build up a comfortable home for his wife and little ones. Leaving his family behind he crossed the ocean, landed at New York, proceeded to Ohio, and after working there a short time came to Woodford County. Here he secured employment by the month or day, carefully saved his earnings, and the following year borrowed more to put with what he had saved, and sent for his family..."

The *Edwina* departed from Antwerp circa Sept. 27, 1847, and arrived at New York Oct. 25. Its passenger list shows Jacob Wagner, 38, Deutschland. *New York Herald*, Oct. 25, 1847: "Our marine list of this morning will show the effects of the easterly winds which prevailed yesterday. It was a bleak, dreary day outside, but a bright and no doubt pleasant one to the underwriters, as well as the gentlemen in command of those vessels that have been fortunate in making short passages. The number of arrivals yesterday was very large. From foreign ports alone we had about thirty square-rigged vessels, many of which have made extraordinary quick passages. The little ship *Edwina*, Capt. West, came in from Antwerp in a run of 28 days..."

> "...His faithful, courageous wife braved the perils of the deep with her four little children, and after a long and tedious voyage of fifty-seven days, landed in New York, a stranger in a strange land, meeting on every hand unfamiliar faces and people speaking an unknown language. Her weary journey was not yet ended; many miles lay between her and her husband and the father of her children, and many days would elapse before she would arrive at her future home in the Prairie State. She traveled by the Hudson River and Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by the lakes to Chicago, there being no railways in Illinois then, and from the latter city she journeyed by canal and the Illinois River to Lacon, and there the happy family were once more united never again to part in this world..."

The *Serampore* departed from Le Havre circa May 28, 1848, and arrived at New York July 24.[108] Its passenger list belies the misimpression that Maria Susanna and her children traveled unaccompanied.

61	Daniel Warner [Wagner], 24, farmer	Two chests, one bag	*Daniel Wagner, Jacob's brother*
62	Susannah, 28		*Jacob and Daniel's sister?*
63	Catherine, 26		*Jacob and Daniel's sister?*
64	Maria, 32		*Maria Susanna Staŭter Wagner*
65	George, 8		*George Wagner*
67	Daniel, 6		*Daniel Wagner*
68	Jacob, 4		*Jacob Wagner*
69	George, 2		*Johann Adam Wagner*
70	Peter Stander, 60, peasant	Two chests one bag	*Peter Staŭter, Maria Susanna's father*
71	Catherine, 62		*Marie Catherine Sutter Staŭter, her mother*

[108] Serampore was a trading port and missionary station on the Hooghly River in West Bengal, India (upriver from the Bay of Bengal). It was purchased by Great Britain in 1845, and became the site of Serampore College.

"...The father had previously leased a tract of land in Partridge Township, which is now included in our subject's homestead. In consideration for the use of the land he was to build a log house on it, clear and fence forty acres of it, and pay taxes on the place. He at once erected a log house, into which the family moved, and at the expiration of eight years he had been so fortunate in his venture that he was enabled to buy the farm, and it remained his home till his death in May, 1874." [Actually the date of Maria Susanne's death; he died a year later]

Neither Jacob nor his brother Daniel can be found on the 1850 federal census.

The 1860 census of Partridge shows farmer Jacob Wagner, 50, Bavaria; Mary, 46, Bavaria; farm laborer Daniel, 18, Bavaria; Jacob, 16, Bavaria; Adam, 14, Bavaria; Michael, 10, Illinois; Hannah, 7, Illinois; Peter Stauder, 81 [closer to 72], Bavaria; and Catharine [Sutter] Stauder, 85 [closer to 75]. Bavaria.

They are also found on the 1870 census of Partridge as farmer Jacob Wagner, 60, Bavaria; Mary, 658, Bavaria; farm hand Michael, 20, Illinois; and Hanna, 17, Illinois; on the same page is the household of Jacob Wagner Jr.

The 1873 plat map has 'Jac. Wagner Sr.' on two 160-acre parcels in Section 32 and 33 at Partridge. They lived next door above the estate of 'Red Joe' Belsley, who had died in 1872 leaving his second wife Barbara/Barbe Engel a widow.

Maria died at Partridge March 21, 1874, and Jacob followed May 22, 1875. They are buried under a joint obelisk in Spring Bay Cemetery as 'J. Jacob Wagner' and 'Marianne Susan.'

Children of Jean Jacques/Johann Jacob Wagner and Maria Susanna Staŭter include:

1. Georg Staŭter/Georg Wagner/George C. Wagner was born at Stambach April 13, 1837, and died at Washington May 9, 1909. His parents were not married until Nov. 6, 1838. Their marriage entry included a statement that "...Both bride and groom recognize Georg Stauter, who was born to the bride on April 13, 1837 in Stambach...whose birth is indicated under number eight in the birth register of the community of Stambach from the year 1837, as their legitimate child." On Feb. 18, 1861 in Woodford County he married Catherine/Katie Belsley. She was born at Partridge Sept. 1, 1840, and died Aug. 17, 1914, a daughter of Jean Pelsy/John Belsley and Barbara Roggy. They are found on the 1870 census of Metamora as farmer George Wagner, 31, Bavaria; Catharine, 28, Illinois; Helena, 6, Illinois; John, 4, Illinois; Barbara, 1, Illinois; and Samuel, five months, Illinois. The 1873 plat map of Metamora shows G. Wagner on 160 acres in the northeast corner of Section 17. The 1880 census of Washington, Tazewell County has farmer George Wagner, 42, Germany; Catherine, 40, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine and Germany; Lena, 16, Illinois; John, 12, Illinois; Barbara, 10, Illinois; Samuel, 9, Illinois; Susanna, 3, Illinois; and stepson Arthur W., eight months, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Illinois. An 1891 plat map of Washington shows 'G. G. Wagner' on 294 acres in Sections 17 and 18. There was a public school on the southeast corner of his farm, near his residence. The plat map shows immediate neighbors including Peter Strubhar, Christian Strubhar, Joseph Garber, Joseph Guth, Joseph Sommer, and Joseph Sommer, and J. Belsly (this was Joseph Belsley 1842-1906 and Susan Imhoff). They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington, where his headstone says "George C. Wagner, 1838-1909."
2. Johann Jacob Wagner was born at Stambach June 25, 1839, and died there Dec. 29, 1839.
3. Daniel/Daniel Christian Wagner was born at Stambach Nov. 17, 1840 (a biographical sketch and his headstone say Nov. 12, 1841), and died at Metamora May 3, 1923. The Stambach entry was witnessed by Johan Jacob Wagner and Peter Staŭter, 21. On June 5, 1866 in Peoria County he married Mary Elizabeth Sharp. She was born at Worth April 4, 1846, and died at Metamora April 21, 1920, a daughter of John Sharp and Phoebe Ayres. He initially rented 160 acres at Worth, and later purchased it and added another 45 acres. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora.
4. Jacob Wagner was born at Stambach Dec. 11, 1842, and died July 24, 1901. His civil birth entry gave the ages of his parents as 32 and 30. On Aug. 14, 1866 in Peoria County he married Magdalena Belsley. She was born March 29, 1847, and died Feb. 15, 1929, a daughter of Jean Pelsy/John Belsley and Barbara Roggy. *Past and Present of Woodford County* (1878): "Wagner, Jacob, farmer and stock raiser; Sec. 33; P.O. Spring Bay; Luth.; Rep.; owns 320 acres of land, worth about $15.00 per acre; was born in Germany Dec. 13, 1843; came to this county with his parents in Aug. 1848; was married to Helena Belsley, Aug. 14, 1866; she was born in this county March 29, 1847; have five children living and one dead - the eldest, an infant, died two days after it was born (no name); Joseph, born July 31, 1867; Ellen B., Oct. 8, 1869; Katherine, Sept. 24, 1871; Amalie, Feb. 24, 1874; Louise, Feb. 19, 1876. Mr. Wagner's father died in May, 1875; his mother died in March, 1874; has held office of School Director two terms, Assessor two terms, and is now holding the office of Commissioner of Highways." They appear on the 1900 census of Partridge as farmer Jacob Wagner, 56, born in Germany in December of 1843, immigrated in 1848; Magdalena, 53, born in Illinois in March of 1847 to a father from France and a mother from Germany; Emma, 26, born in Illinois in March of 1874; Pearlena, 19, born in Illinois in November of 1880; Susanna, 17, born in Illinois in March of 1883; Jessie V. (daughter), 14, born in Illinois in August of 1885; Raymond C., 12, born in Illinois in April of 1888; and Mabel L., 7, born in Illinois in December of 1892. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora, where their joint headstone gives Jacob the erroneous birthdate Dec. 13, 1843.
5. Johann Adam Wagner/John Wagner was born at Stambach May 6, 1845, and died at Shaw, Kansas April 26, 1910. On Nov. 28, 1867 in Woodford County he married Mary Ann Miller. She was born in Woodford County June 8,

1848, and died at Shaw Feb. 20, 1936, a daughter of Louis A. Miller and Lydia Woodcock. Her family is found on the 1860 census of Partridge as farmer Louis Miller, 32, France; Lydia, 31, Indiana; Mary A., 12, Illinois; Rosanna P., 8, Illinois; Lydia C., 6, Illinois; James L.A., 3, Illinois; and Jacob, 1, Illinois. In 1873 they may have lived next door to the John Imhoffs on 80 acres in Section 18 of Cazenovia (found as 'J. Wagner' on the 1873 plat map). They appear on the 1880 census of Benton, Butler County, Kansas as farmer J. Adam Wagoner, 36, Germany; A. Mary, 34, born in Illinois to parents from France and Ohio; Rosa, 11, Illinois; L. Jacob, 9, Illinois; Elany, 7, Illinois; E. Mary, 3, Illinois; and Joseph, 2, Kansas. They are also found on a 1905 state census of Kansas as Adam Wagoner, 59; Mary A., 58; and Kate, 21. They are buried in Shaw Cemetery.

6. Michael C. Wagner was born at Partridge Dec. 20, 1849, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County Nov. 25, 1897. He married Margaret Sharp. She was born at Morton April 2, 1851, and died at Saunemin, Livingston County May 10, 1926, a daughter of George Sharp and Rosann Kramer. *Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County* (1889): "Michael C. Wagner, the popular representative of Worth Township on the County Board of Supervisors, is quite an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of this, his native county. He is the proprietor of 360 acres of land, 250 or more of which is tillage and pastureland, the remainder being in timber. He was born in Partridge Township, Dec. 20, 1849, the youngest son of Jacob and Mary S. (Stouder) Wagner. Our subject was reared in his native township. He attended school but little in his youthful days, for his father being in limited circumstances, needed his assistance on the farm. He aided his father in clearing land and in tilling the soil until his marriage. He then rented the homestead two years and after that rented other farms in the same township the ensuing seven years, and at the expiration of that time rented the farm that he now occupies. He was a great worker, and was very prosperous as a renter, and at the end of three years he purchased the farm, and has resided on it ever since, actively engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Mr. Wagner was joined in marriage to Miss Margaret Sharp, and she made him an excellent wife, being of material assistance in bringing about his present prosperous circumstances. Her father, George Sharp, was one of the earliest settlers of Tazewell County, and is still living on the land which he bought from the government, and has reclaimed from the wilderness. Our subject and his wife are the parents of nine children, namely: Christian, Ella, Edward, Annie, Carrie, Charles, Arthur, Ida and Harrison, the latter named in honor of President Harrison. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are active Christian people, and members respectively of the Methodist Episcopal and Lutheran churches. Politically, our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and the high estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens is attested by the fact that he been twice re-elected to the important office of Supervisor, in which position he is now serving his third term, in a township whose voters are, to a great extent, his political opponents." *Pontiac Daily Leader*, Nov. 26, 1897: "Michael Wagner, who was shot by saloon-keeper Emmons some days ago, died of his wounds Thurs. morning. Wagner through having a remarkable constitution was compelled to succumb to his wounds after lingering for several days with a bullet in the body. The doctors did all that science could suggest but could not save the man's life. The body was brought to Saunemin this morning and will be buried there. Michael Wagner was about 48 years old. He came to Livingston County five years ago, and was until lately regarded as a prosperous stock dealer. With the wife who is not a widow [a first wife?] he had 14 children: nine of whom are yet living. Wagner's affairs became somewhat involved of late, but his brothers who are in good circumstances declare that the estate will be settled up without loss to anybody and they appear to be able to make good their word." They are buried under a joint headstone in Five Mile Cemetery at Saunemin.
7. Johanna/Hanna Wagner was born at Partridge June 22, 1852, and died Aug. 27, 1926. On Feb. 14, 1872 in Peoria County she married John Kanive. He was born Dec. 8, 1848, and died at Peoria Nov. 22, 1929, a son of Valentine Kanive and Catherine Eckes. They are found on the 1900 census of Richland, Marshall County as farmer John Kanive, 52, born in Germany in December of 1847, immigrated in 1866; Hannah, 47, born in Illinois to German parents in June of 1852; nine children born in Illinois; and landlord Valentine Kanive, 82, born in Germany in September of 1817, and his wife Kate, 75, born in Germany in November of 1824, immigrated in 1870. They are buried in Lacon Cemetery in Marshall County.
8. Unnamed twin. He was born and died at Partridge in 1854, and is buried in Belsley-Camp Cemetery.
9. Unnamed twin. She was born and died at Partridge in 1854, and is buried in Belsley-Camp Cemetery.

Steider of Kerprich-aux-Bois

As Swiss emigrants dispersed in the early and mid-1700s, it occasionally happened that a young woman from an Anabaptist family found a husband who was a lapsed Catholic, Protestant Reformed, or Lutheran congregant. In the rare instances where their children chose adult baptism, it brought a new surname into the fold. That may be the case with the Steider family that came to Woodford County in 1849.

Johann Niklaus Steiter had a son **Albert Steiter**. Albert was born circa 1726, and died at Altwiller (now in Lower Alsace, on the boundary with Moselle) Oct. 2, 1778.

On July 5, 1751 at Altwiller Albert married Marie Madeleine/Magdalena Schultz. She was born at Altwiller Feb. 22, 1728, a daughter of Jean Pierre Schultz and Marie Barbara Textor. The marriage entry says Albert was from 'Luderfingen.' It is likely this was the village Loudrefing (now in Moselle), about nine miles southwest of Altwiller.

Their son **Georges/George Steiter/Steider** was born circa 1761, and died at Kerprich-aux-Bois, Moselle April 3, 1807. His death entry described him as a 46-year-old Lutheran.

On Feb. 22, 1780 at Altwiller George married Catharina Klein, a dependent of Johann Nicklaus Klein. The Protestant marriage entry described George as a son of Albert.

The marriage yielded only one child, who died young:

1. Christine Steiter. A death entry (#536) created in the Protestant parish register at Altwiller July 2, 1789 names Christine Steiterin, a daughter of Georg Steiter. On the opposing page is an entry for her mother.

Catharina died at Cappel (now Diane-Capelle) Dec. 2, 1789. Her birthplace was described as 'Mievens' or 'Miedens,' and her age was given as 27 years, 4 months, and 16 days. George Steiter was described as a 'burger von Miedens' in the parish of Kappel.

On July 25, 1790 at Altwiller George remarried to Christine Abresol [Aebersold]. She was born at Rhodes circa 1767, and died at Kerprich-aux-Bois Nov. 25, 1851, a daughter of Joseph Abresol and Christine Schertz. The Protestant marriage entry describes the couple as 'Georg Steiter' and 'Christina Abersohlinn *einen Täuferinn*' (an Anabaptist).

Rhodes is located on the western shore of the large pond L'Étang du Stock. Diane-Capelle[Ger. *Dianenkappel*] is located on the southern shore, and Kerprich-aux-Bois [Ger. *Kirchberg an Wald*] adjoins it. The two adjoining villages fall in the administrative district of Sarrebourg, Moselle.[109] Rhodes, Diane-Capelle, and Kerprich-aux-Bois are all about 11 miles south of Loudrefing.

Diane-Capelle and Kerprich-aux-Bois were also home to the couples Johannes/Jean Litwiller and Freni Zehr, and Johannes/Jean Suisse and Véronique Neuhauser/Neyhauser (the parents of Litwiller, Kempf, and Suisse/Schweizer generations that came to Central Illinois).

The first mention of cultivator 'George Teyder' that we found in Kerprich-aux-Bois records was a death entry created Oct. 26, 1801. He reported the death of Catherine Litwiller, a daughter of Jean Litwiller and Françoise/Freni Zehr. His signature suggests that he was illiterate, and he may not have known that the municipal clerk was spelling his surname 'Teyder,' Theirder,' and 'Teider' on civil entries.

The area was occupied by Russian cavalrymen in 1814 (see FARNY for the impact on nearby Bisping). Approximately 150,000 English, Prussian, Austrian and Russian troops occupied Lorraine between 1815 and 1818.

Children of Georges/George Steiter/Steider and his second wife Christine Abresohl include: [110]

2. Christine Steider was born circa 1793, and died at Kerprich-aux-Bois June 22, 1815 (her death entry gives age 22).
3. Jean Baptiste Steider was born at Diane-Capelle Nov. 1, 1794. On Oct. 28, 1844 Barbe 'Habressol,' 80, died at Kerprich-aux-Bois. The death entry described her as a daughter of Joseph Habresol [Abresohl] and Christine Chatz [Schertz] and the widow of Joseph Kelbert [Gerber]; thus she was a sister to Christine Abresohl. It described the witness who reported the death as 50-year-old Jean Steider, Barbe's nephew. He signed the entry 'Hans Steider.'
4. Madeleine Steider was born at Diane-Capelle Sept. 12, 1796, and died at Kerprich-aux-Bois Nov. 14, 1801.
5. Joseph Steider was born at Diane-Capelle in 1799, and died at Kerprich-aux-Bois April 2, 1804.

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[109] When they were merged as 'Diane-et-Kerprich,' from 1972 to 1985, their combined populations totalled less than 320.

[110] We found Steider births listed in the 10-year civil index of Marsal, a village 20 miles west of Kerprich-aux-Bois and Diane-Capelle. However, we have not been able to check the actual entries to see if they are relevant. Christophe Steider Nov. 13, 1804; Louise Steider Feb. 24, 1806; and Barbe Steider June 8, 1808.

6. Barbe Steider was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois Sept. 4, 1801.
7. **Joseph Steider** was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois Dec. 31, 1804, and died at St. Louis, Missouri Jan. 21, 1849.

The unusual mortality rate in the area owed not so much to deprivation caused by war, but to the nature of its geography. Drinking water was drawn from ponds. The ponds were also used to raise carp as food. They accumulated waste from feed grain and the excrement of water foul. This led to a high incidence of waterborne disease. In the next few decades the problem was alleviated by canals connecting the ponds to rivers.

Joseph Steider was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois Dec. 31, 1804. On May 7, 1825 he married Catherine Miller/Müller there. She was born circa 1803. The marriage entry described the groom as shoemaker [Fr. *cordonnier*] Joseph Steider, a son of 'Christine Abressole' (his father was deceased). It described the bride as an illegitimate daughter [Fr. *enfant naturelle*] of Elisabeth Muller of Toupet (a farm and mill) at Azoudange, Moselle. The signatures read 'J. Steider,' 'C. Miller,' and 'Christine Abresohl.'

According to *The Past and Present of Woodford County*, Joseph Steider, Catherine Miller, and their children Joseph, Jean/John, Peter, and Barbe/Barbara sailed from Le Havre in September 1848. They arrived at New Orleans 48 days later.

They likely arrived at New Orleans on the brig *Vesta* Nov. 27, 1848.[111] A single entry on its passenger list shows 'Steider, 40.'

It is obvious that the timing of their arrival and the length of their stay in New Orleans was unfortunate. The *Swanton* had also departed from Le Havre, on Oct. 31. After 27 days at sea cholera was detected onboard, and 16 passengers died. The ship arrived at New Orleans Dec. 11, 1848. It was not put into quarantine, and on the day of its arrival only one passenger was sent to a hospital. Another passenger fell ill two days after disembarking. The ensuing epidemic peaked in June, when 2,500 lives were lost. (In contrast, the ship *New York* sailed from Le Havre Nov. 9, 1848. Cholera was detected onboard after 16 days, and seven passengers died; but the ship was quarantined at New York, and the disease did not spread).

After spending time in New Orleans, the Steiders traveled up the Mississippi River as far as St. Louis. We do not know which steamboat carried them. Poet Walt Whitman made the trip in the same time frame. His recollections did not mention the epidemic:[112]

> "Our voyage up the Mississippi was after the same sort as the voyage, some months before, down it. The shores of this great river are very monotonous and dull—one continuous and rank flat, with the exception of a meagre stretch of bluff, about the neighborhood of Natchez, Memphis, etc. Fortunately we had good weather, and not a great crowd of passengers, though the berths were all full. The *Pride* jogg'd along pretty well, and put us into St. Louis about noon Saturday."

Whitman stopped over at St. Louis less than a day :

> "After looking around a little I secured passage on the steamer *Prairie Bird* (to leave late in the afternoon) bound up the Illinois River to La Salle, where we were to take the canal for Chicago...[113] Our *Prairie Bird* started out at dark, and a couple of hours after there was quite a rain and blow, which made them haul in along shore and tie fast. We made but thirty miles the whole night. The boat was excessively crowded with passengers, and had withal so much freight that we could hardly turn around. I slept on the floor, and the night was uncomfortable enough. The Illinois River is spotted with

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[111] There were several ships named *Vesta* in commission in 1848. Ths was a 599-ton brig constructed in 1843, captained by Soubry. This was not the steamship *Vesta* that was involved in a famous collision at sea in 1854; that ship was not constructed until 1853.

[112] Whitman worked as a journalist in New Orleans in 1848. "Probably the influence most deeply pervading everything at that time through the United States, both in physical facts and in sentiment, was the Mexican War, then just ended. Following a brilliant campaign (in which our troops had march'd to the capital city, Mexico, and taken full possession) we were returning after our victory. From the situation of the country, the city of New Orleans had been our channel and *entrepot* for everything, going and returning... I remember very well seeing Gen. [Zachary] Taylor with his staff and other officers at the St. Charles Theatre one evening (after talking with them during the day). There was a short play on the stage, but the principal performance was of Dr. Colyer's troupe of *Model Artists*, then in the full tide of their popularity. They gave many fine groups and solo shows. The house was crowded with uniforms and shoulder-straps... I used to wander a midday hour or two now and then for amusement on the crowded and bustling levees, on the banks of the river. The diagonally wedg'd-in boats, the stevedores, the piles of cotton and other merchandise, the carts, mules, negroes, etc., afforded never-ending studies and sights to me. I made acquaintances among the captains, boatmen, or other characters, and often had long talks with them – sometimes finding a real rough diamond among my chance encounters."

[113] The Illinois & Michigan Canal connecting the Illinois River with Lake Michigan opened in 1848. It was used for passengers until a rail line was laid parallel to it in 1853. It remained in use for freight until 1933.

> little villages with big names, Marseilles, Naples, etc.; its banks are low, and the vegetation excessively rank. Peoria, some distance up, is a pleasant town. I went over the place; the country back is all rich land, for sale cheap. Three or four miles from Peoria, land of the first quality can be bought for $3 or $4 an acre... Illinois is the most splendid agricultural country I ever saw; the land is of surpassing richness; the place *par excellence* for farmers."

Unfortunately, the Steider family remained at St. Louis for a longer period, and suffered a loss there. *The Missouri Republican*, Dec. 21, 1848:

> "In all the Eastern cities, measures are already in progress, to prepare for the visitation of cholera. Complaints are loudly made in the newspapers of the filthy condition of several cities, and efforts to improve them strongly recommended.
>
> Something of this kind should be done in St. Louis. The general condition of the city and of every street in it, is as favorable for the spread of the disease as can possibly be imagined. Everywhere, arising to some extent, from the prevalence of wet weather and the negligence of the city scavengers, causes of complaint exist, and if our citizens desire to escape the ravages of this scourge they should at once attempt some reform in this particular. All the writers upon the cholera urge a proper attention to cleanliness, throughout the town, as most likely to lessen its ravages.
>
> It is not now too soon to begin this work. Its existence at New York is pretty well established [recall the quarantined *New York*], and an arrival at New Orleans, from Havre, of an emigrant ship [recall the *Swanton*], on board which was a large number of passengers sick, gives reasons to fear that it may soon break out there.
>
> The papers do not make mention of the disease as being cholera, though it is not improbable, from the fact that the cholera was brought to New York by a vessel from Havre, leaving about the same time as the vessel which has arrived at New Orleans. At all events, two or three months may be sufficient for it to reach St. Louis in its course from New York, and we cannot expect entirely to escape, though much may be done to mitigate its severity."

Cholera reached St. Louis in the very week that the *Republican* made its prediction. On Dec. 27 the steamboat *Alton* arrived from New Orleans. A woman and five children had died on the transit.

Recall the incomplete *Vesta* passenger list: if Joseph or any other passengers had the symptoms of cholera, it might explain why the list provided so little information. The Steiders may have been put ashore as soon as possible, perhaps at Baton Rouge; or quarantined onboard on the day of arrival at New Orleans.

Joseph Steider became sick at St. Louis on about Jan. 14. He died a week later, a victim of the St. Louis Cholera Epidemic of 1849. It eventually killed 4,500 persons, about 10 percent of the population.

Joseph was buried in the German Cemetery (also called the first Old Picker's Cemetery, now the site of Roosevelt High School). His headstone said he was born in 1807 (he was actually born Dec. 31, 1803), and died Jan. 21, 1849. Under the circumstances it would have been surprising to find an accurate birth date on his headstone. He was born while France was under the Republican calendar system. It is unlikely that either Joseph or his wife would have known the date on the birth entry created the day after his birth - 11 Nivôse 13 - and been able to make a conversion to the Gregorian calendar date Jan. 1, 1805, minus one day: Dec. 31, 1804.

In February floating ice prevented navigation on the river. No new cases of cholera would be identified until warming brought more steamboats.

In late March Catherine and her children continued on to Woodford County. It was dangerous to remain in the city of St. Louis; the Board of Health reported 24 new cases March 21-28, most from passengers who had come from New Orleans.

Catherine rented a house east of Metamora. Her new surroundings must have seemed idyllic, considering the news from New Orleans. On May 3, a levee burst there and water flooded into the city. The levy could not be repaired until June 20. It was the worst natural disaster on the delta until Hurricane Katrina in 2005. In St. Louis at least 250 deaths were reported in the first two weeks of May. On May 17 a substantial fire brought a respite from the epidemic. It not only consumed 430 buildings, but 23 moored steamboats as well.

Catherine's 17-year-old daughter Barbara married Joseph Bachman/Baughman in Woodford County June 3, 1849. He was a son of Partridge Creek meeting minister André Bachmann/Andrew Baughman and Lisbethe Behr.

The 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) misidentifies Catherine: Christian Stider, 46, France; Joseph, 16, France; John, 12, France; and Peter, 11, France. It also shows two of the sons in the household of Joseph 'Red Joe' Belsley and his second wife Barbara/Barbe Engel, where they are found as J. Stide, 17, France, and John Stide, 14, France.

The 1860 census of Metamora shows Catherine Steider, 57, France; and farm laborers Joseph, 35, France; John, 23, France; and Peter, 31, France. In 1870: Catharina, 68, France; in the household of son Peter Stider, 30, France; Catharine [Gerber], 25, France; and Lena, seven months, Illinois. One address removed was the family of Joseph Stider, 28, France. The same census also shows Catherine, 67, living in the household of her son John at Metamora.

The 1873 plat map of Metamora shows Joseph, John, and Peter as the owners of the northwest corner of Section 12, each on 53 acres; their mother Catherine owned the 160-acre southwest corner; J. Steider owned 62 acres in Section 13 below it. C. Steider was also the owner of 19 acres in Section 2 of Worth Township.

In 1880 Catherine was living in the household of her son Peter.

Catherine Miller Steider died at Metamora Sept. 13, 1884. Her headstone in Hickory Point Cemetery reads, "Catharine, wife of Joseph Steider, died Sept. 13, 1884, aged 81 years [illegible]."

Children of Joseph Steider and Catherine Miller include:

1. Joseph Steider was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois March 27, 1826, and died there April 2, 1826.
2. Joseph Steider was born at Kerprich-aux-Bois May 15, 1830, and died there Aug. 20, 1830.
3. Barbe/Barbara Steider was born at Diane-Capelle Sept. 13, 1831, and died at Metamora Oct. 20, 1904. On June 3, 1849 in Woodford County she married Joseph Bachman/Baughman. Woodford County marriage application and registration records erroneously name the groom and bride as Fetty Berkey and Barbara Stiter. Valentine 'Felty' Birkey was actually the minister who performed the ceremony. Joseph was born circa Aug. 16, 1826, and died at Metamora Dec. 29, 1897, a son of Partridge Creek meeting minister André Bachmann/Andrew Baughman and Lisbethe Behr. They are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora. For more on this couple see BACHMAN.
4. **Joseph Steider** was born at Diane-Capelle Sept. 1, 1834, and died at Metamora Feb. 8, 1920.
5. Jean/John Steider was born at Diane-Capelle in March 1837, and died at Milford, Nebraska circa 1900. On July 1, 1863 in Woodford County he married Elisabethe/Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Wagler. She was born at Marckolsheim, Lower Alsace June 15, 1836, and died in Nebraska Dec. 26, 1907, a daughter of Jacob Wagler and Magdalena Röschli. Their household appears on the 1870 census of Metamora as farmer John Stider, 34, France; Elizabeth, 34, France; Catharine, 6, Illinois; Sara, 5, Illinois; Phoeba, 3, Illinois; Mary, 1, Illinois; Jacob Wagler, 65, Bavaria; Madalane, 68, Bavaria; and Catherine Stider, 67, France. They are found on the 1880 census of Metamora as John Steider, 43, Germany [Alsace-Lorraine was occupied by Germany in 1870]; Elisabetha, 43, Germany; and eight children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Milford, Nebraska describes farmer John Steider, born in March 1833, with his correct age 63 lined out and 66 written in, with France given as his birthplace but lined out and Germany written in, immigrated in 1847; Elizabeth, with her correct age 63 lined out and 66 written in, born in Germany in June 1835, immigrated in 1875; and three grown children born in Illinois. See WAGLER for her obituary.
6. **Peter Steider** was born at Diane-Capelle June 2, 1839, and died at Metamora Aug. 10, 1914.

Joseph Steider

Joseph Steider was born at Diane-Capelle Sept. 1, 1834, and died at Metamora Feb. 8, 1920.

On March 18, 1866 in Woodford County he married Anna Stauffer. She was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace March 12, 1841, and died after an epileptic seizure at Metamora May 23, 1880, a daughter of Joseph Stauffer and Anna Schantz. Their joint headstone in Hickory Point Cemetery at Metamora is inscribed, "Joseph Steider 1833-1920, Anna Stauefer his wife 1841-1890."

His *Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County* biography said Joseph was "a native of France, born at Dearne, Capelle canton [Diane-Capelle], and arrondissement of Sorboume [Sarrebourg], Department of Muerthes [Moselle], Sept. 1, 1835. His father was a native of the same place, and was there reared and married, Catharine Miller becoming his wife." The remainder follows a familiar template:

> "The early years of his life were passed amid the pleasant scenes of his birthplace in sunny France, and he was the recipient of a very good education, as he attended school regularly till his parents emigrated to the United States. At that time he was a bright, active lad of fourteen years, with eyes and ears open to all the strange sights and sounds in this, to him, strange country. He still remembers the vivid impression that the wild, scarcely cultivated, sparsely inhabited prairies made upon him when he first set foot in Woodford County, where the deer and other game were then roaming at will.
>
> He commenced life here by working by the month, receiving $8 for that length of time as compensation for his services. He was prudent and thrifty, and with wise economy saved his earnings, so that three years later he was enabled to go to farming on his own account, renting land for that purpose the ensuing four years. In the meantime he and his brother bought land in partnership in their mother's name, and building a frame house to live in, commenced to improve their realty.
>
> There was then no railway here, and Peoria and Spring Bay were the nearest markets for some years. The brothers were prosperous in their undertakings, and made money, with which they bought more land, the deeds being in the mother's name till her death.
>
> The land was then divided, and our subject now owns the original eighty acres that he and his brothers purchased, and 140 acres besides. He has his farm under excellent cultivation, has it provided with suitable frame buildings, and everything about the place is in good order.
>
> Mr. Steider was married in 1865 to Miss Ann Stauffer, a native of the province of Alsace, Germany. She was in every sense a true and devoted wife, making her home comfortable and attractive to her family, and her death, May 23,

1880 was a sad blow to her beloved ones. Of her happy wedded life three children were born: Ama, Louisa A. and David W. Ama is the wife of David Wagner, of Roanoke Township. The other two are at home with their father.

Mr. Steider is a whole-souled, warm-hearted man, kind, genial and charitable in his intercourse with others, and a true friend to all who need a helping hand. He possesses a fair share of energy, acumen and thrift, and a knack of working to the best advantage, and these with other attributes have contributed to his success in life, as he is entirely a self-made man, having had no adventitious aids of birth or fortune, but what he is and what he has, he owes to his own exertions. His character is appreciated by his neighbors, who hold him in high respect and esteem.

He and his family are devoted members of the Omish Church. Politically he is a Republican as regards national affairs, but in local matters he votes for the man and not for the party."

The household appears on the 1880 census of Metamora as farmer Joseph Steider, 45, France; Anna, 39, France; Emma, 12; Louise, 6; and David, 4; all children born in Illinois.

Joseph is found in the household of his son at Metamora in 1900 (on the same census page as his brother Peter): farmer David W. Streider, 23, born in Illinois in October 1876 to a father from France and a mother from Germany; Catherine, 21, born in Illinois in May 1879 to parents from Illinois; and Joseph, 66, born in France in September 1833.

The Metamora Herald, Feb. 13, 1920:

"*Joseph Steider Dies at Age of 85 Years, Came to Woodford County at Age of 14 Years from France, With Parents was 48 Days in Making Voyage Here in 1848.*

Joseph Steider, for 71 years of his life of 85 years a resident of Woodford county, passed away February 8, 1920 at his homestead in the northeast part of Metamora township, in the home of son David W. Steider. His health had been failing for some years due to heart weakness, which eventually caused his death.

Mr. Steider was born in Elsace-Lorraine, Sept. 1, 1834. At the age of 14 years with his parents he set sail in the month of September, 1848, for the United States and 48 days later landed at New Orleans. The family spent a month there, then proceeded to St. Louis where the father took sick and died a week later, at the age of 42. The unfortunate mother and children were thus left without protection in a strange country and with but limited means.

They remained at St. Louis two months, then came on to Woodford County. The mother rented a house two miles west of Metamora as a home for herself and children. In the course of a few years they moved on the farm where Mr. Steider lived until his death.

Deceased was united in marriage with Anna Stauffer March 18, 1866. To this union were born three sons and two daughters. His beloved wife, two sons, one daughter and one grandchild preceded him in death. There remains to mourn his loss one son, David W. Steider, and one daughter, Mrs. Henry G. Schertz, 14 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, besides other relatives and many friends who knew him and held him in honor and esteem.

He had a helping hand to help where help was needed and never refused while health and strength was given him. He united with the A.M. church in his youth and remained faithful until his death.

The funeral was held Wednesday morning. Prayer was offered at the residence at 8:45 by Peter Garber and the body was then taken to the Metamora A.M. church, where funeral services were held at 10 o'clock, in charge of Peter D. Schertz and Peter Garber. The body was laid to rest in the Hickory Point Cemetery, west of Metamora, where lie buried the bodies of the deceased's mother and wife and other relatives."

Children of Joseph Steider and Anna Stauffer born at Metamora include:

1. Joseph Steider was born Dec. 29, 1866, and died Aug. 23, 1867. He is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery.
2. Joseph Steider was born March 5, 1868, and died Sept. 21, 1868. He is also buried in Hickory Point Cemetery.
3. Emma Lydia Steider was born June 18, 1868, and died at Peoria Dec. 25, 1911 (headstone date). On Jan. 24, 1888 she married David Wagner. He was born at Roanoke Feb. 10, 1866, and died at Eureka Aug. 7, 1946, a son of Joseph Wagner and Magdalena Schertz. See WAGNER for more on this couple.
4. Peter H. Steider was born in 1869, and died in 1872. He is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery.
5. Louisa Steider was born in 1873, and died in 1957. On Jan. 14, 1894 she married Henry G. Schertz. He was born at Eureka July 10, 1871, and died there March 21, 1930, a son of Joseph Schertz and Elizabeth Gingerich. *Gospel Herald*, April 1930: "Henry G. Schertz was born June 10, 1871, and died Mar. 21, 1930; aged 58 y. 9 m. 11 d. He was a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Schertz, and was the oldest of a family of six children, only three of whom survive. He was married Jan. 18, 1894, to Louisa Steider. To this union were born three children (Lester L.; Alvin J.; and Laura M.). These with three grandchildren survive to mourn the loss of a kind, loving husband, father, grandfather. Bro Schertz was born on a farm near Eureka, Ill., and lived in this vicinity all his life. He lived on a farm until five years ago, when he moved into a new home he had built in Eureka. He united with the Mennonite Church in early life and remained a faithful and consistent member, ever taking a deep interest in the affairs of the Church. He was out at his home farm looking after the farm interests, and that evening, March 17, he was taken ill. He was ill only four days and his death was caused by an attack of apoplexy. Funeral services were conducted at the home by Bro. H. R. Schertz, and at the Roanoke Mennonite Church by Bros. Ezra Yordy and John L. Harnish. A

very large number of friends and relatives attended the service." They are buried under a joint headstone at Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.

6 David W. Steider was born in 1875, and died at Metamora March 30, 1945. He married Catherine E. Schertz. She was born in 1879, and died in 1948. They are buried in Hickory Point Cemetery.

Peter Steider

Peter Steider was born at Diane-Capelle, Moselle June 2, 1839, and died at Metamora, Woodford County Aug. 10, 1914.

On March 2, 1869 in Woodford County he married Catherine Gerber/Garber. She was born at Metamora Oct. 6, 1846, and died there Aug. 8, 1926, a daughter of Christian Gerber and Madeleine/Magdalena Dellenbach.

The Past and Present of Woodford County, Illinois published in 1878 listed Peter, John, and Joseph 'Stider' as farmers served by the post office at Metamora.

The 1880 census of Metamora shows farmer Peter Steider, 41, France; Katharina, 33, Illinois; Lena L., 10; Joseph W., 8; Christian, 6; Samuel, 4; Sarah L., 2; Martha, 4 months; and Katharina, 76, France.

When Peter was naturalized at the Metamora Courthouse Nov. 7, 1884, his country of origin was given as France-Germany (Lorraine was occupied by Prussia 1870-1918). His application was witnessed by John Abersol, a grocer with a store adjacent to the courthouse.

His household appears on the 1900 census of Metamora (on the same page as brother Joseph) as farmer Peter Steider, 60, born in France to French parents in June 1829 [note the decade error], married 31 years, immigrated in 1849; Catherine, born in Illinois to German parents in October 1847; Sarah L., 22, born in February 1878; Martha, 19, born in December 1880; Barbara, 19, born in May 1880 [sic]; Henry, 13, born in June 1886; Peter, 10, born in July 1889; Christian, 26, born in March 1874; and Andrew, 16, born in July 1883; all children born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Illinois.

Metamora Herald, August 1914: "End Comes to Well Known Farmer Monday Night, Lived Here 66 Years, Born in France and Came to Woodford County When a Child. After five weeks of patient suffering, with no hope held out for his recovery, the end came to Peter Steider, one of the well-known and highly respected residents of Metamora township at about 10 o'clock Monday night. Deceased had been in failing health for over two years, but was able to be around until the early part of the summer, when he was stricken bedfast and since that time he had been in charge of a nurse. Mr. Steider was almost a lifelong resident of this county having lived here continuously for 66 years. He was born at Sorbourne [Sarrebourg administrative district], France, June 2, 1839. He was nine years old when his family immigrated to America and settled in western Woodford county. He was married in the year 1866 [1869] to Katherine Garber, who survives with eleven children. The children are: Mrs. Jos. Wagner of Roanoke, Joseph of Metamora, Chris of Aurora, Neb., Samuel of Eureka, Mrs. S.E. Unsicker of Roanoke, Mrs. B. W. Springer of Aurora Neb., Andrew, Henry, and Peter of Metamora. Two daughters, Mrs. C.C. Springer and Anna are deceased. One brother, Joseph, of Metamora, survives. Surviving are also 22 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Years ago when the early settlers of the county began to vacate the timber country in the west part of the county and settle upon the prairies, Mr. Steider moved to the location of his late home in the east part of Metamora township. Deceased was a member of the Amish and Mennonite church and lived up to his faith conscientiously. He commanded the respect and esteem of all his neighbors and acquaintances and his memory will long be cherished in the community in which he lived and died. The funeral was held yesterday. Services were held at 12:30 P.M. at the residence and the body was then taken to the Harmony A.M. church northeast of Metamora, where final services were held at 1:30. Interment was made in the Harmony cemetery."

Gospel Herald, August 1926: "Katherine Garber was born west of Metamora, Ill., Oct. 6, 1846; died Aug. 8, 1926; aged 79 y. 10 m. 2 d. She was united in marriage to Peter Steider Mar. 2, 1865. To this union were born 11 children, of whom 8 survive (Sam, Lena, wife of Joe Wagner, Joe, Henry, Peter, Sarah, wife of Sam Unzicker, Chris, and Barbara, wife of B. W. Springer). There are 29 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and two sisters (Mrs. Ferd Schertz, and Mrs. Aug. Schertz). She made her home with her daughter, Sarah Unzicker, since the death of her husband 12 years ago. About three years ago she was stricken with paralysis and has been an invalid since. She bore her affliction with unusual calmness. She was a patient, devoted mother to her children, who will greatly miss her. Services conducted at the house by Bro. A. A. Schlock; and at the church by Bros. H. R. Schertz and A. A. Schlock. Text, *Rev. 2: 10*, latter clause."

Children of Peter Steider and Catherine Gerber/Garber born at Metamora include:

1. Lena L. Steider was born Dec. 24, 1869, and died at Morton Oct. 23, 1946. On Feb. 5, 1889 she married Joseph Wagner. He was born at Eureka Feb. 10, 1866, and died at Morton Dec. 30, 1946, a son of Joseph Wagner and Magdalena Schertz. See WAGNER for more on this couple.

2. Joseph W. Steider was born Dec. 24, 1871, and died Sept. 22, 1952. He married Barbara Grob. She was born Jan. 12, 1879, and died March 24, 1962. They are buried under a joint marker in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora.
3. Christian E. Steider was born March 4, 1874, and died April 19, 1947. He married Mary M. Springer. She was born at Gridley, McLean County June 7, 1876, and died March 17, 1944, a daughter of Christian C. Springer and Anna Wagler. They are buried under a joint headstone in Pleasant View Mennonite Cemetery at Aurora, Nebraska,
4. Samuel Steider was born in 1876, and died in 1960. He married Emma A. Schertz. She was born in 1879, and died in Woodford County Nov. 4, 1950. They are buried under a joint headstone at Olio Tonship Cemetery at Eureka, Woodford County.
5. Sarah L. Steider was born Feb. 19, 1878, and died April 28, 1959. She married Samuel Ernest Unzicker. He was born at Morton March 17, 1876, and died at Eureka Nov. 21, 1963, a son of August K. Unzicker and Elizabeth Birky. They are buried under a joint headstone in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery at Metamora.
6. Martha A. Steider was born Dec. 28, 1879, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Dec. 11, 1908. She married Christian C. Springer. He was born at Gridley, McLean County Jan. 19, 1875, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Oct. 27, 1945, a son of Christian Springer and Anna Wagler. They are buried in Pleasant View Mennonite Cemetery at Aurora, Nebraska
7. Barbara Steider was born in May 1881, and died at Aurora, Nebraska in 1963. On Jan. 26, 1904 she married Benjamin W. Springer. He was born at Gridley, McLean County Feb. 14, 1879, and died at Aurora, Nebraska Jan. 19, 1955, a son of Christian Springer and Anna Wagler. They are buried under a joint headstone in Pleasant View Mennonite Cemetery at Aurora, Nebraska.
8. Andrew Steider was born in July 1883, and died at Linn, Woodford County Dec. 19, 1918. He is buried in Stewart-Harmony Cemetery at Metamora.
9. Henry Steider was born June 13, 1886, and died Dec. 3, 1965. His marker indicates that he served as a private in the army in World War I. He married Izzola Perrine. She was born in Woodford County April 2, 1908, and died at Peoria Feb. 26, 1988. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Metamora.
10. Peter Steider was born at Metamora July 15, 1889, and died at San Diego, California April 12, 1956. He married Elizabeth Grob. She was born April 19, 1894, and died May 14, 1956. They are in Greenwood Mausoleum in Greenwood Memorial Park at San Diego.
11. Anna Steider died as an infant. She is buried in Hickory Point Cemetery.

Klopfenstein of Frutigen

In Canton Bern a *Klopfenstein* is a stone mason or quarryman.

Peter Klopfenstein was baptized at Frutigen, Canton Bern Oct. 18, 1632. Frutigen is a mountain pass village 10 miles south of Spiez, a village on the southwest shore of Lake Thun. On Oct. 22, 1661 at Frutigen Peter married Anna Remund.

Their son **Hans Klopfenstein** was baptized at Frutigen Jan. 11, 1682 or 1683. On Feb. 2, 1701 or 1702 he married Elizabeth Schmid. She was baptized at Frutigen Nov. 6, 1681, a daughter of Peter Schmid and Verene Bircher.

Peter/Pierre Klopfenstein was baptized at Frutigen Jan. 11, 1703, and died on the grounds of St. Nicolas chapel at Rougemont in the *Territoire de Belfort* Aug. 14, 1766.[114] SCHLEGEL gives historical background on the *Territoire de Belfort,* particularly on the two sieges of the fort there.

According to historian Robert Baecher, Peter/Pierre migrated from Frutigen to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and found work with Christ Kropf on his farm Waldner de Freunstein at Haute Broque. There he chose adult baptism.

At Belverne (10 miles west of Belfort) in 1727 he married Anna Luginbühl. She was born in 1701, and died on St. Nicolas Feb. 25, 1756, a daughter of Christ Luginbühl and Anna Gilgen.

According to historian Robert Baecher, the following year a Kauffman family at Guewenheim (adjacent to Bourbach-le-Bas) informed Peter/Pierre that a farm called Niederwil had become available. It was located on the slope between Bourbach-le-Bas (the lower) and Bourbach-le-Haut (the upper), Upper Alsace. In 1830 the farm was leased by the abbey of Masevaux to Adam Bürer. Bürer took on Peter/Pierre as a manager.

The Klopfensteins tended cattle and produced cheese and butter. Following Anna's death in 1756, Peter/Pierre remarried to Marie Wiederkehr.

Children of Peter/Pierre Klopfenstein and his first wife Anna Luginbühl born on Niederwil farm include:

1. **Jean Klopfenstein** was born Sept. 8, 1729, and died at Belfort Oct. 29, 1796.
2. Anne Klopfenstein was born March 13, 1731, and died at Belfort Aug. 23, 1804. On Jan. 30, 1757 at Rougemont she married Christian Müller. He was born at Florimont March 30, 1736, and died at Rougemont March 3, 1817.
3. Madeleine Klopfenstein was born April 15, 1732, and died at Meroux (four miles southeast of Belfort) Oct. 25, 1800. On Nov. 10, 1747 she married Nicholas Planck. He was born at Meroux Jan. 15, 1723 or 1724, a son of Joseph Plank and Barbara Rich.
4. Pierre Klopfenstein was born Dec. 2, 1733, and died at Bourogne (9 miles southeast of Belfort) Jan. 13, 1801. On Nov. 30, 1753 at Bourogne he married Marie Engel. She was born at Bourogne May 10, 1734, and died there Feb. 10, 1814, a daughter of minister Nicolas Engel and Barbara Balsiger. Peter/Pierre was ordained as a minister in 1777, and followed Nicolas Engel as elder of the Münsterol/Blumbergerwald congregation. Peter Klopfenstein and Michel Müller represented the congregation at assemblies assemblies of ministers at Essingen in 1759 and 1779.
5. Christen/Christian Klopfenstein was born March 15, 1736, and died on the grounds of St. Nicolas chapel at Rougemont Feb. 28, 1757. On Nov. 15, 1756 he married Barbara Rich. She was born circa 1735, a daughter of Jean Rich and Barbara Richard.
6. Marie Klopfenstein was born May 15, 1738, and died at Montbéliard, Doubs Feb. 8, 1804. On Dec. 12, 1756 on Niederwil farm she married Jacob Eicher. He was born in or near Montbéliard circa 1736, and died at Montbéliard April 8, 1799, a son of Jacob Eicher and Katharina/Catherine Graber. Their descendants came to Elm Grove in 1867. For background on this couple see EICHER in the Appendix.
7. Michel Klopfenstein was born Sept. 30, 1740, and died at Rougemont Jan. 25, 1817. On April 19, 1763 at Montbéliard he married Anne Marie Richard. She was born there Sept. 28, 1742, and died at Rougemont May 23, 1817, a daughter of Michel Richard and Catherine Schindler. When they co-leased La Maie farm at Menoncourt with older brother Jean in 1793, Michael/Michel became minister and elder of the congregation there. Michel attested to the birth of future Illinois settler Christian Schlegel for administrative purposes related to his marriage.
8. Catherine Klopfenstein was born Nov. 15, 1743, and died at Rougemont May 4, 1782. On April 19, 1763 at Rougemont she married Christian Rich. He was born there circa 1738, and died in 1799, a son of Jean Rich and Barbara Richard [Ritschardt].

Jean Klopfenstein was born on Niederwil farm at Bourbach-le-Haut, Upper Alsace Sept. 8, 1729, and died at Belfort in the *Territoire de Belfort* (28 miles southwest of Niederwil farm) Oct. 30, 1796. On April 20, 1750 he

[114] In 1893 Rougemont and some smaller localities were merged to become Rougemont-le-Château.

married Anna Graber. She was born June 14, 1730, and died at Belfort Oct. 26, 1796, a daughter of Daniel Graber and Catherine Eicher.

They leased the grounds of the chapel St. Nicolas at Rougemont (seven miles southwest of Niederwil farm) with Jean's younger brother Michel.

As noted in SCHLEGEL, in the 1780s the tolerant congregations east of Belfort fell into disagreement with their parent congregation at Montbéliard. This has been seen as a natural rivalry between two families from the same Bernese village – the Richen and Klopfenstein families of Frutigen.

The property at Rougemont was nationalized during the French Revolution. In 1793 the Klopfensteins relocated onto La Maie farm at Menoncourt, a place where Mennonites had held meetings since 1780. Jean co-leased the farm with younger brother Michel, who became minister and elder of the congregation there.

Their children born on the grounds of the chapel St. Nicolas at Rougemont include:

1. Catherine Klopfenstein was born March 28, 1753, and died at Belfort Jan. 10, 1802. She married Jean/Hans Joder. He was born circa 1744, and died at Méziré (12 miles below Belfort, adjacent to Morvillars) Dec. 10, 1804, a son of Christian Joder and Anna Hochstettler. See JODER for background on this couple.
2. Jean Klopfenstein was born Feb. 28, 1755, and died at Belfort Sept. 8, 1840. He married Catherine Richard.
3. Christian Klopfenstein was born June 25, 1758, and died at Rougemont Oct. 7, 1834. He married Anne Marie Wenger.
4. Michel Klopfenstein was born Oct. 6, 1762, and died at Belfort Feb. 10, 1830. He married Catherine Kauffman and Elisabeth Stauffer.
5. Jacques Klopfenstein was born May 12, 1764, and died at Belfort Sept. 23, 1843. He married Anna Baecher. They developed La Maie farm into an exemplary agricultural system by restoring over-cultivated soil, varying crops, and experimenting with fruit tree hybrids. On Sept. 30, 1810 a representative of the Society of Agriculture in Paris came to La Maie to present Jacques with the l/Etoile de Or star of gold medal, a national award for civilian accomplishment. The ceremony for Jacques was attended by his uncle, ministter Michel Klopfenstein. The representative toasted all Anabaptists on behalf of the emperor, the empress, and the minister of the interior. This entitled Jacques to take a seat as a Bonapartist member of the Belfort municipal council, a position he held until the Restoration five years later. In 1812 Jacques published he first of several yearly almanacs for farmers. The last edition was published by his son in 1841.
6. Daniel Klopfenstein was born June 12, 1766, and died at Sevenans (two miles south of Belfort) April 15, 1830. He married Anne Marie Reis.
7. **Joseph Klopfenstein** was born Feb. 16, 1772, and died at Belfort July 14, 1939.

Joseph Klopfenstein was born on the grounds of the chapel St. Nicolas at Rougemont Feb. 16, 1772, and died at Belfort July 14, 1939.

On June 12, 1792 on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars (13 miles southeast of Belfort) he married Madeleine Reis. She died at Belfort Feb. 6, 1798. They had one daughter, Madeleine.

On April 11, 1799 at Belfort he remarried to Marie Anne Stauffer (also found as Anne Marie Stauffer). She was born at Schlambé, Masevaux, Upper Alsace April 15, 1781, a daughter of Christian Stauffer and Anne Nafziger. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by Michel Klopfenstein, 37, and Jacques Klopfenstein, 35 (brothers of the groom); Jean Stauffer, 26 (brother of the bride); and Jacques Joder, 35 (uncle of the bride); all four witnesses lived at Belfort.

Children of Joseph Klopfenstein and his second wife Maria Anne Stauffer born at Belfort include:

1. **Johannes/Jean/John Klopfenstein** was born Feb. 19, 1802, and died in Woodford County March 15, 1865.
2. Christoph Klopfenstein was born Feb. 22, 1804.
3. Elisabeth Klopfenstein was born Dec. 5, 1806.
4. Marie Klopfenstein was born Jan. 25, 1809, and died at Rougemont March 7, 1814.
5. Joseph Klopfenstein was born April 8, 1812. On Sept. 14, 1833 he married his cousin Anne Klopfenstein. She was born Nov. 18, 1812, a daughter of Michel Klopfenstein and his first wife Catherine Kauffman.
6. Pierre Klopfenstein was born Aug. 17, 1818, and died at Vesoul, Haute-Saone March 28, 1861. He married Catherine Stoll.
7. Michael Klopfenstein was born June 20, 1820.
8. Marie Anne Klopfenstein was born Sept. 20, 1825. On July 5, 1845 at Belfort she married her cousin-once-removed Joseph Müller/Miller. He was born at Belfort Feb. 9, 1822, a son of Pierre Müller and Elisabeth Barbara Klopfenstein (Elisabeth Barbara was a daughter of Jacques Klopfenstein and Anna Baecher).

Oldest son **Johannes/Jean/John Klopfenstein** was born at Belfort Feb. 19, 1802.

On Aug. 21, 1828 at Belfort he married his cousin Catherine Klopfenstein. She was born at Belfort Jan. 6, 1811, a daughter of Michel Klopfenstein and Catherine Kauffman. Their civil marriage entry stated that they were 26 and 18 years of age, and the groom was a cultivator like his father.

They had three children on the street Faubourg de France in the town of Belfort 1829-32; then two children while living in the Normanvillars forest at Florimont (20 miles southeast of Belfort) in 1834 and 1837; then one at Beaucourt (14 miles south of Belfort) in 1840; and two in their old neighborhood at Belfort in 1843 and 1846.

Dominique Dreyer's *Emigrants Haut-Rhinois en Amérique 1800-1870* states that 53-year-old farmer Jean Klopfenstein of Florimont applied for a passport for himself and his family at Boron in the *Territoire de Belfort* April 14, 1841. He gave his destination as New York.

They immigrated after March 30, 1846 (the birthdate of daughter Magdalena), in 1846 (per the obituary of daughter Catherine) or 1847 (per the obituary of son Joseph). They initially settled in Stark County, Ohio, the home of John's cousin Christian Klopfenstein. Johannes/Jean/John Klopfenstein had a cousin who settled there well before his arrival and became a permanent resident.

The civil records of Rougemont show a marriage entry dated Feb. 9, 1808. The groom was described as cultivator Christe Klopfenstein, 23, a son of Rougemont residents cultivator Christe Klopfenstein, 54, and Marie Wenger. The bride was described as Elisabeth Müller, 17, a daughter of St. Nicolas, Rougemont residents cultivator Michel Müller, 52, and Elisabethe Richert. Witnesses included the fathers of the bride and groom; cultivator Jean Klopfenstein, 55, uncle of the groom; and shopkeeper [Fr. *proprietaire*] Michel Klopfenstein, 67; all from Rougemont. The groom signed his name 'Christe Klopfenstein,' and the bride signed her name 'Barbara Müller'; the groom's father signed 'Christen Klopfenstein.'

The 1840 census of Nimishillen shows the household of Christian Klopfenstein. The 1850 census shows Christ Kloppnstein, 70, Fr.; Barbaray, 62, Fr.; Catharine, 24, Fr.; Mary, 17, O.; and Fanny, 16, O. The Amish Cemetery at Louisville, Stark County has headstones for Christian Klopfinstine, who died Nov. 2, 1858, age 87 years, three months, and eight days (thus born circa Aug. 25, 1780, which disagrees with the age stated on his marriage entry; his longevity may have been calculated using the age found on the 1850 census), and Barbara Klopfinstine, who died Feb. 5, 1853 (thus born circa Nov. 12, 1791).

Christian also had a neighbor who had been his brother-in-law. The civil records of Rougemont hold a marriage entry dated June 23, 1807. The groom is described as André Bacher, 18, a son of Jean Bacher and Catherine Guery [Göerig] of Climont, Lower Alsace. The bride was Christian's sister, described as Anne Klopfenstein, 24, a daughter of cultivator Chris Klopfenstein and Marie Venguer [Wenger] of Rougemont. Witnesses included Christ Klopfenstein, 52, father of the bride; Christ Klopfenstein, 21, brother of the bride; uncle Jean Klopfenstein, 54; and Michel Klopfenstein, 69. The groom signed 'Andreas Bächer.'

However, Anne Klopfenstein died Oct. 14, 1824. Andras remarried to Barbara Elizabeth Frey April 11, 1826, and this was the wife who accompanied him to Ohio. In Ohio he would be known as Andrew; his headstone in Amish/Old Beech Cemetery at Stark County says he died April 10, 1862.

Andreas/Andrés/Andrew Bächer/Baecher/Becher and his first wife Anne Klopfenstein had a son Andrés who was born at Rougemont April 29, 1808 (his headstone says 1810 and calls him Andrew Bacher Jr.), and died in Stark County March 9, 1845. He would be known in Ohio as Andrew Becher. On Dec. 15, 1835 in Stark County he married Maria/Mary Ramseyer. She was born April 10, 1812 (her headstone gives the birthdate 1813), and died in Stark County Jan. 21, 1846, a daughter of Johannes Ramseier/Ramseyer and Barbara Kauffman. Thus she was a sister to Nicholas Ramseyer, who passed through Stark County before resettling in Woodford County. They are buried in Amish/Old Beech Cemetery in Stark County.

According to *Mennonites of the Ohio and Eastern Conference*, "The prominent family names of the early years were Conrad, Schloneger, King, Miller, Sommers, Schmucker, Becher, Krabill, Ramseyer, Graber, Klopfenstein, Linder, and Maurer. These families came directly from Alsace-Lorraine territory in France, and from the Canton of Bern in Switzerland. Their chief reason for coming to the United States was to avoid the military draft during the post-Napoleonic era in Europe."

In the spring of 1850 Johannes/Jean/John Klopfenstein and his wife Catherine Klopfenstein resettled in Woodford County. They are shown on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer John Klopfenstine, 48; Catharine, 40; Joseph, 21; Michael, 16; Nancy, 15; Peter, 14; John, 11; Catharine, 8; and Magdalane, 5; all born in France. (We suspect that Nancy was a neighbor, Nancy Gingery). The family of Nicholas Ramseyer is found on the same census page.

They appear on the 1860 census of Greene, Woodford County as farmer John Kloffenstein, 60, Bavaria; Catherine, 50, Bavaria; farm laborer Peter, 23, Bavaria; farm laborer John, 19, Bavaria; Catherine, 16, Bavaria; Lana, 14, Bavaria; and Mary, 4, Illinois.

Johannes/Jean/John died in Woodford County March 15, 1865. He is buried in Slabtown Cemetery as 'Johannes Klopfenstein.'

The 1880 census of Olio, Woodford County shows Catherine as a 70-year-old widow born in France, living with daughter Maria, 24. She died Dec. 17, 1884, and was buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Their children include:

1. **Joseph Klopfenstein** was born at Belfort July 31, 1829, and died at Eureka Nov. 12, 1909. His civil birth entry said his parents were ages 27 and 18½; it was witnessed by grandfather Joseph Klopfenstein, 57, and Pierre Muller, 39.
2. Marie Anne Klopfenstein was born at Belfort May 10, 1831, and died Nov. 7, 1875. Her civil birth entry created the following day was witnessed by grandfather Joseph Klopfenstein, 60, and Antoine Widemann, 37. On April 20, 1852 in Tazewell County she married Benjamin Schlegel/Slagle. He was born in New York City in May of 1831, and died Feb. 14, 1906, a son of Christian Schlegel and Catherine Ernst. See SCHLEGEL for more on this couple.
3. Christophe Klopfenstein was born at Belfort July 20, 1832, and died there Nov. 23, 1842. His civil birth entry was witnessed by Joseph Klopfenstein, 21, and Antoine Widemann, 38.
4. Michel/Michael Klopfenstein was born in the Normanvillars forest at Florimont July 4, 1834, and died the same day. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Jean Klopfenstein *dit le gros*, 32, and cultivtor Caterine Klopfenstein, 23. It was witnessed by Joseph Stoaff *fils* [Joseph Stauffer Junior], 31.
5. Pierre/Peter Klopfenstein was born at Florimont April 30, 1837, and died Dec. 28, 1863. His civil birth entry describes his parents as farmer Jean Klopfenstein *dit le grand*, 35, and Caterine Klopfenstein 26, living in the forest of Normanvillars at Florimont. One witness was Joseph Stauff *fils*, 35. On Jan. 28, 1862 in Woodford County he married Mary Sommer. She was born at Montgomery Township July 28, 1842, and died Dec. 1, 1929, a daughter of Peter Sommer and Catherine Schertz. He is buried in Slabtown Cemetery, where his headstone says he died Dec. 28, 1863 at 26 years, 8 months. She is buried at Gridley.
6. Jean/John Klopfenstein was born at Beaucourt Sept. 11, 1840, and died at Gibson City, Ford County July 20, 1916. His civil birth entry describes his parents as farmer Jean Klopfenstein, 38, and Catherine Klopfenstein, 29, residents of Beaucourt. On Jan. 24, 1867 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth Burkey. She was born in Tazewell County Dec. 3, 1846, and died at Gibson City Feb. 12, 1938, a daughter of Christian Burkey and Marie/Mary Stalter. They are buried in Drummer Cemetery at Gibson City.
7. Catherine Klopfenstein was born at Belfort Jan. 9, 1843, and died March 5, 1917. Her civil birth entry describes her parents as Jean Klopfenstein, 41, and Catherine Klopfenstein, 32, living on the street Fauburg de France at Belfort; one witness was Pierre Muller, 53. On March 22, 1866 at Eureka, Woodford County she married Christian Burkey.[115] He was born at Memphis, Tennessee Feb. 2, 1843, and died at Milford, Nebraska March 4, 1929, a son of Christian Burkey and Marie/Mary Stalter. His obituary: "Christian Burkey was born February 2, 1843, at Memphis, Tenn., and was called from time to eternity at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Joseph Rediger, Jr., near Milford, Nebraska, Mar 4, 1929. He was privileged to go beyond the 86th milestone, having reached the age of 86 years, 1 month and 2 days. While only an infant he went with his parents to Tremont, Illinois where they located after they completed their immigration journey from Germany. Here he grew to young manhood. On March 22, 1866, he was united in marriage to Catherine Klopfenstein at Eureka, Illinois. In the year 1880, they moved to Washington, Ill. where they made their home until 1893, at which time they came to Nebraska, locating on a farm near Milford. Later he made his home in Milford until the death of his companion March 5, 1917. Since that time he has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Joseph Rediger, Jr., one mile northeast of Milford. For about fifteen years his health has been failing and at times he has suffered considerably, but he always took it patiently with his faith centered upon God, the Father. He often expressed the desire to be with his Lord in that eternal home. Mr. Burkey was converted when a young man and united with the Defenseless Mennonite Church of which communion he was a faithful member until his death. His Christian faith manifested itself in external acts and loyalty to his church. In the early days when churches were scattered he with his family often drove the distance of twenty miles on the Lord's Day to attend the worship services. This faithfulness on the part of the father also had its effect on the family in leading them to accept Christ and to render Christian service. Three daughters became missionaries to China and one son a minister of the Gospel. Two of the daughters who were missionaries went to their eternal reward while in China. Also one son preceded him in death. Those who remain to mourn his departure are: Five children, Rev. Samuel D., Pasadena, Calif., Mrs. J. C. Ritkey, Moses K., Mrs. Joseph Rediger, Jr., and Benjamin E. all of Milford. Three brothers, Valentine of Washington, Illinois, Henry of Yukon, Okla. and John W. of Milford; three sisters, Elizabeth Klopfenstein, Fanny Blume and Barbara Neimyer, all of Illinois; fifteen grandchildren, three great granchildren, many other relatives and a host of friends. Funeral at M.B.C. church by Rev. N.E.Duskee and Rev. Wm. O.Rembelt. Interment at Fairview Cemetery." Milford, Nebraska obituary: "Mrs. Catherine Burkey, wife of Christian Burkey, born in Belfort, France on Jan. 9, 1843, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Klopfenstein and with her parents came to America in the year 1846. After living in Ohio for a few years, they came to Eureka, Illinois, where she grew to young womanhood, and in the year 1866, was united in marriage to Christian Burkey. To this union were born eight

[115] County records list them as Christian Burkey and Catharina Clupenstine.

children, four sons and four daughters, Samuel D. of Peoria, Illinois, Amelia of Sunlinkow, China; Moses K. and Benjamin E. and Mrs. Emma Rediger of this vicinity. Katie and Lydia had gone to China as missionaries and both died in the year 1903. Joseph died in his youth at the age of 13. Father and Mother Burkey came to Nebraska in 1893, where they lived a peaceful life until the day of her death, March 5, 1917. Her age was 74 years, one month and 18 days. Besides her bereaved husband and children, she leaves 14 grandchildren and many friends to mourn her departure. She became identified with the Defenseless Mennonite Church in 1863, and was a faithful member until her death."

8. Magdalena/Madeleine/Lana Klopfenstein was born at Belfort March 30, 1846, and died at Phoenix, Arizona Dec. 14, 1914. On Feb. 21, 1864 in Woodford County she married Andreas/Andrew Sutter. He was born on the Forsthof estate at Neuberg an der Donau, Germany May 14, 1842, and died at Phoenix, Arizona Feb. 8, 1921, a son of Johannes Sutter and Barbara Oesch. They are found on the 1870 census of Fairbury, Livingston County as farmer Andrew Sutter, 27, Bavaria; Magdalena, 24, France; John, 4, Illinois; Joseph, 2, Illinois; William, five months, Illinois; and farm laborer Dan Unzicker, 19, Ohio. They are buried in Good Hope Cemetery in Woods County, Oklahoma.
9. Maria/Mary E. Klopfenstein was born at Greene, Montgomery Township, Woodford County Oct. 16, 1856, and died at Nickerson, Kansas Feb. 4, 1900. On June 26, 1885 in Tazewell County she became the second wife of John D. Yaggy. He was born at Canton, Stark County, Ohio Aug. 11, 1853, and died at Nickerson Sept. 20, 1905, a son of John Yaggy and Anna Schlunegger. His first wife had been Mary Gerig. They are buried in the Mennonite Cemtery at Sterling, Kansas.

Joseph Klopfenstein was born in the town of Belfort in the *Territoire de Belfort* July 31, 1829.

On Feb. 26, 1856 in Woodford County he married Maria/Mary Yotty. She was born in Bavaria April 3, 1836, a daughter of Katharina/Catherine Stalter and stepdaughter of Chrétien Jordi/Christian Yotty.

They ran a butcher shop at Farnisville or Slabtown (on opposite banks of the Mackinaw River at the center of Montgomery Township). *History of Woodford County*: "Joseph Klopfenstein opened a butcher shop there in 1858 and also had a grocery in connection with it. He came to Eureka twice a week, and supplied that vicinity with meat. It appears strange to the reader of the present day that Eureka should have at one time depended on the meat market of Slabtown for its meat. He was frequently able to supply his customers with venison that Samuel Finley had procured for him. Mr. Klopfenstein made this trip for two years."

In 1864 they relocated to Eureka, where Joseph became a butcher and hotel keeper. The 1870 census of Eureka shows butcher Joseph Clepinetine, 40, France; Mary, 34, Baden; Catharine, 13; Mary, 1; Joseph, 1; and Julia, two months; all children born in Illinois. They can also be found on the 1880 census of Eureka as hotel keeper Jos. Klopfenstein, 50, born in France to French parents; Mary, 44, born in Bavaria to Bavarian parents; and four children, all born in Illinois. Although they lived at Peoria for two years (1885-87), they returned to Eureka.

Joseph died at Eureka Nov. 12, 1909. *Gospel Herald*, December 1909: "Joseph Klopfenstein was born in Upper Alsace, City of Belfort, France, on July 31, 1829; died on July 31, 1909; aged 80 y. 4 m. 8 d. In 1847 he emigrated with his parents to America, settling in Stark Co., O. In 1850 he came to Illinois, locating in Woodford Co. On Feb 26, 1856, he was united in marriage to Mary Yatty/Yordy. In 1864 they moved to Eureka, where, with the exception of two years spent in Peoria, he has since lived and conducted a butcher shop until of late years. He was the father of five children, Kate, Annie, and Christian preceded him to the great beyond. His daughter, Josephine Carney of Chicago, and son Joseph of Eureka, remain to mourn his departure with their mother. He united with the Mennonite Church at the age of fourteen years and has lived an upright, honest life. Funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Eureka, on Dec. 11, by Bro Andrew Schrock, using as his text, *Heb. 9:27, 28*."

Maria/Mary Yotty died at Eureka Jan. 24, 1926. *Woodford County Journal*, Jan. 28, 1926: "Another one of the earliest pioneer women, and, though born in a foreign land, was probably the oldest person in point of time spent in Woodford county at the time of her death, was called to her reward last Sunday morning about two o'clock – Mrs. Mary Yotty Klopfenstein, being at the time of her death almost ninety years of age. Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Yotty, was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 3, 1836. When she was two years of age with her parent, one sister and four brothers, she came to the United States [in 1838 she had only one older brother] and they settled on a farm in Germantown, west of Metamora in 1838, known then as Black Partridge. There the subject of this sketch grew to young womanhood, and was married to Joseph Klopfenstein in 1856, in a little brick church west of Metamora, long since torn down. Soon after their marriage Mr. Klopfenstein opened a butcher shop in Farneysville, known to later generations as Slabtown [actually Farnisville was on the south bank, Slabtown was the north bank of the Mackinaw River], on the Mackinaw river near the present home of Senator Lantz... 'Grandma' says the timber lands along the Mackinaw abounded with wolves at that time, and one morning when she went to the horse stable to get some cobs there was a large wolf lying in the horse manger. Not many years later they moved to Eureka, which has since been her home, with exception of two years (1885-87) spent in Peoria... At the age of twelve Mrs. Klopfenstein joined the Mennonite church and has remained a faithful member. She was always a very active and

happy woman, and one to whom people gave their trust and confidence. She was always willing to help and could be relied upon – a real friend in time of need or distress. Her many kind and thoughtful acts will long be remembered. In the early days the calling of a physician was of the simple stepping to a telephone that it is today, and to many families Grandma Klopfenstein was assistant physician, nurse, helper and friend. Of late years she has not been able to go out so much, but her heart was always with the afflicted. About two years ago she suffered an attack of heart trouble, from which she never fully recovered, although in her last illness she was bedfast only about two weeks. Realizing that her earthly career was fast drawing to a close, she made her own funeral arrangements, choosing the minister, the pallbearers and the songs to be used. The funeral service was held at the M.E. church in Eureka on Tuesday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Ezra Yordy of the Mennonite church assisted by Rev. Andrew Schrock and Rev. W.L. Barnes. A quartet composed of Mesers Lester Smith, Ed Smith, Walter Yordy and Walter Zook, rendered the hymns she had chosen. The pallbearers were Henry Sauder, David Ulrich, Jacob Garber, Chris Garber, Joseph Waggoner and John R. Resser. Burial was in Olio Cemetery, where her loved ones gone on before are awaiting the resurrection." *Gospel Herald*, March 1926: "Mary Yotty was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 3, 1836; died Jan. 24, 1926, at her home in Eureka, Ill. She came to America with her parents at the age of 2 years, locating in Woodford Co., Ill. Feb. 26, 1856, she was united in marriage with Joseph Klopfinstein. In 1864 they moved to Eureka, Ill. To this union were born five children (Joseph, Josephine - still living - and Katie, Anna, and an infant preceding their mother in death). Her husband preceded her in death December, 1909. She became a Christian in youth and united with the Mennonite Church. Before answering her summons she gave testimony that her desire was to go home and be with the Lord. She lived to a ripe old age, and while among us her usefulness was appreciated. Funeral conducted in the home by J. L. Harnish; at the church by W. S. Barnes and Ezra B. Yordy."

They are buried under a joint headstone in Olio Township Cemetery at Eureka.

Ramseyer: Ramseÿer of Eggiwil

The Emmental is a region of rolling hills east of the city of Bern. In the past its residents were relatively more prosperous than those living in the small villages closer to the Alps. They were called *Emmentaler*, residents of the Emmental, the valley of the Emme River.

The plant *allium ursinum*, also called ransoms or wild garlic, is found as ground cover on forest floors in the Emmental. Humans eat its broad green leaves in salads, or feed them to cattle as fodder. Bears and boars ignore its leaves and small white flowers, digging up the entire plant to feed on its root bulbs. *Rams* = the plant, *Ei* = meadow. A *Ramsei* would describe a meadow covered by these plants, and a *Ramseier* would describe someone who lives there.[116]

There is a place called Ramsei on the west side of the Emme River at the Äeschau crossing below Signau. It is only a one-mile walk south along the river to the area called Zimmertsei/Zimmerzei (two miles northwest of the village center of Eggiwil) opposite the Dieboldswil area - both places where our family of interest was found.

The surname morphed from Ramseier (someone who comes from Ramsei) to Ramseÿer. The second spelling ensures that it will be pronounced ram-zyer rather than ram-zeer.

Heimatorte or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights associated with this surname include Eggiwil, Bowil, Lauperswil, Rüderswil, and Trub.

Many early events in this family took place in the parish of Signau. FHL microfilms show Protestant Reformed records of family events at Signau commencing in 1589. In 1630 the Council of Bern initiated construction of a new church there to counter the local influence of Anabaptists.

Before 1648 Eggiwil was simply a place within the parish of Signau. The only way to get there from the Signau village center was to travel five miles southeast on a narrow mountain road. In 1648 a Protestant Reformed church was constructed there, the place became a parish, and a village grew around the church.

Recall from ROPP that a disputation-debate between Protestant Reformed clergy and Anabaptists was held in the city of Bern March 11-17, 1538. The Anabaptists who attended risked imprisonment to defend their views. Though they were guaranteed safe passage for the period of the event, they became visible to authorities, particularly because an attendance list identified their communities. The list named Bernhard Agerder, Ully Nuwenschwandt, Bernhardt Jenni, and Christian Saltzman from Eggiwil.

Eggiwil is also only seven miles northwest of Schangnau. Recall from YODER that in the 16th and 17th centuries Shangnau's inaccessibility (one road in) and proximity to the Bern-Luzerne boundary (two miles to the east) would make authorities suspect that it was a haven for unrepentant Anabaptists. The Egli, Hirschi, Nafziger, and Yoder families were associated with this village.

Peter Ramseÿer was born in the parish of Signau circa 1534, and died after 1568.[117]

Because of the out-of-the-way location of Eggiwil, and its small population, it is likely that Peter would have been familiar with Anabaptist Wälti Gerber.

Röthenbach (now called Röthenbach im Emmental) is adjacent to Eggiwil. Wälti Gerber of Röthenbach attended the disputation-debate held in the city of Bern in 1538. He was later arrested, but escaped with the aid of an Anabaptist locksmith. In *Bernese Anabaptists* Delbert Gratz wrote that, "For a time he was the leading Anabaptist minister in the Emmental." In 1564 a notice offering a 100-guilder reward was distributed throughout the Emmental. Gerber was arrested near his home, and executed in the city of Bern July 30, 1566.

Between 1555 and 1559 Peter married Christina Trachsel. Their children include:

1. Hans Ramseÿer was born before 1560. He married Barbli Gerig. Their children baptized in the parish of Signau include:
    a. Christina Ramseÿer was baptized May 18, 1590.

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[116] We have seen *Ramsei* interpreted as a raven's meadow, but the German raven is *der Rabe* or *Rabenschwarz*.

[117] On Oct. 22, 1559 at Lützelflüh Daniel Ramseÿer married Elsbet Rŭch. Lützelflüh is only nine miles northwest of Eggiwil. It is easy to conclude that he was a brother or cousin to Peter. However, he may have come from an entirely distinct family. There was a place called Ramsei one mile east of the village center of Lützelflüh, within its parish. It is now a village. One Ramsei was only seven miles from the other.

Numerous descendants of this couple lived at Grosshöchstetten (nine miles southwest of Lützelflüh, five miles west of Signau). A descendant Daniel Ramseyer of Grosshochstetten married Catharina Rötlisberger of Eggiwil, and they had children baptized at Eggiswil in 1693, 1694, and 1697.

b. Michel Ramseÿer was baptized Oct. 8, 1598.

2. Bendicht Ramseÿer was born before 1566. On Nov. 11, 1591 in the parish of Signau he married Elsbeth Stärk or Steck. Their child baptized at Signau was:
   a. Ŭlrich Ramseÿer was baptized Nov. 18, 1593. On Nov. 16, 1618 in the parish of Signau he married Adelheid Obliger.
3. **Lŭdi Ramseÿer** was born in the parish of Signau circa 1568, and died there in 1615.

Lŭdi Ramseÿer was born in the parish of Signau circa 1568, and died there in 1615. We also found him as 'Ludwig,' but only once, on the baptism entry of a child.

Circa 1591 he married Madlen Hŭser. On May 8, 1612 in the parish of Signau he remarried to Anna Krayenbühl. On July 22, 1621 in the parish of Signau he remarried again to Anna Dierstein.

Children of Lŭdi Ramseÿer and his first wife Madlen Hŭser baptized at Signau include:

1. Bendicht/Benedikt Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 20, 1592. On July 27, 1621 in the parish of Signau he married Katharina Krayenbühl. Their children born in Signau parish include:
   a. Hans Ramseÿer was born circa 1628. He married Barbara Gerber. Birth entries for their children are found at Lauperswil (four miles from Signau, and nine miles north of Eggiwil).
   b. Christian Ramseÿer was born circa 1630. He married Ursula Blaser.
   c. Ŭllrich Ramseÿer was born circa 1632. On March 14, 1659 he married Elsbeth Peter.
   d. Peter Ramseÿer was born circa 1633. On July 20, 1657 at Lauperswil he married Barbara Staŭffer. The Eggiwil baptism entry of a daughter Barbara created Oct. 13, 1665 said they were living at Zimmerzwÿ. Zimmertsei/Zimmerzei is an area two miles northwest of the village center of Eggiwil, on the west side of the Emme River opposite the Dieboldswil area.
2. **Hans Ramseÿer** was baptized Jan. 20, 1594.
3. Christina Ramseÿer was baptized Jan. 30, 1597.
4. Niklaŭs Ramseÿer was baptized April 21, 1598.
5. Christian Ramseÿer was baptized Sept. 13, 1601.
6. Elsbeth/Elsi Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 5, 1603. Her baptism entry called her father Ludwig.
7. Barbli Ramseÿer was baptized Aug. 9, 1607.

Hans Ramseÿer was baptized in the parish of Signau Jan. 20, 1594.

His marriage to Anni/Anna Haldimann was not recorded at Eggiwil until Feb. 4, 1649, the day their third child was baptized. She was born in Signau parish Feb. 10, 1617, and died there circa 1654, a daughter of Ŭlrich Haldimann and Catharina Wŭthrich.

They lived in the Zimmertsei/Zimmerzei area of Eggiwil.

Children of Hans Ramseÿer and Anni/Anna Haldimann include:

1. Peter Ramseÿer was born before 1638. On Sept. 25, 1663 at Eggiwil he married Elsbeth Staŭffer. She was born circa 1641, and may have been a daughter of Daniel Staŭffer and Barbara Galli. They lived in the Zimmertsei/Zimmerzei area of Eggiwil. Their children baptized at Eggiwil include:
   a. Ŭlli Ramseÿer was baptized March 6, 1664, and died before 1670.
   b. Barbli Ramseÿer was baptized Oct. 13, 1665.
   c. Hans Ramseÿer was baptized Oct. 20, 1667.
   d. Ŭllrich Ramseÿer was baptized Sept. 4, 1670, and died in 1749. On Aug. 18, 1693 at Eggiwil he married Elsbeth Staŭffer. She was baptized at Eggiwil Dec. 6, 1668, and died there Sept. 17, 1738, a daughter of Ŭlli Staŭffer and Barbli Staŭffer (and a granddaughter of Christian Staŭffer, whose story will be told in connection with his 1671 exile). They lived in the Dieboldswil area of Eggiwil (now a road two miles north of the village center, adjacent to the Dieboldsbach or brook), then on the Hofacker River on the east side of the village center. Their children baptized at Eggiwil include:
      1) Barbara Ramseÿer was baptized Sept. 23, 1694.
      2) Elsbeth Ramseÿer was baptized April 12 or 17, 1696, and died Aug. 4, 1766. She married her cousin (once removed) Christian Ramseÿer. He was baptized at Eggiwil Dec. 9, 1687, and died there March 12, 1766, a son of Johannes Ramseÿer and Barbara Bühlman.
      3) Maria Ramseÿer was baptized Nov. 14, 1697.
      4) Daniel Ramseÿer was baptized April 9, 1699, and died Feb. 9, 1733.
      5) Katharina Ramseÿer was baptized May 15, 1701.
      6) Anna Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 3, 1704.
      7) Peter Ramseÿer was baptized Aug. 28, 1707.
      8) Ŭlrich Ramseÿer was baptized Nov. 22, 1709.

9) Hans Ramseÿer was baptized Nov. 20, 1712, and died in February 1746. On May 4, 1736 at Eggiwil he married Anne Haldimann. She was baptized at Eggiwil Aug. 7, 1712, and died Dec. 25, 1786, a daughter of Ŭlrich Haldimann and Barbli Staŭffer.
10) Niklaŭs Ramseÿer was baptized Jan. 1, 1716, and died March 28, 1791. On June 12, 1739 at Eggiwil he married Barbara Galli. She was baptized at Eggiwil July 24, 1717, and died there Jan. 31, 1779, a daughter of Christian Galli and Verena Kobel.
11) Christian Ramseÿer was baptized Jan. 8, 1719.

2. **Ŭllrich/Ŭlli Ramseÿer** was born circa 1640.
3. Anna Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil Feb. 4, 1649.
4. Elisabetha Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil June 23, 1650, and died as an infant.
5. Elisabetha Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil Feb. 7, 1652.
6. Johannes/Hans Ramseÿer is found in a number of sources as someone born into this family June 18, 1654, though no baptism entry appears in Eggiwil records. His marriage to Barbara Bühlman was registered at Eggiwil Nov. 22, 1678. Ordinarily, when someone from outside Eggiwil was married there, a notation appeared in the entry. In this case it did not. 'Barbli' was baptized at Eggiwil Dec. 27, 1657, a daughter of Hans Bühlman and Elsbeth Haldiman. Their children baptized at Eggiwil include:
    a. Anna Ramseÿer was baptized April 25, 1679.
    b. Elsbeth Ramseÿer was baptized Jan. 9, 1681.
    c. Hans Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 22, 1683.
    d. Peter Ramseÿer was baptized Oct. 30, 1685, and died at Eggiwil Jan. 22, 1766. Circa 1707 he married Anna Margaretha Moser. She was born at Sumiswald April 14, 1688, and died at Eggiwil in 1742, a daughter of Magdalena Moser.
    e. Christen/Christian Ramseÿer was baptized Dec. 9, 1687, and died at Eggiwil March 12, 1766. He married his cousin (once removed) Elsbeth Ramseÿer. She was born April 17, 1696, and died Aug. 4, 1766, a daughter of Ŭllrich Ramseÿer and Elsbeth Staŭffer.
    f. Ŭli Ramseÿer was baptized May 14, 1690.
    g. Ŭllrich Ramseÿer was baptized Nov. 3, 1691.

Ŭllrich/Ŭlli Ramseÿer was born circa 1640, presumably at Eggiwil in Signau parish, and died circa 1675. He was a saddler. On May 15, 1663 at Eggiwil he married Barbara Staŭffer. She was born circa 1643, a daughter of Daniel Staŭffer and Barbara Galli.

They were living in the Zimmertsei/Zimmerzei area of Eggiwil in 1764, and lived in the Dieboldswil area across the river by 1668.

Ŭllrich/Ŭlli and Barbara were likely not Anabaptists. In 1671 Bernese authorities estimated that there were 40 Anabaptists residing at Eggiwil. On May 3 the magistrate received a directive from the Council of Bern. All Anabaptists were to be taken to the city of Bern, where they would be chastized and send into exile. When the villagers balked, a dozen influential heads of families were taken instead. They were held as hostages in the city until the Anabaptists came forward. On Oct. 16 the Protestant Reformed minister at Eggiwil reported that all Anabaptists had left his community of their own accord.

Barbara's grandfather Christian Staŭffer was born on Luchsmatt farm circa 1580, a son of Niclaŭs Staŭffer and Catrin Lehman. After 1618 he was living on Glashütte farm. Both locations were on the west side of what is now the village of Eggiwil, on the road to Röthenbach. In 1644 Christian, Ŭli Zaŭgg, and Ŭli Neuhauser were identified as Anabaptist preachers. They were arrested by Anabaptist hunters [Ger. *Täuferjäger*] and imprisoned in the castle at the town of Thun. Christian was among the exiles who departed Eggiwil in the fall of 1671. He was 90 years of age. With his second wife, some children, and some grandchildren he traveled through Dirmstein in the Pfalz, arriving at Ibersheim (eight miles north of Worms on the Rhine River) before the new year. He died at Ibersheim after April 6, 1672.

Children of Ŭllrich/Ŭlli Ramseÿer and Barbara Staŭffer baptized at Eggiwil include:

1. Anna Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 14, 1664.
2. Elsbeth Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 21, 1668.
3. Ŭllrich/Ŭlli Ramseÿer was baptized Oct. 15, 1669. When miller Hans Gosteli and Anna Galtner's daughter Maria was baptized at Mühleberg, Canton Bern Feb. 17, 1702, one witness was '*Ŭlly Ramseÿer aus dem Eggiwÿl.*'
4. **Christ** (per baptism entry)/**Christian/Christen Ramseÿer** (#1) was baptized May 23, 1672, and died in 1713.
5. Johannes/Hans Ramseÿer was baptized Jan. 8, 1675. On April 24, 1696 at Eggiwil he married Elsbeth Fluckiger. The baptism entry for their first child said they lived *unter der Berg* - under the mountain, a description of the Zimmertsei/Zimmerzei area of Eggiwil. The baptism entry of their second child said they lived at Brambach (in Eggiwil). Their children baptized at Eggiwil include:
    a. Elsbeth Ramseÿer was baptized May 23, 1697.

b. Peter Ramseÿer was baptized Oct. 8, 1699. On Dec. 10, 1734 he married Barbara Ägerter. She was baptized at Röthenbach (now Röthenbach im Emmental) Feb. 22, 1711, a daughter of Hans Ägerter and Madleni Haldiman.
c. Hans Ramseÿer was baptized March 6, 1701.

6. Barbara Ramseÿer was baptized July 2, 1679.
7. Peter Ramseÿer was baptized Feb. 9, 1683. He married Margaretha Haldimann. She was born at Langnau Nov. 27, 1698, and died there Nov. 21, 1755, a daughter of Hans Haldimann and Madlena Äbersold.
8. Verena Ramseÿer was baptized July 25, 1686, and died March 9, 1758.

Christ/Christian/Christen Ramseÿer (#1) was baptized at Eggiwil May 26, 1672. We could not account for or verify notes that say he died in 1713.

Circa 1695 he married Christina Gosteli. She was born at Bolligen (on the northeast corner of the city of Bern) Aug. 4, 1665, a daughter of Jakob Gosteli and Anna Zoss.

Recall from BELSLEY that Baltzlis and Gostelis are mentioned together in documents from the city of Bern as early as the 1300s. The Gosteli family of Bolligen was extremely prolific and today has many descendants in the area. The Belsley family of Cental Illinois also has a Gosteli forebearer.

Between the births of their first and second children something happened that prompted them to leave Eggiwil. Perhaps it was related to the appointment of a new Protestant Reformed minister in 1697. Johann Jakob Freudenreich was born March 18, 1670, and died Sept. 28, 1731. He was a son of the minister of the same name serving at Steffisburg. He had been a field preacher [Ger. *Feldprediger*] for his father, and would serve Eggiwil until 1729. Freudenreich and six leading citizens would also have made up the village morals court [Ger. *Chorgericht*].

A daughter was born at Wohlen (now Wohlen bei Bern) in 1698, and a son at Mühleberg, Canton Bern in 1700. These communities are west of the city of Bern. Perhaps Christ/Christian/Christen (#1) and Christina were only visiting Gostelis; we found Gosteli birth entries at both places. But it seems more likely that they had already left Eggiwil because they had accepted adult baptism, and Christina's brothers and their wives accompanied them on their moves.

In 1704 the Eggiwil baptism entry of their fourth child described the parents as residents of the Dieboldswil area of Eggiwil. If they were living there, they would have been residing with or very near Christ/Christian/Christen's cousin Üllrich Ramseÿer (born 1670, he was roughly the same age) and his wife Elsbeth Staŭffer.

In 1706 the Eggiwil baptism entry of a daughter said her parents were '*Anabapt*.' In 1708 the Eggiwil baptism entry of a son described his parents as *Anabaptiste im der Riedmatt* (above the road called Dieboldswil). This open notation strongly suggests that they no longer lived in the community, and the last three baptisms at Eggiwil were arranged by other Ramseÿers to comply with the law.

Children of Christ/Christian/Christen Ramseÿer (#1) and Christina Gosteli include:

1. Elsbeth Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil July 3, 1696.
2. Barbara Ramseÿer was baptized at Wohlen (now Wohlen bei Bern), Canton Bern April 3, 1698. An entry is found there, but this event and the baptism of her younger brother were also recorded together at Eggiwil. Wohlen (now Wohlen bei Bern) is a village on the north side of the Wohlensee (now a reservoir) six miles west-northwest of the city of Bern.
3. **Christian/Christen Ramseÿer** (#2) was baptized at Mühleberg, Canton Bern Sept. 22, 1700.
4. Christina Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil Jan. 20, 1704. The entry said her parents lived in the Dieboldswil area of Eggiwil.
5. Anna Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil March 12, 1706. The entry said her parents lived in the house of witnesses Bendicht and Magdalena Jenni (actually found as Jenmy, but other records suggest that this was the Jenni family of Eggiwil). The third witness was Anna Ramseÿer. Below Christina Gosteli's name is the notation '*anabapt.*' The entry immediately following this one was crossed out. Dated March 14, it named Peter, a son of Ulrich Ramseÿer and Elsbeth Staŭffer of Dieboldswÿl. Next to Peter's name is the note '*Obÿtante Baptisaŭ*.'
6. Ulrich Ramseÿer was baptized at Eggiwil July 6, 1708. His parents were described as *Anabaptiste im der Riedmatt.* One witness was Ulrich Ramseÿer, presumably either the father's older brother or cousin.

On Sept. 22, 1700 son **Christian/Christen Ramseÿer** (#2) was baptized at Mühleberg on the south side of the Wohlensee, seven miles west of Wohlen. His baptism entry, recorded Sept. 22, identified his parents as Christen Ramseÿer of Eggiwil and Christina Gosteli.

Mühleberg is a relatively small village in the Bern-Mitteland district of Canton Bern. It sits in a triangle between the Aare River, Lake Wohlen (a reservoir formed in 1920 from the Wohlensee), and the Saane River. In

the early 1700s toll collectors manned a customs and guard house by a bridge crossing the Aare River (Swiss internal tolls were not abolished until 1853). And like most border stations there would have been taverns, a forge, and a stable. Protestant Reformed records there date from 1651.

A number of events between 1700 and 1724 may have prompted him to resettle farther west outside Canton Bern. These include the failed reconciliation between Amman and Reist factions in 1711; an edict in 1711 reiterating that all the old Bernese mandates would be enforced; expulsions of Emmentalers by boat in 1710, 1711, and 1712; King Louis XIV of France's edict banning all Anabaptists from Alsace in 1712; and rewards offered to Anabaptist 'hunters.'

EMIGRATION

Before 1720 most Bernese citizens who wanted to depart the Old Swiss Confederacy were permitted to take dependents; a means of transportation – generally a horse, wagon, and cart; and personal possessions. Some communities charged a five percent assets tax.

In contrast, a known Anabaptist who chose to emigrate would typically be escorted out of his or her district with only items that could be carried.

In 1720 the Council of Bern made a small but significant change in their emigration policies. Someone who had chosen adult baptism could make an admission to the authorities in their community. After signing a promise never to return to the Old Swiss Confederacy, they could pay the assets tax and depart with their dependents, a means of transportation, and possessions.

A typical emigrant family of this time would travel with a horse, wagon and attached cart. Their possessions might include coins, chests, quilts, oilskins, pots, flints, and food that could keep on the journey – salted meats, cheese, dried fruit, and brandy. Bread and eggs could be purchased or bartered along the way. Some family members rode in the wagon, while older males walked to tend the sheep and cattle tethered behind.

A number of Anabaptist families resettled in the district of Erguël in the Prince-Bishopric of Basel.[118] It is about 18 miles northwest of Mühleberg, though the roundabout road between them may be twice as long.

Erguël was the site of a ruined castle that overlooked the villages of Sonvilier and St. Imier. It is often found on modern maps as *Ruines du Chateau d' Erguël*.

In *Bernese Anabaptists*, Delbert Gratz wrote that in the district of Erguël "The communes of Sonvilier, Renan, and Les Montagnes [now Les Franches-Montagnes] complained [about the presence of Anabaptists] especially, and it appears that to a certain extent the Anabaptists were forced to leave this section of the Jura. The owners of the land then had their turn to complain. They wrote that through the expulsion of the Anabaptists they were greatly harmed."

In 1724 a list of Anabaptists in the Principality of Neuchâtel included 'Christ Ramsier von Erguël.' With this scant evidence we could not determine how long Christian/Christen (#2) had resided at Erguël in the Prince-Bishopric of Basel before relocating to the south into the adjacent Principality of Neuchâtel.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF NEUCHÂTEL

Neuchâtel [Ger. *Neuenberg*] is located in the central part of the Jura Mountains, in the largely French-speaking Romandy region of western Switzerland. In the north the river Doubs drains the highlands, while in the south rivers flow into Lake Neuchâtel.

The area around the lake sustains vineyards and crops. The area called Les Vallées on the north holds the large high valleys of Ruz and Val-de-Travers (elevation 2,300 feet). The even higher area of the Neuchâtelois Mountains (elevation 2,900 feet) holds a long valley where the district of La Chaux-de-Fonds is located.

The ruling house of the mainly Protestant Principality of Neuchâtel died with Marie d' Orléans-Longueville in 1707. Within a year a council of citizens chose King Friedrich Wilhelm I of Prussia as her successor.

The Prussian king had promised three points: a relatively tolerant administration by the distant Berlin-based Hohenzollern dynasty; protection of the rights of the Protestant majority; and protection from claims by rival states. He immediately declared a law that Protestantism would be the only faith permitted within its boundaries.

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[118] 'Prince-Bishopric of Basel' is an English description of a place where one man was unquestioned head of both government and church. He was actually called the *Bischof von Basel, Fürst des heiligen Römischen Reiches*. According to Delbert Gratz, his land was called the *Stift*, *Hochstift*, *Bistum*, or *Fürstentum*.

The Prince-Bishopric of Basel was once comprised of territories that are now in the Swiss cantons Basel-Landschaft, Jura, Solothurn, and Bern. From 1528 until the French occupation in 1792 it was reduced to roughly what is now the Swiss Canton Jura – with the French department Upper Alsace [Fr. *Haut-Rhin*] and the *Territoire de Belfort* above, Doubs to the west, and a corner of Canton Bern as well as the Principality of Neuchâtel below. In present day Erguël is administered by Canton Bern.

Initially the Council of Bern was hopeful that he would make an exception by allowing Bernese Anabaptist emigrants to resettle there. On April 21, 1734 a mandate from Friedrich declared that, "…These Mennonites, Pietists, and Anabaptists shall be tolerated based on the testimonial given them by the council that these people live as good citizens."

However, seeing tolerance formalized by the mandate, the council almost immediately reversed its position. In a letter to Friedrich dated Dec. 21, 1734 they asked that Neuchâtel administrators "…take the necessary steps, so that these trouble-making people should be taken care of." Friedrich replied that Anabaptists who had come under his protection since 1724 would be forced to emigrate farther in 1736. But very little action was ever taken.

Friedrich later wrote that, "Any spirit of persecution is obnoxious to me, and I cannot understand why one wants to drive these poor people out of the country, since they do no harm to anyone, and do nothing that could jeopardize the welfare of the state. They seem to me to be deserving of sympathy, and it would always be more worthwhile to draw them to you with kindness and Christian love, than to deprive them of the refuge they have sought with you. It is therefore my wish that they be tolerated until I find it advisable and necessary to order otherwise."[119]

In 1769 Anabaptists were provisionally exempted from military conscription. In 1773 exemption from conscription was confirmed, and Anabaptists were first permitted to purchase land.

Circa 1725 Christian/Christen (#2) married Maria Ritz. She may have had some connection to Eggiwil, where the spellings Rÿz, Rÿss, Rÿtz, Rÿezen, and Ritz are found.

In 1733 a general list of Anabaptists in the Principality of Neuchâtel included Christ Ramseyer from Hekwil [Eggiwil] in the district of Signau, farming at Beauregard with his wife Maria Ritz and three underage sons. This indicates that Christen (#2), who was born at Mühleberg in Canton Bern, did not consider himself a citizen of the principality. Rather, as many Swiss emigrants did, he had willingly identified himself by his *Heimatort,* the Swiss legal point of origin for his family's Swiss citizenship rights. This further indicates that his parents had not been expelled or banished from Canton Bern, which would have meant the loss of those rights.

Beauregard was the estate of the Château de Beauregard at Serrières, near the city and lake of Neuchâtel. It is 12 miles south of Ergüel (but 20 miles of actual travel on the modern highways 30-18 and 20, a roundabout route around the mountains that passes through La Sagne). The main building of the estate was constructed in 1563, and still serves as a residence. The complex of buildings includes a barn and stable, and is surrounded by a vineyard, tall trees, and orchards. Perhaps Christian/Christen found work as a cultivator there.

Less than a mile from Serrières is Peseux. Jacob Amman's brother Ulrich took up residence there. A letter written by Pietist minister Hieronymus Annoni of Basel (1697-1770) is preserved in the library of the University of Basel. It tells about visiting Ulrich there in mid-December of 1730.

From Serrières, the village of Valangin is only three miles to the north. This village was a popular first settlement point for Anabaptists arriving in the principality. Its 1724 census had tallied 17 Bernese Anabaptist families with 71 persons.

In 1739 a general list of Anabaptists in the principality included Christ Ramseyer of the district of Signau with his wife Maria Ritz, three sons, and two daughters. Maria died before 1745.

Children of Christian/Christen Ramseyer (#2) and his first wife Maria Ritz presumably born in the Principality of Neuchâtel include:

1. Christian Ramseyer was born between 1725 and 1730, and died after 1739.
2. Johannes/Hans Ramseyer was born in 1730, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel (adjacent to La Sagne) Sept. 8, 1805. He married Anna. She died in November 1798.
    a. Johannes Ramseyer was born June 21, 1757. On June 30, 1787 he married Anna Tschantz. She was born before 1760, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel May 7, 1818, a daughter of Peter Tschantz and Anna Hostetler. Their children born at Les-Ponts-de-Martel include:

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[119] French troops occupied Neuchâtel in 1806. On March 30 Napoleon appointed his chief of staff Major General Louis Alexandre Berthier as the sovereign *Prince de Neuchâtel*, though Berthier continued to accompany him until his first abdication. For the next eight years the rights of Anabaptists would be regarded equally with Protestants.

In 1814 the principality was returned to Prussian rule. It was admitted into the Swiss Confederation as a canton in 1815. It continued to be administered from Berlin until 1847-48, when a local revolt loosened its authority. In 1857 Prussia renounced its right to rule.

After Napoleon's first abdication, Berthier was at the head of a delegation welcoming the new king Louis XVIII into Paris. When he received word of Napoleon's plans to return from exile on Elba, he chose not to participate. When Napoleon arrived on French soil March 20, 1815, Berthier was conveniently visiting royal family members still living in Belgium. But it soon became obvious that he was suspected by both sides. The Bourbon restoration government struck him from the list of military marshals April 10. Berthier left Belgium and withdrew to his wife's estate at Bamberg, Bavaria (she was a niece of King Maximilian I Joseph of Bavaria). He died there June 1 after falling (or being thrown) from a window. Napoleon abdicated a second time on July 8. Berthier's name is among those inscribed on the inner wall of the *Arc de Triomphe*.

1) Johannes Ramseyer was born Aug. 14, 1788. He married Magdalena Maurer.
2) Susanna Ramseyer was born May 23, 1789. On Feb. 1, 1807 she married her second cousin (once removed) Michel/Michael Ramseyer. He was born Feb. 25, 1777, and died after 1826, a son of Abraham Ramseyer (#1) and Salomé/Catherine Graber.
3) Joseph Ramseyer was born Aug. 26, 1794. Family notes say he "went to America."
4) Joel Ramseyer was born May 10, 1796. Family notes say he "went to America" and may have died in New York City.
5) Anna Ramseyer was born June 16, 1798. She married David Ummel. He may have been a son of David Ummel and Elisabeth Kocher, members of the congregation of minister Abraham Ramseyer.
6) Philip Ramseyer was born in September of 1802, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel March 8, 1807.
7) Lydia Ramseyer was born May 28, 1806, and died in 1886. On Feb. 29, 1829 in Neuchâtel she married Johann Dellenbach. He was born circa 1800, and died in 1842, a son of Jean Dellenbach and Anna or Barbe Andres. Their daughter Anna Dellenbach was born at Les Ponts-de-Martel March 18, 1831, and died at Milford, Nebraska June 24, 1885. On March 17, 1851 at Les Ponts-de-Martel she married Isaac Stahli/Stahly. He was born there June 17, 1829, and died at Milford May 28, 1915, a son of Isaac Stahli and Marie Kohler. They immigrated in 1868 and had at least one child in Danvers, McLean County before resettling in Nebraska. Anna is buried in East Fairview Cemetery, while Isaac is buried in Pleasant View Cemetery.

- Jacob Ramseyer may belong here. On Aug. 29, 1783 his marriage to Anne Marie Staŭffer was registered at La Sagne. She was a daughter of Jean Staŭffer and Anne Marie Hirschi. She died March 26, 1806, and was buried at Le Locle. At the time their marriage was registered they had a son who would have been six years of age. Their child was:
  1) Johannes Ramseyer was born at Travers (now Val-de-Travers) in 1777, and died in Switzerland in 1818. On Jan. 5, 1817 at Noiraigue he married widow Verena or Freni Liechti/Fanny Liechty. She was born at Montbéliard Jan. 24, 1779, a daughter of Jacob Liechti and Barbara Roth. On Nov. 24, 1801 at Valangin she had married minister Johannes/Hans Schlunegger. He was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds in 1777, and died in 1814. The house where he was born had belonged to his family for a century, and survived a fire that destroyed the village in 1794; it still exists. Children from the first marriage included Barbara, Peter, Marie/Mary, Johannes/Jean/John, Christian/Christophe, and Jacob. The second marriage yielded a daughter Verena Ramseyer, who may have been born after the death of her father. Widowed twice, Verena decided to follow the example of others by immigrating to Ohio. Verena and her children departed from Le Havre on the *Origon*, and arrived at New York June 8, 1824. The passenger list shows farmer Ferene Leichty, 42; Peter Schlonegger, 20; Jean, 14; Christophe, 13; Jacob, 12; Barbara, 21; Marie, 18; and Veren Pamsey [Ramseyer], 5. Initially the sons worked as farm laborers in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They later recalled seeing the Marquis de Lafayette at Lancaster during his American tour in 1825. In that year they resettled in Butler County, Ohio. The children of Johannes/Hans Schlunegger opted to keep his surname in America, where it became Sloneker, Sloniker, or Slonaker. We suspect they comprised the household of 'Fanny Sloniker' on the 1830 census of Milford, Butler County: one female in the 40-49 year age bracket; one female 20-29; one female 10-14; and three males 15-19. McBride's 1836 plat map of Milford shows John Sleenaker and Peter Sleenaker on adjacent 40- and 30-acre parcels in southeast Section 15. The 1840 census of Somer, Butler County (a community in Milford Township) shows the households of Jacob, Peter, and John Sloenaker. Verena died in Butler County Feb. 14, 1868. She is buried in an unmarked grave in Schluniger Cemetary at Colrain, Hamilton County, Ohio. *Herald of Truth*, March 1868: "On the l4th of January, in Hamilton Co., Ohio, Fanny Ramseyer. She had been twice married. Her first husband's name was John Schlunegger; her second, John Ramseyer. Her maiden name was Liechty. She was the mother of eight children. Funeral sermons were delivered by Delm and Nicholas Augspurger, from *2 Cor. 5: 1-10* and *1 Thess. 4: 13-14*. She was a faithful member of the Omish Mennonite Church."
     a) Verena/Frances Ramseyer was born in Neuchâtel in 1818, and died in Butler County, Ohio in or before 1865. On Dec. 13, 1836 in Butler County she married Michael Oswald (the entry names Michael Oswald and Frances Ramsey). He was born Aug. 14, 1808, and died in Butler County Aug. 12, 1846; he is buried in Schluniger Cemetery at Coleraine, 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 Michael's family can be found in KENNEL. On Feb. 5, 1848 in Butler County Verena/Frances remarried to Jacques Peter Schmidt/Jacob P. Schmidt (the entry names Jacob P. Schmidt and Frances Rumpsire). He was born at Bendorf Aug. 9, 1823, and died at Montgomery, Hickory County, Missouri Oct. 7 or Nov. 10, 1873, a son of Johannes or Jean Peter Schmidt/John P. Smith and Christine Schwarz. See PETERSMITH for background on their life together.

3. Stefan/Étienne Ramseyer was born in 1733. He married Maria Büttschi/Buitsche (also found as Pötschi). It is probable that she was a daughter of Peter Büttschi, an Anabaptist reportedly living at Valangin (Neuchatel) in 1718, Erguël (the Prince-Bishopric of Basel) in 1727, and Valangin again in 1733.[120] Their children born on La Joux du Plâne farm at Chézard-St. Martin (five miles east of La Sagne) include:
    a. Isaac Ramseyer was born March 4, 1766, and died at Couvet (12 miles southwest of La Sagne, now part of Val-de-Travers) May 25, 1847. On Sept. 15, 1792 at Fleurier (below Couvet, now part of Val-de-Travers) he married Susanne Oesch. She was born at La Chaux-du-Milieu (seven miles southwest of La Sagne) Nov. 7, 1766, and died at Travers (above Couvet, now part of Val-de-Travers) Jan. 12, 1830, a daughter of Christian Oesch and an unidentified first wife (between 1766 and 1773 Christian remarried to Marie Ramseyer, Stefan/Étienne Ramseyer's younger sister).[121] Their children include:
        1) Isaac Ramseyer was born at Couvet Sept. 20, 1792, and died there May 8, 1859. He married Maria Hauser. On April 1, 1824 at Ste. Croix Isaac remarried to Susanne Marianne Judith Junod.
        2) Susette Ramseyer was born at Couvet Feb. 19, 1795, and died there July 26, 1851.
        3) Marie Ramseyer was born in August of 1797.
        4) Christ Ramseyer was born at Travers Feb. 3, 1800, and died at Couvet Nov. 6, 1838.
        5) Anna/Nanette Ramseyer was born at Couvet Aug. 14, 1809, and died at Buttes Oct. 13, 1866. She married Abraham Winteregg. He was born at Hilterfingen, Canton Bern April 28, 1800, and died at Buttes April 14, 1868.
    b. Christian/Christ Ramseyer was born Jan. 5 or 6, 1772, and died at Travers May 30, 1848. In 1799 at Les Ponts-de-Martel he married Catrina/Catherine Bühler. She was born at Montbéliard circa 1773, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel April 29, 1836, a daughter of Christ Bühler and Madeleine Meyer. Their children born on Combe-Pellaton road between Les Ponts-de-Martel and Travers include:
        1) Hélène/Helena Ramseyer was born April 24, 1803, and died at Danvers, McLean County Feb. 10, 1887. On March 21, 1829 at Travers she married Christian Stähli. He was born at Travers March 9, 1799, and died there Feb. 28, 1854, a son of Christian Stähli and Magdalena Kropf. She is found on the 1870 census of Dry Grove, McLean County as Heleny Stahly, 65, Switzerland, in the household of son Joseph Stahly, 29, Switzerland; and on the 1880 census of Dry Grove as boarder Hellen Stahley, 76, Switzerland, in the home of Joseph Stahley, 39, Switzerland. Her headstone in North Danvers Mennnonite Cemetery describes her as "Helene Ramseyer, wife of Christian Stahly, Apr. 1804-Feb. 10, 1887."
            — One of their sons was Étienne Stähli/Stephen Stahley. He was born on Combe-Pellaton road March 30, 1842, and died at Danvers Feb. 26, 1916. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Helvetia*, and arrived at New York May 10, 1861 (the same voyage that brought Ramseyers and Eichers). The passenger list shows Stephen Stahle, 23, and Christian Stahle, 22, from Switzerland. On Dec. 20, 1866 at Danvers, McLean County Stephen married Barbara Schantz. She was born at Congerville, Montgomery Township, Woodford County Aug. 25, 1849, and died at Gridley, McLean County Jan. 15, 1924, a daughter of Jacob Schantz and Catherine Deissen. He was ordained in the Defenseless Mennonite Church in 1885, helped to set up the Evangelical Mennonite Church at Flanagan, and served there as a minister until his death. Stephen and Barbara are buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan.
        2) Marie Ramseyer was born in 1806, and died as an infant.
        3) Johannes/Jean Ramseyer was born Oct. 18, 1807, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel July 31, 1873. On May 5, 1838 at Les Ponts-de-Martel he married Isaline Calame-Rosset. She was born at La Brévine March 9, 1817, a daughter of Daniel Frédéric Calame-Rosset and Rose Henriette Montandon.

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[120] Ernst Müller's 1732 *Reconstructed Census of Mennonites* (1895) places Peter Büttschi at La Chaux-de-Fonds (either the village or the district around it); Valangin is in the adjacent district of Val-de-Ruz.

[121] In 2009 Boveress, Buttes, Couvet, Fleurier, Les Bayards, Noiraigue, St. Sulpice, and Travers were merged to form Val-de-Travers, Canton Neuchâtel.

3) Stephanus/Étienne Ramseyer was born Oct. 4, 1809. On Oct. 31, 1840 at Les Ponts-de-Martel he married Eugénie Pellaton. She was born at Travers Feb. 7, 1817, and died at La Combe-Pellaton March 28, 1881, a daughter of Henri François Pellaton and marie Esabeau Jeannet.
4) Joseph Ramseyer was born April 3, 1812, and died Jan. 11, 1890. On March 16, 1844 at Travers he married Julie Mélina Aellen. She was born at Travers May 24, 1824, and died there March 26, 1907, a daughter of Guillaums Aellen and Rose Emilie Shwartz.
5) George Philippe Ramseyer was born in 1814, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel May 8, 1817.

4. Marie Ramseyer was born circa 1734, and died at Môtiers (now part of Val-de-Travers) in January of 1812. She married widower Christen Oesch. He was born at Rochefort, Neuchâtel (five miles south of La Sagne), and died at Môtiers March 1, 1800, a son of Christian Oesch and Magdalena Ellenbrandt. His father is found on a 1730 census of Anabaptists in La Heutte, in the Prince-Bishopric of Basel (27 miles northeast of La Sagne). According to J. Virgil Miller's *Both Sides of the Ocean*, he was described as 38-year-old farmhand Christophel Asch of Uemis. Wimmis is inland from Spiez on the western shore of Lake Thun [Ger. *Thunersee*] in Canton Bern, on the road to Erlenbach im Simmental, the birthplace of Jacob Amman. His *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights was Oberlangenegg. In Canton Bern *Äsch* is interchangeable with *Ösch* – they described an ash tree. Children of Christen Oesch and an unidentified first wife include:
    a. Marie Oesch was born March 10, 1762, and died at Môtiers July 23, 1832.
    b. Christine Oesch was born Dec. 17, 1764, and died at Môtiers Dec. 17, 1838.
    c. Susanne Oesch was born at La Chaux-du-Milieu Nov. 7, 1766, and died at Travers Jan. 12, 1830. On Sept. 15, 1792 at Fleurier she married Isaac Ramseyer. He was born at Chézard-St. Martin March 4, 1766, and died at Couvet May 25, 1847, a son of Stefan/Étienne Ramseyer and Maria Büttschi/Buitsche (also found as Pötschi).
        — One of their children was entered into baptism records at Eggiwil Feb. 1, 1812. Described as Isaak Ramseyer, he was baptized at Fleurier Sept. 20, 1792. Witnesses were Susanne's younger brother Christen Oesch and his wife Marianne Quartier (also called Maire, according to the entry).

    Children of Christen Oesch and his second wife Marie Ramseyer include:
    d. Rebecca Oesch was born at La Chaux-du-Milieu May 26, 1773, and died at Môtiers Nov. 14, 1843.
    e. Christen Oesch was born at Les Ponts-de-Martel Sept. 8, 1775, and died at Môtiers Jan. 17, 1845. On Aug. 15, 1810 at Siselen, Canton Bern he married Marianne Quartiers (also called Maire, according to the entry). She was born March 19, 1784, and died at Môtiers Nov. 19, 1854, a daughter of Abram Quartiers. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Christen Osch of Schwarzenegg and Môtiers. His father was described as Christen von Oberlangenegg, Schwarzenegg, who was a resident of Môtiers, Travers. Schwarzenegg at Oberlangenegg would refer not to his actual birthplace but to his *Heimatort*, or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights.
    f. Léa Oesch was born at Travers Aug. 12, 1777, and died at Môtiers May 10, 1844.

5. Christina Ramseyer was born in 1737, and died at Noirague (now part of Val-de-Travers) March 11, 1788. Circa 1762 she married Jacob Stähli. He was born at Oberhofen but baptized at the shared Protestant Reformed Church of Hilterfingen March 16, 1738, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel Nov. 20, 1777, a son of Caspar Stähli and Madle Ritschart. Their children include:
    a. Jacob Stähli was born July 22, 1763, and died in 1826. On Nov. 6, 1786 he married Susanna Frutiger. She was born Nov. 27, 1767, a daughter of Joseph Frutiger and Christina Luginbühl. She was likely the Susanna Frutiger living on the farm of minister Abraham Ramseyer who was 'received into the congregation' in 1785.
    b. Johannes/Jean Stähli was born circa 1766, and died at Brot-Dessus (below Les Ponts-de-Martel) March 13, 1829.
    c. Christian Stähli was born at La Sagne circa 1769, and died at Travers in August of 1818. On March 31, 1792 at Boudry he married Madeleine Kopp. She was born circa 1769, and died at Noiraigue before 1843, a daughter of Rudolphe Kopp and Barbe Zunderen.
    d. Isaac Stähli was born at Travers in May of 1771, and died at Brot-Dessus Dec. 19, 1839. On July 1, 1804 at Les Ponts-de-Martel he married Madeleine Frey. She was born circa 1787, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel March 23, 1815. On Nov. 23, 1823 at Les Ponts-de-Martel Isaac remarried to Maria Kohler.
    e. David Stähli was born at Travers in April of 1776, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel Jan. 3, 1838.

No later than 1745 Christen (#2) relocated to La Sagne, in the district of La Chaux-de-Fonds, in the Principality of Neuchâtel. This village is 10 miles northwest of the Château de Beauregard, and 14 miles southeast of Erguël, on the road between them. Eleven years earlier La Sagne had been the first village in the principality to encourage toleration of foreigners and Anabaptists.

The move may have coincided with his second marriage to Edith Balsiger or Balsinger (both forms of the same surname). One source says she was born in 1718, and died in Switzerland in 1757.

LA SAGNE, LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS, NEUCHÂTEL

La Sagne is a village/municipality in the district of La Chaux-de-Fonds in what is now Canton Neuchâtel, Switzerland. A *sagne* is a marshland. A *chaux* is a high valley.

The district is located in the eastern part of the Vallée de la Sagne et des Ponts-de-Martel. The village Les Ponts-de-Martel is adjacent to the south. A *pont* is a bridge, a *martel* is a marshland. According to *L'Eglise Mennonite ou Anabaptiste en Pays Neuchâtelois* (1969), the district held four Anabaptist families with 17 persons in 1734, and eight families in 1747.

The village Le Locle is adjacent on La Sagne's west side, but outside the district. In the late 1600s and early 1700s Le Locle had a population four times that of La Sagne (this changed in the mid-1700s with the development of a watch-making industry). Anabaptists who lived there traveled several miles by carriage to attend meetings in the farmhouse of Abraham Ramseyer at La Sagne.

Children of Christen Ramseyer (#2) and his second wife Edith Balsiger/Balsinger presumably born at La Sagne include:

6. Abraham Ramseyer was born May 15, 1745, and died in 1826. On May 31, 1768 at La Sagne he married Salomé (later called Catherine) Graber. She was born at Bethoncourt, Doubs (above Montbéliard) circa 1746, and died March 21, 1807, a daughter of Daniel Graber and Catherine Eicher. (Her sister Anna was married to Jean Klopfenstein, 1729-1796; see KLOPFENSTEIN). Abraham farmed between the roads La Combe-Boudry and Les Bressels at La Sagne. He became an Amish Mennonite minister, holding meetings in his farmhouse. Some of the names found in his meetings included Amstutz, Bärtschi/Bartschy, Frutiger, Kocher, Rüfenacht, Siegrist, Stähli/Stahley, Tschantz, Ummel/Hummel, Winteregg, and Zurbruchen. Children of Abraham Ramseyer (#1) and Salomé/Catherine Graber born at La Sagne include:
    a. Abram Ramseyer was born May 16, 1772, and died at Le Locle Feb. 21, 1806. On Feb. 21, 1792 he married Freni/Verena/Freny Graber. She was born Nov. 20, 1774, a daughter of Peter Graber and Marie Rich. Their children include:
        - Jean Ramseyer may belong here. On March 4, 1815 at La Sagne he married Marie Nussbaum. This was one of the few Ramseyer marriages entered in local records. Their entry described the groom as a son of the deceased Abram Ramseyer of Eggiwil, Canton Bern (a *Heimatort*, not a birthplace). The bride was described as a daughter of the deceased Christ Nussbaum of Bollingen, Canton Bern (a *Heimatort* as well).

        1) Verena Ramseyer was born at La Sagne in May of 1797. She married Abraham Droz.
        2) Catherine Ramseyer was born April 24, 1799. On June 17, 1820 at Le Locle she married Charles Daniel Humbert-Droz. He was born circa 1800, a son of Daniel Humbert-Droz and Marianne Mosset. At the time of the marriage she was living at Le Locle, he at Valangin.

    b. Christen/Christian Ramseyer was born June 12, 1775, and died in his home in the grand forest of Joux on the north side of Les Ponts-de-Martel July 7, 1835. On July 7, 1799 he married Rosina Steiner. Their children were born at Les Ponts-de-Martel, La Chaux-du-Milieu, and Rochefort, all touching La Sagne. They include:
        1) Johannes/Jean Ramseyer was born at La Chaux-du-Milieu April or May 14, 1800, and died at La Sagne March 26, 1860. On Aug. 28, 1827 at Les Ponts-de-Martel he married his second cousin Margueritte Ramseyer. She was born at Maîche, Doubs March 28, 1808 (the 10-year civil index calls her Margueritte Ramezin), and died in Switzerland July 28, 1839, a daughter of Johannes Ramseyer and Barbara Kaufmann. They had four children. On Jan. 5, 1841 Johannes remarried to Barbara/Barbe Amstutz. She was born on Petite Kolberg farm at Lucelle [Ger. *Lützel*], a village straddling the borders of Upper Alsace and Canton Jura June 30, 1817, and died Feb. 28, 1900, a daughter of Christian Amstutz and Barbara/Barbe Klopenstein. They also had four children.
            — One of the children of Johannes Ramseyer and his second wife Barbara/Barbe Amstutz was Frédéric-Louis Ramseyer (found in America as Frederick Ludwig Ramseyer). He was born on the road called Les Maix-Rochat at Le Cerneux-Pequignot (10 miles southwest of La Sagne) Feb. 3, 1847, and died in the home of a daughter at Massillon, Tuscawaras Township, Stark County, Ohio Sept. 17, 1931. On July 3, 1877 he married Rosina Ummel. She was born at Les Esplatures (four miles north of La Sagne) July 9, 1856, and died at Massillon Oct. 20, 1931. Her death entry named her parents as John Ummel and Barbara Schindler. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Saint Germain*, and arrived at New York April 13, 1882. The passenger list shows farmer Frederic Ramseyer, 35, Suisse, destination Ohio. She sailed from Bordeaux on the *S.S. Château Loville*, and arrived at New York Sept. 15, 1883. She and her children are found on the passenger list as Rosalie Ranseyer, 27 (her correct age 24 is crossed out),

Switzerland; Lina, 5; and Marie, 4. In 1900 they resided at Western Star Village, Wadsworth Township, Medina County, Ohio with sx children born in Ohio; the census called them Fred and Rosely Ramseyer, said they had been married 23 years, and gave their years of immigration. They are found on the 1930 census of Green, Wayne County, Ohio as Fred L. Ramseyer, 83, Switzerland, immigrated in 1857; and Rosena, 73, Switzerland, immigated in 1857, German spoken in the home. They are buried under a joint headstone in Crown Hill Mennonite Cemetery at Rittmann, Wayne County.

2) Katharina/Catherine Ramseyer was born at Rochefort June 15, 1802, and died in 1839. In June of 1830 she married Christian Boss.
3) Maria/Marie Ramseyer was born at Les Ponts-de-Martel March 3, 1805, and died at Dambenois, Doubs Nov. 24, 1887. On May 30, 1826 at Vaufrey she married Christian Riche. He was born at Lucelle April 25, 1803, and died at Dambenois Feb. 10, 1883, a son of Pierre Riche and Marie Klopfenstein.
- Possibly a child born June 5, 1806 who died as an infant.
4) Rosina Ramseyer was born at Rochefort Feb. 12, 1808. She married Samuel Gerber.
5) Christian Ramseyer was born at Rochefort March 28, 1812.
6) Suzette Ramseyer was born in December of 1813, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel Jan. 19, 1817.
7) Jacob Ramseyer was born July 21, 1816, and died at Le Locle Oct. 15, 1881. He married Barbara Conrad. She was born at Montbéliard Jan. 18, 1816, a daughter of Jean Conrad and Barbara Hilty.

c. Babi/Barbara Ramseyer was born circa 1777, and died in Ohio in 1840. On March 11, 1786 at Montbéliard she married Pierre /Peter Conrad. He was born in the Burgerwald forest at Montbéliard Feb. 17, 1760, and died in Butler County, Ohio in 1837 (Christian Iutzi's diary says Peter was buried June 17), a son of Johannes/Hans Kunrad and Marguerite Rychen. Their marriage ceremony was performed by her father. For background on this couple see CONRAD in the Appendix.
d. Jacob Ramseyer was born Dec. 29, 1778, and died the same day.
e. Catherine Ramseyer was born Nov. 27, 1779, and died in Butler County, Ohio in 1856. On Nov. 29, 1802 at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace she married Johannes/Jean Schlatter. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Jean Schlatter, 34, born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace Sept. 21, 1768, a son of farmer Christian Schlatter and Barbe Juncker, residents of Merzen [Mertzen, 19 miles southwest of Richwiller]. The bride was described as Catherine Ramzeir, 23, born at La Sagne Nov. 27, 1779, a daughter of farmer Abraham Ramzeir and Catherine Graber. The groom signed Johannes Schlatter, while the bride signed Catherine Ramseier. He died in 1832. Catherine came to America as a widow with children. She is the probable that she is the Catharine Schlater found on McBride's 1836 plat map of St. Clair, Butler County as the owner of 67 acres in southwest Section 11. The Sloniker families living only one farm removed. She is also found on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County as Catharine, 65, Germany in the household of son Christian (found as Christopher Slauter). Children of Johannes/Jean Schlatter and Catherine Ramseyer born in Neuchâtel include:
    1) Abraham Schlatter was born Oct. 6, 1804. On June 24, 1838 in Butler County, Ohio he married Catherine König/King. Both Abraham and his wife died at Benton, Hocking County, Ohio in 1841.
    2) Barbara Schlatter was born April 19, 1810, and died at Collinsville, Butler County, Ohio March 18, 1896. On June 2, 1834 in Butler County she married Hans Schlunegger/John Sloniker. He was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds May 22, 1809, and died at Collinsville July 15, 1905, a son of Verena or Freni Liechti/Fanny Liechty and her first husband minister Johannes/Hans Schlunegger. They are buried in Collinsville Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, April 1896: "On the 19th of March 1896 in Collinsville, Ohio, our aged sister, Barbara Slonecker, maiden name Schlatter, aged 85 years and 11 months. She was for several years a faithful member of the Mennonite church. About three years ago she suffered an injury to her limb by a fall and was since that time helpless so that she had to be moved about in an invalid chair, and as she lived near the church she was able to attend regularly, kind friends wheeling her chair to the church. She bore her affliction with Christian fortitude until the Lord called her home. Upon the 22nd of March a large concourse of people assembled to accompany the remains to their last resting place. Funeral services by J.J. Kraybill assisted by Pre. Walker of the Presbyterian Church. She leaves her aged companion, who for sixty three years lived with her in happy wedded life. Also six children, twenty one grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren."
    3) Christian Schlatter was born circa 1814, and died in McPherson County, Kansas April 8, 1884; he is buried as 'Chris. Schlatter' in the Amish Cemetery in McPherson County, 'aged 70 years.' On Dec. 22, 1842 in Butler County he married Barbara Kauffman. She was born

circa 1825, and died in Lee County, Iowa Feb. 6, 1871; she is buried in Joseph Goldsmith's Burying Ground at West point, Lee County. Their household is found on the 1850 census of Milford, Butler County as farmer Christopher Slauter, 36, Germany; Barbaray, 28, Germany; Christian, 7, Ohio; Jos., 6, Ohio; Nancy, 5, Ohio; Barbary, 3, Ohio; John, 2; and Catharine, 65, Germany [his mother]. *Herald of Truth*, May 1871: "On the 6th of February, in Lee County, Iowa of consumption, Barbara, wife of Christian Schlatter, aged 46 years. She was buried on the 8th in J. Goldsmith's burying-ground, on which occasion John Gundy, of Henry County, delivered a discourse, aided by Peter Schantz. She was a member of the Omish church."

f. Michel/Michael Ramseyer was born Feb. 25, 1787, and died after 1826. On Feb. 1, 1807 he married his second cousin (once removed) Susanna Ramseyer. She was born at Les Ponts-de-Martel May 23, 1789, a daughter of Johannes Ramseyer and Anna Tschantz. Their children born at Boudry include:
   1) Michael Ramseyer likely died as an infant.
   2) Anna Ramseyer married David Gerber.
   3) Christian Ramseyer was born March 3, 1815, and died May 14, 1879. On July 8, 1837 on the road La Combe-Boudry at La Sagne he married Suzanne Ummel. She was born at La Sagne April 7, 1815, a daughter of Abraham Ummel and Marianne Suter. Family notes say that on March 21, 1874 Christian departed and "went to America."
   4) Catherine Ramseyer was born Feb. 28, 1826, and died at Ste. Blaise, Neuchâtel May 9, 1897. On June 14, 1845 at Grafenhaüsen, Baden-Württemberg she married Meinrad Nussle in a Catholic ceremony. He was born at Grafenhaüsen May 12, 1818, and died at St. Blaise March 17, 1897, a son of Franz Joseph Nussle and Theresia Morath.

7. Peter Ramseyer was born circa 1747, and died before 1811. In 1768 he married Barbara Ritschard. She was a daughter of Kaspar Ritschard. Their children include:
   a. Marie Ramseyer was born at St. Hippolyte, Doubs Aug. 1, 1772, and died there March 25, 1821 (the 10-year civil index lists her as 'Ramseier, femme Schwartz'). She married Johannes/Jean Schwartz. He was born at Dampierre-les-Bois, Doubs circa 1766, and died at St. Hippolyte Sept. 7, 1803, a son of Hans Schwartz and Babi. Two of their sons married second cousins, daughters of Johannes/John Ramseyer and Barbara Kaufmann. On Nov. 14, 1798 they had a child at Mancenans-Lizerne, Doubs, the home of Marie's uncle and aunt Isaac Ramseÿer and Anna Augsbourg [Augspurger]. The location was described as the house behind *Chateau Melaine*. Signatures included Hans Schwartz and the mother's cousin Hans Ramseÿer [married to Barbara Kaufmann].
   b. Madeleine Ramseyer was born at La Brévine (12 miles southwest of La Sagne) Oct. 18, 1774, and died at Fleurier Aug. 27, 1852. On Feb. 25, 1804 at Fleurier she married Frédéric Jequier. He was born at Fleurier May 3, 1784, and died March 27, 1817, a son of Jean Jacques Jequier and Marie Elisabeth Grandjean.
   c. Jacob Ramseyer was born at La Brévine Nov. 26, 1779. A baptism register entry created at Eggiwil in 1815 says that he was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at La Brévine Dec. 25, 1798. It describes his parents as Peter Ramseÿer (son of Christen of Eggiwil) and Barbara Ritschard (a daughter of Kaspar) von Oberhofen. 'Von'would generally indicate that Oberhofen was not her actual birthplace, but the *Heimatort* for the Ritschard family.

8. **Isaac Ramseyer** was born circa 1747.

9. Jacob Ramseyer was born after 1748. He married Susanna Frutiger. She was baptized at Hilterfingen, Canton Bern Dec. 8, 1748, a daughter of Hans Frutiger and Verena Reusser.
   a. Marguerite Ramseier was born Sept. 22, 1772, and died at Les Verrières. She married Abraham Winteregg. He was born at Heiligenschwendi, and baptized at Hilterfingen June 20, 1773, a son of Ŭlli Winteregg and Elisabeth Jautzi. He died after 1829.
   b. Jacob Ramseyer was born Feb. 9, 1774. On March 3, 1804 he married Susanna Maurer. She was a daughter of Christ Maurer and Madeleine Willer. Their children born at Les Ponts-de-Martel include:
      1) Susanne Ramseyer was born Dec. 12, 1804. On Oct. 27, 1833 at La Chaux-du-Milieu she married Frédéric Louis Matthey-Israel. He was born there June 12, 1790, a son of Daniel Henri Matthey-Israel and Henriette Matthey-Dupraz.
      2) Marianne Ramseyer was born June 24, 1812, and died at Les Ponts-de-Martel July 29, 1893.
      3) Jacob Ramseyer was born June 17, 1816.
   c. Isaac Ramseyer was born Sept. 23, 1775. He married Maria Maurer. Their children include:
      1) Abraham Ramseyer was born at Le Locle Jan. 5, 1806. On March 17, 1832 at Boudry he married Barbara Schlatter. She was born at Boudry circa 1810, a daughter of Johannes Schlatter and Marianne Richard [Ritschardt].
      2) Christian Ramseyer (#1) was born at Le Locle Sept. 6, 1808. On March 21, 1835 at Boudry he married Henriette Schlatter. She was born at Boudry circa 1814, a daughter of Johannes Schlatter and Marianne Richard. Their son Christian (#2) immigrated in 1860. Christian (#1), Henriette, and a daughter then sailed from Le Havre on the *SS New York*, arriving at

New York March 31, 1862. The passenger list shows passenger #76 as [torn page] Ramseyer, 54, Eggiwyl [his *Heimatort* or point of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights, and not his actual place of birth]; Henriett, 48; and Rosine, 24. Other passengers who may have accompanied them were entered as Chr. Stalder, 32, Spiez; Helene Stahle, 25, Oberhofen; Christian Kohler, 52, Rudalphingen or Budalphingen; and Maria, 25. Children of Christian Ramseyer and Henriette Schlatter born at Le Locle include:

a) Christian Ramseyer (#2) was born June 16, 1836, and died in Hamilton County, Ohio (adjacent to Butler County) Jan. 11, 1891. On Nov. 27, 1862 in Butler County he married Catherine Augspurger. She was born there Nov. 26, 1836, and died in adjacent Hamilton County Feb. 20, 1916, a daughter of minister Nicholas Augspurger and Magdalena Gautsche. The ceremony was performed by her father. Three of Catherine's siblings were married to Slonekers. *History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio* says, "Christian Ramseyer was born in Switzerland June 16, 1836, was educated in several colleges of his native county, ordained and preached there until 1860, when he came to America and settled in Butler County, Ohio. He was accepted by the Augspurger congregation as one of its ministers and remained as such for several years." They are found on the 1870 census of Madison, Butler County as farm laborer Christian Ramser, 34, France; Catharin, 32, Ohio; Samuel, 5, Ohio; Christian, 4, Ohio; William, 1, Ohio; and farm laborer Henry Blazer, 64, Hesse Darmstadt. The 1880 census of Hutchison, Kansas has laborer C. Reamseyer, 45, Germany; C., 45, born in Ohio to German parents; Samuel, 15, Ohio; C., 13, Indiana; William, 9, Indiana; Emma, 6, Ohio; Caroline, 5, Indiana; and Gideon, 3, Indiana. Catherine is buried in Augspurger Cemetery at Trenton, Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio.

b) Rosine Ramseyer was born Feb. 7, 1838.

10. David Ramseyer was born circa 1751. He married Barbara Maurer. Although this couple lived at Les Ponts-de-Martel, the baptism register at Eggiwil made note of the baptisms of their children (the first five in entry #109, and Philipp in entry #119). The first entry describes David as a landowner from Eggiwil living at La Sagne, and Barbara as someone born at Bleiken in the Protestant Reformed parish of Diessbach, Canton Bern (in 1870 Diessbach became Oberdiessbach). Barbara may be found on an entry in the Diessbach *Taüfrodel* as Barbara Maŭrer, a daughter of Hans Maŭrer and Barbara Chiltber who was baptized June 23, 1751. The entry notes that her father was a resident of Äschlen. Aeschlen was adjacent to Bleiken, later called Bleiken bei Oberdiessbach, which was absorbed by Oberdiessbach in 2014. Their children include:
    a. Maria/Marie/Marianne Ramseyer was born at Les Ponts-de-Martel June 7, 1773, and died at La Sagne June 17, 1844. She married Pierre Modeste Faivre. He was born at Cerneux-Péquignot, Montlebon, Doubs June 19, 1775, and died at La Sagne Aug. 23, 1838, a son of Jean Ignace Hyacinthe Faivre and Marie Antoine Mesnier.
    b. David Ramseyer was born Dec. 9, 1774.
    c. Barbara Ramseyer was born June 3, 1776.
    d. Verena Ramseyer was born May 31, 1779.
    e. Rosina Ramseyer was born Sept. 21, 1781.
    f. Philipp Ramseyer was born at La Sagne Jan. 22, 1785.

Isaac Ramseyer was born at La Sagne, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Neuchâtel circa 1747, and died after 1817.

On Jan. 4, 1774 in Doubs, in the Franche-Comté region, Isaac married Anna Augsbourg. She was born circa 1750-1754, and died after 1817. 'Augsbourg' has been found in other instances as a French form of the Swiss surname 'Augspurger.' Augspurgers with the *Heimatort* Langnau (now Langnau im Emmental, on the north side of Eggiwil) later lived at La Sagne, but it is not clear when they arrived.[122]

[122] La Sagne records show the marriage of Abram Augspurger and Catherine Sigenthaler Oct. 11, 1797. The entry describes the groom as Abram Augsbourguer, a son of Jean Ulrich Augsbourguer of Langnau (this could be a *Heimatort* or a place of birth). The bride was described as Catherine Siggethaller, daughter of Christ Siggethaller of Langnau. Catherine was living at Grand Combe (now Grande Combe-des-Bois, in the French department of Doubs on the border with the district of Chaux-de-Fonds).

On Dec. 9, 1800 at La Sagne, Pierre Augspurger married Henriette Beulot. Their entry described the groom as Pierre Augsburger, a son of Nicolas Augsburger of Langnau. The bride was described as Henriette Beulot, a daughter of the deceased Henry Beulot, who had died at Les Ponts-de-Martel. Henriette lived at Les Brenets.

On April 18, 1812 at Le Locle Emanuel Augspurger married Thérèse Humbert-Droz. Their entry described the groom as Emanuel Augsbourg, a son of Jean Augsbourg of Langnau. The bride was described as Thérèse Humbert-Droz, a daughter of Pierre Fréderic Humbert-Droz. Thérèse lived at Le Locle.

Many of the Amish Mennonites who arrived in the Franche-Comté region in the mid-to-late 1700s came from families farther north in the *Territoire de Belfort*. They were simply following the natural expansion of livestock raising and dairy markets, going where there was grazing land.

Amish Mennonites coming from Canton Bern circa 1708 brought with them a breed of cattle called the *Braunvieh* [brown cow]. Before this, dairy stock raisers in the area of Montbéliard were only familiar with two breeds. The red *Tourache* from the mountains was muscular and could be used as a draft animal. The wheat-colored *Fémeline* from the lowlands was leaner and less amenable to being driven. A large percentage of their herds were hybrids. The *Braunvieh* was a pure line that grew heavier (though it was much smaller than cattle today) and gave more milk. The Swiss emigrants who owned them frequently gained acceptance from their Protestant and Catholic neighbors by lending out their bulls for breeding. This could also lead to employment opportunities for their children, who followed the development of the breed south onto the Haut-Doubs plateaus.

Between 1792 and 1799 the Ramseyers leased or were given use of land on a nationalized property at Mancenans-Lizerne, Doubs, in the Franche-Comté region (18 miles north of La Sagne, 37 miles south of Belfort, 15 miles south of Montbéliard).

MANCENANS-LIZERNE AND MAÎCHE, DOUBS, FRANCE

To avoid confusion, it is helpful to know that there is a village called Mancenans 15 miles southwest of Montbéliard in the French department of Doubs. However, the location that interests us is located 15 miles south of Montbéliard

There, another village called Mancenans administers the adjoining hamlet La Lizerne. They sit on wooded plateaus separated by a stream. Together they are now described as Mancenans-Lizerne, a pair of districts forming a *commune* or community within the *canton* or municipality of Maîche, in the *arrondisement* or borough/district of Montbéliard, in the *department* of Doubs, in the region of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, France.

To this day the principal occupation in Mancenans-Lizerne is cattle raising and dairy. The present population of Mancenans-Lizerne is less than 200. In contrast, adjacent Maîche has a population of almost 4,000.

Like Mancenans-Lizerne, Maîche rests on a plateau between the Dessoubre and Doubs Rivers, surrounded by evergreen forests. At its heart is the *Château Montalembert*, constructed in 1524. On Nov. 13, 1944 it hosted Winston Churchill, *Général* Charles De Gaulle, and *Général* Jean de Lattre de Tassigny as they made plans for post-war Europe.

Some descendants relocated about seven miles above Mancenans-Lizerne and Maîche to a line of villages running east-west: Liebvillers (with Fleurey below it), St. Hippolyte, Soulce-Cernay, and Vaufrey.

LA PETITE VENDÉE or RÉBELLION DES MONTAGNES

The area was drastically impacted by the changes of the French Revolution.

The National Convention passed a decree June 10, 1793 meant to state stipulations for the division of confiscated land. But it also made a much grander stroke – stating that all land owned by a municipality should be divided equally among its residents, without regard to age, gender, or status [Fr. *partage*]. This generous and unrealistic idea had odd qualifiers. If any inhabitant had an agreed right to use the property, such as the grazing of cattle on a community field, the entire property was excluded. To subdivide its land, a community had to petition a higher authority. They had to show that the community owed no debts or taxes to the state, which was rarely the case.

When large estates were confiscated from the wealthy, they were often subdivided into smaller parcels. The unusually rough terrain of the Franche-Comté region meant that small parcels were often worthless. In a place with only 1-2 inches of topsoil over limestone, the land was unsuitable for crops but ideal for grazing. It was generally felt that the land was already being put to best use before interference from Paris. It was also feared the entire measure was a ploy by speculators.

Disillusionment with the central government was compounded when the Revolutionary Tribunal announced a significant *levée en masse* Aug. 24. The timing of these community drawings for military service would mean that many day laborers would be taken from the late-summer harvest, leaving their families without food or savings to face the winter.

From Aug. 31 to Sept. 6, 1793 some local peasants rose up in protest. It became known as the insurrection of *La Petite Vendée* (a *vendée* is a customer, but in this case it was meant to be another name for the region Franche-Comté).

Rather than debating the complicated issues of land reform or conscription, they sought support by railing against the dechristianization policies of the Committee on Public Safety in Paris.

A number of factors led to disaster. The peasants were unaware of the sense of fear and intimidation felt in most of their country. It would have been better to let any objections go unmentioned, and certainly unrecorded, during the period from June of 1793 to July of 1794 – the Reign of Terror (see JANTZI for background on this period). They may have believed false rumors that they would be reinforced from Switzerland or Alsace, or by Prussian prisoners of war. And they did not understand the size and cruelty of the forces that would come down on them.

A number of small incidents involving the theft of weapons led up to confrontations with the National Guard. These culminated in defeat at Bonnétage (eight miles southwest of Mancenans-Lizerne and Maîche) Sept. 6. About 20 peasants were killed, and 200 fled over the border into Neuchâtel. In the following days 494 were arrested.

Executioners constructed a platform in the square in front of the church, *Église St. Pierre de Maîche*. On Oct. 14 nineteen young men were guilloutined, and on Oct. 21 another five.[123] Over the next few weeks a revolutionary tribunal handed out 46 prison sentences of 5-10 years, and another 20 prisoners were forced to leave the region. The resultant ill feelings led many families to emigrate.

The *Château de l'Hermitage* at Mancenans-Lizerne sits on the edge of a plateau overlooking the valley of the Dessoubre River [Fr. *Vallée du Dessoubre*]. The main house was constructed in 1626, and a Gothic chapel in 1633. The property was occupied by monks of the Catholic Order of the Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel, or Carmelites. They cultivated orchards and produced a fruit brandy called *L'Hermitage*.

The property was nationalized in 1792. Between 1792 and 1799, and possibly much later, the Ramseyers were living in a house behind the *château* and tending to the orchards.

The situation may have been a 'caretaker arrangement.' Amish Mennonites were rightly thought to be favored by Maximilien Robespierre of the revolutionary Committee on Public Safety in Paris, though they were politically neutral. It is possible that the community recruited the Ramseyers to maintain the property until the political climate changed. Regardless, following the Napoleonic wars the *château* came into the possession of a local priest named Parent, and then returned to the Carmelite order.[124]

We last identified Isaac and Anna from the civil marriage record of a son dated Nov. 22, 1817, where witness Isaac's age was given as 70. He signed his own name 'Isach Ramseier.'

Children of Isaac Ramseyer and Anna Augsbourg include:

1. Anne Ramseyer was born at Les Brenets in the district of Le Locle, Neuchâtel circa 1775. On Dec. 6, 1815 at Mancenans-Lizerne she married Christ Clausmeur. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christe Clausmeur, 31, of Canton Bern. His parents were cultivator Christ Clausmeur, 60, and Madelaine Barschi [Bärtschi] of Darestet. The bride was described as cultivator Anne Ramesin, 40, born at Pouilteré, des Brenets, a daughter of cultivators Isaac Ramesin, 67, and Ann Hausborg, 65. Witnesses included the bride's father Isaac Ramesin, 66, a local resident [two ages in the same document]; and Jean Clausemeur, 21, brother of the groom. According to the 10-year civil index of Mancenans-Lizerne, the groom was Christ Chauseneur. We suspect he may have been Cochenauer, a surname associated with Canton Zurich.
2. **Johannes/Hans/John Ramseyer** (#1) was born April 3, 1780, and died in Stark County, Ohio July 4, 1853.
3. Christian/Christ Ramseyer/Ramzeyer/Ramezin was born circa 1783, and died at Soulce-Cernay July 13, 1865. On March 1, 1809 at Mancenans-Lizerne he married Elisabeth Montandon. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christ Ramezin, 25, living behind the *château*, a son of cultivators Isaque Ramesin and Anne Hausbourg, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Elisabet Montandon, 23, born at Ponts, a daughter of Abraham Montandon and Mariane Thiebau, who were present and consenting. The groom signed Christ Ramseier, his father Isach Ramseier, and the father of the bride Abram Montandon. Elisabeth was born at Les Ponts-de-Martel April 1, 1780, and died at Soulce-Cernay June 28, 1867, a daughter of Abraham Montandon and Marianne Thiebaud. Their children include:
    a. Christ Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne July 16, 1809, and died as an infant.
    b. Marie Ann Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne April 8, 1810, and died at Vaufrey Dec. 22, 1868. On May 14, 1845 at Vaufrey she married Jean Ignace Alexandre Briot. She was later known as Marie Therese Ramseyer/Ramezin, presumably after adopting the Catholic faith.
    c. Isaac Ramseyer/Ramezin was born at Mancenans-Lizerne May 11, 1812, and died at Vaufrey Nov. 21, 1890. His civil birth entry calls him Jacque Ramezin; it describes his parents as cultivator Christ Ramezin, 28, and Lizabet Montandon, 25. On May 10, 1842 at Vaufrey he married Marie Virginie Viatte. The 10-year civil index of Vaufrey listed them as Isaac Ramesin and Virginie Viatte. The 10-year civil index of Vaufrey listed him at his death as 'Christ *dit* Isaacly Ramseyer' [Christ called Isaac].
    d. Christ Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne April 12, 1814, and died at Vaufrey Sept. 18, 1884. His civil birth entry describes his parents as cultivator Christ Ramezin, 30, and Elisbet Montandon, 29. The 10-year civil index of Mancenans-Lizerne listed him as Christ Ramezin. On May 3, 1847 at Mouillevillers (below St. Hippolyte) he married Marianne Celestine Frane. The 10-year civil index of Mouilevillers lists him as 'Christ Ramesin.' Marianne was born at Réclère, Canton Jura (four miles north of Vaufrey) March 30, 1831, a daughter of Jean Pierre Frane and Marie Genéréuse Vuillemin.
    e. Joseph Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne April 3, 1816, and died at Liebvillers, Doubs Feb. 12, 1861. On March 2, 1846 at Vaufrey, Doubs he married his cousin Marie Ramseyer. She was born at St.

[123] Former queen Marie Antoinette was guilloutined in Paris Oct. 16.

[124] From 1849 to 1924 the property was occupied by the artist Joseph Aubert, who created religious and historical paintings. It is now a private residence on the *Route de l'Hermitage,* and is also known as *Château de Waroly* (the name of a stream below it).

Hippolyte Oct. 2, 1826, and died on Grosbois farm at Soulce-Cernay, Doubs Dec. 26, 1872, a daughter of Joseph Ramseyer and Marie Kaŭfmann.

f. Amily Ramseyer/Ramseier (birth entry)/Ramezin was born at St. Hippolyte April 24, 1821. On Sept. 10, 1846 at Vaufrey she married customs officer Férréol Courvoisier. He was born circa 1821, a son of Jacques Joseph Courvoisier and Marie Françoise Sylvestre.

g. Jean Ramseyer/Ramsaier (brth entry)/Ramezin was born at St. Hyppolite June 7, 1824, and died at Vaufrey June 10, 1847. On Jan. 11, 1837 at Vaufrey he married Appoline Férard. She was a daughter of Jean Pierre Férard and Marie Anne Caffot. The 10-year civil index of Vaufrey listed his marriage under Jean Joseph Rammesin.

4. Babeli Ramseyer/Babely Ramezin was born circa 1786. On Dec. 14, 1809 at Mancenans-Lizerne she married Abraham Moser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Habraham Mozer, a son of Jean Mozer and the deceased Marie Kocher. The bride was described as Babely Ramesin, a daughter of Ramezin and Anne Hauchbourg. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Mozer, 54, father of the groom; and cultivator Isake Ramesin, 60, father of the bride. Signatures included Hans Moser.
5. 'Marguerite Ramesin' was born circa 1787, and died at Villars-lès-Blamont, Doubs July 11, 1845. On Jan. 2, 1811 at Villars-lès-Blamont she married Pierre Mathiot. He was born circa 1782, and died at Villars-lès-Blamont May 7, 1826, a son of Jean Jacques Mathiot and Anne Catherine. Their marriage entry described her parents as Isaac Ramesin and Anne Auchebourque.
6. Elisabeth Ramseyer was born at Le Locle, Neuchâtel circa 1788. On Sept. 17, 1815 at Mancenans-Lizerne she married Joseph Verchet. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Verchet, 30, a son of shopkeeper [Fr. *proprietaire*] Guillaume François Verchet and Marie Adelaid Narby. The bride was described as cultivator Elisabeth Ramezin, 27, born at Locle, a daughter of Isaac Ramezin and Julianne Bourgeois [a garbled Anna Augsbourg].
7. Joseph Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne Nov. 14, 1792, and died Feb. 26, 1848. On Nov. 22, 1817 at Florimont, *Territoire de Belfort* he married Marie Kaŭfmann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Joseph Ramsinger, 25, born on the farm behind the *château* at Mansenans [Mancenans-Lizerne] Nov. 14, 1792. He was a son of farmer Isaac Ramsir, a resident of Mansenans who was present and consenting, and Anne Augsbourg. The bride was described as Marie Kauffmann, 21, born at Florimont March 16, 1797. She was a daughter of Pierre Kauffman, who had died on St. André farm at Florimont Oct. 8, 1803, and Barbe Klopfenstein, a resident of St. André farm who was present and consenting. Joseph signed his own name 'Joseph Ramseier.' Beside Isaac, another witness was the mother of the bride, who signed 'Babeli Klophstein.' Marie Kaŭfmann was born on St. André farm at Florimont in the *Territoire de Belfort* March 16, 1797, and died June 3, 1870, a daughter of Peter Kaŭfmann and Barbara/Barbe Klopfenstein. Her civil birth entry described her parents as farmer Peter Kaufman, 45, and Barbe Klobsteiner. Witnesses were cultivator Pierre Klobsteiner, 40; and weaver Joseph Helty [he signed this way, though he was a Hilti], 50. The father signed Peter Kaŭfmann. Joseph and Marie had a large family at St. Hippolyte.

Johannes/Hans/John Ramseyer (#1) was born April 3, 1780, and died in Stark County, Ohio July 4, 1853.

On May 30, 1800 at Mancenans-Lizerne he married Barbara Kaŭfmann (the 10-year civil entry calls them Jean Ramsheyer and Barbe Kaufman). She was born on St. André farm at Florimont in the *Territoire de Belfort* in 1779, and died in Stark County in 1844, a daughter of Peter Kaŭfmann and Barbara/Barbe Klopfenstein.

Many family events were recorded in Mancenans-Lizerne and in the adjacent and much larger community Maîche.

We could not determine how the Napoleonic Wars affected this family. But the issue of French military conscription would become a concern 15 years later with the French occupation of Algeria in 1830 (for background see STAKER).

Their emigration in 1835 coincided with unmarried son Joseph reaching 21 years of age.

Married children Johannes (#2), Anna, Barbara, and Marguerite elected to remain in Europe. The remainder of the family departed from Le Havre on the *Richmond*, and arrived at New York July 5, 1835. The passenger list shows laborer John Ramesay, 56, France, destination 'state of Ohio'; Barbara, 55; Marie, 23; Joseph, 20; Ellen [Elizabeth], 18; Nicolas, 15; Pierre, 12; Jacob Schwartz, 28; Catharine [Ramseyer Schwartz], 25; Barbara, 5; Marie, 3; and Catrina, 1.

From the city port they traveled up the Hudson River by steamboat, then crossed the Erie Canal to Lake Erie. From Cleveland they made the remainder of the water transit on the Ohio-Erie Canal, disembarking near Canton, Ohio.

On Aug. 13, 1835 Johannes (#1) purchased 60 acres for $400 from Amish Mennonite immigrants Joseph Sommer and Anne Marie/Mary Göerig. After immigrating in 1828, the Sommers had spent time in Butler County before settling in Stark County (see SOMMER).

The Ramseyer farm was located in Section 33 of Paris, Stark County. The 1840 census of Paris shows the household of 'John Ramesayer.' It had one male in the 60-69 year age bracket [Johannes], one male 20-29 [Nicholas], one 15-19 [Peter]; one female in the 60-69 year age bracket [Barbara], and another 20-29 [Catherine?].

The 1850 census of Paris has farmer and widower John Rumseyer, 70, Germany; farmer Peter, 28, Germany; Barbaray [Barbara Rich/Reich Ramseyer], 24, Germany; Jacob, 4, Ohio; and infant Joseph, Ohio [his illegible age was expressed in months]. They were still living next to the Sommer family.

Johannes (#1) and Barbara are thought to be buried in the Amish/Old Beech Cemetery in Stark County.

Children of Johannes/Hans/John Ramseyer (#1) and Barbara Kaŭfmann include:

1. Johannes/Jean/Hans Ramseyer (#2) was born at Mancenans-Lizerne May 30, 1801 (found in the 10-year civil index as Jean Ramezin), and died at Moos, Upper Alsace (now Mooslargue, below Altkirch on the Swiss border) Dec. 10, 1839. On Oct. 12, 1822 at Moos he married Maria Anna Klopfenstein. She was born at Vaufrey (in the district of St. Hippolyte) April 29, 1800, and died at Fessevillers (in the district of Maîche), Doubs, a daughter of Christian Klopfenstein and Catherine Rich. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Ramseyer, 21, a son of cultivators Jean Ramseyer and Barbe Kauffmann, cultivators living at who were consenting. The bride was described as Marie Klopfestine, 21, a daughter of miller Chrétien Klopfestin and Catherine Riche, who were residents of Moos and were present and consenting. No birthplaces were given. Their children born at Moos include:
    a. Chrétien Ramseyer was born June 21, 1826, and died at Moos Feb. 18, 1879. On Nov. 21, 1848 at Vaufrey, Doubs he married Barbe Bigler. She was born at Vaufrey Oct. 1, 1825, and died at Réchésy in the *Territoire de Belfort* Oct. 11, 1872, a daughter of Christian Bigler and Barbe Bigler. On Dec. 22, 1874 at Réchésy he remarried to Catherine Hilty/Hildy. She was born at Boron in the *Territoire de Belfort* Dec. 19, 1840, a daughter of Caspar Hilty/Gaspard Hildy and Madeleine Kropf.
    b. Catherine Ramseyer was born Nov. 2, 1827.
    c. Marie Ramseyer was born Sept. 6, 1829. Her civil birth entry was witnessed by Christian Klopfenstein, 59 [maternal grandfather].
    d. Johannes/Jean Ramseyer was born Feb. 15, 1831.
    e. Nicolas Ramseyer was born Aug. 19, 1832, and died in 1902.
    f. Barbe Ramseyer was born Feb. 14, 1834.
2. Babely/Barbe Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne Sept. 25, 1802, and died there June 13, 1804. The 10-year civil index calls her Babely Ramezin at birth, and Barbe Ramezin at death. Her civil death entry said she was 22 months of age. It was witnessed by her father, described as cultivator Jean Ramezin, 24; and her uncle, described as cultivator Christ Ramezin, 21. They signed Hans Ramseÿer and Christian Ramseÿer.
3. Anne/Anna Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne May 1, 1804 (the 10-year civil index calls her Anne Ramezin), and died at Berne, Adams County, Indiana July 25, 1872. On Feb. 2, 1827 at St. Hippolyte she married her second cousin Johannes/Hans/Jean Schwartz (the 10-year civil index calls them Jean Schewartz and Anne Ramesayer). He was born at Mancenans-Lizerne Nov. 13, 1798, and died in Adams County, Indiana Dec. 30, 1883, a son of Johannes Schwartz and Maria Ramseyer. They farmed on Soyere farm near St. Hippolyte. Schwartzes were deacons of the congregation there. Their sons Hans and Joseph sailed from Le Havre on the *Trumbull*, and arrived at New York Feb. 2, 1852. Their son Christian sailed from Le Havre on the *Trenton*, and arrived at New York April 10, 1852. In 1853 the parents and remaining siblings immigrated, and the family reunited in Allen County, Indiana. They are found on the 1860 census of Monroe, Adams County, Indiana as farmer John Schwartz, 62; Anna, 57; farm laborer Peter, 28; farm laborer Joseph, 24; Barbara, 19; farm laborer Jacob, 17; Elizabeth, 14; and Catharine, 12; all from France. Anna is buried in Huser Cemetery at Berne. Johannes is buried under a wooden marker that gives only his initials in Schwartz Cemetery at Monroe, Adams County, Indiana.
4. Babeli/Barbara Ramseyer was born at Mancenans-Lizerne Feb. 5, 1806, and died in Marshall County, Iowa Jan. 9, 1873; she is buried in Sommer/Summers Cemetery at Wayland, Iowa. On May 28, 1823 at Lutter, Upper Alsace she married Joseph Rich/Riche. He was born there June 6, 1800, and died before 1853. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Rich, 23, a resident of Lutter. He was a son of Lutter residents Jean Rich and Madelaine Kaufman. The bride was cultivator Barbe Ramezier, 17, a daughter of Jean Ramzier of Maiche who was present and consenting, and Barbe Kaufman. She was a resident of Maiche. Widow Barbara and her children departed from Le Havre on the *Switzerland*, and arrived at New York June 7, 1853. The passenger list shows Barbara Rich, 49; Joseph, 24; Verena, 15; Christ, 13; Martin, 11; and Elise, 8. Barbara first went to Orrville, Ohio, then in 1858 resettled at Wayland, Iowa. There she remarried to widower Joseph Zehr. He was born at Ostwald, Lower Alsace (on the southwest corner of Strasbourg) June 1, 1801, a son of Michel Zehr and Barbara Bachmann. On Feb. 16, 1832 at Strasbourg he had married Maria Anna Vordemwald; they had immigrated in 1843.[125] The 1860 census of Jefferson, Henry County, Iowa has farmer J. Zear, 60, France; Barbara, 54, France; David, 16, Ohio; and

[125] The *Cotton Planter* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 31, 1843. The passenger list shows Joseph Zehr, 43, France; Maria, 44; Johannes, 10; Joseph, 8; and Barbara, 6. The same voyage brought Christian Aigsté [Eigsti?], who we could not identify; Jacob Eicher and his family (later in Ontario); Pierre/Peter Rich and his family (later in Ontario, and as a widow Barbara Schlatter Rich went to Iowa); and Nicholas Schlegel (later in Ontario).

Elizabeth, 14, Ohio. The 1870 census of Jefferson has farmer Joseph Zair, 69, France; and Barbara, 64, France. Joseph's headstone in Sugar Creek Cemetery at Wayland says he was "Joseph Zehr, died Aug. 9, 1877, aged 76 y. 3 ms. 10 ds." Barbara's headstone in Sommer/Summers Cemetery in Washington County, Iowa says, "Barbara, wife of Joseph Rich, died Jan. 9, 1873, aged 66 yrs. 11 mos. 4 ds."

5. Margueritte Ramseyer was born at Maîche March 28, 1808 (the 10-year civil index calls her Margueritte Ramezin), and died in Switzerland July 28, 1839. On Aug. 28, 1827 at Les Ponts-de-Martel she married her second cousin Johannes/Jean Ramseyer. He was born at La Chaux-du-Milieu April 14, 1800, and died at La Sagne March 26, 1860, a son of Christen/Christian Ramseyer and Rosina Steiner. On Jan. 5, 1841 Johannes remarried to Barbara/Barbe Amstutz. She was born on Petite Kolberg farm at Lucelle [Ger. *Lützel*](a village straddling the borders of Upper Alsace and Canton Jura) June 30, 1817, and died Feb. 28, 1900, a daughter of Christian Amstutz and Barbara/Barbe Klopfenstein.
6. Catherine Ramseyer was born at Maîche Feb. 19, 1810 (the 10-year civil index calls her Catherine Ramezin), and died in Stark County, Ohio circa 1852; she is buried in Amish/Old Beech Cemetery. On Nov. 3, 1829 at St. Hippolyte she married her second cousin Jacob Schwartz (the 10-year civil index calls them Jacob Schewartz and Catherine Ramesayer). He was born at St. Hippolyte Dec. 27, 1808, and died in Allen County, Indiana in 1854, a son of Johannes Schwartz and Maria Ramseyer. They are found on the 1850 census of Washington, Stark County, Ohio as farmer Jacob Swartz, 41, Germany; Catherine, 39, Ohio; Barbaray, 20, Germany; Meary, 19, Germany; Catharine, 17, Germany; Ann, 13, Ohio; Joseph, 10 [or 12], Ohio; Margaret, 8, Ohio; Eliza, 6, Ohio; Jacob, 4, Ohio; and Lydia, nine months, Ohio. After Catherine's death Jacob moved to Allen County, Indiana.
7. Marie/Mary Ramseyer was born at Maîche April 10, 1812 (her headstone gives the birth year 1813; the 10-year civil index of Maîche calls her Marie Rameseyer), and died in Stark County, Ohio Jan. 21, 1846. On Dec. 15, 1835 in Stark County she married Andrés Bächer (per civil birth entry)/Andrew Becher (the marriage entry called her Mary Ramsey). He was born at Rougemont, *Territoire de Belfort* April 29, 1808 (his headstone says 1810 and calls him Andrew Bacher Jr.), and died in Stark County March 9, 1845, a son of Andreas (as he signed his own name)/Andrés/Andrew Bacher and his first wife Anne Klopfenstein (see KLOPFENSTEIN for background on this couple). They are buried in Amish/Old Beech Cemetery.
8. Joseph Ramseyer was born at Maîche June 12, 1814, and died at Zurich, Huron County, Ontario Feb. 1, 1890. A civil birth entry was not registered at Maîche until March 1, 1834, presumably while the family was obtaining travel papers. On Jan. 10, 1836 or 1837 in Stark County he married Barbara Klopfenstein. She was born circa 1807, and died before 1857. She may have been a daughter of Christian Klopfenstein and Catherine Stucky of Summit County (the vicinity of Akron), near to Stark County. They are found on the 1850 census of Washington, Stark County as farmer Joseph Rumseyer, 36, Fr. [France]; Barbaray, 43, Fr.; Joseph, 13; Christ, 11; Peter, 9; Michael, 7; Anna, 5; and Joel, 2; all children born in Ohio. Before 1857 Joseph remarried to Anne Marie Sommer. She was born at Sélestat, Lower Alsace July 25, 1814, a daughter of Joseph Sommer and Magdalena Kropf. She was the widow of Jacob Eicher, who had died at Akron June 21, 1849. The 1860 census of Washington, Stark County has farmer Joseph Rumsire, 44, France; Mary, 44, France; farm hand Christian, 21; farm hand Michel, 17; Henry Eicher, 14; Anna, 14; Mary, 11; Joel, 12; and Barbara, 6; all children born in Ohio. At the outbreak of the Civil War they relocated to New Hamburg, Waterloo County, Ontario, where Joseph became a minister. On March 4, 1866 Joseph's son Michael from his first marriage married Anne Marie's daughter from her first marriage Mary Eicher. The blended household is found on the 1871 census of Wilmot as farmer Joseph Ramseyer, 58, Germany, Mennonite; Maria [Sommer Ramseyer], 58, Germany, Mennonite; farm laborer Joel, 23, USA; John, 12, USA; Michael, 28, USA, Mennonite; Maria [Michael's wife Mary Eicher], 22, USA; Maria, 4, Ontario; Joshua, 2, Ontario; Jacob Kropf, 87, Germany, Mennonite [Anne Marie's maternal uncle]; and Magdalena Kropf [Jakob's wife born Rothaker], 85, Germany, Mennonite. Their son Joseph Ramseyer, 30, and his wife Anna Litwiller, 21, lived in the same community. Widow Anne Marie Sommer Eicher Ramseyer died in the home of her other child from her first marriage, Henry Eicher, in Huron County, Michigan Jan. 13, 1902. She is buried in Oliver Township Cemetery in Elkton County. There is an eroded joint headstone in Paradise Cemetery at Smithville, Green Township, Wayne County, Ohio that names Joseph and Barbara but does not give dates. It is understood from the cemetery book to have been erected by the Ramseyer family. This may be an actual or simply a memorial stone for Joseph Ramseyer and his first wife Barbara Klopfenstein, who died more than 33 years apart. Oldest child Joseph Ramseyer had two children with Anna Wittmer who were buried in Paradise Cemetery in 1871.[126] Children of Joseph Ramseyer and his first wife Barbara Klopfenstein born in Stark County, Ohio include:

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[126] There are two other Ramseyer headstones in Paradise Cemetery. The first is for Joseph Ramseyer, an 11-day-old son of 'J.J. & A.' (Joseph J. Ramseyer and Anna Wittmer) who died April 23, 1871. The second is for Mary Ramseyer, a daughter of 'J.J. & A.' who died in August of 1871.

Oak Grove Mennonite Church Cemetery at Smithville holds three joint headstones for Ramseyers who were nephews and a niece to Joseph J. (born in 1837). One for "Joseph Ramseyer, Feb. 19, 1850-Nov. 28, 1926, age 76 ys. 9 ms. 9 ds., Elizabeth [Smiley], Oct. 11, 1853-Aug. 3, 1928, age 74 ys. 9 ms. 24 ds." And "Daniel Ramseyer, 1856-1941, Rebecca [Smiley], 1856-1932." And "John C. Conrad, 1843-1925, Catharine [Ramseyer], 1852-1927." They were children of Pierre/Peter Ramseyer and Barbara Rich/Reich.

a. Joseph Ramseyer, also found as Joseph J. Ramseyer, was born in October of 1837. He is found in the household of merchant Lewis Koontz on the 1860 census of Nimishillen, Stark County as brewer Joseph Rumseyer, 22, Ohio; with his brother as teamster Peter Rumseyer, 19, Ohio. He married Anna Wittmer. She was born April 30, 1837, and died in Washington County, Iowa June 10, 1904, a daughter of Jean Wittmer and Anna Eicher; she is buried in Eicher Cemetery in Washington County as "Anna Wittmer wife of J.J. Ramseyer." They were living in Wayne County, Ohio in 1874 (known from the birth record of son David). The 1880 census of Washington, Washington County, Iowa has butcher Jacob J. Ramseyer, 43, born in Ohio to French parents; Anna, 43, born in France to French parents; John P., 17, Ohio, works in meat room; William C., 13, Ohio; Henry J., 10, Ohio; Samuel S., 8, Ohio; David F., 6, Ohio; and Emma E., 4, Ohio. The 1895 state census of McPherson, Kansas shows merchant J.J. Ramseyer, 53, Ohio; Anna, 57, France; and clerk Emma, 18, Ohio. They are found on the 1900 census of Halstead City, Kansas as general merchandiser Joseph Ramseyer, 62, born in Ohio in October 1837 to parents from Switzerland and France; Annie E., 63, born in Germany in April of 1837 to French parents; and daughter Emma, 23, born in Iowa in August 1876 to parents from Ohio and Germany. A Harvey County, Kansas marriage entry says that on Oct. 24, 1905 at Newton Jos. J. Ramseyer of Newton, Kans., 67, married Laura A. Munson, 61, of Wood, Oklahoma. They are found on the 1910 census of Peabody, Kansas as Joseph A. Rameyer, 72, in a second marriage, born in Ohio to parents from Switzerland and France; and Laura A., 65, in a second marriage, born in West Virginia to parents from Virginia.

b. Christian Ramseyer was born March 1, 1839, and died at Pettisville, Fulton County, Ohio May 18, 1919. He married Katharine/Kathrina 'Katie' Miller. She was born at German, Fulton County, Ohio in 1846, and died in 1880. Widower Christian is found on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of Chesterfield, Fulton County with his children Benjamin and Rachel, with son Joseph next door. Christian and Katie are buried under a joint headstone in Pettisville Union Cemetery that calls her Kathrina.

c. Peter Ramseyer was born Nov. 14, 1840, and died in Michigan in March of 1922. He is found with his older brother Joseph as a 19-year-old teamster on the 1860 census of Nimishillen, Stark County, Ohio. On Sept. 24, 1867 in Waterloo County, Ontario he married Anna Litwiller. She was born at St. Agatha, Waterloo County in 1850, and died at Elkton in 1915; a daughter of Peter Litwiller and Elisabeth Leichti. They are found on the 1871 census of Wilmot as Mennonite farmer Peter Ramseyer, 30, USA; Anna, 21, Ontario; Elizabetha, 3, Ontario; and John, 1, Ontario. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Elkton.

d. Michael Ramseyer was born April 17, 1843, and died in Waterloo County April 9, 1873; he is buried in Kropf-Baden Cemetery. On March 4, 1866 at Wilmot he married Mary Eicher. She was born at Akron, Ohio Sept. 24, 1849, and died at Crystal, Michigan Aug. 16, 1930, a daughter of Jean Conrad Eicher and Anne Marie Sommer; she is buried in Spencer Cemetery at Crystal.

   — Son Joseph Eicher Ramseyer was born at Wilmot Feb. 7, 1869, and died at Fort Wayne, Indiana Jan. 25, 1944. He was baptized into the Defenseless Mennonite Church by Henry Egly, and ordained as a minister by minister Joseph Rediger at Gridley, McLean County in 1892. He was expelled from that church in 1896. Two years later he participated in the founding of the Missionary Church Association, and became its president for 44 years.

   — Another son Michael Eicher Ramseyer was born at Wilmot Feb. 3 or 9, 1872, and died at Fort Wayne March 11, 1956. On Jan. 20, 1895 in Groveland he married Katie Birky. She was born in Tazewell County Feb. 18, 1866, and died at Fort Wayne Jan. 29, 1955, a daughter of Andreas/André/Andrew Birky and Catherine Litwiller. They are found on the 1900 and 1910 censuses of Morton. In 1900 their household included farmer Michael E. Ramseyer, 28, born in Canada in February 1872 to parents from Germany and Ohio, immigrated [from Canada to the United States] in 1889; Katie, 34, born in Illinois in February 1866 to parents from Germany and Ohio; Rosina, 4, born in Illinois in February 1896 to parents form Canada and Illinois; border Lena Hochstettler, 38, born in Illinois in April 1862 to parents form Germany and Ohio; and farm laborer and servant Jacob Eicher, 24, born in Canada in November 1875 to parents form Germany and Canada, immigrated [from Canada to the United States] in 1900. The 1940 census places them at Fort Wayne; Michael was described as "minister in charge of Missionary Church." They are buried in Lindenwood Cemetery at Fort Wayne.

e. Anna Ramseyer was born circa 1845, and died at Wilmot before 1881. On June 20, 1870 in Waterloo County, Ontario she married widower Daniel Steinmann. He was born in Waterloo Township Sept. 29, 1831, and died April 9, 1905, a son of Christian Steinmann and Veronica Eyer. He had first married Elizabeth S. Gardiner at South Easthope, Perth County, Ontario April 9, 1854; she died at Wilmot Dec. 21, 1865. They are found on the 1861 census of Wilmot, Ontario as Mennonite farmer Daniel Steinman, 38, Ontario; Anna [Ramseyer], 25, Ontario; Feronika, 15, Ontario; Jacob, 14, Ontario; Noah, 11, Ontario; Christian, 9, Ontario; Daniel, 7, Ontario; David, 5, Ontario; and Mennonite Feronika [Eyer] Steinman, 70, Germany. On Feb. 27, 1877 at Wilmot Daniel married a third time to Susan Lebold, and they are shown on the 1881 census of Wilmot.

f. Joel Ramseyer was born April 30, 1847, and died in Oxford County, Ontario April 11, 1917. Circa 1872 he married Barbara Schlegel. She was born at South Easthope, Ontario Aug. 12, 1842, and died in Oxford County, Ontario July 15, 1917, a daughter of Nicholas Schlegel and Anna Schantz. Joel's death entry said his death was accidental and instant. Barbara died three months later. *Gospel Herald*, July 1917: "Barbara Schlegel Ramseyer was born in South Easthope, Perth Co., Ont., on Aug. 12, 1842; died at her home near Tavistock in East Zorra, on July 15, 1917; aged 74 y. 11 m. 2 d. Joel Ramseyer was born in Stark Co., Ohio, April 30, 1847; aged 69 y. 11 m. 11 d. Bro. Ramseyer came with his parents to Canada when a young boy and when he married moved to the farm where he lived till his death, which came so suddenly. Bro. and Sister Ramseyer lived in matrimony 45 y. 3 m. 4 d. To this union were born four children, two sons and two daughters. One daughter preceded them. Two sons, one daughter and 11 grandchildren survive them. Buried side by side at the East Zorra A.M. Church of which congregation they were faithful members. Funeral services at Bro. Ramseyer's funeral were conducted by Brethen Jac. R. Bender and Michael K. Jantzi. Text, *Isa. 38:12, 13*. Funeral services for Sister Ramseyer were conducted by brethren Christian Kropf and Jacob R. Bender. Text, *II Tim. 4:6-8* and *Rom. 5:18, 19*. On both occasions a large number of friends had gathered to pay their last tribute to the departed ones."

g. Barbara Ramseyer was born Oct. 3, 1853 (per her death entry), and died in Waterloo County, Ontario Oct. 6, 1930. On Jan. 29, 1871 at Wilmot, Ontario she married David Gascho. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania March 7, 1841, and died at Wellesley, Ontario Sept. 19, 1893, a son of Christian Gascho and Christina Petersheim. They are found on the 1871 census of Wilmot as Mennonite farmer David Gascho, 30, USA; Barbara, 17, German; Joseph, 3, Ontario; Christina, 1, Ontario; widow Christina Gascho, 65, Germany; Magdalena, 44, USA; and Susanna, 24, USA. They are buried in Maple View Mennonite Cemetery at Wellesley.

The child of Joseph Ramseyer and his second wife Anne Marie Sommer was:

h. John Ramseyer was born in Stark County, Ohio July 9, 1858 (per death entry), and died at Elkton, Michigan Feb. 3, 1933. On Oct. 4, 1879 in the Methodist church at Hay Township, Huron County, Ontario he married Mary Ann Schmidt. She was born at Hay Township Jan. 3, 1862, and died at Elkton Feb. 26, 1941, a daughter of Andrew Schmid and Gertrude. They relocated from Ontario to Michigan in 1890. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Elkton.

9. Elisabeth/Elizabeth Ramseyer was born at Maîche July 13, 1817 (the 10-year civil index calls her Elisabeth Rameseyer), and died in Allen County, Indiana in 1860. On Nov. 24, 1844 in Stark County, Ohio she married Michael Zehr (a double ceremony with her younger brother Peter). He was born at Robertsau near Strasbourg June 15, 1803, and died in Adams County, Indiana Sept. 5, 1855, a son of Michel Zehr and Barbara Bachmann. In 1858 she remarried to Joseph Schwartz, who was born at St. Hippolyte May 8, 1813, a son of Johannes Schwartz and Marie Ramseyer. As a widower Joseph can be found on the 1860 census of Cedar Creek, Allen County as farmer Joseph Schwartz, 45, France in the household of Christian Schwartz, 28.
10. **Nicolas/Nicholas Ramseyer** was born at Maîche March 28, 1821 (the 10-year civil index calls him Nicolas Rameseyer), and died at Harper, Kansas Aug. 29, 1895.
11. Pierre/Peter Ramseyer was born at Maîche Nov. 5, 1822 (his headstone says Oct. 5; the 10-year civil index calls him Pierre Rameyer), and died in Stark County, Ohio May 24, 1880. Upon arriving in Ohio he worked on the Sandy and Beaver Canal, using his earnings to purchase land at Paris. On Nov. 24, 1844 in Stark County he married Barbara Rich/Reich (a double ceremony with his older sister Elizabeth). Barbara was born at Maximo, Stark County June 24, 1826, and died in Stark County Oct. 3, 1894, a daughter of Jacob Rich/Reich and Louise Eckinger. They are buried in Amish/Old Beech Cemetery, where Barbara's headstone calls her 'Barbara Rich Ramseyer.' Their children born at Paris, Stark County include:

a. Catherine Ramseyer was born Feb. 2, 1852, and died at Orrville, Wayne County, Ohio May 22, 1927. On Dec. 8, 1870 in Wayne County she married John Conrad. He was born at Baughman, Wayne County Dec. 3, 1843, and died in Wayne County Nov. 16, 1925, a son of Martin Conrad and Anna Conrad. They are buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Green, Wayne County.

b. Daniel Ramseyer was born July 30, 1856, and died at Smithville, Wayune County May 6, 1942. On Oct. 11, 1877 he married Rebecca Smiley. She was born at Goshen, Indiana Nov. 23, 1856, and died at Smithville Feb. 22, 1932, a daughter of John Smiley and Mary Conrad. They are also buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery.

c. Elizabeth Ramseyer was born July 10, 1862, and died in Stark County May 2, 1896. In 1881 in Stark County she married Jacob Conrad. He was born in Stark County Feb. 1, 1849, and died at Louisville, Stark County Jan. 28, 1926, a son of Daniel Conrad and Catherine Krabill. They are also buried in Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery.

d. Sarah Ramseyer was born Nov. 18, 1865, and died at Cleveland, Ohio Oct. 28, 1930; she is buried in Brookmere Cemetery at Cleveland. On Dec. 18, 1884 in Stark County she married David Hooley. He was born in Wayne County April 9, 1858, and died at Cleveland Feb. 13, 1917, a son of David Hooley and Lydia Zook. On May 7, 1927 in Cuyahoga County, Ohio she remarried to widower Cornelius Maaswinkel. He was born circa 1869, and died at East Cleveland July 16, 1939. Their marriage license described him as engineer Corneler Maaswinkel, 58, born in Holland to Corneler Maaswinkel and Nellie

Erbeck. She was widow Sara Hooly, 56, born at Canton, Ohio to Peter Ramseyer and Barbara Richard. The 1930 census of Cleveland shows Cornelius J. Massvinkl, 54, born in Holland, an engineer for a building company who first married at age 25, and immigrated in 1894; and Sarah, 64, born in Ohio to German parents, first married at age 18. Their house was valued at $37.50.

Nicolas/Nicholas Ramseyer was born at Maîche, Doubs, France March 28, 1821 (though his headstone says March 12, 1820), and died at Harper, Kansas Aug. 29, 1895.

On Jan. 8, 1843 in Stark County, Ohio he married next-door neighbor Barbara/Barbe Sommer (their marriage entry calls her Barbara Summers). She was born on the Zellerhof farm at Dossenheim, Lower Alsace March 14, 1823, and died before 1880, a daughter of Joseph Sommer and Anne Marie Göerig.

Barbara already had three brothers and a sister in Central Illinois, and in 1849 the couple took their three children to Woodford County. The 1850 census of Woodford County shows wagonmaker Nicholas Ramsire, 29, Switzerland; Barbaray, 28, Germany; Magdelane, 7, Ohio; Peter, 5, Ohio; John, 3, Ohio; and Joseph, three months, Illinois. The family of John Klopfenstein is found on the same census page.

The 1860 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County shows farmer Nicholas Rumsyre, 40, France; Barbara, 37, France; Magdalene, 16, Ohio; Peter, 15, Ohio; John, 14, Ohio; Joseph, 11, Ohio [he was born in Illinois]; Anna, 7, Illinois; Jacob, 4, Illinois; David, 3, Illinois; and newborn Elizabeth, Illinois.

An 1865 federal tax assessment dated June 18, 1865 says that Nicholas Ramseyer of Montgomery paid $8.50 on income.

According to the *Illinois Public Land Sales Database*, on April 30, 1869 Nicholas Ramseyer purchased 40 acres on the Rock River in the SENE portion of Section 8, Township 25N (Montgomery Township). He paid $11 an acre.

We could not identify Nicholas on the 1870 federal census. The 1873 plat map of Woodford County has N. Ramseyer as the owner of 240 acres in Section 8 of Montgomery Township. His house was located on the west side of Walnut Creek, near the Mackinaw River above Farnisville.

In 1880 he was living at Fairbury, Livingston County with a new wife. The federal census shows Nicholas Rumseyer, 60, born in France to a Swiss father and a French mother; and Christine, 52, born in Baden to parents from Baden.

After 1880 they relocated to Harper, Harper County, Kansas with Nicholas's son Joseph and daughter Elizabeth. The son died in 1893. A state census of Harper City taken March 1, 1895 shows wagonmaker Nicholas Ramsayer, 74, born in France and a former resident of Illinois; his wife Christine, 67, born in Germany and a former resident of Illinois; and Elizabeth, 34, born in Illinois.

Nicholas died at Harper Aug. 29, 1895. He is buried near Joseph in the Christian Apostolic Cemetery at Harper as 'N. Ramseyer.'

Children of Nicholas Ramseyer and his first wife Barbara/Barbe Sommer include:

1. Magdalene Ramseyer was born in Stark County, Ohio in November 1842. On Sept. 11, 1864 in Woodford County she married Joseph Sommer. He was born at St. Louis, Missouri in 1836, a son of Christian Sommer and Marie Sommer. The 1880 census of Montgomery, Woodford County shows farmer Magdalena Sommer, 36, born in Ohio in November to parents from France; Nathaniel, 10, born in Illinois in February to parents from Ohio and France; and Samuel, 8, born in Illinois in April to parents from Ohio and France. The entry is only one household removed from that of younger brother John Ramseyer. She is last found on the 1900 census of Harper, Kansas in the household of her sister-in-law Jacobena Hermann Ramseyer as sister-in-law Lena Sumers, 57, born in Ohio in November 1842 to parents from France and Germany; with Nathan, 30, born in Illinois in February 1870 to parents born at sea and in Ohio. Nathaniel was initially described as an invalid, but the word was lined through.
2. Peter Ramseyer was born in Stark County Oct. 7, 1845, and died at Harper, Kansas Sept. 20, 1920. On June 28, 1868 at Mackinaw Dells in Woodford County he married Elizabeth Funk. She was born at Richen, Baden May 30, 1839, and died at Harper, Kansas Jan. 5, 1914, a daughter of George Funk and Elizabeth Hoerr. They are found on the 1870 census of Cropsey, McLean County as farmer Peter Ramsayer, 24, Ohio; Elizabeth, 30, Baden; Samuel, 1, Illinois; and farm hand Nick Hinegar, 18, Switzerland. They are buried in Harper Cemetery at Harper, Kansas.
3. John Ramseyer was born in Stark County, Ohio Nov. 21, 1847 (Nov. 1 on his death entry), and died at Morton April 17, 1919. On Oct. 19, 1873 in Woodford County he married Barbara Zimmerman. She was born at Montgomery Township May 23, 1849, and died at Morton Jan. 29, 1934, a daughter of Michael Zimmerman and Katharina/Catherine Naffziger. The 1880 census of Montgomery shows them as farmer John Ramseyer, 32, born in Ohio to a father from France and a mother from Switzerland; Barbara, 31, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother born at sea; Lydia, 5, Illinois; laborer David Ramseyer, 22, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Switzerland; and laborer Gottlieb Kinsey, 14, born in Switzerland to Swiss parents. They are also found on the 1910 census of Kawkawlin, Michigan as John Ramgerer, 62, born in Ohio to a French father and a Swiss mother; Barbara, 60, born in Illinois to a German father and a mother born at sea; and an adopted son Otto Ramgerer,

born in Kansas to a father from Ohio and a mother from Illinois. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.

4. Joseph Ramseyer was born at Montgomery Township Aug. 28, 1850, and died at Harper, Kansas Nov. 18, 1893; he is buried in the Christian Apostolic Cemetery there. On Feb. 17, 1878 at Gridley, McLean County he married Jacobena Hermann. She was born in Woodford County in Nov. 24, 1858, and died at Cissna Park, Iroquis County March 2, 1953, a daughter of Joel Hermann and Verena May Gerber. Jacobena is found as a head of household on the 1900 census of Harper, Kansas: Bena Ramseyer, 41, born in Illinois in November 1858 to parents from Germany and Iowa; five children born in Illinois and Kansas; as well as sister-in-law Magdalena Ramseyer and nephew Nathaniel.
5. Anna Ramseyer was born at Montgomery Township April 24, 1853, and died at Harper, Kansas July 28, 1909; she is buried as Anna Kisling in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery there. On Oct. 27, 1877 she married Christian Kisling. He was born in Switzerland April 8, 1851, and died at Mansfield, Ohio June 9, 1934, a son of Christian Kisling and Lena. On July 12, 1914 at Richland, Ohio Kisling remarried to Mary Marks. She was born May 10, 1860, and died at Mansfield Dec. 3, 1947. Christian and Mary are buried in Mansfield Cemetery.
6. Jacob S. Ramseyer was born at Montgomery Township Sept. 24, 1855, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Dec. 10, 1900. On Dec. 6, 1880 in Livingston County he married Mary Ann Steidinger. She was born at Buchenberg, Baden June 24, 1858, and died at Fairbury Nov. 4, 1914, a daughter of Johann Georg Steidinger and Anna Maria Yeackley. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Fairbury.
7. David Ramseyer was born at Montgomery Township circa 1857, according to the 1860 census. He is found as a 22-year-old laborer in the household of his older brother John on the 1880 census of Montgomery. On Nov. 8, 1886 at Harper, Harper County, Kansas he married Euphena Ida Raymond. She was born at Harper Oct. 27, 1871, a daughter of Alfred H. Raymond and Clarissa J. Coon. They are found on the 1900 census of Thomasville, Colorado as David M. Ramseyer, 40, born in Illinois in September 1859 to a French father and a German mother, profession 'silver mines'; Euphena, 28, born in Kansas in October 1871 to a father from New York and a mother from Indiana; and three children born in Colorado between 1889 and 1895. They are also found on the 1920 census of Aspen, Colorado as David M. Ramseyer, 60, born in Illinois to French parents; and Ida, 48, born in Kansas to parents form New York and Indiana.
8. Elizabeth Ramseyer was born at Montgomery Township April 1, 1860, and died at Peoria March 2, 1939. She married Henry Kuhn. The 1910 census of Morton shows odd job laborer Henry Kuhn, 65, Germany, immigrated in 1870; Elizabeth, 49, Germany, immigrated in 1891; and laborer in the pottery industry Daniel, 23, Illinois. Elizabeth is also found as a widow on the 1920 and 1930 censuses of Morton. She was buried as Elizabeth Kuhn in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
9. Samuel Ramseyer was born at Montgomery Township March 22, 1862, and died at Peoria June 5, 1922. 'Samuel Ramseier' is found on the 1880 agricultural schedule of Partridge, Woodford County, suggesting that he was already tending a farm at age 18. Circa 1886 he married Nettie Lambright. They are shown on the 1900 census of Stella, Oklahoma as carpenter Samuel W. Ramseyer, 38, born in Illinois in March 1862 to parents from France; and Nettie L., 37, born in France to French parents in April 1863, immigrated in 1874. In 1910 they were living at Portland Ward 8, Oregon: Samuel W. Ramseyer, 49, born in Illinois to a French father and German mother, carpenter/ contractor/employer; married 24 years; and Nettey L., 48, born in France to French parents, married 24 years. Samuel remarried to Wilhelmina 'Minnie' Stieglitz. Minnie was born in 1855, and died in 1950; she is buried in Springdale Cemetery at Peoria. His household is shown on the 1920 census of Peoria as Samuel W. Ramseyer, 58, born in Illinois to parents from Alsace-Lorraine, laborer in a tractor factory; and Wilhelmina, 54, Germany, immigrated in 1876. His death entry said he was a carpenter living at Peoria with a wife named Minnie.

Householder: Haushalter of Oberbetschdorf

In Switzerland and Germany *Haushalter* or *Haushälter* is an occupation, describing the steward or administrator of an estate.

The villages of Oberbetschdorf and Niederbetschdorf were located eight miles northeast of Hagenau, Lower Alsace.[127] Haushalter entries are found in local Protestant church records well before our beginning point. Sebastian Haushalter, a juror of the court who died at Niederbetschdorf May 28, 1691, had at least wight children with Elisabeth Weber. Thus by the early 1800s the family lines in the area were well represented and extremely convoluted. We counted 51 Haushalter births between 1813 and 1822.

The Haushalter family were Lutherans, but would have been exposed to the presence of nearby Anabaptists. Oberbetschdorf was adjacent to Kutzenhausen, home of the Gerbers.

Hans Adam Hausshalter is described in the church records of Oberbetschdorf as a *Burger und Zimmerman*, a landowner and a carpenter. A number of the family appear to have been carpenters, though the main local industry in their area was the manufacture of pottery. Adam married Maria Margaretha Ketterer.

Their son laborer **George Fréderic Hausshalter** (the spelling on his civil death entry; Georg Friederich Hausshalter is found on his baptism entry) was born at Oberbetschdorf Aug. 16, 1765, and baptized Aug. 18. On Jan. 24, 1786 at Oberbetschdorf he married Anne Barbe Ketterer. She was born at Oberbetschdorf Jan. 11, 1763, a daughter of Jean George Ketterer and Marie Catherine Sturm.

Anne Barbe died at Oberbetschdorf Oct. 20, 1820, and George Fréderic died there Nov. 4, 1829. His civil death entry described him as a laborer, the widower of Barbe Ketterer, and a son of the deceased Adam Hausshalter and Catherine Ketterer. Witnesses included oldest son Fréderic Hausshalter, 44.

Children of George Fréderic Hausshalter and Anne Barbe Ketterer born at Oberbetschdorf include:

1. Georg Freidrich/George Fréderic Haushalter was born Nov. 27, 1786. He was a carpenter. On Jan. 20, 1818 at Oberbetschdorf he married Eve Margueritte Holzmann. She was born July 20, 1794, a daughter of Thiebaut Holzmann and Anne Catherine Haushalter. Their daughter Salomé came to America on the packet ship *Charles Carroll* in 1837.
2. **Deibold/Thiebaut Haushalter** was born Oct. 6, 1788. He was baptized in the Lutheran church, where the record calls him Theobald Hausshalter. The godfather/witness signed 'Diebolt Wolf.'
3. Eve Margaretha/Eve Margueritte Haushalter was born Dec. 8, 1789.
4. Johann Jakob/Jean Jacques Haushalter was born May 29, 1791. On Dec. 26, 1815 at Oberbetschdorf he married Eve Dorothé Wagner. She was born Jan. 29, 1797, a daughter of Philippe Jacques Wagner and Marie Catherine Wolff.
5. Anna Barbara/Anne Barbe Haushalter was born March 8, 1794. On Nov. 19, 1822 at Oberbetschdorf she married Jacques Dangler, the widower of Catherine Wolff. He was born Jan. 28, 1798, a son of Jacques Dangler and Eve Dorothé Heinemann.
6. Philipp Heinrich/Philippe Henri Haushalter was born July 22, 1799.
7. Margaretha Dorothea/Margueritte Dorothé Haushalter was born Feb. 13, 1802. On June 29, 1830 at Oberbetschdorf she married Philippe Henri Ketterer. He was born March 16, 1800, a son of Jean Jacques Ketterer and Margueritte Dorothé Haushalter.
8. Johann Georg/Jean George Haushalter was born April 23, 1806.

Deibold/Thiebaut Haushalter was born at Oberbetschdorf Oct. 6, 1788.

On April 9, 1813 at Oberbetschdorf he married Eve Dorothé Greiner. The civil marriage entry described the groom as a cultivator and a son of Fréderic Haushalter and Barbe Ketterer, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Eve Dorothé Greiner, born at Oberbetschdorf Oct. 30, 1791, a daughter of the deceased Georges Henry Greiner and Anne Catherine Greiner. Anne Catherine had remarried to Jean Claus and was present and consenting. The groom signed his name 'Deibold Haŭshalter.'

They had children at Oberbetschdorf in 1814 and 1815; birth entries 1820-29 say they were living in house number 57 at Niederbetschdorf.

An exodus of Haushalter families from both villages began in 1830, coinciding with the threat of renewed military conscription for the French occupation of Algeria.[128] Their son Thiebaut/Debold emigrated from Europe in 1835. They followed less than two years later.

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[127] In 1971 the two villages merged to form the community of Betschdorf.

[128] The first Haushalter emigrants we found were onboard the packet ship *Charles Carroll* as it sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 29, 1830. Its passenger list shows Jaques Haushalter, 37; Catherine, 37; Dorotea, 6; Magdalene, 5;

They sailed from Le Havre March 24, 1837 on the packet ship *Charles Carroll* (this was the same ship that had taken Haushalters in 1830). They arrived at New York May 3. The passenger list shows farmer Therbald Houshold, 48; Dorothy, 45; Fred.k [Fréderic], 19; Dorothy, 23; Salma [Salomé], 19; Madeleine, 16; Caroline, 11; and Henry, 8. Salomé was a niece to Deibold/Thiebaut Haushalter and Eve Dorothé Greiner; Fréderic was a distant relative.[129]

They settled at New Sewickley, Beaver County, Pennsylvania (25 miles northwest of Pittsburgh). *History of New Sewickley Township* (1904) describes the first church built there less than two years earlier: "In 1835 about thirty Germans, who had immigrated from the old country during the previous years, in connection with a few of the older settlers, resolved to build a church for their own use. One acre of land was bought from Mr. F. Burry, upon which the church, a log structure, was built in the fall of 1835, and from this transaction the church derived the name Burry's Church."

The 1840 census of New Sewickley shows Detwit Housholder as the head of a household: one male 60-69 years of age; one male 20-29; one male 10-14; one female 40-49; and two females 15-19. They appear on the 1850 census of New Sewickley as farmer Debold Housholder, 63, Germany; Dorothy, 59, Germany; and Henry, 21, Germany.[130] Henry is described as 'deaf and dumb'

Three family groupings appear on a single page of the 1860 census of New Sewickley. The first consists of farmer D. Householder, 72, France; Dorothy [Greiner], 69, France, and Henry, 30, designated as 'deaf.' The second grouping is farmer Fred. Housholder, 55, France; Anna [Warmuth], Bavaria; Fred., 21; Mary, 14; Lena, 9; Catherine, 7; Dorothy, 3; Henry, 1; and Dorothy, 79; all children born in Pennsylvania.[131] The third grouping is H. Householder, 43, France; Salome, 41, France; Rica, 11, Pennsylvania; and Catherine, 8, Pennsylvania. [132]

Deibold/Thiebaut Haushalter died at New Sewickley April 3, 1866. Eve Dorothé Greiner died in her daughter Caroline's home near Portersville, Butler County, Pennsylvania Aug. 30, 1873. The cemetery where they are buried is on the site of the old Burry's church at New Sewickley, and is now maintained by a United Evangelical Protestant St. John's Burry's Congregation.

Their children include:

1. Eve Dorothé Haushalter/Eva Dorothea Householder was born at Oberbetschdorf Jan. 12, 1814. On May 11, 1840 in Burry's Church at New Sewickley she married Peter Buchler or Buehler.
2. **Thiebaut Haushalter/Debolt Householder** was born at Oberbetschdorf Nov. 12, 1815, and died at Roanoke Township, Woodford County Jan. 14, 1886.
3. Eve Madelaine Haushalter was born at Niederbetschdorf Sept. 27, 1820.
4. Caroline Haushalter was born at Niederbetschdorf Aug. 2, 1825, and died at Prospect, Butler County, Pennsylvania Feb. 15, 1919. Her civil birth entry described her parents as day laborer Thiebaud Hausholder, 37, and Eve Doroth Greiner. One witness was carpenter Jean George Haushalter, 37. The father signed 'Diebold Haŭßhalter.' On Aug. 26, 1848 in Burry's Church at New Sewickley she married Henry Spithaler. He was born at Oberbetschdorf Feb. 18, 1827, and died at Prospect, Butler County, Pennsylvania April 12, 1898, a son of Martin Spithaler and Salomé Heckendurn. Their household is found next door to her parents on the 1850 census of New Sewickley as farmer Henry Spitanber, 23, Germany; Caroline, 26, Germany; and Henry, 1, Pennsylvania. During the Civil War Henry

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James, 3; Philip, 1; and Frederic Hausholder, an adult whose age is illegible. 'Jaques' was Jean Jacques Haushalter, who was born at Niederbetschdorf March 13, 1792, with his wife Christine Catherine Hermann, who was born there May 14, 1793. They were married at Niederbetschdorf Nov. 3, 1829.

[129] Salomé Haushalter was born at Oberbetschdorf Oct. 6, 1818, and died at Marion circa 1871, a daughter of Georg Freidrich/George Fréderic Haushalter amd Eve Margueritte Holzmann. Thus she was a niece to Deibold/Thiebaut Haushalter and Eve Dorothé Greiner. Her father had died at Oberbetschdorf Nov. 4, 1824. Circa 1840 she married George Jacob Pflug. He was born at Oberbetschdorf May 23, 1817, a son of George Jacob Pflug and Eve Dorothé Marzolff.

Fréderic Haushalter was born at Niederbetschdorf Feb. 18, 1819, and died at Marion, Butler County, Pennsylvania Sept. 26, 1905. His civil birth entry shows his parents as Philippe Jacques Haushalter and Barbe Haushalter [Anne Barbe Haushalter, his first wife]; witnesses were Jean George Haushalter, 34, and George Haushalter, 37. His mother died, and his father remarried to Eve Dorothé Haushalter at Oberbitschdorf Oct. 1, 1822; then his father died before 1835, and his stepmother immigrated in 1835 and settled at New Sewickley. Thus she was there to greet him when he arrived. On April 1, 1836 in St. Paul's German Lutheran and Reformed Church at Zelienople, Butler County he married Mary Eve Pflug. She was born at Oberbetschdorf March 13, 1820, a daughter of George Jacob Pflug and Eve Dorothé Marzolff.

Even more Haushalter family groupings came from Oberbetschdorf the following year. The packet ship *Silvie de Grasse* sailed from Le Havre and arrived at New York May 16, 1838.

[130] We also found Martzalf [Marzolff] and Cattery [Ketterer] families, familiar from Oberbetschdorf civil records.

[131] Fréderic/Frederick Haushalter was born at Niederbetschdorf Jan. 4, 1809, and died at New Sewickley Feb. 2, 1891, a son of George Fréderic Haushalter and Eve Dorothe Sommer.

[132] This may have been Georg Henri Haushalter, who was born at Niederbetschdorf June 27, 1817, a son of Dorothé Haushalter and an unknown father. His birth was reported by a midwife.

served with the 101st Pennsylvania Infantry. His regimental history notes, "Spithaler, Henry. Probably misidentified as Henry Spitler. He immigrated to America around the age of 18 by himself as a stowaway on a transport ship from Germany. Mustered in 10 March `65. Married Carolyn Householder (also a German immigrant) and had 9 children, all of whom survived. He died in 1898, and is buried with his wife in Evans City Cemetery, Butler Co., PA." *Connoquessing Valley News*, Feb. 20, 1919: "Very Aged Lady Died at Butler. Mrs. Henry Spithaler, nee Catherine [Caroline] Householder, died Saturday February 15th, 1919, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Fred Milleman of Butler, where she had made her home for the past eighteen years. She was born August 25th, 1825, in Lorraine, Germany and had reached the age of 94 years, 6 months, 17 days. Her married life was spent near Portersville [five miles west of Prospect]. Mrs. Spithaler is survived by the following children, Mrs. Fred Milleman of Butler, Mrs. John Schott of Beaver County, Mrs. A. Wehr, Harmony, Frederick Spithaler of Zelienople, Henry Spithaler of Pittsburgh, Charles, Daniel, Martin and Jacob Spithaler of Evans City. There are fifty-one grandchildren, forty-seven great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. A funeral service was held at the home of Mrs. Milleman on Monday morning at nine o'clock, being conducted by Rev. C.E. Cronenwett of the Butler Lutheran church, and the remains were then brought to the Reformed church of Evans City where a brief service was held by Rev. I.J. Laufer at 11:30 o'clock and burial followed at the Evans City cemetery."

5. George Henry Haushalter was born at Niederbetschdorf Feb. 22, 1829. The civil entry described his parents as laborer Thiebaud Haushalter, 40, and Eve Dorothé Greiner, 37, living at house number 57. The 1850 census of New Sewickley described him as 'deaf and dumb.'

Thiebaut Haushalter/Debold Householder was born at Oberbetschdorf, Lower Alsace Nov. 12, 1815, and died at Eureka, Woodford County Jan. 14, 1886.

The packet ship *Havre* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York June 10, 1835. The passenger list of the *Havre* shows Thiebald Housholder, 18; Eva Dorotea Housholder, 35; Frederic, 16; Dorotea, 11; and Lewis, 4. Despite misinterpretations in a number of sources, this was not Thiebaut [Jr.] with his mother and siblings - his mother was born in 1791, would have been almost 44, and immigrated with his father in 1837. He was actually traveling with a widowed aunt and three cousins. The 35-year-old was Eve Dorothé Haushalter, the widow of Philippe Jacques Haushalter. At the close of the passenger list is a barely legible addendum with additional Haushalters. Other passengers included a Clauss, Ketterers, Sturms, and Wolffs from Oberbetschdorf.

On May 8, 1838 in the log structure called Burry's Church at New Sewickley he married Marie/Maria/Mary Zehr. Some published sources say she was born in Lorraine Sept. 25, 1816, and died at Eureka June 28, 1896, a daughter of Joseph Zehr and Anne Verly. We suspect that she was born to this couple at Struth, Lower Alsace Nov. 18, 1813, and her age was 'adjusted' around the time of her marriage (see ZEHR).

Thiebaut/Debold found employment at Louisville, Kentucky helping to build a hospital. Presumably this was the Marine Hospital, which built two new wings between 1836 and 1840 and became the Louisville City Hospital. Louisville is approximately 380 miles downstream from Pittsburgh on the Ohio River. The move would have been accomplished by loading household goods onto a flatboat.

Their household appears on the 1840 census of Louisville as D. Housholder: one male 20-29 years of age; one female 20-29; and one male under 5.

The online *Illinois Public Land Tract Sales Database* contains three entries for purchases in Woodford County by a 'David Householder' beginning in 1842. These may have been transcribed from handwritten documents that actually said 'D. Householder.' All three purchases were made in Township 27N, which corresponds to Worth. The first purchase was for 40 acres in Section 15 on July 19, 1842. The next purchase was for 40 acres in Section 11 on Sept. 3, 1842. The final purchase was for 40 acres in Section 15 on Dec. 11, 1845. All three parcels sold for $1.25 an acre, or $50 apiece, and all three were designated 'FD' for federal land.

The family appears 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. The 1860 census of Worth shows Dabolt Household, 46, France; Mary, 43, France; Henry, 19; Frederick, 17; Anna, 16; Mary, 14; Joseph, 7; Lana, 4; and Debolt, 2; all children born in Illinois. The 1865 state census shows the household of Deabolt Householde at Worth. The garbled 1870 census of Worth has John [Thiebaut/Debold] Householer, 50, Bavaria; Margaret [Maria/Marie/Mary], 45, Bavaria; Joseph, 16; Lena, 14; Albert [Debolt], 12; and Doree [Dora], 10; all children born in Illinois.

The 1873 plat map of Worth shows two properties in the name of 'D. Haushalter': 34 acres in Section 23, and 80 acres in Section 26.

They appear on the 1880 census of Roanoke, Woodford County as farmer Diebold Householder, 64, France; Cher. [Zehr?], 64, France; Deebold Jr., 21, Illinois; and Doroth, 19, Illinois.

Herald of Truth, February 1886: "On the 14th of January, in Eureka, Woodford Co., Ill., Debold Haushalter, aged 69 years, 2 months and 4 days. He was the father of eight children, thirty-four grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. He was born in Alsace, Lorraine, in 1816. On the 8th of May, 1838, he was married to Maria Zehr,

with whom he lived forty-eight years to the time of his death. He enjoyed good health until the last year of his life. On the 14th of January, as he was about to rise, he fell back and died in fifteen minutes. He was highly respected. Funeral services were held by Christian Reeser, P. Zimmerman and others."

His headstone in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery calls him 'Debold Hauseholder.' Marie/Maria/Mary is buried there as 'Mary, frau von Debold Hauseholder.'

Herald of Truth, August 1896: "Househalter. Maria Zehr was born on the 25th of September 1816, in Lorraine, France, was married on the 8th of May 1838, to Theobald Househalter. The union was blessed with eleven children, of whom eight survive, also fifty-six grandchildren, and twenty-two great-grandchildren, who with many other relatives and friends mourn their loss. She died on the 28th of June 1896, near Eureka, Woodford Co., Ill., and her remains were laid away on the 30th in the Roanoke graveyard. Appropriate services were held by Valentine Strubhar at the house and by Michael Kinsinger, Emanuel Hartman and John Schmitt at the meeting house. She was a faithful member of the Amish branch of our church and bore her afflictions with fortitude, longing for her release."

Thiebaut Haushalter /Debold Householder and Marie/Maria/Mary Zehr had 11 children. Four were born before the move to Woodford County, and seven after. Three children died as infants, and are not found on censuses. Of these three, two died from cholera. Taken altogether, these pieces suggest that their children include:

- A male child under age 5 appears on the 1840 census, and died before the 1850 census.

1. Heinrich/Henry Householder may have been born in Kentucky (his parents are found on the 1840 census there) or Pennsylvania (per his 1900 census report) Nov. 22, 1840, and died in Cloud County, Kansas Oct. 28, 1902. The 1900 census of Center Township, Cloud County, Kansas shows farmer Henry Hausshalter, 59, born in Pennsylvania in November 1840 to German parents; Lizzie, 36, born in Germany in November 1863; Henry, 14, born in Arkansas in April 1886; and Fred, 4, born in Kansas in January 1896. 'Heinrich (Henry) Householter' is buried in Enterprise Cemetery in Cloud County. His marker gives the dates Nov. 22, 1840-Oct. 28, 1902. His wife is buried as Elizabeth Koch Householter, Sept. 15, 1863-Nov. 11, 1939.[133]
2. Frederick Householder was born at Louisville, Kentucky Feb. 22, 1842, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Dec. 6, 1929. On Jan. 12, 1869 in Woodford County he married Katharina 'Kate' Imhoff. She was born in Butler County, Ohio March 1, 1845, and died at Fairbury Dec. 29, 1871, a daughter of Johannes Imhof/John Imhoff and Marie/Mary Wagner. They are found on the 1870 census of Indian Grove, Livingston County as farmer Frdk. Householder, 26, Kentucky; Catharine, 24, Kentucky; George, seven months (Dec.), Illinois; and an illegible farm worker. *Herald of Truth*, February 1872: "On the 29th of December, in Fairbury, Livingston county, Ill. of consumption, Catharine Houshalter, aged 26 years, 9 months and 29 days. She was sick nine months, and confined to her bed 10 weeks, yet she bore her affliction with patience." She is buried as 'Catrina Householder' in Graceland Cemetery at Fairbury. On March 7, 1873 in McLean County Frederick remarried to Katharina's younger sister Mary Imhoff; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Their father had died in 1852, and they had been living with their widowed mother at Cazenovia. Mary is buried in Graceland Cemetery as Mary Householder, born March 6, 1849, died Dec. 1, 187-[illegible, should be 1874], though she was born Feb. 9, 1850. Circa 1879 Frederick remarried to Ann 'Annie' Reeser. She was born in Woodford County March 27, 1860, and died Sept. 9, 1955, a daughter of John Reeser and Catherine Zimmerman. They are found on the 1880 census of Fairbury as teamster Frederick Householter, 35, born in Kentucky to French parents; Annie, 22, born in Illinois to parents from France and Germany; Albert, 9, Illinois; and Louis, 6, Illinois. They also appear on the 1920 census of Indian Grove, Fairbury Township. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery at Fairbury, Livingston County.

- A second child died as an infant before the move to Woodford County, and does not appear on any census.
- A third child died after the move to Woodford County, and does not appear on any census.

3. Anna/Annie Householder was born in Woodford County April 10, 1844, and died at Eureka April 30, 1939. She married Joseph Camp. He was born at Worth Sept. 7, 1842, and died at Eureka Dec. 7, 1928, a son of Joseph Kempf/Kemp/Camp and Magdalena Engel. See CAMP for more on this couple.
4. Marie/Mary Householder was born at Worth July 26, 1846, and died at Eureka, Woodford County May 24, 1930. On March 1, 1866 she married Peter J. Kennell. He was born at Metamora Oct. 7, 1845, and died at Peoria Feb. 18, 1932, a son of Peter Kennel and Catherine Bachmann/Baughman. They can be found on the 1900 census of Eureka. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Roanoke.
5. Joseph Householder was born at Worth Nov. 22, 1853, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County April 1, 1938. On Jan. 14, 1875 he married Caroline Greiner; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey (according to the records of the Central Conference Mennonite Church). A second ceremony may have taken place Feb. 7, 1875 at Washington. She was born in Illinois Sept. 7, 1852, and died at Fairbury Jan. 14, 1933, a daughter of Michael Greiner and Louise Schuck. They relocated to Fairbury in 1883. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery at Fairbury.

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[133] The identifying point is that the son who appears as Fred on the 1900 census was later called Debolt Householter. The *Social Security Death Index* shows he was born in Kansas July 14, 1895, and died at Concordia, Cloud County May 18, 1974. On the 1930 census of Concordia he is Debolt Householter, and mistakenly states that his father was born in Illinois.

6. Magdalena 'Lena' Householder was born at Worth June 13, 1855, and died at Washington May 4, 1933. On Feb. 13, 1879 in Woodford County she married Andrew Schertz. He was born at Washington Feb. 25, 1854, and died there Oct. 31, 1928, a son of Christian Schertz and Catherine Engel. See SCHERTZ for more on this couple.
7. **Debold Householter** was born at Worth Aug. 21, 1858, and died Jan. 30, 1954.
8. Dora Householder was born at Worth Feb. 6, 1861, and died at Eureka April 10, 1935. On Jan. 24, 1884 at Eureka she married Christian B. Reeser. He was born at Eureka March 7, 1859, and died Oct. 28, 1940, a son of Christian Reeser and Barbara Zimmerman. See RISSER/REESER for more on this couple.

Debold Householter was born at Worth Aug. 21, 1858, and died Jan. 30, 1954.

On Jan. 25, 1883 he married Anna Schertz. She was born June 16, 1863, and died at Olio Township, Woodford County Sept. 23, 1847, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Catherine Engel.

They are found on the 1900 census of Eureka, Olio Township as farmer Debold Householder, 48, born in Illinois in August 1852 to German parents [Alsace and Lorraine were occupied by Germany from 1870 to 1918]; Anna, 35, born in Illinois in June 1864 to German parents; Katie, 16, born in Illinois in May 1884; Peter, 13, born in Illinois in May 1886; Mary, 8, born in Illinois in February 1892; Ida, 4, born in Illinois in June 1895; and Emma, 3, born in Illinois in June 1896. They also appear on the 1920 census of Washington.

Gospel Herald, November 1947: "Householter. Anna, daughter of Christian and Katherine (Engle) Schertz, was born in Tazewell Co., Ill., June 16, 1863; died at her home near Eureka, Ill., Sept. 23, 1947; aged 84 y. 3 m. 7 d. During the last seven years she suffered from the effects of a stroke. On Jan. 25, 1883, she was united in marriage to Debolt Householter, who survives. Also surviving are five children (Katherina - Mrs. Amos Neuhauser, Peter, Mary-Mrs. John Neuhauser, all of Eureka; Ida-Mrs. Austin Roth, Morton, Ill.; and Emma-Mrs. Wilbur Roth, Gibson City, Ill.), 17 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren. As a young girl she accepted Christ as her Saviour and united with the Metamora, Ill. Mennonite Church, of which she was a member at the time of her death. A home-loving woman, she filled a large place in the home, community, and church. Funeral services were conducted Sept.. 25 by Ezra B.Yordy at the home, and by Ben Esch and Henry R. Schertz, nephews of the deceased, at the Roanoke Church. Services at the cemetery were in charge of John L. Harnish."

Gospel Herald, March 1954: "Householter, Debold, the last survivor of eleven children born to Debold and Mary Zehr Householter, was born Aug. 21, 1858, in Woodford Co., Ill.; passed away quietly in his sleep Jan. 30, 1954; aged 95 y. 5 m. 9 d. He was married to Anna Schertz on Jan. 25, 1883. To this union were born one son and four daughters. Surviving him are a son (Peter, Eureka, Ill.), three daughters (Mrs. Amos Neuhauser and Mrs. John Neuhauser, both of Eureka, and Mrs. Austin D. Roth, Morton, Ill.), 17 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. Preceding him in death were his wife and one daughter (Emma- Mrs. Wilbur Roth). He accepted Christ as his Saviour in his youth and was a member of the Metamora Mennonite Church. His passing marks the close of an era. From his birth, in a two-room log cabin to the settlement and development of his surrounding community is a pioneering accomplishment little recognized today. Funeral services were held at the Roanoke Mennonite Church, Feb. 2, with Ezra Yordy, LeRoy Kennel, and Ben Eash in charge. Burial was made in the cemetery nearby."

Yoder: Joder of Steffisburg

See the preface to ZIMMERMAN *for information about the genetic background of the Joder/Yoder family.*

KING genealogy had all the elements of a mystery: a pirate chase, an infanticide, a colony hidden in the forest, and a deathbed confession (foiled when the confessor pulled through). YODER genealogy brings the pieces of a puzzle: Is it possible there were brothers with differing DNA? Which children belonged to which family, when two mothers each had the same name? Who became an Anabaptist, who emigrated, and who did not? What might have been found in records that were destroyed by fire?

Theodor of Grammont was the first bishop of Octodorum (now Martigny in Canton Valais). He became a Catholic saint (see SWISS LEGENDS in the Appendix). The obscurity of Theodor is indicated by the scarcity of individuals and places named for him.

The Theodor-equivalent 'Joder' was found as a first name in pre-Reformation Canton Bern. The oldest document in the state archives of Canton Bern that shows 'Joder' as a surname is a confirmation of a property sale. It was made by Elsa, the widow of Ŭli Joder, on April 25, 1392. Elsa stated that her property on the Aebnit [now a road in Sumiswald, Canton Bern] had been sold to Kŭnz Kürsener of Lugibach [Lugenbachgut in Sumiswald] for 13 pounds.

According to Karl and Ottmar Joder in *Chronik der Familie Joder-Jotter* (1977), a deed from Huttwil (10 miles northeast of Sumiswald) created April 25, 1403 and cited in *Heimatkunde von Huttwil* (1915) described parcels of land that included a bog at Huttwil 'which belonged to Joder' (it is not specified whether Joder was being used as a first or last name). They assumed from this that Ŭli Joder had also lived at Huttwil, which may or may not have been the case.

JORDI

Jordi is a diminutive form of Theodor, equivalent to Teddy. When discussing stories and theories about the early history of the Joders, the 'elephant in the room' is the Jordi family.

Recall from the preface to ZIMMERMAN that the Y chromosomes of Jordi family males are identical to those of many Joder males.

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 have always been more populous and widespread there. They thrived in the parishes north and west of Steffisburg.

If the Joders lived in and around the more densely-populated parish center of Steffisburg for many generations – and this has yet to be shown with documentation – then later small numbers could only be explained if they had suffered drastic health consequences. It is conceivable that there were one or more cullings during plague years as recently as 1526 (and again in 1628-31).

The State Archives of Canton Bern has indexed the 1392 land document as a Joder document (though 14th-century goose-quill handwriting is often difficult to discern). However, two points noted in JORDI are inescapable:

— Huttwil is generally associated not with Joder, but with the surname Jordi. The Protestant Reformed Church at Huttwil was not established until 1753. Over the next 20 years the surname Joder does not appear once in its birth registers; the surname Jordi appears 32 times. It is a Jordi place of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights [Ger. *Heimatort*].

— The earliest Jordis in Canton Bern may have lived in the scattered farm houses 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. Eriswil is wedged between Sumiswald and Huttwil.

This all suggests that early Joders were Jordis who took on the formal, Latinized version found on church and legal documents.[134]

By road, Steffisburg is 26 miles southwest of Sumiswald.

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[134] Since Jordis were found to the north and west of Steffisburg, and because Steffisburg was a parish seat, it is inevitable that some Jordi family events took place there. The first marriage recorded there was between Margret Jordi and Niclaŭs Zimmerman Oct. 8, 1572; the first baptism that of Anni Dierstein, a daughter of Hans Dierstein and Anni Jordi, on Jan. 28, 1588.

We cannot imagine Joders at Steffisburg before the 16th century. There are not enough births, marriages, and loose ends in 16th century records to represent normal birth rates. We would also expect to see old branches in surrounding communities, more than one Joder-to-Joder marriage between distant cousins, and Joders working on the same farm or in the same mill who were only distantly related.

To the best of our present knowledge, by the mid-to-late 1500s all the Joders in the Old Swiss Confederacy consisted of one family grouping at Steffisburg – one Caspar and wife, their grown children, and grandchildren – and perhaps another family 15 miles to the northwest at Mŭri bei Bern (see JODERS OF MŬRI BEI BERN).

Their lowest numbers may have come in 1580, when a land purchase dramatically changed the family fortunes. 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.'"[135]

From that point forward Joders prospered and multiplied. They had interests in both ends of the production process: raising grain, then refining it in the mills at Steffisburg. It is also possible that relatives at Mŭri bei Bern marketed their flour, grapes, and other products.

We estimate that the father Caspar was born before 1512. We have seen his first wife identified in a number of modern sources as Margret Moser, but could not verify this from a record image. Their first child was born before 1534.

On Jan. 7, 1571 at Steffisburg Caspar remarried to Anni Moser. At age 59 or older it would have been his second or third marriage.

Beyond the two sons, the children of Caspar Joder and his unidentified first wife (possibly Margret Moser) can only be assumed from their age groups. There is always a chance that the seven individuals tentatively listed below were born to other parents. But the naming seems consistent with one family. They include:

1. **Niclaŭs Joder** was born before 1534.[136]

- Baltassar Joder was born before 1537. He is found as a witness to baptisms in 1557 and 1558. He married Anna Stähli. Their child baptized at Steffisburg was:
    a. Jost Joder was baptized July 18, 1557. Witnesses included Peter Berger, Hanns von Farni, Ŭli Eÿman, Christina Schwender, and Barbal Marti.

  He may also have been the Baltisser/Baltasar Joder who married Margreth Zimper (or, this may have been a son of Baltassar who was not baptized at Steffisburg). Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:
    b. Margreth Joder was baptized May 28, 1581. Witnesses included Hans Rŭfiner, Christini Freÿ, and Margreth Eÿman. She may be the Margreth Joder who had an illegitimate child Hans baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 10, 1610. The entry named the father as Peter Egli of Schangnau. Witnesses included Mathÿs Haberstock, Joseph Kropff, and Barbli Kropff. She may also be the Margreth Joder who married Peter Erb. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Anna, 1614; and Hans, 1617.
    c. Peter Joder was baptized Feb. 3, 1583. Witnesses included Hans Roth, Michel Graff, and Anni Farni.
- Barbal/Barblÿ/Barbli Joder was born before 1537. She is found as a witness to baptisms between 1557 and 1566. On April 29, 1575 at Steffisburg she married Batt Graff/Grafen. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Hans, 1583; and Barbli, 1585.
- Anna Joder was born before 1537. She is found as a witness on baptisms in 1557 and 1560. She may have been the Anni Joder who married Bendicht Wenger at Steffisburg May 24, 1585.
- Peter/Petter Joder was born before 1539. He is found as a witness on baptisms in 1559, 1566, and 1569. He married Madlena. Her full name is not found on entries for the baptisms of their three children. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Barblÿ/Barbli Joder was baptized May 5, 1566. Witnesses included Steffan Gisler, Elsy Zouck, and Anni – [illegible]. On June 2, 1589 at Steffisburg she married Michel Linden *von Undrsenen* [Unterseen was a village that is now part of Interlaken, at the south end of Lake Thun]. The entry bears a Latin note '*filia petri*' [daughter of Peter]. She may have been the witness Barbli Joder at the baptism of Barbli Hadorn, a daughter of Benedict Hadorn and Barbli, at Hilterfingen March 25, 1588.
    b. Trini Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 8, 1570. Witnesses included Ŭly Eÿman, Anni Schaber, and Getta [Margretha].
    c. Hanns Jacob Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 3, 1574. Witnesses included Jost Leeman and Getta [Margretha], the wife of Peter Dummermŭth.

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[135] Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar were the names of the Magi in European mythology. They are not named in the *Bible*.
[136] We found Niclaŭs as Nicklÿ at the baptism of Petter Zeisser Sept. 9, 1565.

- Margreth Joder was born before 1540. She is found as a witness on baptism entries from 1560 and 1569. She may have been the Margreth Joder who married Hans Gasser at Steffisburg Jan. 21, 1581.[137]

2. **Caspar Joder** was born before 1547 (based on his marriage year).

- Elsÿ/Elsi Joder was born before 1545. She is found as a witness on a baptism entry from 1565. On June 14, 1573 at Steffisburg she married Jacob Müller. Their child baptized there was Barbli, 1577. Elsÿ/Elsi may also have been the Elsi Joder who married Hans Meÿer at Steffisburg Jan. 8, 1579. Their children baptized there include Hans, 1580; Elsi, 1582; Peter, 1585; Caspar, 1589; and Christoffel, 1591.
- Hans Joder was born before 1552. On Feb. 7, 1572 at Steffisburg he married Margreth Walck. He may also have been the Hans Joder who married Anni Wÿler at Steffisburg June 14, 1591. Neither marriage produced a child baptized there. A baptism entry with the names from the second marriage was created May 4, 1592, but leaves the child's name blank – indicating death before the christening.

Descendants of brother Niclaŭs (of the 1580 land purchase)

Joders at the Aumühle

Niclaŭs Joder was likely born before 1533 (based on the marriage year of his oldest son). He married Margaretha/Getta. [138]

They were the parents of **Caspar Joder**, who was likely born before 1554 (based on his marriage year). Steffisburg baptism records were not preserved before 1557.

On Nov. 14, 1574 at Steffisburg he married Anni Graf/Graff/Grafen. They operated the Aumühle [meadow mill], located on the banks of the Zulg River, in the center of Steffisburg. It was made up of three small mills. *Die Orschaften des eidgenössischen freistaates Bern* [The Villages of Canton Bern in the Swiss Confederation] (1838) describes the location "Au, in the, six houses there and several across the Zulg River." The area is now Aumühlestrasse.

Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Joder was baptized Jan. 1, 1581. Witnesses included Görg Falkÿsen, Hans Meÿer, and Froni Rüsser. On Nov. 24, 1608 at Steffisburg he married Margreth Brönniman, in a double ceremony with his younger stepsister Barbli and Hans Wertmüller/Werdtmüller. Margreth was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 8, 1587, a daughter of Rŭdi Bŭneman [as found, presumably Brönniman] and Barbli Gasner [as found, presumably Gasser]. Their children include:
    a. Hans Joder was baptized Oct. 8, 1609. The entry names him Hans in the left margin, but Johannes in the text. Witnesses included Hans Linden, Elsi Blank, and Úli Blank. He married Barbli Schwaar. She was baptized at Steffsburg Aug. 10, 1617, a daughter of Peter Schwaar and Verena Reüsser. Their marriage may be the one entered at Steffisburg Aug. 16, 1633 for Hans Joder and Verena Schwaar (Barbli would have been only six days past her 16th birthday). Hans was later described as *an der Langenegg* (in the pastures a few miles east of Steffisburg).
        1) Anna Joder was baptized April 24, 1636. Witnesses included Hans Leeman, Verena Galli, and Barbli Flŭman.
        2) Barbli/Babi Joder was baptized Oct. 29, 1637. Witnesses included Niggli Hodel, Margret Erb, and Anni Marpach. She married Jost Holi.[139] Their children baptized at Diessbach include Hans, 1657; Anna, 1659; Jost, 1660 (the parents described as Jost Holi and Babi Joder); Jost, 1662 (one witness was Caspar Joder); Ŭlli, 1663; Peter, 1665; Babi, 1667; Ŭlli, 1669; Madlen, 1671; Vreni, 1672; and Niclaŭs, 1674.
        3) Verena/Vreni Joder was baptized May 9, 1644. Witnesses included Bendicht Wänger, Barbli Rot, and Verena Hertig. She married Hans Witwer. Their children baptized at Diessbach include Christ, 1666 (where the father is erroneously named as Christen Witwer); Hans, 1668; Jacob, 1671 (one witness was Babi Joder); and Hans, 1675.
    b. Caspar Joder was baptized Oct. 6, 1611. Witnesses included Caspar Kaŭffman and Elsbeth Leeman. On Dec. 8, 1643 at Steffisburg he married Anna Güngerich. A baptism entry created at Diessbach March 27, 1625 mentioned twin daughters of Christen Gungerich named Anna and Grett [Margreth]. One witness was Hans Walthart. The first evidence of Caspar's presence in Diessbach is the name 'Casp. Joder' as a witness on the baptism entry of Steffen Güngrich March 16, 1645. Steffen's parents were Christ Güngrich and Cathi Nusbaŭm; the other witnesses included Hans Walthart. Caspar and Anna had a child

[137] Steffisburg records also spell the surname Gasser as Gassner and Gasner. But it had a specific meaning derived from *gasse* – someone who lived on a lane or alleyway.

[138] Recall that a single page of the *Taufrodel* for Sept. 11, 1575 mentioned baptism witnesses '*Nich Joder's Frau Getta*' and '*Caspar Joder's Frau Getta*.'

[139] The online site of the Canton Bern state archive does not post images of Diessbach mariages from 1656 to 1690.

baptized at Steffisburg in 1648, then moved out to Diessbach and Kŭrzenberg, where another child was baptized the following year. Children of Caspar Joder and Anna Güngerich include:

1) Hans Joder was baptized at Diessbach in 1646. Witnesses included Hans Walthart, Hans Joder, and Magdalena von Diessbach. He died young.
2) Hans Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 1, 1649. Witnesses included Hans Spring, Andreas Mŭrer, and Madle Lŭgenbühl. He died young.
3) Barbli Joder was baptized at Diessbach April 21, 1650. The entry says the birth took place there; witnesses included Hans Hoffman and Madlena Walthart. She married Niclaŭs Moser. Their children baptized at Diessbach include Hans, 1670; Christ, 1672 (one witness was Christ Äbersold); Anna, 1673; Peter, 1675; Babi, 1677; Niclaŭs, 1679; Caspar, 1681; Christ, 1683; Salome, 1689; and Elsbeth, 1692.
4) Caspar Joder was baptized at Diessbach May 16, 1658. The entry said his birth had taken place at Kŭrzenberg; witnesses included Hans Rudolph Spangler and Verena Reüsser. He married Madlen Holi (as found on the entry). Their child baptized at Diessbach was:
    a) Babi Joder was baptized Feb. 8, 1680. The mother was identified as Madlen Halli. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Moser, Babi Bärger, and Babi Stucki.
5) Hans Joder was baptized at Diessbach Feb. 10, 1661.

c. Barbli/Babi Joder was baptized Nov. 10, 1616. Witnesses included Hans Blanck, Barbli Otz, and Margreth Landimann. She was a witness to Diessbach baptisms in 1654, 1655, and 1656, suggesting that she was living there with or near her older brother Caspar. She appears to have raised five orphans. Consistent with the customs of the time and place, she would have acted as their foster mother by arrangement with, and with the financial support of the Protestant Reformed Church. Five women with the maiden name Joder appear as mothers on Diessbach baptism records beginning in 1667. None had their own entries as Joders in the *Taufrodel* baptism registers of Steffisburg or Diessbach, and none had been married at Steffisburg. Perhaps we can assume they were married at Diessbach, but the village did not preserve marriage entries from 1656 to 1690. A large number of displaced children across the canton could certainly be explained by a single event: the Swiss Peasants War of 1653 (see SWISS ANABAPTIST EMIGRANTS for background).

— Vreni Joder married Christen/Christ Mŭrer. Their children baptized at Diessbach include Anna, 1668; Cathri, 1669; Bendicht, 1671; Jost, 1673; Peter, 1674; Christ, 1675 (he died young); Anni, 1677; and Christ, 1681.
— Anna Joder married Christen Müller. Their child baptized at Diessbach was Madle, 1669 (one witness was Christen Bŭlman).
— Elsi Joder married Christen/Christ Äbersold. Their children baptized at Diessbach include Anna, 1671 (one witness was Niclaŭs Moser); Elsbeth, 1673; Babi, 1677; and Madle, 1678.
— Barbara/Babi Joder married Hans Zimmerman. Their children baptized at Diessbach include Christen, 1677; Hans, 1678 (he died young); Elsbeth, 1679; Hans, 1681; Peter, 1687; Maria, 1688; Anna Barbara, 1689; and Michel, 1691.
— Ursula Joder married Christen Bŭhman/Bŭman.[140] Their children baptized at Diessbach include Ursula, 1680; Caspar, 1682; Ŭlli, 1683; Hans, 1687; Niclaŭs, 1689; and Christen, 1694.

On Feb. 20, 1584 at Steffisburg Caspar remarried to Anni Meÿer of Schwendi (now in Homberg bei Thun).

He may have been the Caspar Joder *von Steffisburg* who appeared as a witness at the baptism of Anni Meÿer, daughter of Hans Meÿer and Margret, at Hilterfingen May 29, 1586.

A financial document dated April 16, 1593 stated that Caspar Joder had become the operator of the Aumühle. Hans von Wattenwyl, a past mayor [Ger. *Alt Schultheiss*] of the city of Bern, was recognized as the lord of two-thirds of the mill.[141]

Caspar may have remarried again on Dec. 3, 1591. If so, it would have meant that Anni Meÿer died soon after the birth of their fourth child together. A marriage entry describes the bride as Maria Dŭbi (an unusual surname, but still found in Canton Bern).

Children of Caspar Joder and his second wife Anni Meÿer baptized at Steffisburg include:

2. Anni Joder was baptized Jan. 17, 1585. Witnesses included Michel Graf, Anni Rüsser, and Christini Rüsser. On Jan. 10, 1620 at Steffisburg she married Peter Steiner. Their son Michel Steiner was baptized June 13, 1624, at the same time as his cousin Anni Joder, a daughter of Anni's brother Caspar Joder and Margreth Erb.
3. **Caspar Joder** was baptized July 16, 1587. Witnesses included Hans Rüsthart, Hans Blanck, and Margreth Meÿers.

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[140] In Latin an *ursula* is a little female bear. *Ursu* is the Latin word for a male bear, the symbol of the city and canton of Bern.

[141] Hans von Wattenwyl (1541-1604) was mayor of the city of Bern in 1582.

4. Barbli Joder was baptized Oct. 2, 1589. Witnesses included Niklaŭs Frutiger, Anni Blank, and Barbli Blank. On Nov. 24, 1608 at Steffisburg she married Hans Wertmüller/Werdtmüller, in a double ceremony with her older stepbrother Hans and Margaretha Brönniman. Their child baptized at Steffisburg was Caspar, 1610.
5. Verena Joder was baptized Aug. 1, 1591. Witnesses included Hans Barb, Dori Graf, and Verena Stutzman. On Jan. 21, 1611 at Steffisburg she married Peter Linder. The ceremony took place on the same day as one for her brother Caspar and Barbli Linder. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Anna, 1613; and Hans, 1615. She may also have been the Verena Joder who married Niclaŭs Mŭrer at Steffisburg Nov. 9, 1629.
    a. Andres/Andreas Mŭrer was baptized at Steffisburg March 20, 1631. On April 7, 1651 at Steffisburg Andres/Andreas married Christina Reüsser. They appear as witnesses on a number of Joder entries. Andres/Andreas is found as Andres Müre on the 1681 *Mosestafel* tableau in the Protestant Reformed Church.

Caspar Joder was baptized at Steffisburg July 16, 1587, and died at Steffisburg Nov. 8, 1654, a son of second wife Anni Meÿer

On Jan. 11, 1611 at Steffisburg he married Barbli Linder; the ceremony took place on the same day that his sister Verena Joder married Peter Linder. She may have been the Barbli Linder who was baptized at Steffisburg Sept. 24, 1587, a daughter of Frantz Linder *der Keffler von Coppingen* [the coppersmith from Koppigen, 33 miles north of Steffisburg] and Maria Biberstein.

On June 9, 1623 at Steffisburg Caspar remarried to Margreth Erb. An estate settlement document dated Nov. 18, 1654 described Caspar as a miller *in der Au*, who left widow Margreth Erb.

Children of Caspar Joder and Margreth Erb include:

1. Anni Joder was baptized June 13, 1624. Witnesses included Hans Linder and Margreth Brönniman. She was baptized with her cousin Michel Steiner. On Feb. 16, 1652 at Steffisburg she married Hans Kislig. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Anna, 1653; Barbara, 1654; and Verena, 1656 (witnesses included Jost Joder and Anna Joder).
2. Babÿ/Barbli/Barbara Joder was baptized April 11, 1634. Witnesses included Michel Boo, Barbli Flŭman, and U. Meÿ. On Jan 13, 1654 at Steffisburg she married Hans Gerber. He was baptized there Oct. 13, 1633, a son of Christen Gerber (found as Christen Gerver) and Lucia Schenk. Their child baptized at Steffisburg was Christian, 1662.
3. **Hans Joder** was baptized in February 1636 [the day is illegible]. Witnesses included Zacharias [Naffzger] *der Schmid* [metal smith], Meideli *der Pfister* [baker] *zŭ Thun*, and Barbli Rot. Zacharias was the forebearer of the Nafziger family; see NAFZIGER.
4. Margret Joder was born Jan. 23, and baptized Jan. 29, 1640. Witnesses included Hanns Jacob Güder, Zacharias Naffzger *der Schmid*, and Barbli Freÿ.
5. A child died before baptism in 1644.
6. The birth of Caspar Joder was entered in the baptism register March 18, 1650. The unusual entry names Caspar, Mar., and Caspar Jr. – parents and son – but not the surname Joder. Witnesses included Nigli Mŭrer, Jacob Rŭchti, and Barbli Wantzenried. A Latin phrase says the child was not present to be baptized. The absence of a notated explanation or a later baptism entry suggest that he died.

Hans Joder was baptized at Steffisburg in February of 1636. His death was registered at Steffisburg March 19, 1719 as '*der alte Joder in der Au*.'

Under the estate settlement in 1654, Hans and his much younger brother Caspar received the mill and accessories. Three days later Hans signed a document agreeing that he owed four bushels of grain from the Aumühle as 'annual interest' to Samuel von Wattenwÿl or his father Gabriel von Wattenwÿl, district governor of Oron (a municipality in Canton Vaud).

On Aug. 13, 1656 at Steffisburg Hans married Verena/Fröni/Freni Reüsser. She was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 9, 1625, a daughter of Stephan Reüsser and Elsbeth Eicher. Their last child was baptized Dec. 26, 1669. Verena died shortly after this, and Hans remarried to Anna Wÿttenbach at Steffisburg Feb. 9, 1672. Their marriage entry describes 'Hans Joder *in der Au.*' Anna died at Steffisburg May 2, 1705. A *Totenrodel* entry describes her as Hans Joder's wife *in der Au*.

In 1707 a 1,000-pound loan was drawn, perhaps for the construction of a new mill. The guarantors were Hans Joder *in der Au*, son Caspar *der Alt Kirchmeier*, and son Jacob at the Pfaffenhalten vineyards (along the Pfaffenhaltenweg north of the village). The Aumühle was put up as surety.

Hans, 67, subleased the Aumühle to Jakob Tschaggelar in 1712. Legal contracts preserved at Thun also indicate that he purchased pasture land in 1715.

His grandson Jacob *Joder der Jŭng* sold the middle mill to Jakob Stettler in 1714, then obtained the use of it on a lease the following year. Some of Hans's grown children continued to be described as *in der Au*, suggesting they remained in a house there.

The 1,000-pound loan was paid off in 1719, the year of Hans's death. Estate settlement documents from 1719 and 1720 for the late 'Hans Joder *im der Au*' identify the oldest son Caspar in the Gloggenthal with his sons Christen and Caspar, and another son Jacob of the Pfaffenhalten vineyards with his sons Hans and Caspar.

Children of Hans Joder and Verena/Fröni/Freni Reüsser baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Margreth Joder was baptized Oct. 25, 1657. Witnesses included Niggli Moser, Anna Güngerich, and Barbli the wife of a Linder.
2. **Caspar Joder** was baptized Jan. 2, 1659. Witnesses included Christen Wertmüller, Andres Mŭrer, and Anna Güngerich of Diessbach.
3. Jaggi/Jakob/Jacob Joder was baptized Oct. 7, 1660; witnesses included Hans Freÿ, Hans Spring, and Anni Trachsel. On May 30, 1684 at Steffisburg he married Margaretha Stähli of Oberhofen. She was born circa 1664, and died at Steffisburg Dec. 13, 1734. A child's baptism entry from 1692 described the father as 'Jacob Joder *in der Au.*' The settlement documents from 1719 and 1720 indicate that by then they were living at the Pfaffenhalten vineyards. A document from 1721 described him as *der Alt Seckelmeister* [the former treasurer of the village]. He died at Steffisburg April 12, 1733; the entry describes him as Jacob Joder *in der Au*, 73. Children of Jaggi/Jakob/Jacob Joder and Margaretha Stähli baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Hans Joder was baptized May 17, 1685; witnesses included Ŭlrich Stücker, Christen Moser, and Anna Kolb. On Sept. 30, 1707 at Steffisburg he married Christina Moser. She was baptized at Steffisburg March 11, 1688, a daughter of Jacob Moser and Anna Moser. Hans remarried to Barbara Berger. She was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 21, 1692, and died at Steffisburg Jan. 23, 1778, a daughter of Ŭlrich Berger and Barbara Schmŭtz. He may be the Hans Joder *der Alt in Gloggenthal* who died at Steffisburg Dec. 28, 1757, age 70. Children of Hans Joder and his first wife Christina Moser baptized at Steffisburg include:
        1) Jacob Joder was baptized June 15, 1710. Witnesses included Jost Moser, Jost Joder, and Catharina Staŭffer. He died young.
        2) Jacob Joder was baptized Jan. 3, 1712. Witnesses included Jost Moser, Jost Joder, and Catharina Staŭffer.
        3) Hans Joder was baptized Aug. 12, 1714. Witnesses included Hans Joder, Daniel Zaŭgg, and Verena Joder.
        4) Anna Joder was baptized March 7, 1717. Witnesses included Christen Mŭrer, Anna Meÿer, and Barbara Farni.
    b. Caspar Joder was baptized Aug. 14, 1687; witnesses included Hans Jenni, Jacob Moser, and Magdalena Staŭffer. On Jan. 23, 1711 at Steffisburg he married Anna Meÿer. She was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 8, 1688, a daughter of Christen Meier and Anna Blanck. He died at Pfaffenhalten Sept. 12, 1762, age 76 (registered at Steffisburg). Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:
        1) Peter Joder was baptized Aug. 26, 1714. Witnesses included Christen Staŭffer, Niclaŭs Schneider, and Verena Staŭffer.
        2) Anna Joder was baptized Aug. 9, 1716. Witnesses included Jacob Joder, Verena Staŭffer, and Barbara Farni.
    c. Jacob Joder *der Jŭng* was baptized Nov. 10, 1689; witnesses included Jost Joder *im Ortbŭhl*, Hans Holi, and Anna Spring.
    d. Peter Joder was baptized May 22, 1692; witnesses included Peter Bŭchler, Peter Gerber, and Cathrin Freudenberger. He died at Steffisburg Aug. 4, 1775; the entry described him as a widower *in der Au*, age 83 years, three months.
    e. Verena Joder was baptized Sept. 23, 1694; witnesses included Hans Joder, Anna Staŭffer, and Magdalena Joder. A contract preserved at Thun says that she and Christen Maurer of Oppligen (five miles northwest of Steffisburg) married in 1721. Christen Maurer subleased the Aumühle that year.
    f. Ŭlrich Joder was baptized July 9, 1702; witnesses included Christen Gerber, Caspar Joder, and Magdalena Joder. On Jan. 25, 1726 at Steffisburg he married Magdalena/Madlena Bürki. She was born circa 1704, and died at Steffisburg Sept. 14, 1766. Ŭlrich died at Steffisburg April 20, 1784.
    g. Jost Joder was baptized Dec. 13, 1705; witnesses included Zacharias Füss, Caspar Bŭchler, and Anna Joder. He died young.
    h. Jost Joder was baptized Dec. 21, 1710; witnesses included Niclaŭs Meÿer, Hans Rŭpp, and Verena Staŭffer. He died at Steffisburg May 18, 1736.
4. Niclaŭs Joder was baptized Aug. 24, 1662. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Moser, Hans Gerber *im Ättenbŭhl*, and Barbli Müller. He died before the 1719 settlement.
5. Barbli Joder was baptized Nov. 13, 1664. Witnesses included Hans Gerber *im Ättenbŭhl*, Stini Meier, and Babÿ Joder (described as *Caspar's Tochter,* daughter).

6. Hansli Joder was baptized March 3, 1667. Witnesses included Peter Meÿer, Caspar Joder junior, and Anna Blanck. He died before the 1719 settlement.
7. Madlena Joder was baptized Dec. 26, 1669. Witnesses included Niclaus Hoffman *von Herbligen* [five miles north of Steffisburg], Barbara Staŭffer, and Madle Moser. On Feb. 14, 1710 at Schwarzenegg she married Matthis Widwer [Wittwer]. On Jan. 12, 1720 at Steffisburg she remarried to Hans Bürki. The entry described her as the widow of Matthÿs Witwar of Schwarzenegg. She died at Steffisburg Aug. 13, 1758; the *Totenrodel* entry described her as Magdalena Joder, 86, widow of Hans Bürki.

Caspar Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 2, 1659, and died there April 18, 1735. His death entry describes him as Caspar Joder *der Alt in Gloggenthal*, age 70.

On Jan. 21, 1681 at Steffisburg he married Freni (baptism entry)/Verena (marriage entry) Staŭffer. She was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 23, 1662, a daughter of Christen Staŭffer and Freni Farni. She died there only 51 days after her husband, on June 7, 1735.

The 1682 *Mosestafel* tableau in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg has Caspar's coat-of-arms board [Ger.*Wappentafel*]. It shows the detached black leg and webbed foot of a duck or goose (though later copies have changed this to resemble a crow or eagle) on a yellow shield. Oddly, it is identical to the board of Petter Blanck, *Obmann* [chairman]. Perhaps it was thought that a goose was an appropriate symbol for someone from a mill family.

Such a recognition at age 23 may have come because Caspar was working for the church. He is found on later documents as '*Kilchmeier*' or '*der alte Kirchmeier.*' A *Kilchenmeyer* was a person who collected money for the church. Although a *Kirchmeier* could be a tenant farmer on church-owned land, it also described an administrator of church property.

In 1721 Caspar leased the Aumühle to Christen Maurer of Oppligen, who had just married Caspar's niece Verena Joder.

A legal document created in 1733 and preserved at Thun proposed a trade of properties within the family. Father Caspar, his son Caspar, and sons-in-law Christen Spring and Hans Zaŭgg would give up a pasture in the area of Röthenbach suitable for grazing 10 cattle. Sons Hans and Christen would give up two houses, a barn, an oven house, a granary, and property in Gloggenthal. The trade was voided in 1737, perhaps because of the death of father Caspar in 1736.

An estate settlement document created at Steffisburg Aug. 11, 1736 listed Caspar's heirs as Hans, Christen, Caspar, Anna, and Barbara.

Children of Caspar Joder and Freni/Verena Staŭffer baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Anna Joder was baptized April 16, 1682. Witnesses included Peter Jenni, Catherine Gerber, and Anna Fŭss. She died young.
2. Anna Joder was baptized May 20, 1683. Her father was described as Caspar Joder *in der Au*. Baptism witnesses included Jacob Moser, Catherine Gerber, and Anna Joder. On June 8, 1708 at Stefffisburg she married Christen Reüsser. He may have been the Christen Reüsser baptized at Steffisburg May 27, 1683, a son of Christian Reüsser and Maria Elsbeth Delsperger. They lived at Erlen above Steffisburg. Anna remarried to Christen Spring. He was baptized at Steffisburg May 25, 1690, a son of Peter Spring and Barbara Meier (one witness was Hans Rŭpp *in der Au*), and died *in der Erlen* March 17, 1749 (registered at Steffisburg). A *Totenrodel* entry said that Anna Joder, the widow of Christen Spring, died June 24, 1759, age 74.
3. Barbara Joder was baptized Jan. 4, 1685, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Peter Jenni, Christina Mŭrer, and Catharina Krebs.
4. Hans Joder was baptized Oct. 24, 1686. His father was described as *Kilchmeier*. Witnesses include Peter Linder, Hans Spring, and Christina Maurer. He lived at Erlen above Steffisburg.
5. Christen Joder was baptized Feb. 15, 1691. Witnesses included Christen Güngerich, Christina Rüser [Reüsser], and Elsbeth Megerdt. On May 10, 1715 at Steffisburg he married Rosina Schwendimann. She was baptized at Thierachern Sept. 18, 1698, a daughter of Christen Schwendimann and Anna Zimmerman, and died at Steffisburg May 19, 1765. Christen died at Hartlisberg, Steffisburg Feb. 11, 1773, described on the entry as age 80.
6. Caspar Joder was baptized Sept. 1, 1695. Witnesses included Caspar Joder, Peter Gerber, and Elsbeth Kipfer. He died at Reutschibrunnen (now a road in Schwendibach, adjacent to Steffisburg) March 27, 1771.
7. Peter Joder was born at Thun, but baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 18, 1700. Witnesses included Abraham Schuler, Hans Henni, and Anna Berner. Peter presumably died before the 1719 settlement.
8. Barbara Joder was baptized Oct. 29, 1703. Witnesses included Johannes Stäli, Magdalena Moser, and Barbara Staŭffer. She first married Christen Gasser. He was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 22, 1700, a son of Christen Gasser *von Belp* and Barbara Wäglin. On March 7, 1732 at Steffisburg she remarried to Hans Zaŭgg. The entry described her as the widow of Christen Gasser. Hans was born circa 1701, and died at Steffisburg Nov. 2, 1779.

Descendants of brother Caspar (of the 1580 land purchase)

Joders on Ortbühl Farm

We can make a very hazy guess and say that **Caspar Joder** was born between 1534 and 1546. The entire time frame predates preserved Steffisburg church records.

Caspar married Margretha/Getta Wÿss.[142] We could only identify two of their children, but at least two more are probable. They include:

1. If **Caspar Joder** was born and baptized at Steffisburg, it may have been before 1557 (the date of the oldest preserved baptism records). But it is also possible that his birth took place in one of the later years that are missing from the records (1561-64, 1567, or 1568).
2. Paŭli Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 24, 1571. Witnesses included Hans Sŭrer, Anthoni Dummermŭth, and Getta Wÿss, the wife of Heini Farni of Thun [was this his mother's cousin?]. We only found one other instance of the name Paŭli at Steffisburg: on Oct. 29, 1559 a child Paulus was baptized, a son of Paŭli Meÿer and Ursula Tierstein; one witness was Caspar Joder. On Feb. 7, 1590 at Steffisburg Paŭli Joder married Fronegg Hennig.[143] He was only 18 years of age. Their children include:
    a. Anni Joder was baptized at Steffisburg April 18, 1591. Witnesses included Hans Dummermŭth, Anni Stein of Thun, and Madlena Rŭchti. At Steffisbug on April 28, 1609, she married Hans Walder, only 10 days past her 18th birthday. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Hans, 1610; and Peter, 1613.
    b. Caspar Joder was baptized at Steffisburg June 4, 1592. Witnesses included Nicklaŭs Frutiger, Nicklaŭs Bachman, and Anni Kaŭffman. Only 45 days after his 21st birthday he married Barbara Gŭrli. The ceremony took place at Steffisburg July 19, 1613. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:
        1) Barbli Joder was baptized April 7, 1616. Witnesses included Caspar Kaŭffman, Anna Reüsser, and Esther Breit.
        - Anna Joder may belong in this family. She was baptized at Steffisburg Aug. 17, 1617, '*ein ehrlich tochter*' [a legitimate daughter] of Caspar Joder. The mother was not named. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Küng and the wife of Niclaŭs Mŭrer. If Anna was a member of this family, she died before 1626 (note the death of a daughter named Anni).
        2) Caspar Joder was baptized Dec. 20, 1618. Witnesses included *Seckelmeister* [treasurer] Stähli, Hans Louer, and Joni de Kränstein. He died young.
        3) Hans Joder was baptized June 10, 1620. Witnesses included Christina von Gŭnten, Rodolf Schwab, and Niclaŭs Lang. He was the village treasurer [Ger. *Seckelmeister*] of Steffisburg. On Feb. 9, 1666 at Steffisburg he married Margreth Reiff. Their ceremony legitimized the birth of a son born less than a month earlier. Their marriage entry bears a Latin note, '*integro verse a puerpio*' [*puerperium* is the period immediately after childbirth]. Children of Hans Joder and Margreth Reiff baptized at Steffisburg include:
            a) Hans Joder was baptized Jan. 12, 1666. After the name of the mother the entry had the Latin notation '*ancilla, ante nuptialem'* [maid, before wedding]. Witnesses included minister Uriel Freudenberger, Hans Gŭrtner, and Anna Meier.
            b) Barbara Joder was baptized Feb. 5, 1671. On her baptism entry her father was identified as Caspar Joder *dorff Seckelmeister*. Witnesses included Ludwig Dacitis, Christina Reüsser, and Anna Berger.
            c) Margaretha/Margreth Joder was baptized Feb. 26, 1675. Witnesses included Peter Büchler, Susanna DeLosea, and Magdalena Reüsser.[144] On June 24, 1707 at Steffisburg she married Michel Jenni. He was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 15, 1676, a son of Peter Jenni and Susanna Kaŭffman. Her death entry registered at Steffisburg said she died at Homberg Jan. 12, 1757, at 81 years of age, the wife of Michel Jenni. His death entry registered at Steffisburg said he died at Homberg March 10, 1758, age 84.

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[142] Margretha Wÿss's full name is found on son Paŭli's baptism entry. A single page of the *Taufrodel* for Sept. 11, 1575 mentioned baptism witnesses '*Nich Joder's Frau Getta*' and '*Caspar Joder's Frau Getta*.'

[143] When the surname Hennig is found in old Swiss documents, it may have been the same as Henni (also found as Jenni and Ienni). In *Fraktur* script if the letter 'i' comes at the end of a word it drops below the line and hooks to the left.

Other early Hennig marriages at Steffisburg: Batt Balli married Anni Henn July 1, 1583 (her name was Hennig on a 1589 baptism entry); Walspurg Hennig married Christen Ballÿ/Balli Jan. 9, 1589; Christini Hennig married Heini Rorer July 12, 1602; and Margreth Hennig married Joseph Tschabold No. 1, 1602.

[144] Susanna Delosea (1653-1711) was married to Thun councilman [Ger. *Ratsherr*] Isaak Deci.

- Anni Joder may belong here. She was baptized Nov. 5, 1626, a daughter of Caspar Joder (no mother named). Presumably she died before her baptism was completed; a space is marked with an asterisk, and no witnesses are named.

4) Verena Joder was baptized Aug. 17, 1628. Witnesses included Jacob Reüsser, Elsi Boo, and Verena Gÿgimler. She may have been the Verena Joder who married Christen Stagman at Steffisburg Dec. 12, 1651. Their child baptized at Steffisburg was Peter, on May 20, 1655; witnesses included Christen Wertmüller, Peter Eichacher, and Anna Drachsel [Trachsel].

c. Christen Joder was baptized at Thierachern Nov. 7, 1593. The entry was witnessed by Criste Cxnalt [?], Conrad Bischoff, and Hans Rotte.[145]

- We suspect but cannot prove that Ŭli Joder was baptized at Thierachern between 1600 and 1604, years of missing records. On Oct. 24, 1623 at Steffisburg he married Verena Joŭnner. She was baptized there June 10, 1597, a daughter of Bartli Joŭnner and Anni Wäber. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1) Anna Joder was baptized July 18, 1624. On No. 23, 1649 at Steffisburg she married Christen Wertműller. He died at Steffisburg between March 11, 1657 and Dec. 29, 1657. The baptism entry of Verena Trachsel created at Steffisburg Dec. 29, 1657 shows witness Anna Wertműller *ex familia Joderiana*.[146]

2) Hans Joder was baptized in July of 1625. On Sept. 25, 1646 at Thierachern he married Anna Roll. On Feb. 7, 1667 at Thierachern he remarried to Anna Zimmerman. Their children baptized at Thierachern include:

a) Anna Joder was baptized Feb. 14, 1669.
b) Christina Joder was baptized Nov. 20, 1670.
c) Johannes/Hans Joder was baptized Sept. 21, 1673. He may have married Elsbeth Mettler; they were the parents of Anna Joder, who was baptized at Thierachern in February of 1700.

3) Babi Joder was baptized Feb. 16, 1627.

4) Ŭli/ Ŭlli Joder was baptized March 21, 1630. He married Anni Meÿer. Their child baptized at Thierachern was:

a) Barbli Joder was baptized in October of 1679.

5) Christen Joder was baptized May 24, 1635. On the entry no name was given, only a small 'x' in the left margin to signify a Christen. On March 7, 1676 at Thierachern he married Elsbeth Wenger. Their children baptized at Thierachern include:

a) Christen Joder was baptized May 1, 1682.
b) Elsbeth Joder was baptized in January of 1682. Witnesses included Hans Fürstenberg, Salome Trachsel, and Anna Graaf.

Elsbeth Wenger died in or shortly after child birth. A Thierachern marrriage entry says that the following month Christen Joder married Barbli Trachsel. This was perhaps a temporary arrangement for the sake of propriety – considered necessary while Barbli lived in the house to care for the newborn. In May Christen married a third time to Madlena Wenger at Thierachern. Their children baptized at Thierachern include:

c) Anna Joder was born July 7, and baptized July 9, 1684. Witnesses included Christen Küntzi, Anna Steiner, and Barbli Jenni. She married Christen Gŭggisperg. Their son Christen was baptized at Thierachern Nov. 23, 1704; a side note on the entry said his father was from Belp, while his mother was a daughter of Christen Joder of Uetendorf. Witnesses included Jacob Büller, Christen Wenger, and Anna Wenger.
d) Magdalena Joder was baptized Aug. 16, 1696. Witnesses included Michel Meÿer, Magdalena Althaŭs, and Anna von Bŭch.

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[145] Conrad/Konrad Bischoff (1560-1629) was minister at *Sankt Petrus Kirche* [Saint Peter's Church] in Thierachern. At various times he was also a minister at Thun, Wimmis, and Kirchlindach.

[146] Children of Anna and Christen baptized at Steffisburg include Anna Wertműller Oct. 2, 1853, and Barbara Wertműller Oct. 11, 1657.

Was this the same Christen who married Madlen Rŭfiner at Steffisburg Dec. 1, 1620? Is so, he would have been at least 24 years older than Anna, making it unlikely. But neither was Madlen's Christen the father of Anna's Christen. Children of Christen Wertműller and Madlen Rŭfiner baptized at Steffisburg include: Babi June 23, 1622 (mother identified as Leny Rŭfiner); Anna June 20, 1624 (mother misidentifed as Verena Rŭfiner); Madlen Lucia Feb. 22, 1626 (called Lucia in text of entry, Madlen Lucia in margin); Lucia Jan. 15, 1632; Barbli Oct. 22, 1633 (one witness was Zacharias *der Schmid aus dem blutzen zŭ Thun*; this was Zacharias Nafziger; see NAFZIGER); and Christen (margin) or Christian (text) February 1636 (his first witness was Christen Zimmerman). Wertműllers were associated with Thun, where early records are not available.

6) Peter Joder was baptized Nov. 18, 1638. Witnesses included Niggli Mŭrer, Heini Farni, and Barbli Eichacher.

- Hans Joder may belong here. On March 9, 1627 at Thierachern he married Elsbeth Baller.

- Anna/Anni Joder may belong in this family. She may have been the Anni Joder who married Hans Enpen [Anken?] *von Sanen* at Steffisburg Dec. 3, 1591. On June 21, 1602 at Steffisburg she married Hans Blanck/Blank. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Margreth, 1607; and Johannes, 1610.
- Madleni Joder may belong in this family. On Oct. 25, 1594 at Steffisburg she married Christen Lädliger. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Ursula, 1598; and Hans, 1601.

If **Caspar Joder** was born and baptized at Steffisburg, it may have been before 1557 (the date of the oldest preserved baptism records). But more likely it was in one of the later years that are missing from the records (1561-64, 1567, or 1568).

On July 4, 1596 at Steffisburg he married Margreth Hennig. They lived on Ortbühl farm on the west side of the village.[147] Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Peter Joder was baptized June 5, 1597. Witnesses included district governor Peter Schlapach, Niklaŭs Frÿ, and Anni Frŭtiger.
2. Margreth Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 8, 1601. Witnesses included Hans Zoŭgg, Dichtli Leenhart, and Madleni Rŭchti.
3. Nicklaŭs Joder was baptized July 17, 1603. Witnesses included Ŭli Blanck, Jacob Rŭchti, and Anni Silberÿsen. He died young.
4. Barbli Joder was baptized Sept. 14, 1606. Witnessses included official Christiany Leeman and Hans Metzger's wife from Thun.
5. **Jost Joder**. Many sources say he was born on Ortbühl farm at Steffisburg Nov. 30, 1607, but no baptism was recorded in the Protestant Reformed Church there.
6. **Niclaŭs 'Nigli' Joder** was baptized March 26, 1609. Baptism witnesses included Niclaŭs Spring, Peter Meier, and Ŭli Blank's wife Elsbeth.

Jost Joder, husband of Anna Trachsel

Numerous sources say **Jost Joder** was born on Ortbühl farm at Steffisburg Nov. 30, 1607, a son of Caspar Joder and Margret/Margreth Hennig.

In reality, only his name can be verified. It is only assumed that he was born on Ortbühl farm because he was assumed to be a son of Caspar Joder and Margret/Margreth Hennig. Yet, while there are Steffisburg baptism entries for all their known children, there is none for Jost. And the original source of the purported birth date can no longer be identified.

Jost may have been baptized in the adjacent town of Thun. Although the working set of records at Thun was destroyed by fire Feb. 8, 1772, an official had made copies two years earlier, and kept them in his home. But the entries for persons living outside Thun were lost.[148]

Yet there is another anomaly. Jost's descendants are born with an unusual genetic identifier: value 16 (length) of marker 19 on the Y chromosome, a chromosome only passed down through males. Other Joder-of-Steffisburg descendants have value 15 of marker 19 (suggesting that value 15 was the older base form).

Even with this, the door is still open for Jost to have been a son of Caspar and Margret/Margreth. Jost may have been the original bearer of a slight genetic variance that did not occur in his father and brothers. This can happen as often as once in every 20 generations. It generally occurs at even longer intervals.

And, a specific coincidence in Steffisburg records links Jost with his assumed brother Niclaŭs. Niclaŭs's first child Barbli was baptized March 8, 1844. When Jost's first child Hans was baptized April 21, 1644, the three witnesses were Peter Brönniman, Verena Meÿer, and Anna Joder. Niclaŭs had his second child Anna/Anni baptized April 13, 1645, and used the same three witnesses.

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[147] Ortbühl is now a country estate at the foot of Hartlisberg, between Steffisburg and Heimberg. An existing farmhouse was expanded into a manor house 1794-96. Michael Stettler's article *Ortbühl: ein Berner Landsitz* (1960) can be found online. Written by a Swiss architect, it is largely concerned with developments after the mid-1700s.

[148] As a *Chorrichter* Caspar undoubtedly knew church officials from Thun. We suspect but cannot prove that he was a witness for a baptism at Steffisburg in 1608. On Jan. 25 Christian Leeman and Esther Breit had a child christened Caspar. Witnesses were Caspar von Graffenried, Caspar Joder, and Lucia Schmid, the wife of the minister of Diessbach. Caspar von Graffenried (1574-1627) had been mayor of Thun in 1602. In 1615 he was governor of Baden. He was later a member of the larger general Council of Bern.

On Oct. 14, 1642 at Steffisburg Jost married Anna Trachsel, in a double ceremony with his assumed brother Niclaŭs Joder and another Anna Trachsel.

TWO ANNAS

While sorting through the names of Joder witnesses on marriage and baptismal records we were struck by numerous coincidences. Many of the surnames are clustered in one place: the records of the adjacent parish of Mühlethurnen, centered around a church eight miles northwest of Steffisburg. The parish was once called Thurnen; it was more expansive than its present boundaries, and took in Burgistein, Kaufdorf, Kirchenthurnen, Lohnstorf, Mühlethurnen, Riggisberg, Rümlingen, and Rüti bei Riggisberg. Steffisburg is only separated from the parish by Heimberg, which is in Steffisburg's parish.

According to the lineage pages [Ger. *Geschlechter*] in 1861, Trachsel families in the congregation came from Riggisberg and Rüti bei Riggisberg.

Two Anna Trachsels born in the appropriate time frame were baptized at Mühlethurnen. Anna Trachsel was baptized Nov. 19, 1620, a daughter of Jacob Trachsel and Anna Däppen. Anna Trachsel was baptized about four months later on March 18, 1621, a daughter of Rŭf Trachsel and Salome Lötscher. We could not determine which Anna married which brother. [149]

Later in life Jost became a judge [Ger. *Chorrichter*] on a church panel [Ger. *Chorgericht*] that settled morals disputes. The 1682 *Mosestafel* tableau in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg has his coat-of-arms board [Ger.*Wappentafel*]. It shows a bound shock of wheat.

In 1690, after it became known that several of their children had been re-baptized as adults, he and Hans Kaŭffman offered to step down from the church panel.

An entry from the journal of Karl Manuel, mayor of Thun, says "…On March 21, 1692 I sent three men from the free court of Steffisburg as hostages to Bern (in accordance with orders given to me), because of the growing Anabaptist sects in the same free court. They are Jost Joder of Steffisburg, an elder consistory judge; Peter Roth of Fahrny from the Langenegg, and Hans von Farni of Horrenbach in the Eriz." Jost was 84 years of age.

The three were put up in the most expensive inn, and their families were required to pay their expenses for six months. Authorities were hopeful that this measure of pressure would influence their offspring and encourage religious compliance in the community. Rather it seems to have led to increased animosity and a few emigrations.

Children of Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Joder was baptized April 21, 1644, and died in 1713. Baptism witnesses included Peter Brönniman, Verena Meÿer, and Anna Joder. On July 17, 1671 at Steffisburg he married Catarina/Cathrin Reüsser. She was baptized at

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[149] Rŭf Trachsel and Salome Lötscher also had a daughter Anna baptized at Mühlethurnen May 2, 1619. She died as an infant.

Another Trachsel marriage found in Steffisburg records had taken place less than three months earlier. Abraham Trachsel married Madlen Werdtmüller July 18, 1642. The entry said he was *von Kilchdorff* - from Kirchdorf, which at the time was in Mühlethurnen parish. He was a witness to the baptism of Jacob Joder, a son of Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel, at Steffisburg April 4, 1652. Abraham died at Steffisburg Sept. 12, 1703, described in the *Totenrodel* as *ein Schmid*. Children of Abraham Trachsel and Madlen Werdtmüller baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Trachsel was baptized Sept. 27, 1646. Witnesses included minister Gabriel Schmid, Abraham Rüsser, and Madlen Müller.
2. Anna Trachsel was baptized April 2, 1648. Witnesses included Vincentz Schörts, Anna ---, and Anna Müller.
3. Madle Trachsel was baptized Nov. 30, 1651. Witnesses included Hans Brönniman, Anna Trachsel, and Anna Schŭmacher.
4. Verena Trachsel was baptized Dec. 29, 1657. Witnesses included Jacob Meier, Barbli Lortschi *von Thun*, and Anna Wertmüller, who was born Anna Joder (the entry says she was '*ex familia Joderiana'*), the widow of Christian Wertmüller; Christen had died earlier that year.
5. Abraham Trachsel was baptized April 22, 1661. Witnesses included Peter Rupp *von Raütig*, David Moser *von der Glütsch*, and Anneli Schneider.
6. Isaac Trachsel was baptized Sept. 30, 1666. Witnesses included Adam Rŭchti, Jacob Schniter, and Anni Freÿ.
7. Barbara Trachsel was baptized Dec. 18, 1670. Witnesses included Niclaus Frey, Magdalena Steiner, and --- Meier *von Thun*.

In addition, one of the witnesses at the baptism of Niclaŭs and Anna's son Jost Jan. 13, 1655 was Melcher Drachsel. Records at Mühlethurnen used the spellings Drachsel and Trachsel. The Melcher Drachsel who was a witness at the Steffisburg baptism may have been the Melchior Drachsel baptized at Mühlethurnen Sept. 17, 1615. His father was named as Rŭff Drachsel, but his mother was not named. Or, he may have been the Melcher Trachsel baptized there March 7, 1619, a son of Melcher Trachsel and Verena Bäler. Or, the Melcher Trachsel baptized there Nov. 10, 1622, a son of Bendicht Trachsel and Anna Grünig.

Steffisburg May 20, 1649, a daughter of Christen Reüsser and Babÿ/Barbli Kŭpferschmidt, and died before her husband. According to a 1678 baptism entry they were living at Muri (not Mŭri bei Bern, but a location in Steffisburg).[150] After the death of Hans an estate settlement document names heirs as Christen, Hans, Anna, Barbara, and Verena. Daughter Cathrin was not mentioned, thus may have died before 1713; son Jost was not mentioned, except to say that he had been out of the country since 1695. The following year sons Christen and Hans sold the family house and land on the Bernstrasse in Steffisburg. Children of Hans Joder and Catarina/Cathrin Reüsser baptized at Steffisburg include:

a. Cathrin Joder was baptized July 28, 1672. On June 10, 1692 at Steffisburg she became the second wife of Christen Kolb. His first wife had been Cathrin's aunt Barbara Joder. Cathrin died before the 1713 settlement. See Barbara's information for background details including a list of Cathrin's children.

b. Anna Joder was baptized Jan. 25, 1674. Witnesses included Jost Joder *im Ortbühl*, Anna Wÿttenbach, and Christina Mŭrer. On Dec. 7, 1716 at Steffisburg she married Abraham Blank. He was baptized at Steffisburg Oct. 30, 1670, and died at Steffisburg Aug. 22, 1746, a son of Hans Blank and Anna Büler. She died at Wässerig (an Aare River crossing 60 miles north of Steffisburg) Feb. 9, 1747 (reported at Steffisburg); the entry described her as the 74-year-old wife of Abraham Blank.

c. Jost Joder was baptized Sept. 19, 1675. The German descriptive word *Mennoniten* did not differentiate between Amish Mennonites and Mennonites. Jost Joder is found on a census of *Mennoniten* paying a protection tax at Lachen in the Pfalz in 1717 (in that year only the head of household was named). Thus he had settled in a location adjacent to Lachen-Speyerdorf, where his father's cousin Adam Joder had been living. In *Palatine Mennonite Census Lists 1664-1793* authors Hermann and Gertrud Guth translated a 1724 census entry from nearby Mussbach. Mussbach was the district administrative center 3.5 miles northwest of Lachen, in effect adjacent to it. "Johannes Joder, linen weaver, with a narrow home, and one-half *Morgen* vineyard. No wealth." It is thought that Johannes was a son of Jost born between 1697 and 1702. Johannes is also found on Mussbach protection tax censuses in 1738, 1743, and 1759. In 1738 he is found as Johann Jeder, a single male. In 1743 he is found as Johannes Jotter; his household included one adult male, one adult female, one son, and two daughters. In 1753 he is found again as Johannes Jotter; his household includes himself, his wife, and two children. A note says that he had lived there since 1723; and a recently-married daughter was living there with her new husband. In 1759 they were described as farmer and weaver Johannes Jotter, his wife, one son, and a daughter who had been married at Pfeddersheim (35 miles to the north). In 1768 the head of household at Mussbach is listed as Andreas Jotter, presumably the son of Johannes.[151]

d. Barbara Joder was baptized Aug. 4, 1678. The entry described her father as Hans Joder *aus Muri* in Steffisburg.

e. Christen Joder was baptized April 9, 1680, and died at Wolfbach (now in Homberg bei Thun) Nov. 26, 1750.

f. Verena Joder was baptized Feb. 12, 1682, and died young.

g. Hans Joder was baptized March 29, 1691. He may be the Hans Joder *auf den Zulg* who died at Steffisburg Dec. 20, 1775, age 84 years and nine months, described as a husband [Ger. *Ehemann*].

h. Verena Joder was baptized March 12, 1691. On May 7, 1714 at Steffisburg she married Peter Reüsser. She died at Steffisburg March 17, 1758; the entry described her as Peter Reüsser's 64-year-old wife *in der Au.*

2. Anna Joder was baptized April 19, 1646. Witnesses included Isaac Tschaggelar, Barbli Flühman, and Verena Fÿg. She died as an infant.

3. Verena Joder was baptized Sept. 12, 1647. Witnesses included Wÿt Sägisman, Elsbeth Steiner, and Verena Kaŭffman.

4. Peter Joder was baptized Oct. 28, 1649. Witnesses included Peter Blanck, Hans Zimmerman, and Barbli Kislig. Family notes say he married a Stähli. He is found on a tax list at Fertrupt below Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1699, where he purchased a house near his brother Christen and sister Catri/Cathrin. In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller notes that a Fertrupt list describes Barbara Jotter, a single woman of 64 who was buried April 14, 1750. Was she a daughter of Peter?

5. Jacob Joder was baptized April 4, 1652. Witnesses included Abraham Trachsel, Peter Meÿer, and Anna Mŭrer. On Jan. 9, 1685 at Steffisburg he married Verena Kaŭffman (a triple wedding with his brother Jost marrying Babÿ/Barbara Rŭpp and his sister Catri/Cathrin marrying Hans Rŭpp *der Jŭng*). She was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 18, 1655, a daughter of Hans Kaŭffman and Elsbeth Christener. Jacob and Verena were suspected of being Anabaptists. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

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[150] Muri is listed as a location within Steffisburg in *Die Orschaften des eidgenössischen freistaates Bern* [The Villages of Canton Bern in the Swiss Confederation] (1838). Not to be confused with Mŭri bei Bern.

[151] In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller says that Magdalena Joder, 102, died at Mussbach in 1732, the widow of Christian Zaŭg. No Magdalena Joder was baptized at Steffisburg in 1629, 1630, or 1631, or married to a Christian Zaŭg between 1646 and 1670. If this was a native of Steffisburg she may have been Barbli Räber, who married Christophe Zoŭg at Steffisburg June 12, 1646.

a. Hans Joder was baptized Nov. 29, 1685. Witnesses included Jost Joder *im Ortbühl*, Bendicht Rohrer, and Margreth Blank.
b. Christen Joder was baptized Feb. 6, 1687. Witnesses included Ŭlrich Krieg, Hans Köng, and Ann Kropf. On the same day, Hans Rŭpp was baptized. He was a son of Hans Rŭpp (*der Jung*) and Catri/Cathrin Joder. Witnesses included Hans Joder *in der Au*, Peter Meier, and Anna Spring.
c. Anna Joder was baptized Sept. 16, 1688. Witnesses included Christen Güngerich, Anna Kolb, and Magdalena Kaŭffman.

6. Anna Joder was baptized July 17, 1653. Witnesses included Steffan --, Anna Schneider, and Barbara Joder. She died young.
7. Barbara Joder was baptized Oct. 28, 1655, and died before 1692. Baptism witnesses included Hans Brönniman, Margret Carli, and Anna Strääl. On Jan. 28, 1684 at Steffisburg Barbara married Christoffel/Christen Kolb. He was baptized at Steffisburg June 12, 1659, a son of Christoffel Kolb and Babÿ/Barbara Kaŭfmann. The child of Christoffel/Christen Kolb and his first wife Barbara Joder baptized at Steffisburg was Christoffel, baptized in 1689. On June 10, 1692 at Steffisburg Christoffel/Christen remarried to Cathrin Joder. She was baptized at Steffisburg July 28, 1672, and died before her father's 1713 settlement, a daughter of Hans Joder and Catarina/Cathrin Reusser (thus she was the niece of Christoffel/Christen's first wife). Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Barbara, 1692; Cathrina, 1694; Anna, 1696; Barbara, 1698; Verena, 1704; and Susanna, 1708.
8. Christen Joder was baptized May 10, 1657. There are two versions of his birth entry – one was mistakenly entered among the marriages in an *Eherodel*, and lined out. Witnesses included Christen Hŭselman, Hans Rŭpp, and Anna Joder. In 1679 22-year-old Christen was fined 50 *Kroner* for permitting Anabaptist Ŭlrich Müller to speak on his property at Thun. In 1674 Müller had been imprisoned at Thun and the city of Bern as a proselytizing Anabaptist. On March 10, 1684 at Steffisburg Christen married Babÿ/Barbara Gerber. Since their marriage entry does not indicate that she was born outside Steffisburg, there are two possibilities for her parentage: she may have been Babÿ Gerber, baptized at Steffisburg April 29, 1659, a daughter of Walti Gerber and Freni Farni; or, she may have been Babÿ Gerber, baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 25, 1663, a daughter of Christen Gerber and Babÿ Farni. A Swiss emigration tax entry dated April 8, 1695 suggests that Christen and Barbara were going to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines with younger sister Cathrin and her husband Hans Rŭpp *der Jŭng,* whose tax entry was dated only four days earlier. Christen Joder is found on census lists of Anabaptists at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1703 and 1704. He signed the second list, and the names match his handwriting. Other signatures include Jacob Hostetler, Hans Hŭsser, Christen Farni, Niclaŭs Blanck, and Hans Zimmerman. Apparently Christen and Barbara settled at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1696, and lived at Fertrupt 1701-1712, but resettled at Emmendingen, Baden in 1714. There he would have lived near his cousin (once removed) Christian Rŭpp, who leased the Hochburg estate at Sexau in 1712. In 1724 Christen applied to Christian III's administrators for permission to return to Alsace and live at Jebsheim, stating that he had previously lived at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines for 18 years. Children baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Peter Joder was baptized Aug. 2, 1685; witnesses included Hans Martin, Peter Gerber *der Jŭng*, and Salome Joder.
        1) Bendicht/Benedikt/Benz Joder was born circa 1720, and died at Eguenigue (adjacent to Menoncourt in the Territoire de Belfort) before 1773. According to Joe Springer's *Sorting Alsatian Yoders* in the April 2017 issue of *Yoder Newsletter*, he came from Heidolsheim, Lower Alsace to lease the Le Maie farm at Menoncourt March 20, 1759 (background on the farm is given in SCHLEGEL and KLOPFENSTEIN). Heidolsheim is only six miles north of Jebsheim, Upper Alsace. He married Elisabeth Günten (also found as Günt and Günté, sugesting this was the Swiss surname von Gunden, also found as Gundy). Following his death she remarried to his brother, widower Christen/Christ Joder. Children of Bendicht/Benedikt/Benz Yoder and Elisabeth Günten include:
            a) Barbara Joder was born circa 1753, and died at Heimsbrunn, Upper Alsace May 16, 1824. According to typewritten transcriptions of the *Montbéliard Gemeindebuch*, on Feb. 9, 1773 her marriage to 'Christian Jodter' was recorded at Montbéliard.[152] According to Chris Yoder, their descendants have value 16 (length) of marker 19 on the Y chromosome, a chromosome only passed down through males – indicating that Christian was also a descendant of Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel. He died April 23, 1787. On May 24, 1789 Barbara remarried to Nicolas Liechti/Liechty. The ceremony took place in the home of Hans Wenger in the Blumenburgerwald, and was recorded at Montbéliard. Nicolas was born circa 1762, a son of Fritz Leichtÿ and Barbara Frey. They farmed at Friesen, Upper Alsace. Her civil death entry created at Heimsbrunn described her as Barbe Joder, 71. It was witnessed by her husband Nicolas Liechty, 50, and son-

[152] One odd note was that there was a 'Christ Iodter' of Münsingen who was living at Dung near Montbéliard in 1759. We suspect he was baptized Christen, and was a son of Hans Joder of Mŭri bei Bern and Elsbeth Lugibuhl, who were married at Münsingen May 28, 1713.

in-law Pierre Kauffmann, 33, '*les deux Anabaptistes et fermiers*.' Children of Barbara Joder and her first husband Christen Joder include:

1. Johanes/Jean Joder was born circa 1782. He witnessed and signed the death entry of his brother Joseph Joder at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace April 6, 1803, where the entry gave his age as 21. On Oct. 29, 1810 he married Catherine Schad at Largitzen (adjacent to Hirtzbach). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Joter, 27. His father was identified as the deceased Cretein Joter, who had died at Pannja [French genealogist Thierry Huckel believes Pannja represented Allenjoie] in the district of Montbéliard Jan. 13, 1790 [Christen actually died in 1787].[153] His mother was Barbe Joterer, who was present and consenting. The bride was Cathrine Schatt, 27, a daughter of Davit Schatt and Anne Schatt, who were present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Nicolas Liechty, 30 (he signed as Claŭs Lichti). The groom signed Johanes or Johann Jodnr, while the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.
2. Joseph Joder was born circa 1786, and died at Hirtzbach April 6, 1803. His death entry mentions his mother Barbara Joder, and was witnessed by stepfather Claŭs [Nicolas] Liechty and brother Johanes Joder.

b) Maria Joder was born circa 1757. Her story brought about an unlikely scenario: Joder/Yoders as witnesses at a Catholic wedding. Maria was baptized as a Catholic at Phaffans (below Menoncourt) March 21, 1773, becoming Marie Thérèse Joder. On April 20, 1773 at Phaffans she married Catholic Jean Claude Samps. On Nov. 6, 1786 at Morvillars she remarried to Jean Pierre Juillet. On Feb. 20, 1792 at Morvillars she married for a third time to Pierre Perronnier. Their marriage entry described her as Marie Thérèze Yoder, 35, a resident of Morvillars. On Dec. 20, 1797 at Morvillars a daughter from her second marriage, Marie Agnes Samps, married Jean Gag. Their marriage entry described Marie Agnes as a daughter of the deceased Claude Samps and Tairaise Joder. Witnesses included Christe Joder, 77, a resident of Bettendorf [uncle and stepfather to Maria/Marie Thérèse]; and miller Jean Joder, 32, a resident of Morvillars [brother to Maria/Marie Thérèse, uncle to the bride]. The witnesses signed Christian Joder and Johannes Joder.

c) Elisabeth Joder was born circa 1764. On Jan. 16, 1787 she married Nicolas Klopfenstein. He was born circa 1766, and died at Bourogne Feb. 9, 1833, a son of Pierre Klopfenstein and Marie Engel. They farmed at Bourogne.

d) Jean Joder/Yoder was born circa 1765. He was a farmer at Morvillars. On Jan. 9, 1781 he married Barbe/Babi Stauffer. The ceremony was recorded at Montbéliard, where her father was described as Michel Stauffer of Binningen, Baselland (now actually in the city of Basel). She was born circa 1763, and died at Morvillars July 8, 1813. Her death entry described her as a 50-year-old farm equipment operator; her husband was not named, but she was not described as a widow. It was witnessed by her brother-in-law cultivator Joseph Joder, 56. At the same time they were living at Morvillars, Joseph Joder was living there with his wife Catherine Stauffer. Catherine and Barbe were sisters, so that Joseph and Jean were not only second cousins (once removed) but brothers-in-law as well. When their daughter Elisabeth married Jean Chalemberg [Schallenberger] at Morvillars Nov. 14, 1815, one of the witnesses was Juste Joder, 68, a shopkeeper at Grandvillars. This was Elisabeth's cousin (once removed) Joste/Juste Joder, the husband of Barbe Ernst. The entry also described father Jean as deceased. Like his second cousin (once removed), his death was almost certainly caused by the disease, starvation, and violence associated with military occupation of the area and the two sieges of Belfort. The first siege lasted from Dec. 23, 1813 to April 12, 1814; the second from June 18, 1815 to July 11, 1815 (see SCHLEGEL for background).

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[153] His death was recorded in the *Gemeindebuch Montbéliard* [congregation book] in 1787, and the remarriage of his widow Barbara Joder shortly afterward. There was no civil system that would have recorded events concerning Anabaptists. The County of Montbéliard was part of the Duchy of Württemberg until November of 1793, when it was occupied by the First French Republic and implemented the *état civil* system of record keeping.

2) Christen/Christ Joder was born circa 1720, and died after Dec. 28, 1797 (when he attended the wedding of a niece). He married Barbe Gerig (also found as Guerick). According to Joe Springer, Christen/Christ's name is found on lease documents in the Territoire de Belfort at about the time Bendicht/Benedikt/Benz leased the La Maie farm at Menoncourt. Following the death of Barbe Gerig after 1756, Christen/Christ remarried to his brother Bendicht's widow Elisabeth Gŭnten. Elisabeth must have died in or shortly after childbirth (circa Nov. 8, 1772), leaving a newborn, because very soon he married for a third time. *Gemeindebuch Montbéliard* noted on Jan. 12, 1773 that widower Christ Joder of Morvillars had remarried to widow Lisbeth Nafziger of La Maie farm: "…And on the 8th of January he brought his [new] wife into his home, and her daughter ran away to Belfort and became a Catholic. In spite of this there was many guests at their wedding, and Niclaŭs Plankt of Murrui [Niclaŭs Blank of Mŭri bei Bern] performed the ceremony. Even the good Glaŭs Engle [minister Niclaŭs Engel of Montreux] forgot his misfortunes and came to the wedding of a man whose wife had died only eight weeks earlier." Children of Christen/Christ Joder and his first wife Barbe Gerig include:

   a) Jost/Juste Joder was born at Fontaine (next to Reppe) circa 1755, and died at Grandvillars Oct. 5, 1852. Circa 1776 he married Barbe Ernst. She was born circa 1757, and died at Grandvillars Aug. 5, 1841, a daughter of Christian Ernst and Barbara Nafziger. They became shopkeepers at Grandvillars. Her death was reported by her husband, who was 86. It named her as 'Barbe Herntz,' and listed her parents as 'Christian Herntz' and 'Barbe Nafgre.' It also stated that she had been a cultivator at Phaffans (next to Menoncourt). It gave her birthplace as 'Pettonvillers,' but may have meant Bethonvilliers near Menoncourt. Jost's death entry exaggerated his age as 106, and stated that his parents were *inconnu* (unknown), but did mention that he was born at Fontaine (between Reppe and Menoncourt, seven miles east of Belfort) and that he was the widower of 'Barbe Herntz.' His death was reported by Christ Joder, 31.
      1. Christ Joder was born at Morvillars Aug. 4, 1782. On June 8, 1799 at Grandvillars he married Elisabeth Klopfenstein. She was born at Rougemont Jan. 26, 1781, a daughter of Christian Klopfenstein and Marie Anne Wenger. We found the marriage of 'Christ Hjoder' and Elizabeth Klobstein' listed in the Grandvillars civil index under the matching Republican Calendar date 20 Prairial 7, but not the actual entry. Entries for the Republican calendar years 7 and 8 – roughly 1799 and 1800 – are missing from the FHL microfilm series and online archive. According to second hand information, the original paper entry names Christ's parents as Juste Joder and Elisabeth Hernest.
      2. Johannes (as he signed his own name)/Hans/Jean Joder was born at Morvillars in 1785, and died at Bourogne (adjacent to Morvillars) March 19, 1834. On July 10, 1809 at Bourogne he married Marie Klopfenstein, who was born there circa 1791, and died at Florimont March 20, 1864, a daughter of Nicolas Klopfenstein and Elizabeth Joder living at Bourogne. Jean's age was given as 23 years, eight months, and 11 days. His parents were described as Juste Joder and Barbe Hernest, cultivators at Grandvillars, and Jost signed the entry. The groom signed 'Johannes Joder.' Both sets of parents were present and consenting. In 1810 they were described as cultivators at Grandvillars. Jean's death entry gave his age as 49, and described him as someone who was born at Morvillars but resided in Grandvillars. It named his parents as Juste Joder and Elisabeth Ernst, and said that he had died in the home of Elisabeth Joder, the widow of Nicolas Klopfenstein.

   b) Barbe Joder was born at Morvillars circa 1756, and died at Grandvillars April 27, 1820. She married Jean Schad of Brebotte. On Feb. 27, 1795 at Brebotte she remarried to his brother Christen/Christ Schad. He signed their marriage entry Christen Schad; she signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. He was born circa 1758, and died during the siege of Belfort Feb. 13, 1814. It is probable that the brothers were sons of the parents named on the marriage entry of Gaspar Schad, created at Brebotte June 2, 1794. It named Jean Hulrick Schad and Catherine Lindre, residents of Brebotte. Barbe's civil death entry described her as the 64-year-old widow of Christ Schaad. It said that she was born at

Morvillars, a daughter of Christ Joder and Barbe Guerick, and was witnessed by her older brother Jost. Children of Barbe Joder and her first husband Jean Schad include:

1. Elisabeth Schad was born at Brebotte March 10, 1773, and died at Dasle, Doubs (six miles southeast of Montbéliard, 10 miles south of Sevenans) Feb. 27, 1838. On Nov. 29, 1801 at Sevenans she married Christe Rothe. Their marriage entry described the groom as farmer Christe Rothe, 28, a widower living at Sevenans. He was born on Des Gouttes farm at Exincourt Sept. 25, 1753, and died at Dasle, Doubs Dec. 31, 1834, a son of Jacob/Jacques Roth and Anne/Aneli Frey. His first wife had been Maria Kerique, who had died at Sevenans June 27, 1799. The bride was described as Elisabeth Chade, 27, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Chade, who had died at Brebotte, and Elisabethe Joder.
2. Joseph Schad was born circa 1792. On Dec. 29, 1814 an *Extract Mortuaire* report stated that 'Joseph Schaadt,' a *conscrit réfractaire* from Grandvillars, had been brought to a military hospital from Montaigne prison in Paris, where he had been incarcerated as a deserter. He entered the hospital July 5, 1813, and died there July 19. He was 21 at the time of his death.

The child of Christen/Christ Joder and his second wife Elisabeth Gŭnten was:

c) Magdalena Joder was born at Mussig, Lower Alsace (above Heidolsheim) circa Nov. 12, 1772, and died at Wilmot, Ontario in 1851. Her mother died in or shortly after childbirth. On Sept. 29, 1793 at Friesen, Upper Alsace she married Johannes/Hans Liechti. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines June 16, 1756, and died at Wilmot Oct. 23, 1839. Their marriage entry described the groom as Johannes Liechtÿ, 28 [thus born circa 1765], a son of Fritz Liechtÿ and Barbara Frey. The bride was Magthalena Joter, 20, born at Muzig, a daughter of Christen Joter and Elisabeth Gŭnt. The bride's father signed as 'Christian Jodnr.' Liechtis and Joders from Morvillars would farm at Grantzelen, the castle estate of the Château de Hirtzbach at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace (see LITWILLER for background on this location owned by Baron Charles de Reinach). They sailed from Le Havre on the *Elizabeth*, and arrived at New York July 9, 1825. The passenger list shows farmer John Leichty, 67; Madelena Leichty, 52; Joseph Leichti, 20; Maria Leichety, 18; Elzabeth Leichety, 16; and Nicholas Leichety, 13. In the same year they settled at Wilmot, Ontario (see Wilmot background in ROPP). The 1830 survey map of Wilmot shows Nicholas Leighty and their son Christian Leighty on 150-acre sections 8 and 10 on the south side of Erb Street. The Liechtis would have known the Ropp family from Upper Alsace, and Andreas Ropp claimed a lot that touched corners with their.

b. Christen Joder's death was notated March 20, 1687 in the Steffisburg *Taufrodel* baptism register ('*defuncto'* before baptism therefore not baptized, name crossed out). Witnesses included Hans Moser, Hans Rŭpp, and Cathrin Krebs. The entry was made on the same day (*die Palmarum* or Palm Sunday) as a baptism entry for Christina Joder, daughter of Jost Joder and Christina Schlacht.

9. Anna Joder was baptized May 15, 1659. Witnesses included Peter Carli, Madlena Sillinger, and Stini Reüsser. On Dec. 13, 1680 at Steffisburg she married Christen Blank (their marriage entry called her Anni Joder). He was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 14, 1656, a son of Hans Blank and Margreth Carli. He would be described in church records as a 'heretic Anabaptist' and a 'disobedient Anabaptist.' For background on this couple, see PLANK.
10. Jost Joder was baptized Nov. 17, 1661. Witnesses included Caspar Joder *im Kŭrzenb.* [Kŭrzenberg]; Peter Linder, and Elisabeth Freüdenberg. On Jan. 9, 1685 at Steffisburg he married Babÿ/Barbara Rŭpp (a triple wedding with his brother Jacob marrying Verena Kaŭffman and sister Catri/Cathrin marrying Hans Rupp *der Jŭng*). Recall the 1703 report that places Jost with his sister Anni on an estate at Le Vernoy in 1703. A decade later they were living at Dambenois (10 miles east of Le Vernoy, 11 miles south of Belfort). In 1727 they were at Exincourt (five miles southwest of Dambenois). Their children include:
    a. Barbara Joder was baptized at Steffisburg Aug. 29, 1686. Witnesses included Christen Blank, Cathrin Reüsser, and Salome Joder.
    b. Anna Joder was baptized at Steffisburg July 1, 1688. Witnesses included Jost Joder, Anna Carli, and Anna Kolb.
    c. Jost Joder was born between 1689 and 1699. He married Anneli Kropf. She was the mother of a child born circa 1720, and perhaps another born before 1730. Before 1844 Jost remarried to Anne Strite [as found in Montbéliard civil records, likely Streit or Streid from Canton Bern]. She was born circa 1705. It could not be ascertained whether she was the mother of his first child, or two. In 1759 they were

farming at Dung (three miles west of Montbéliard). Jost was selected as a deacon at Montbéliard Oct. 19, 1766. He died before 1792. Anne died at Étobon Sept. 3, 1794. Her civil death entry described her as the 89-year-old widow of miller Jost Joder. It was witnessed by Françoise Joder, daughter of the deceased, who signed her name 'freni joder.' Children of Jost Joder include:

1) Christen Joder/Christe/Christian Yoder was born circa 1720, likely at Sochaux (on the east side of Montbéliard), and died at Belfort Sept. 21, 1797. Circa 1744 he married Anne Hochstetler. She was born circa 1726, and died at Belfort Sept. 28, 1796. Some sources name her parents as Christ Hostettler and Elisabeth Ulrich; we could not identify a record that might confirm this. In 1759 they were living at Brognard (adjacent to Dambenois). By 1761 they lived at Brevilliers (seven miles southwest of Dambenois, seven miles southwest of Belfort, not to be confused with Bavilliers adjacent to Belfort). On the 1778 congregational marriage record of a son, Christen was described as 'Christ *de Sochaux*.' Anne died in their home on the Rue de Barre at Belfort. Her death entry described her as *anabatis* Anne Hoestel, the 70-year-old wife of farm equipment operator Christe Yoder, a resident of Belfort. He was described as Christe Joder, 72, a resident of Bettendorf [Upper Alsace], when he attended the marriage of Thérèse Yoder and Pierre Perrounier at Morvillars Feb. 20, 1792. He signed 'Christian Joder.' Christen died in the home of his son-in-law David Stoll at Belfort. His death entry described him as 77-year-old Christe Yoder, *anabatis,* a resident of Belfort, and was witnessed by Stoll. Their children include:
    a) Hans/Jean Joder was born circa 1744, and died at Méziré (12 miles below Belfort, adjacent to Morvillars) Dec. 10, 1804. He married Catherine Klopfenstein. She was born on the grounds of the chapel St. Nicolas at Rougemont, Territoire de Belfort (adjacent to Rougemont-le-Château) March 28, 1753, and died at Belfort Jan. 10, 1802, a daughter of Jean Klopfenstein and Anna/Anne Graber. Her death entry, witnessed by her brother Michel, described her as the 48-year-old wife of Jean Joder, a cultivator living at Belfort. Hans/Jean's death entry described him as Jean Joder, 60; it was witnessed by his illiterate son-in-law Gaspard Lindre [Caspar Linder]. Their children include:
        1. Catherine Joder was born circa 1774. On Jan. 3, 1792 her marriage to Kaspar/Caspar/Gaspard Linder was recorded at Montbéliard. Notes say that he had used foul language to such an extent that some ministers would not marry them. Peter Richen performed the ceremony. He was born circa 1761, and died at Méziré Oct. 11, 1809. His death entry was witnessed by his wife Catrine Jodre, described as a cultivator at Méziré. He was described as Gaspart Lindre, 48.
        2. Barbara Joder was born at Méziré Dec. 1, 1784. On May 26, 1804 at Belfort she married Pierre Gueman [Gaŭman]. Their marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Pierre Gueman, age 25 years and ive months, born at Verlan [Verlans], Haut-Saône (10 miles southwest of Belfort) Dec. 8, 1778. He was a resident of Baone [Byans adjacent to Verlans]. His parents were cultivator Jean Gueman and Magdelaine Marchant, residents of Baone. The bride was described as Barbe Joder, age 19 years and five months, born at Méziré Dec. 1, 1784. She was a daughter of cultivator Jean Joder, a resident of Belfort who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Klopfenstein. Witnesses included uncles Jacques Klopfenstein, 36, and Joseph Klopfenstein, 34; Christ Joder, 26, second cousin of the bride; and Jacques Joder, 41, an uncle; all residents of Belfort. A few of the signatures looked like Hans Joder, Jacob Joder, Peter Gaŭman, Barbra Joder, and Christ Jodnr.
        3. Christe/Chrétien Joder was born at Méziré circa 1789. On Feb. 13, 1810 at Méziré he married Anne Catherine Klopfenstein. Their marriage entry describes the groom as laborer Christe Jodre, 21, a son of the deceased Jodre [the first name mistakenly written as Juste is crossed out] and Catrin Klobstain. The bride was Anne Catirine Klobstaine, born at Rougemont, a daughter of the deceased Christe Klobstaine and Catrine Veingre [Wenger], who was present. Witnesses included uncle-of-the-groom Joseph Joder, 48, of Morvillars; and cousin-of-the-bride Pierre Klobstaine, 24, of Rougemont. He remarried to Barbe Schott [Schad] in the *Mennonit* meeting on St. Jakob farm at Basel in April of 1816. She was born at

Blotzheim, Upper Alsace (six miles northwest of Basel) Nov. 17, 1794, a daughter of Nicolas Schott and Barbara Neuhauser (see NEUHAUSER for background on her family). 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.

4. Joseph Joder was born at Méziré Dec. 8, 1790. On Nov. 19, 1818 at Essert (on the west side of Belfort) he married Barbe Weiss. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Joder, 28, a son of the deceased couple Jean Joder and Catherine Klopfenstein. Jean had died at Méziré Dec. 10, 1804, while Catherine had died at Belfort Jan. 18, 1802. The bride was born at Grandvillars July 31, 1794, an illegitimate daughter of Catherine Weiss.
5. Marie Joder/Yoder was born at Méziré June 18, 1792, and died at Bourogne Feb. 26, 1814. On May 18, 1811 at Bourogne she married Christ Klopfenstein. The groom was described as cultivator Christ Klopfenstein, age 18 years and seven months, a son of cultivators Nicolas Klopfenstein and Elizabeth Yoder. The parents were residents of Bourogne who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Marie Yoder, 17, born at Méziré but a resident of Souvenans. Her deceased parents were not named. She was accompanied by her guardian Daniel Klopfenstein. Witnesses included Michel Klopfenstein, 71, of Rougemont; Joseph Yoder, 50, of Morvillars; Pierre Riche, of Grandecourt; and Pierre Klopstaine [Klofenstein], 58, of Grandvillars; all described as uncles. Signatures include Maria Joderin and Joseph Joder. Christ was born circa 1792, and died at Sevenans Aug. 12, 1827. On Aug. 12, 1827 at Rougemont he remarried to Elisabeth Klopfenstein. She was born at Belfort Dec. 9, 1796, and died at Cedar, Louisiana Sept. 13, 1867, a daughter of Daniel Klopfenstein and Anne Marie Reiss. She came to America with her second husband Jean/John Graber.

b) Christen/Christe Joder was born March 10, 1751, and died at Danjoutin (below Belfort) April 22, 1819. His marriage with Liesi Lehmann was recorded in Montbéliard records Jan. 9 or Feb. 1, 1778. The groom was described as a son of 'Christ *de Sochaux*.' She was born circa 1756, and died at Danjoutin Nov. 23, 1810, a daughter of 'Simon *auf der Schetzen,*' a farm at Montbéliard. She was a daughter of Simon Lehmann and Marie Guemann; and a sister to Babi/Elisabeth Lehmann, who married Christen/Christe's younger brother Jean/Hans; as well as a sister to Catherine Lehmann who married Jacob/Jacques Ernst. Liesi's death entry described her as Elisabeth Lemann, 54, and said she died in their home; it was witnessed by her husband Christoph Yourdre. Christen/ Christe's death entry described him as weaver Christe Yordre, 68, the widower of Elisabeth Lemann. It was witnessed by sons Simon and Christe, though they did not sign.

1. Barbara Joder/Jodre was born Dec. 2, 1782. On Jan. 27, 1808 she married Hans/Jean Schindler.
2. Catherine Joder was born Jan. 13, 1784.
3. Marie Joder was born Nov. 14, 1785, and died at Danjoutin Sept. 17, 1808. Her death entry described her as Marie Joder, 22, a daughter of Christ Joder and Elisabet Lement. It was witnessed by father Christe Joder and uncle David Seetol.
4. Frena Joder was born June 12, 1787.
5. Simon Joder/Yoder was born at Danjoutin June 4, 1789, and died in 1870. He married Marie Stucky. She was born at Pfastatt Jan. 23, 1796, and died in Indiana Dec. 20, 1865, a daughter of Nicolas Stucky and Barbara Frutiger. They were living at Morschwiller-le-Bas before their emigration, according to their passport application at Colmar and birth entries found there. They departed from Le Havre on the *Memphis*, and arrived at New York Sept. 15, 1846. The passenger list shows farmer Nicolas Stocki, 56, France; Nicolas, 21; Jacob, 20; Christian, 16; Cath., 13; Benedict, 10; Barb, 9; Anna, 7;

Christina, 6; Barb Stucki, 46; Barb Schlatter, 21; Christian, 18; Simon Joder, 55; and Anna [Marie], 49. The 1850 census of French Township in Adams County, Indiana shows Simon Yutter, 62; Mary, 53; Barbara Stuckey, 50; and Christian Slaghter [Schlatter]; all Germany. John Yutter, 25, lived in the same town; and Joseph Yutter, 25, lived in Wabash Township.

6. Christ Joder was born Jan. 4, 1795 (several sources say Andelnans, but no entry is found there), and died young.
7. Christe Joder/Jodre/Christ Yoder was born at Charmois (adjacent to Bourogne and Froidefontaine) Jan. 2, 1796, and died in Wayne County, Ohio Sept. 6, 1850. His birth entry identifies his parents as Christe Jodre and Elizabethe Lheemann/Lisli Lemann. On Dec. 23, 1822 at Danjoutin he married his cousin Marie Yoder. The civil entry described the groom as weaver Christ Yoder, 26, born at Charmois, a son of the deceased Christ Yoder and Elisabeth Lemann. The bride was Marie Yoder, 33, born at Belfort, a resident of Danjoutin. She was a daughter of Jacques Joder, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Geömen [Gaŭman], who died at Belfort Feb. 17, 1800. She was born at Belfort Nov. 25, 1790, and died in Wayne County, Ohio April 9, 1882.

c) Anne/Anneli Joder was born circa 1752. She accepted adult baptism March 20, 1768.

d) Barbara/Babi Joder was born circa 1753, and died at Danjoutin April 22, 1822. On Jan. 24, 1779 her marriage with David Stoll was recorded at Montbéliard. Another source places the marriage at Courtelevant, Territoire de Belfort March 30, 1779. David was born at Courtelevant circa 1746, and died at Grandvillars Dec. 6, 1820, a son of Jacob/Jacques Stoll and Catherine Schad. They lived at Danjoutin.

e) Elisabeth Joder. Her marriage to Jacob Liechty was recorded at Montbéliard June 5, 1792. He was born circa 1767.

f) Marguerite Joder was born circa 1756, and died Feb. 28, 1811.

g) Joseph Joder/Yoder was born in November of 1760, and died at Morvillars April 13, 1814. He was a miller and cultivator. On Jan. 9, 1781 his marriage with Catherine Stauffer was recorded at Montbéliard, where her father was described as Michel Stauffer of Binningen, Baselland (now actually in the city of Basel). She was born circa 1764, and died at Morvillars Nov. 1, 1824 (the entry called her Catherine Stauffre and gave her age as 60). Joseph and Catherine were both present and consenting at the marriage of son Joseph Joder to Anne Stoky at Morvillars June 7, 1810. At the same time they were living at Morvillars, Jean Joder was living there with his wife Barbe Stauffer. Barbe and Catherine were sisters, so that Jean and Joseph were not only second cousins (once removed) but brothers-in-law as well. Like his second cousin (once removed, Joseph's death was almost certainly caused by the disease, starvation, and violence associated with military occupation of the area and the siege of Belfort. His 30-year-old son Christe had died in his home March 22 (four deaths were reported in Morvillars that day), and his 24-year-old son Jean died there April 16.

1. Magdalena Joder married Johannes/Jean Liechty. They were living at Bettendorf, Upper Alsace Jan. 30, 1804, when a son Joseph was born. Note that Magdelana's grandfather Christ Joder (born circa 1720) had given his residence as Bettendorf when he appeared as a 72-year-old marriage witness at Morvillars in 1792.
2. Barbara Joder married Jacob/Jacques Liechty. They were living at Bettendorf June 7, 1804, when a son Jacques was born. Jacques Liechty, 38, applied for a passport at Colmar Jan. 3, 1841. He was accompanied by a wife and eight children. They were residing at Altkirch, where he was a domestic servant. Destination New York.
3. Joseph Joder was born at Morvillars circa 1787. On June 7, 1810 at Morvillars he married Anne Stucky. She was born at Grandvillars circa 1787, a daughter of Bendicht/Benoit Stŭckÿ and Anne/Anneli Eicher. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Joder, aged 22 years eight months, born at Morvillars. His parents were the deceased cultivator Joseph Joder and Catherine

Stauffer. The bride was Anne Stoky, aged 22 years and seven months, a daughter of cultivator Benoit Stoky and Anne Aicher, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included cultivator Pierre Stauffer, 29, cousin of the bride and resident of Morvillars; Criste Stoky, 21, brother of the bride; and Jacques Stoky, 29, brother of the bride.

4. Elisabeth Joder was born circa 1799. On Nov. 14, 1815 at Morvillars she married Jean Schallenberg [Schallenberger]. Their civil mariage entry described the groom as Jean Chalemberg, born at Chalember [Chalembert farm at Grandvillars] Nov. 8, 1792, a son of the deceased Jean Chalemberg and Anne Kobtainne [Klopfenstein], a resident of Bourogne who was present. The bride was Elisabeth Joder, 16, born at Morvillars Nov. 25, 1799, a daughter of the deceased miller Joseph Joder and Chatherine Stauffer. Witnesses included Juste Joder, 68, a shopkeeper at Grandvillars; shopkeeper Nicolas Kobtainne, 58, and Jean Kobtainne, 24, of Bourogne; and Jacques Stoquie, 66, uncle of the bride [this was likely Jacob Freÿ, whose signature is found at the bottom of the page}. Signatures looked like Claŭs Schallenberger; Jacob Freÿ; Jost Joder; Catherine Staŭfer; Christ Klopfenstein; J. Schallenberger; and Barbara Joder.
5. Michel Joder was born at Grandvillars Oct. 13, 1805. On Jan. 23, 1827 at Morvillars he married Françoise Frey. Their marriage entry described the groom as Michel Yoder, born at Grandvillars Oct. 13, 1805 and a resident there. His parents were the deceased Joseph Yoder, who had died April 13, 1814, and Catherine Stauffer, who had died Nov. 1, 1824. Michel was accompanied by surrogate guardian Christe Yoder, who was consenting. The bride was described as Françoise Frey, born at Chatenois Aug. 30, 1804 but a resident of Morvillars. Her parents were cultivator Jacques Frey, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Meyer; she had died at Châtenois Jan. 28, 1810. Witnesses included brother-of-the-groom Joseph Yoder, 34, a resident of Grandvillars; paternal cousin-of-the-groom cultivator Jean Yoder, 35; Jean Chalemberg, a 30-year-old shopkeeper in Morvillars, described as a brother-in-law [not exactly - he had married Elisabeth Joder, a daughter of Jean Joder/Yoder and Barbe/Babi Stauffer]; and cultivator Jacques Frey, a brother of the bride.

h) Jacob/Jacques Joder was born at Rougemont (per his death entry) circa Sept. 16, 1761, and died at St. Ulrich, Upper Alsace Oct. 21, 1838. He married three times. On Nov. 23, 1788 his marriage with Anne/Anneli Gaumann [Gaŭman] was recorded at Montbéliard. She died at Belfort Feb. 17, 1800. Their children include:

1. Marie Joder was born at Belfort circa 1789 (per her marriage entry, though Nov. 28, 1790 is also found), and died in Wayne County, Ohio April 9, 1882. For background on her marriage to her cousin Christ Joder see his information.
2. Anne Joder was born in the Territoire de Belfort Feb. 29, 1794, and died there June 16, 1801.

On April 13, 1800 at Belfort Jacob/Jacques remarried to Anne Graber. Their marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jacques Joder, a resident of Belfort, the widower of Marie Anne Guemet. He was aged 38 years, seven months, and 14 days, a son of Christianne Joder and Anne Hoschtedler of Brevilliers. The bride was a resident of Verlant in the department of Haute-Saone [possibly Valay or Velay, each about 85 miles west of Belfort]. She was born at Verlant Oct. 16, 1779, aged 20 years, six months, and 14 days, a daughter of Jean Graber and Christine Schvari [Schwari] of Verlant. Witnesses included cultivator Joseph Klopfenstein, 27, cousin of the bride; cultivator Jacques Klopfenstein, 30, cousin of the bride; cultivator Christ Joder, 48, brother of the groom; and David Stoll, 43, brother-in-law of the groom. The groom signed 'Jacob Joder,' while the bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. Anne/Anneli died at Hochstatt, Upper Alsace (below Mulhouse) Aug. 15, 1808. Their children include:

3. Christ (birth entry)/Christian (as he signed his own name) Joder was born at Belfort April 5, 1801. Like his father, he married three times. On April 19, 1824 at Luemschwiller he married Catherine Boshart. She was born at Geishouse, Upper Alsace Nov. 25, 1784, and died at Luemschwiller Nov. 2, 1824, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Boshart and Anne Marie Müller. For background on her family and first marriage (a caretaker arrangement with a 68-year-old) see BOSHART in the Appendix. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a 23-year-old cultivator residing at Luemschwiller. He was born at Belfort, a son of resident cultivator Jaques Joder [he signed 'Jacob Joder'], who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Graber, who died at Hochstatt Aug. 7, 1815. The bride was described as Catherine Bosard, born at Geishausen in the parish of Saint Amarin; widow of the deceased Francois Joseph Möglin, who had died at Meyenheim Dec. 1, 1817. Mother-of-the-bride Anne Marie Müller was present and consenting. The place of death of Jean/Hans Boshart was identified as 'Vittenheim,' near Mulhouse. The entry was witnessed by cultivators Joseph Ropp, 25, and Jean Ropp, 25. On Oct. 31, 1825 at Luemschwiller Christian remarried to Catherine Staufer. Their marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christ Joder, 25, born at Belfort but a resident of Luemschwiller. His parents were cultivator Jacques Joder, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Graber, who had died at Hochstatt Aug. 15, 1820. Christ was the widower of Catherine Bosard, who had died at Luemschwiller Nov. 2, 1824. The bride was described as Catherine Staufer, 25, born at Bettendorf but a resident of Illfurth. Her parents were cultivator Pierre Staufer, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Elisabeth Gausner, who had died Dec. 22, 1801. One witness was cultivator Michel Nafzger, 23. Catherine Staufer died at Altkirch Dec. 30, 1854. On May 12, 1855 at Luemschwiller Christian married for a third time to the much younger Catherine Kauffmann. Their marriage entry described him as day laborer Christ Joder, 55, born at Belfort April 5, 1801. He was the widower of Catherine Stauffer, who had died at Altkirch Dec. 30, 1854. His parents were the deceased Jacques Joder, who died at St. Ulrich Oct. 21, 1838, and the deceased Anne Graber, who died at Hochstatt Aug. 15, 1807. The bride was described as Catherine Kauffmann, 22, born at Luemschwiller Sept. 30, 1832. She was a daughter of cultivator Jacques Kauffmann, 55, and Catherine Stuckÿ, 60, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included carpenter Jacques Kauffmann, 28, the bride's brother; cultivator Chrétien Joder, 36, her uncle; and cultivator Pierre Rath [Roth], 51, her uncle.
4. Daniel Joder was born at Belfort Feb. 2, 1803. Witnesses on his birth entry included cultivator Daniel Graber, 37, and domestic servant Françoise Stoll, 23.
5. Anne Joder was born at Belfort Jan. 4, 1805. One witness on her birth entry was Christ Graber, 28. She died there March 10, 1806. Her death entry said she was born at Belfort, and had died at 14 months in their home at house number 33, Rue de la Surveillance. Her parents were described as Belfort cultivator Jacques Joder, 53, and Anne Graber.

Jacob/Jacques married for a third time to Catherine Gaŭss at Hochstatt March 3, 1808. Their marriage entry described her as a daughter of Jacques Gauss, who had died May 19, 1789, and Catharine Painstin, who was present and consenting. Her birthplace appears to have been Reiswiller, Altkirch (a location we could not identify), and her birth circa 1776 (she was 31). She was named as his widow on a death entry created at St. Ulrich, Upper Alsace (11 miles southwest of Luemschwiller) Oct. 21, 1838. It described him as Jacques Joder, 78, born at Rougemont.

i) Jean/Hans Joder was born at Brevilliers circa 1763. He was roughly 19 years younger than his oldest brother of the same name. He became a weaver at Froidefontaine (adjacent to Morvillars, Bourogne, and Grandvillars). On Nov.

12, 1786 his marriage to Babi/Elisabeth Lehmann was recorded at Montbéliard. She was described as a daughter of Simon Lehmann of Ganzweiler in Alsace [perhaps Ganzweiler, Germany?], working on La Maie farm at Menoncourt. She was a daughter to Simon Lehmann and Marie Guemann; and a sister to Liese Lehmann, who married Jean /Hans's older brother Christen/Christ; as well as a sister to Catherine Lehmann, who maried Jacob/Jacques Ernst. She died in their home at Froidefontaine Nov. 17, 1814. Her death entry described her as Elizabethe Lémaan, 58; it was reported by weaver Jean Jodre, 60 [suggesting his birth circa 1754], who signed 'Hans Joder.' When Catherine Lehman had died as a widow at Froidefontaine July 3, 1809, witness Jean/Hans Joder was described as an 50-year-old *Anabaptiste* weaver [suggesting his birth circa 1759]. In 1815 he petitioned for permission to remarry to the much younger Marie Ernst. She was born at Boron March 10, 1796, a daughter of weaver Simon Ernst and Catherine Roth (see ERNST for background on her family). He was 52, and she was 20. To obtain a civil ceremony, he had to request exemption from an article of law intended to prevent incest. His deceased sister-in-law Catherine Lehman had been a grandmother to his intended bride; thus Jean/Hans was Marie's grand-uncle. But permission was given. The Feb. 2, 1816 marriage entry gave his age as 52 [suggesting his birth was circa 1763], and cited a birth reord showing he was born at Brevilliers to Christ Jodre and Anna Housteler. It named Marie's father 'Simon Erneste' as a 44-year-old witness, though Simon was illiterate and could not sign. The groom signed 'Hans Joder.' That year Jean/Hans served as a witness at the marriage of his sister-in-law Catherine Ernst and Christian Schlegel (see SCHLEGEL for background on this couple with descendants in Central Illinois). On that entry, he was described as a 53-year-old weaver from Froidefontaine, and signed with an 'x.'

2) Johannes/Hans/Jean Joder (also found as Jodter) was born before 1730, and died at Grand Charmont (above Sochaux, on the north side of Montbéliard) Nov. 11, 1762. We could not identify his first wife, who may have died in or shortly after childbirth with their fourth child. Circa 1759 he remarried to Frena Zimmerman, the widow of Christ Ummel. She brought a son named Christ Ummel to the second marriage. At the time they were farming at Dung (three miles west of Montbéliard); they later lived at Grand Charmont. Frena Zimmerman died there Nov. 13, 1770. Children of Johannes/Hans/Jean Joder and his unidentified first wife include:

   a) Joseph Joder was born circa 1750, and died at Hirtzbach, Upper Alsace May 31, 1825. On July 12, 1778 he married Anne Marie Stŭckÿ on Schetzen farm at Grandvillars. She was born at Grandvillars circa 1751, a daughter of Christen Stŭckÿ and Anne Roth. At the time of her birth her parents were living on Schetzen farm. Her civil death entry created at Staffelfelden Dec. 30, 1813 calls her 'Maria = Anna Stŭckÿ' in the margin and Marie Anne Stucky in a list of entries on the folowing page, but the actual entry says 'Anna Maria Stŭckÿ' and gives her age as 62. Witnesses included her husband Joseph Joder, 73 [he should have been 63], a resident of Staffelfelden; and plowman Christian Roth, 47, a resident of Pulversheim. Joseph's death entry created June 1, 1825 described him as Joseph Jotter, 75. It was witnessed by a son, cultivator Jacques Jotter, an employee of Monsieur de Reinach. Their children include:

      1. Jacob (as he signed his own name)/Jacques Joder was born at Grandvillars July 11, 1779. On Oct. 9, 1821 at Hirtzbach he married Barbe Liechti. She was born at Bettendorf, Upper Alsace Dec. 7, 1793. Their marriage entry described the groom as Jacques Jotter, 42, born at Grandvillars July 11, 1779, a son of Joseph Jotter, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Marie Stucki. The bride was described as Barbe Liechti, 28, born at Bettendorf but living at Altkirch, a daughter of Jacques Liechti, a resident of Pfastatt who was present and consenting, and the deceased Barbe Jotter. Witnesses included farmer Nicolas Stucki, 60, of Morschwiller; farmer Pierre Schmoucker, 30, of Fontenelle [Les Fontenelles], Doubs; farmer Chrétien Logibuhl [Luginbühl], 66, of Altkirch; and day laborer Chrétien Jotter, 40, of Hirtzbach. They departed from Le Havre on the *Argo*, and arrived at New York March 24, 18341. He is found on the passenger list with other Joders as 'Jacob Joder, 62, France.' Jacob Joder, 62, France; Barbara, 48; Anne, 18; Verena, 15;

Barbara, 12; Barbara, 57; Ch.n Liechty, 46, France; Joseph, 17; Jacob, 13; Jacob, 38; Jacob, 8; See ZIMMERMAN for the entire traveling group including Liechtys, Zimmermans, and an Aeschliman. The Zimmermans and Aeschliman settled in Fulton County, Ohio.

2. Anne Marie Joder was born circa 1781, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 18, 1833. On Dec. 11, 1805 at Staffelfelden she married Jacob Goldschmitt. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1779, and died there April 4, 1843. Their German-language marriage entry described the groom as Jacob Goldschmitt, 26, son of Jacob Goldschmitt and Cathrina Stŭckÿ. It described the bride as Anna Maria Joder, 24, a daughter of 60-year-old Joseph Joder (who was present) and Anna Maria Stŭckÿ. Witnesses included Christian Goldschmitt, 34, and Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ, 55.

3 Verena Joder was born circa 1784. On June 20, 1811 at Staffelfelden she married Peter/Pierre Schmŭcker. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Petter Smŭcker, 22, a resident of St. Julien [now St. Julien-lès-Russey, Doubs]. He was a son of Jacob Smŭcker, 47, and Elisabeth Graber, 46. The bride was Ferena Joder, 27, a resident of Staffelfelden. She was a daughter of plowman Joseph Joder, 71, and Anna Marie Stŭckÿ, 71. Verena signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate.

4. Elizabetha (birth entry)/Elisabeth (death entry) Joder was born at Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace Nov. 4, 1792, and died at Steinbach Feb. 1, 1800. Her death entry described her as Elisabeth Joder, 6. It was witnessed by her father, and both parents were identified.

5. Barbara/Barbe Joder/Jotter may have been born at Staffelfelden circa 1794, though no civil entry is found there, and died in Adams County, Indiana in 1863. On Sept. 12, 1821 at Hirtzbach she married Daniel Schmŭcker. Their marriage entry describes the groom as Daniel Schmoucker, 22, born at St. Julien, a son of cultivator Jacques Schemoucker and Elisabeth Glaber [Graber], who were residents of Les Fontenelles [in Doubs]. The bride was described as Barbe Jotter, 27, born at Staffelfelden, a daughter of farmer Joseph Jotter (on the farm of Monsieur de Reinach) and the deceased Marie Stucki. Witnesses included cultivator Pierre Schmoucker 30, a brother to the groom. Signatures looked like Daniel Smŭcker, Beder Smŭcker, Joseph Jodnr, Jacob Jodnr, and Barbara Jodnr. Daniel was born at St. Julien [now called St. Julien-lès-Russey, Doubs] circa 1799, and died in 1834. Barbe came to America with a son Daniel, born at Les Fontenelles [adjacent to St. Julien-lès-Russey] April 26, 1830. He married Catherine Witmer.

6. Johannes/Jean Joder may have been born at Steinbach in March of 1795, and died at Hartford, Indiana April 28, 1878. On June 27, 1822 at Pfastatt, Upper Alsace he married Marie Conrad. Their marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Jean Joder, 26, born at Steinbach [no entry is found there] in March of 1795, a resident of Hirtzbach. He was a son of farmer Joseph Joder, a resident of Hirtzbach who was present and consenting; and the deceased Anne Marie Stucky, who had died at Staffelfelden Dec. 30, 1813. The bride was described as Marie Conrad, 23, a resident of Pfastatt. She was born at Belfort Feb. 7, 1799, a daughter of the deceased Issac Conrad, who died at Belfort July 29, 1798, and the deceased Elisabeth Schlegel, who had died at Belfort April 16, 1797. Witnesses included cultivators Jacques Koerig, 36, and Daniel Frŭtiger, 44. See SCHLEGEL for the details of her birth entry and her father's accidental death. They lived on the communal farm Barthel Hutte (the March 26, 1828 birth entry of their son Jacob calls it 'Barthlyhütten') at Largitzen, a location described in ROPP. Johannes/Jean knew Andreas Ropp, and appeared as a witness to the birth of one of his sons. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Emerald*, which arrived at New York June 5, 1845. The passenger list has Jean

Stoky, 46, France; Anne Marie, 40; Joseph, 7; Jean, 3; Pierre Liechti, 44; Jean Joder, 49; Anna, 20; Jean, 18; Christian, 7; and Pierre Gering, 30. Marie Conrad had died after a heart attack June 1, during the crossing. In Indiana Johannes/Jean became a Defenseless Mennonite. He is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne, under a modern bronze plaque that inexplicably says 'Mary (Schmucker) - 1840, buried at sea, Johannes Yoder, 1795-1878.'

7. Christine Joder was born at Steinbach, Upper Alsace Dec. 21, 1797. Her civil birth entry described her father as an employee of farmer Rudolphe Frey of Deffembach. On Jan. 28, 1830 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married Joseph Gerig. Their marriage entry describes him as Joseph Kerick, age 27 years and eight months, born at Bourg-Bruche, Lower Alsace Feb. 28, 1803, a son of the deceased Christian Kerick and Catherine Goldschmidt, a resident of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines for six years. Christine had been living there three years. Witnesses included mother-of-the-groom Catherine Goldschmidt, 56; and brother-in-law of the bride and knife maker [Fr. *taillandier*] Jacob Goldschmid, 47.

b) Jacob Joder was born circa 1750. He was given adult baptism at Grand Charmont March 20, 1768. He died unmarried on Matten farm at Grandvillars June 26, 1778. A Montbéliard church record noted his death and listed his heirs by age: his half-brother Christ Ummel, his brother Joseph Jodter, and his sister Freni, wife of Peter Klopfenstein.

c) Johannes/Hans/Jean Joder was born circa 1752. The Montbéliard church record notes that 'Hans *fils de* Hans' died at Grand Charmont Jan. 26, 1767.

d) Freni Joder was born at Grand Charmont circa 1759, and died at Grandvillars, Territoire de Belfort Feb. 23, 1813. Her marriage to Peter Klopfenstein was recorded at Montbéliard Jan. 4, 1778. He was born at Bourogne in 1755, and died at Grandvillars Feb. 7, 1819, a son of minister Peter Klopfenstein and Marie Engel. Freni's death entry described her deceased father as having been a laborer at Grand Charmont.

1) Freni/Françoise Joder was born circa 1744. She accepted adult baptism March 20, 1768. At the time her father was described as Jost *aux Gouttes* (a resident of Des Gouttes farm at Exincourt). On Jan. 16, 1787 her marriage to Christ Gaumann [Gaŭman] was recorded at Montbéliard. The record described his father as the deceased Christ Gaumann. Freni/Françoise died at Étobon May 5, 1799. Her civil death entry was witnessed by her husband, described as laborer Christ Gueman. Her age was given as 55.

2) Jost Joder was born circa 1750, and died at Étobon June 18, 1795. His civil death entry described him as Jobst Joder, 45. It was witnessed by his brother-in-law, described as farmer and laborer Christ Gueman. He was ordained as a minister at Montbéliard April 11, 1787.

11. Caspar Joder was baptized May 22, 1664. Witnesses included Peter Schneider; Hans Joder '*müller in der Au,'* and Elsi Stärr. Historian Robert Baecher found a report dated Sept. 28, 1690 that said Caspar Joder was suspected of holding Anabaptists meetings. On June 6 the wife of Jacob Engemann of Thun had acompanied Verena Linder and another woman to a Steffisburg home where she had talked with Jacob Amman. However, she could not identify the specific 'house across from the inn' where she had been taken that night. According to a record at Dürrenentzen, Upper Alsace (adjacent to Kunheim) Anabaptist Caspar Joder and Verena Hoffin had a son born there March 20, 1695; the son died May 31, 1695 without being baptized.[154] Hoffin, as Verena's surname appeared on these entries, may have been Hofer with the German -in feminine suffix.[155] From 1703 to 1710 they lived at Weiler, Lower Alsace, two miles west of Wissembourg. Weiler is across the Alsace-Pfalz border from the German customs station Sankt Germannshof [Fr. *Saint Germanshof*]. In 1708 they were described as 'well-to-do' and had nine children.

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[154] We take the existence of these entries on faith. On a trip to the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City Aug. 7, 2018, we had an opportunity to look through FHL microfilms of Dürrenentzen entries. We did not find these two events where we would normally expect them to be. However, we were under time constraints and did not look for appended notes or back-page entries. If anyone has an image of these entries, we would be extremely grateful for copies.

[155] Although there was no Hofer family living at Steffisburg, Samuel Hofer married Anna Rider at Steffisburg July 31, 1696. Their marriage entry describes Samuel as a resident of Thun.

As noted earlier, all Thun records before 1728 were lost in a fire Feb. 8, 1772. Fortunately someone had taken the trouble to hand copy baptisms for years 1578-1727, 1728-1803, and 1883. These fragile copies are kept in the archives of the town of Thun, and have not been scanned for the *Staats Archiv* online site.

From 1712 to 1735 they lived at Langenberg, on the north side of Wissembourg. Lists of their children often show confusion with the children of Caspar Joder and Verena Staŭffer of Steffisburg.

- — Their son Christian married Anna Maria Klaus/Class of Interlaken. After 1710 they relocated to the Sand estate at Salzwoog, about 18 miles northwest of Langenberg and four miles northwest of Erlenbach bei Dahn. There he was ordained as a minister and served the Wissembourg-Froensbourg congregation.
- — Another son Caspar married Magdalena Güngerich. Caspar appears on a 1735 census of St. Germanshof that says he was living at Langenberg. Caspar and Magdalena later relocated to an estate owned by the Laroche family at Erbes-Büdesheim in the Pfalz (five miles west of Alzey). There was a small Anabaptist community at Erbes-Büdesheim from 1701 to 1748.
- — Johann/Hans Joder married Katharina Oesch and lived at Sankt Germannshof after 1712, though he did not appear on the 1735 census.

12. Catri/Cathrin Joder was baptized July 8, 1666. Witnesses included Peter Blank junior, Catri Ŭli, and Catri Knör. On Jan. 9, 1685 at Steffisburg she married Hans Rŭpp *der Jŭng* (a triple wedding with her brother Jacob marrying Verena Kaŭffman and brother Jost marrying Babÿ/Barbara Rŭpp). He was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 7, 1662, a son of Hans Rŭpp and Christina Maÿer. Official accounts recorded at Thun April 4, 1695 state that, "The Anabaptists Hans Rŭpp and Catryn [Cathrin] Joder of the [jurisdiction of the] Steffisburg [Free] Court have left the country. They must pay an emigration fee of five percent for the property they took with them." And again on the same day, "The Anabaptist Hanns Rŭpp of [Free] Court Steffisburg has moved out of the country. He must pay a five percent emigration fee of 368 pounds." See ROPP for background on this couple after they resettled at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Children baptized at Steffisburg include Hans (1687) and Catharina (1692).

Niclaŭs 'Nigli' Joder, husband of Anna Trachsel

Niclaŭs 'Nigli' Joder was baptized at Steffisburg March 26, 1609.

On Oct. 14, 1642 - the same day that Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel were married – Niclaŭs married another Anna Trachsel from Mühlethurnen parish at Steffisburg. The Protestant Reformed entries were recorded together.

Niclaŭs and Anna lived on Ortbühl farm. Children of Niclaŭs 'Nigli' Joder and Anna Trachsel baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Barbli/Barbara Joder was baptized March 8, 1644. Witnesses included Peter Blanck, Madlen Hiefigker, and Barbli Meÿer. On Nov. 30, 1666 at Steffisburg she married Hans Rŭpp. He was baptized at Hilterfingen Feb. 17, 1633, a son of Andres Rŭpp and Christina Linder. According to Yoder family notes they resettled at Enkenbach-Alsenborn in the Pfalz. However, this may only reflect confusion with Hans Rŭpp of Sigriswil, born in 1665; he was noted in a Thun *Tower Book* [Ger. *Turmbuch*] March 17, 1710 as someone who left a deportation vessel and went to the Hetschmühle at Enkenbach-Alsenborn (see the footnote in ROPP). Also see ROPP for a list of their children.
2. Anna Joder was baptized April 13, 1645. Witnesses included Peter Brönniman, Verena Meÿer, and Anna Joder. On Jan. 7, 1670 at Steffisburg she married Hans Berger (a double wedding with her brother Caspar). He was baptized at Steffisburg Sept. 5, 1647, a son of Matthÿs/Mathis Berger of Steffisburg and Anna Staŭffer of Signau (see the previous footnote). One of the baptism witnesses was district governor Hans Berger. Their daughter Barbara Berger was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 27, 1670. On the entry her father was misidentified as 'Hans Bacher.' Witnesses included Peter Rŭp, Margret Blanck, and Barbara Ochsenbein. On Feb. 10, 1673 at Steffisburg Anna remarried to Ŭli Reüsser. Their marriage entry noted that he was a widower [Latin *vidui*] and she was a widow [Latin *vidua*]. Ŭli was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 7, 1643, a son of Stephan Reüsser and Verena Fŭrer. Children of Ŭli and Anna baptized at Steffisburg include Hans, Feb. 1, 1674 (witnesses Christen Wenger, Hans Rŭpp, and Barbara Im Hoff); Niclaŭs, Feb. 28, 1675 (witnesses Andres Mŭrer, Uli Röthlisperger, and Anna Walthart); and Anna, April 22, 1676 (witnesses Michel Stauffer, Anna Walthart, and Anna Wÿttenbach).
3. Caspar Joder was baptized June 4, 1648, and died circa 1712. Baptism witnesses included Ŭlli Blanck, Hans Eiman, and Margret Carli. On Jan. 7, 1670 at Steffisburg he married Anni Zaŭg (a double wedding with his sister Anna/Anni). She was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 14, 1652, a daughter of Mathis Zaŭgg and Christina Zaŭgg. In 1712 Caspar's heirs were listed as "the widow named Anni Zaŭgg, represented through Jacob Joder (born in 1660, married to Margreth Stähli); and the children Anna Joder, the miller's wife from Wiler; Christina Joder, the smith's wife from Wattenwil [seven miles west of Steffisburg]; Margret Braun; and Barbara, Verena, and Catharina Joder with their trustee. March 4, 1713. There are many debts." A 1716 document preserved at Thun says that son Hans sold the house that he had inherited from his father. Another document says that in 1721 Jacob Joder sold a pasture at Boden (now the Bodenweg at the east end of Steffisburg, on the north side of the Zulg River) that had belonged to Caspar. Anni died at Steffisburg Feb. 7, 1724. Her death entry described her as '*der alte Mŭter Joderin in der Scheidgasse*' - now a street on the west side of the village, below the Orbühlweg. The surviving family was still struggling with debt in 1734. An acknowledgement-of-debt document dated May 16, 1735 says, "Hans Joder, the late Caspar Joder's son, in the Scheidgasse, about 40 years of age, is in some foreign country; moreover it is not known whether he is still alive. His heirs: Matthÿs and Caspar Joder; Verena Joder, wife of Peter Blanck; Margareth Joder, widow of the late Michel Braun, at this time in the lowlands; for all of them, and also in the name of their

sister Catharina Joder, wife of Peter Meier, also staying in the lowlands; with the permission of their brothers and brothers-in-law, and all the brothers and sisters of Hans Joder, who has been owed 48 *Kroner* since Aug. 15, 1724." Children of Caspar Joder and Anni Zaŭg baptized at Steffisburg include:

a. Anna Joder was baptized Nov. 3, 1672; witnesses included Ŭli Blanck, Cathrin Wilhelm, and Anna Kolb. On April 8, 1701 at Steffisburg she married Hans Müller of Uetendorf. He may have been the Hans Müller baptized at Thierachern Nov. 21, 1669, a son of Hans Müller and Verena Schwÿzer. When Anna was called "the miller's wife from Wiler," it may have meant that they resided in Uetendorf. In German a hamlet is a *Weiler*. Within Uetendorf there was a hamlet called Willerüti und Guet on the Gürbe River. The river flows north into the Aare River below the city of Bern. Uetendorf did not have its own Protestant Reformed Church. Anna and Hans attended the parish church at adjacent Thierachern. Their children baptized there include Christina, 1702; Anna, 1705; Madleni, 1708; and Magdalena, 1712.

b. Christina/Stini Joder was baptized March 15, 1674; witnesses included Hans Brönniman, Anna Wenner, and Christina Schlact. On March 12, 1694 at Steffisburg she married Christen Schmidthalter of Wattenwil. They had a child Hans at Wattenwil Feb. 4, 1700.

c. Margreth Joder was baptized Feb. 6, 1676; witnesses included Rŭdolf Mŭrri, Margreth Moser, and Margreth Blank. On Dec. 10, 1697 at Steffisburg she married Michel Braŭn. He was baptized at Steffisburg March 12, 1676, a son of Steffan Braŭn and Cathrina Knöri.

d. Hans Joder was baptized Oct. 7, 1677; minister Hans Jacob Freudenreich served as a witness with Jost Joder *der Jŭng* and Magdalena Zender. The article *300 Years of Anabaptist Yoders in America* in the *Yoder Newsletter* April 2017 issue suggests that Hans 'in some foreign country' was the American immigrant known as 'Hans Yoder of Great Swamp.' He arrived as a widower with two children at Philadelphia Aug. 24, 1717, on one of three ships carrying 363 Anabaptists (see KING for background on these arrivals). He brought a daughter Magdalena who married Michael Shell (1693-1769), and a son later called John who was born circa 1708. Hans remarried to Anna Bachmann, and purchased 99 acres at Lower Milford (Great Swamp), Bucks County, Pennsylvania for 15 pounds Jan. 17, 1720. He had a son Caspar with Anna Bachmann circa 1720. He was naturalized in 1734. In 1747 he was co-executor of an estate, but pleaded that he was "ancient and not fit to travel in ye winter season." On Dec. 8, 1750 he and Anna sold their farm to son Caspar for 20 pounds. In 1751 he signed someone's probate document as 'John Joder Senior.' He died at Lower Milford circa 1753.

e. Barbara Joder was baptized Dec. 7, 1679; witnesses included Christen Joder and Barbara Joder. She presumably died between 1713 and 1735.

f. Verena Joder (twin) was baptized Jan. 28, 1683; witnesses included Jacob Joder, Verena Staŭffer, and Verena Kaŭffman. She died before 1689.

g. Eva Joder (twin) was baptized Jan. 28, 1683. She died before 1713.

h. Matthÿs Joder was baptized July 20, 1684; witnesses included Margreth Stähli. On Oct. 1, 1706 at Steffisburg he married Barbara Meÿer. She was baptized at Steffisburg March 10, 1689, and died at Steffisburg Feb. 5, 1734, a daughter of Peter Meier and Barbara Reüsser. Matthÿs died at Steffisburg Jan. 17, 1751; the entry described him as a carpenter.

i. Caspar Joder was baptized Feb. 27, 1687; witnesses included Hans Kaŭffman, Peter Schmid, and Anna Rüxegger [Rügsegger]. The entry described his father as Caspar Joder *im Ortbühl*. On Feb. 13, 1711 at Steffisburg he married Anna Meÿer. On June 7, 1721 at Steffisburg he remarried to Barbara Bürki of the Diessbach congregation. She was baptized in June of 1701, and died at Steffisburg Jan. 29, 1778, a daughter of Benz Bürgi (as found on her baptism entry) and Elsi Moser. At some point they were living at Boden.

j. Verena Joder was baptized Oct. 20, 1689; witnesses included Peter Walder, Verena Staŭffer, and Barbara Gnägi. On Oct. 25, 1715 at Steffisburg she married Peter Blanck. He may have been the Peter Blanck baptized at Steffisburg March 1, 1685, a son of Niclaŭs Blanck and Barbara im Hooff; or the Peter Blanck baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 13, 1687, a son of Hans Blanck and Maria Reüsser.

k. Cathrin/Catharina Joder was baptized July 30, 1693; witnessses included Peter Rŭpp, Cathrin Gerber, and Cathrin Schütz. She married Peter Meier. He stood co-guarantor on a legal contract with his brother-in-law Matthÿs Joder in 1713; it described Peter as a *Kirchmeier*. Cathrin/Catharina was living at Boden in 1735.

l. Niclaŭs Joder was baptized Dec. 31, 1699. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Freÿ, Daniel Zoŭg, and Anna Joder. He died before 1713.

4. Adam Joder (twin) was baptized Sept. 22, 1650. Witnesses included Adam Blanck, Adam Farni, and Anna Mathis. On Jan. 9, 1671 at Steffisburg he married Barbli Ochsenbein. She was baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 26, 1647, a daughter of Jaggi Ochsenbein and Anna. They operated a fulling mill on the Schnittweierbad farm above Steffisburg. They departed from Steffisburg after 1683 and went to the Pfalz, where they resettled at Lachen-Speyerdorf. Two of their sons went to Pennsylvania, where they represent a non-Amish Mennonite branch of the Joder/Yoders. See YODERS OF THE OLEY VALLEY for background on this family.

5. Hans Joder (twin) was baptized Sept. 22, 1650, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Wit Sägisman, Hans Eichenberger, and Stini Reüsser.

6. Madle/Magdalena/Madlena Joder was baptized Feb. 29, 1652, and died at Boden May 28, 1728 (registered at Steffisburg). Baptism witnesses included Hans Rŭpp, Madle Lŭgibül, and Christina Rŭbi. On April 26, 1689 at Steffisburg she married Peter Meÿer/Meier. He was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 10, 1667, a son of Michel Meÿer/Meier and Barbli Farni. She had their last child at age 54. Their children baptized at Steffisburg include Caspar, 1690; Madlena, 1693; Magdalena, 1694; Hans, 1698; Verena, 1701; Anna, 1703; and Margreth, 1706.
7. Margret Joder was baptized April 10, 1653.[156] Witnesses included Christen Stagman, Barbara Henni, and Barbara Walthart.
8. Jost Joder was baptized Jan. 13, 1655. Witnesses included Melcher Drachsel, Jörg Alsaser, and Barbara Schwaar. On Jan. 9, 1680 at Steffisburg he married Christina Schlecten (as found on the entry, but later also found as Schlact) of Kirchdorf (found on the entry as 'Kilchdorff'). Children baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Anna Joder was baptized Jan. 9, 1681; witnesses included Caspar Joder *der Jŭng*, Anna Kolb, and Anna Joder.
    b. Barbara Joder was baptized Dec. 17, 1682; witnesses included Hans Gerber, Anna Wÿttenbach, and Barbara Rŭpp. At Schwarzenegg in January of 1718 she married Hans Hodel. Their marriage entry describes them as Hans Hodell *in der Schiggenen* and Barbara Joder *von Steffisburg*. A marriage contract at Thun describes them as Hans Hodel and Barbara Joder of Lŭgstalden in the Schniggenen, a location that is now in Bleiken bei Oberdiessbach. Hans was baptized at Steffisburg Feb. 18, 1672, a son of Hans Hodel and Barbara Blank. He died at Steffisburg April 8, 1751, where the entry says he was age 75. Barbara died at Schwarzenegg Nov. 28, 1753, age 70; her *Totenrodel* entry described her as the widow of Hans Hodel.
    c. Christina Joder was baptized May 4, 1684; witnesses included Hans Gnägi, Christina Kaŭffman, and Verena Roth. She died young.
    d. Hans Joder was baptized July 5, 1685; witnesses included Hans Kaŭffman, Hans Trachsel, and Magdalena Reüsser. He is likely the Hans Joder who died at Steffisburg Aug. 17, 1750, though the entry said he was 67 years of age.
    e. Christina Joder was baptized March 20, 1687; witnesses included Bendicht Trachsel, Margreth Stähli, and Christina Naffzger. Christina Naffzger was baptized at Thierachern Sept. 7, 1651, a daughter of Melchior Naffzger and Eva Schmocker, and a granddaughter of Zacharias Naffzger *der Schmidt* and Margareth Engemann.
9. Salome Joder was baptized April 13, 1656. Witnesses included Andres Mŭrer, Susanna Moser, and Catarina Dummermuth. On March 1, 1678 at Steffisburg she married Hans Gerber. *Chorgericht* notes from July 26, 1691 describe them as Anabaptists. They emigrated north to the Pfalz. Karl Joder said they went to Fischbach (11 miles east of Kaiserslautern) or Weidenthal (six miles southeast of Fischbach). These two villages are below Enkenbach-Alsenborn where descendants are found.
10. Hans Joder was baptized Feb. 28, 1658. Witnesses included Hans Meier, Hans Leeman, and Babÿ Küntzi. On March 9, 1688 at Steffisburg he married Anna Eicher. Anna Eicher was born circa 1670; her *Beerdigungen 1618-1875* death entry said she died at Steffisburg Feb. 14, 1750, age 80. Hans sold his house at Steffisburg in 1715. In 1716 a legal document at Thun says 'lieutenant Hans Joder' wished to borrow 400 pounds. Another document from the same year says that his wife Anna Eicher had received it. The primary guarantor for this transaction has been their son Caspar Joder '*in der Glockenthal*' (bell valley at Steffisburg, also called the *Gloggenthal)*. In 1717 Anna sold their lands on Emberg (two miles east of the village). Children of Hans Joder and Anna Eicher baptized at Steffisburg include:
    a. Caspar Joder was baptized July 28, 1689; witnesses included Hans Berger, Glado Wÿermann, and Margreth Maŭrer.[157] He died young. He may be the Caspar Joder *ein Knablin* [a boy] who died at Gloggenthal April 11, 1700.
    b. Magdalena Joder was baptized Oct. 4, 1691; witnesses included Hans Spring, Maria Caspar [?], and Barbara Meier. On Jan. 29, 1712 at Steffisburg she married Hans Reüsser. She died at Steffisburg Feb. 13, 1751.
    c. Caspar Joder was baptized Jan. 28, 1694; witnesses included Glado Wÿermann, Abraham Spring, and Barbara Neüenhost. He married Catharina Lilieu. She died at Steffisburg March 17, 1745. Caspar died at Schwendibach (adjacent to Steffisburg, in the parish) March 18, 1745 (reported at Steffisburg). The entry says he was age 55, which may have been miscalculated from the baptism entry of the Caspar born in 1689.

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[156] A modern genealogist muddied the waters a bit by concluding that Margret Joder married Ŭli/Ŭlrich Reüsser (the second husband of her older sister Anna/Anni). Then how to explain Reüsser's marriage entry with an Anna/Anni Joder? And the baptism entries of three children? Easy – the same person decided that Margret Joder baptized in 1653 must have actually been an 'Annegret,' combining the two names.

[157] Glado Wÿermann was a son of Glado Weÿermann and Elisabeth Wyss. He was *Vogt* [administator on behalf of the Council of Bern] of Thörberg. The *Schloss* or castle at Krauchthal, 23 miles north of Steffisburg, is made up of a group of former monastery buildings used as a hospital and prison. It is now a prison.

d. Anna Joder was baptized Feb. 2, 1696; witnesses included Christen Pfister, Anna Staŭffer, and Cathrin Schütz. On July 15, 1722 at Steffisburg she married Hans Ramseÿer. He was baptized at Grosshöchstetten Jan. 23, 1680, and died at Steffisburg Dec. 14, 1749, a son of Hans Ramseÿer and Margreth Mosler. The Steffisburg *Totenrodel* described him as a 'carpenter in the village,' age 68. Anna died at Steffisburg March 7, 1762.

e. Barbara Joder was baptized March 13, 1698; witnesses included Hans Jŭng, Christina Eicher, and Anna Brandli. On April 19, 1717 at Steffisburg she married Abraham Reüsser. A *Totenrodel* entry says she died at Emberg March 4, 1749.

f. Margreth Joder was baptized March 10, 1700; witnesses include distgrict governor Hans Berger, Barbara Reüsser, and Margreth Stähli. On March 6, 1722 at Steffisburg she married Peter Reüsser. He was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 7, 1697, a son of Hans Reüsser and Anna Walthart. Margreth died at Steffisburg Jan. 25, 1774; the entry described her as the widow of Peter Reüsser.

g. Cathrin Joder was baptized May 28, 1702; witnesses included Johannes Köng, [illegible], and Anna Cathrin Freudenrÿch.

h. Hans Joder was baptized Oct. 5, 1704; witnesses included Hans Gerber, Hans Lüthi, and Barbara Spring.

i. Verena Joder was baptized Aug. 15, 1706. The entry is illegible because of ink bleed-through. The first of three witnesses was a district governor. She died young.

j. Verena Joder was baptized in April of 1708. The entry is barely legible, so that the parents could only be identified as Hans Joder and Anna. She died at Muri in Steffisburg Aug. 25, 1750, age 42; the entry described her as the wife of Peter Linder. He may have been the Peter Linder baptized at Steffisburg May 30, 1697, a son of Caspar Linder and Catharina Roth; the entry labeled Catharina '*Anab.*' [Anabaptist]. Peter died at Muri in Steffisburg as a widower Nov. 26, 1759.

k. Elsbeth Joder was baptized Nov. 9, 1710; witnesses include Christen Rŭchti, Anna Krebs, and Elsbeth Steiner. On Jan. 9, 1733 at Steffisburg she married Hans Linder *ab Lug.*[158]

l. Peter Joder was baptized April 2, 1713; witnesses included Peter Meÿer, Hans Kropff, and Barbara Esch.

m. Christen Joder was baptized June 28, 1716; witnesses included Jacob Moser, Christen Joder, and Anna Rothenbüler.

11. Stini Joder was baptized Aug. 25, 1661. Her baptism entry named her parents as Niclaŭs Joder *im Ortbühl* and Anni Trachsel. Witnesses included Hans Kolb, Stini Graff, and Vereni Reüsser. She was likely the Christina Joder who married Hans Walder at Steffisburg June 20, 1679. They were the parents of Hans Walder, who was baptized at Steffisburg July 5, 1681. Baptism witnesses included Isaac Iutzi, Hans Joder *in der Au*, and Christina Schlecter.

Jost's American Descendants

Male descendants of Jost Joder have the Y chromosome genetic identifier 'value 16 on marker 19.' All other males have 'value 15 on marker 19' (believed to be the older base form). The remainder of YODER will follow the American descendants of Jost. We know they are connected by their bloodline — it is more difficult to determine *how*.

Two Yoder families sailed from Rotterdam via Deal on the *Francis and Elizabeth,* arriving at Philadelphia Sept. 21, 1742 (Deal was an English customs and tax station between Dover and Ramsgate on the southeast corner of England).[159]

Male descendants of these two families have 'value 16 on marker 19,' indicating that the fathers were grandsons of Jost Joder and Anna Trachsel. Their parents cannot be identified, because we lack knowledge of all of the sons of Jost and Anna's sons Peter, Jacob, and Christen (those most likely to have had children who emigrated from Europe).

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[158] *Kleines Dorf Lexicon von einem Theil der Schweiz* (1801) describes Lug as a mountain and village by Steffisburg. Auf den Lug was a farm by Burgdorf.

[159] The *Francis and Elizabeth* was well known for overcrowding. A few years later one incident made it infamous. The minutes of a council meeting at Philadelphia Sept. 11, 1749: "The Governor having order'd Doctor Groeme and Doctor Thomas Bond to visit the Ship *Francis and Elizabeth*, arriv'd in the Cove below the City with Palatines on board from Rotterdam, and they having reported that she was an unhealthy Vessel, several of the Passengers labouring under an eruptive fever which they were of opinion was infectious." Another ship, the *Rachel*, arrived at the same time with more diseased passengers. This was more than the 'pest house' could accommodate. "It appear'd on examination that the Place was in great Disorder, and that for want of room, Household Furniture, and suitable Apartments, the Sick cou'd be but indifferently taken care of...where-upon the Captain of the Ship *Francis and Elizabeth* was serv'd with an order from the Governor to remove his Vessel to the Mouth of Schuykill, as near to the Pest House as he cou'd conveniently lye, to send there all the sick and keep the well on board, and not to suffer any Persons to go near them except the Doctor, Necessary Nurses, and Servants." On Jan. 27, 1750 an act was passed that set space and provisions requirements on passenger vessels docking at the port.

Upon the day of arrival male passengers over 16 years of age were required to take an oath of allegiance to the English crown at the Philadelphia court house. The oath list held Christian Jotter, Jacob Yoder [signed with an 'x'], Christian Yoder, Christian Miller [signed with an 'x'], Johannes Qnäg, Moritz Zug, Christian Zug, Johannes Gerber, Jacob Kurtz, Johannes Zug, Uhllerich Ställy [signed with an 'x'], and Jacob Guth.

'Christian Jotter,' also known as Christian Yoder, brought his wife and children. The head of a second Yoder family had died on the voyage. Jacob Yoder and Christian Yoder were his sons, traveling with their newly-widowed mother Barbara and seven siblings.

Christian Yoder (*found on the 1742 passenger list as 'Christian Jotter') leading to Yost Yoder of Farnisville and Yoder of Tremont*

Christian Yoder is thought to have been born in 1699, and died in Berks County, Pennsylvania Nov. 17, 1775.

His wife died at Bern, Berks County in 1782. She is likely buried in the Northkill Amish Burying Ground, also known as the Jacob Hertzler Farm Cemetery, where only a few graves have headstones.

They settled at Bern in the Northkill settlement area of Lancaster County. At the time this was the edge of the American frontier, where European intruders came in conflict with Native Americans. See KING for background on this area.

To follow some of the discussions of location that follow, it is helpful to know that Lancaster County was created in 1729. Berks County was carved from it in 1752, and Lebanon County in 1813. (Thus someone who is said to have been born in Lancaster County may have died in one of the other two counties, without having moved).

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.

Children of Christian Yoder and his wife include:

1. Barbara Yoder was born circa 1725, and died in Berks County circa 1785. Circa 1746 at Bern, Lancaster County she married next-door neighbor Stephen Kauffman. He was born circa 1725, and died in Berks County in 1800, a son of Isaac Kauffman and Anna Streit. The Kauffmans had arrived at Philadelphia on the *Virtuous Grace* Sept. 24, 1737.
2. Magdalena 'Mattie' Yoder was born circa 1727, and died in 1782. She married widower Johannes/Hans/John Gnaegi/Kanagy. He was baptized at Bürglen, Canton Bern (38 miles northwest of Steffisburg) May 1, 1720, and died at Bethel, Lebanon County in 1772, a son of Bendicht Gnägi *von Schwaad* (Schwadernau in Bürglen parish) and Maria Strielenberg. They had arrived at Philadelphia on the same voyage of the *Francis and Elizabeth*. His first wife had been Mary Holden. As Hans Gnage he received a land warrant for 122 acres in Bern, Lancaster County Sept. 30, 1747. They sold this land Sept. 27, 1763, and relocated along the Swatara Creek near Jonestown, Hanover Township, Lancaster County (in what is now Lebanon County). In 1767 they purchased 200 acres at what is now Monroeville, Bethel Township, Lebanon County. His will was created Nov. 9, 1772, and probated Dec. 15, 1772.
3. **Christian 'Schweitzer Christian' Yoder** was born Oct. 28, 1728, and died at Stonycreek, Somerset County Nov. 20, 1816.
4. Elizabeth Yoder was born circa 1730, and died in Lancaster County Sept. 1, 1771. Circa 1751 in Lancaster County she married Christian Beiler. He was born circa 1727, and died in Lancaster County July 13, 1812, a son of minister Jacob Beÿeler/Beiler and his first wife Verena Siber. The Beÿelers had been passengers on the *Charming Nancy,* arriving at Philadelphia Oct. 8, 1737. In 1764 Christian and Elizabeth moved to Caernarvon, Lancaster County with 'Strong Jacob' Yoder and Anna Beiler (Elizabeth would have been cousin and sister-in-law to 'Strong Jacob'). In 1772 Christian remarried to a Barbara who could not be further identified. He is buried in Mast Cemetery at Morgantown, Caernarvon Township, Berks County.
5. **Johannes/John Yoder** was born in the Pfalz circa 1732 and died at Armagh, Mifflin County July 2, 1813.
6. Yost Yoder was born circa 1734, and died at Union, Mifflin County after 1784. He married a Holly in Berks County in 1755. He remarried to Mary Siever circa 1762 in Berks County. She was born in Pennsylvania in 1742, and died in Mifflin County, a daughter of Hans Sieber/John Siever (he had arrived at Philadelphia on the *Princess Augusta* Sept. 16, 1736). In 1771 Yost relocated from Berks County to Caernarvon, Lancaster County, and later to Earl Township. On April 2, 1796 he purchased 700 acres in Mifflin County and constructed a stone house.
7. Freni/Veronica Yoder was born circa 1736, and died circa 1798.
8. Jacob Yoder was born circa 1738, and died after 1800.

Christian 'Schweitzer Christian' Yoder

The oldest son of Christian Yoder was **Christian 'Schweitzer Christian' Yoder**. He was born Oct. 28, 1728, and died at Stonycreek, Somerset County Nov. 20, 1816.

His first wife could not be identified. He remarried to Barbara Holly/Hooley in Berks County in 1762. She was born April 17, 1741, and died in Somerset County March 8, 1812, a daughter of Johannes/Hans Holly/Hooley and Freni/Veronica Miller.

On Oct. 9, 1775 Christian purchased 606 acres at Stonycreek in the Brothers Valley Glades for $968 (about $29,200 in modern buying power). In the spring of 1776 they resettled. The 1800 census of Stonycreek shows five consecutive households for John Yoder Sen., Christian Yoder, John Yoder, Solmon Yoder, and Jacob Yoder. Their homestead is now the site of the Old Yoder Cemetery, where they are buried in unmarked graves.

Their son **Solomon H. Yoder** was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania March 25, 1776, and died in Elkhart County, Indiana Feb. 16, 1868. Circa 1797 in Somerset County he married Barbara Miller. She was born in Berks County Jan. 12, 1774, and died Nov. 14, 1858, a daughter of Christian Miller and Veronica Mischler. They are buried in Elkhart Prairie Cemetery.

Their son **Peter Yoder** was born in Somerset County Sept. 22, 1804, and died in Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 29, 1849. On Nov. 18, 1827 in Wayne County he married Veronica 'Fanny' Blough. She was born in Somerset County Sept. 26, 1808, and died in Wayne County Jan. 10, 1855, a daughter of David Blough and Elizabeth Weaver.

The 1850 census of Green Township, Wayne County, Ohio shows Fanny Yoder, 41, Pennsylvania; Susanna, 21; farmer David, 19; Polly, 18; John, 15; Solomon, 13; Fanny, 11; Catherine, 10; Elizabeth, 8; Sarah, 1; and Yost, 3; all children born in Ohio. They lived next door to John Kaufman, 52, and Sarah, 65.

Children of Peter Yoder and Veronica 'Fanny' Blough born at Green Township, Wayne County, Ohio include:

1. Susanna Yoder was born April 13, 1829, and died in Lagrange County, Indiana Aug. 24, 1909. She married Daniel Egli. He was born circa 1829, and died before Dec. 24, 1861, a son of Christian Egli and Catherine Stahly. On Dec. 24, 1861 in Lagrange County, Indiana she remarried to Joseph C. Yoder. He was born in Somerset County Nov. 20, 1819, and died in Lagrange County Sept. 4, 1863, a son of Christian Yoder and Judith Gindelsperger. On Oct. 18, 1870 she married a third time to Samuel Hooley. *Gospel Herald*, October 1909: "Susan (Yoder) Hooley was born in Wayne Co., O., April 13, 1829; died in Elkhart Co., Ind., Aug. 24, 1909; aged 80 y. 11 d. Sister Hooley had been married three times; first to Daniel Egli, second to Joseph Yoder, third to Samuel Hooley. These all preceded her to their resting place and Sister Hooley has been living in her own home in Lagrange Co., Ind., having another family living with her. She has been nearly blind for sometime. This past summer she has especially enjoyed visiting some of her friends and spending several days with them. While visiting in the home of Bro. Samuel Myers she wanted to go from the dining room to the sitting room and by mistake opened the cellar door instead of the room door and fell down stairs and was almost instantly killed. Funeral at Forks church Aug. 28, by J. Troyer in German and D. D. Miller in English."
2. David P. Yoder was Nov. 12, 1830, and died at West Liberty, Logan County, Ohio Sept. 7, 1923. On April 27, 1854 he married Barbara Zook. She was born in Wayne County Aug. 2, 1832, and died at Wooster, Wayne County May 5, 1904, a daughter of Gideon Zook and Maria/Mary Yoder. *Gospel Herald*, September 1923: "David P. Yoder was born in Wayne Co., Ohio, Nov. 12, 1830. He was a resident of this county all of his life, with the exception of a few years when he resided with his daughter, Mrs. C.K. Hartzler, of West Liberty, Ohio. He died of infirmities of old age Sept. 7, 1923; aged 92y. 9m. 25d. He was united in marriage to Barbara Zook in 1854. To this union were born four children (Sarah, Hiram, Mary Ann, and Fanny). His beloved life companion, one son and two daughters preceded him in death. There remains to mourn his departure one daughter, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, with a large circle of near relatives and friends. At the age of 17 he confessed and accepted Christ as his Savior and united with the A.M. Church. He was a loyal and faithful brother, a worker and wise counsellor in the church, interested in her activities, supporting the work by his prayers and means, continuing steadfast in the faith he held so dear. His place in the church services was seldom found vacant and his delight was to mingle with both young and old as he passed through life. He was resigned to the will of God and looked forward with confidence and hope, trusting in the promises of his blessed Savior. He leaves to the family and the church, the memory of a beautiful Christian life. Services were conducted by the brethren, Jesse Smucker, J.S. Gerig, and David Hostetler, from *Prov. 3:1,2* and *II Kings 20:1*. Interment in the Oak Grove Cemetery."
3. Mary 'Polly' Yoder was born Nov. 9, 1832, and died in Lagrange County Dec. 8, 1880. On April 3, 1855 in Wayne County she married Jacob P. Hooley. He was born in Mifflin County Dec. 11, 1832, and died in Cass County, Missouri Jan. 23, 1888, a son of Daniel Hooley and Esther Yoder.
4. **John B. Yoder** was born Sept. 11, 1834, and died at Morton Jan. 10, 1904.

5. Solomon Yoder was born July 15, 1836, and died in Lagrange County, Indiana April 18, 1914. He married Elizabeth Stutzman. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Jan. 26, 1843, and died at Lyons, Kansas Dec. 2, 1916, a daughter of Jonathan Stutzman and Fannie Bachman. They are found on the 1900 census of Mitchell, Kansas as landlord Solomon Yoder, 63, born in Ohio in July 1837 to parents from Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, 57, born in Ohio in January 1843 to a father from Pennsylvania and a mother from Ohio; farmer Frank S., 24, born in Missouri in February 1876; Jonathan, 21, born in Indiana in September 1878; Adline, 20, born in Indiana in March 1880; and Lydia, 17, born in Indiana in October 1882.
6. Veronica 'Fanny' Yoder was born Aug. 21, 1838, and died Dec. 7, 1894. On Aug. 20, 1863 in Tazewell County she married Samuel King [Jr.], a son of Samuel King and his first wife Magdalena Kurtz; the ceremony was performed by mnister Andrew Ropp. He was born 'near Wooster' Aug. 4, 1841, and died Dec. 19, 1900. 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.
7. Catherine Yoder was born Feb. 3, 1841, and died Feb. 4, 1892. On May 24, 1859 in Wayne County, Ohio she married Jacob D. Yoder. He was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania circa 1821, and died in 1878, a son of David Yoder and Magdalena King.
8. Elizabeth Yoder was born Aug. 4, 1843, and died at Emma, Lagrange County, Indiana June 7, 1885. On Sept. 11, 1873 in Cedar County, Missouri she married Samuel D. Stutzman. He was born in Wayne County April 7, 1832, and died there Sept. 27, 1908, a son of David Stutzman and Catherine Schrock.
9. Yost D. Yoder was born April 15, 1846, and died in Lagrange County, Indiana March 27, 1915. He married Sophia Yoder. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 26, 1849, and died at Greenfield, Indiana March 12, 1935. According to family notes, she was a Dunker.
5. Sarah Yoder was born Sept,. 23, 1848, and died in Wayne County Jan. 23, 1889. On Jan. 12, 1864 in Wayne County she married Jonas Smucker. He was born in Wayne County June 11, 1840, and died there Feb. 23, 1923, a son of David Smucker and Anna Brandt. *Gospel Herald*, March 1923: "Jonas Smucker was born in Wayne Co., O., June 1, 1840; died at his home after a brief sickness which lasted about two weeks. He bore his affliction patiently, realizing that the end was near at hand. He peacefully fell asleep Feb. 24, 1923, at the ripe age of 82 y. 8 m. 23 d. On Jan. 12, 1864, he was united in marriage to Sarah Yoder. To this union were born 11 children, five daughters and six sons . Mother was called to her reward Jan. 23, 1889. Also one son, three daughters and six grandchildren preceded him in death. On Jan. 6, 1891, he was united in marriage to Mattie Yoder of Cass Co., Mo. To this union were born five daughters. There remain to mourn his departure mother, five sons, seven daughters, 31 grandchildren, and a large circle of near relatives and friends. Early in life he gave heed to the voice of the heavenly Shepherd and accepted Christ as his Savior. He united with the A. M. Church and was always deeply interested in its activities, giving his support to the work freely and liberally in prayers and means. He continued loyal to the Faith which he held so dear. His place was seldom vacant in all the various church services. Being a man of vision his counsel was often sought. He leaves to his family and the church the memory of a beautiful Christian life. 'Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord.' Funeral services were conducted by the brethren, Jesse Smucker, J. S. Gerig, and C. Z. Yoder. Texts, *I Cor. 16:13, 14; I Cor. 11:1*. Interment in the Oak Grove cemetery."

John B. Yoder was born at Green Township, Wayne County, Ohio Sept. 11, 1834, and died at Morton Jan. 10, 1904.

He came to Tazewell County as a farm laborer in 1853 or 1854. On Sept. 19, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Elizabeth King. Their ceremony was performed by county judge Middleton Tackaberry. She was born at Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio July 20, 1839, and died from pneumonia at Tremont Feb. 18, 1912, a daughter of Samuel King and his first wife Magdalena Kurtz (see KING for more on this couple).

They are found on the 1870 census of Tremont as farmer John Yoder, 36, Ohio; Elizabeth, 31, Ohio; Seruda, 14; Julia, 12; Samuel, 10; Fanny, 8; William, 4; Christian, 5 months; and farm laborer Henry Healer, 17, Missouri. Their household appears on the 1880 census of Tremont as farmer John Yoder, 46, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; Elisabeth, 43, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania; Samuel, 20; Fannie, 18; William, 15; Christian, 11; Lydia, 8; John, 6; Emma, 4; Edward, 2; and Joseph; all children born in Illinois.

They are buried in the Old Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton. An obituary reprinted on the Apostolic Heritage site: "Death from Pneumonia. Mrs. Elizabeth Yoder passes away at the age of seventy-two. Mrs. Elizabeth Yoder died of pneumonia, at 11:30 p.m. on Sunday, at the age of 72, following a brief illness at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Huette. Her maiden name was King, and she was born in Ohio July 20, 1839. her husband, John Yoder, died about eight years ago while they lived in Morton. About four years ago she went to live with her daughter, Mrs. John Huette, in the country. One of her sons, Chris, died two months ago. The children living to mourn the loss of an excellent mother are: Edward and John of Morton; William and Samuel of Fairbury; Mrs. John Huette of Tremont; Mrs. Chas. Huette of Indiana; Mrs.

Hiram Fortna and Mrs. Chris Moser of Forrest. The funeral was held from the Apostolic Church Wednesday afternoon."

Children of John B. Yoder and Elizabeth King include:

1. Sarilda/Sorilda [headstone] Yoder was born at Tremont Aug. 1, 1856 (though her headstone says 1859), and died at Fairbury, Livingston County June 20, 1931. On Feb. 6, 1877 in Tazewell County she married Hiram Andrew Fortna. He was born in Hancock County, Illinois Dec. 13, 1854, and died at Forrest, Livingston County Oct. 5, 1921. They are buried in North Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Forrest.
2. Julia Ann Yoder was born at Tremont Feb. 28, 1858, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Nov. 24, 1935. On Jan. 27, 1880 in Tazewell County she married Charles Huette. He was born at Morton Aug. 7, 1855, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Oct. 27, 1926, a son of Carl Huette and Minnie Strunk. She is buried in Graceland Cemetery at Fairbury as 'Anna Huette.'
3. Samuel P. Yoder was born at Tremont Nov. 3, 1859, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County April 25, 1928. On Aug. 12, 1883 at Morton he married Mary Naffziger. She was born at Pulaski, Iowa March 16, 1861, and died at Fairbury March 10, 1945, a daughter of John Naffziger and Katharina Miller. They relocated from Morton to Fairbury in 1892. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery at Fairbury.
4. Fannie Yoder was born at Tremont Nov. 19, 1861, and died at Morton Dec. 13, 1936. On Feb. 7, 1886 at Morton she married John Huette. He was born at Tremont Nov. 17, 1862, and died at Morton Jan. 7, 1936, a son of Carl Huette and Minnie Strunk. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
5. Peter S. Yoder was born at Tremont Nov. 13, 1863, and died April 10, 1870.
6. William John Yoder was born at Tremont Oct. 10, 1865, and died April 7, 1951. He is buried in North Apostolic Cemetery at Pleasant Ridge, Livingston County. On Dec. 25, 1889 in Tazewell County he married Marie Schreiber. She was born in Württemberg Sept. 3, 1864, and died at Peoria April 28, 1932, a daughter of Christian Schreiber and Rosina Hokl. They are buried in North Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Forrest.
7. Daniel Yoder was born at Tremont Dec. 12, 1867, and died there April 2, 1870.
8. Christian Yoder was born at Tremont Feb. 7, 1870, and died at Nampa, Idaho Nov. 11, 1911. On Sept. 21, 1897 at Middletown, Butler County, Ohio he married Louisa Mosiman. She was a born in Ohio in April 1875, a daughter of Christian Mosiman and Anna Kinsinger. *Hamilton Telegraph*, Sept. 23, 1897: "David K. Roth of Morton, Ill., and Louisa Mosiman of Middletown, find Christian H. Yoder of Morton and Lena Mosiman of Middletown have licensed to wed. The affair will be a double wedding and will take place at the home of the brides' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Mosiman, west of Middletown, tomorrow evening. The wedding will be brilliant and is attracting much attention in Middletown and vicinity." Despite the article, Christian married Louisa. They can be found on the 1900 census of Morton as machine salesman Christian Yoder, 30, born in Illinois in February 1870 to parents from Ohio; Louisa, 25, born in Ohio in April 1875 to parents from Ohio; and Florence, 1, born in Illinois in November of 1898. They are found on the same page as Christian's brother John and his wife Alma. The 1900 census of Nampa, Idaho shows the same family of three. The Jan. 31, 1940 obituary of Dr. Samuel K. Mosiman, a president of Bluffton College and the older brother of Louisa, indicates that in 1940 she was living in Cincinnati, Ohio.
9. Lydia Yoder was born at Morton Nov. 14, 1872, and died at Forrest, Livingston County March 13, 1913. On Jan. 29, 1893 in Tazewell County she married Chris Moser. He was born at Morton April 16, 1870, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Dec. 23, 1943, a son of Benedict Moser and Verena Steiner. They are buried in North Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Forrest. An obituary reprinted on the Apostolic Heritage online site: "Mrs. Christian Moser, whose death was mentioned last week, passed away at the home four and one-half miles northeast of Forrest, Thursday morning at 3:30, March 13, 1913. The news of her death was a great surprise to many. Although she had been ailing for several months, she was thought to be improving. Lydia Yoder was born near Morton, Illinois, Nov. 14, 1872, where she spent her girlhood. On Feb. 13, 1893, she was married to C. Moser, also of Morton, but immediately after their marriage they moved to Mr. Moser's farm near Forrest, where she died. To this union were born ten children, five boys and five girls, all of whom are at home. Besides the husband and children there are left to mourn her loss four brothers and three sisters: Will and Sam Yoder of near Fairbury; Mrs. Herman Fortna of Healey; Mrs. John Huette, Ed and John Yoder of Morton; and Mrs. Chas. Huette of Wolcott, Ind., all of whom attended the funeral except John, who was kept at home by severe illness. The funeral services were held Sunday at North Amish Church of which she was a member, the funeral leaving the house at 9:30. Rev. Schmitz of Eureka conducted, assisted by Revs. Honegan and Slagel. The esteem in which she was held was shown by the large number who attended from Forrest, Fairbury, Gridley, Eureka, and Morton."
10. John King Yoder was born at Morton Feb. 12, 1874, and died at Morton Aug. 28, 1913. On June 20, 1899 at Trenton, Butler County, Ohio he married Alma Augspurger. She was born at Miltonville, Butler County May 25, 1877, and died Dec. 5, 1962, a daughter of Moses Augspurger and Anna Sloneker. They are found on the 1900 census of Morton as liveryman John Yoder, 26, born in Illinois in February 1874 to parents from Ohio; Alma, 23, born in Ohio in May 1873 to parents from Ohio; and Oscar, three months, born in Illinois in March 1900. They are found on the same census page as John's brother Christian and his wife Louisa. John is buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.

11. Emma Yoder was born at Morton April 14, 1876, and died there Jan. 3, 1888. She is buried in the Old Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
12. Edward Yoder was born July 19, 1877, and died there July 7, 1949. On Oct. 1, 1899 in Tazewell County he married Anna Kaufman. She was born July 24, 1876, and died at Morton Aug. 12, 1948. Edward was a minister of the Apostolic Christian Church at Morton. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.
13. Joseph Yoder was born at Morton Nov. 2, 1879, and died there Jan. 31, 1892. He is buried in the Old Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.

Johannes/John Yoder

Another son of Christian Yoder was **Johannes/John Yoder**. He was born in the Pfalz circa 1732, and died at Armagh, Mifflin County July 2, 1813.

Circa 1753 he married Anna Mast. She was born in Europe in 1734, and died in Pennsylvania Oct. 30, 1823, a daughter of Johannes Mast and Barbara Risser.

Children of Johannes/John Yoder and Anna Mast include:

1. **Johannes/John 'Hannes' Yoder** was born at Womelsdorf, Berks County in 1754, and died in Wayne County, Ohio July 2, 1813.
2. Magdalena Yoder was born in Berks County July 9, 1761, and died in Mifflin County in 1815. She married Christian Yoder. He was born at Reading, Berks County Dec. 3, 1761, and died in Mifflin County in 1825, a son of Johannes Yoder and Catherine Lesher/Lyster. They are buried in Allensville Mennonite Cemetery at Allensville, Mifflin County.
3. Jacob Yoder was born in Berks County Sept. 17, 1763, and died in Mifflin County April 17, 1836. He married Catherine Blank. She was born in Berks County Nov. 7, 1768, and died in Mifflin County March 25, 1856, a daughter of John Blank and Veronica Schmucker. They are buried in Yoder-Zook Cemetery at Brown, Mifflin County.
4. Barbara Yoder was born at Caernarvon, Lancaster County circa 1765, and died in Mifflin County in April 1835. On Dec. 4, 1791 she married Moses Peachey. He was born in the Jura region of Switzerland in 1758, and died in Mifflin County in 1814, a son of Peter Peachy [Bütschi] and Rosina Willi. They are buried in Locust Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County. His headstone says 'Christian Peachey, born in Switzerland, Died 1814, 56 yrs.'
5. Anna Yoder was born circa 1770. She married Jacob Kauffman. He was born circa 1769, and died in Wayne County, Ohio in March 1833, a son of Jacob Kauffman and Anna Mast. They farmed in Huntingdon County until 1807, then went to Halfmoon, Centre County.
6. Christian Yoder was born in Lancaster County in 1774, and died in Mifflin County Dec. 19, 1827. Circa 1799 he married Barbara Hertzler. She was born in Berks County Dec. 17, 1776, and died in Mifflin County Dec. 18, 1846, a daughter of Christian Hetzler and Elizabeth Yoder. They are buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County, where her crude headstone says 1847 - perhaps because she was not buried until spring.
7. **Yost 'Red Yost' Yoder** was born circa 1775, and died in Juniata County in 1856.
8. Freni/Veronica Yoder was born in Lancaster County circa 1779, and died at Berlin, Holmes County, Ohio Dec. 31, 1827. Circa 1800 in Somerset County she married widower Jonathan Hochstetler. He was born at Bern, Berks County between 1776 and 1779, and died at Berlin May 8, 1823, a son of Jacob Hostetler and Catherine Hertzler. Jonathan was buried on his farm, now called the William Ewert Farm Cemetery at Berlin; markers no longer stand, and Freni/Veronica may be buried there as well, though at least one source says she is buried without a marker in Union Grove Cemetery at Berlin.

At this point we descend into two branches. The first under Johannes/John 'Hannes' Yoder contains some of the characters that figured in the KING murder story. The second under Yost 'Red Yost' Yoder leads to a Woodford County settler.

Note one potential source of confusion: Hannes born in 1754 had a son named Yost who was born in 1775, and married Sarah Yoder. He also had a much younger brother named Yost (called 'Red Yost') who was born circa 1775, and married Freni Yoder and Mary Zook.

Johannes/John 'Hannes' Yoder

Johannes/John 'Hannes' Yoder was born at Womelsdorf, Berks County in 1754, and died at Wayne County, Ohio in 1839.

Circa 1773 he married Barbara Rickenbach.[160] She was born in Berks County in 1755, and also died in Wayne County. Circa 1779 they resettled at Elk Lick, Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795).

In 1791 they purchased 212 acres at Armagh, Mifflin County for 710 pounds from Henry Milroy. This included a two-story stone 'mansion' and a weaver shop which are still standing. They were among the first Amish Mennonite settlers in the Kishacoquillas Valley (or Big Valley) of Mifflin County.[161] Hannes was ordained as a minister there.

Other land purchases included properties at Perrysville (later Milroy) in November 1792. They were sold in parcels over several years.

Two Yoter households (Jacob and Abraham, numbers 24 and 25) and two Yodter households (John and one with the first name torn away, numbers 27 and 28) appear on the 1810 census of Armagh. The number 27 household with only a 45+ year-old man and wife may have been John 'Hannes' Yoder and Barbara Rickenbach. Number 28 may have been Yost/Joseph Jr. living next door to his parents (the first name torn away ends in an 'h,' and the head of household is a male in the 26-45 year age range).

In 1813 they sold the house and acreage at Armagh to Jacob Kanagy for 2,500 pounds. 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."

They migrated to Wayne Township, Wayne County, Ohio. The 1830 census of Wayne shows John Yoder [Hannes] and Jacob Yoder [his son].

In Ohio Hannes was known as the conservative elder 'Vater Hannes'; he died there in 1839. This may be a partial explanation for local histories that say an exodus of conservative Amish Mennonites took place from Wayne County to Union, Logan County in west-central Ohio in 1840.

One source says that Barbara died in Wayne County as early as 1815. No date is found on her headstone. They are buried in Plank Cemetery at Wooster, Wayne County.

Children of Johannes/John 'Hannes' Yoder and Barbara Rickenbach include:

1. 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. The money may have come from his parents' sale of their home at Armagh, or from the estate of his recently deceased father. Tax assessments at Halfmoon, Centre County indicate that he owned 270 acres worth $4,010 in 1814; and four horses, three cows in 1815. He sold his Halfmoon farm April 24 or March 8, 1839 (it is uncertain which sale was his and which was that of his uncle ‘Red Yost’ of the same name and age).
2. Jacob Yoder was born at Elk Lick, Bedford County (in the part that became Somerset County in 1795) circa 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 circa 1779, and died in Centre County in 1828, a daughter of Johann Peter Keim and Mary. Jacob Yoder appears on the 1850 census of Canaan, Wayne County, Ohio as a 71-year-old in the household of his son Jonathan Yoder, 40, Pennsylvania; Catherine [Yoder], 37, Ohio; and five children born in Ohio, the oldest in 1839.
3. Mary Magdalena Yoder was born at Elk Lick in 1782, and died at Union, Logan County, Ohio Sept. 12, 1856.[162] In 1807 at Armagh, Mifflin County she married Christian King. He was born at Cumru, Berks County June 5, 1784, and died at Union Aug. 20, 1865, a son of Samuel King Jr. and his unidentified first

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[160] This surname was originally Reichenbach. It became Rickenbach, Rickenbacker, or Rickabaugh in America. Heinrich Rickenbacher (1696-1741) married Barbara Thommen (born 1696) at Kilchberg, Canton Baselland in 1722. They came to America on the *Friendship* in 1740 from their ancestral home Zeglingen (adjacent to Kilchberg).

[161] The Kishcoquillas Creek runs through present day Menno, Union, Brown, and Derry Townships and into the Juniata River.

[162] Repeating a footnore from KING: A footnote in *Descendants of Barbara Hostedler and Christian Stutzman* says that the accounts of Stephen Yoder list the 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.

wife. They were the parents of Samuel King, who came to Tazewell County. See KING for more on this couple.

4. Christian 'Keifer Christ' Yoder was born in Elk Lick in August 1784, and died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio May 3, 1850. In German *Keifer* is pine. He married Esther Hertzler. She was born in Berks County Feb. 18, 1788, and died May 8, 1861, a daughter of Christian Hertzler and Elizabeth Yoder.
5. Anna Yoder was born at Elk Lick March 10, 1786, and died in Wayne County, Ohio June 18, 1877. In 1812 she married her second cousin Henry Yoder. He was born at Elk Lick May 1, 1787, and died in Wayne County March 21, 1866, a son of Heinrich/Henry Yoder and Catherine Detweiler.[163] They are buried in Plank Cemetery at Wooster, Ohio. The story of Henry's murder of a baby, and his confession 50 years later, is told in KING.
6. Barbara Yoder was born at Elk Lick Feb. 10, 1788, and died at Shanesville, Tuscawaras County, Ohio Jan. 6, 1870. Circa 1807 in Somerset County she married Daniel Yoder. He was born circa 1777, and died at Shanesville in 1854, a son of David Yoder and Magdalena Stutzman.
7. Daniel Yoder was born at Armagh, Mifflin County April 21, 1792, and died in Holmes County, Ohio Dec. 1, 1882. He married Anna 'Nancy' Yoder. She was born in Pennsylvania May 28, 1800, and died in Holmes County, Ohio Nov. 1, 1887. *Herald of Truth*, January 1883: "December 1st in Holmes Co., Ohio, Daniel Yoder**,** aged 90 years, seven months and 10 days. He was a faithful brother of the Amish Mennonite Church for over 65 years. He leaves a widow with whom he lived in matrimony about sixty-two years. Funeral services by Daniel Miller and Jacob J. Miller." He is buried in Stutzman Cemetery at Mr. Hope.
8. Elizabeth Yoder was born at Armagh, Mifflin County April 17, 1799, and died in Wayne County, Ohio May 8, 1890. Circa 1823 she married Christian Hostetler. He was born in Juniata County April 18, 1801, and died in Wayne County Oct. 27, 1875, a son of John Hostetler and Barbara Mast. They are buried in Plank Cemetery at Wooster, Wayne County.
9. John Yoder died young.

Yost 'Red Yost' Yoder

Yost 'Red Yost' Yoder (also found as Joseph) was born circa 1775, and died at Fayette, Juniata County in 1856.

Circa 1796 he married his cousin Freni Yoder. She was born in Mifflin County circa 1775, a daughter of Michael Yoder and Mary Young.

In 1814, 1815, and on May 14, 1816 he purchased land at Halfmoon Township. After the marriage of his son circa 1828 they were both ordained as ministers there. (The presence of father Yost/'Red Yost' and son Joel prompted some confusion, and they are occasionally found in documents there as Joseph Sr. and Joseph Jr.).

Freni died at Halfmoon before 1830, and Yost remarried to Mary Zook. She was born at West Whiteland, Chester County Aug. 15, 1779, and died at Fayette after 1850, a daughter of John Zug/Zook and Catherine.

'Red Yost' sold his Halfmoon land April 24 or March 8, 1839 (it is uncertain which sale was his and which was that of his nephew Yost of the same age), and relocated onto a farm between Fayette and Oakland Mills in Lost Creek Valley, Juniata County. There he became elder. He appears as 'Joseph Yoda' on the 1840 census of Fayette, Juniata County, checked in the 60-70 age range.

In 1850 his household there appears as farmer Joseph Yoder, 75, Pennsylvania; Mary Yoder [Zook], 70, Pennsylvania; farmer Joseph Allgyer, 22, Pennsylvania; Barbara Allgyer, 21, Pennsylvania; Nancy McElroy, 19, Pennsylvania; Mary Smith, 12, Pennsylvania; Jacob Allgyer, 4, Pennsylvania; M. Allgyer [female], 1, Pennsylvania; and Cath. Zook, 65, Pennsylvania.

Children of 'Red Yost' Yoder and his first wife Freni Yoder include:

1. Joel Yoder (also found as Joseph Yoder Jr.) was born Berks County April 30, 1797, and died in Juniata County Dec. 15, 1869. Joel went to Halfmoon, Centre County in 1813 as a 16-year-old proxy for his father. An 1814 tax assessment of Halfmoon, Centre County shows Joseph Yoder Jr. in possession of 160 acres worth $2,280. In 1814 he had four horses, three cows, and a saw mill. By 1819 he had 222 acres. His father 'Red Yost' joined him at Halfmoon in 1816. Circa 1828 Joel married Freni/Franey/Frances 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. They are found on the 1850 census

[163] Heinrich/Henry was a son of Yost Yoder and his first wife, a Holly.

of Fermanagh, Juniata County as farmer Joel Yoder, 51; Frances [Yoder], 45; Leah, 18; Nathan, 16; Mary, 15; and Yost, 13; all born in Pennsylvania. Next door was Sarah Fegely, 21; Elizabeth Yoder, 10; and Moses Yoder, 3; all born in Pennsylvania. Joel and Freni are buried in Renno-Sieber Cemetery at Mifflintown, Juniata County.

2. Leah Yoder was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania Sept. 24, 1798, and died between 1832 and 1839. Circa 1825 she married Daniel Yoder. He was born in Berks County April 4, 1797, and died at Bratton, Mifflin County Jan. 15, 1868, a son of Henry Yoder and Barbara Kauffman. In 1839 he remarried to Phebe Hertzler. She was born in Mifflin County Dec. 25, 1809, and died at McVeytown, Mifflin County Oct. 4, 1898, a daughter of David Hertzler and Magdalena 'Martha' Kauffman. They are buried in Hertzler Old Mennonite Cemetery at Mattawan, Mifflin County. *Herald of Truth*, February 1868: "On the 15th of January, 1868, in Bratton Township, Mifflin County, Pa., Daniel Yoder, aged 70 years, 9 months, and 12 days. He was buried on the 17th. Funeral sermons were delivered by Samuel Yoder and David J. Zug. He was a member of the Omish Mennonite Church."
3. John Yoder was born in Mifflin County June 25, 1800. He married Maria/Mary Yoder. She was born in Berks County April 11, 1804, and died at Comins, Michigan, a daughter of David Yoder and Jakobina Esch/Eash. They are found on the 1850 census of Fayette, Juniata County as farmer John Yoder, 49; M. [Maria/Mary], 25 [should be 45]; John, 14; Peter, 15; Ann, 12; and Susan, 5; all born in Pennsylvania.
4. Maria/Mary Yoder was born in Mifflin County July 16, 1802. She married David Yoder. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania circa 1797, and died in Indiana County, Pennsylvania in 1842, a son of Heinrich/Henry Hooley Yoder and Catherine Detweiler.
5. Elizabeth Yoder was born in Mifflin County Dec. 14, 1804, and died there June 2, 1877; she is buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County. She married Christian Kauffman. He was born in Berks County April 10, 1810, and died in Juniata County Aug. 30, 1846, a son of Isaac Kauffman and Maria/Mary Miller. Elizabeth remarried to widower Samuel 'Shem' Yoder; his first wife had been Veronica 'Fannie' Beiler. He was born in Mifflin County Sept. 20, 1801, and died there March 22, 1884, a son of Christian Yoder and Sarah Hertzler. Shem was a minister. While married to Shem, Elizabeth cared for Irish immigrant Rosanna McGonegal at Halfmoon, inspiring her grandson Joseph Warren Yoder to write *Rosanna of the Amish* based on true events. *Herald of Truth*, April 1884: "On the 22d of March, in Union Township, Mifflin County, Pa., Bishop Shem Yoder, aged 82 years, 6 months and 2 days. He was buried on the 24th. Funeral services were held by Christian Yoder. He was Bishop in the Amish Mennonite church for many years, and during the last eight years of his life he was sitting in the chair."
6. **Yost Yoder** was born in Mifflin County Nov. 16, 1806, and died at Robinson, Brown County, Kansas March 7, 1891.
7. Veronica Yoder was born in Mifflin County July 27, 1808. She married Lewis Riehl. He was born in Chester County circa 1802, and died in Mifflin County, a son of Jacob Riehl and Freni Zug/Veronica Zook.[164] They are buried in Locust Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County.
8. Gertrude 'Charity' Yoder was born in Mifflin County July or Nov. 27, 1810, and died in Juniata County Aug. 19, 1875. She married Jacob Riehl. He was born in Chester County May 24, 1810, and died in Juniata County in December 1881, a son of Jacob Riehl and Freni Zug/Veronica Zook. The 1860 census of Beal, Juniata County shows farmer Jacob Reahl, 50; housekeeper Charity, 48; farmer Shem, 22; farmer Moses, 22; housekeeper Fanney, 16; Levi, 14; Jonas, 12; Noah, 6; and Jacob, 4; all born in Pennsylvania. Jacob was still living there as a widower in 1880, age 70. They are buried in Spruce Hill Cemetery in Juniata County.
9. Michael Yoder was born in Mifflin County Aug. 14, 1814, and died at Kishacoquillas Valley, Mifflin County Feb. 24, 1898. He married Barbara Hoffman. She was born in Pennsylvania Dec. 15 or 25, 1815, and died in Juniata County Dec. 29, 1867, a daughter of Jacob Hoffman and Barbara Wenger. *Herald of Truth*, April 1898: "On the 24th of Feb., 1898, in Kishacoquillas Valley, Mifflin Co., Pa., Michael Yoder, aged 83 years, six months and 10 days." Michael is buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Mifflin County.

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[164] Jacob Riehl was born in Lancaster County in 1771, and died there in 1821. In 1796 in Chester County he married Freni Zug/Veronica Zook. She was born in Chester County Oct. 12, 1771, a daughter of John Zug and Catherine, and a granddaughter of the immigrant Christian Zug. They are buried in Locust Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County. His father was Ludwig 'Lewis' Riehl. He was born near Hamburg, Germany in 1746, and died in Mifflin County May 5, 1806. One of Riehl's grandsons said that his grandfather had been abducted at the Hamburg docks at age 8, and was later indentured to a cruel taskmaster in America. After his indenture ended, he found a home with minister Christian Zug/Zook at East Whiteland near Malvern (for more on the minister see ROPP). The story can be found in *Amish Roots* by John Andrew Hostetler. Circa 1770 in Chester County he married Veronica Fischer. She was born in Pennsylvania April 3, 1750, and died in Mifflin County Aug. 22, 1825, a daughter of Christian Fischer. In 1785 'Ludwick Riehl' is found on the *Proprietary Tax List of Chester County* for Charlestown Township paying 4 shillings, 6 pence.

10. Jonas Yoder was born at Halfmoon, Centre County Aug. 26, 1817, and died in Juniata County March 4, 1853; he is buried in Renno-Sieber Cemetery at Mifflintown, Juniata County. He married Catherine Allgyer. She was born in Pennsylvania Nov. 13, 1821, and died in Mifflin County May 25, 1880, a daughter of Jacob Allgyer and Magdalena Hooly; she is buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County.
11. Sarah Yoder was born Dec. 12, 1821.

Yost Yoder was born in Mifflin County Nov. 16, 1806.

Circa 1831 he married his fourth cousin Leah Yoder. She was born in Berks County Dec. 8, 1806, a daughter of David Yoder and Jakobina Esch/Eash. Her grandparents were Christian Yoder and Barbara Beiler [Byeler]; her great-grandparents were 'Jacob Yoder who died at sea' and Barbara, mentioned earlier. Leah was also a sister to McLean County minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Joseph Yoder/Joder, mentioned in STAKER.

The couple lived at Milford, Juniata County (adjacent to Mifflintown) from 1839 until 1847. The 1840 census of Milford shows the household of Yost Yoder: one male 30-39 years of age; one male 15-19; one male under 5; one female 30-39; and three females 5-9.

In 1848 they resettled at Farnisville. Farnisville became part of Montgomery Township in 1851, and is now called Mackinaw Dells.

They are found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer Yost Yoder, 42, Pennsylvania; Leah, 42, Pennsylvania; Malinda [Magdalena], 28; Derkas [Dorcas], 14; Johnathan [Jonathan], 11; and Hannah, 8; all children born in Pennsylvania. They appear on the same page as Peter and Christian Farny ('the Amishmen who hired Abraham Lincoln'), Jacob Zehr, and Christian Smith.

At first the 1860 census seemed puzzling. No Yost Yoder is found in Central Illinois. However, next door to Joseph Strubhar at Danvers (and his son Nicholas Strubhar, who later married Hannah Yoder) we find what appears to be a garbled accounting: farmer Jacob Yoder, 39 [Yost would have been 53], Pennsylvania; and Leah, 37 [Leah would have been 53], Pennsylvania; John, 24 [Jonathan would have been 22] , Pennsylvania; and Hanna, 17 [Hannah would have been 18], Pennsylvania.

On Dec. 31, 1866 Yost purchased 80 acres of land in Woodford County for $324. The record in the online *Illinois Public Domain Land Sales Database* (thus a transcription from the original handwritten entry) says his residence was unknown. The lot was the SWNE part of Section 28 in Township 25N. The type of purchase was 'RR' (Rock River). Ordinarily Township 25 N would mean Montgomery Township, where the river runs through, but there is no Section 28 there.

The 1870 census of Danvers shows farmer Yost Yoder, 63, Pennsylvania; and Leah, 63, Pennsylvania. They are found next door to their son and daughter: farmer Jonathan Yoder, 30, Pennsylvania; and Hannah Yoder, 29, Pennsylvania.

In 1878 *Past and Present of Woodford County, Illinois* listed Yost Yoder as a farmer living near Post Office Deer Creek.

They appear on the 1880 census of Danvers as retired farmer Yost Yoder, 73, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Leah, 73, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; and servant Melinda Kauffman, 19, born in Illinois to parents from Pennsylvania.

In 1883 they moved to Kansas with their son Jonathan.

Leah Yoder died at Whitewater, Butler County, Kansas Jan. 27, 1889, and is buried in Brainerd Cemetery there. *Herald of Truth*, February 1889: "In Brainard, Butler County, Kansas, Leah Yoder, aged 82 years, 1 month and 16 days. She was buried at Brainard, Kansas. Services in the Presbyterian church by W.J. Ficht, in English, from *Luke 12*, and L. Suderman, in German, from *1 Cor. 2*. The deceased leaves her husband, three children, twenty-two grandchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren."

Yost Yoder died at Robinson, Brown County, Kansas March 7, 1891. He is buried in Ununda Cemetery there. *Herald of Truth*, April 1891: "In Brown Co., Kansas, Jost Yoder, aged 84 years, 3 months. In the year 1848, he moved from Juniata Co., Pa., to McLean Co., Ill., and in 1883 to Brown Co., Kan. He was buried on the 8th of March 1891. Services by J. Mohler from *1 Cor. 15: 39*."

Children of Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder include:

1. Magdalena 'Malinda' Yoder was born in Mifflin County Feb. 4, 1832, and died at Congerville March 11, 1906. On Feb. 12, 1855 she married Solomon Lantz. He was born in Mifflin County Oct. 5, 1824, and died in Woodford County Dec. 22, 1916, a son of Samuel Lantz and Magdalena Plank. *Herald of Truth*, March 1906: "Malinda Yoder was born in Juniata Co., Pa., Feb. 4, 1832, and died at Congerville, Ill.,

March 11, 1906; aged 74 Y., 1 M., 7 D. On Feb. 12, 1855 she married Solomon Lantz. Of their eleven children the oldest daughter Uree died some years ago. The surviving children are: Samuel L. and Mattie at home; Pre. Levi J. Lantz, living on the home farm; Aaron, Ira, and Tillie, wife of S. L. Stutzman near Carlock; Mary M., wife of Ben Clark, and Emma, wife of Eli Sharp, both of Kansas; Lydia A., wife of I. N. Hooley of Rockwell. Iowa, and Dr. Ida R. Lantz of Chicago. She also leaves 29 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren to mourn their loss. Her death was due to cancer with which she was afflicted for several months. All through her illness she was very patient, making very little complaint and always saying that it was all right no matter whether she got well or not. Mother united with the Mennonite church in her youth and was always a consistent member. She was much concerned for the welfare of her church, and rejoiced in the knowledge that all her children were Christians. Funeral services at Congerville on the 13th, conducted by Valentine Strubhar and Emanuel Troyer." *Gospel Herald*, February 1917: "Lantz - Solomon Lantz was born in Mifflin Co., Pa., Oct. 5, 1824; died at his home in Congerville, Ill., Dec. 22, 1916, at the age of 92 years. In 1850 he moved from Pa. to Ill., and three years later was married to Malinda Yoder who died in 1906. There were 11 children born to them of whom there are nine living: Mrs. Ben Clark of Hubbel, Nebr.; Ira, of Newton, Kans., Aaron and Mrs. S. L. Stutzman of Carlock, Ill.; Mrs. Eli Sharp of Iola, Kans.; Sam and Mattie of Congerville, Ill.; Lee, of Normal, Ill., and Mrs. Franklin Muir of Spokane, Wash. Mrs. Uree Yoder, the oldest daughter, died in 1885, and Mrs. Lydia Hooley in 1913. Grandfather Lantz also leaves besides his nine children, 35 grandchildren, and 25 great-grandchildren, two aged brothers, John and Levi, both living in West Liberty, Ohio. He was a faithful member of the Mennonite Church since his youth. The funeral services were held at the Mennonite Church of Congerville, Ill., of which he was a member at the time of his death. The services were in charge of G. I. Gundy, the pastor, assisted by Valentine Strubhar of Washington, Ill." They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers, where the lower name on the headstone reads 'Malinda, his wife.'

2. Dorcas Yoder was born in Mifflin County circa 1835, and died in McLean County Jan. 2, 1868.[165] On Feb. 17, 1856 in McLean County she married Jonathan Kauffman. He was born in Union Township, Mifflin County Sept. 28, 1828, and died in McLean County March 4, 1910, a son of David Kauffman and Freni/Veronica/Frances/Fanny Yoder. For KAUFFMAN for background on this couple.
3. Jonathan A. Yoder was born in Mifflin County Oct. 15, 1837, and died at Hubbard, Oregon March 29, 1918. On Aug. 7, 1870 in McLean County he married Mary M. Staub. She was born at Eitengen, Baden April 25, 1851, and died at Hubbard July 31, 1925, a daughter of Jacob Staub and Margaret.[166] They are found on the 1880 census of Danvers, McLean County as farmer Jonathan A. Yoder, 42, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Mary, 29, born in Germany to Swiss parents; and three children born in Illinois. They moved to Kansas in 1883, and to Hubbard, Oregon in 1891. They are buried in Hopewell Mennonite Cemetery at Hubbard. *Gospel Herald*, April 1918: "Jonathan A. Yoder was born Oct. 15, 1837 in Mifflin Co., Pa.; died Mar. 29, 1918 near Hubbard, Oreg.; aged 80 y. 5 m. 4 d. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife, four sons, one daughter, one sister. His funeral was held at the Hopewell Mennonite Church Monday April 1, 1918, conducted by J. D. Mishler and D. F. Shenk." *Gospel Herald*, August 1925: "Mary M. Staub-Yoder was born in Germany, Apr. 25, 1851; died at the home of her son, Ezra Yoder, near Hubbard, Oreg., July 31, 1925; aged 74 y. 3 m. 6 d. In 1865 she came to America with her parents, Jacob and Mary Staub. They located in Illinois. On Aug. 7, 1870, she was united in marriage to Jonathan A. Yoder, who preceded her in death, March 29, 1918. To this union were born four sons and one daughter. In 1883 the family moved to Kansas and in 1891 they moved to Oregon, where they have since resided. Since the death of her husband, she spent most of her time with her son, Ezra, where she was at the time of her death. She is survived by five children (Amos and Mrs. J. T. Innman, of Veneta, Oreg., Ezra S., John and Noah J., of near Hubbard), seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, one brother in Illinois and a host of friends. She accepted Christ in her youth and united with the Mennonite Church to which she remained faithful until death, which was caused by a paralytic stroke. She peacefully passed away after being confined to her bed for nearly four weeks. She was a faithful wife and a devoted and loving mother. Funeral services were conducted at the home and the Hopewell Mennonite Church, Aug. 2, 1925. Services in charge of Bros. H. A. Wolfer, F. J. Gingerich, and N. L. Hershberger. Texts, *Eccl. 12:1*; and *Psa. 90:10*."
4. Hannah Yoder was born in Juniata County Oct. 7, 1841, and died at Hubbard, Oregon May 16, 1920. On Jan. 27, 1874 in McLean County she married widower Nicholas Strubhar; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born at Commercy, Meuse Dec. 6, 1842, and died at Hubbard

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[165] Dorcas was a disciple referenced in the *Bible, Acts 9:36-4*. Apostle Peter raised her from the dead.

[166] The 1870 census of Montgomery Township, Woodford County shows farmer Jacob Staub, 54; Margaret, 58; Casper, 28; Lewis, 26; Jacob, 23; Mary, 18; and Lena, 15; all natives of Switzerland. They are found on the same page as a 70-year-old Christian Farny, indicating they were living at Farnisville roughly in the same place that the Yoders had lived. The 1900 census of Montgomery shows that Jacob Staub was born in Germany to Swiss parents; he gave an immigration date of 1866. In 1910 Casper Staub, living at Montgomery, said he was born in Switzerland to Swiss parents; he gave an immigration date of 1861.

March 12, 1920, a son of Joseph Strubhar and his first wife Madeleine Engel. See STRUBHAR for more on this couple including their obituaries.

The Yoder who died at sea, and the widow Barbara *(represented on the 1742 passenger list by his sons Christian Yoder and Jacob Yoder) leading to Abraham Yoder of Farnisville*

The **Unknown Yoder** passenger who died at sea onboard the *Francis and Elizabeth* in 1742 had married Barbara, who was born circa 1695. She arrived at Philadelphia as a new widow with nine children. Her sons Christian and Jacob were old enough to swear an oath of loyalty at the courthouse.

Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler, the Immigrant of 1736 (1912) erroneously stated that the widow Barbara arrived earlier then 1727 with eight small children, and "was among the first of the Amish Mennonite families in America." These errors persist in family histories.

Barbara died at Bern, Lancaster County (now in Berks County) in 1751. It is thought that she is buried in the Northkill Amish Burying Ground, also known as the Jacob Hertzler Farm Cemetery, where only a few graves have headstones.

Children of the Unknown Yoder and Barbara include:

1. Catherine Yoder was born circa 1720, and died in Berks County in 1772. Circa 1748 at Bern, Lancaster County she married next-door neighbor Isaac Kauffman (their first child was born in 1749). He was baptized at Steffisburg May 29, 1718, and died in Berks County circa 1802, a son of Isaac Kauffman and Anna Streit.
2. Christian 'Hamburg Christian' Yoder was born circa 1722, and died in Berks County Jan. 2, 1772. The Lancaster County land register shows land warrants issued to him at Bern. On Oct. 19, 1743 he obtained warrants for four parcels. The parcels were located on Irish Creek in Upper Bern Township (in a part that was carved out in 1887 to become Tilden Township). They were returned as 40 acres by John Kaufman Feb. 19, 1812; five acres by Joseph Kaufman Feb. 19, 1822; 140 acres by William Mochme on April 15, 1822; and 112 acres by Andrew Boyer on April 15, 1822 - a total of 297 acres. The surrounding neighbors soon included Hertzlers, Fischers, Gindelspergers, Hollys, Kauffmans, Lehmans, and Zooks. Circa 1745 he married Barbara Beiler. She was born circa 1726, and died in Berks County in 1781, a daughter of minister Jacob Beÿeler/Beiler and his first wife Verena Siber.[167] His will created Dec. 10, 1771 has been preserved: "...That my one dear and worthy Wife, Barbara Joder, shall have my said Estate under her Care and manage the same as long as it is agreeable to her... But the Road Wagon with four horses and gears, plough and harrow shall be left on the place and the price estimated accordingly and the monies thense arising for like Manner shall be divided among my Children which I leave behind... I bequeath to my dear Wife Barbara Joder whom I leave behind all yearly [income] and till this happy Departure according to the Will of God, if it is agreeable to the Mother to remain in the Dwelling Room with the Son that takes the Place to himself..." Witnesses included Hannes Yoder, Benedict Lehman, and Jacob Gindelsperger. In 1779 Barbara Beiler paid a tax on 200 acres, two horses, and six cattle.
3. Magdalena Yoder was born in 1724, and died circa 1784. Circa 1749 at Bern, Lancaster County she married Christian Fischer/Fisher. He was born circa 1727, and died in Chester County 1768, a son of Ulrich Fischer and Maria Kennel. The Fischers had arrived at Philadelphia on the *St. Andrew* Sept. 23, 1752.
4. Jacob or *Stark Jacob* or 'Strong Jacob' Yoder was born circa 1726, and died at Caernarvon, Lancaster County in 1790. Circa 1747 he married next-door neighbor Anna Beiler. She was born circa 1728, and died in Lancaster County in 1781, a daughter of minister Jacob Beÿeler/Beiler and his first wife Verena Siber. Jacob Yoder received a land warrant for 50 acres in Lancaster County Oct. 28, 1747; it was returned for what turned out to be 68 acres June 3, 1773. This was the farm called Merchant's Hall, located on Irish Creek in Upper Bern Township (in a part that was carved out in 1887 to become Tilden Township). The final payment on the farm would be made by Stephen Kauffman June 4, 1773. In 1764 Jacob and his brother-in-law Christian Beiler purchased land at Caernarvon. Jacob was thought to be the strongest man in the region. One story goes that he lifted or shoved aside a wagon loaded with hay to clear a barn door jam, rather than back up. Three unusual points converge with 'Strong Jacob.' His Y chromosome DNA tests as value 16 (a measure of length) at marker 19, rather than the more common Joder/Yoder base value 15 at marker 19. This characteristic was passed down by what is believed to have been a genetic variance that first appeared in his great-grandfather, Jost Joder (married to Anna Trachsel). And, he was unusually strong. Finally, an article in the January 1965 issue of *American Journal of Human Genetics* has an article by Bowman, McKusick, and Dronamnaju called *Pyruvate Kinase Deficient Hemolytic Anemia*. It describes a syndrome that is

[167] Jacob Beÿeler and Verena Siber were married at Wahlern (now Schwarzenburg) Aug. 16, 1725; the entry described her as Verena Siber *von Rÿchenbach* [Reichenbach]. Jacob had four children with Verena (we could not find baptism entries at Wahlern or Reichenbach). She died shortly before his emigration from Europe. The *Charming Nancy* sailed from Rotterdam via Plymouth and arrived at Philadelphia Oct. 8, 1737. Jacob made a joint land warrant application with Hans Sieber in December 1737; from this Jacob received 178 acres in 1749. He had five children with second wife Elisabeth Kallen. His will was created July 19, 1765, and executed March 25, 1771.

thought to have been passed down from either 'Strong Jacob' or Anna Beiler.[168] It is not related to the Y chromosome.

5. Anna Yoder was born circa 1728, and married Samuel König/Koenig. See KING for more on this couple.
6. **Michael Yoder** was born circa 1730, and died at Union Township in Mifflin County circa 1799.
7. Johannes/John Yoder was born in 1732, and died in Berks County in 1807. Circa 1761 in Berks County he married Anna Berkey. She was born at Centre Township, Berks County in 1742, a daughter of Jacob Berkey/Burkey.[169] On Nov. 24, 1784 John obtained a land warrant for 178 acres at Bern; it was returned Dec. 21, 1784. A family *Bible* with a record of the births of their 10 children survives. The will of Johannes Yoder was created Aug. 24, 1804, and probated in Berks County Nov. 7, 1807: "To the oldest son David the land already in his possession in Mifflin County, paying therefore £200. To son Johannes and Jacob my plantation of 343 acres paying to executors £1000. To my six dau, viz: Freny who is single, Anna wife of Christian Gerber, Magdalena wife of Abraham Gerber, Elizabeth wife of Stephen Kurtz, Sarah wife of Daniel Kauffman, Catharine who is single, and to children of deceased dau. Barbara wife of Jacob Knegi the above mentioned £1200 in seven shares. Provides for wife Anna. Exrs: Son Johannes and son-in-law Stephen Kurtz. Wits: Jacob Hertzler and Hannes Miller."
8. Barbara Yoder was born in 1734, and died in East Cocalico, Lancaster County in 1790.[170] In 1759 in Berks County she married Johannes Schürch/John Shirk or Sherk. He was born at Sumiswald, Canton Bern Dec. 19, 1706, and died at East Cocalico in 1790, a son of Ulrich Schürch and Barbara Grundbacher. Johannes had children from an earlier marriage. His will was written at Cocalico Dec. 17, 1789 and executed Feb. 3, 1790. Barbara's will was written Jan. 7, 1790, and executed March 6, 1790 (as 'Barbara Shirk'); it listed all her siblings, living and dead.
9. Veronica Yoder was born circa 1736, died at Mifflin County in 1806, and is buried in Allensville Mennonite Cemetery in Mifflin County. Veronica is often found as 'Veronica Reichenbach.' This may indicate that the surname of her mother was Reichenbach, but more likely that she was lodged in that household for a time. It was the custom for a single parent to distribute his or her children among neighboring families. Circa 1755 she married Hans/John Hertzler. He was born circa 1729, died at Womelsdorf in April 1801, and is buried in Kurtz Cemetery (on Adam Kurtz's farm) at Womelsdorf. His parents were minister Jacob Hertzler and his first wife. Jacob Hertzler owned the farm 'Contentment' farm next door to the Yoders, as well as other properties. John traveled to America a year after his father; the *Brotherhood* sailed from Rotterdam and arrived at Philadelphia Nov. 3, 1850. Hans/John lived at Alsace until 1759; Caernarvon until 1773; Upper Bern until 1785; Caernarvon until 1795; then Heidelberg. On Aug. 30, 1773, Jacob divided his land and gave Hans/John a farm near Mooretown in Centre, Berks County (also identified as Womelsdorf). Their children were born at Alsace and Caernarvon, Berks County.

Michael Yoder was born circa 1730, and died at Union Township, Mifflin County in 1799.

Circa 1753 he married Maria Jŭng/Mary Young, a daughter of Johannes Jŭng/John Young of Lancaster, Lancaster County. On May 9, 1755 he received a land warrant for 25 acres at Bern; it was never returned.

Michael and Mary lived at Oley, where Michael is found on two tax lists. In 1767 he had no acres, four horses, three cattle, and three sheep. In 1768 he was described as a miller with one horse and four cattle.

Michael was described as a grain miller on tax lists there in 1767 and 1768. They relocated to Leacock, Lancaster County (where Michael is found as 'Mich. Yotter' on the 1790 census). And finally they settled at Union Township/Big Valley, Mifflin County.

Children of Michael Yoder and Maria Jŭng/Mary Young include:

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[168] Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency, a form of Hemolytic Anemia, is a disorder within the red blood cells of infants that causes the cells to break down prematurely. The level of oxygen that reaches the tissue is inadequate. It causes high bilirubin levels in the bloodstream, anemia, jaundice, rapid heart rate, shortness of breath, and fatigue. Its outward symptoms are a skin pallor, yellowing of the eyes, and swelling that distorts the skull. The onset takes place in the first two years of life, and if left untreated death can occur in three or four years. It has traditionally been treated by blood transfusions and the removal of the spleen. The greatest concentration of cases has been found in Big Valley, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania.

[169] Jacob Berkey/Burkey sailed from Rotterdam via Cowes and arrived at Philadelphia on the galley *Hope* Aug. 28, 1733. His name on the passenger list appears to say 'Jackop Benke.' He submitted a warrant application for 234 acres in Centre Township May 10, 1738. His will was created Sept. 7, 1764, and executed at Bern Township March 2, 1767. His wife was alive but not named; his sons were named as Christian and Hans, and his daughters as Maria, Cathrina, and Anna. The witnesses were Hannes Yoder and Steffen Kurtz, and the executors were Christian Yoder and Hannes Kurtz. He is often confused with another Jacob Bürcki/Berkey who came on the *Brotherhood* Nov. 2, 1750. The *Brotherhood* passenger list appears to say 'Jacob Bürckh.'

[170] From the will of Barbara Yoder Shirk: "I, Barbara Shirk of Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, in the State of Pennsylvania have hereunto set my hand and seal this seventh day of January in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety...." "...To my beloved brothers and sisters viz. Christian Jother, his heirs, Jacob Jother, Michael Jother, John Jother, my sister Magdalene, her children, my sisters Anna King and Veronica Hertzler." "...My sister Catherine Kauffman her children jointly one share."

1. Magdalena Yoder was born circa 1760. Circa 1783 she became the second wife of Christian Kurtz. He was born on the Mechtersheimerhof Aug. 27, 1747, a son of Abraham Kurtz and his first wife Margaret Bollinger (see KURTZ in the Appendix for background on this couple).
2. Jacob Yoder was born in Berks County in 1762, and died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio in February 1837. Circa 1783 he married Barbara Hooley. She was born in Lancaster County in 1769, and died at Smithville in October 1832, a daughter of Johannes Holly/John Hooley and Catherine Blank. They are buried in Paradise Cemetery at Smithville.
3. Anna Yoder was born in Berks County in 1768, and died in Mifflin County before May 1815. On Nov. 3, 1789 in Lancaster County she married Peter Sharp. He was born circa 1765, and died in December 1796. Circa 1798 in Chester County she remarried to Johannes 'Dick Hans' Zug/Zook.
4. Michael Yoder was born circa 1770, and died in 1842.
5. **Abraham Yoder** was born in Pennsylvania in 1772, and died in Mifflin County Sept. 1, 1813.
6. Freni Yoder was born in Mifflin County circa 1775, and died at Halfmoon, Centre County, Pennsylvania before 1830. She married Yost 'Red Yost' Yoder.'
7. Mary Yoder was born circa 1777.

Abraham Yoder was born in Pennsylvania in 1772, and died in Mifflin County Sept. 1, 1813. Circa 1794 he married Magdalena Zug/Zook. She was born April 25, 1773, a daughter of Johannes Zug/John Zook and Magdalena Gnaegi.

In 1797 Abraham was considered the township road supervisor of Brown Township, Mifflin County, though it is unlikely that he accepted a municipal appointment. In November 1799 he purchased 109 acres there.

Harrisburg Chronicle, Sept. 6, 1813:

"Melancholy Accident - Died, on Wednesday night last, Mr. Abraham Yoter, a respectable German farmer of Kishaquillas Valley, Mifflin Co.

The manner in which he came to his death is truly affecting. It appears that in the evening Mr. Yoter and five or six others had gone to the Kishaquillas Creek afishing. A few young men, observing them, agreed that they would go and scare them off. After the fisher had been there sometime, persons unseen commenced throwing stones and firing guns.

Mr. Yoter repaired to the spot, whence the assault appeared to be made, accompanied by a large dog, and on seeing a man, he encouraged the dog to attack him. The man called out, that if he did not desist, he would shoot the dog, at once the same time cocking the gun. Yoter caught hold of the muzzle, with the intention of wresting the gun from the other. In the struggle the piece went off, and Yoter received the contents in his bowels, and almost immediately expired.

It appeared on examining the corpse there had not been a bullet in the gun; the wad, however, almost perforated through the body. The coroner's inquest sat yesterday morning on the body, and reported the death 'accidental, by discharge of a gun.'

Mr. Yoter has always maintained the character of an honest and good citizen, and has left a wife and several children. Thus was he in the vigor of life launched into eternity. It is a striking display of the uncertainty of human life, and a solemn call for us all for that awful change which must sooner or later take place."

Their children born at Brown Township, Mifflin County include:

1. **Gideon Yoder** was born March 26, 1800, and died July 7, 1871.
2. Freni//Franey/Veronica/Fanny Yoder was born in 1803. She appears in her brother's household on the 1850 census of Brown, Mifflin County.

Gideon Yoder was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County March 26, 1800, and died July 7, 1871.

Circa 1822 he married Hannah Zook. She was born in Berks County Aug. 8, 1799, and died in Mifflin County Nov. 6, 1883, a daughter of Daniel Zug/Zook and Catherine König/King.

The 1850 census of Brown, Mifflin County shows farmer Gideon Yoder, 50; Hannah, 51; Catherine, 25; Daniel, 20; Martha, 16; Gideon, 14; and Franey [Gideon's sister], 47; all from Pennsylvania.

Gideon Yoder and Hannah Zook are buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township. His headstone says he was aged 71 years, three months, and 11 days; hers says she was aged 84 years, three months, and three days.

Their children born at Brown include:

1. Catherine Yoder was born Aug. 28, 1823, and died in Mifflin County April 2, 1862. She is buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township.
2. **Abraham Zook Yoder** was born Aug. 27, 1826, and died at Carlock, McLean County Aug. 20, 1889.
3. Daniel Zook Yoder was born July 6, 1829, and died at Barrville, Brown Township, Mifflin County March 2, 1902. He married Anna Mary Geisweiss. She was born in Pennsylvania June 6, 1839, and died June 18, 1910.

4. Magdalena Yoder was born June 16, 1831, and died in Mifflin County Dec. 9, 1905. She is buried in Long Lane `Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township.
5. Levi Yoder was born Aug. 19, 1833, and died in Mifflin County Aug. 24, 1836.
6. Gideon Yoder was born June 15, 1836, and died April 2, 1864. He is buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township.
7. An infant daughter was born Sept. 3, 1839, and died Sept. 22, 1839.

Abraham Zook Yoder was born in Brown Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Aug. 27, 1826, and died at Carlock, McLean County Aug. 20, 1889.

As noted earlier, the households of Christian Farny and Peter Farny ('the Amishmen who hired Abraham Lincoln') are found on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County). They were living at Farnisville, in what became Montgomery Township.

The household of 'Christian Farney' had two guests. They appear as farmer David Sharp, 25, Pennsylvania; and farmer Abram Yoder, 24, Pennsylvania. The entries for Yost Yoder's family are found farther down the same census page. This suggests that Abraham came west with the couple Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder in 1848.

Farther down the same page is a set of entries for the family of farmer John Sharp, 40, Pennsylvania. He was David's older brother. See SHARP for more on his family.

On Dec. 18, 1851 in Woodford County Abraham married Sarah Yoder. She was born in Mifflin County Oct. 29, 1831, and died in McLean County May 22, 1903, a daughter of Joseph Yoder/Joder and Catherine Lantz (see STAKER for more on Joseph). Her schoolmaster father changed the spelling of his surname from 'Yoder' back to 'Joder' after studying languages.

The 1860 census of White Oak, McLean County shows farmer Abrom Yoder, Pennsylvania; Sarah, 25, Pennsylvania; Emma, 6; Mary, 4; Catharine, 3; and Sarah, 1; all children born in Illinois. The 1865 state census of Kansas, Woodford County shows A. Z. Yoder in a household with six females.

The 1870 census of Kansas, Woodford County has farmer Abraham Yoter, 43, Pennsylvania; Sarah, 38, Pennsylvania; Emma, 17; Mary, 15; Catherine, 13; Sarah, 11; and Ada, 2; all children born in Illinois. They also appear on the 1880 census there as Yoder Z. Abraham, 53, Pennsylvania; Sarah, 48, Pennsylvania; and Ada, 12, Illinois.

Widow Sarah is last found on the 1900 census of Dry Grove, McLean County: farmer Jacob Birckelbaw, 33, born in Illinois in May 1867 to parents from Ohio; Addie [Yoder], 32, born in Illinois in January 1868 to parents from Pennsylvania; Loyd, 6, born in Illinois in December 1893; Wayne, 5, born in Illinois in May 1895; and mother-in-law Sarah Yoder, 68, born in Pennsylvania in February 1832.

Their four oldest daughters relocated to Robb, Gosper County, Nebraska. Only the youngest daughter remained in Illinois.

Abraham Yoder and Sarah Yoder are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

Children of Abraham Zook Yoder and Sarah Yoder include:

1. Emma Rebecca Yoder was born in Woodford County Dec. 3, 1852, and died in Washington County, Nebraska Nov. 19, 1929. On Sept. 10, 1872 in McLean County she married Jacob F. Lantz. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio April 21, 1842, and died in Nebraska in 1928, a son of Jonathan Lantz and Anna Yoder. They are shown on the 1900 census of Robb, Gosper County, Nebraska. They are buried in Blair Cemetery at Blair, Nebraska.
2. Mary Elizabeth Yoder was born in Illinois Feb. 19, 1855, and died in Gosper County, Nebraska April 4, 1928. On Dec. 23, 1873 in McLean County she married Jeptha L. Lantz. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio April 12, 1847, and died in Gosper County April 29, 1929. The 1900 census of Robb shows the hosuehold of Jeff Lantz and Mary. They are buried in Robb Cemetery at Smithfield, Gosper County, Nebraska.
3. Catherine Ann Yoder was born in Woodford County May 26, 1857, and died at Lexington, Gosper County, Nebraska Jan. 6, 1940. On April 8, 1880 in McLean County she married Samuel Lorenzo Burns. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio Oct. 1, 1847, and died at Lexington May 31, 1836. They moved to Nebraska in 1881. They are shown on the 1900 and 1920 censuses of Robb. They are buried in Robb Cemetery.
4. Sarah Frances Yoder was born at White Oak, McLean County May 5, 1859, and died at Dawson County, Nebraska Oct. 3, 1931. On March 9, 1879 in McLean County she married George F. Knapple. He was born in Germany Jan. 12, 1854, and died March 6, 1925. He had immigrated in 1854. They are found on the 1880 census of Drummer, Ford County; and on the 1900 census of Robb. They are buried in Robb Cemetery.
5. Ada/Adda/Addie Hannah Yoder was born at Kansas, Woodford County Jan. 14, 1868, and died at Dry Grove, McLean County Nov. 28, 1928. On March 31, 1892 in McLean County she married Jacob William Birckelbaw. He was born at Dry Grove, McLean County May 28, 1866, and died in McLean County June 24, 1948. They are found on the 1900 census of Dry Grove. They are buried in Park Hill Cemetery at Bloomington, McLean County, where her headtone calls her 'Mother Adda Hannah Birckelbaw.'

Yoders of the Oley Valley

The *Francis and Elizabeth* immigrants of 1742 were not the first Yoders in Pennsylvania. They followed Yoders who were not Amish Mennonite. Thanks to amazing research published in the *Yoder Newsletter*, we can identify someone who sailed from Rotterdam to Philadelphia, and set a precedent for emigration from Steffisburg to the Oley Valley of Pennsylvania.

The first Yoder known to have settled in North America was Yoder. Though he traveled from the Pfalz in 1709, he was born at Steffisburg. His story makes indirect connections between Steffisburg, the Königs at Steffisburg, and the Oley Valley. The coincidence of the Steffisburg-Oley connection suggests that his correspondence played a part in bringing others to his new home. Because he may have arrived as a Lutheran and joined the Protestant Reformed Church, his influence on later migration is often overlooked.

Niclaŭs Joder was baptized at Steffisburg March 25, 1609. On Oct.14, 1642 he married Anna Trachsel (in a double ceremony with his brother Jost and a cousin also named Anna Trachsel, who became paternal great-great-grandparents of the *Francis and Elizabeth* immigrants). They lived on the Ortbühl farm in the northwest corner of Steffisburg.

Their son **Adam Joder** was baptized at Steffisburg July 22, 1650. On Jan. 9, 1671 at Steffisburg he married Barbli Ochsenbein. Adam operated a fulling mill on the Schnittweierbad farm above Steffisburg. On April 9, 1675 Samuel König was one of three witnesses to the baptism of their daughter Barbara Joder in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg. Other witnesses were Anna Wÿttenbach and Magdalena Zimmerman.

Adam Joder and Barbli Ochsenbein left Steffisburg with their children after 1683, and went to the Pfalz. There they lived at Lachen-Speyerdorf, in the district of Mussbach (Mussbach is located 3.5 miles to the northwest). Hans and Yost later lived at Schwetzingen, between Mannheim and Heidelberg, which is now in the northwest corner of Baden-Württemberg. Schwetzingen was the summer home of the Elector of the Pfalz, and they may have been employed on his estate.

Among their five children were two sons, **Hans Yoder** and **Yost Yoder**, who were born on the Ortbühl farm at Steffisburg. Hans was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg March 10, 1672. Yost was baptized there Nov. 5, 1679.

Hans married Veronica Aeschliman. A church register from Schwetzingen says that Hans and Veronica departed for 'the island of Pennsylvania' March 1, 1709. Don Yoder has discovered that they were in London May 6, 1709. Hans appears on a list of Palatine travelers, age 38, occupation husbandman (farmer), religion Reformed Church. He was accompanied by his wife; sons 9 and 4; a 1-year-old daughter; the family of Philip Kuhlewein; and the family of John LeDee.

Hans purchased land at London, Chester County Jan. 14, 1711. His wife Veronica must have died on the transatlantic voyage or soon after. On April 29, 1711 at Whitemarsh, Bucks County he remarried to Anna Rosina LeDee. The ceremony was conducted by controversial minister Paulus van Vlecq.[171]

On March 25, 1714 Hans received a warrant for land along the Manatawny Creek at Oley.

Oley is on the east side of the Schuykill River, and at the time it was in Philadelphia County. The first German-speaking people who took part in William Penn's 'Holy Experiment' had settled there in 1712.

The Indians of Berks County, Pa. states that in this period "...there were only three counties in Pennsylvania, viz.: Philadelphia, Chester, and Bucks. All of Berks County west of the Schuylkill was in Chester County, and all east of it was in Philadelphia County. In 1730 Lancaster County was formed from Chester County by a line running from a place in the vicinity of Birdsboro to Octorara Creek, emptying into the Susquehanna. From this time until 1752 that part of Berks County east of the Schuylkill was in Philadelphia County, Union and part of Robeson and Caernarvon were in Chester County, and the rest of the county was in Lancaster. Berks County was not organized until 1752. The term Berks, however, was used to denote the territory which forms the county at present."

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[171] Paulus van Vlecq arrived in the colonies in 1702, and initially served as a schoolmaster at Kinderhook, N.Y. In New York he was forbidden to preach unless he returned to the Dutch Republic for ordination in the Dutch Reformed Church. He may have been ordained in secret by a minister friend. When he moved to Pennsylvania in 1710 he was not recognized by the Dutch Reformed Church at Philadelphia. He became a minister under the authority of the Presbyterian Church for immigrants in Bucks County (north of Philadelphia). In 1712 he was accused of bigamy. The evidence against him included a letter from his own mother. He left the area. His records were kept in a journal that is now held by the Dutch Reformed Church at Churchville, Bucks County. Hans Yoder is described in the journal as 'Johannes Jodder, widower of Fronica Iselmyn.'

The area around Hans's farm became known as *Yotterschdettle* or Yodertown, and is now the unincorporated community of Pleasantville in Oley Township, at the junction of Covered Bridge Road and Route 73. Hans built a number of mills, and the family attended the Oley Reformed Church. Hans died in 1742 and was buried in a family cemetery on his property.

Hans's younger brother Yost arrived at Oley by 1714. He married Elizabeth Kuhlwein, and made his living as a fur trapper. His will was written May 29, 1741, and executed Jan. 14, 1742.

Joders of Mŭri bei Bern

We have not seen genetic testing results that might link Joders in Steffisburg with Joders in Mŭri be Bern, though this seems likely.

Mŭri bei Bern is 15 miles northwest of Steffisburg and 16 miles southwest of Sumiswald.

This suburb of the city of Bern can be recalled from STAKER as a location offering employment for the construction of a cathedral. Though the foundation was set in 1421, the structure evolved in stages until the completion of its tower in 1893. In the mid-1700s its columns were still being sheathed in limestone casings. The limestone was quarried at Ostermundingen, a village adjacent to the city and Mŭri bei Bern. It held the pulpit where Berchtold Haller spoke in favor of a reformation (withdrawal from Catholic influence) in 1527. Then called the Catholic St. Vincent Münster [cathedral], it became the Protestant Reformed Church of Bern [Ger. *Berner Münster*, or *Bern Minster*].

The first mention of a Joder in Mŭri bei Bern records was the marriage of Hans Joder and Kungolt Wÿenet Feb. 7, 1614. On Dec. 7, 1621 Hans Joder married (or remarried to) Barbara Wanzenriederin [Wanzenried]. Over the next 18 years they had six sons and four daughters baptized there. No mention of Anabaptism is found in the entries of descendants over the next 115 years.

One Joder from Mŭri bei Bern traveled to Steffisburg to be married. Catri/Catrin Joder was baptized at Mŭri bei Bern May 15, 1664, a daughter of Heini Joder and Margreth Krieg; baptism witnesses included the minister Johannes Haller and Catri Lüthi. On Jan. 13, 1688 at Steffisburg she married Christian Bachman. The entry said they were married '*mit Bistilligung Joh. Haller'* [with written permission from Haller]. Christen was baptized at Steffisburg Jan. 9, 1659, a son of Christen Bachman and Anni Rüffenacht. Baptism witnesses were Hans Blanck, Hans Stutzman, and Catri Rŭbin *von Brenzikoffen* [Brenzikofen above Steffisburg].

Sharp: Scharf of the Pfalz

In Germany a *Scharf* is a clever and witty person. The Pfalz (also known as the Palatinate) is a region in southwestern Germany. It covers approximately a quarter of the modern German state of Rheinisch-Pfalz (in English Rhineland-Palatinate). Swiss immigrants from southwestern Germany and the Rhine Valley wine-growing region fall in the catch-all category 'Palatines.'

From 1701 to 1714 Europe was racked by the War of the Spanish Succession. The Electorate of Bavaria and France sided with supporters of the eventual King Philip V of Spain against an alliance of Great Britain, the Holy Roman Empire, the Dutch Republic, and Portugal.

In 1709 the war was going badly for the eventual victors. The French had been defeated decisively twice, and King Louis XIV was negotiating for peace. Nonetheless his soldiers were wreaking havoc in the Pfalz. Protestant refugees fled the area into Holland, and through Amsterdam to England assuming they would be protected by the Protestant Queen Anne. [172]

In London authorities provided 1,600 tents for 10,000-30,000 refugees.

At about this time representatives of New York tribes visited London. When they saw people camping in tents, they offered land in New York. Or at least this was the story told by the government. Colonel Robert Hunter had approached the royal advisors with a *Naval Stores Project* plan to alleviate the problem. The refugees would be shipped to what is now New York, with the idea that they would repay their fares by producing products for the war effort.

A *Board of Trades* report created Dec. 5, 1709 shows that the plan came with an incentive. In exchange for a period of labor, each family would receive 40 acres of land free from taxes for seven years. This incentive was never realized.

> "…We have considered the proposals made to us by Colonel Hunter for settling 3,000 Palatines at New York, and Employing them in the Production of Naval stores, and thereupon humbly Represent to your Majesty … the most proper Places for the seating them in that Province, so as they may be of benefit to this Kingdom by the Production of Naval Stores, are on the Mohaques River, and on the Hudson River … A Tract of land lying on the Mohaques River containing about 50 miles in length and four miles in breadth, and a Tract of land lying upon a creek [Schoharie Creek] which runs into the said River, containing between 24 and 30 Miles in length. This land mentioned, land of which your majesty has the possession, is claimed by the Mohaques, but that claim may be satisfied on very easy terms… We therefore humbly offer that the governor or commander in chief be Directed upon their Arrival… to grant under the Seal of that Province, without fee or Reward, 40 acres per head to each family, after they shall have repaid by the produce of their Labour, the charges the publick shall be at in setting and subsisting them there…. As these people are very necessitous, they will not be able to maintain themselves there, till they can reap the benefit of their labour which will not be till after one year at the soonest… Lastly, we humbly offer that the said Palatines upon their arrival there, be naturalized… that they may enjoy all such privileges and advantages as are Enjoyed by the present Inhabitants of that province."

For the crown, the offer seemed to serve three purposes: 1) Queen Anne would be seen as a protector of Protestantism against Catholicism, strengthening her home support; 2) the refugees would become a source of future tax revenues; and 3) shortly after arrival, before the families were permanently settled, the adult males would be solicited to serve in the French and Indian War of 1709-13, also called Queen Anne's War (the war pitted the English in North America against French troops arriving through Canada; Native Americans took part on both sides).

Palatine Protestants boarded 10 ships in London's harbor on Christmas Day of 1709. They were accompanied by newly-appointed governor of New York Robert Hunter, the formulator of the plan.

Sailing in December meant heading north to the North Sea to avoid southerly incoming currents, waiting for a wind shift, and then heading west. The ships were often blown back several times before finding a successful course. Each turnback meant a port call to replenish fresh water supplies, which had to be full for the crossing.

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[172] Queen Anne's father was King James. His Catholicism was unpopular, and three months into his reign he was deposed. Anne's Protestant cousin William III became king to rule jointly with Anne's older sister Mary II. After their deaths in 1694 and 1702, Anne succeeded to the throne. She had an Anglican baptism, and was raised as a Protestant. Under her reign England and Scotland were united as the Kingdom of Great Britain. She may have had a form of lupus that affected her health. Despite 17 pregnancies in 17 years, she died childless Aug. 1, 1714, the last of the House of Stewart. A special act had determined that she would be followed by a Protestant. She was succeeded by George I of the House of Hanover.

Some of the lengthy times associated with winter crossings were reflective of two or more starts after leaving the main port.

All of the ships came into New York harbor on June 13 and 14, 1710. As many as 500 of the 3,000 overcrowded passengers may have died at sea on the prolonged and bitterly cold voyages. Then, because of typhus onboard, the ships were quarantined at Nutten Island for two months.[173]

In the late fall of that year approximately 1,400 Palatines were taken 100 miles up the Hudson River to Kingston, then 50 miles inland to Livingston Manor. The 160,000-acre estate was lorded by colonial administrator Robert Livingston the Elder, who had made his wealth in the fur trade.[174]

They were expected to grow hemp for rope, and help in the manufacture of products derived from trees, such as turpentine, and tar and pitch for lamps and shipping. **Antonius Scharf** is found on a list of male Palatines above 21 years of age who were staying in Livingston Manor in the winter of 1710 and summer of 1711.

Hunter was a Tory, while Livingston was a Whig. The Whigs had come into the majority in Parliament while the 10 ships were at sea. They declined to fund the project further.

While Livingston was charged with providing subsistence, initially this was not an issue. Deer were plentiful. But then approximately one-third of the men volunteered to serve in the French and Indian War. In their absence, the remaining families had difficulty feeding themselves.

Road paths were cleared, and approximately 100,000 pine trees were felled and stripped of their bark for pitch. But no one on hand had any knowledge of the refining processes.

Governor Hunter had provided some subsistence funds, but these ran out in the fall of 1712.

Notes from the family register of immigrant John Conradus Weiser, a passenger on the *Fame*: [175]

> "In the year above mentioned, namely in 1709, my father moved away from Great Astach on the 24th June, and took eight children with him. My eldest sister Catrina remained there with her husband... My father sold them his house, fields, meadows, vineyard and garden, but they could only pay him 75 gulden, the remainder 600 gulden was to be paid to my father at a subsequent period, which was never done, so it was made a present to them.
>
> In about two months we reached London in England, along with several thousand Germans whom Queen Ann, of glorious remembrance, had taken in charge, and was furnishing with food.
>
> About Christmas day we embarked, and ten ship loads with about 4,000 souls were sent to America. The l0th June, 1710, we came to anchor at New York in North America, and in the same autumn were taken to Livingston's manor at the expense of the Queen.
>
> Here in Livingston's, or as it was called by the Germans Loewenstein's manor, we were to burn tar, and cultivate hemp, to repay the expenses incurred by the Queen in bringing us from Holland to England, and from England to New York.
>
> We were directed by several commissioners... But neither object succeeded, and in the year 1713 the people were discharged from their engagements and declared free. Then the people scattered themselves over the whole province of New York. Many remained where they were."

In 1713 approximately 150 of the families abandoned Livingston Manor and set off on foot 75 miles northeast to the fur-trading outpost Schoharie in the Mohawk Valley. They did this because of the original promise of land. Nevertheless, they paid the local tribe a sum in pounds equivalent to $300 for the right to live there.

At Schoharie the Palatines unintentionally embittered a fur trader named Jacob Vroman. Two years earlier Vroman had visited from Schenectady to barter for land with the local tribe. He paced off what he said was 400 acres. They agreed on a price of 110 gallons of rum and blankets.

When the Palatines came they let the tribe know that the claim was considerably more than 400 acres. This hurt Vroman's reputation, causing him financial loss.

On July 9, 1715 Vroman wrote a letter of complaint to Governor Hunter. He accused immigrant John Conradus Weiser of prompting the Palatines to trespass on his land, causing the collapse of a house that was under construction, purchase land from the local tribe against instructions, and making them drunk to exploit them, resulting in an assault on his son. Of course part of this echoes some complaints against Vroman himself.

The governor responded by issuing an arrest warrant for Weiser, "...Guilty of several mutinous, riotous, and other disobedient and illegal practices." But Weiser had already departed for Boston.

When the letter became publicly known Vroman was in Schenectady. While he was there new Palatine settlers became the majority in Schoharie. When he finally returned to Schoharie in 1718 he was immediately placed under house arrest.

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[173] Now Governor's Island.

[174] The estate later became the communities of Livingston Manor, Germantown, and Saugerties.

[175] Another *Fame* passenger was Johannes Valentine Bressler, the sixth great-grandfather of Elvis Presley.

Before Governor Hunter left office in 1722, he was obliged to make up a document showing that he had provided for the Palatine settlers. When a representative took it to Schoharie, the residents recalled the deaths at sea, their neglect at Livingston Manor at the expense of the landowner, and the broken incentive promise. They refused to sign.

John Conradus Weiser did not return to Schoharie until 1723. He told a story that he had gone to London with two companions to voice their grievances. They were robbed by pirates, and when they reached London they were put in debtor's prison. The two companions died there. Whether or not the story was true, it served the purpose of excusing him from past charges.

Because of all of this, coupled with Queen Anne's death in 1714, colonial authorities limited the Palatines' right to landownership to only 10 acres. This was insufficient to feed extended families.

History of Bethel and Tulpehocken Townships (1976) says Antonius initially went from Livingston Manor to Schoharie, and from there into Penn's Wood (now Pennsylvania) with 33 families in the spring of 1723. The group walked on forest paths from Livingston Manor and Schoharie to the Susquehanna River. There they constructed rafts to carry their possessions.

The German Emigration from New York Province into Pennsylvania (1899) has an account of this journey:

> "Guided by the Indians, and not under the leadership of either the elder Weiser, or his gifted son, as some suppose, both of whom came later, the pioneers of 1723, with much toil and labor, cut their way through the forest, after which, with their wives, little ones and animals, they followed, by day, the scanty track they had made in the woods and slept at the foot of its trees, wooed to slumber by its ceaseless noises, during the night, until the forty or fifty miles, which separated them from the (Susquehanna) river, had been traversed.
>
> Then came the building and launching of the heavy rafts, to contain their domestic utensils, and of the light and speedy canoes for themselves, on which they were to continue their long journey to the haven of rest, accompanied slowly by their cattle driven along the river's banks...
>
> ...They little reckoned that they had swept by the spots where the flourishing towns of Binghamton and Oswega were later to stand.... As they exchanged greetings with the Indians in their village of Shamokin can it be that there rose up before any one of them a picture of the hideous scenes of their near future, or any foresight of their murdered sons and daughters and the blackened ruins of the homes towards which they were hastening...
>
> ...Until they came to where the Swatara Creek joined its waters with those of its mighty brother, and at the spot where Middletown now stands, our wanderers at last changed course and entered the stream which told them they were drawing near the goal towards which they had been hastening for so many weary days.
>
> To reach this goal was to endure a few more hardships and trials, and when in the lovely Tulpehocken (which means 'land where the turtle sang and wooed') region, nestling at the foot of the Blue Mountains and wavered by its numerous streams, they pitched their camp for the last time."

The families actually began to disperse at Middletown (later Womelsdorf, Berks County). Many of their descendants still populate the area.

Antonius chose to build a home at Tulpewahaki, the 'land of the turtles,' located in Chester County on the edge of the frontier. At the time it extended from the Blue Mountains in the north down to the village of Reading. Tulpehocken became part of Lancaster County in 1829. In 1752 Berks County was created out of parts of Chester, Lancaster, and Philadelphia Counties.

More Palatine families arrived at Tulpehocken in 1728. These included Conrad Scharf, who may have been a younger brother or son of Antonius.[176] Some may have been holdovers from Livingston Manor, where Robert Livingston the Elder had died that year.

Petition to the Provincial Council at Philadelphia, June 5, 1728

> "To his Excellency, William Keith, Baronet, Governor of Pennsylvania, & the Honourable Council: The petition of us, the subscribers, being thirty-three families in number at present inhabiting Tulpaheca creek, sheweth that your petitioners, begin natives of Germany, about 15 years ago, were by great goodness and royal bounty of her late majesty,

[176] Conrad Scharf was born in Pfalz-Zweibrücken March 22, 1697, and died in Berks County May 15, 1776 (per *History of Berks County*). From Womelsdorf he settled at what is now Stouchsburg, Marion Township, Berks County. He married Maria Margaretha. She was born July 28, 1721, and died April 20, 1781. He was naturalized Sept. 13, 1741. In 1771 a Conrad Scharf was given a land warrant for 175 acres in Union Township in the Buffalo Valley in what is now Union and Snyder Counties; however, this may have been a Conrad Shirf/Conrath Scharff who immigrated on the *Pink Plaisance* Sept. 21, 1732, age 34 (roughly the same name and age). We assume this because Conrad was living at Heidelberg, Berks County Oct. 10, 1772 (Heidelberg had been carved out of Tulpehocken in 1734). They are buried as Conrad Scharff and Maria Margared Scharff in Little Tulpehocken Cemetery at Bernville, Berks County.

Queen Anne, relieved from the hardships which they then suffered in Europe, and were transported into the colony of New York, where they settled.

But their families increasing and being in that government confined to the scanty allowance of ten acres of land to each family, whereon they could not well subsist, your petitioners, being informed of the kind reception which their countrymen usually met within the Province of Pennsylvania, and hoping they might, with what substance they had, acquire larger settlements in that province, did last year leave their settlements in New York government and came with their families into this province, where, upon their arrival, they applied themselves to his Excellency, the Governor, who of his great goodness permitted them to inhabit upon Tulphaca creek (being the farthest inhabited part of the province NW from Philadelphia) on condition that they should make full satisfaction to the proprietor or his agents for such lands as should be allotted them when they were ready to receive the same.

And now your petitioners, understanding that some gentleman agents of the proprietor, have ample powers to dispose of lands in this province, and we, your petitioners, being willing and ready to purchase, do humbly beseech your Excellency and council to recommend us to the favorable usage of the proprietor's agent, that upon paying the usual prices for lands at such a distance from Philadelphia, we may have sufficient rights and titles made to us for such lands as we shall have occasion to buy, that our children may have some settlement to depend on hereafter, and that by your authority we may be freed from the demands of the Indians of that part of the country, who pretend a right thereto.

And we humbly beg leave to inform your Excellency and council that there are fifty families more who, if they may be admitted upon the same conditions are desirous to come and settle with us.

We hope for your favorable answer to this, our humble request, and as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

The fourth name on the petition was 'Antonis Sharb,' written in German script.

Antonius Scharf may be buried near Conrad Scharf in Little Tulpehocken Cemetery at Bernville, Berks County.

His son **Peter Sharp** was born at Tulpehocken circa May 29, 1729, and died at Leacock, Lancaster County April 29, 1795 (his headstone gives his age as 65 years, 11 months).

Peter married a Mary who could not be further identified. She was born circa 1733, and died in Lancaster County May 23, 1799 (her headstone gives her age as 66).

They are buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery at Leacock, Lancaster County. This cemetery served the nearby Christ Protestant Episcopal Church.

Their children born at Leacock include:

1. Christian Sharp was born Dec. 28, 1758, and died in Lancaster County March 1, 1836. On Feb. 17, 1788 he married Rebecca Lightner. She was born June 13, 1762, and died in Lancaster County Aug. 9, 1842, a daughter of John Lightner and Barbara Rutter. They are buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery.
2. Elizabeth Sharp was born circa 1761, and died in Lancaster County April 12, 1796 (her headstone gives her age as 35). She is buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery.
3. John Sharp. Some sources say he was born April 23, 1763, but this date would conflict with his sister Mary. (The dates on his headstone are illegible). He died at Manheim, Lancaster County Sept. 2, 1832, and is buried in Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery at Leacock. He married Barbara, who was born June 17, 1775; he remarried to Julia Ann Lightner. Julia Ann was born Sept. 10, 1782, and died at Manheim March 3, 1880. She is buried in Lancaster Cemetery. They were living at Manheim after 1828. *Lancaster Daily Intelligencer*, March 5, 1880: "Another Centenarian Called Home. Mrs. Julia A. Sharp died yesterday at the residence of her son-in-law, Emanuel P. Keller, Manheim Township, at the advanced age of 98 years. She leaves two daughters, the wives, respectively of ex-County Commissioner Emanuel P. Keller and B.F. Ruth, of this city. The late John L. Sharp, a prominent citizen of Manheim Township, was her son... Mrs. Sharp was a happy, cheerful woman, and a pleasant companion almost up to the day of her death. She led a quiet unobtrusive life, always looked on the brightest side of life, and always had a word of encouragement for the despondent. To these amiable characteristics, no doubt, she partly owed her remarkable good health and her lengthened days. Her funeral will take place from the residence of Emanuel P. Keller, on the Lititz turnpike, on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, to proceed to Lancaster Cemetery."
4. Mary Sharp was born Sept. 25, 1763, and died in Lancaster County March 25, 1776 (her headstone gives the age 12 years, 6 months). She is buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery.
5. **Peter Sharp** was born circa 1765, and died at Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania in December 1796.
6. Moses Sharp was born circa Dec. 31, 1766, and died in Lancaster County April 12, 1821 (his headstone gives his age as 54 years, 3 months, 12 days). He is buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery.
7. Barbara Sharp was born circa 1768, and died in Lancaster County May 23, 1808 (her headstone gives her age as 40). She is buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery.
8. Anna Sharp was born Feb. 25, 1770, and died in Lancaster County Feb. 15, 1855. She is buried in Lightner-Sharp Cemetery.
9. Jacob Sharp was born Dec. 9, 1776, and died in Lancaster County Aug. 23, 1860. He married Lydia Norris. She was born Feb. 27, 1790, and died in Lancaster County Jan. 7, 1865. They are buried in Zeltenreich Reformed Church Cemetery of New Holland, Earl Township, Lancaster County.

Peter Sharp was born at Leacock, Lancaster County circa 1765, and died at Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania in December 1796.

On Nov. 3, 1789 in the First Reformed Church at Lancaster, Lancaster County he married Anna 'Anny' Yoder. She was born in 1768, and died in Mifflin County before 1819, a daughter of Michael Yoder and Mary Young (see YODER for more on this couple).

In 1794 they purchased 115 acres in the Kishacoquillas Valley of Mifflin County. By July 1796 they had resettled at Brady, Huntingdon County. When Peter died in December 1796 his will was probated at Huntingdon, the county seat.[177]

Circa 1798 Anna remarried to widower Johannes Zug/John Zook. He was born May 15, 1756, and died March 11, 1823, a son of Johannes Zug and Veronica Yoder. He had been married to Magdalena Fischer/Fisher. After Anna's death in 1819 he married a third time to widow Barbara Mast. She was born Dec. 9, 1765, and died in August 1849, a daughter of Jacob Mast and Magdalena Holly/Hooley. Barbara had been married to John Hostetler.

It is not clear whether Peter accepted adult baptism (one source says this is implied in his will), or his children were influenced by their stepfather Johannes Zug/John Zook. All four children adopted Amish Mennonite customs.

Peter and Anna are thought to be buried in the Detweiler Family Cemetery at Sharpsburg, Huntingdon County.

Children of Peter Sharp and Anna 'Anny' Yoder include:

1. Samuel 'Shem' Sharp was born at Leacock, Lancaster County Aug. 14, 1790, and died at West Liberty, Logan County, Ohio May 13, 1865. Circa 1817 he married Magdalena/Martha/Matty Hochstetler. She was born in Berks County July 6, 1796, and died in Logan County June 5, 1865, a daughter of Joseph Hochstetler and Barbara Mast. They are found on the 1850 census of Union, Mifflin County as Samuel Sharp, 60, Pennsylvania; Martha, 54, Pennsylvania; and Ann, 24, Pennsylvania. They are buried in Yoder Cemetery at West Liberty.
2. Solomon Sharp was born at Leacock, Lancaster County Sept. 11, 1792, and died at Brady, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania May 5, 1871. He married Magdalena Zook. She was born in Mifflin County June 10, 1797, and died in Huntingdon County July 10, 1870, a daughter of Johannes Zug/John Zook and Catherine Weidman. They are found on the 1850 census of Brady, Huntingdon County. Solomon was one of six directors of the Brady school board in 1847. He was one of three town supervisors at Brady in 1851. They are buried in Allensville Mennonite Cemetery at Allensville, Mifflin County.
3. **Peter Sharp** was born at Leacock, Lancaster County Dec. 11, 1793, and died at Brown, Mifflin County May 11, 1875.
4. Leah Sharp was born at Brady, Huntingdon County July 10, 1796, and died in Mifflin County Sept. 7, 1832. She married Solomon Zug/Zook. He was born in Mifflin County May 12, 1794, and died there May 20, 1863, a son of Christian Zug/Zook and Barbara Kurtz. Solomon is found as 55-year-old Solomon Zook on the 1850 census of Union, Mifflin County. They are buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville, Mifflin County as Leah Zug and Solomon Zook.

Peter Sharp was born at Leacock, Lancaster County Dec. 11, 1793, and died at Brown, Mifflin County May 11, 1875.

In 1816 at Mifflin County he married Gertrude 'Charity' Zook. She was born in Berks County Jan. 21, 1793, and died at Brown March 28, 1885, a daughter of Johannes Zug/John Zook and Magdalena Gnaegi.

They are found on the 1850 census of Brown as laborer Peter Sharp, 57; Charity, 60; laborer Gideon, 27; and Leah, 16; all born in Pennsylvania. In 1860 they appear as farmer Peter Sharp, 67; Gertrude, 60; domestic Martha, 30; domestic Gertrude, 25; and laborer Leah, 22; all born in Pennsylvania.

Mother Gertrude 'Charity' Zook is last found as an 86-year-old on a Brown census in 1880, when she was living with her children Magdalena and Noah.

Peter and Gertrude are buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, within Brown Township.

Their children born at Brown include:

1. Anna Sharp was born April 1, 1817, and died at Neshannock Falls, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania Nov. 26, 1881. Circa 1838 she married John Miller. He was born in Lancaster County circa 1817. They are found on the 1850 census of Neshannock as farmer John Miller, 33, Pennsylvania; and Anna, 33, Pennsylvania.
2. **John Zook Sharp** was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County Sept. 2, 1818, and died in Woodford County Aug. 31, 1913.
3. Christian Sharp was born April 4, 1820, and died at Belleville, Mifflin County June 13, 1866. He is buried in Locust Grove Cemetery at Belleville.

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[177] *Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania Will Testators Index* PA-31-1-109.

4. Gideon Sharp was born Feb. 7, 1822, and died July 8, 1871. He is buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township. *Herald of Truth*, October 1871: "In Kishacoquillas valley, Mifflin Co., Pa., July 8th, after a lingering illness, Gideon Sharp, aged about 42 years. He was a member of the church near Belleville. He was a pleasant companion and unpretending in his manners. He was unmarried, but leaves an aged and infirm father and mother."
5. Esther Sharp was born Nov. 30, 1823, and died at Orrville, Wayne County, Ohio Aug. 14, 1898.
6. David Sharp was born Sept. 7, 1825, and died at Harrisonville, Missouri April 15, 1916. He is buried in Clearfork Cemetery at Garden City, Cass County, Missouri. He is found in the household of Christian Farny on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County) as farmer David Sharp, 25, Pennsylvania. On Nov. 17, 1850 in Woodford County he married Susanna Yoder. She was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Jan. 28, 1828, and died at Harrisonville March 9, 1894, a daughter of Joseph Yoder/Joder and Catherine Lantz. *Gospel Herald*, May 1916: "David Sharp was born in Mifflin Co., Pa., Sept. 9, 1825; died in Harrisonville, Mo., April 15, 1916; aged 90 y. 9 m. 6 d. He united with the Mennonite Church in early life, in which faith (he often said in the close of his earthly journey) he wished to live and die. He said he was ready, and seemed anxious to depart this life. He was a member of the Sycamore Grove Church until he with his second wife moved to Harrisonville, Mo. He then took out his church letter, which he held at the time of his decease. While in Harrisonville he worshiped with the First Baptist Church. On Nov. 17, 1850, he was married to Susanna Yoder. Six children were born, of whom three survive (Mrs. Emma Zook, A. J., and Iddo Sharp). He also leaves seven grandchildren and one sister (Mrs. Lea Zook) of Belleville, Pa. Funeral services at the First Baptist Church of Harrisonville, Mo., by Geo. C. Monroe. Interment in Clearfork Cemetery."
7. Magdalena/Martha/Mattie Sharp was born Aug. 3, 1827, and died March 2, 1915. She is buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township. *Gospel Herald*, March 1915: "Sister Magdalena Sharp of Reedsville, Pa., was born Aug. 3, 1827; died March 2, 1915; aged 87 y. 6 m. 29 d. She had been confined to her house for over three years, though not bedfast all that time. She longed to go home and be at rest. 'A precious one from us is gone, A voice we loved is stilled'; Yet we need not mourn as those who have no hope."
8. Frances Sharp was born in 1829.
9. Joel H. Sharp was born July 4, 1831, and died at Garden City, Missouri April 18, 1900. He married Anna B. Plank. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio April 24, 1839, and died April 9, 1921, a daughter of John Plank and Elizabeth Schrock. They are found on the 1870 census of Prairie, Iowa as carpenter Joel Sharp, 38, Pennsylvania; Ann, 31, Ohio; Mary E., 11, Illinois; and five younger children born in Iowa. Joel and Anna are buried in Clearfork Cemetery at Garden City, Missouri near Joel's older brother David and Susanna Yoder.
10. Leah Sharp was born Sept. 16, 1833, and died May 22, 1917.
11. Gertrude Sharp was born Feb. 8, 1835, and died Dec. 29, 1909.
12. Noah Sharp was born June 17, 1837, and died Dec. 8, 1915. He is found on the 1850 census of Brown as a 14-year-old in the household of Christian Yoder. The 1880 census of Brown shows a household composed of Noah Sharp, 42; his sister Magdaline, 52; and his mother Gertrude, 86. In 1900 and 1910 he was still living at Brown. He is buried in Long Lane Cemetery at Reedsville, Brown Township. *Gospel Herald*, December 1915: "Noah Sharp was born June 17, 1837; died Dec. 8, 1915; aged 78 y. 5 m. 21 d. He died just 5 months and 6 days after his Sister Mattie's death. These two had lived together for more than 26 years. Pneumonia and a weak heart were the cause of his death. Neither brother nor sister was ever married. They had many warm friends and are greatly missed in the home and in the community, but we trust our loss is their eternal gain, and may our end be as theirs. A Niece."

John Zook Sharp was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Sept. 2, 1818, and died in Woodford County Aug. 31, 1913.

Circa 1847 in Mifflin County he married Leah Yoder. She was born in Lancaster County March 28, 1818, and died at Congerville, Woodford County Sept. 14, 1894, a daughter of minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner (see STAKER for more on Yony).

Perhaps John read correspondence or talked with the families of Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder of Brown, who arrived in Woodford County in 1848. A family story says that in 1850 John walked from Pennsylvania to Illinois to buy land. Descendants still possess his walking stick, compass, and watch from the trip.

In *Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929*, Harold S. Bender listed Amish Mennonite families at Farnisville, then added, "...Then there were also several Pennsylvanians among them, who spoke only German, such as John Sharp, Lantz, Schantz, and others."

The *Illinois Public Doman Land Sales Database* shows that John made two purchases on May 25, 1850. The lots were the SWSE 40 acres of Section 15, and the SESW 40 acres of Section 15, in Township 25N [later Montgomery Township]. He paid $1.25 an acre, a $100 total.

He then returned to Pennsylvania for his family. Accounts differ on whether the second trip to Illinois was taken by wagon and flatboat, or train. John Zook Yoder of Brown may have accompanied him (though he may also have come earlier with Yost and Leah).

We suspect that most of the second journey was made by train, which then ran as far as Chicago, because the Sharps arrived in time to be tallied on the 1850 census of District 56 (Woodford County). They appear as farmer John Sharp, 40, Pennsylvania; Leah, 30, Pennsylvania; Catherine, 9; Johnathan, 7; Peter, 5; and Rachel, 2; all children born in Pennsylvania; and farmer Christian Hotel, 35, Germany. They appear on the same census page as the Peter Farny family; the Christian Farny family; John's younger brother David Sharp; Abraham Yoder; and the Yost Yoder family. This indicates that they were living near Farnisville in what became Montgomery Township.

The 1860 census of Montgomery, Woodford County shows farmer John Sharp, 42, Pennsylvania; Leah, 42, Pennsylvania; Gertrute, 19, Pennsylvania; Johnathan, 16, Pennsylvania; Peter, 13, Pennsylvania; Rachael, 11, Pennsylvania; Anna, 4, Illinois; and John, 2, Illinois.

History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church says that Leah's father minister Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder spent his last years in their home: "His death came in rather an unusual way. A ministers' meeting was held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John Sharp, in the latter part of January, 1869. At the noon hour when Mrs. Sharp invited the ministers to the dining room, Rev. Yoder said he did not care to eat and would rather lie down and rest. The other ministers went to the table, and after dinner when they came back into the room they found that he was passing away. He died January 28, 1869, at the age of seventy-four years and was buried in the Lantz Cemetery a few miles southeast of Carlock."

The 1870 census of Montgomery shows farmer John Sharp, 52, Pennsylvania; Louisa, 52, Pennsylvania; Rachael, 21, Pennsylvania; Annie, 14, Pennsylvania; John, 12, Illinois; and Barbara Caughman [Kauffman], 2, Illinois. They lived next door to farmer Peter Sharp, 24, Pennsylvania; Barbara, 20, Illinois; and Evi [Eli], 1, Illinois.

The 1873 plat map indicates that John was still farming his 80 acres. Some of the surrounding neighbors were Michael Zimmerman, Christian Kohler, Nicholas Maurer, John Gerber, Peter Naffziger, and John Saltzman.

Herald of Truth, October 1894: "On 12 September 1894, near Congerville, Woodford Co., IL, of the infirmities of old age, sister Leah Sharp, maiden name Yoder, aged 77 y., 5 m. She leaves an aged companion & 6 children. Buried on the 14th at the North Danvers M. H. Funeral services by Peter Schantz & John Stahley. She was steadfast in the faith, a consistent member of the church of her choice."

The 1900 census of Montgomery shows capitalist John Sharp, 81, born in Pennsylvania in September 1818; and granddaughter Amelia J. Kauffman, 25, born in Illinois in April 1875 to parents from Pennsylvania.[178] Amelia's family (Jonathan Kauffman and Catherine Gertrude Sharp and four other children) lived next door.

In 1910 widower John was living at White Oak, McLean County as a 91-year-old in the household of his daughter Rachel and her husband Christian R. Miller.

John Sharp and Leah Yoder are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

Their children include:

1. Catherine Gertrude Sharp was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County March 6, 1841, and died in McLean County June 30, 1916. On Dec. 27, 1868 in McLean County she married widower Jonathan Kauffman. He was born at Union Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Sept. 28, 1828, and died in McLean County March 4, 1910, a son of David Kauffman and Freni/Veronica/Frances/Fanny Yoder. For background on this couple see KAUFFMAN.
2. Jonathan Sharp was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County Dec. 20, 1843, and died at Danvers, McLean County April 24, 1924 (headstone dates). Circa 1878 he married Sarah M. Zook. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Dec. 24, 1841, and died April 20, 1892, a daughter of Joshua Zook and Magdalena 'Martha' Troyer. Her headstone calls her 'Sarah M.' On Sept. 22, 1892 Jonathan remarried to Catherine 'Katie' M. Stuckey. She was born at Danvers Dec. 21, 1853, and died there Feb. 24, 1942, a daughter of Christian Stuckey and Magdalena Miller. All three are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
3. Peter Sharp was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County May 6, 1846, and died in McLean County Dec. 29, 1923. On Jan. 10, 1869 in Woodford County he married Barbara Gerber/Garber. She was born at what is now Congerville May 4, 1850, and died Nov. 5, 1916, a daughter of John Gerber/Garber and Barbara Schmitt. We have already mentioned their household on the 1870 census. They can be found on the 1880 census of Montgomery 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.
4. Rachel Sharp was born at Brown Township, Mifflin County March 30, 1849, and died in McLean County March 23, 1926. She married Christian R. Miller. He was born in Germany Nov. 16, 1845, and died in McLean County Jan. 23, 1915, a son of Peter Müller and Elizabeth Wolber. They farmed at White Oak, McLean County. They are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.
5. Anna/Ann Sharp was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County Oct. 23, 1855, and died at Congerville, Woodford County Dec. 14, 1907. On June 24, 1890 in McLean County she married John Lantz; the ceremony was

[178] A capitalist was someone who lived on payments, interest, or dividends.

performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born at Jefferson, Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 6, 1855, and died at Royal Oaks, Michigan Sept. 20, 1951, a son of Emanuel Lantz and Martha Jane Miller. He is buried in Oakview Cemetery at Royal Oaks.

6. John Yoder Sharp was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County in April 1858, and died at Normal, McLean County in 1952. On March 4, 1884 in McLean County he married Mary Miller; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born in Germany in January 1859, and died in McLean County in 1937, a daughter of Peter Müller and Elizabeth Wolber. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

Grubb: Kropff of Schwarzenegg

In German a *Schwarzenegg* is a black ridge, or the peak or slope of a black mountain.

The Grubb family of Elm Grove is descended from Kropffs who resided in Unterlangenegg and Oberlangenegg. These two rural communities fell in Steffisburg parish until 1693, then in Schwarzenegg parish.

Recall from STAKER:

> On Oct. 8, 1693, a Protestant Reformed Church was established in a hamlet called Schwarzenegg in Unterlangenegg (between Steffisburg and Eriz) under minister Johannes Herzog.
>
> Numerous couples mentioned elsewhere in this text are associated with Schwarzenegg. Christen Gűngerich escaped from confinement there, and with his wife Barbara Rűbi went into exile in 1692. Jacob Kurtz who married Barbara Eÿer had lived there. Those who attended the church included Niclaŭs/Nigi Blank and Barbara Im Hoof, Ŭli Engel and Magdalena Blaser, future Amish Mennonite minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly and Magdalena Stagman, Hans Kropf and Anna Ochsenbein, Peter Naűhaŭs/Pierre Neuhauser and Verena Brand, Christen Ösch and Elsbeth Stutzman, and Christen Zimmerman and Barbara Bachmann.
>
> Schwarzenegg was never a large village, just a meadow meeting point within Unterlangenegg on its eastern boundary with Oberlangenegg. Unterlangnegg was orchard and pasture land; Oberlangenegg was wooded and sparsely populated. Schwarzenegg was chosen because it was just above a road between Thun and the Oberemmental. The *Evangelisch Reformierte Kirche, Schwarzenegg bei Thun* would serve a parish that included Eriz, Horrenbach, Oberlangenegg, and Unterlangenegg, all small communities drawn out of the Steffisburg parish. Histories from Steffisburg and Schwarzenegg make the point that the smaller rural church was established to counter a growing number of *Wiedertäufer* in the rural areas.
>
> By this time the Council of Bern was unhappy with a growing number of emigrants. At Schwarzenegg parents could comply with the legal requirements for the baptism of their children without answering too many questions.
>
> Two years earlier, the pastor at Steffisburg had begun to keep notations in his records indicating which children had Anabaptist parents. Herzog of Schwarzenegg was more discrete.
>
> The church sits between roads called Egg [mountain] and Salzhaus [salt house].
>
> The present boundaries of Unterlangenegg and Oberlangnegg share the village of Schwarzenegg. Below them are Homberg and Teuffenthal, to the east is Eriz, to the west Fahrni, and above are Buchholterberg and Wachseldorn.

Until that church was constructed, Kropffs had family events recorded in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg. Baptism and marriage records have been preserved there since 1557. On Sept. 12 of the very first year there is an entry for the baptism of Peter Kropff, a son of Steffann Kropff and Anna Tierstein. Witnesses included Baltasar Joder, Mathis Gfeller, Hans Erb, Cathrine Spari, and Margret Schÿngrŭber.

Peter Kropff married Anni Rŭmpf. No marriage entry is found at Steffisburg, though eight of their children were baptized there. No notations are found with their names. Thus suggests was Peter was from there, and went to another community to marry. The surname Rŭmpf is generally associated with Frutigen, 16 miles south of Steffisburg, eight miles inland from the western shore of Lake Thun. Frutigen church records were destroyed by a fire in 1727.

Children of Peter Kropff and Anni Rŭmpf baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Barbli Kropff was baptized July 11, 1593. Witnesses included Hans Bürki, Barbli Winteregg, and Barbli Haberstock.
2. Peter Kropff was baptized Feb. 24, 1794, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Hans Gÿsler, Bart Ŭli, and Barbli Stäli.
3. Hans Kropff was baptized April 13, 1595, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Hans Roth, Peter Roth, and Lucia Zaŭgg.
4. **Hans Kropff** was baptized April 12, 1596. Witnesses included Gabriel Rogi, Heini Steiner, and [illegible] wife of [illegible].
5. Peter Kropff was baptized Nov. 13, 1597, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Nicklaus Zaŭgg, Hans Brŭni, and Barbli Stäli.
6. Peter Kropff was baptized March 16, 1599. Witnesses included Hans Roth, Hans Zaŭgg, and Barbli Stäli.
7. Anna Kropff was baptized Feb. 8, 1601. Witnesses included Hans Farni, Walpurga Rufener, and Barbli Tschabolt.
8. Trina Kropff was baptized July 15, 1604. Witnesses included Hans Pfister, Anni Schneitter, and Catharin Rast.

Hans Kropff was baptized at Steffisburg April 12, 1596.

On March 12, 1632 at Steffisburg he married Anna Vögeli.[179] Their children baptized there include:

1. Barbli Kropff was baptized July 28, 1633, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Stephan Zum Stäg, Verena Gletig, and Babi Gŭrtner.
2. **Hans Kropff** was baptized July 1, 1637. Witnesses included Hans Berger, Hans Schluppach, and Elsi Janzi.
3. Barbli Kropff was baptized June 16, 1639, and died young. Baptism witnesses included Hans Wüterich, Babi Grŭnte, and Anni Staŭffer.
4. Anthoni Kropff was baptized Oct. 24, 1640. Witnesses included Anthoni Ÿbach, Christen Stagman, and Anna Bützer, the wife of Hans Schlabach. On Nov. 23, 1663 at Steffisburg he married Anna Stägman. In 1699 they purchased the extensive Côte property at Échery. It had barns, stables, fields, pastures, and gardens. After 1713 they remained their as farm managers for the wealthy Waldner family. Anthoni's son Anthoni spent several decades as overseer.
5. Barbara Kropff was baptized March 15, 1646. Witnesses included Hans Wüterich, Barbara [illegible], and Barbara Farni.
6. Peter Kropff was baptized Feb. 9, 1651. Witnesses included Peter Dŭmmermŭth, Steffan Geissler, and Verena Ritschard.

Hans Kropff was baptized at Steffisburg July 1, 1637.

On May 11, 1666 at Steffisburg he married Anna/Anni Ochsenbein.

In 1693 Hans and his brother Anthoni were noted in records of the church morals court [Ger. *Chorgericht*] in the town of Thun. They had not attended church.

Their children baptized at Steffisburg include:

1. Hans Kropff was baptized Oct. 6, 1667. Witnesses included Ŭli Steiner, Hans Meier, and Anna Cropf.
2. Anni Kropff was baptized Feb. 28, 1669. Witnesses included Adam Farni, Anni Tomm, and [illegible]
2. **Christen Kropff** (twin) was baptized May 15, 1670. Witnesses included Christen Schlabach, Christen Müller, and Anni Tomi.
3. Adam Kropff (twin) was baptized May 15, 1670. Witnesses included Adam Farni, Christen Kropf, and Maria Meÿer.
4. Elsbet Kropff was baptized May 12, 1672. Witnesses included Hans Wÿss, Elsbet Bürki, and Anna Zaŭg.
5. Jacob Kropff was baptized March 15, 1674. Witnesses included Jacob am Stŭtz, Matthÿs Kropff, and Verena Farni.
6. Andres Kropff was baptized Dec. 12, 1675. Witnesses included Andres Kropff, Niclaŭs Farni, and Barbara Bürki
7. Cathrin Kroppf was baptized June 1, 1679. Witnesses included Jacob am Stŭtz, Cathrin Farni, and Anna Dischel.

Christen Kropff was baptized at Steffisburg May 15, 1670.

On Nov. 29, 1700 at Steffisburg he married Barbara Linder. Their marriage entry said he was from Schwarzenegg, and was married with the approval of his minister. She was baptized at Steffisburg April 9, 1682, and died in 1760, a daughter of Hans Linder and Verena Rŭbi (see LINDER in the Appendix for background on her family).

When her grandparents married at Steffisburg Jan. 26, 1638, they were described as Hans Linder of Mŭri (now Mŭri bei Bern) and Cathrin Dŭmmermŭt (a surname now standardized as Dummermuth) of Eriz. Her father Hans Linder was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 24, 1650. Hans Linder of Mŭri married Verena Rŭbi of Wichtrach at Steffisburg April 22, 1672. Hans Linder is not found as an Anabaptist on a tax list at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1697, but does appear in 1703, 1704, and 1708. They sold their farm at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in February of 1713.

Christen and Barbara also went to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and lived at Échery.

A list of Anabaptist heads of households paying taxes at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in 1697 shows Anti Kropf and Christe Kropf. But in 1703 and 1704 the same kinds of lists have two persons named Christen Kropf. This may reflect Christen (married to Barbara Linder) and also another Christen baptized at Steffisburg Dec. 3, 1848, a son of Hans Kropf and Anna Wittmer. He married Verena Zimmerman, a daughter of Jacob Amman's companion Peter Zimmerman. They later went to Marchelavillers, Montbéliard.[180]

A 1708 list has Christe Kropf, David Kropf, and Antoni Kropf.

After the 1712 expulsion order Christen became a leaseholder/farm manager for the wealthy Waldner family at Haute Broque, a mile west of Échery.

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[179] A number of sources say that Hans was a son of Hanss Kropff (possibly a brother to Peter) and Barbli Tschabold, a couple who were married at Steffisburg May 20, 1599. The fifth of their eight children born there was Johannes, who was baptized Dec. 26, 1613. He would have been only 18 years of age on March 12, 1632. For this reason we think it more likely that he was the Hanns Kropff who married Anna Widmer at Steffisburg Oct. 7, 1639.

[180] Thun *Amtsrechnung*, April 4, 1695: "The Anabaptist Christen Kropf from the jurisdiction of Steffisburg has left the country." He was charged a five-percent emigration property tax.

Jean Rudolph/Hans Rudolf Kropf was born at Schwarzenegg (adjacent to Steffisburg) in 1703, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 27, 1774.

Historian Robert Baecher discovered that in 1729 Jean Rudolph/Hans Rudolf left Échery and returned to Canton Bern. There he stated that he was born at Schwarzenegg, but had not been baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church. On Jan. 31, 1730 he was baptized at Bern, obtaining a certificate that would enable him to be married in a Reformed church at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Anna Mosimann of Steffisburg accompanied him back to Alsace, and they married there Jan. 31, 1730. The entry in the *Parroisse réformée allemande* register described him as Joh. Rudolft Kropf, son of Christen *der Wiedertaűfer*, who was baptized in Canton Bern in 1728 (the word Steffisburg was overwritten).

Anna Mosimann was baptized at Steffisburg Nov. 1, 1705, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Sept. 15, 1767, a daughter of Caspar Mosiman and Anna Fürstenberg.

Their children born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines include:

1. Anne Elisabeth Kropff was born June 18, 1731, and died April 14, 1733.
2. Anne Barbe Kropf was born June 4, 1733, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 19, 1802. On March 28, 1758 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines she married Daniel Antenat. He was born there July 25, 1734, and died there July 6, 1776, a son of Isaac Antenat and Elisabeth Antoine.
3. Anne Marie Kropf was born Aug. 4, 1735, and died Jan. 23, 1763.
4. **Jean Kropf** was born April 22, 1737.
5. Christian Kropf was born May 22, 1740, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Aug. 22, 1800. On Nov. 18, 1766 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines he married Anne Eyacker. She was born there Aug. 6, 1741, and died there June 2, 1812, a daughter of Pierre Eyacker and Marie Rosine Dubs.

Jean Kropf was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines April 22, 1737.

The 1793 marriage entry of his son Pierre described the parents of the groom as the deceased Jean Cropfe and Anne Eingle. Anne Engel was born circa 1743, a daughter of Christian Engel (see ENGEL for background on her family). A very rough estimate of their year of marriage would be 1763. Jean had a father who was born at Schwarzenegg but baptized at Bern; Anne had a father who was born ta Signau but baptized at Schwarzenegg.

Their son **Pierre Kropp** was born circa 1766.[181]

On Oct. 22, 1793 at Tanconville, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Susanne Ringenberg.[182] Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as miller Pierre Cropfe, 27, a resident of Valche [now Plaine-de-Walsch, Moselle, Ger. *Hochwalsch*, 13 miles northeast of Tanconville; easily confused with Walscheid, four miles below it], born at St. Louis, Alsace, department of Strasburg. His parents were the deceased Jean Cropfe and Anne Eingle. The bride was described as Susanne Reinqueperguine, 21, born at Languimbert, Meurthe [now Languimberg, Moselle, 14 miles northwest of Tanconville]; a daughter of the deceased André Reinqueperguine and Madeleine Chwarstse or Chouartse [Schwartz]. The bride and groom were both described as *annabatiste*. One witness was the bride's brother-in-law Pierre Suisse.[183] Pierre, Suzanne, and witness Pierre Suisse all signed with 'x,' indicating they were illiterate.

Susanne was born circa 1772, and died at Senones, Vosges July 7, 1823, a daughter of André Ringenberg and Madeleine Schwartz of Rhodes, Moselle. Her civil death entry described her as Suzanne Ringuenberger, 56, wife of miller Pierre Groppe, 50. Pierre signed P.K.

Their first two children were born at Vieux-Lixheim, Moselle. Between 1796 and 1801 the family relocated 10 miles south to Hartzviller. A census of Mennonite families created April 24, 1809 listed Pierre Krop of Hartzviller as the head of a household containing 11 residents.

Pierre died at Deneuvre, Meurthe-et-Moselle Nov. 9, 1831. His civil death entry described him as miller Joseph Krobe, 75 [he was closer to 65], born at Herleville [meant to be Hartzviller?], the widower of Susanne Ringenberg. It was witnesses by his son miller Joseph Krobe, 35.

Children of Pierre Kropp and Suzanne Ringenberg include:

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[181] The 10-year index of civil marriage entries of Niderhoff (six miles southwest of Hartzviller) lists a Christian Krobe who died at age 55 (born circa 1763) Dec. 24, 1818. He may have been a brother to Pierre; we have not seen the full entry.

[182] The 10-year index of civil marriage entries calls them Pierre Cropffe and Susanne Rinqueperger.

[183] Cultivator Pierre Suisse was born at Salm circa 1757, and died at Blâmont, Meurthe-et-Moselle (five miles west of Tanconville) May 27, 1808, likely a son of Peter/Pierre Suisse and Anne Bächer. He was married to Anne Ringenberg, a sister of the bride. See SCHWEIZER, CANADIAN SCHWEITZERS for background.

1. Pierre Kropp was born at Vieux-Lixheim, Moselle Dec. 12, 1794. On July 25, 1829 at Deneuvre he married Madeleine Goerig [Göerig]. She was born at Dambach, Lower Alsace Oct. 1, 1808, a daughter of André Göerig and Elisabeth Sommer.
2. Joseph Kropp was born at Vieux-Lixheim May 1, 1796, and died at Deneuvre Oct. 10, 1854. On Dec. 5, 1826 at Deneuvre he married Anne Schertz (also found as Chertz). She was born at Gondrexange, Moselle Feb. 16, 1792, and died at Deneuvre Oct. 24, 1864, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Barbara Reidiger.
3. André Kropp was born at Hartzviller, Moselle April 11, 1801, and died as an infant.
4. **André Kropp** was born at Hartzviller May 14, 1802.
5. Marie Kropp was born at Hartzviller Nov. 6, 1803. While working as a servant at Nompatelize, she had an illegitimate son Pierre born Oct. 30, 1824. He died there Nov. 25, 1824. The civil death entry described declarant André Kropp as the uncle of the infant. She was likely also the Marie Kroppe, 25, found as the mother on the birth entry of daughter Catherine at Nonpatelize Oct. 11, 1830. Her husband was described as Jean Pierre Chipach [Schűpbach], 50.
6. Valentin Kropp was born at Hartzviller Sept. 13, 1805, and died at Anould, Vosges Feb. 6, 1871. On April 23, 1832 at Plaine, Vosges he married Marie Beller. She was born at Les Quelles near La Broque Sept. 5, 1800, and died at Anould Nov. 22, 1868, a daughter of Jacob Beller and Marie Sommer.
7. Barbe Kropp was born at Hartzviller March 23, 1807, and died at Deneuvre April 20, 1876.
8. Christian Kropp was born at Hartzviller Jan. 11, 1809. On April 1, 1836 at Saulxures-lès-Nancy (a suburb of the city of Nancy) he married Marie Catherine Salzmann. She was born at Grostenquin, Moselle Jan. 6, 1799, and died at Saulxures-les-Nancy Sept. 22, 1849, a daughter of Jean Salzmann and Marie Moser. On Dec. 27, 1849 at Saulxures-les-Nancy he remarried to Catherine Schertz. She was born at Sarralbe, Moselle Jan. 10, 1812, a daughter of miller Joseph Schertz and Barbe Nafziger. For details of their marriage entry see SCHERTZ, SCHERTZ OF SARRALBE.
9. Catherine Kropp was born at Hartzviller April 27, 1811, and died at La Salle, Vosges Sept. 8, 1846. On April 16, 1833 at La Salle she married Michel Dieudonne. He was born there Feb. 17, 1810, a son of Michel Dieudonne and Marie Marguerite. Their civil marriage entry provided the dates of death of her parents. On Nov. 11, 1847 at La Salle Michel remarried to Anne Gachenot.
10. **Nicolas Kropp/Nicholas Grubb** was born at Hartzviller May 26, 1813, and died at Elm Grove April 8, 1881.

Older brother André Kropp/Andrew Grubb

André Kropp was born at Hartzviller, Moselle May 14, 1802, and died as Andrew Grubb at Elm Grove in February 1865.

To visualize some of the next few locations, it is helpful to know that the communities of La Salle, Nompatelize, and St. Michel-sur-Meurthe form a chain west-to-east about five miles northwest of the city of St. Die in the department of Vosges, France.

In 1823 André was working as a farmhand at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe. On Oct. 21, 1823 at La Salle André married the first of his three wives.

Elisabeth Roupe/Roppe (mentioned earlier in ROPP) was born at Plaine, Lower Alsace circa 1791, and died at Nompatelize Sept. 16, 1828, a daughter of André Rŭp and Barbe Reber. She was a cousin to Andreas Ropp, the patriarch of the Central Illinois Ropp family. Her first husband Jean Sommer had died at La Chapelle, Meuse-et-Moselle July 27, 1818.

Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as farmhand André Croppe, age 21 years, five months, and nine days; born at Hartzviller; a resident of St. Michel; a son of Pierre Croppe and the deceased Susanne Ringuenberg, who had died at Senones the prior July 7. The bride was described as Elizabeth Roup, 32, born at Plaine, widow of Jean Sommer. She was a daughter of André Roup, who had died Jan. 5, 1795, and Barbe Raber, who had died Feb. 8, 1794, former residents of Plaine.

The birth entries of their children describe André as a wheel wright [Fr. *charron*].

Children of André Kropp and his first wife Elisabeth Roupe/Roppe born at Nompatelize, Vosges include:

1. Joseph Kropp was born April 14, 1825, and died there Jan. 20, 1828.
2. Pierre Kropp was born Jan. 25, 1827, and died the same day.
3. A female child was stillborn Feb. 26, 1828.

Elisabeth Roupe/Roppe died at Nompatelize Sept. 14, 1828. The civil death entry described her as Elizabeth Roppe, 37, born at Plaine, a daughter of André Roppe and an unknown mother. The widower was described as André Kroppe, a 27-year-old wheelwright [Fr. *charron*].

On Jan. 17, 1829 at Plaine, Lower Alsace, André remarried to Madeleine Beller. She was born at La Broque, Lower Alsace Jan. 29, 1796, and died at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe, Vosges Jan. 18, 1838, a daughter of Jacob Beller and Marie Anne Lehmann. Their marriage entry described the groom as André Krop, age 26 years, eight months,

four days; born at Hartzviller May 13, 1802; a resident of Nompatelize; a son of farm operator Pierre Krop, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Susanna Crinkenberg; and the widower of Elisabeth Roppe, who had died at Nompatelize Sept. 15, 1828. The bride was described as Magdelaine Beller, 32, born at La Broque Jan. 29, 1797; a resident of Bambois [a clearing at Plaine]; a daughter of local resident Jacob Beller, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Lemann. André's signature was extremely primitive; although the letters 'krop' are clear, the first name is made up of unrecognizable symbols (some are reversed letters), indicating he was illiterate.

After their marriages André and his brother Valentine were described as millers at *La Vacherie* in St. Michel-sur-Meurthe. *La Vacherie* was one of three rivers flowing into the Meurthe at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe. The space where the mill once stood beside it is now the town square.

On Madeleine's civil death entry she was called Magdalena Peller. Unlike their marriage entry, her death entry said she was born at Bambois, Plaine (which was in the district of La Broque). In the mid-1700s this location was the site of a sawmill that employed the Ropp and Ulrich families. Her husband was described as André Krop, 37, a miller at *La Vacherie*.

Children of André Kropp and his second wife Madeleine Beller include:

4. André Kropp was born at Nompatelize, Vosges Jan. 13, 1830, and died at Elm Grove Jan. 22, 1867. On Feb. 7, 1858 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Maurer; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born in France in May of 1827 (per the 1900 census), immigrated in 1832, and died at Elm Grove Dec. 6, 1907. She may have been a daughter of Joseph Maurer, who is found as a 79-year-old from France in her household on the 1870 census of Elm Grove. Their household is shown on the 1860 census of Elm Grove, though the ages of the adults were drastically wrong: farmer Andrew Krup, 32, France; Barbara, 33, France; George [Joseph], 2, Illinois; and Fannie, one month, Illinois. The 1864 plat map of Elm Grove shows the property of A. Grubb Jr. as 80 acres in SW Section 9, next door to uncle Peter Unsicker, Joseph Risser, Jacob Ropp, and John Schrock. Ben C. Allensworth's *History of Tazewell County* describes Andrew Grubb as "...a farmer by occupation, died young, and is survived by his wife." Their children born at Elm Grove include:
    a. Joseph Grubb/Grub was born Feb. 10, 1859, and died in Reno County, Kansas Aug. 3, 1945. On Aug. 11, 1881 in Tazewell County he married Anna Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Geig. She was born at Pekin July 20, 1861, and died in Reno County June 23, 1911, a daughter of John Geig and Gerda Federick. They are found at Grove, Reno County in 1900; and widower Joseph is found at Hayes, Reno County in 1930 and 1940. They are buried in Sylvia Cemetery at Sylvia, Reno County as "Joseph 1859-1945" and "Anna L. wife of Joseph Grub July 20, 1861-June 23, 1911."
    b. Veronica 'Fannie' Grubb was born May 14, 1860, and died in Tazewell County Sept. 27, 1915. On June 11, 1878 in Tazewell County married Jacob Stockert. He was born at Hainstadt, Hesse-Darmstadt Feb. 24, 1850, and died in 1912, on of Jacob Stockert and Maria Swinn. He immigrated in 1854. He operated a threshing machine and mill, and farmed 180 acres, at Cincinnati, Tazewell County. Fannie and Jacob are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin.
    - Magdalena/Malinda Grubb is found with this family on the censuses of 1870 and 1880. She may belong as a daughter, or as a niece/cousin - a daughter of Nicholas Kropp/Grubb and Jakobina 'Bena' Unsicker who was born in 1866 and lived nearby.

    On July 5, 1870 in Tazewell County widow Barbara Maurer remarried to widower Carl/Charles Fahsbender. See FAHSBENDER in the Appendix for background on her second family.
5. Magdelaine/Madeleine Kropp was born at Nompatelize May 15, 1831, and died at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe May 6, 1838.
6. Elisabeth/Elizabeth 'Louisa' Kropp was born at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe March 14, 1833, and died in Livingston County May 5, 1894. On April 17, 1855 she married Jean Farny/John Forney in the Dillon Creek meeting; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. See RISSER/REESER for more on this couple including her obituary.
7. **Joseph Kropp/Krob** was born at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe July 22, 1835, and died at Aline, Oklahoma March 15, 1913.
8. 'Véronique Krop' was born at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe May 16, 1837, and died at Rooks Creek, Livingston County Jan. 5, 1869. Her civil birth entry identified her parents as André Krop, 36, a miller at la Vacherie, and Magdeleine Peler, 40. She was later known as Veronica, Ann, or Fanny. On July 11, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Christian Sommer; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. He was born June 11, 1831, and died in Livingston County Feb. 6, 1892. He may be the 'Christ Sommer, 24, Switzerland' who sailed on the *Metropolis* and arrived at New York in May 1855. They are found on the 1860 census of Dillon as farmer Christian Sumer, 30, Switzerland; Fanny, 23, France; and Malinda, 10 months, Illinois. Fanny is buried near her older sister Elisabeth/Elizabeth in Pike Township Cemetery at Graymont, Livingston County as 'Veronica, beloved wife of Christian Summers, died Jan. 5, 1869." Christian is buried in Waldo Cemetery at Flanagan, Livingston County.

Madeleine Beller died at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe Jan. 18, 1838.

On Nov. 18, 1838 at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe André married a third time. The civil entry described the groom as miller André Krop, living at *La Vacherie*, born at Hartzviller May 13, 1802; widower of Magdelaine Peller; son of Pierre Krop, who had died at Deneuvre Mov. 9, 1831, and Suzanne Renguenberg, who had died at Senones July 7, 1820. The bride was described as Anne Marie Schwitzer, born at Vieux-Lixheim [Moselle] July 18, 1800; a resident of Ribeauvillé; a daughter of the deceased Pierre Schwitzer, who had died at Blamont May 27, 1808, and Anne Marie Renguenberg, who had died at Moyenmoutier, Vosges Dec. 1, 1806.

The entry did not mention that Anne Marie had been married earlier (to Jacob Schlabach), and a false death entry had been entered in her name at Bionville, Meurthe-et-Meuse in 1837. See SCHWEIZER, CANADIAN SCHWEITZERS for details.

The child of André Kropp and his third wife Anne Marie Suisse/Schwitzer was:

10. Jean Kropp was born at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe Oct. 12, 1839, and died there May 21, 1840.

The only child of this family who lived until the 1900 census, and thus left a record of his immigration year, was Joseph born in 1835. Unfortunately, his immigration year was incorrectly written as 1832, three years before his birth in Vosges.

The Kropps may have lived in Ontario before arriving in Butler County, Ohio in 1848 (see ONTARIO KROPFS for background on the family living there). They resettled at Elm Grove in 1849, perhaps because of their association with the Schrocks and Ropps.

Their household can be found on the 1850 census as farmer Andrew Grubb, 55; Mary, 50; Elizabeth, 18; Andrew, 16; Joseph, 14; and Ann, 9 [we might expect to find 13-year-old Fanny here]; all born in France. John Schrock is found on the prior census page, indicating that they were living in a part of Pekin that would become Elm Grove the following year.

The *Grantors Index* says that on Feb. 3, 1851 Andrew Krup paid Joseph Newkirk $2,000 for property in Section 29 of Township 24.

As a prelude to the Civil War, delegates from eight southern states walked out of the Democratic party convention in April 1860. The remaining delegates nominated Illinois senator Stephen A. Douglas. The Republican National Convention nominated Abraham Lincoln on the third ballot May 18. The perceived threat of imminent military conscription had significant effects on the 1860 federal census.

All responses were supposed to reflect households as they stood on June 1. One entry shows an Elm Grove household composed of farmer Andrew Krop, 41, France; and Mary, 45, France. Their ages are drastically reduced. They were living next door to their son Andrew and daughter-in-law Barbara Maurer with two children. The ages of son Andrew and Barbara are exaggerated (32 and 33). Thus father and son give the appearance of being brothers.

Abraham Lincoln was elected with less than 40 percent of the popular vote Nov. 6, 1860, and South Carolina seceded from the union in January 1861.

André died at Elm Grove in February 1865; he is thought to be buried in Railroad Cemetery there. General Robert E. Lee surrendered his army at Appomattox courthouse April 9, 1865, and Abraham Lincoln was assassinated five days later.

Andrew [Jr.] died in 1867, and his widowed mother Ann Marie turned her home over to Andrew's widow Barbara Maurer. On July 5, 1870 Barbara remarried to Charles Fahsbender. As noted earlier, the 1870 of Elm Grove shows Charles Fasebender [Fahsbender], 36, Prussia; Barbara, 39, France; Joseph, 10, Illinois; Veronika, 9, Illinois; Magdalen, 5, Illinois; Joseph Maur, 79, France; and Mary Schweizer, 71, France.

Anne Marie died at Elm Grove Feb. 18, 1873; she is thought to be buried with André in Railroad Cemetery.

Joseph Kropp/Krob was born at St. Michel-sur-Meurthe, Vosges July 22, 1835, and died at Carmen, Oklahoma March 15, 1913.

On April 14, 1859 in Tazewell County he married Maria/Mary Wenger; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Reids, Paulding County, Ohio July 2, 1839, and died at Aline July 5, 1912, a daughter of Christian Wenger and Magdalena.

The 1860 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Joseph Kroup, 22, Ohio; Mary, 22, Ohio; Christian, five months, Illinois; and widow Malinda - [illegible, looks like Fano, may be Maria's mother], 56, Switzerland.

Joseph Krob is found at Pike, Livingston County on the 1865 state census: one male 30-39 years of age, two males nine or under, one female 20-29, and two females nine or under. The next name on the census page is his brother-in-law Christian Summers. The 1870 census there has farmer Joseph Groupe, 35, France; Mary, 30, Ohio; Chris, 10, Illinois; Melinda, 9, Illinois; Anna, 7, Illinois; Amy, 5, Illinois [marked as female; should have been Andrew marked as male]; Fred, 3, Illinois; and Barbara, seven months [should have been Joseph].

The 1880 census of Hayes, Kansas shows the entire family: farmer Joseph Krob, 44, France; Mary, 40, Ohio; Christian, 20, Illinois; Melinda, 18, Illinois; Annie, 16, Illinois; Andrew, 14, Illinois; Fred, 13, Illinois; Joseph, 12, Illinois; Susanna, 10, Illinois; Soloma, 7, Illinois; John, 4, Illinois; and Henry, Kansas.

The 1900 census of Galena, Oklahoma shows Joseph Krob, 64, born in France in July 1835, immigration in 1832; Mary, 60, born in Ohio in January 1840 to Swiss parents; and son Henry, 21, born in Kansas in June 1878.

Joseph and Maria/Mary are buried in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery at Aline, Oklahoma.

Children of Joseph Kropp/Krob and Maria/Mary Wenger include:

1. Christian Krob was born at Elm Grove Feb. 14, 1860, and died at Loda, Kansas Oct. 28, 1931. On April 1, 1884 at McPherson, Kansas he married Barbara Ellen Krehbiel. She was born at Zhitomer, Russia Dec. 28, 1857, and died at Loda Oct. 11, 1826. They are buried in Lerado Cemetery in Reno County, Kansas.
2. Magdalena/Lena/Melinda Krob was born at Elm Grove March 29, 1861, and died at Aline, Oklahoma March 5, 1930. On Oct. 12, 1897 at Alva she married Gustave August Reiner. He was born at Stuttgart, Germany March 15, 1862, and died at Aline June 16, 1938. They are buried in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery at Aline.
3. Anna/Annie Krob was born at Chenoa, McLean County Jan. 18, 1863, and died at Sterling, Kansas July 20, 1938, a son of George Kleck Jr. and Barbara Marie Müller. On Nov. 15, 1887 at Reno, Kansas she married widower George Kleck III. He was born at Thayngen, Switzerland Oct. 18, 1840, and died at Sterling, Kansas July 18, 1929. His first wife was Elizabeth Hubscher. Elizabeth had a dozen children; Magdalena had 11. Anna/Annie may be buried in Sterling Mennonite Cemetery at Nickerson, Kansas.
4. Andrew Krob was born at Pike, Livingston County in October of 1864, and died at Hutchinson, Kansas June 3, 1936. On Nov. 13, 1892 at Walnut, Kansas he married Barbara Guth. She was born in July 1868, and died in Reno County Dec. 5, 1947. They are buried in Memorial Park Cemetery at Hutchinson, Kansas.
5. Frederick 'Fred' Krob was born at Pike, Livingston County in 1867, and died at Laveen, Arizona June 13, 1953. He is buried in Tempe Double Butte Cemetery at Tempe, Arizona.
6. Joseph Krob was born at Pike, Livingston County April 18, 1870, and died at Phoenix, Arizona Aug. 7, 1912. He is buried in Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery at Phoenix.
7. Susanna/Susan Krob was born at Pike, Livingston County Oct. 13, 1871, and died at Phoenix, Arizona June 1, 1945.
8. Saloma Sylvia Krob was born at Pike, Livingston County Nov. 7, 1874, and died at Aline Aug. 5, 1960. On Oct. 2, 1899 at Aline she married Christian J. Wied. He was born in Germany May 3, 1866, and died at Aline May 19, 1930. They are buried in Eagle Chief Cemetery at Aline.
9. John Krob was born at Pike, Livingston County Sept. 28, 1876, and died at Alva Aug. 12, 1956. On March 5, 1899 at Belle, Oklahoma he married Mae Alice 'Fannie' Cook. She was born at Sedalia, Missouri Nov. 6, 1884, and died at Alva May 21, 1971. They are buried as John and Fannie Krob in Pleasant View Cemetery in Woods County, Oklahoma.
10. Henry Krob was born at Hayes, Kansas June 3, 1879.

Younger brother Nicolas Kropp/Nicholas Grubb

Nicolas Kropp/Nicholas Grubb was born at Hartzviller May 26, 1813, and died at Elm Grove April 8, 1881.

According to the *Grantors Index*, Nicholas Grubb paid the State Bank of Illinois for property June 25, 1849.

On Feb. 17, 1850 in Tazewell County he married Jakobina 'Bena' Unsicker; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp.[184] She was born on the Rohrhof estate at Brühl in the Schwetzingen District south of Mannheim, Baden Dec. 2, 1829, and died at Elm Grove Feb. 4, 1905, a daughter of Jacob Hunsicker/Unsicker and Barbara Eyer.

The 1850 census of unincorporated Tazewell County shows wagon maker Nicolas Gruff, 35, Germany; and Jacobine, 28, Germany.

They appear on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as farmer Nicholas Kroup, 45, France; Jacobena, 25, Baden; Barbara, 4, Illinois; John, 1, Illinois; Fred Barthy, 20, Illinois; and Catharine Unsiker 30, Baden (Jakobina's older sister Katharina).

The father's name appears on the 1864 plat map of Elm Grove as 'N. Grubb.' He owned two 40-acre parcels in Section 7.

They appear on the 1870 census of Elm Grove as farmer Nicholas Cropp, 54, France; Jacobine, 35, Baden; John, 10; Peter, 8; Magdalena, 4; and Christian, 6; all children born in Illinois. The 1880 census shows them as farmer Nicholas Grubb, 66, France; Jacobina, 49, Germany; John, 21, works at home; Peter, 18, works on farm; Lena, 17; Christ, 15; Lydia, 8; and Jacob, 3; all children born in Illinois. They were living on Allentown Road next door to Jacob Ropp and Elizabeth Sommer.

[184] They are listed in the *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* as Nicholas Kross and B. Unsicker.

Nicholas is buried in Antioch Cemetery at Dillon. Jakobina is thought to be buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove.

Children of Nicholas Kropp/Nicholas Grubb and Jakobina 'Bena' Unsicker born at Elm Grove include:

1. John Grubb was born Jan. 27, 1859, and died at Elm Grove Aug. 2, 1940. The 1900 census of Elm Grove shows farmer John Grubb, 41, born in Illinois in January 1859 to German parents; brother Jacob, 23, born in Illinois in February 1877 to German parents; and mother Benna, 71, born in Germany in December 1829, immigrated in 1845. John was a lifelong resident of Elm Grove, and last appears on the 1940 census. He is buried in Antioch Cemetery at Elm Grove.
2. Peter Grubb was born in June 10, 1861, and died in the home of his brother John at Elm Grove May 15, 1928. On April 1, 1885 in Tazewell County he married Josephine Rupp. She was born at Elm Grove Feb. 15, 1869, and died March 15, 1898, a daughter of Christian Rupp and his first wife Sarah Elizabeth Wineburner (see ROPP for background on her family). The 1900 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Peter Grubb, 39, born in Illinois in May 1861 to German parents; Louisa, 14, born in Illinois in May 1886; Benjamin, 12, born in Illinois in March 1888; Marianne, 9, born in Illinois in February 1890; Minnie, 8, born in Illinois in April 1892; and Peter, 4, born in Illinois in February 1896. Peter and Josephine are buried in Antioch Cemetery at Tremont.
3. Magdalena/'Malinda/Lena Grubb was born July 6, 1866, and died at Pekin March 16, 1939. On Jan. 29, 1891 in Tazewell County she married George Rapp. George was born Dec. 2, 1866, and died at Pekin July 26, 1955. We suspect George's family is found on the 1870 census of Sand Prairie. One household is headed by farmer Adam Rapp, 30, of Darmstadt, and Margaret, 28, of Darmstadt; there is a 4-year-old son George born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Elm Grove shows farmer George Rapp, 34, born in Illinois in December 1865 to German parents; Lena, 34, born in Illinois in July 1865 to German parents; May, 7, born in Illinois in December 1892; Henry, 6, born in Illinois in September 1893; Frederick, 4, born in Illinois in December 1895; and Jacob, 3, born in Illinois in September 1897. They were still living at Elm Grove in 1930. The *Obituary Card Index* for the *Pekin Times* provides her birth and death dates; the obituary published March 17, 1839 called her Malinda Grubbe Rapp. Widower George was living at Pekin in 1940. They are buried in Miars Cemetery at Elm Grove.
4. Christian Grubb was born circa 1864. We could not follow him after the 1880 census.
5. Lydia Grubb was born in October 1874. On July 15, 1897 in Tazewell County she married Gregory Herberger. He was born in Tazewell County in March 1876, a son of Gregor Herberger and Dorothy Stevens. They are found on the 1900 census of Elm Grove as Gregory, 24, born in Illinois in March 1876 to a father from New York and a mother from England; Lydia G., 26, born in Illinois in October 1874 to German parents; Dorothy, 2, Illinois; and Gregory, 1, Illinois. They also appear on the 1920, 1930, and 1940 censuses of Mackinaw.
6. Jacob Grubb was born Feb. 20, 1877, and died at Limestone, Peoria Sept. 24, 1928. He is found living with his mother and brother John on the 1900 census of Elm Grove. On Feb. 23, 1914 in Hardeman County, Tennessee he married Daisy King. She was born in Tennessee Feb. 25, 1887, and died Dec. 31, 1982. According to his World War I draft registration card he was living at Pekin; he was described as short in height, medium build, with blue eyes and brown hair; he named Daisy as his next of kin. The 1920 census of Elm Grove shows farmer Jacob Grubb, 43, born in Illinois to a father from Alsace-Lorraine and a mother from Baden; Daisy, 33, born in Tennessee to a father from Georgia and a mother from Pennsylvania; and seven children born in Illinois. His death entry says that in 1928 he was farming at Glasford, Peoria County. Jacob was initially buried in Railroad Cemetery at Elm Grove; on April 26, 1979 his body was removed to Maple Ridge Cemetery in Peoria County by Noel Henderson. He is now buried with Daisy under a joint headstone.

Ontario Kropfs

Some sources place the Kropps in Ontario. But we now suspect the idea is only a reflection of their association with John Forney, who relocated from Waterloo, Ontario to Lemon, Butler County, where he met his future wife Elizabeth Kropp. John's sister Magdalena Forney remained at Waterloo, where she married Joseph Lichti. Three of their children married Mennonite Kropfs. Those Kropfs were the children of Heinrich/Henri/Henry Kropf and Anne/Anna Jantzi. Though André Kropp and Heinrich/Henri/Henry Kropf may have shared distant connections to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, they were certainly not closely related.

Christian Kropf was born in 1736, and died on the Gollweilerhof estate at Epfig, Lower Alsace Nov. 17, 1802 (his civil death entry was witnessed by sons Heinrich and Christian Kropf).

He married Elisabeth Goldschmid. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1741, and died at Sélestat, Lower Alsace Feb. 3, 1819. Her civil death entry describes her as Elisabethe Goldschmitt, 78, the widow of deceased laborer Chrétien Kropf; it also states that she was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, a daughter of the deceased Jacques Goldschmitt. It was witnessed by shopkeeper Joseph Sommer, 48.

According to research by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, they farmed at Bernardsviller, Lower Alsace; Pfastatt; Upper Alsace; and Rouffach, Upper Alsace before leasing the Gollweilerhof estate at Epfig, Lower Alsace in 1779.

Their children include:

1. Joseph Kropf was born at Hegenheim, Upper Alsace March 18, 1767. On Nov. 20, 1798 at Epfig he married Maria Anna Rothaker. She was born at Algolsheim, Upper Alsace Jan. 13, 1780, and died at Epfig March 27, 1820, a daughter of David Rothacker and Barbara Wittner. In 1825 Joseph remarried to Maria Dettweiler. She was born circa 1783, a daughter of Jacob Dettweiler and Maria Rothacker.
2. Christian/Chrétien Kropf was born at Reichsfeld, Lower Alsace April 21, 1769. On Oct. 7, 1793 at Rosheim, Lower Alsace he maried Barbe Fritz. She was born circa 1775, and died at Gresswiller, Lower Alsace June 8, 1823, a daughter of Joseph Fritz and Anne Schantz.[185] On Oct. 8, 1823 at Bellefosse, Lower Alsace he remarried to Catherine Wagler. She was born at Bellefosse June 24, 1798, a daughter of the deceased Jean Wagler (born at Salm, he had died at Grandfontaine Oct. 17, 1801) and Elizabeth Yaoussi (presumably Jaussi; she had died, age 36, at La Broque March 18, 1803, though she is found on that entry as 'Elisabeth Yazig' widow of Jacques Wagler). Witnesses included cultivator Jacob Prechpiel [Brechbühl], 59, and cultivator Nicolas Martin, 25.
3. Heinrich (as he signed his own name)/Henri/Henry Kropf was born circa 1772, and died at Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace Aug. 14, 1853. On Dec. 6, 1806 at Epfig he married Vérène/Véronique Schlatter (he was 34, she was 17). She was born circa 1789, and died in 1857, a daughter of Daniel Schlatter and Catherine Hundsinger. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by brothers-of-the-groom and cultivators Joseph Kropf, 37, and Jacques Kropf, 23; as well as brother-in-law and laborer Christian (as he signed his own name)/ChrétienSommer, 58. The bride signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. His civil death entry, identified by French genealogist Jean François Lorentz, was mwitnessed by his son day laborer Daniel Kropf, 34, and farmer Joseph Eicher, 38. It stated that he had been a resident of No. 2 La Bussière in Staffelfelden, and had died on La Bussière farm.[186]
4. Magdalena Kropf was born at Rouffach, Upper Alsace circa 1776, and died at Illhaeusern, Upper Alsace Dec. 16, 1840. On Dec. 10, 1798 at Sélestat she married Joseph Sommer. He was born at Steinthal (now in the department of Vosges) circa 1768, and died at Sélestat Nov. 15, 1827, a son of Jacob Sommer and Barbara Gerig. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by Chrétien Somer, Jean Somer, and Henry Kropf.
5. Anne Kropf was born at Hattstatt, Upper Alsace circa 1776, and died at Ribeauvillé, Upper Alsace Nov. 10, 1809. She married Christian/Chrétien Sommer. He was born at Schirmeck April 4, 1768, and died at Bergheim, Upper Alsace March 5, 1814, a son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerber/Karbre.
6. Barbara/Barbe Kropf was born on Gollweilerhof estate at Epfig circa 1781. On April 12, 1802 at Epfig she married Joseph Rees/Riss. He was born on Schoppenwihr farm at Ostheim, Upper Alsace circa 1773, a son of Melchior Rees and Elisabetha Gerig.
7. **Jacob Kropf** was born on Gollweilerhof estate at Epfig Dec. 3, 1784, and died at Wilmot Township, Ontario Jan. 29, 1875.
8. Elisabeth Kropf was born on Gollweilerhof estate at Epfig circa 1787.

Jacob Kropf was born on the Gollweilerhof estate at Epfig Dec. 3, 1784, and died at Wilmot Township, Ontario Jan. 29, 1875.

On April 14, 1811 at Epfig he married Magdalena/Madeleine Rothacker. She was born at Freisenheim, Lower Alsace Aug. 7, 1786, and died at Wilmot Township May 24, 1878, a daughter of David Rothacker and Magdalena Boshart. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Jaques Kropff, 27, born at Epfig in February 1784, a son of deceased laborer Chrétien Kropff and Elisabeth Goltschmitte, who was present and consenting. Witnesses included laborer Henry Kropff, 38, brother of the groom; Joseph Kropff, 40, brother of the groom; and Chrétien Gruber, 27, friend of the bride. Signatures included Jacob Kropf, Heinrich Kropf, Joseph Kropf, Magdalena Rothacker, and Christian Grŭber.

They farmed at Baldenheim, Lower Alsace. They applied for a passport at Strasbourg Feb. 22, 1819, and sailed in 1820. They initially settled at Leacock, Lancaster County (known from the birth of daughter Elizabeth there Jan. 22, 1822).

In *The Amish and Their Neighbors, The German Block, Wilmot Township 1822-1860* Lorraine Roth wrote that they accompanied the Brenneman family to Ontario in the fall of 1823. The Kropfs initially settled at Woolwich. Jacob Kropf became the deacon of the local congregation ministered by Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith and Johannes Brenneman. They were ordained by Lancaster County minister and elder Johannes/John Stolzfus and minister Christian König/King during their visit in 1824.

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[185] Barbe Fritz's civil death entry named her parents as the deceased Joseph Gerber and Anne Schantz. However, we note that Madeleine Fritz also died at Gresswiller only two months earlier, on April 11, 1823. She was born at Rosheim, and 55 years of age (thus born circa 1768). She was described as the spouse of cultivator Joseph Gerber, 54, who also served as a witness. Her parents were identified as the deceased cultivator Joseph Fritz and the deceased Anne Schantz.

[186] *Ferme de La Bussière* can be found on the Cassini map (the first general map of the kingdom of France from surveys 1756-89) as *la Poussière*. It is still an active farm, and a panaoramic photo can be found online.

In 1830 Jacob had a claim on Lot 13 next to the Goldsmiths on the north side of Snyder's Road in Wilmot Township (see ROPP for background on this location). When the Goldsmiths left for Butler County, Ohio in 1831, Jacob purchased their sawmill and 50 acres. On July 20, 1835 they had completed timber clearing duties and obtained land warrants. Jacob and his sons operated the sawmill until it was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1853. They are found on the 1851 census of Wilmot Township as Mennonite farmer Jacob Kropf, 68, Alsace; and Mennontie Magdalena, 68, Alsace. They are also found at that location on the 1861 and 1871 censuses.

Herald of Truth, February, 1875: "Jan. 29, in Waterloo Co., Canada, Bro Jacob Kropf, at the advanced age of 90 years, 1 month and 26 days. He enjoyed remarkably good health up to the 26th of December, 1874, when he had a stroke of palsy whereby his right side and also his tongue became paralyzed. He served as deacon in the Amish Church in Canada about 50 years, during which time his seat was seldom vacant when he was able to go. He leaves an aged widow about two years his junior, with whom he lived in matrimony 64 years." *Berliner Journal*, June 6, 1878: "Magdalena Kropf, May 24, 1878. Magdalena Kropf in Baden, widow of Jakob Kropf died at the age of 93 years. She was one of the oldest residents in Wilmot." Jacob and Magdalena/Madeleine are buried in Old Baden Cemetery at Baden, Wilmot Township, Ontario. The cemetery was formally chartered in 1866; the land around it had been part of the Kropf family farm, and also held a school.

Their son **Heinrich/Henri/Henry Kropf** was born at Baldenheim, Lower Alsace Sept. 28, 1817, and died at Wilmot Township, Ontario Nov. 16, 1855. His civil birth entry called him Henry Kropf. It described his parents as laborer Jacques Kropf, 33, and Magdelaine Rothacker, residents of Baldenheim.

On Dec. 13, 1840 at Wilmot Township he married Anna Ruhl. She was born circa 1820, and died at Blake, Huron County, Ontario April 8, 1900.

They appear on the 1851 census of Wilmot as farmer Henry Kropf, 35, Alsace, Mennonist; Anna, 30, Alsace, Mennonist; Jacob, 11; Christian, 10; David, 8; Henry, 5; Peter, 3; and Joel, 2; all children born in Canada and Mennonist.

Henry is buried in Old Baden Cemetery, where his headstone gives he dates 1817-1855. The 1861 census of Waterloo County has farmer Anna Kropf, 42, Switzerland, widow, Methodist; Jacob, 19; Christian, 15; David, 15; Henry, 13; Peter, 11; John, 9; Solomon, 8; Magdalena, 5 [all children born in Canada and Methodist]; and servant Elizabeth Zimmerman, 17, USA, Methodist. Anna is buried in Lakeview Conservative Mennonite Cemetery at Blake.

Beller of Ste. Croix-aux-Mines

In German a *Beil* is an ax, hatchet, or cleaver; a *Beiler* is someone who uses them. The Swiss root surname Beÿeler has evolved into Beyerli, Byler, Beiler, Beyler, and the French form Beller (also occasionally found as Belleur). One *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname is Sigriswil on Lake Thun.

Jean Beller was born circa 1732. He married Anne Schneider or Brunner.[187]

They were the parents of farmer **Pierre Beller**. He was born at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace (adjacent to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) Dec. 6, 1766, and died at Valmont, Moselle Feb. 28, 1831.

Ste. Croix-aux-Mines is a rural village adjacent to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. In the 1700s its economy focused around a system of coal mines. In both places Amish Mennonites provided dairy products for the labor force.

According to *Reconstitution des Familles de St. Avold 1645-1872*, Jean became a miller and farmer at Marthille in the district of St. Avold (in what became Moselle). Marthille is actually 20 miles southwest of the village of St. Avold. It is located on the west side of Baronville and Morhange.

On May 7, 1793 at Faulquemont (11 miles north of Marthille) Pierre married Barbe Hirschi. She was born in Bening Commune at Harprich (a farm and tile factory, also known as Béning-lès-Harprich) Oct. 20, 1771, and died at Maizeroy, Moselle March 28, 1833, a daughter of Pierre Hirschi and Anne Farny.

They worked at the Oderfang mill at St. Avold with Christian Oesch and Barbara Zehr. The land surrounding the mill produced potatoes to be ground into flour. [188]

Their children include:

1. Anne Beller was born at Pontpierre (adjacent to Faluquemont) April 6, 1794 (though her marriage entry appears to say Dompierre), and died at St. Avold Jan. 7, 1818. On April 22, 1817 at St. Avold she married miller Joseph Zehr. He was born at Ottweiler, Lower Alsace June 8, 1791 (per their marriage entry), and died at Woolwich, Ontario Jan. 29, 1845, a son of Joseph Zehr and Barbe Eymann. They sailed from Amsterdam on the brig *Margaret*, and arrived at New York Aug. 18, 1825. The passenger list calls them 'Swier.' In 1826 they migrated north from Lancaster County with a group that included Christian Farny (one of 'the Amishmen who hired Abraham Lincoln') and Andreas Ropp. They settled at Woolwich Township, Ontario, on land that had originally been purchased for settlement by minister and elder Johannes/John Stoltzfus and minister Christian König/King of the Mill Creek congregation of Lancaster County. Anne is buried in Steinman Mennonite Cemetery at Wilmot.
2. Jean Beller was born at Pontpierre June 1, 1795; his death was recorded at Folschviller June 22, 1806. We have seen the 10-year index listing, but not the actual entry.
3. Barbe Beller was born at Pontpierre March 6, 1797 (per her marriage entry, though no entry is found there), and died at Hombourg-Haut, Moselle Sept. 17, 1829. On Jan. 27, 1821 at St. Avold she married miller Michel Jantzi (#3). He was born at St. Avold April 10, 1795, and died at Macheren Jan. 31, 1848, a son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser. For background on this couple see JANTZI.
4. **Pierre/Peter Beller** was born on Berfang farm at Folschviller, Moselle June 20, 1800.
5. Marie Beller was born on Berfang farm at at Folschviller June 13, 1802, and died at Beldorf, Luxembourg Feb. 10, 1862. On April 12, 1824 at Maizeroy she married Daniel Oesch. He was born on the Gunstal estate above Langensoultzbach, Lower Alsace Feb. 2, 1795, and died on the Spittelhof estate at Flachweiler, Luxembourg April 14, 1852, a son of Christian Oesch and Barbara Zehr.
6. Catherine Beller was born on Berfang farm at at Folschviller May 7, 1804, and died at Dieuze, Moselle April 22, 1878. On April 15, 1826 she married Joseph Blanck, a son of Nicolas Blanck and Anne Schwartz. He was born at Lucy, Moselle Nov. 3, 1801, and died in Algeria Dec. 7, 1857.

- Magdelaine Beller was born at Folschviller July 20, 1807. We have seen the 10-year index listing, but not the actual entry.
- Jean Beller was born at Foschviller Aug. 19, 1809. We have seen the 10-year index listing, but not the actual entry.

Pierre/Peter Beller was born on Berfang farm at Folschviller, Moselle June 20, 1800.

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[187] The name Anne Schneider appears as the parent on Pierre's marriage entry. His death entry shows Anne Bronner, but a death entry is a much less reliable source.

[188] Efforts to 'smooth out' these Bellers and merge their descendants with a family that came to Lewis County, New York falter on a single entry. A death entry recorded at Grostenquin said that Jean Beler, who was born in May of 1736, had died Aug. 17, 1737. The parents were identified as Jean Beler and Magdelin Rolle *au* Chateau Hinguesange, who were *Anabaptiste*. Hingsange is now a village below Grostenquin. Nevertheless, there was likely *some* relationship farther back; Grostenquin is only 11 miles south of St. Avold.

On Feb. 25, 1826 at Valmont, Moselle he married Barbe Gasser. She was born at Azoudange, Moselle Aug. 13, 1805, and died before 1850, a daughter of Christian Gasser and Elisabeth Mŭrer/Mourer. They farmed at Germiny, Meurthe-et-Moselle, a village 20 miles southwest of Nancy.

Pierre/Peter served as a witness for two weddings at Germiny on May 16, 1843: the first ceremony Joseph Goldschmidt, 24, son of Joseph Goldschmidt and Anne Mosimann, and Magdalene Springer, 23, daughter of André Springer and Catherine Esch; and the second ceremony Joseph Rouvenacht (found as 'Riebennacht'), 27, son of Pierre Rouvenacht and Catherine Saltzman, and Anne Goldschmit, 23, daughter of Joseph Goldschmidt and Anne Mosimann. The marriage entries gave Pierre's age as 43.

Barbe Gasser died at Germiny Jan. 12, 1847. Her civil death entry stated that she was 43, a daughter of the deceased Christophe Gasser and Elisabeth Mourer, and the wife of 47-year-old Pierre Beller, a miller in the mill at Germany.[189]

His four children sailed from Le Havre on the *Massachusetts*, arriving at New York June 8, 1849. The passenger list shows Pierre Beller [Jr.], 22; Barbe, 21; Catherine, 19; and Magd., 17; all from France.

Son 'Peter Bellear, 24, labourer' is listed in the household of Joseph Hodler on the 1850 census of Lemon, Butler County, Ohio. Joseph was the younger brother of Jean Hodler, Peter's uncle by marriage (see the footnote on Catherine Gasser for background on Jean Hodler; see STAKER for background on Joseph Hodler).

Pierre/Peter Beller soon followed his children. Recall from MILLER and DETTWEILER that the *Gallia* departed from Le Havre and arrived at New York May 9, 1850. The passenger list shows a traveling company of 10 from France: Pierre Beller, 50; Jakob Műller, 39; Magdalena, 44; John Dettweiller, 12; André Zehr, 29; Catharine, 33; Magdalene, 5; Catharina, 3; Joseph, 2; and Catharina Bokÿ [Birky or Rogi?], 60.[190]

The father Pierre/Peter and his four children settled in Woodford County before July 1851.

On Oct. 8, 1854 in Tazewell County Pierre/Peter remarried to newly-arrived Barbe Roschli/Barbara Roeschley; the ceremony was performed by minister John Nafziger. She was born at Mussig, Lower Alsace Nov. 4, 1808. Her civil birth entry called her 'Barbe Röschlé.' It described her parents as cultivator Jean Roschlé, 39, and Elisabeth Wagler, and was witnessed by weaver Jean Wagler, 69, living at Mussig (Elisabeth's father). She sailed from Le Havre on the *Mercury* with members of her family, and arrived at New York May 20, 1854. For more on her family see ROESCHLEY.

Pierre/Peter became a minister of the Partridge Creek meeting. The 1860 census of Worth, Woodford County shows Peter Beller, 60, France; and Barbara [Röschli], 51, France.

He was naturalized in Woodford County Oct. 25, 1867; witnesses included Joseph Bachman and Nicholas Partman. The 1880 census of Minonk, Woodford County shows gardener Peter Bellor, 78, France; and Barbara, 68, France. They were living next door to their daughter Magdalena and son-in-law Jacob Saltzman.

On the 1873 plat map of Worth Township 'P. Beller' is shown as the owner of 40 acres in Section 29 (in what is now Germantown).

Pierre/Peter died at Minonk Jan. 8, 1883. His headstone gives his age as 83 years, 7 months. Barbara died in Woodford County March 12, 1887 (headstone date) or March 13 (obituary). *Herald of Truth*, April 1887: "On the 13th of March, in Woodford County, Illinois, of the infirmities of old age, Sister Barbara Beller, widow of Peter

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[189] The 10-year index for civil entries mistakenly calls her Elisabeth Gasser, but the actual entry correctly calls her Barbe Gasser.

Some sources express confusion caused by an error on a civil marriage entry created at Germiny. On Oct. 5, 1843 Barbe's sister Catherine Gasser married Jean Hodler. The text of the entry calls her Barbe Gasser, but has been written over with the correct name. The groom was described as 43-year-old miller Jean Hodler of Pagny-sur-Meuse, Meuse, a son of the deceased Chrétien Hodler, who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines May 6, 1826, and the deceased Magdelaine Muher [Murer or Maurer], who had died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 2, 1833. The bride was described as 38-year-old Barbe [overwritten as Catherine] Gasser, a resident of Germany born at Azoudange, Moselle 25 Thermidor 13, a daughter of the deceased Christian Gasser and the deceased Elizabeth Morre [Murer or Maurer], who had died at Diane-Capelle Jan. 20, 1822 and March 5, 1834 respectively. Witnesses included Joseph Coldschmidt, 56, cultivator and resident of Germiny; Christophe Serre [Christian Zehr], 58, cultivator at Foug; and brother-in-law of the bride Pierre Beller, 43, resident of Germany. The entry was signed by 'Hans Hodler' and 'Petter Bellear.'

[190] The *Massachusetts* passenger list shows 'Pierre Dettwiller, 20' on the same page as the Beller children; the *Gallia* list shows 'John Bettwiller, 12' on the same page as Pierre Beller.

On the *Gallia list* André Zehr, 29, and family were bound for Lewis County. André was born at Autrey, Vosges Oct. 26, 1820, and died at Croghan, Lewis County, New York Dec. 5, 1866, a son of Christian Zehr and Barbe Mosiman. André married Catherine Springer. André may have been a nephew to Pierre Beller; Pierre's sister Anne had married Joseph Zehr.

Beller, aged about 79 years. She was buried on the 15th in the Bachman's grave-yard, followed by many friends. Services by Joseph Wagner, Joseph Ackerman, and John P. Schmidt from *1 Cor. 15*. The departed sister often wished to depart this life and be with Christ and she passed away quickly." Her headstone in Baughman Cemetery at Panola gives her age as 79 years, 4 months, 10 days.

Children of Pierre/Peter Beller and his first wife Barbe Gasser include:

1. Pierre/Peter Beller [Jr.] was born at Valmont, Moselle April 14, 1827 (per 10-year civil index). He is listed in the household of Joseph Hodler as 'Peter Bellear, 24, labourer' on the 1850 census of Lemon, Butler County, Ohio. He died in Tazewell County July 11, 1851. At last reading his partial headstone in Union Cemetery at Washington said that he had died on July 11 at 24 years of age, though the year of death was illegible.
2. Barbe/Barbara Beller was born at Valmont July 20, 1828 (per 10-year civil index), and died at Peoria Jan. 17, 1916. The 1860 census of Partridge shows Barbara Beller, 28. On March 19, 1861 in Peoria County she married Henry Gauger. Her household is found on the 1870 census of Peoria as Barbra Gauger, 37, Prussia [Alsace- Lorraine was occupied 1870-1918]; and Frederick, 7, Illinois. She is found in the *Peoria Directory (1890)* as 'Barbara Gauger, widow of Henry.' She may be the 'Barbry Gauger' found as a boarder with the Fancy family on the 1900 census of Aurora, Nebraska. That census describes a widowed native of France born in 1828. The 1910 census of Peoria shows Barbara Gauger, 81, as an 'inmate' of the J.C. Proctor Endowment, a lifetime-care retirement home established in 1906. She is buried as Barbara Gauger in Springdale Cemetery at Peoria.
3. Catherine Beller was born at Germiny, Meurthe-et-Moselle Aug. 29, 1830. The 1860 census of Metamora shows Catherine Beller, 29, domestic in the household of druggist John L. Causey.
4. Madeleine/Magdalena 'Malinda' Beller was born at Germiny Aug. 20, 1831 (headstone), and died Feb. 29, 1916 in the home of son-in-law Joseph Stalter at Flanagan. In Woodford County Oct. 29, 1857 she married Jacob Saltzman. He was born in Alsace-Lorraine Dec. 1, 1833 (headstone), and died in Woodford County June 23, 1909. He immigrated on the 1854 voyage of the *Mercury*; he is found on the passenger list as Jacob Salzmann, 19. They are found on the 1870 census of Minonk as farmer Jacob Saltzman, 35, France; Malinda, 38, France; and five children born in Illinois. The 1900 census of Minonk shows them as landlord Jacob Saltzman, 65, born in France in September 1834 (likely December 1833) and immigrated in 1845 (actually 1854); and Lena, 67, born in France in August 1832 (actually 1831) and immigrated in 1850 (actually 1849). *Gospel Herald*, July 1909: "Jacob Saltzman was born in Alsace-Lorraine Dec. 1, 1834; and died at his home in Woodford County, Ill. June 23, 1909, aged 75 years, six months, and 22 days. At the age of 21, he came to this country and settled in Woodford County, where he spent the remainder of his life. In early years he united with the Mennonite Church, of which he was a faithful member until the end. In 1857 he united in marriage with Magdalena Beller, who survives him. He leaves to mourn his departure a bereaved wife, four sons, two daughters, 33 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Four grandchildren and one great-grandchild preceded him to the spirit world. Peace to his ashes. He was buried June 26, in a cemetery near his home. Funeral services conducted in German by Bro. Peter Zimmerman and Bro. Jonas Litwiler, and in English by Bro. George Sommer." *Gospel Herald*, March 1916: "Magdalena (Bellar) Saltzman was born in Lorraine, France, Aug. 20, 1830; died at the home of her son-in-law, Joseph Stalter, near Flanagan, Ill., Feb. 29, 1916; aged 85 y. 6 in. 9 d. At the age of 12 she united with the Amish Mennonite Church and remained a faithful member until called up higher. She came to this country in 1843 and in 1857 was married to Jacob Saltzman who preceded her in death June 23, 1909. To this union were born four boys and two girls, five of whom survive her (Peter, John, Benjamin, Mary M. Schertz, Elizbeth A. Stalter). One son Joseph and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren preceded her to the spirit world. She has not been able to leave home for a number of years. She bore her sufferings patiently. Her desire was to depart and be with Christ. Funeral services were held at the house Mar. 2nd, by Bro. D. W. Slagel and Bro. George Summer. Text, *Mark 14:8*, latter clause. She was laid to rest in the Baughman Cemetery. Peace to her ashes."

Eichelberger of Sumiswald

The surname Eichelberger is often associated with the German states, but it is also a Bernese surname. The Bernese *Heimatort* or legal place of origin for Swiss citizenship rights is Sumiswald (for background on this location see SOMMER).

Sumiswald has preserved most of its Protestant Reformed Church records. A marriage register was begun in 1637. The first baptism register is older, covering the years 1581-1616.

ALCHENBERGER

Alchenbärger/Alchenberger may have been an earlier form of this surname. The 1581-1616 baptism register holds dozens of entries for Alchenbärger (later Alchenberger) events, but none for Eichelberger.

It is possible that 'Alchen' was derived from the Eurasian *Elchen,* or elk, what an American would call a moose.[191] The Latin name for the species is *Alces alces*. An *Elchenberger* would be a hill where elk roam. This all suggests an origin from a very old place name, or a place elsewhere, since elk became extinct in what is now Switzerland circa 1000.

An explanation may be found in the State Archives of Canton Bern. It holds an image of a blazon/*Wappenschild* for Alchenberger of Sumiswald that was filed circa 1800. The upper half shows two blue *fleur-de-lis* (stylized lilies) on a golden field on the top half. This indicates an origin in France. The symbol of the royal Bourbon dynasty was three golden *fleur-de-lis* on a blue field. The lower half has the traditional white cross on a red field that represents Switzerland. Another version filed in 1936 is entirely different, showing stag antlers on a red-and-white field.

The file notes their place of origin as Wasen, a hamlet/neighborhood of Sumiswald.

An *Eichel* is an acorn, while an *Eichelberger* is a hill where oak trees grow. A family blazon for Eichelberger of Sumiswald has been on file at the State Archives only since 1934. It shows a green oak branch holding four golden acorns against a red background, at the top of three green hills.

A baptism entry was created for a child Hanns at Sumiswald May 26, 1633. His parents were described as Rudolf Eÿchelberg and Christina Meister. Within the next five years a number of *Eÿchel-* or *Eichel-* spellings are found on baptism entries, then on marriage entries in 1651 and 1661.

While weighing these spelling changes, recall that the entries were written by state-appointed ministers who were unfamiliar with their congregants, and wrote what they thought they heard. Sumiswald had an 'Anabaptist problem,' and after the first was appointed in 1547, ministers changed in 1560, 1564, 1583, 1587, 1596, 1602, 1609, 1612, 1614, 1623, 1628, 1629, 1637, 1651, 1657, 1654, 1666, 1668...

All marriage ceremonies with Eichelberger grooms recorded at Sumiswald between 1637 and 1800:

Jan. 27, 1651	Niclaŭs Eichelberg and Christÿna Sŭmmer
Sept. 12, 1661	Christ Eichelberger and Cathÿ Flűckiger
March 8, 1683	Hans Eÿchelberger and Stini Eggiman
Dec. 8, 1687	Christen Eÿchelberger and Trini Haslibacher
May 11, 1693	Xander Eÿchelberger and Elsi Kaŭnder
March 14, 1699	Jacob Eÿchelberger and Elsbeth Eggiman
Oct. 14, 1717	Jacob Eichelberger and Verena Sterchi
Jan. 7, 1723	Niclaŭs Eichlenberger and Verena Niedershaŭs
June 28, 1731	Xander Eichlenberger and Anna Joŭ
Aug. 17, 1738	Peter Eichlenberger and Barbara Reist
Jan. 29, 1774	Johannes Eichenberger and Christina Jorg
April 22, 1785	Ulrich Eichenberger and Madlena Gottier
Oct. 2, 1788	Peter Eichelberger and Elisabeth Schär
Dec. 10, 1795	Peter Eichenberger and Anna Liechti

This simple list – 14 grooms in 163 years – refutes the notion that this was once a large family, or that there was an exodus of Anabaptist Eichelbergers from Sumiswald circa 1670.

When an index was created for this register, the column heading was 'Eichelberger, Eichenberger' indicating that they were thought of as interchangeable forms. Eichenberger is also found at Eggiwil and Trub.

By 1861 the congregation at Sumiswald had standardized the spellings of member surnames as 'Alchenberger' and 'Eichelberger.'

[191] What Americans call elk is actually a species of deer called *Cervus canadensis*.

Prompted by a clue found on the 1880 census of Elm Grove – that the head of the immigrant family was born in Germany to French parents – and the family's American friendships, we began our search looking for a couple who were born in Lower Alsace but resettled in Bavaria in the early 19th century.

One such couple has descendants in Champaign County; another, in Tazewell County.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

Christian Eichelberger married Barbara Birki.

According to Helmut Gingerich, Christian made a complaint to the Bavarian government in September of 1805. He was described as someone born at Aspach [Lower Alsace or Baden? Or Ansbach?], and a former tenant at Sarmion [Saar-Union, Lower Alsace]. He claimed money was owed to him by Jakob Stalter. Apparently they had made an agreement to co-lease the Ehrlacher Hof [near Ingolstadt], and the arrangement fell through.

In 1815 Christian co-leased Perlach Castle and its 181-acre property on the outskirts of Munich with Johannes/Johann Pechler [a French variation of Bächler] and Pechler's wife Magdalena Birki. They were the parents of future Elm Grove settler Christian Beckler. Perlach castle [Ger. *Schloss Perlachsoed*] outlies Munich on its southeastern side.

On July 1, 1818 the castle was sold to Andreas or André Burki/Andrew Burkey and Catherine/Katharina Ackermann (who later became Illinois settlers). Recall from BIRKY/BIRKEY that in 1798 he had given his residence as Bouquenom [Ger. *Bockenheim*], now the east side of Sarre-Union, Lower Alsace

In 1819 Christian and Barbara purchased the Schwallerhof estate at Kleinöbach (now in Fahrenzhausen, a district in the municipality of Freising), 17 miles north of the city center of Munich. Barbara died there in March of 1858, and Christian in September of 1858.

Children of Christian Eichelberger and Barbara Birki include:

1. Magdalena Eichelberger was born circa 1809, and died on the Samhof estate at Friedrichshofen (two miles west of Ingolstadt) in 1886. She married Joseph Ringenberg/Josef Rinkenberger. He was born at Xouaxange, Moselle July 21, 1803, a son of Christian Ringenberg and Katharina Reidiger/Rediger. Christian first leased the Samhof in 1810, and died here in 1829. The *Königlich-bayerisches Kreis-Amtsblatter von Oberbayern*, a gazette published by the government district, listed the owner of the Samhof estate in 1864 as Joseph Ringenberg, and the owner of the Radershofen estate [at Berching, 28 miles north of Friedrichshofen] as Christian Ringenberg. Magdalena's death record has been a source of confusion. It said she was born in 1809, and came from Perlach, a daughter of Christian and Magdalena (Birky) Eichelberger [a misidentification of her mother Barbara].
2. Josef Eichelberger was born at Perlach May 5, 1816. In 1859 he married Anna Sophie Immel.
3. Veronica Eichelberger was born at Kleinöbach in November of 1820, and died March 4, 1844 after giving birth to an illegitimate son Christian Feb. 22. Christian died at Moosach, Bavaria April 1, 1917; he is buried in Westfriedhof Műnchen.
4. Andreas Eichelberger was born at Kleinöbach circa 1821. On Dec. 15, 1845 he married Magdalena Oesch. She was born at Hanfeld, a daughter of Andreas Oesch and Catherine/Katharina Augsburger. Andreas died before 1893, when his widow accompanied the family of her sister Maria Oesch Eichelbger Gűngerich to America. Her headstone in East Bend Memorial Gardens (formerly East Bend Mennonite Cemetery) in Champaign County describes her as, "Magdalena Osch, wife of Andrew Eichelberger, born Oct. 22, 1822, died Sept. 29, 1907."
5. **Georg Eichelberger** was born at Kleinöbach March 23, 1823, and died June 4, 1863.
6. Bibiana Eichelberger was born at Kleinöbach circa 1826, and died April 9, 1831.[192]
7. Jakob Eichelberger was born at Kleinöbach Sept. 2, 1831, and died Sept. 22, 1831.
8. Christian Eichelberger was born at Kleinöbach. He married Anna Gűngerich.

Georg Eichelberger was born at Kleinöbach, Bavaria March 23, 1823, and died June 4, 1863.

He married Maria Oesch. She was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Sept. 29, 1828, and died at Fisher, Champaign County Aug. 10, 1896, a daughter of Andreas Oesch and Catherine/Katharina Augspurger. Not only was she a sister to Magdalena Oesch, mentioned above, but they were sisters to Christian Oesch, who was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Dec. 5, 1819, and died at Elm Grove Oct. 12, 1908. He married Magdalena Zehr and Marie Aversol/Mary Aversoll.

After his death, Maria remarried to Georg Gűngerich. He was born June 5, 1832, and died in Champaign County March 6, 1906.

They sailed from Bremen on the *Spree*, and arrived at New York Sept. 7, 1893. A damaged list of arrivals at Ellis Island has passengers numbered 307-310: shoemaker [illegible but presumably Christ] Eichelberger; wife [illegible]; child [illegible but presumably Christian]; and Andreas, 2. Starting again at number 314 are: carpenter Jos. Eichelberger, 33; wife [later described as an aunt] Magda., 60; [illegible], 24; Carl Sepp, 8; labor Julius

[192] Bibiana (Viviana, Vivian, or Vibiana) was a Roman Catholic saint.

[illegible], 29; smith Georg Eichelberger, 35; wife Anna, 26; Maria; [illegible child]; [illegible male child, one of these two presumably Joseph]; Johann, 9; Anna, nine months; waiter Bartel Lengel, 18; Ludes Reidinger, 16; tailor Pa[illegible] Lang, 26; farmer George Gingerich, 64; and wife Maria Gingerich, 58.

A simpler picture can be derived by removing a few of the extraneous names, and rearranging:

George Gingerich, 64 (Georg Gűngerich, a stepfather to the children of Georg Eichelberger)
Maria Gingerich, 58 (Maria Oesch Eichelberger Gűngerich)

Magda., 60 (Maria's older sister Magdalena Oesch Eichelberger; she was the widow of Andreas Eichelberger)[193]

Georg Eichelberger, 36
Anna Unzicker, 26, his wife
Maria, daughter
[illegible], daughter
[Illegible], son
[illegible], one of these two presumably son Joseph

Joseph Eichelberger, 33 (a lifelong bachelor)

Christ Eichelberger, a shoemaker
His wife Kate Zankel
[illegible], presumably son Christian
Andreas, 2.

The 1900 census of East Bend, Champaign County, page 21 shows farmer George Eichelberger, 42, born in Germany in February of 1854; Anna, 36, born in Germany in April of 1864; Maria, 15, born in Germany in June of 1885; Joseph, 11, born in Germany in September of 1888; John, 9, born in Germany in May of 1891; Anna, 7, born in Germany in November of 1892 [all thus far noted as immigrated in 1893]; William, 5, born in Illinois in February of 1895; Erwin, 3, born in Illinois in December of 1896; step father Gerald Gingerich [Georg Gűngerich], 67, born in Germany in June of 1832, immigrated in 1893; and hired laborer Bartholo Lengl, 25, born in Germany in May of 1875, immigrated in 1893.

On page 19 Joseph Eichelberger, 40, born in Germany in February of 1860, immigrated in 1882; aunt Madeline, 72, born in Germany in September of 1823, immigrated in 1893; half-sister Madeline Gingerich, 30, born in Germany in August of 1869; and two farm laborers.

The next household is teamster Christ Eichelberger, 38, born in Germany in March of 1832, immigrated in 1893; Catherine, 37, born in Germany in February of 1863; Christian, 11, born in Germany in December of 1888; Andrew, 9, born in Germany in February of 1891, immigrated in 1893; Lena, born in Illinois in September of 1893, immigrated in 1893; and Mary, nine months, born in Illinois in August of 1899 to a father from Germany and a mother from Illinois.

Farmer John Eichelberger is found on page 20. He was described as 38, born in Germany in February of 1862, immigrated in 1883; his wife was Maria, born in Germany in June of 1863, immigrated in 1883.

Maria Oesch Eichelberger Gűngerich and Georg Gűngerich are buried in East Bend Memorial Gardens Cemetery, formerly known as East Bend Mennonite Cemetery.

Children of Maria Oesch and her first husband Georg Eichelberger include:

1. Georg Eichelberger was born Feb. 28, 1858, and died April 16, 1940. In 1881 he married Anna Unzicker. She was born April 3, 1864, and died Oct. 8, 1920. *Gospel Herald*, May of 1940: "George Eichelberger was born at Munich, Germany, Feb. 28, 1858; died at his home in Rantoul, Ill., April 16, 1940; aged 82 y. 1 m. 19 d. Death was due to complications of old age. He accepted Christ as his Saviour is his youth and united with the Mennonite Church, to which he remained faithful until death. In 1881 he was united in marriage with Anna Unzicker, who preceded him in death 20 years ago. To this union nine children were born, two of whom died in infancy. Surviving are the following children: Mrs. Mary Eberhart of China Park, Ill.; Joseph of Hammond, Ind.; John of Rantoul, Ill.; William of Palmer,

[193] Magdalena Oesch was born at Hanfeld, also a daughter of Andreas Oesch and Catherine/Katharina Augsburger. On Dec. 15, 1845 Magdalena married Andreas Eichelberger. He died before 1893. Her headstone in East Bend Memorial Gardens (formerly East Bend Mennonite Cemetery) describes her as, "Magdalena Osch, wife of Andrew Eichelberger, born Oct. 22, 1822, died Sept. 29, 1907."

Another child of this couple was Christian Oesch, who was born at Hanfeld, Bavaria Dec. 5, 1819, and died at Elm Grove Oct. 12, 1908. He married Magdalena Zehr and Marie Aversol/Mary Aversoll.

Iowa; Ervin of Paxton, Ill.; Anna and Alma at home; also 23 grandchildren; one brother (John Eichelberger, Sr. of Paxton, Ill.), two sisters (Mrs. Mary Rentsch, Cisna Park, Ill., and Miss Lena Gingerich, Rensselaer, Ind.). Funeral services were conducted at the East Bend Mennonite Church with Bro. J. A. Heiser in charge. Interment at East Bend Cemetery."

2. Joseph Eichelberger was born Feb. 18, 1860, and died at Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana May 10, 1939. He is buried in Weston Cemetery at Rensselaer. His obituary in the *Jasper County Democrat* May 12, 1939 said he had been a resident there since 1904, attended the Lutheran church, and was an inmate of the Jasper County Farm. "He is survived by one half sister Miss Lena Gingerich, who is also an inmate at the county infirmary; one sister Mrs. John Retch of Cisna Park, Ill.; and two brothers Mr. George Eichelberger of Rantoul, Ill., and John Eichelberger, of Ill."
3. **Johann/John Eichelberger** was born Feb. 28, 1862, and died at Paxton, Ford County Feb. 9, 1945.
4. Christ Eichelberger was born March 6, 1863, and died in Gratiot County, Michigan in 1923. He married Katie Zankel. *Gospel Herald*, February of 1923: "Christ Eichelberger was born in Bavaria, Germany, Mar. 6, 1863. He departed life Jan. 5, 1923; aged 57 y. 10 m. 29 d. At the age of 12 years he united with the Mennonite Church of which he remained a faithful member until death. He was married to Kate Zankel Jan., 1889. To this union were born seven children, two having died in infancy and the oldest son, Christ died Jan. 5, 1916. He leaves to mourn his departure a sorrowing wife, one son, Andy, and three daughters Lena, Mary, and Anna, two sons-in-law and five grandchildren. Bro. Aldus Brackbill, Clarksville, Mich., and Bro. Simeon Martin preaches the funeral sermon on Jan. 9, 1923." They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Alma, Gratiot County.

Johann/John Eichelberger was born Feb. 28, 1862, and died at East Bend, Champaign County Feb. 8, 1945 (per the *Illinois Statewide Death Index*) or at Paxton, Ford County Feb. 9, 1945 (per his obituary).

He was the first of his family to emigrate from Europe. The *SS Hermann* sailed from Bremen, and arrived at Baltimore July 14, 1882. Its passenger list shows passenger #249 as Johanne Eichelsberger, 17, no occupation, Germany.

He initially came to Tazewell County, and later to Ford County.

On Jan. 11, 1893 at Paxton he married Maria Sepp. She was born June 8, 1863, and died at East Bend, Champaign County March 12, 1940. A county marriage record described the groom as John Eichelburger, 30, a son of George Eichelbeuger and Mary Oech. The bride was Mary Sepp, 29, a daughter of Joseph Sepp and Maria Asam.

In the fall the remainder of his family arrived from Europe and settled in Champaign County.

Gospel Herald, March of 1945: "John Eichelberger was born in Bavaria, Germany, Feb. 28, 1862; died at the home of his son George, Paxton, Ill., Feb. 9, 1945; aged 82 y. 11 m. 8 d. He came to America as a young many and settled in Tazewell Co., Ill. Later he moved to Paxton, where in 1892 he was united in marriage to Maria Sepp, who preceded him in death in March, 1940. Surviving are four children (Carl Sepp and Mrs. Leroy Good, Rantoul, Ill.; Mrs. Arthur Good and George Eichelberger, Paxton Ill.), one sister (Mrs. Mary Rentsch, Cissna Park, Ill.), 23 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the East Bend Mennonite Church, in charge of J. A. Heiser. Text, *Ps. 16:6*. Burial was made in the East Bend Cemetery."

TAZEWELL COUNTY

Christian Eichelberger may have been born circa 1765.

He married Magdalena/Madeleine Oesch. We can speculate that she was born at Soultzthal [Ger. *Sulzthal*], Lembach (Soultzthal is now in Windstein), Lower Alsace circa 1765, a daughter of Hans/Jean Oesch and Catherine Zwalti.

Their address was given as 'Etersdorff' when their son Johannes/Jean was married at Nehwiller, Lower Alsace in December of 1814. Present-day Ettersdorf is a hamlet within Wiesent, a municipality in the district of Regensburg, Bavaria.

Children of Christian Eichelberger and Magdalena/Madeleine Oesch born in Lower Alsace include:

1. **Johannes/Jean Eichelberger** was born at Soultzthal, Lembach, Lower Alsace March 3, 1788.
2. Catherine/Katharina Eichelberg was born at Rahling circa 1797, and died at Thierlstein (34 miles northeast of Regensburg) Jan. 6, 1871. She married Jakob Gűngerich. He was born in Hesse-Nassau circa 1783, and died on Grashof farm at Regensburg March 13, 1860, a son of Johannes Gűngerich. According to descendant Helmut Gingerich, her headstone describes her as, *"Katharina Güngerich geborene Eichelberger geboren zu Ralingen in Lothringen gestorben im Jahre 1871 zu Thierlstein."*
3. Magdeleine Eichelberger was born at Rahling May 23, 1800.
4. Christian Eichelberger was born at Rahling Sept. 3, 1803, and died at Ettersdorf in 1869. Bavarian legal documents and newspaper articles describe Christian as a farm leaseholder [Ger. *Ökonomiepächter* or *Gutspächter*] at Ettersdorf. He married Magdalena Ringenberg. According to Helmut Gingerich, they had six children. Five remained in Germany, or died in infancy, while only the fifth child emigrated.

— Christian Eichelberger. According to Helmut Gingerich, the church register at Etttersdorf gives his birthdate as April 4, 1839 (conflicting with his headstone count of 61 Yrs. 8 Mos. 25 Ds.); he died at Hopedale Jan. 9, 1901. He married Marie Schantz. She was born Dec. 4, 1844, and died at Hydro, Oklahoma March 21, 1910. They sailed from Hamburg via Le Havre on the *S.S. Hammonia*, and arrived at New York June 27, 1884. The passenger list shows farmer Christ Eichelberger, 45, Bavary; Marie, 40; Anna, 4; Babette Jordy, 25; a wife; Christ, 4; Babette Augsburger, 18, a wife; Frieda Porcellius, 20, merchant; Joseph Ackerman, 38, workman; Anna, 33; Marie, 14; Kate, 9; and Herm., 8. The 1900 census of Boynton shows them living in the household of a son: farmer Christ Eichelberger, 34, born in November of 1865, Germany, married seven years, immigrated in 1885; Sally, 29, born in October of 1870, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois, married seven years and the mother of four children; Albert B., 6, born in October of 1893, Illinois; Joseph, 4, born in Illinois in November of 1895; Alma, 2, born in Illinois in September of 1897; Christian A., six months, Illinois, born in November of 1899; Christian Jr., father, 61, born in April of 1839, married 37 years, immigrated in 1885; Mary, mother, 56, born in Germany in September of 1843, immigrated in 1885; and servant/farm laborer Henry Blake, 44, born in Missouri in September of 1855 to parents from Ohio. *Herald of Truth*, February of 1901: "On the 9th of Jan., 1901, near Hopedale, Ill., of consumption of which he suffered a long time, Christian Eichelberger, aged 61 years, 8 months and 25 days. He leaves his bereaved companion, three sons and eleven grandchildren. He is gone, but we mourn not as those who have no hope, for we believe that he has gone home. He was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church. Buried on the 11th. Funeral services by John Egli and J. C. Birky from *John 11:25, 26*." He is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. *Gospel Herald*, April of 1910: "Maria Eichelberger was born in Germany Dec. 3, 1844; died near Hydro, Okla., March 21, 1910; aged 65 y. 3 m. 18 d. Three sons, 14 grandchildren, two sisters and many friends mourn her death. Funeral sermon at the Fairview Church by Joseph Schlegel of Hydro, and Jacob Schmucker of Sterling, Kans. Peace to her ashes." She is buried in Pleasant View Cemetery at Hydro, Oklahoma. Their children born at Ettersdorf include:

1) Andrew Eichelberger was born July 13, 1860, and died at Hydro, Oklahoma May 30, 1936. Circa 1890 in Arkansas he married Anna Gingerich. She was born in Germany April 9, 1861, and died at Hydro April 4, 1909, a daughter of Jacob Gingerich and Veronica Roggy. They lived at Stuttgart, Arkansas and Manson, Iowa. They are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery at Hydro.
2) Peter Eichelberger was born Aug. 4, 1864, and died at Wayland, Iowa Sept. 15, 1952. On June 28, 1891 at Gridley, McLean County he married Kate Ackerman. She was born in Germany Oct. or Nov. 4, 1866, and died at Delavan March 25, 1943. G*ospel Herald*, October of 1952: "Eichelberger. Peter, son of Christian and Mary (Schantz) Eichelberger, was born at Ettersdorf, Bayren, Germany, Aug. 4, 1864; passed away as the result of a heart attack, near Wayland, Iowa, Sept. 15, 1952; aged 88 y. 1 m. 11 d. He came to America with other members of his family in 1882, and on June 28, 1891, he was united in marriage to Katherine Ackerman. The following spring they moved to Illinois and seven years ago, when his wife passed away, he came to Wayland, Iowa, to make his home with his son and family. He was a member of the Mennonite Church at Hopedale, Ill., until he moved to Iowa and transferred his membership to the Sugar Creek Church. Surviving are one son (William, Wayland, Iowa), one daughter (Marie-Mrs. Paul Ingersoll, Mason City, Ill.), 14 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and a large number of other relatives and friends. His wife and two sons (Albert and Chris) preceded him in death. Funeral services were held at the Sugar Creek Church, Wayland, Iowa, Sept. 17, conducted by Simon Litwiller, Ben Springer, and Ivan Kauffmann. His body was laid to rest in the cemetery near by."
3) Christian Eichelberger was born Nov. 24, 1865, and died at Hopedale March 25, 1939. On Dec. 18, 1892 in Tazewell County he married Sally Litweiler. She was born at Hopedale in 1864, a daughter of Joseph Litwiller and Catherine Birkey. Christian was naturalized at Pekin Aug. 30, 1890. *Gospel Herald*, April of 1939: 'Christian Eichelberger, son of Christian and Mary Eichelberger, was born at Ettersdorf, Germany, Nov. 24, 1865; died after a lingering illness at the home of his daughter (Katie, near Hopedale, Ill.), March 25, 1939; aged 73 y. 4 m. 1 d. He came to this country with his parents when 17 years old. Most of his life was spent in this community. On Dec. 18, 1892, he was united in marriage to Salome Litwiller of Hopedale, Ill., who preceded him in death Jan. 28, 1929. To this union were born seven children, who survive. On April 26, 1931, he was united in marriage to Anna Greiser of Beemer, Neb., who passed away March 8, 1936. He united with the Mennonite Church in his youth and remained a faithful member until the end. He had a great desire to depart and be with his Lord whom he loved, and often during his suffering would say, "Oh how nice it will be when the Lord takes me home." H leaves four sons and three daughters (Albert and Amos of Emden, Ill.; Joseph, of Fairbury; Chris of El Paso; Alma Birky of Delavan; Katie of Hopedale, and Esther Miller of Conneautville, Pa.), one brother (Peter of Delavan) and 26

grandchildren. There also remain 12 stepchildren (Lizzie Miller, Rose Waters, Hydro, Okla.; Jake, Pete, Chris, Lena Birky, Mary Erb, Beemer, Neb.; Simon, Conneaut Lake, Pa.; Bennie, and Katie Kerler of Wisner, Neb.; Anna Erb, and Daniel of Chappell, Neb.), besides many other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the Hopedale Mennonite Church, March 27, conducted by the brethren Simon Litwiller, and Ben Springer. Text, *Heb. 9:24-28*. Burial in the Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery."

Johannes/Jean Eichelberger was born at Soultzthal, Lembach, Lower Alsace March 3, 1788.

On Dec. 13, 1814 at Nehwiller, Lower Alsace (now Nehwiller-près-Woerth) he married Elisabetha Unsicker. Her father Joseph is best remembered as the Amish Mennonite who nonetheless served as mayor of Nehwiller. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmhand/cultivator Jean Eichelberger, born at Sulzthal, Lembach, March 3, 1788, a resident of Nehwiller. He was a son of cultivator Chrétien Eichelberger, a cultivator at *Etersdorff prés de Regensburg en Baviére* who was present and consenting, and Madeleine Oesch. The bride was described as Elisabetha Unsicker, born at Nehwiller Oct. 11, 1790, a resident of Sevenans. She was a daughter of cultivator Joseph Unsiecker of Nehwiller, who was present and consenting, and Barbe Holly. One witness was Christian Nafziger, 48, a cultivator from Gumbrechtshoffen, Oberbronn, Lower Alsace. Signatures looked like Johannes Eichelberger, Christian Eichelberger, Elisabetha Unsickerin, Joseph Unsicker, Christian Nafziger, and Jacob Jordi.

Their son **Georg/George Eichelberger** was born at Munich May 17, 1817, and died at Flanagan, Livingston County July 3, 1902.

The packet ship *Emerald* departed from Le Havre and arrived at New York Sept. 23, 1845. The passenger list shows George Eichelberger, 29; Jean Ackermann, 26; Madeleine, 22; Joseph, 1; and André Burki, 24.

On Jan. 5, 1851 in Tazewell County George married Veronika 'Fanny' Stalter.[194] She was born at Gern (now a neighborhood of Munich) Aug. 7, 1831, and died at Hopedale Sept. 16, 1880, a daughter of Heinrich Stalter [Jr.] and Jakobina Stalter.

When George was naturalized at Pekin May 26, 1855, he stated that he had immigrated from Germany 36 years earlier and arrived at New York in 1844.

'George Iglebanger' appears on the 1855 state census of Washington. The 1860 census of Washington has farmer George 'Icleberger,' 45, Germany; Fanny, 28, Germany; Linna, 19, Illinois; Christian, 9, Illinois; Peter, 7, Illinois; and Nancy, 2, Illinois.

The 1870 census of Elm Grove shows farmer George Eichelberger, 53, Bavaria; Veronika, 40, Bavaria; Magdalena, 20; Christian, 18; Peter, 16; Anna, 14; Mary, 11; Joseph, 8; Catharine, 6; and Jacobine, five months.

The 1880 census of Hopedale has farmer Geo. Eichelbarger, 63, born in Bavaria to parents from France; Car, 49, Bavaria; Joseph, 17, Illinois; George, 9, Illinois; Phebe, 12, Illinois; laborer Christian, 27, Bavaria; laborer Peter, 23, Illinois; and Anna, 23, Illinois.

The 1900 census of Nebraska, Livingston County shows the household of John W. Neuhauser. One member is father-in-law George Eichelberger, 83, born in Germany in 1817, immigrated in 1844.

Herald of Truth, August of 1902: "July 3rd, 1902, near Flanagan, Ill., George Eichelberger, aged 85 Y., 1 M., 16 D. He leaves four sons and five daughters to mourn his departure, yet not as those who leave no hope. Funeral services at the Amish Mennonite M. H., near Hopedale, by Jno. C. Birky, J. P. Smith, Daniel Slagel and Jos. Egli. Interment in the A. M. graveyard west of Hopedale."

A joint headstone in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery describes the couple as "George Eichelberger, May 17, 1817-July 3, 1902" and "Fanny Stalter, August 7, 1831-Sept. 16, 1880." They are buried in the same family plot as Elizabeth Birkey, the wife of Jacob Eichelberger.

Their children include:

1. Magdalena Eichelberger was born July 22, 1851, and died in Nebraska May 16, 1933. Listed as 'Eleanor Eichelberger,' she married 'Andrew Berkey' in Tazewell County Sept. 4, 1870. This was Andrew Burkey. He was born at Hennepin, Putnam County May 16, 1846, and died in Nebraska March 6, 1923, a son of Andrew Burkey and Magdalena Albrecht. They are buried in West Lawn Cemetery at Gering, Nebraska.
2. Christian Eichelberger was born at Washington, Tazewell County Feb. 14, 1852, and died at Schickley, Nebraska March 7, 1936. On May 18, 1882 at Hopedale he married Elizabeth Birkey; the ceremony was performed by minister Christian Nafziger. She was born in Tazewell County Sept. 19, 1852, and died at Schickley, Nebraska March 22, 1907, a daughter of Joseph Birkey and Mary Birky. In the fall of 1886 they relocated to Decature County, Kansas; then again on Oct. 20, 1903 to Schickley. *Gospel Witness*, April 1907: "Elizabeth (Birkey) Eichelberger was born in Tazwell Co., Ill., Sept. 19, 1852, and died Mar. 22, 1907; aged 53y. 6m. 3d. She united with the A. M. Church at the age of sixteen years and was a faithful member until the time of her death. She leaves a husband and

[194] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as F. Stolder.

eight children, a mother, three brothers and two sisters to mourn her departure but they mourn not as they who have no hope. She left bright evidence that she went to meet her Savior. Buried on the 24, at the Salem Church near Shickley, Neb. Funeral services were conducted by Joseph Rediger in German and N. E. Roth in English, both of Seward, Neb. May God comfort the bereaved family and may it be the means of leading us all a step nearer to our heavenly home. Peace to her ashes." *Gospel Herald*, April 1936: "Christian, son of George and Fanny (Stalter) Eichelberger, was born Feb. 14, 1852, near Washington, Ill.; died at his home near Shickley, Neb., March 7, 1936; aged 84 y. 22 d. Death was caused by cancer. Although he suffered much, he bore his suffering patiently. He was baptized in his youth and united with the Mennonite Church near Hopedale, Ill. On June 18, 1882, he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Birky. To this union were born five sons and three daughters. In the fall of 1886 he with his companion and two children moved to Decator Co., Kans., where they together endured many hardship of pioneer days. On Oct. 20, 1903, he with his family moved to a farm near Shickley, Neb., where he made his home the remainder of his life. He was a loving husband and father who was much concerned about the Church of which he was a faithful member until death. His chief concern was the spiritual welfare of his children and grandchildren. His companion was called to her reward March 22, 1907. One daughter (Mary Gascho) preceded him on Sept. 12, 1930. Seven grandchildren, one brother, and three sisters also preceded him. He leaves five sons (Aaron and Menno of Shickley; Joel of Strang; Edwin and Alvin of Broken Bow, Neb.); two daughters (Lydia Lauber, with whom he made his home, and Emma Troyer of Shickley), 40 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, two brothers (Joe and George of Hopedale, Ill.), three sisters (Mary Gut of Hopedale; Katie Jensen and Phoebe Marshall of Pekin, Ill.), and many other relatives and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Funeral sermon by Bro. P. H. Kennel of the home congregation. Text, *Psa. 116:15*. Interment in the Salem Mennonite Cemetery."

3. Peter Eichelberger was born at Tremont May 16, 1854, and died at Hopedale Jan. 26, 1933. On Feb. 4, 1892 in Tazewell County he married Cora E. Morehead. She was born in Pennsylvania April 22, 1864, and died at Hopedale Oct. 3, 1941, a daughter of Stephen Morehead and May Gibbs. Peter's death entry described him as a 78-year-old drayman (beer delivery), and his parents as Geo. Eichelbrger and Fannie Stalter, both born at Minca [an erroneous transcription of Munich]. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
4. Anna Eichelberger was born in Tazewell County March 29, 1858, and died at Manson, Iowa Nov. 16, 1916. On Jan. 5, 1890 in Tazewell County she married widower John W. Neuhauser. He was born in Butler County, Ohio Dec. 2, 1849, and died at Royal Oak, Michigan June 9, 1942, a son of Peter/Pierre Neuhauser and Anne Marie/Mary Peter Schmidt. For background on this couple see NEUHAUSER.
5. Mary Eichelberger was born at Washington Oct. 26, 1860, and died June 5, 1944. In 1911 she married widower Christian C. Guth/Good. He was born Dec. 23, 1859, and died Feb. 15, 1935, a son of Christian Guth and Jacobina Ehresman. His first wife Mary Brun died in 1910. The 1940 census of Arispie, Bureau County has widow Mary Good, born in Illinois, and roomer Amelia Gyger, 73, Illinois.
6. Joseph Eichelberger was born in Tazewell County Nov. 5, 1862 or 1863, and died at Pekin July 23, 1950. On May 17, 1882 in Tazewell County he married Rosa Naffziger. She was born Aug. 18, 1867, and died Aug. 30, 1905, a daughter of Peter R. Naffziger and Magdalena Engel. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.
7. Katharine/Katie Eichelberger was born Oct. 1, 1864, and died Nov. 10, 1956. On Dec. 6, 1894 in Tazewell County she married Creno D. Jansen.[195] He was born in Illinois Sept. 3, 1866, and died at Pekin Sept. 1, 1949. They are found on the 1920 census of Pekin as Creno Jansen, 53, born in Illinois to German parents, employed in general transfer; Katie, 55, born in Illinois to German parents; and William, 23, born in Illinois and employed in general transfer. They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Pekin.
8. Jacobine/Phoebe Eichelberger was born Feb. 10, 1870, and died April 23, 1960. On Aug. 28, 1892 in Tazewell County she married Harry Marshall. He was born in 1869, and died in 1913. They are buried in Lakeside Cemetery at Peoria.
9. George W. Eichelberger was born March 3, 1872, and died at Pekin Feb. 23, 1957. On Jan. 27, 1897 in Tazewell County he married Emma Sting. They are buried in Orendorff Cemetery at Hopedale as "George Eichelberger 1872-1957, Emma Sting 1873-1980."

Jacob Eichelberger of Livingston County

A possible cousin to George of Tazewell County

Johan Georg Eichelberger may have been a younger brother to Johannes/Jean Eichelberger (born at Soultzthal, Lembach in 1788).

Johan Georg married Maria Anna Ringenberger. According to the 1880 census report of their son Jacob, they were both born in France.

In 1820 they were living at Dunstelkingen, Wűrttemberg (now the German state of Baden-Wűrttemberg). That village is now a neighborhood in the municipality of Dischingen.

[195] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists him as Creno D. Jausen.

Circa 1825 they relocated 20 miles to the north to Zöbingen in Ellwangen district.[196]

Their children are documented in Catholic records with birthdates, but no baptism dates. This suggests that Anabaptist parents were complying with a legal requirement to register the births. Their children born in Wűrttemberg include:

1. Magdalena Eichelberger was born at Dunstelkingen Feb. 19, 1820, and died at Zöbingen Sept. 25, 1831. Her birth entry described her parents as John. Georg Eichelberger and Marianna Ringenberger.
2. Johan Georg Eichelberger was born at Dunstelkingen Nov. 11, 1821.
3. **Jacob Eichelberger** was born at Ellwangen Dec. 25, 1825.
4. An unnamed daughter was born at Zöbingen, and died there Jan. 15, 1828.
5. Peter Eichelberg was born at Zöbingen in 1829, and died there Feb. 20, 1834.
6. Georg Eichelberger was born at Zöbingen Feb. 3, 1841.

Jacob Eichelberger was born at Ellwangen, Wűrttemberg Dec. 25, 1825, and died at Pontiac, Livingston County July 10, 1897; he is buried in Swygert Cemetery in Owego Township, Livingston County.

In 1854 in Bavaria Jacob married Elizabeth Birkey. She was born in Bavaria Nov. 25, 1829, and died in Livingston County June 27, 1899, a daughter of Christian Bürcky (junior) and Catherine Nafziger (whose children were called the 'Big Birkeys'). Though she died in Livingston County after her husband, she is buried in the Eichelberger family plot in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery, near other Big Birkeys.

They sailed from Le Havre via Southampton on the *Vanderbilt*, and arrived at New York July 16, 1860. The passenger list shows farmer Jacob Eischelberger, 34; Elizabeth, 30; George, 2; and Joseph, 4.

The 1870 census of Owego, Livingston County shows their household as farmer Jacob Eichleberger, 45, Bavaria; Elizabeth, 41, Bavaria; Joseph, 14, Bavaria; George E., 12, Bavaria; and Henry, 2, Illinois.

Jacob was naturalized at Pontiac, Livingston County Oct. 31, 1878.

The 1880 census of Owego shows farmer Jacob Eichelberger, 54, born at Ellwangen to French parents; Elizabeth, 50, born in Ober Bayern to a father from France and a mother from Hessen; farmer George, 22, born at Leuterhausen to a father from Ellwagen and a mother from Ober Bayern; Henry, 11, born in Illinois to a father from Elwgzen and a mother from Ober Bayern; and farm laborer Jacob Roth, 51, born in Reinbayern.

On Oct. 28, 1880 at Pontiac Jacob acted as witness for the naturalization of Frederick Sale. Sale was born in Munich Feb. 12, 1846, and had immigrated in 1867. According to a descendant, letters to Sale from his half-brother Edward Bäck and mother Apolonia Sale were dated April 5 and 6, 1867, and originated from 'Perlach, Munich.'

Herald of Truth, April of 1899: "Eichelberger - Elizabeth Birky, widow of the late Jacob Eichelberger, departed this life on the 27th of January 1899, aged 72 years. She leaves three sons and 11 grandchildren to mourn their lose. She was a faithful sister in the Amish congregation, a true pattern of Christian patience. She greatly desired to depart and be with Christ."

Their children include:

1. Joseph Eichelberger was born circa 1856, and died at Manson, Iowa Dec. 12, 1945; he is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. On Feb. 7, 1882 in McLean County he married Barbary Nagler. She was born Oct. 20, 1857, and died Jan. 15, 1889. She is buried in a Nagler family plot in South Side Cemetery at Pontiac. Livingston County, where a group headstone says she was the wife of Jos. Eichelberger.
2. George Eichelberger was born at Leutershausem Oct. 13, 1857, and died at Manson, Iowa Dec. 12, 1945. On April 13, 1886 in Tazewell County he married Fannie Egli.[197] She was born at Zurich, Hay Township, Ontario Jan. 27, 1865, and died at Hopedale Sept. 4, 1905, a daughter of Johannes/Jean/John Egli and Magdalena Gascho. In February of 1910 George remarried to widow Magdalena Oswald Martin. She was born in 1860, and died July 1, 1919, a daughter of Peter Oswald and Barbara Anna Eichelberger. Her first husband was Benjamin Martin. *Gospel Herald*, April 1946: "George Eichelberger was born in Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, Oct. 13, 1857; passed away of infirmities of old age at the home of his son Elmer, Manson, Iowa, Dec. 12, 1945; aged 88 y. 1 m. 29 d. In his youth he accepted Christ as his Saviour and united with the Mennonite Church. He lived in the vicinity of Pontiac and Hopedale, Ill., a short while in Nebraska and Oklahoma, and spent the past several years with his sons at Kouts, Ind., and Manson, Iowa. On April 13, 1887, he was united in marriage to Fanny Egli, who preceded him Sept. 4, 1905. Surviving are eight children (Emma - Mrs. Earl Thomas, Flint, Mich.; Henry, Wanatah, Ind.; Joseph, Beemer, Nebr.; Elmer, Manson, Iowa; Christian and Louie, Hebron, Ind.; George, Francesville, Ind.; and Levi, Pryor, Okla.), 32 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren. One daughter died in infancy. In February, 1910, he was married to Magdalena Martin, who passed away July 1, 1919. He also leaves eight stepchildren (Christian, Peter, Ben, Will,

[196] The village Ellwangen, six miles to the northwest, is also called Ellwangen an der Jagst for the river running through it. Zöbingen is now considered a neighborhood of Unterschneidheim.

[197] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as Fannie Eglo.

Arthur, Amos, and Aaron Martin, and Martha Egli), and a large number of step grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Hopedale (Ill.) Mennonite Church, Dec. 16, in charge of Simon Litwiller and Ben Springer. Interment was made in the Mennonite Cemetery." They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

3. Henry Eichelberger was born in Tazewell County June 18, 1868, and died at Pekin Jan. 19, 1939. On Dec. 9, 1894 in Tazewell County he married Mary Egli.[198] She was born at Minier June 18, 1874, and died at Pekin Feb. 19, 1939, a daughter of Johannes/Jean/John Egli and Magdalena Gascho. They are buried in Lakeview Cemetery at Pekin.

[198] The *Illinois Statewide Marriage Index* lists her as Mary Eegli.

Martin of Zilling

See the preface to ZIMMERMAN *for new information about the genetic background of the Martin family.*

We found three Amish Mennonite Martins living in adjacent villages in the northeast corner of what became the department of Moselle. They are thought to have been siblings, though there was a marriage link between their children.

1. Nicolas Martin was born circa 1732, and died at Gosselming, Moselle Jan. 19, 1814. He married Jacobée Roqui/Rogi/Rogy. She was born circa 1735, and died at Bickenholtz July 11, 1798 . They farmed at Hangviller (now near the northeast border of the department of Moselle with Lower Alsace) from 1773 or earlier. In 1792 they relocated to Bickenholtz (four miles west of Hangviller). Nicolas remained there after Jacobée's death. In 1806 he relocated to Gosselming (five miles west of Bickenholtz). Their children include:
    - Jean Martin may be a member of this family (he is also found as Martinne). He died on Rinting farm at Bébing, Moselle Aug. 28, 1790. He married Anne Litwiller (found as Litviller). She was born circa 1764, and died at Hellering, Moselle (now Hellering-lès-Fénétrange, 11 miles northeast of Diane-Capelle) April 25, 1804. She was likely a daughter of Christian Leutweiler and Elisabeth Wagner. Her civil death entry gave her age as 40 and her birth place as 'Emering, Autriche' [Emmendingen or Emeringen, Baden?]. They were described as Anabaptists.
    a. Barbara/Barbe Martin was born in November 1767, and died at Pisdorf, Lower Alsace Feb. 5, 1821.[199] Her civil death entry described her as Barbara Martin, aged 53 years, two months, and two days; a daughter of Nicolas Martin and Jacobie Rogi; witnessed by miller Chrétien Sommer, 48; and Pierre Sommer, 23. Circa 1798 she married widower Joseph Sommer. He was born at Neuviller-la-Roche, Lower Alsace circa 1745, a son of Jean Sommer and Marie Barbe Neuhauser. His first wife had been Catherine Güngerich.
    b. Catherine Martin was born circa 1770. On Oct. 7, 1797 at Bickenholtz she married Jean Rigard. He was born circa 1772, a son of Leonard Rigard and Catherine Jaquin.
    c. Marie Martin was born circa 1770. On Nov. 10, 1796 at Bickenholtz she married Jacob Schertz. He was born at Bickenholtz circa 1774, and died at Kerprich-aux-Bois, Moselle Oct. 21, 1844, a son of Jean Schertz and Anne Marie Riche.
    d. Madeleine Martin was born at Hangviller March 23, 1773, and died at Pisdorf, Lower Alsace April 16, 1833. Her civil death entry described her as Madeleine Martin, 62, born at Hangenweiler, Meurthe [Hangviller, Moselle], a daughter of the deceased Nicolas Martin and Jacobie Rogi; witness son-in-law and miller Chrétien Hauter, 26. On Dec. 29, 1793 at Bickenholtz, Moselle she married Christian Sommer. He was born at Sparsbach, Lower Alsace April 24, 1773, a son of Joseph Sommer and his first wife Catherine Güngerich.
    e. Joseph Martin was born at Hangviller Nov. 30, 1775. On March 5, 1804 at Rhodes, Moselle he married to Barbe Abresol. She was born at Rhodes Aug. 13, 1779, a daughter of Joseph Abresol and Barbe Vercler. They sailed from Le Havre on the *St. Nicholas*. Barbe died before the ship arrived at New York Jan. 4, 1847. The passenger list shows J. Martin, 70; Barbe, 7; André, 6; André, 6; Cath., 5; Joseph, 3; and P. Martin, 2 (we can identify Barbara and Andrew as grandchildren, daughters of son Joseph Martin and Barbara Bechler).[200] It is likely that Joseph died at Croghan, Lewis County, New York before the 1850 census.[201]
    f. Jacobé Martin was born circa 1776, and died at Bickenholtz Dec. 7, 1815.
    g. Nicolas Martin was born at Bickenholtz circa 1780, and died at Voellerdingen, Lower Alsace Jan. 5, 1843. His death entry gave his age as 63, and named his parents as the deceased Nicolas Martin and an unknown mother. On July 29, 1806 at Bicken holtz he married Catherine Sommer. She was born at Pisdorf, Lower Alsace Nov. 26, 1781, and died at Reding, Moselle July 14, 1852, a daughter of Joseph Sommer and his first wife Catherine Güngerich. Their daughter Anne Martin married her cousin Joseph Martin, a son of Christian Martin and Elisabeth Zehr.

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[199] A village in Lower Alsace was named Pisdorf from 1801 to 1952. In 1952 it became Bischtroff-sur-Sarre. In 1972 it was administratively merged with Sarrewerden. It is located nine miles north/northeast of Gosselming.

[200] The 1850 census of Croghan shows farmer Joseph Martin, 45, Germany; Barbaray, 38, Germany; Barbaray, 11, Germany; Andrew, 10, Germany; and Catharine, 8, New York.

[201] We found sources that say Joseph Martin died in 1844 at Angevillers (likely meant to be Hangviller) or Moussey (one of two locations, either in Moselle or Vosges). No death entry was found at these locations.

h. André Martin was born at Asswiller, Lower Alsace in 1784. On Feb. 15, 1815 at Gosselming he married Catherine Scherrer [Zehr?].

2. Madeleine Martin was born at Zilling in 1733, and died at Hanviller April 11, 1805. She married Christian Koch. He was born circa 1731, and died at Bitche, Moselle Feb. 3, 1798. He was a son of Nikolaŭs Koch, who settled on the Rauschenbourg estate [Ger. *Rauschenburg*] at Ingwiller, Lower Alsace in 1742. Nikolaŭs was a minister and elder. Madeleine and Christian farmed on the Gentersberg estate at Hanviller, Moselle (adjacent on the north side, and downriver from Bitche). Their daughter Barbara/Barbe Koch married Christian 'Christel' Bürcky/Bircki circa 1781, and died at Hanviller Feb. 13, 1815. Barbara and Christian were the grand parents of the 'Big Birkeys' who came to Tazewell County in 1840. See BIRKY/BIRKEY for more on this family.
3. **Christian Martin**, was born circa 1737, and died at Imling, Moselle June 8, 1837, age 100.

The younger brother, **Christian Martin**, was born circa 1737, and died at Imling, Moselle June 8, 1837, age 100.

He married Barbara/Barbe Koch. She was born circa 1750, and died at Zilling Dec. 30, 1822, a daughter of minister Nikolaŭs Koch of Ingwiller, Lower Alsace.

Zilling is a tiny village (present population about 270) adjacent to Hangviller. A census of Mennonite families created April 24, 1809 lists three heads of household there: Xtiane Martin (three residents); Jean Esch (six residents); and Michel Bechler (three residents).

Children of Christian Martin and Barbara/Barbe Koch born there include:

1. Katharina/Catherine Martin was born Oct. 17, 1777, and died at Gosselming, Moselle Aug. 19, 1841. On March 28, 1794 at Zilling she married Jean Oesch. He was born on the castle estate Gutenbrunnen at Asswiller, Lower Alsace circa 1770, and died at Gosselming Feb. 12, 1821, a son of Christian Oesch and Barbara Schertz. In 1814 they relocated from Zilling to the Alzing estate at Gosselming. Katharina/Catherine's death entry was witnessed by sons Jean Esch, 34, and André Esch, 27, cultivators on Alzing farm at Gosselming; her age was given as 66, and her parents were described as the deceased Chrétien Martin, who in life had been a cultivator on the farm La Forge, Imling, and Barbe Koch, living at Zilling [although she had died there in 1822].
2. Barbe Martin was born Dec. 20, 1778, and died at Zilling June 3, 1841. On Jan. 10, 1805 at Zilling she married Michel Bechler; her parents were present and consenting at the wedding. Michel was born at Haselbourg July 20, 1779, and died at Zilling Dec. 14, 1841, a son of Joseph Bechler and Marguerite Saltzmann. Marriage witnesses included laborer Jean Oesch of Zilling, 30.
3. Madeleine Martin was born June 24, 1785, and died Dec. 6, 1808. On April 21, 1802 at Zilling she married Joseph Sommer. He was born at Bust, Lower Alsace [found as 'Bustdorf' on the marriage entry] July 15, 1780, and died at Ratzwiller, Lower Alsace Sept. 25, 1835, a son of Jacques Sommer and Catherine Springer (both deceased by the marriage). On July 11, 1810 at Fenétrange, Moselle he remarried to Véronique Mourer (see MAURER).
4. **Christian Martin** was born Nov. 11, 1789, and died at Imling May 3, 1873.
5. Anne Martin was born May 9, 1793, and died July 23, 1794.

Christian Martin was born at Zilling Nov. 11, 1789, and died at Imling May 3, 1873. On Dec. 13, 1810 at Domèvre-sur-Vezouse, Meurthe-et-Moselle he married Elisabeth Zehr. She was born at Hellering, Moselle June 24, 1789, and died at Imling March 11, 1873, a daughter of Christian Zehr and Catherine Litviller.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christianne Martin, a resident of Zilling, a son of cultivator Christianne Martin and Elizabeth Kog [Barbe Koch] who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Elisabethe Zert, a resident of Domèvre, daughter of cultivator Christianne Zert and Catherine Littviller who were present and consenting. Witnesses included cultivator Christianne Zert, 49, father of the bride; Christian Kerbre [Gerber], 49, friend of the bride living at Herbéviller; Christian Martin, cultivator, 68, father of the groom living at Zilling; and Jean Frey, 40, friend of the groom living at Zilling.

They farmed at Igney, Meurthe-et-Moselle. Circa 1818 they relocated 13 miles north to live on the farm La Forge below Imling, Moselle.

Their children include:

1. Catherine Martin was born at Igney, Meurthe-et-Moselle April 11, 1813.
2. **Christian/Christophe Martin** was born at Igney Jan. 20, 1815, and died at Hopedale Feb. 22, 1882. His civil birth entry, calling him Christophe Martin, described his father as cultivator Christophe Martin, 26, a resident of Igney; and his mother as Elizabeth Sert, 25. It was signed 'Christian Martin,' and was witnessed by cultivator Nicolas Sert, 40, who signed his name 'Nicolaŭs Zehr.'
3. Elisabeth Martin was born at Igney Oct. 14, 1817, and died at Gondrexange, Moselle Dec. 24, 1870. On April 4, 1836 at Gondrexange she married Christian Roth. He was born there Aug. 14, 1808, a son of Christian Roth and Anne Lehman.

4. André Martin was born at Imling, Moselle March 15, 1820, and died at Oberstinzel, Moselle in 1871. On Sept. 1, 1850 at Imling he married Catherine Schertz. She was born at Reherrey, Meurthe-et-Moselle March 31, 1825, and died at Oberstinzel Oct. 25, 1868, a daughter of Jean Schertz and Catherine Abresol.
5. Joseph Martin was born at Imling Feb. 8, 1824. On Feb. 4, 1873 at Imling he married his cousin Anne Martin. She was born at Bickenholtz, Moselle May 10, 1812, and died at Imling Jan. 25, 1883, a daughter of Nicolas Martin and Catherine Sommer.
6. Jean Pierre Martin was born at Imling May 19, 1825. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Christianne Martin, 38, resident of the farm La Forge at Imling, and Elisabeth Serre.
7. **Nicolas/Nicholas Martin** was born at Imling March 21, 1835 (per his civil birth entry), and died at Beemer, Nebraska Feb. 19, 1905. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Christian Martin, 47, and Elisabeth Serre, residents of Imling.

The two sons Christian and Nicholas came to Tazewell County. They would have known of relatives here not only on the Zehr side but on the Birkey side as well. They were second cousins to Christian Bürcky, the father of the 'Big Birkeys' who had arrived in 1840 (sharing great-grandfather Niklaüs Koch).

Older brother Christian/Christophe Martin

Christian/Christophe Martin was born at Igney, Meurthe-et-Moselle Jan. 20, 1815, and died at Hopedale Feb. 22, 1882.

On Feb. 22, 1841 at Imling, Moselle he married Marie/Mary Zehr. She was born at Chazelles, Moselle April 22, 1822, and died at Hopedale Feb. 1, 1913, a daughter of Georg Zehr and Barbe Mosimann.

They sailed from Le Havre on the *Hanover*, and arrived at New Orleans June 16, 1848. The passenger list shows carpenter Christophe Martin, 33, France; Marie, 26; Christophe, 4; and Barbe, 1. They arrived at Pekin via the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers in time for the July 4th celebration.

They are found on the 1850 census of Tazewell County as farmer Christian Martin, 35, Germany; Mary, 35, Germany; Christian, 6, Illinois; and Barbara, 4, Illinois. They appear on the census page between Benjamin Goldschmidt and Michael Zimmerman.

The 1870 census of Little Mackinaw shows farmer Chris Martin, 55, France; Mary, 46, France; Jos., 17, Ill.; and Benj., 13, Ill. Their household appears on the 1880 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer C. Martin, 65, born in France to German parents; Mary, 58, born in France to German parents; Benjamin, 23, works on farm, born in Illinois to German parents; Thomas Crabill, 18, works on farm, born in Russia to Russian parents; servant Lena Oswald, 20, born in Germany to German parents; and Charles Pultzie, 30, works on farm, born in Germany to German parents. Some of the locations may have been unsure because of the German occupation of Alsace-Lorraine 1870-1918, and confusion of ethnicity or language versus nativity.

Herald of Truth, March 1882: "On the 22nd of Feb., near Hopedale, Tazewell Co., Ill., Christian Martin, aged 76 years and 26 days. He was a peace-loving member of the Amish Mennonite church. He was buried on the 25th. Services were held at the house by John Naffziger, Joseph Springer, and Christian Naffziger, and at the meeting-house by Noah G. Augspurger. He leaves a widow and four children."

Gospel Herald, February 1913: "Mary Zehr was born in Alsace, France April 7, 1822; died Feb. 1, 1913; aged 90 y. 8 m. 24 d. She was married to Christian Martin in 1841. To this union were born three sons and one daughter, all of whom preceded her to the home beyond the grave. She leaves 23 grandchildren and 63 great-grandchildren. She was converted in her youth and united with the Amish Mennonite Church by being baptized upon confession of her faith, and was faithful to the end. She was buried Feb. 4. Sermons by Daniel Nafziger, Samuel Gerber and John C. Birky. Text, *Phil. 1:21* and *I Cor. 15:51-58*." Christian and Marie are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.

Children of Christian/Christophe Martin and Marie/Mary Zehr include:

1. Christian/Christopher Martin was born at Gosselming, Moselle Aug. 25, 1843, and died at Garden City, Dayton Township, Missouri Aug. 16, 1907. On April 3, 1870 in Tazewell County he married Jakobina/Phoebe C./Phebe Nafziger. She was born at Washington, Tazewell County Dec. 3, 1852, and died at Garden City Jan. 10, 1918, a daughter of Daniel Nafziger and Elizabeth Summer. They are shown on the 1870 census of Little Mackinaw, on the census page before his parents: farmer Martin Ch.n, 27, France; Jacapina, 20, Ill.; and farm laborer Eversoll Jos., 42, France. They relocated from Little Mackinaw to Garden City in 1875. They are found on the 1880 census of Dayton Township as Christian Martin, 36, born in France to French parents; Phebe, 29, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Ohio; and three children born in Illinois. They are buried in Clearfork Cemetery at Garden City. *Herald of Truth*, March 1882: "Christian Martin was born Aug. 25, 1843, in Alsace, France, came to America in 1848, settled with his parents near Pekin, Tazewell Co. Ill., and was married to Phoebe Nofzinger April 3, 1870. They lived near Hopedale until 1875, when they moved to near Garden City, Mo., where he lived until his

death, Aug. 16, 1907; age 63 Y., 11 M., 21 D. Deceased leaves a wife, five children, aged mother, one brother and many friends to mourn their loss, which we believe was his eternal gain. Two daughters preceded him to the spirit world. He was a faithful member of the A. M. church from his youth. His death was due to paralysis, terminating in other diseases. He was resigned to the will of God, and his desire in his last days was to read God's word and to pray. Funeral services on Aug. 18, at the residence by Pre. C. S. Hauder, and at the Sycamore M. H. by the home ministers, assisted by Pre. Jacob Yoder of Arkansas, where nearly 1,000 people had gathered. Text, 2 Cor. 5:1." *Gospel Herald*, February 1918: "Phoebe (Naffsinger) Martin was born near Washington, Ill., Feb. 3, 1852. Died of leakage of the heart, near Garden City, Mo., at the home of her daughter, Sister E.G. Kanagy on Jan. 10, 1918; aged 65y. 11m. 7d. April 3, 1870, she was united in marriage to Christian Martin in Tazewell Co., Ill. To this union were born two sons and five daughters. In the spring of 1875 they left Tazewell Co. and moved to Cass Co., MO., near Garden City. Her husband died at this place Aug. 16, 1907, also twin daughters (Ida and Phoebe) preceded him. Three daughters and two sons survive to mourn their loss, also 26 grandchildren, two sisters, and one brother amid many other relatives and friends. All but one of the children (Benjamin, of Minot, N.D.) reside in this community and were at the mother's bedside during sickness and death. Sister Martin united with the Amish Mennonite Church early in her youth and remained faithful until death. In her last hours she requested the reading of God's Word and said all was well should the end come. It was always her joy to attend church services, was always cheerful, and ready to lend a helping hand to all. She expressed her willingness to depart or remain - just as the Lord will. Text, (by I.G. Hartzler) *Jno. 14:2*. Interment in the Clearfork Cemetery."

2. Barbara Martin was born at Gosselming, Moselle Nov. 2, 1846, and died Dec. 22, 1885. On April 6, 1869 in Tazewell County she married Joseph Nafziger. He was born at Spring Bay, Woodford County July 8, 1845, and died at Minier March 16, 1910, a son of Daniel Nafziger and Elizabeth Summer. For more on this couple see NAFZIGER, DANIEL NAFZIGER.
3. Joseph Martin was born at Pekin March 12, 1853, and died Jan. 10, 1900. On Jan. 26, 1882 in Missouri he married Hannah Rebecca Roush. She was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania Dec. 5, 1860, and died at Hopedale Oct. 14, 1927, a daughter of Joseph K. Roush and Anna. *Herald of Truth*, February 1900: "On the 10th of Jan., 1900, near Hopedale, Ill., after protracted suffering of consumption, Bro. Joseph Martin, aged 46 years, 9 months, 29 days. He greatly longed for the hour of his departure. He was a faithful Christian from his youth and a member of the Amish Mennonite congregation near Hopedale. He was married in 1882 to Hannah Rausch, who with six children, his aged mother, two brothers and many friends mourn their loss, yet not as those who have no hope. Burired at Hopedale A.M. meeting house on the 11th. Funeral services by John Egli, Joseph Litwiller and J.C. Birky."
4. Benjamin Martin was born at Pekin June 26, 1856, and died at Chicago Feb. 13, 1909. On March 3, 1881 in Tazewell County he married Magdalena 'Lena' Oswald. She was born at Ernstweiler in the Pfalz Sept. 17, 1860, and died at Beemer, Nebraska July 1, 1919, a daughter of Peter Oswald and Anna Eichelberger.[202] They are found on the 1900 census of Minier Village, Little Mackinaw Township as farmer Benjamin Martin, 42, born in Illinois in June 1857 to French parents; Magdalena, 39, born in Illinois in September 1860 to German parents; and eight children born in Illinois. *Gospel Herald*, March 1909: "Died, Feb. 13, 1909, in Chicago, where he was taking treatment for nervous troubles, Bro. Benjamin Martin of Hopedale, Ill., aged 52 y. 7 m. 17 d. Death being caused by cerebral hemmorhage. He leaves to mourn a sorrowful wife, seven sons, one daughter and his aged and grief stricken mother who has now seen all her children laid in the grave. May God comfort the bereaved ones. The remains were brought to his home. Buried Feb. 17. Services by Sam. Garber and A. H. Leaman." Benjamin and Magdalena are buried in Mennonite Cemetery at Hopedale.

Younger brother Nicolas/Nicholas Martin

Nicolas/Nicholas Martin was born at Imling March 21, 1835 (per his civil birth entry, though *History of Tazewell County* gives March 15, 1834), and died at Beemer, Nebraska Feb. 19, 1905.

He sailed from Le Havre on the *Diadem*, arriving at New York May 5, 1854. The passenger list shows Nicholas Martin, 19, France. Elsewhere on the same page was Nicholas Risser, 18 (he would marry Katie Gerber/Garber in Butler County, Ohio March 21, 1858, then remarry to Magdalena Springer in McLean County Dec. 28, 1864; see SPRINGER).

On April 1, 1855 in Tazewell County he married Catherine 'Katie' Litwiller; the ceremony was performed by minister Andrew Ropp. She was born at Milford, Ohio May 21, 1834, and died at Milford, Nebraska May 1, 1930, a daughter of Joseph Litwiller and his first wife Barbe/Barbara Ulrich.

Nicholas initially worked as a farmhand at Pekin. They appear on the 1860 census of Little Mackinaw as Nicholas Martin, 25, France; Catharine, 22, France; Barbara, 4, Illinois; Christian Saulsman, 10, Illinois; and Joseph Martin, 2, Illinois. They are found on the 1870 census of Boynton as Nicholas Martin, 36, France; Katharine, 35, Ohio; Barbara, 14; Joseph, 12; Mary A., 6; Anna E., 3; and Katy J., newborn; all children born in Illinois.

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[202] An obituary for her brother Peter Oswald (1864-1934) says he was born at Regensburg, Bavaria. He and his parents immigrated to New Orleans in 1872, and remained there until relocating at Hopedale in 1876.

The 1880 census of Boynton shows farmer Nicholas Martin, 46, France; Catharine, 45, Illinois; Joseph C., 22, Illinois; Mary, 16, Illinois; Catharine, 10, Illinois; Jacob Waldner, 24, Russia; Joseph Garber, 9, Illinois; and Emma Martin, 13, Illinois.

Herald of Truth, March 1905: On the 19th of Feb., 1905, near Beemer, Cuming Co., Neb., Nicholas Martin; aged 71 Y., 11 M., 4 D. Deceased was born in Saarburg, Alsace, came to America at the age of twenty, settling first in Tazewell Co., Ill., where he united in marriage with Katharine Litwiller, April 1, 1855. From Illinois he moved to Decatur Co., Kansas, in 1887, and in 1894 to Cuming Co., Neb. He leaves a wife, one son and four daughters, also 34 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Funeral services on the 22nd by J.H. Birky and Peter Oswald. Burial in the Beemer cemetery."

Gospel Herald, June 1930: "Catherine (Litweiler) Martin was born in Butler Co., Ohio, May 21, 1834; died at the home of her eldest daughter, Barbara Birky, Milford, Nebr., May 1, 1930; aged 95 y. 1 m. 10 d. She was married to Nicklos E. Martin in April, 1854. He preceded her in death Feb. 19, 1905 at Beemer, Nebr. This union was blessed with four daughters and one son (Barbara Birky, Joseph, Mary Birky, Emma Birky, and Katie Stoltzfus). She leaves four daughters, 37 grandchildren, 92 great-grandchildren, 13 great-great-grandchildren and many friends. She was exceptionally blessed with long life and good health. Even in her last days she could think clearly and see the beauties of nature. The last four years of her life she lived with A. D. Birky's. She accepted Christ as her Savior in her youth and was a member of the Amish Mennonite Church for about 78 years. She died trusting in the Lord. It was her desire to depart and be with Christ, and she patiently waited for the call. "Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his abundant mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (*Tit. 3: 5*). Short funeral services were held at the home of Bro. Birky on Sunday afternoon. On Monday her remains were taken to her former home at Beemer, Nebr. Services were conducted by J. E. Zimmerman of Milford, Nebr. Text, *I Pet. 1: 4, 24, 25*."

Their children born at Hopedale include:

1. Barbara C. Martin was born Dec. 25, 1855, and died at Milford, Nebraska April 15, 1944. On Feb. 21, 1878 in Tazewell County she married Andrew D. Birky. He was born in Tazewell County Jan. 22, 1853, and died at Milford, Nebraska May 3, 1940, a son of Christian Birkey and Catherine Mosiman. *Gospel Herald*, May 1944: "Barbara C. Birky, daughter of Nicholas and Katie Martin was born near Hopedale, Ill., Dec 25, 1855; died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Elmer Stutzman, April 15, 1944; aged 88y, 3m, 20d. She accepted Christ in her youth and became a member of the Mennonite Church and lived a faithful life to the end. On Feb 21, 1878, she was married to Andrew Birky, who preceded her in death in 1940. She leaves her eight children all of whom are living. They are: Mrs. Katie Stutzman, Mrs. Mary Stutzman, Mrs. Ida Stutzman, and Mrs. Lydia Miller all of Milford, Nebr.; Mrs. Fannie Stutzman, Mrs. Barbara Stutzman, Tofield Alta. Nicholas, Albany Oreg; and Reuben, Hebron, Ind. Her 3 sisters are; Mrs. Mary Burky, Creston, Mont; Mrs. Katie Stoltzfus, Manson, Ia.; and also 39 grandchildren and 74 great-grandchildren. One brother, Joseph, and three grandchildren preceded her in death. She was a devoted companion and a loving mother, who was much concerned about the spiritual welfare of her family. Hers was a life of unselfish sacrificial service for those about her. Her quiet daily walk with her Savior was one of inspiration d example. Grandma enjoyed good health until a few weeks ago she had the misfortune of breaking her hip. Her intense suffering was born patiently. Funeral services were held April 17, in East Fairview Church in charge of Bros. J. M. Zimmerman and Era Wroth. Burial was in the church cemetery."
2. Joseph C. Martin was born April 14, 1858, and died March 20, 1924. On Feb. 20, 1881 in Tazewell County he married Katherine 'Katie' Birky. She was born at Hopedale Jan. 5, 1863, and died there April 10, 1928, a daughter of Johannes/John Birkey and Elizabeth Birky. *Gospel Herald*, May 1928: "Katharine Birky Martin was born Jan. 5, 1863; died April 10, 1928; aged 65 y. 3 m. 5 d. She was united in marriage to Joseph Martin Feb. 15, 1881, who preceded her in death March 20, 1924. To this union were born three sons and one daughter (John, Daniel, Joseph, and Katie Cripe who passed away Feb. 19, 1915). She leaves three sons, 13 grandchildren, one brother (Chris J. Birky) and a host of relatives and friends. She united with the Mennonite Church in her youth and remained faithful to the end. Funeral services were conducted April 13 at the Hopedale, Ill., Mennonite Church, by Bro. Samuel Gerber, assisted by the home ministers. Text, *Isa. 38:1*, latter clause."
3. Catherine 'Katie J.' Martin was born July 15, 1869, and died at Manson, Iowa Nov. 8, 1946. On Nov. 13, 1890 at Beemer, Nebraska she married Christian Stoltzfus. He was born in Union County, Pennsylvania April 11, 1870, and died at Fort Dodge, Iowa Dec. 31, 1942, a son of Jonathon Stoltzfus and Lydia Eash. They are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery at Manson. *Gospel Herald*, February 1943: "Christian, eldest son of Jonathan and Lydia (Eash) Stoltzfus, was born in Union Co., Pa., April 11, 1870; died Dec. 31, 1942, at the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Dodge, Iowa. At the age of 13 he moved with his parents to Lyon Co., Kans. where he grew to manhood. The remainder of his life was spent in Decatur Co., Kans.; Beemer, Nebr.; and Manson, Iowa, having lived in Manson for the past twenty-eight years. In 1890 he was united in marriage with Katie Martin. To them were born four children (Mrs. Chris Birky, Nicholas and Chris of Manson, and Emanuel of Lake Park, Iowa). He accepted Christ as his Saviour in early manhood and united with the Mennonite Church. Among the most blessed memories to his family and friends are

the peace and confidence expressed during his last illness. Besides his sorrowing companion, children and grandchildren he leaves one brother (Amon) of Wellman, Iowa and one sister (Sara) of Chappell, Nebr. Funeral services were held Jan. 3 at the Manson Mennonite Church, with Bro. Joe E. Zimmerman of Milford, Nebr., officiating. Text, *II Tim. 4:6-8*. Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery" *Gospel Herald*, February 1947: "Stoltzfus, Katie J., daughter of Nicholas and Catherine Martin, was born near Delavan, Ill., July 15, 1869; passed away at the home of her son (Chris), in Manson, Iowa, Nov. 8, 1946; aged 77 y. 3 m. 23 d. At an early age she moved with her parents to Selden, Kans. In 1891 she was married to Christian E. Stoltzfus, who predeceased her on Dec. 31, 1942. In 1907 they moved to Beemer, Nebr., where they resided until the spring of 1915, when they moved to Manson. At the age of eighteen she became a Christian and united with the Mennonite Church. Surviving are four children (Lydia - Mrs. Chris Birky, Nicholas, and Chris, all of Manson, and Emanuel, Lake Park, Iowa), nine grandchildren, two sisters (Mrs. Mary Birkey, Creston, Mont., and Mrs. Emma Birkey, Kouts, Ind.), and other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the Manson Mennonite Church, Nov. 11, in charge of George J. Lapp. Interment was made in Rose Hill Cemetery."

4. Mary Ann Martin was born April 9, 1864, and died at Creston, Montana May 27, 1952. On April 12, 1881 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Birky. He was born at Morton Sept. 19, 1855, and died at Calkins, Montana Jan. 12, 1917, a son of Joseph Birkey and Mary Birky. *Gospel Herald*, July 1952: "Birky, Mary, daughter of Nicholas and Katie (Litwiller) Martin, was born April 9, 1864, at Hopedale, Ill.; died May 27, 1952, at the home of her daughter near Creston, Mont.; aged 88 y. 1 m. 18d. She was married to Jacob Birky in 1881 at Hopedale, Ill. Surviving are 4 sons (Joe and Eli, Creston, Mont.; Menno and Benjamin, White Sulphur Springs, Mont.), 4 daughters (Amelia Miller, Lincoln, Nebr.; Leah Deeter, Hardin, Mont; Emma Hocstetler and Elizabeth Kauffman, Creston, Mont.), 29 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. Two daughters (Katie and Mary) preceded her in death. Her husband died in 1917 at Shickley, Nebr. In 1928, she moved with her son Eli to Creston, Mont., where she spent the remaining days of her life. Early in youth she united with the Mennonite Church in which faith she continued until the Lord called her home. Funeral services were held at the Mountain View Mennonite Church on May 31 by D. D. Brenneman." Jacob is buried in Mayn Cemetery at White Sulphur Springs, Montana; Mary Ann is buried in Conrad Memorial Cemetery at Kalispell, Montana.
5. Emma M. Martin was born Oct. 24, 1865, and died at Kouts, Indiana Oct. 15, 1957. On Sept. 24, 1884 in Tazewell County she married Jacob D. Birkey/Birky. He was born in Tazewell County July 25, 1855, and died at Kouts, Indiana July 12, 1926, a son of Christian Birkey and Catherine Mosiman. *Gospel Herald*, July 1926: "Jacob D. Birky was born at Morton, Ill., July 25, 1855; died at his home at Kouts, Ind., July 12, 1926; aged 70 y. 11 m. 18 d. He was united in marriage with Emma Martin Sept. 25, 1884. To this union were born seven sons and four daughters, and 23 grandchildren. He was converted when a young man and united with the Amish Mennonite Church. When the first Sunday school was organized at Hopedale, Ill., he was the first superintendent of Sunday school. In 1895 he was ordained to the ministry and seven years later in 1902 he was called to the office of bishop, thus serving faithfully in the ministry for 31 years. He is survived by his wife, seven sons, four daughters, 22 grandchildren, his aged mother-in-law (Mrs. Martin, 92 years old), two brothers (Joseph and Andrew), three sisters (Mrs. Mary Egle; Lizzie, and Mrs. Litwiller). He preached at his home church two weeks before his death. He was sick nearly two weeks, when he quietly passed away. His greatest concern was that his family and congregation be ready to meet their God in peace. Funeral on July 15 at Mennonite Church at Kouts, Ind., where a large number of friends from Illinois, Nebraska, Iowa, and Indiana met for the occasion. Services Bro. D. D. Miller, assisted by others." *Gospel Herald*, November 1957: "Birky, Emma, daughter of Nicholas and Katherine Martin, was born at Hopedale, Ill., Oct. 24, 1865; died Oct. 15, 1957; aged 91 y. 11m. 21 d. On Sept. 19, 1884, she was married to Jacob D. Birky. She accepted Christ in her youth and was a faithful member of the church until death. As a mother and wife of a bishop she lived an exemplary life at all times. Surviving are seven sons (Amos, Jonas, Dean, Samuel, and Emanuel, all of Kouts, Ind.; Jake, Valparaiso, Ind.; and Emory, Hebron, Ind.), two daughters (Mrs. Mary Good, and Emma-Mrs. Simon Good, of Kouts), 38 grandchildren, 69 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Hopewell Church, Kouts, Ind., Oct. 17, with Samuel S. Miller in charge. Burial in the church cemetery." They are buried in Hopewell Mennonite Cemetery at Kouts.

Imhoff: Imhof of Trippstadt

Because the meaning of *Hof* has changed over time, it is difficult to say whether the surname Imhof was originally meant to identify someone from a settlement, a jurisdiction, or a farm. But now it is generally understood to describe someone who worked or was born in the courtyard of an estate. The 1682 *Mosestafel* tableau in the Protestant Reformed Church at Steffisburg has a coats-of-arms board [Ger.*Wappentafel*] for Christen Imhoff. It shows a circular Gothic wall enclosing a courtyard.

The early history of this family revolves around estates surrounding the village of Trippstadt, seven miles below the city of Kaiserslautern.[203]

At the turn of the 18th century the region that encompassed Kaiserslautern and Trippstadt, between Saarland and the Rhine River, was contested by the Dukes of Lorraine and the Palatine Elector. The dukes considered it part of the formerly Austrian county of Falkenstein, and part of their inheritance.

Wilenstein castle was built on a hilltop circa 1152, then rebuilt a number of times at the same elevation. The last castle used for protection was gutted by sieges during the Thirty Years War, but in the meantime the village of Trippstadt had grown up beside it.

A document created at Heidelberg March 30, 1688 shows that Christian Zug and Michael Müller leased the 17-acre grounds of the ruined castle. The lease signed by Palatine Elector Philip Wilhelm offered very generous terms in exchange for the construction of a dwelling and outbuildings. The property would be known as the Wilensteinerhof estate. This was four years before the Amish division in Canton Bern, suggesting the Zugs may have been part of the wave of emigration from Canton Bern soon after 1670.

On Jan. 5, 1716 the Palatine Elector Johann Wilhelm awarded property east of Trippstadt to *Freiherr* Ludwig Anton von Hacke. A *Freiherr* was a free lord of the Holy Roman Empire. He was entitled to hold a domain and judicial authority over its residents.

In 1719 von Hacke made additional purchases including the Wilenstein castle and its grounds, as well as the Aschbacherhof estate on the northern edge of Trippstadt. He added the functions of forest manager and master of the hunt to his appointments as a military colonel and privy councillor.

On Jan. 1, 1720 Amish Mennonites Christian Zug, his wife Barbara, and Christian Stauffer purchased the Wilensteinerhof estate directly from von Hacke. The *Freiherr* guaranteed them family patrimonial rights - barring a violation of the conditions, ownership could be passed on to their descendants.

> "I, Ludwig Anton, Baron von Hacke of Schweinspaint and Trippstadt, privy council, treasurer, and chief hunt master of the Elector of the *Pfalz*, recognize and make known herewith for myself and my heirs and descendants, that I have endowed Christel Züg and Barbara his spouse and Christel Stauffer, stepson of the deceased Peter Stauffer, and all their heirs, male and female in descending line, as a permanent and solid patrimonial estate, my Willsteiner Hof, both feudal and allodial... including buildings and their court yards, lands, meadows, and fields as well as the grinding mill area located in the meadow valley; and also that they, and their heirs of the patrimonial estate, may keep, use, and enjoy such aforementioned items in the capacity of *Domini Utilis*, reserving for me, however, authority as *Dominum Directum* (overlord)."

The economy of Trippstadt depended on the oak trees of the *Pfälzerwald* [Palatine forest] surrounding it. A foundry was established in 1724. The production of charcoal for smelting supported about 50 families.

In 1733 the question of dominion between the dukes and the elector was resolved in favor of the elector. Duke Franz Stephan of Lorraine gave up his claims in exchange for other land parcels. [204] As the *Rheinbayern* under the elector the area would retain much of its French influence, and its citizens prided themselves in their relatively progressive attitudes.

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[203] A tradition of religious tolerance began at Kaiserslautern when a state called *Pfalz-Lautern* was partitioned in 1576. Its administrator Johann Casimir attempted to create a Protestant stronghold by accepting Calvinist exiles from other states, and Huguenots from France. *Pfalz-Lautern* was absorbed into the *Pfalz* after his death. A short name for the city, Lautern, is found on 18th century censuses.

[204] Three years later Duke Franz Stephan became the husband of Austrian Empress Maria Theresa.

On April 20, 1742 sons Christian and Johannes Zug gave up their inherited rights to one-half of the the Wilenstein castle grounds, with the permission of von Hacke. They sailed from Amsterdam to Philadelphia later that year (see KAUFFMAN).[205]

Die Domäne Trippstadt, the private domain of a *Freiherr*, was exempted from censuses conducted by *Kurpfalz* administrators. Thus we do not find an accounting of the Mennonite residents of Trippstadt in the Guth publication *Palatine Mennonite Census Lists, 1664-1793* - though we do find the locations surrounding it such as Kaiserslautern, Schmalenberg, and the Lauberwald.

In 1744 Palatine Elector Karl Theodor issued a concession reducing the mandatory annual protection payment for Anabaptists to six florins. This amended an *Edict of Tolerance* issued by Palatine Elector Karl Ludwig in 1664. However, Karl Theodor also required a gradual decrease in the number of families in the *Pfalz* from 240 to 200. New immigrants and sons who wished to marry were required to obtain special permits to remain in the county temporarily. The concession may have been the incentive that first brought Imhofs to von Hacke's domain at Trippstadt. There, they would have been exempt from the concession requirements.

Christian Imhof was born circa 1709.[206] He and his wife Verena may have arrived on the Wilensteinerhof estate shortly after the edict of tolerance requirements were restated.[207]

Freiherr von Hacke died in the court of the elector at Mannheim in 1752, and was buried in the church of St. Joseph at Trippstadt.[208] After his death his son Franz Karl Joseph von Hacke inherited his privileges as a *Freiherr*. He maintained his father's tolerant acceptance of Amish Mennonites.

When an assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers took place at Essingen in 1759, the Kaiserslautern-Trippstadt area was represented by Johannes/Hans Höffli of Otterberg (just above Kaiserslautern - see EHRISMAN, THE MECHTERSHEIMERHOF for background on Höffli) and Christian Schenk of Schmalenberg (adjacent to Trippstadt on its southwest side). But the signature of 'Christen Imhof" was grouped with ministers from the area of Essingen and Eusserthal (about 20 miles southeast of Trippstadt). Other *Obere Gemeinde* ministers were Johannes 'Hans *der alte*' Nafziger, Christian Nafziger, Georg Holly, and Jakob Holly. Thus some historians identify him as a representative of the Upper Pfalz [Ger. *Pfalzer Oberland*], rather than the Kaiserslautern area.

Christian may have been grouped with ministers from the Eusserthal area because he organized occasional services in the remote hamlet of Hofstätten (12 miles southeast of Trippstadt, five miles northwest of Eusserthal).

Marriages tied some of the Amish Mennonite families at Trippstadt to those in the remote hamlet Hofstätten. Christian Imhof and Verena's daughter Veronika Imhof married Johannes Habecker, the first Anabaptist leaseholder there. Subsequently services of one large congregation were held at both locations over the years, as meeting places became available. See HABECKER for background on this location.

In 1764 the *Freiherr* and his family were occupying the main farmhouse on the Aschbacherhof estate. It was within the boundaries of the northern boundary of the community of Trippstadt, but midway between the actual village and the city of Kaiserslautern.

They initiated construction of a two-story red sandstone manor house in Trippstadt village. It was to be called *Maison de la Campagne* (but is now better known as Trippstadt castle or Trippstadt house).

In 1765 Christian Imhof and his oldest son Peter leased the grounds of the Aschbacherhof estate.

When the *Maison de la Campagne* was completed in 1767, the von Hackes moved in. Christian Imhof and his oldest son Peter occupied the vacated main farmhouse on the Aschbacherhof estate. In German the main farmhouse would be called the *Hofhaus*. However, this long single-story is still known as the *Herrenhaus* because of its history and the coats of arms placed above the door since its construction in 1566. It sits on a small hill overlooking the Aschbachtal [oak tree brook valley] meadows.

The next-oldest son Christian [Jr.] remained on the Wilensteinerhof estate, retaining his family's paternal inheritance rights. But at some point he too relocated to the Aschbacherhof estate (well before his death in 1793). He then passed down the Wilensteinerhof property share to his younger brother Johannes/Hans Imhof.

In 1792 the city of Kaiserslautern was pillaged by French troops.

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[205] In the same year Christian/Christel and Johannes Stauffer sold a part that they had inherited from their father (Christel Stuffer) to David Burkhardt and his wife Eva; in 1780 the Burkhardts would resell this part to Magdalena Imhof (a daughter of Peter Imhof and his first wife Veronika Rocke/Veronica Roggy) and her husband Jakob Jordi.

[206] Our starting point was a model of the first two Imhof generations proposed by German genealogists Otto Schmidt and Alfred H. Kuby, as found in Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Illinois*.

[207] Christian Imhof may have been related to contemporary Anna Barbara Imhof. She married Christian Schenck and lived at Mehlingen, on the northeast corner of Kaiserslautern.

[208] The church of St. Joseph was under construction at the time of his death. He had provided the funds for the building.

Saxon and Prussian troops defended the area from the French in the Battle of Kaiserslautern Nov. 28-30, 1793. The Duke of Brunswick deployed his troops on a defensive line with his right flank at Kaiserslautern. An entire division was posted at Trippstadt. For three days his coalition troops engaged poorly-trained French soldiers. They were led by newly-promoted General of the Army of Moselle Louis Lazare Hoche, who only four years earlier had been a corporal. Skirmishes took place at Trippstadt and adjacent Johanniskreuz. Finally the French withdrew with about 1,500 casualties.

Hans and his wife Anna Stauffer created a will Jan. 4, 1794. It stated that they held inherited family patrimonial rights to ownership of half of the Wilensteinerhof estate. One quarter had come to Anna from her cousin Christian/Christel Stauffer. The other quarter had come to Hans from the 'Christian Imhof couple' (Hans's older brother and sister-in-law).

On July 13, 1794 French troops returned and captured Kaiserslautern. At the same time they forged ahead on the north side, and troops on the south side reached Trippstadt. The von Hacke family's baroque house in the village was partially destroyed, so that only the basement was habitable.[209]

The entire engagement became known as the Battle of Trippstadt or the Battle of Vosges. It was militarily and politically significant because the Austrians failed to support their Prussian allies, and the Prussians were forced to withdraw to the east side of the Rhine River.

With the occupation the properties of the von Hacke family were placed into receivership under a French administrator. For seven years private landowners were uncertain whether they would retain their deeds.

Hans and Anna must have died on the Aschbacherhof estate before the creation of a property succession document at Mannheim March 18, 1796. It gave the mother's quarter of the estate to Hans's nephew Johannes Imhoff (oldest son of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy), and the father's quarter to Hans's nephew Christian Imhof (oldest son of Christian Imhof and Katharina/Catherine Stauffer).

In 1797 *Rheinbayern* was incorporated into the First French Republic as the department of *Mont-Tonnerre* [Thunder Mountain], with its capital at Mainz.

In 1800 a census of Trippstadt showed the two property recipients living on the Wilensteinerhof estate: farmer Christian Imhof, 40 [oldest son of Christian Imhof and Katharina/Catherine Stauffer]; his wife Jakobine née Kinzinger, 34; farmer Johannes Imhoff, 36 [oldest son of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy]; and his wife Magdalena née Jorde [Jordi], 35.[210]

In 1801 the Treaty of Lunéville ended the state of uncertainty over property rights. French law was instituted across the department. Land holders were reassured that noble families would not return to press claims against them.

In 1802 the prefecture of Mainz reported the number of Anabaptists in the department of *Mont-Tonnerre* as 1,350 persons.

In July 1802 the French government extended a provisional law allowing involuntary military conscription. Since the government had never limited conscription to those who possessed citizenship, the single males in the department of *Mont-Tonnerre* found that they could be drafted into the occupying army. By 1810 their rate of call-up far exceeded the French national average. About 80,000 were eventually selected after a preliminary medical examination. According to Michael Rowe's *Between Empire and Home Town: Napoleonic Rule on the Rhine, 1799-1814*, fewer than half returned from service.

Presumably many of the sons of Amish Mennonite families in the area of Kaiserslautern and Trippstadt found it prudent to migrate to the eastern side of the Rhine River during this time frame. The crossing at Speyer was only 30 miles to the east.

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[209] The von Hacke family's ruined home became the property of Alsace in 1803. It changed hands when most of the state-owned farm property at Trippstadt was purchased by industrialist Ludwig von Geinanth (1767-1848) in 1833. He sold the house to the Bavarian state in 1865. It became a state forestry office in 1885, and in 1888 the ruined walls were restored to become a forestry school. In 1987 it became an office building for the forest research station of the *Rheinpfalz*.

Von Geinanth's 1833 purchase also brought him partial ownership of the Wilensteinerhof. Helmut Gingerich found a sales document dated June 28, 1843 that transferred hereditary paternal ownership rights to a portion of the estate from von Geinanth to couples Johann August Imhof (a son of Christian Imhof and Jakobine Kinzinger) and Katharina Brenneman, and Johannes Güngerich and Elisabeth Imhof (a daughter of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy). They paid 2,400 *Gulden*.

[210] Other residents on the 1800 census of Trippstadt include farmer's wife Magdalena Jorde, 38, with two children under 12, who we believe to be the wife of Johannes Imhof (a son of Peter Imhof and his first wife Veronika Rocke/Veronica Roggy); as well as Johann Jorde, 14, and Jakob Jorde, 13, who we believe to have been sons of the deceased couple Jakob Jordi and Magdalena Imhof (Magdalena was a daughter of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy).

Throughout the latter part of the French occupation residents of the area were severely affected by recurring epidemics of typhus and dysentery.

Reiterating from STALTER:

> In June of 1812 Napoleon marched his troops into Russia to head off a threat to Poland. The campaign was an unqualified disaster. During this time Bavarian troops were considered 'unreliable at best' on the battlefield. The king of Bavaria was beginning to reconsider his options.
>
> Many Bavarian troops declined to take the field on behalf of the French on the eve of the 'battle of nations' at Leipzig, Oct. 16-19, 1813. Following the battle, Maximilian I made it openly known that he was going over to the allies. He met up with 13,000 Austrian units, and energetically moved his 17,000 troops to block the retreat path of the French at Hanau. Although the French succeeded in passing through his lines on Oct. 30, inflicting 9,000 casualties, the Bavarian king had made the point that he was prepared to sacrifice to aid the allies.

On Dec. 29, 1813 elements of the Austrian, Prussian, and Russian armies crossed the Rhine River from east to west. This ended 19 years of French occupation of Kaiserslautern and Trippstadt. On March 1, 1814 ambassadors of the three countries signed the Treaty of Chaumont, pledging to remain in an alliance against France until victory. On March 31 they entered Paris. On May 30 the Treaty of Paris reduced France to its 1792 borders.

In *Amish Mennonites in Germany*, Hermann Guth proposed that Christian Imhof and Verena had seven children. They include:

1. **Peter Imhof** was born circa 1730, and died on the Aschbacherhof estate March 30, 1812. He married sisters Veronika/Veronica and Katharina Rocke/Roggy.
2. **Christian Imhof** was born circa 1735, and died before 1793. He married Katharina/Catherine Stauffer.
3. Anna Imhof was born circa 1735, and died on the Lindelbrunnerhof farm between Darstein and Münchweiler am Klingbach (four miles from Annweiler) in 1809. She married Christian Baumann.
4. Johannes/Hans Imhof. He married Anna Stauffer. He received the inheritance rights to property on the Wilensteinerhof estate when his older brother Christian relocated to the Aschbacherhof estate. They died in 1796, and left the rights to two of Hans's nephews.
5. **Jakob Imhof** was born circa 1740, and died at Hofstätten before 1799. We could not identify the mother of his two children.
6. Josef/Joseph Imhof. He married Anna Habecker, a daughter of Jakob Habecker and Anna Eichelberger of Hofstätten. They farmed at Hofstätten, then on the Antonihof farm at Trippstadt.[211]
7. Veronika Imhof was born circa 1745. She married Johannes Habecker. See HABECKER for background on this couple.

Peter Imhof

Peter Imhof was born circa 1730, and died on the Aschbacherhof estate at Trippstadt March 30, 1812, a son of Christian Imhof and Verena.

In 1762 he married Veronika Rocke/Veronica Roggy. She was born circa 1745, and died circa 1763, a daughter of Christian Rogi of the Lauberwald estate.[212] They resided on Langensohlerhof farm at Trippstadt.

Children of Peter Imhof and his first wife Veronika Rocke/Veronica Roggy may include:

1. Elisabeth Imhof was born on the Aschbacherhof estate circa 1760, and died on the Wilensteinerhof estate April 15, 1806. She married cultivator Johannes/Jean Habecker. He was born at Hofstätten in 1762, a son of Jakob Habecker

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[211] The Antonihof farm is now a forest genetic resource center.

We were unable to determine the parentage of Johann Imhof (circa 1782-1857), who with Johann Maurer became a minister and elder for an extended congregation meeting above and below Kaiserslautern. After Maurer died in 1850, he rented a hall in a guest house and conducted services every third Sunday at Eselsfürth (now a distrct on the north side of Kaiserslautern). We suspect but cannot prove that he was a son of Josef/Joseph Imhof and Anna Habecker

[212] Christian Rogi is found living on the Lauberwald esate as early as 1743. The Lauberwald is a forest surrounding the hamlet of Johanniskreuz. Johanniskreuz is located four miles southeast of Trippstadt. It was once owned by the Cistercian order at Eusserthal; in the 1700s it was administered by a government admistrative body [Ger. *Pflege*] set up to oversee confiscated church lands. It is now administered by Trippstadt. The forest is still known locally as the Lauberwald, but in a broader perspective would be called the beginning of the Pfälzerwald (a term agreed upon in 1843 for the forest running through the northern Vosges Mountains). We found considerable confusion over *Lauberwald* [Lauber forest] and *Lauberhof* [Lauber farm]. It is generally accepted that in 1762 Christian's son Christian relocated from the Lauberwald to the Lauberhof, a farm near Trippstadt. However, we found the Lauberhof on a modern map as a location midway between Johanniskreuz and Trippstadt. Thus it is likely that the Lauberwald and the Lauberhof describe roughly the same location at different stages of cultivation.

and Anna Eichelberger. Her death entry described her as 46, a daughter of cultivator Pierre Imhof and the deceased Verena Rocke. In 1813 on the Wilensteinerhof estate Johannes/Jean remarried to Magdalena Steinmann, a daughter of Christian Steinmann and Barbara Uhlmann.

2. Magdalena Imhof was born on the Langensohlerhof farm circa 1760-63, and died Sept. 17, 1787. She married Jakob Jordi. He was born at Eselsfürth (on the northeast outskirts of Kaiserslautern) in January 1758, and died on the Wilensteinerhof estate in 1794, a son of Johannes Jordi and Verena Lang. They purchased the Burkhardt share of the Wilensteinerhof estate in 1780. See YORDY for background on this couple, who are thought to have been the great-grandparents of Peter Yordy of Tazewell and Woodford Counties.

- Anna Imhof may belong in this family. She would have been born circa 1762, and died before May 8, 1828. Circa 1779 she married weaver Jakob Engel of Diemerstein. He was born circa 1763, and died at Frankenstein in the Pfalz May 8, 1828, a son of Jakob Engel and Anna König; his death entry described him as a widower. He is occasionally confused with another Jakob Engel born in the same community of roughly the same age. See the Appendix, ALBRECHT OF BUREAU COUNTY for background on daughter Elizabeth Engel and her husband Christian Albrecht.

3. Johannes Imhof was born on the Aschbacherhof estate circa 1762, and have died March 30, 1812. He married Magdalena Jordi. She was born at Eselsfürth circa 1765, and died on the Wahlerhof estate at Mittelbach-Hengstbach near Zweibrücken July 24, 1814, a daughter of Johannes Jordi and Verena Lang or Lanz. They are found on an 1800 census of the Wilensteinerhof estate as farmer Johannes Imhof, 36, and wife Magdalena née Jorde, 35. His death entry described him as cultivator Jean Imhoff, 50, born on the Aeschbacherhof and a resident of the Wilensteinerhof, a son of the deceased Pierre Imhof and Veronica Roky. His widow was called Madeleine Jordé. Her death was entered at Trippstadt July 25, 1814; it described her as a resident of the Wilensteinerhof, and did not mention that she died elsewhere.

In 1763 Peter remarried to Veronika's sister Katharina Rocke/Roggy. She was born in 1747, died in 1846. They farmed on the Langensohlerhof farm before 1765. In that year Peter and his father Christian jointly leased the Aschbacherhof estate grounds.

The child of Peter Imhof and his second wife Katharina Rocke/Roggy was:

4. Katharina Imhof was born on the Aschbacherhof estate circa 1764. She married Benedikt Güngerich. He was born in 1736, and died at Dirmstein (30 miles northeast of Kaiserslautern) in 1814, a son of Christian Güngerich and Magdalena Zug.

Christian Imhof

Christian Imhof was born circa 1735, and died before 1793, a son of Christian Imhof and Verena.

Christian married Katharina/Catherine Stauffer. They remained to farm the Wilensteinerhof estate after his father and older brother co-leased the Aschbacherhof estate in 1765.

According to the *Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online*, "The Dutch *Naamlijst* of 1775 mentions a congregation near Kaiserslautern with Christian Schenck and Christian Imhoff Jr. as preachers."

Children of Christian Imhof and Katharina/Catherine Stauffer include: [213]

1. Christian Imhof was born on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt circa 1750, and died there Sept. 30, 1839. He married Jakobine Kinzinger. She was born at Weisenheim am Berg circa 1766, and died after 1818, a daughter of Johannes Kinzinger and Maria Magdalena Schwarzentruber. They farmed on the Mispelsteinerhof farm (now in the village of Espen Steig) and on the Wilensteinerhof estate. They are found on an 1800 census of the Wilensteinerhof estate as Christian Imhof, 40, and wife Jakobine née Kinzinger, 34, with four children (or grandchildren) under four years of age. In a letter from Johannes 'Hans *der alte*' Nafziger of Essingen written to Christian Schowalter in Pennsylvania in 1787 or 1788, he wrote, "A week ago I and Andres Leienberger were at the Wiltstein near Trippstatt and there ordained Hans Ihmhoff of Wiltstein and Hans Habhecker of Hochstetten as full minister of the book and appointed minister of the book, and also ordained three or four young brethren, to which may the Almighty God give his Grace

[213] Katharina Imhof may belong in this family, as suggested by Hermann Guth in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. She was born circa January of 1760, and died in the hamlet Neuhof near Kirchheimbolanden (17 miles northeast of Trippstadt) Feb. 6, 1824. Her *Evangelische* death entry says she was age 63 years, 11 months, and 13 days, and was married to Christian Habecker. However, one could also make an argument against her being a child of Christian Imhof and Katharina/Catherine Stauffer. Instead, Katharina could have been a daughter of another Christian Imhof who lived in the hamlet Neuhof with his wife Elisabeth Danner. In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller writes, "1775 - Christian Tanner (Danner?) and his wife Catharina rented Neuhof near Kirchheim Bolanden; in 1777 after the death of the *Erbbeständer* (hereditary leaseholder) Christian Danner, Christian Imhof, and his wife Elisabeth Danner rented half of Neuhof; in Aug. 1789 the lease was renewed by Christian Imhof." Further, if we assume that the Neuhof leaseholder Christian Imhof was born before 1756 (he would have been at least 21 years of age in 1777), he could not have been a member of the Trippstadt-area family grouping.

and blessing." Christian became elder of the Trippstadt/Höfstatten congregation. An *Acte de Notorieté* is a document prepared by a notary or probate lawyer. It states all of the documents and facts involving an inheritance, including personal information from potential heirs. Such a document concerning an inheritance from Jakobine's parents created at Speyer Aug. 19, 1818 described her as 'Jakobina Kinsinger, daughter, wife of Christian Imhoff, farmer, living at Wilensteinerhof, by Trippstadt, Kanton Kaiserslautern.' On the Wilensteinerhof estate in December 1820 Christian hand-copied for publication Nafziger's recollections and a letter that Nafziger wrote to Dutch congregations March 26, 1781. Christian's death entry described him as plowman Christian Imhof, 89, the widower of Jakobina Kisinger.

2. **Joseph Imhof** (as he signed his own name, rather than using the German 'Josef') was born on the Aschbacherhof estate circa 1768 (per the birth entry of son Jean) or 1771 (per the *ban* announcement for his second marriage).

- Veronika Imhof may belong here. She was born circa 1770, and died in House No. 91 at Weisenheim am Berg May 31, 1806, age 35. She married Johannes Kinzinger. He was born at Herxheim am Berg May 5, 1758, and died at Weisenheim am Berg May 15, 1828, a son of Johannes Kinzinger and Maria Magdalena Schwarzentruber. They farmed at Weisenheim am Berg. Johannes remarried to Maria Grub [Kropf?].

Joseph Imhof was born on the Aschbacherhof estate at Trippstadt circa 1768 (per the birth entry of son Jean) or 1771 (per the *ban* announcement for his second marriage), and died at Hohenecken Feb. 8, 1814.

He married Magdalena Kinzinger. She was born at Weisenheim am Berg (30 miles northeast of Trippstadt) after 1770, a daughter of Johannes Kinzinger and Maria Magdalena Schwarzentruber. Her sister Jakobina was married to Joseph's older brother Christian Imhof. Her brother Johannes was married to Joseph's cousin Veronika Imhof.

By 1804 they were living on the Espensteigerhof farm at Hohenecken. The Espensteigerhof farm and nearby Dansenberg farm had been purchased by Baron von Hacke from Baron Christophe Anton von Hautzenberg in 1786. There is now a village of Espen Steig six miles northwest of Trippstadt, and three miles southwest of Kaiserslautern

The family's civil entries were created at Hohenecken and at district administrative offices in Kaiserslautern. Children of Joseph Imhof and his first wife Magdalena Kinzinger born on the Espensteigerhof farm at Hohenecken include: [214]

1. Elisabetha Imhof. Her birth was recorded at Hohenecken Aug. 11, 1799. She may have been the Elisabetha Imhoff whose death was recorded at Hohenecken Jan. 21, 1805, or she may have been the Elisabetha Imhof whose death was recorded at Hohenecken Nov. 21, 1810
2. Katharina/Catherine Imhof was born circa 1800. She was identified as Katharina Imhoff on 1818 inheritance documents. The death of Catherine Imhof was reported at Trippstadt in 1824. She was decribed as a 24-year-old born at Espen Steig but living on the Wilensteinerhof estate, a daughter of the deceased Josef Imhof and the deceased Magdalena Kinsinger. The witnesses were Jost Engel, 31, a relative of the deceased; and Ludwig Weber, 51. Jost was married to her cousin Magdalena Imhof, a daughter of Christian Imhof and Jakobine Kinzinger.
3. Susanne Imhof was born Aug. 12, 1803. Her birth was recorded at Kaiserslautern Aug. 12, where her parents were named as Joseph Imhof and Madeleine Kinzinger. It was recorded at Hohenecken the following day. In 1825 she was living on the Wilensteinerhof, where she married Christian Rocke/Roggy. Their marriage entry described her as Susanna Imhoff, 22, a resident of Wilenstein, a daughter of the deceased Josef Imhof and the deceased Magdalena Kinzinger. He was described as *Mennonit* Christian Rocke, 29, born at Hofstätten and a resident of Antonihof farm at Trippstadt, a son of Kaspar Rocke, 55, and Veronika Habecker.
4. **Johannes Imhof/John Imhoff** was born at midnight on Oct. 11, 1806. His birth was recorded at Kaiserslautern Oct. 13; it named him 'Jean Imhof,' and his parents Joseph Imhof and Madeleine Kinzinger. Joseph was described as a 38-year-old cultivator at Espen Steig, Hohenecken. His birth was also recorded under 'Johannes Imhof' at Hohenecken Oct. 13, 1806.
5. Joseph Imhof was born May 5, 1809, and died as an infant. His birth was recorded at Kaiserslautern.
6. Joseph Imhof was born Oct. 28, 1810, and died as an infant. His birth was recorded at Kaiserslautern Oct. 28, where the entry named his parents as Joseph Imhof and Madelaine Kinsinger. It was also recorded at Hohenecken the following day. He may have been the Joseph found in an index of Hohenecken death entries, having died Feb. 9, 1814.

Magdalena Kinzinger died in childbirth Oct. 28,1810.

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[214] The FHL microfilm collection does not show births at Hohenecken during the period of French occupation. However, microfilm 488955 does contain an index of the deaths, which was entered in a *Sterbe Register* after the departure of the French. Five Imhof/Imhoff deaths are shown: Magdalena Oct. 1, 1804; Elisabetha Jan. 21, 1805; Magdalena Kinzinger, Joseph's first wife, Oct. 29, 1810; Elisabetha Nov. 21, 1810; and Joseph, Feb. 9, 1814. We do not know the ages of the Magdalena who died in 1804, or the Elisabetha who died in 1810, and cannot place them with certainty as children of Joseph Imhof.

There were no Imhof entries created at Hohenecken after 1814.

On Nov. 11, 1811 Joseph remarried to Anna Katharina Ehresmann. She was born at Dirmstein circa 1788, a daughter of Christian Ehresmann and Anna Barbara Joder/Jotter. At the time of the marriage she was a resident of Dörrmoschel (18 miles north of Kaiserslautern).

Helmut Gingerich found their marriage *ban* announcements posted Nov. 10 and Nov. 17, and recorded at Kaiserslautern. They described the prospective groom as cultivator Joseph Imhoff, 40, of the hamlet Espen Steig at Hohenecken. He was a son of the deceased Chrétien Imhoff and the deceased Catherine Stauffer, who had been farmers on the Aschbacherhof estate. The bride was described as Anne Catherine Erasmann, 23, a resident of Dörrmoschel. Her parents were the deceased Chrétien Erasmann, who had been a laborer at Grunstadt, and Anne Barbe Jotter, a resident of Dörrmoschel. Joseph brought children Katharina/Catherine, Susanne, and Johannes to his second marriage.

When Joseph died at Hohenecken Feb. 8, 1814, his civil death entry described him as laborer Joseph Imhof, 45. He was born on the Aschbacherhof at Trippstadt, had resided at Espensteig, Hohenecken, and was married to Catherine Ehresmann of Doerrmoschel.

An *Acte de Notorieté* document recorded at Speyer Aug. 19, 1818 for the heirs of Johannes Kinzinger (husband of the deceased Maria Magdalena Schwarzentruber) named the surviving children "Katharina, Susanna, and Johannes Imhoff, all living grandchildren representing deceased mother Magdalena Kinsinger, former wife of deceased farmer Joseph Imhoff."

Children of Joseph Imhof and his second wife Anna Katharina Ehresmann include:

6. Joseph Imhof was born on the Espensteigerhof farm Dec. 23, 1812, and died at Dorrmoschel March 6, 1813. His birth was recorded at Kaiserslautern Dec. 13; the entry named his parents as Joseph Imhof and Catherine Ehresmann. It was also recorded at Hohenecken Dec. 25. His civil death entry describes his parents as cultivator and farmer Josephe Imhoff and Catherine Ehrensmann. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Egle, 56, and cultivator Nicolas Scher, 48, neighbors at Dorrmoschel.
7. Jacob Imhof was born on the Espensteigerhof farm Jan. 16, 1814. His birth was recorded at Kaiserslautern; the entry named him Jacques Imhoff, and his parents Joseph Imhof and Catherine Ehresmann. He accompanied his half-brother Peter to America in 1839.

Following Joseph's death, and the subsequent birth of son Jacob, widow Anna Katharina Ehresmann had two more children: Peter (1816) and Johannes (1824). Their birth entries did not identify the father.

Children of widow Anna Katharina Ehresmann include:

- Peter Kiefer Ehresmann, also called Peter Imhof or Imhoff. His obituary says he was born at Dörrmoschel Sept. 16, 1819. However, his 1839 passenger list suggests a birth in 1816. New information from Paul Hart confirms this: a civil entry from Dörrmoschel describes the birth of a child Nov. 15, 1816 to mother 'Katharina Ehrensmann.' The child is identified as '*Vornamen* Peter Kiefer.' *Vornamen* is the German word for 'first names.' *Kiefer* is the German word for pine. Thus, seeing how the surname of the mother was spelled, the reader would assume that the child was Peter Kiefer Ehrensmann. The father was not identified. The birth was reported by midwife Elizabetha Katharina Lanzer; witnesses included Martin Egle, 52, and Andreas Egle, 36.

  Peter and his older half-brother Jacob sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Rhone*, and arrived at New York June 17, 1839. The passenger list shows Jacob Imhof, 24, and Peter Imhof, 23. The passenger list also shows future Central Illinois settlers Christ Zear [Zehr], 26, Bavaria; and Andreas/Andrew Zimmerman and Anna Müller with their family.

  In Butler County, Ohio Peter became a member of the conservative Augspurger congregation. On July 12, 1842 he married Catherine Augspurger. She was born at Seven Mile, Butler County in October 1821, and died at Trenton Oct. 19, 1901, a daughter of minister Jacob Augspurger and his second wife Maria Schlabach.

  Their household is found on the 1850 census of Madison, when they were living next door to Catherine's older brother, minister Nicholas Augspurger. They appear as laborer Peter Emhoff, 31, Germany; Catharine, 29, Ohio; Jacob, 6, Ohio; Mary, 5, Ohio; Peter, 2, Ohio; Barbara Emhoff, 33, Germany; and Catharine Emhoff, 53, Germany. Catherine Ehrismann Imhof's youngest child Johannes is likely found next door in the household of Nicholas Augspurger as 'John Kingery,' 26, Germany. In 1860 the Madison census shows them as farmer Peter Imhof, 42, Germany; Catharina [Augspurger], 40, Ohio; six children born in Ohio; Barbara Gingrich, 50, Germany; and Catherine Imhof, 72, Germany.

  Peter was ordained as a minister in 1861, and then chosen as elder in 1870. According to W. H. Grubb, "He was a strong preacher, and a man with liberal views. It was one of his fond hopes that the two congregations be united as one, which occurred in less than a year after his death." On the 1870 census of Madison, Peter and Catherine still lived next door to minister Nicholas Augspurger: farmer Peter Imhof, 50, Prussia; Catharin, 48, Ohio; eight children born in Ohio; and Catharine, 82, France. In 1880 Peter's birthplace was given as Bavaria, and his next-door neighbor was Maria [Iutzi] Ehresman, the widow of Christian Ehresman (1821-1867).

Herald of Truth, April 1897: "Pre. Peter Imhoff was born on the 16th of September 1819 in Darmuschel, Palatine, Germany. In 1840 he came to America, settling in Butler Co., Ohio, where he has since resided a period of 57 years. On the 12th of July 1842 he was united in wedlock to Sister Catharine Augspurger. Of their nine children all but one survive and these were present at their father's bedside, to receive his last words of advice and blessing. As he felt the end drawing near he asked for his *Bible* that he might once more read with his beloved ones the 8th chapter of *Romans*. But his eyes were already becoming fixed in death, so that he could no longer see to read, so, giving the book to one of his sons, he said, "Read to us this beautiful chapter." Bro. Imhoff was ordained to the ministry in 1861, and ten years later to the office of an elder or bishop. He was a faithful, conscientious worker, and served his fellow-men as God gave him grace and strength. He preached his last sermon on Feb. 28th, when he was already failing in health. During his pastorate he united 14 couples in wedlock, and received 53 persons into church membership by baptism. His last illness was of short duration, and he calmly fell asleep in Jesus at the age of 77 years and 6 months. The funeral occurred on the 18th, and was very largely attended. Pre. Helle of the Lutheran church, M. Kinsinger of Washington, Ill., who was an intimate friend of the family, J. Mehl of Goshen, Ind., and H.J. Krehbiel of Trenton, Ohio conducted the services. Text *1 John 2:25-28*, the parting words of the deceased to his family and congregation. An infidel who knew the deceased for many years gave this testimony of him, 'He is a good Christian. He will live long in the memory."

- Johannes Ehrismann/John Gingerich was born at Sippersfeld (11 miles southeast of Dörrmoschel, 14 miles northeast of Kaiserslautern). On April 10, 1823 a civil entry was created stating that a midwife had reported the birth of Johannes Ehrismann to Katharina Ehrismann. His family *Bible* later missed the date by a year, saying he was born at Sippersfeld 'around Easter time of 1824.'

  The child Johannes would later be known in America as John Gingerich. Perhaps he had been raised in the home of Anna Katharina's sister Maria Elisabeth Ehrismann and brother-in-law Georg Güngerich. Or perhaps it was felt that the name change would bring fewer questions.

  Upon arrival in 1841, he worked in Cincinnati, remaining there for several years before settling in Butler County. His *Declaration of Intent* to become a citizen was submitted in Butler County Oct. 9, 1852. His naturalization March 12, 1856 was signed 'John Ginerich.'

  He obtained a marriage license in Clinton County, Indiana Dec. 22, 1857. The ceremony was performed at Trenton, Butler County Feb. 10, 1858 by minister Nicholas Augspurger. His bride Catherine 'Katie' Ehresman was born at Neuhausen Nov. 16, 1834 (according to her family *Bible*), and died in Carroll County, Indiana May 21, 1903, a daughter of Johann Jakob/Jacob Ehresman and Katharina Ehresmann. Following their marriage the couple lived eight years at Monitor, a small town in Perry Township, Tippecanoe County. They appear on the 1860 census of Perry as farmer John Gingery, 36, Germany; Catherine, 25, Hesse; and Jacob, 1, Indiana. They resettled at Rosseville in Ross Township, then Prince William, Carroll County (the deed there was signed in 1873 by 'John Ginery'). They moved to Pettit in Tippecanoe County, then relocated one last time less than a mile over the line into Carroll County. John died in Carroll County Feb. 28, 1898. They are buried in Edna Mills Mennonite Cemetery.

  John's obituary was found in his family *Bible*: "During all these pleasant surprises, the busy and unpleasant exchanging of houses, the inclemency of the weather and the impassable roads, that grim monster, death, was wielding his destructive scythe, this time taking from our midst an old and respected citizen, who has contended with the storms for nearly 73 years and eleven months. John Gingrich was born in Germany in 1824, and came to this country with his mother when seventeen years of age, and settled in Ohio with his half-brother, who had preceded him a few years. He came to Indiana forty-one years ago and was married the next year to Miss Katie Ehresman. A widow and nine children survive: Mrs. Lydia Irich [*sic*], Mrs. Josephine Wentz [*sic*], John, Gus, Otto and Theodore Gingrich, all live around here. Henry and Christian Gingrich living at Flanagan, Ill. This funeral will take place from the house tomorrow morning at 9:30 o'clock, arriving at the church at 10 o'clock. Mr. Gingrich belonged to the Amish church and was a lifelong Christian."

Widow Anna Katharina and her son Johannes immigrated with her brother Jacob Ehrismann and four of his children. They sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Oneida*, arriving at New York Sept. 20, 1841. Grouped under Ehresman [the letter 'n' was mounted by a line, indicating doubling], the passenger list shows Catharina, 52, and Johannes, 17.

'Catharine Emhoff, 53, Germany' is found in the household of her son Peter Imhoff at Madison, Butler County, Ohio in 1850. She appears in the same household 10 years later as 'Catherine Imhof, 72, Germany.' The 1870 census of Madison, Butler County has her living with her son as 'Catharine, 82, France.'

It is thought that Anna Katharina Ehresmann died in Butler County Sept. 4, 1870. She may be buried in the Mennonite Cemetery at Trenton.

Johannes Imhof/John Imhoff was born on the Espensteigerhof farm at Hohenecken at midnight on Oct. 11, 1806.

The packet ship *Charles Carroll* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York April 27, 1832. Its passenger list shows Johannes Emhoff, 25, farmer. On the same page are consecutive entries for Jacob Wagner, 27, France, and Mary Wagner, 21, France.

Johannes traveled directly to Butler County, Ohio, where he had family connections. His father's cousin Veronika Imhof had married Johannes Kinzinger (his mother's older brother). Veronika died at Weisenheim am Berg May 31, 1806, and Johannes remarried and died there May 15, 1828. However, their children, who were Peter's cousins, made a number of marriages with the Augspurger family in Butler County. Jacob Kinsinger (born in 1792) married a sister of Christian Augspurger. Samuel Kinsinger (born in 1799) and Josef/Joseph Kinsinger (born in 1801) married Augspurger's daughters.

On April 1, 1834 in Ohio Johannes, now known as John, married Maria/Mary Wagner. She was born at Stambach (adjacent to Contwig, and now administered by Contwig) Nov. 8, 1810, and died at Cazenovia May 28, 1890, a daughter of Johann Michael Wagner and Maria Brinkmann. They initially settled on 110 acres in the northeast quarter of Section 11, Milford Township, Butler County, Ohio.

John's half-brother Peter Imhof/Imhoff arrived in Butler County in the summer of 1839.

At the time of the 1840 census the Milford land was occupied by Daniel Corson. However, the deed was not transferred to Corson until March 12, 1841. That entry described the sellers as 'John and Maria Imhoff,' residents of Preble County.

Preble County is adjacent to Butler County on its northern boundary. The 1840 census of Gratis, Preble County shows the household of John Vimhoof. It held two males in the 30-39 year age range; three males 20-29; and two males under five; one female 20-29; one female 15-19, and one female under five.

The 1850 census found them at Somers Township, Preble County. Somers Township is immediately west of Gratis Township. It borders on Somerville, Butler County; and this has been a source of some confusion for family historians. They appear as farmer John Imhoff, 44, Germany; Mary, 40, Germany; John, 13; Christian, 11; Madeleine, 9; Susan, 7; Catherine, 6; Joseph, 5; Jacob, 3; and Mary, seven months; all children born in Ohio.

The family relocated to Woodford County in 1851 or 1852.

John died Oct. 6, 1852, during the first fall harvest at Cazenovia. He was buried on the family farm, in what became Imhoff Cemetery. His headstone reads, "Johann Imhoff, *gestorben* 6 Oct. 1852, 46 *Jahre alt*."

The 1860 census of Cazenovia shows the fatherless household: Mary Imhoff, 50, Wieterburg [Württemberg]; John, 23; Christian, 21; Susanna, 18; Catherine, 16; Joseph, 14; Jacob, 12; Mary, 10; and Daniel, 8; all children born in Ohio.

We could not identify the family on the 1870 federal census of Woodford County. They may have been overlooked by a census taker who was unfamiliar with the area (the township was incorrectly spelled 'Cazanovia' throughout the report). Fortunately, the 1873 plat map of Cazenovia shows 'J. Imhoff" on 160 acres in the lower half of Section 18, equidistant from the village centers Cazenovia and Low Point.

In 1878 *The Past and Present of Woodford County* described widow Mary Wagner Imhoff: "Imhoff, Mary, farmer; P. O. Washburn. Ormish; owns 160 acres, valued at $8,000. Born in Germany Nov. 11, 1811. Married John Imhoff April 1, 1834. (Her maiden name was Wagner.) Mrs. I. is a sister of Daniel Wagner, of -- Tp. She came with her husband from Germany in 1832, to Ohio, and remained there until the year 1851. They then removed to the place where she now resides. Her husband was born in Germany in 1806. His death occurred Oct. 6, 1852. Eleven children were born to them; the two oldest died in infancy. John was born Aug. 10, 1837; Christian, born Jan. 29, 1839, died March 8, 1869; Lena, born April 22, 1840; Susan, born March 5, 1842; Kathrina, born March 1, 1844; died about the 30th of December, 1871; Joseph, born Dec. 10, 1845; Jacob, born Oct. 3, 1847; Mary, born Feb. 9, 1850, died Dec. 1, 1874; Daniel, born Nov. 11, 1851, died Jan. 27, 1878. Joseph and John are married. Joseph lives on the homestead with his mother, John lives near Metamora. Joseph married Emma J. Webber, of Cazenovia, Dec. 25, 1873. She was born Aug. 1, 1851. They have two children - Mary Almeda, born Oct. 17, 1874; Isaac Leroy, born July 16, 1877. Jacob is unmarried, and resides with his mother, and is cultivating a part of the farm."

The 1880 census of Cazenovia has Joseph Imhoff, 34, born in Ohio to parents from Bulgaria [likely meant to be Bavaria]; Emma, 28, born in Ohio to parents form Pennsylvania; Almeda, 4, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio; Isaac, 2, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio; mother Mary Imhoff, 68, born in Bulgaria to parents from Bulgaria; boarder Charles Stevenson, 22, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Pennsylvania, 'runs a steam sawmill'; and boarder-school teacher Bella Gould, 23, born in Ohio to parents from Pennsylvania.

Maria/Mary was buried on the family farm next to her husband. Her headstone reads, "Mary, wife of John Imhoff, Nov. 11, 1811-May 28, 1890."

Children of Johann Imhof/John Imhoff and Marie/Mary Wagner include:

1. An infant who died young.
2. An infant who died young.
3. **John Imhoff** was born at Milford, Ohio Aug. 10, 1837, and died at Cazenovia, Woodford County Jan. 9, 1907.

4. Christian Imhoff was born at Milford, Ohio Jan. 29, 1839, and died March 8, 1869.
5. Magdalena Imhoff was born at Milford, Ohio April 22, 1840, and died at Clayton, Woodford County March 5, 1921.[215] On Oct. 11, 1856 in Woodford County she married Jacob Schuck/Shuck. He was born at Hochspeyer, Germany Aug. 16, 1823, and died Sept. 22, 1908, a son of Johann Georg Schuck and Margaretha Vogt. He immigrated with his parents in 1837. Jacob and Magdalena are buried in Minonk Township Cemetery.
6. Susan Imhoff was born at Somers, Ohio March 5, 1842, and died at Washington May 19, 1882. On Jan. 22, 1865 in Woodford County she married Joseph Belsley. He was born at Partridge, Woodford County Aug. 14, 1842, and died Jan. 29, 1906, a son of Jean Pelsy/John Belsley and Barbara Roggy. See BELSLEY for background on this couple.
7. Katharina 'Kate' Imhoff was born at Somers, Ohio March 1, 1844, and died at Fairbury, Livingston County Dec. 29, 1871. On Jan. 12, 1868 in Woodford County she married Frederick Householder. He was born at Louisville, Kentucky Feb. 22, 1842, a son of Thiebaut Haushalter /Debold Householder and Marie/Maria/Mary Zehr. See HOUSEHOLDER for background on this couple including her obituary.
8. Joseph Imhoff was born at Somers, Ohio Dec. 10, 1845, and died at Lowpoint Oct. 30, 1884; he is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Cazenovia. On Dec. 25, 1873 he married Emma J. Webber. She was born in Ohio Aug. 8, 1851, and died in Woodford County Jan. 9, 1881. She is buried as Emma J. Imhoff in Mount Vernon Cemetery at Washburn, Woodford County.
9. Jacob Imhoff was born at Somers, Ohio Oct. 21, 1847, and died in Woodford County Feb. 11, 1888. He is buried in Mount Vernon Cemetery at Washburn.
10. Mary Imhoff was born at Somers, Ohio Feb. 9, 1850, and died Dec. 1, 1874. On March 7, 1873 in McLean County she married Frederick Householder, the widower of her older sister Katharina; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. See HOUSEHOLDER for background on this couple.
11. Daniel Imhoff was born at Somers, Ohio Nov. 11, 1851, and died in Woodford County Jan. 27, 1878.

John Imhoff was born at Milford, Butler County Aug. 10, 1837, and died at Cazenovia, Woodford County Jan. 9, 1907.

On Jan. 20, 1867 in Woodford County he married Mary Smith. She was born in Woodford County March 30, 1845, and died at Eureka, Woodford County May 25, 1927, a daughter of Christian Schmitt/Smith and Catherine Bechler.

John Imhof is listed in the patron's directory of the *1873 Woodford County, Illinois Atlas*. It describes him as a resident farmer of Worth Township who was born in Butler County, Ohio and came to the county in 1852.

The 1900 census of Cazenovia shows John Imhoff, 61, born in Ohio in August 1838 to German parents; Mary, 55, born in Illinois in March 1845 to French parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.

Gospel Witness, January 1907: "John Imhoff was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Aug. 10, 1837; died Jan. 9, 1907, at his home near Low Point, Ill., aged 69 y. 4 m. 29 d. At the age of 15 years he came with his parents to Illinois. On Feb. 20, 1867, he was married to Mary Smith, which union was blessed with 11 children, of whom one preceded him in infancy. He leaves his wife, 10 children, 20 grandchildren, one sister, and many friends to mourn his departure, but not as such who have no hope. During the time he was bedfast, which was 11 days, he patiently bore much suffering. He was a faithful member of the A. Mennonite church from youth until the time of his death. The funeral was held on the 11th. Sam Gerber of Groveland, Ill., spoke in the English language from *I Thess. 4:13-18* and at the Roanoke church from *John 11:28*, last clause. Andrew Schrock spoke in the German from *Heb. 9:27, 28*. May the Lord comfort the bereaved ones and may we all live such lives that we may meet in that land where partings are unknown."

Gospel Herald, June 1927: "Mary Imhoff (nee Smith) was born in Woodford Co., Ill., March 30, 1845; died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. H. Smith, near Eureka, Ill., May 25, 1927; aged 82 y. 1 m. 25 d. She was united in marriage with John Imhoff in the year 1867, who preceded her in death 20 years ago. To this union were born 11 children. She is survived by 10 children (Mrs. D. H. Schertz, Joseph, Mrs. C. H. Smith, John, Chris, Samuel, Jacob, Mrs. P. B. Schrock, Henry, and Mrs. H. R. Schertz), 41 grandchildren, one adopted grandchild and nine great-grandchildren. One daughter and five grandchildren have gone before. Mother spent her entire life in Woodford Co., serving the church of her choice and her Master faithfully until death. Her quiet, peace-loving, and sociable disposition won her a multitude of friends. For sometime she had felt that her life work was finished and had a longing to be at rest with the Lord. Funeral services were conducted by Andrew Schrock and Ezra B. Yordy."

Jakob Imhof

Jakob Imhof was born circa 1740, and died at Hofstätten before 1799, a son of Christian Imhof and Verena. He married Magdalena Rinkenberg. Their children born at Trippstadt include:

[215] The *Illinois Statewide Death Index* lists her as Magdalena Shuck.

1. Barbara Imhof was born circa 1771, and died on the Wilensteinerhof at Trippstadt Sept. 16, 1839. Her death entry described her as Barbara Imhof, 68, born at Trippstadt. She was the widow of plowman Jacob Stalter, and the daughter of Jacob Imhof and Magdalena Rinkenberg. Jacob/Jacques Stalter was born circa 1756. He had last been a plowman at Drulingen, Lower Alsace when he died at Ottwiller Dec. 25, 1810, age 56. He had also appeared on a civil birth entry for Jean Saltzman at Petit Tenquin April 24, 1800; it gave his age as 40 (thus born circa 1760). At the time Jacob/Jacques was a day laborer on the horse breeding farm Le Haras at Sarralbe. Another witness was Jean Hauter, 37, the owner of Le Haras.
    a. Barbe Stalter was born on Le Haras April 3, 1799 . On April 18, 1823 at Lembach (32 miles northeast of Ottwiller) she married Johannes/Jean Habecker. See HABECKER and STALTER, JOHN STALTER OF PEORIA for background on this couple who immigrated in 1831 and settled in Butler County, Ohio.
2. **Johannes Imhof** was born circa 1774.

Johannes Imhof was born at Trippstadt circa 1774.

In 1799 at Freinsheim he married Anna Maria Schwarzentruber. She was a daughter of Christian Schwarzentruber and his second wife Katherina Ruby, who were living at Freinsheim. Schwarzentruber had been a representative of the congregations of the lower Pfalz in the assembly of ministers at Essingen in 1759.[216]

In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller mentions a French-language marriage entry but no date or location. It described Johannes as a 25-year-old from Hochstetten [Hofstätten], a son of the late Jakob Imhof. The bride was described as Anna Maria, a 24-year-old daughter of Christel Schwarztruber 'of this place' and Katharina Roby.

After marriage, the Imhofs farmed on the Ormsheimerhof, a small estate on the western outskirts of Frankenthal.

FRANKENTHAL

The village of Frankenthal is located 30 miles northeast of Hofstätten, and seven miles northeast of Freinsheim. The northeast corner of the village runs along the western shore of the Rhine River.

It has significance in Anabaptist history as the site of a series of theological debates in 1571. They were sponsored by Palatine Elector Frederick III in an effort to bring the Mennonites in the Pfalz into his Protestant Reformed Church. Mennonite leaders were offered protection and free lodging, but few attended the talks because of their distrust of authorities.

From 1755 Frankenthal held a prospering porcelain factory. After the owners ran into financial difficulties, the manufacturing process and properties were purchased by Elector Karl Theodor. A new owner purchased the business in 1795 and moved it eight miles west to Grünstadt. The original factory finally closed in 1799.[217]

Frankenthal was occupied by French troops in 1794. In 1798 it became part of the department of *Mont-Tonnere*. It was administered from Speyer until 1815. From 1816 to 1871 the village was a community in the area of Rheinpfalz in the Kingdom of Bavaria. Since 1871 Frankenthal would be considered part of the Rheinland-Pfalz area.

Buildings that stood in the village were largely destroyed by bombing in 1943.

A commonly held story says that the village of Frankenthal had no military significance, but was destroyed by accident, as the casualty of an inaccurate allied bombing run. The pilot of a scout plane intended to drop flares on oil and fertilizer plants at adjacent Ludwigshafen. He mistakenly released them early. The quiet village was illuminated, and subsequently destroyed by a French bomber. Thus the day of the destruction can be pinpointed to the first bombing run to reach Ludwigshafen, on Dec. 30, 1943.

However, Keith Jeffery's *MI6: The History of the Secret Intelligence Service 1909-1949* puts the story in another perspective. According to his research, *Abwehr* officer Hans Bernd Gisevius was in contact with Office of Strategic Services representative Allen Welsh Dulles in the city of Bern, Canton Bern in July 1943. He passed along information from an informant about the V-2 rocket project. Incidental to this, "The main production of rocket bombs was taking place at Frankenthal. The source believed that no other important factories were there other than some sugar refineries, and for this reason the source urged that the information must be used with the greatest discretion." The 'rocket bomb' was also known as the V-1 *Maikäfer* 'buzz bomb.'

The Ormsheimerhof farm and stables survived the war intact.

Children of Johannes Imhof and Anna Maria Schwarzentruber are thought to include:

1. Jakob Imhof. Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Tazewell County* says he was born in 1802.
2. Katharina Imhof.

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[216] It may seem improbable that a 25-year-old Christian Schwarzentruber would have been ordained as a minister by 1759, but he attended the assembly at Essingen with his father Hans, and both signed documents. The two were living at Weisenheim am Berg and adjacent Herxheim am Berg, and later relocated to adjacent Freinsheim.

[217] Frankenthal porcelain pieces are now considered collectors items. As this was written, a three-piece dinner service was being offered on *EBay* for $25,000.

3. Daniel Imhof.
4. Johannes Imhof.
5. Maria Imhof/Mary Imhoff was born circa Nov. 1 or Dec. 1, 1806 (headstone), 1806 (*Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County*), circa 1808 (her passenger list), circa 1809 (1870 census), or circa 1812 (1850 census). She departed from Le Havre on the *Harriet and Jesse*, and arrived at New York Aug. 23, 1833. On Oct. 18, 1838 in Butler County, Ohio she married Christian/Christophe Salzman. The ceremony was conducted by minister Benedict König; a civil entry calling them 'Christian Saltzman' and 'Mary Imhoff' was created March 14, 1839. Christian was born at Forbach, Moselle March 31, 1811, and died at Newton, Kansas June 2, 1895, a son of Michael Salzman and his first wife Catherine Hirschi. See SALZMAN for background on this couple and his obituary, and an explanation of her headstone age.
6. **Christian Imhof/Imhoff** was born circa 1809, and died in Butler County, Ohio in mid-October 1838. He also arrived on the *Harriet and Jesse.*
7. Barbara Imhof also arrived on the *Harriet and Jesse.* Hermann Guth's *Amish Mennonites in Tazewell County* says she was born in 1810.
8. Elisabeth Imhof.
9. Magdalena Imhof. *Amish Mennonites in Tazewell County* says she was born in 1819.

Christian Imhof/Imhoff was born circa 1809, and died in Butler County, Ohio in mid-October 1838.

He departed from Le Havre on the *Harriet and Jesse*, and arrived at New York Aug. 23, 1833. The passenger list shows Chr. Imhoff, 24; Mary, 25; and Barbara, 23.

The three lived in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania until 1838. A letter from Daniel Schwarzentruber in Peoria to his sister Jakobina Schwarzentruber Nafziger in Lancaster County, dated March 11, 1838, asks Jakobina to "Greet Christian Imhof for me as well as his two sisters..."

On Feb. 4, 1838 in Butler County, Ohio Christian married Barbe/Barbara Schertz. She was born at Oberstinzel, Moselle June 11, 1815, and died in McLean County Dec. 26, 1869, a daughter of Joseph Schertz and Marie Abersol. After his death Barbe/Barbara remarried to Joseph Hodler; see SCHERTZ for background on her family and later life.

Their son **Christian Imhoff [Jr.]** was born at Lemon, Butler County Oct. 31, 1838 (shortly after the death of his father), and died at Danvers, McLean County May 31, 1881.

On March 26, 1861 at Danvers, McLean County he married Mary Strubhar. She was born at Stout's Grove, McLean County Oct. 11, 1842, and died Feb. 17, 1875, a daughter of John Strubhar and Anna Schertz.

In 1865 Christian and Mary took in orphaned 12-year-old Peter Schantz (1853-1924), who would become a minister and elder in the Central Mennonite Conference.

On Oct. 12, 1875 at Danvers Christian remarried to Barbara Ehresman. Minister Joseph Stuckey conducted the ceremony. She was born in 1846, and died in Woodford County Feb. 19, 1837, a daughter of Christian Ehresman and his third wife Veronica 'Fannie' Barnett.

History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church fails to mention Barbara: "Rev. Christian Imhoff was born in Butler County, Ohio about 1840. He came to McLean County about 1860. He was a member of the Rock Creek Amish Church. He was married to Mary Strubhar, daughter of Rev. John Strubhar. They had six children. He was ordained as a deacon in 1868 by bishop [elder] Joseph Stuckey. After 1872 he served as treasurer of the North Danvers Church for a number of years. He served as deacon of the church until 1881."

Herald of Truth, July 1881: "May 31st, in McLean Co., Ill., of lung fever, Pre. Chr. Imhof, aged 42 years and 7 months. He bore his affliction with Christian resignation. He leaves a wife and eight children to mourn his death. Fourteen years he served the church in the ministry earnestly and faithfully. Buried the 2nd of June in the presence of a large number, who met to pay the last tribute of respect to one whom they loved. Funeral sermon by C. Rupp from *1 Cor. 15*. Further remarks by Pre. Longly in English, and by J. Zehr and M. Kinsinger."

Christian, Mary, and Barbara are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

Habecker of Hofstätten

Habichtegg or Habichegg [hawk ridge] is a rise between Trub and Langnau in Canton Bern, Switzerland. Habegg is a shortened form of the location, which in turn led to Habegger, describing someone from that place. 18th and 19th century immigrants coming from Switzerland were Habeggers; those from the *Pfalz* typically considered themselves Habeckers.

It is difficult to draw a complete picture of the Habeckers in the Pfälz because the families were fragmented by extensive emigration from Europe. The first group of Palatine Amish Mennonite Habeckers in America was probably a party of seven that traveled with fellow passengers named Albrecht, Beyeler, Burki, Erb, Garber, Herschberger, Kauffman, Kurtz, Leman, Lichti, Mast, Müller, Orendorff, Schantz, Sommer, Speicher, and Wenger. They departed from Amsterdam on the *Charming Nancy,* sailed via Plymouth, and arrived at Philadelphia Oct. 8, 1737. In Pennsylvania they were also known as Hawbecker.

The Groveland/Washington/Danvers Habeckers

Johannes Habecker was born circa 1745, and died at Hofstätten in the Pfälz in 1815.

He married Veronika Imhof. She will be recalled from IMHOFF as a daughter of Christian Imhof and Verena, born circa 1745. They may have married soon after his 21st birthday, and settled at Hofstätten, where the congregation was associated with the congregation at Veronika's first home Trippstadt. At about the same time Johannes's father was relocating to Lembach.

Hofstätten was administered by the village of Wilgartswiesen, a possession of Pfälz-Zweibrücken that contained the highest elevation of any community in the Pfalz. The community is made up of two areas separated by a mile of forest, one above the other. Hofstätten is located in the upper portion. The village of Wilgartswiesen and the Hermersbergerhof estate are located in the lower portion.

The Hermersbergerhof estate was leased by an Albrecht in 1774, and partially destroyed by French troops in 1794. It was a church-owned property until 1800. In 1800 it was occupied by French troops. It was sold in 1802. Descendants of its residents include the Albrecht family that settled in Bureau County, and the Oyer families that settled in Tazewell and Woodford Counties.

Johannes was likely the 'Hans Habhecker of Hochstetten' ordained by minister Johannes 'Hans *der alte*' Nafziger as an appointed minister of the book on the Wilensteinerhof estate at Trippstadt (and mentioned in a letter Nafziger wrote to Christian Schowalter in Pennsylvania in 1787 or 1788; translated in *Amish Mennonites in Germany*).

Their children born at Hofstätten include:

1. Veronica/Véronique Habecker was born circa March 1765, and died at Lembch, Lower Alsace Dec. 22, 1927. Her civil death entry described her as 62 years and nine months of age, born at Hochstätt; the widow of the deceased Jacques Jordi in her first marriage; the widow of the deceased Peter Nafziger in her second marriage; the daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Habecker and the deceased Fronique Imhoff. It was signed by her son, 34-year-old cultivator Chrétien Jordi. More information on Veronica/Véronique and her husbands can be found in YORDY.
2. **Johannes/Jean Habecker** was born circa 1767.

Their son **Johannes/Jean Habecker** was born at Hofstätten circa 1767.

Circa 1788 he married Katharina/Catherine Schantz. She was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace between 1764 and 1771, and died at Niedersteinbach (adjacent to Lembach) Oct. 31, 1828, a daughter of minister Michel Schantz and Magdalena Güngerich. Michel Schantz represented the Froensbourg congregation in the assemblies of ministers at Essingen in 1759 and 1779, with Christian Joder and Isaac Hochstettler.

After marriage they leased the Katzenthal estate [Ger. *Katzentalerhof*] at Lembach; his grandfather Jacob had been a resident of that community since 1767, and was living with them when he died. Their residence was typically described on civil entries as the hamlet of Katzenthal [Fr. *le cense de Katzenthal*].

Amish Mennonites also farmed on two neighboring estates. Like the Katzenthal estate, they were surrounded by a hamlet or forest subdivision. The French names of the hamlets and the German names of the estates were: Fleckenstein - Ger. *Fleckensteinerhof,* and Froensbourg - Ger. *Frönsburgerhof.* Sister Veronica/Véronique Habecker and her husband Jacob Jordy were leaseholders on the Frönsburgerhof estate in 1797. Background on the Schantz, Güngerich, and Nafziger families at Lembach can be found in SCHANTZ.

The estates provided dairy products, grain, and lumber for miners. The Katzenthal forest in Lembach held two mines that yielded iron, lead, and a variety of minerals.

Lembach would now be described as a village in the Sauer Valley, surrounded by the forests of the North Vosges Natural Park, on the border with Germany. The ruins of Froensbourg castle and Fleckenstein castle are accessible as tourist attractions.

Johannes/Jean died on the Frönsburgerhof estate Sept. 26, 1815. His civil death entry described him as a 50-year-old cultivator born at Hofstätten who had died on the Frönsburgerhof estate, and further as the husband of Catherine Schantz. It was witnessed by their son Chrétien Habecker, 26, and cultivator Chrétien Sommer, 30.

Katharina/Catherine Schantz died at Niedersteinbach (adjacent to Lembach) Oct. 31, 1828. Her civil death entry identified her as 57-year-old Catherine Schantz, widow of the deceased Jean Habecker. It also says that she was born at Lembach, a daughter of the deceased laborer Michel Schantz and an unknown wife. It was witnessed by two neighbors.

Children of Johannes/Jean Habecker and Katharina/Catherine Schantz born at Lembach, Lower Alsace include:

1. Christian Habecker was born circa 1789, and died at Schwabing, Bavaria June 6, 1842. On Sept. 20, 1809 at Niederlauterbach, Lower Alsace (20 miles east of Lembach) he married Barbe Hochstettler. She was born circa 1791, a daughter of Isaac Hochstettler and his third wife Katharina/Catherine Schanz. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Chrétien Habecker, 20, a cultivator at *le Cense de Katzenthal* and a son of Jean Habecker and Catherine Schanz, accompanied by his father. The bride was described as Barbe Hochstettler, 18, born at Lauterbach, a daughter of Isaac Hochstettler living on the Neuhof estate and the deceased Catherine Schantz, accompanied by her father. It was signed by Christian Habecker, Barbara Hochstettler, Johannes Habecker, and Isaac Hochstettler.[218]
2. Johannes Habecker was born circa Feb. 28, 1795, and died at Lembach July 9, 1796, age nine months and 10 days. His civil death entry identified his father as a leaseholder on the Katzenthal estate.
3. Jacob Habecker was born July 13, 1797, and died at Lembach Dec. 30, 1801. His civil death entry described his parents as Johannes Habecker, 35, and Catherine Schantz, 33.
4. **Johannes/Jean Habecker** was born Aug. 11, 1799.
5. Valentin Habecker was born July 4, 1802, and died at Lembach April 2, 1807. His death entry described his father as a 39-year-old freeman and leaseholder [Ger. *Bürger und Beständer auf dem Katzentalerhof*], and his mother as Catharina Schantz, 37.
6. Catherine Habecker was born Aug. 17, 1804. Her civil birth entry described her father as a 37-year-old freeman and leaseholder [Ger. *Bürger und Beständer auf dem Katzentalerhof*], and his mother as 35.
7. Jacobine Habecker was born July 8, 1808. On Dec. 30, 1830 at Strasbourg she married Johannes/Jean Schlabach. He was born at Ostwald, Lower Alsace June 18, 1804, a son of cultivator Jacob/Jacques Schlabach and Catherine Hundsinger or Hunsinger. They departed from Le Havre on the *Albany*, arriving at New York June 7, 1838. Their household appeared on the 1840 census of Tazewell County, but her husband died shortly after. She remarried to Michael Rupp. See SCHLABACH and MICHAEL RUPP in ROPP for background on her marriages.

Johannes/Jean Habecker was born at Lembach, Upper Alsace Aug. 11, 1799. His civil birth entry described his parents as Johannes Habecker, 32, leaseholder on the Katzentalerhof estate, and Catharina Schantzin. His father signed 'Johannes Habecker *alt Vatter*' [senior].

On April 18, 1823 at Lembach he married Barbe/Barbara Stalter. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer Jean Habecker, born Aug. 11, 1799. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Jean Habecker, who had died at Lembach Sept. 26, 1815; and Catherine Schantz, a local resident who was present and consenting. The bride was Barbe Stalter, born on the horse breeding farm Le Haras at Sarralbe, Moselle April 3, 1799, resident of Trippstadt, Bavaria and a daughter of the deceased farmer Jacques Stalter and Barbe Imhof (see IMHOFF). He had died at Ottwiller Dec. 25, 1810.

[218] Christian Habecker was a witness on a civil marriage entry that poses a problem. The entry was created on May 17, 1814 at Nehwiller-près-Woerth, Lower Alsace. It describes the groom as Christian Hochstaedtler, a resident of Nehwiller who was born at Ingelshoff, Gundershoffen Dec. 15, 1775, a son of Chrétien Hochstaedtler who had died at Gumbrechtshoffen and Barbe Nafziger who had died on the Lauterbacherhof at Reichshoffen. The bride was Barbe Unsicker, born at Nehwiller June 17, 1787, a daughter of Joseph Unsicker and Barbe Holli. The groom was a widower; his first wife had been Catherine Habecker, who had died at Kircheimbolanden Feb. 25, 1812. We have been unable to determine the parents of Catherine Habecker. Witness Chrétien Habecker was described as a 25-year-old from Katzenthal, Lembach.

The family sailed from Le Havre in November 1830 on the packet ship *Isaac Hicks*, and arrived at New Orleans Jan. 29, 1831.[219] The passenger list shows farmer J. Stalter, 29, Germany; C. [female], 49; C.[female], 24; M. [female], 21; E. [female], 18; J. [male], 7; and then farmer J. Habecker, 31, Germany; B. [female], 31; C. [male], 11; C. [female], 7; J. [male], 5; and P. [male], 3.

Johannes/John Stalter and his first wife accompanied them. The Stalters went from New Orleans to Pennsylvania and Hamilton County, Ohio (adjacent to Butler County), and in 1834 to Peoria. See STALTER, JOHN STALTER OF PEORIA.

The Habeckers traveled directly to Butler County, Ohio.

Children of Johannes/Jean Habecker and Barbara Stalter include:

1. C. Habecker [male] was born circa 1819. He is found on the 1831 immigration passenger list.
2. Katharina/Catherine Habecker was born at Trippstadt Dec. 27, 1823. Circa 1843 in Butler County she married Nicholas Roth. See ROTH for background on this couple who settled at Morton between 1843 and 1850.
3. **Johannes/John Habecker** was born at Trippstadt Oct. 18, 1825.
4. **Pierre/Peter Habecker** was born circa 1828.

Johannes/John Habecker

Johannes/John Habecker was born at Trippstadt, below Kaiserslautern in the *Pfalz* Oct. 18, 1825. His birth entry, created in the district administrative office in Kaiserslautern, named his parents as Johannes Habecker and Barbara Stalter.

In 1845 in Butler County John married Magdalena Roth. She was born at Château-le-Vannes (now simply Vannes), Meurthe-et-Moselle Feb. 5, 1820 (her civil birth entry was witnessed by Michael Zimmerman)(headstone date 1822). She was a daughter of Chrétien/Christian/Christophe Roth and Barbara Goldschmidt, who did not immigrate.

Magdalena and her sister Barbara Roth had immigrated via Le Havre and New Orleans in 1830, traveling directly to Butler County, Ohio. Perhaps the parents assumed that they would follow after accumulating savings, and sent their daughters ahead with a relative.[220]

John and Magdalena rented land in Ohio until 1847. They headed west in that year, and stayed briefly in Woodford County.

They are found on the 1850 census of Fairfield, Butler County as farmer John Harbaker, 25, Germany; Malinda, 26, Germany; and Barbara, 3, Ohio. They lived next door to Peter Stuckey and Elizabeth Sommer, the parents of future East Washington minister Peter Stuckey and future Danvers minister Joseph Stuckey (Joseph's household is found on the next census page).

The Habeckers then resettled on rented farmland 'near Peoria' (at what is now Groveland).

Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois 1829-1929 (1931) says that Joseph Stuckey "...Came to Peoria in October, 1850, and located in the Rock Creek territory on a farm a few miles north of Danvers. The family had come by way of the Ohio River and the Illinois River to Fort Clark, which is now Peoria. Stuckey with his brother-in-law, John Habecker, worked for a few months in a packing house and then in March, 1851, came to Danvers Township in McLean County."

On March 31, 1853 John purchased a 40-acre parcel of land in Section 33 at Danvers. The *Illinois Public Domain Land Sales Database* shows it as federal land, purchased for $1.25 an acre.

The 1860 census of Danvers shows John Habacher, 34, Byern [*Bayern*, Bavaria]; Melinda, 30, Byronne; Barbara, 12; Catherine, 9; John [Christian C.], 5; and Joseph, 2; all children born in Illinois. They lived next door to Joseph Stuckey and Barbara Roth.

The 1865 state census of Danvers shows John Habecker as the head of a household containing one male 40-49 years of age; one male 10-19; one male under age 10; one female 40-49; and two females under age 10.

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[219] The 495-ton *Isaac Hicks* was launched at New York in November of 1824. It was still in service out of New London, Connecticut in 1862. Isaac Hicks (1767-1820) was a Quaker merchant with an office on Crane Wharf in New York City. He financed the voyages of a number of ships for trade and whaling, and marketed the products of whaling. At the age of 38 he retired from business. He was also a member of the Manumission Society, a New York State group working for the abolition of slavery. A legislative act they crafted in 1799 was signed into law by society member-and-governor John Jay. It resulted in the emancipation of all slaves in the state by July 4, 1827. This was the most significant emancipation in America before 1861.

[220] The publication *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* (1889) includes profiles of the Habecker's son Joseph Habecker and son-in-law Peter S. Gerber. Both mention the immigration and resettling of John Habecker and Magdalena Roth, but differ in a number of details.

On Sept. 30, 1869, John purchased an adjoining 40 acres in Woodford County for $9 per acre.

The 1870 census of Danvers has John Hanbecker, 75 [written over, should have been 45], Baden; Madaline, 45, Baden; Christian, 14, Illinois; Joseph, 12, Illinois; servant Barbaray Plank, 20, Pennsylvania; and Margret Shirtz, 72, France, 'living with Stroubher.' This was Margueritte Müller Schertz, the mother of Anna Schertz. They lived next door to the households of John Strubhar [found as Stroubher] and Anna Schertz, and Valentine Strubhar and Barbara Guingrich.

John died at Danvers April 29, 1878. The household appears on the 1880 census of Danvers as Magdalena Habecker, 58, Germany; farmer Christian, 25, Illinois; and farmer Joseph, 23, Illinois. They were living next door to Joseph S. Augspurger and Jacobina Stuckey.

On April 27, 1881 Magdalena's sister Barbara Roth died. On Dec. 11, 1881 at Danvers Magdalena remarried to her brother-in-law, the widower Joseph Stuckey. See STAKER for background on Stuckey.

Magdalena died at Danvers May 15, 1904.

John and Magdalena are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers. Children of John Habecker and Magdalena Roth include:

1. Barbara Habecker was born in Ohio Nov. 30, 1846, and died at Goshen, Indiana June 19, 1885. On July 4, 1870 at Danvers she married Amos F. Yoder; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Amos was born May 20, 1845, and died at Goshen April 8, 1897. They are buried in Prairie Rest Cemetery at Goshen.
2. Katharina/Catherine Habecker was born at what is now Groveland June 8, 1848, and died at White Oak Township, McLean County July 21, 1918. On Jan. 19, 1869 at Danvers she married Peter S. Gerber; the ceremomy was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Peter was born at Montgomery Township, Woodford County Nov. 15, 1846, and died at Bloomington, McLean County March 18, 1930, a son of Joseph Gerber and Magdalena Sommer. They farmed at Oak Grove, McLean County. In 1830 Peter was living at Danvers. They are buried in North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery in McLean County.
3. Christian C. Habecker was born Sept. 24, 1855, and died at Danvers Feb. 26, 1922. His death certificate says he wa born at Groveland, but this may have been an error - by 1855 his parents had already relocated from Groveland to Danvers. On March 10, 1881 in McLean County he married Irene Stutzman; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born at Danvers Nov. 26, 1857, and died in 1945, a daughter of Solomon Stutzman and Sarah Yoder. They are found on the 1900 census of Danvers Village as farmer C.C. Habecker, 45, born in Illinois in September 1854 to a father from Germany and a mother from France; Irene, 41, born in Illinois in November 1858 to parents from Pennsylvania; and four children born in Illinois. Christian and Irene are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.
4. Joseph Habecker was born at Danvers Feb. 4, 1857, and died there March 27, 1919. On Aug. 29, 1880 at Danvers he married Catherine 'Katie' Burkey; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born in 1860, and died in 1952. *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* (1887) described her parents as Frederick Burkey and Catherine Kreek, natives of Switzerland. Following their marriage he purchased a farm of 112 acres. They are found on the 1900 census of Danvers as farmer Joseph Habecker, born in Illinois in February 1856 to German parents; Katie, 39, born in Illinois in August 1860 to German parents; and five children born in Illinois.

Pierre/Peter Habecker

Johannes/John Habecker farmed in Woodford and Tazewell Countries no more than six years 1847-53 before relocating to McLean County. But his sister Katharina/Catherine Habecker (married to Nicholas Roth) and his younger brother, **Pierre/Peter Habecker**, raised families in Tazewell County.

Peter was born circa 1828.

On Aug. 9, 1856 in Tazewell County he married Elisabeth/Elizabeth Rich; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. She was born at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace April 19, 1832, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques Rich and Catherine Zimmerman. She had sailed from Le Havre with her parents on the *St. Nicolas*, arriving at New York Jan. 22, 1849. The Riches settled at Washington, Tazewell County.

The 1860 census of Washington shows laborer Peter Hobecker, 32, Germany; Elizabeth, 26, Germany; John, 2, Illinois; and Catherine, four months, Illinois.

The 1865 state census of Worth, Woodford County has Peter Hobecker as the head of a household containing one male 30-39 years of age; one male under 10; one female 20-29; and two females under 10.

The 1870 census of Washington shows farm laborer Peter Hawbaker, 40, Bavaria; Elisabeth, 36, France; John, 13; Catharine, 10; Ann, 8; Joseph, 6; Augusta, 3; and Christian, six months; all children born in Illinois.

The 1872 plat map of Washington does not show them as farm property owners. Judging from the surnames of their neighbors on federal censuses, it is probable that they were living on an acre lot on the west side of the town center.

In 1880 census of Washington they appear as farmer Peter Hobecker, 52, Germany; Elizabeth, 45, France; Christiana, 13, Illinois; Joseph, 15, Illinois; and Christ, 10, Illinois. The two oldest children are found as laborer John Hawbecker, 22, Illinois; and servant Katie Hawbecker, 20, Illinois in the household of farmer Christian Guth and Elizabeth Guth (who was not only his wife but his cousin as well). We could not account for 18-year-old Anna.

Peter died after an accident at Washington Nov. 8, 1888.

Julie Hendricks of the Mennonite Heritage Center at Metamora identified Elizabeth's obituary from *The Pantagraph*, Oct. 3, 1903: "Killed by Cars. Mrs. Hawbecker of Washington Struck by an Alton Train. Washington, Ill, Oct. 2 - (Special) - Mrs. Elizabeth Hawbecker, a widow, aged seventy, was killed at 1:20 this afternoon by the west bound Alton passenger, three miles west of town. She had taken dinner with a neighbor and was walking on the track to visit her son John. Being deaf she did not hear the train. She leaves six children. The inquest has not been completed. Her husband was killed at the same place several years ago."

Children of Pierre/Peter Habecker and Elisabeth/Elizabeth Rich born at Washington include:

1. John Habecker was born June 23, 1857, and died in the village of Bartonville, Limestone Township, Peoria Aug. 1, 1940. On May 17, 1896 in Tazewell County he married widow Lucinda 'Anna' Munstermann. She was born Nov. 10, 1846, and died at Washington Oct. 13, 1917. John Hawbecker is found on the 1910 plat map of Washington, as the owner of 77.5 acres in east-central Section 29. Their marble joint headstone in Glendale Cemetery says, "John Hawbecker June 23, 1857, Anna Munstermann his wife Nov. 10, 1846." Lines left open for the dates of death were not inscribed. His death certificate calls them John Hawbecker and Anna Hebert.
2. Catherine 'Katie' Habecker was born in May 1860. On Aug. 29, 1882 in Tazewell County she married Frederick Wenger. They are found on the 1900 census of Gray Township, Minnesota as farmer Fred Wenger, 50, born in Switzerland in January 1849; Kathirena, 40, born in Illinois in May 1860 to German parents; with four children born in Illinois (the last in April 1890) and two children born in Minnesota (the first in March 1893). They are buried under a joint headstone in the Lund Church Cemetery [Lutheran] in Decatur County, Kansas as 'Mother Kate, 1860-1916' and 'Father Frederick 1851-1929.'
3. Anna Habecker was born June 15, 1862, and died at Washington Dec. 8, 1941. In 1882 she married James Madison Hartley. He was born at Washington June 8, 1853, and died there April 24, 1922, a son of Richard Hartley and Eliza Cunningham. They appear on the 1900 census of Washington as James M. Hartley, born in Illinois in June 1853 to parents from England and Ohio; Anna, 38, born in Illinois in June 1862 to parents from Virginia and Ohio; and six children born in Illinois. Only the 1910 census of Washington correctly states that her parents were born in Germany and France. The 1920 census of Washington has James Hartley, 66, born in Illinois to parents from England and Ohio; Anna, 57, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio; and four children born in Illinois. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery. Anna's *Daily Pantagraph* obituary called her Anna Hawbecker.
4. Joseph Habecker was born in 1864, and died at Grange, Minnesota Dec. 28, 1946 (only four miles from Catherine's home in Gray Township). He married Mary E. Vanderwege. She was born in the Netherlands in 1873, and died at Jasper, Minnesota July 4, 1941. The 1914 plat map of Grange shows Joseph Hawbecker on 160 acres in southwest Section 27. They are buried in Old Woodlawn Cemetery at Pipestone, Minnesota as Joseph and Mary E. Hawbecker.
5. Christina/Christine Habecker was born Jan. 6, 1866, and died at Washington April 4, 1920. On Oct. 30, 1885 in Tazewell County she married Jacob Faubel. He was born in Germany Sept. 27, 1862, and died at Washington Aug. 2, 1947. On the 1930 census Jacob reported that he had immigrated in 1865. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
6. Christian Habecker was born in December 1869, and died in 1916. On June 25, 1894 in Pipestone County, Minnesota he married Ida Kerston. She was born in Pennsylvania June 14, 1872, and died in Peoria County Aug. 26, 1947. She is found on the 1880 census of Hopedale: Charles Kerston, 49, Germany; Mary, 38, Germany; Charles, 12, Germany; and Ida, 8, Pennsylvania. The 1900 census of Worth, Woodford County shows farmer Christopher Hawbecker, 30, born in Illinois in December 1869 to German parents; Ida, 27, born in Pennsylvania in June 1871 to German parents; Anna, 6, born in Illinois in April 1894; Birtha, 4, born in Minnesota in April 1896; Fredie, 3, born in Illinois in April 1897; and Clint Arthur, four months, born in Illinois in January 1900. The 1910 census of Washington has Crist Hawbecker, 40, born in Illinois to German parents; Ida, 36, born in Pennsylvania to German parents; Bertha, 15; Frederick, 12; Arthur, 10; Natalie, 8; and Ethel, 6; all children born in Illinois. Their headstones in Glendale Cemetery call them Hawbecker.

The Groveland/Yates Habeckers

Christian Habecker was born circa 1754, and died in the hamlet Neuhof (less than two miles west of Kirchheimbolanden) July 14, 1799, age 45.

He married Katharina Imhof. She was born circa 1760, and her death was recorded at Kirchheimbolanden Feb. 6, 1824. It is likely that she was a daughter of Christian Imhof and Elisabeth Danner, a couple living at Neuhof (mentioned in a footnote to IMHOFF).

Before the French Revolution the only events of significance at Neuhof were the occasional visits of princes to hunt. Like many of the locations west of the Rhine River mentioned in IMHOF, the hamlet was occupied by French troops in 1793 and annexed into the French *départmement du Mont Tonnere* 1798-1814.

In present day Neuhof is on the verge of extinction. Its access roads are closed, and its properties have been purchased to expedite feldspar mining. It is administered by the village of Kirchheimbolanden.

Children of Christian Habecker and Katharina Imhof born in the hamlet Neuhof include:

1. **Johannes/Johann/John Habecker** was born circa March 18, 1788 (per his headstone count).
2. Jakob Habecker was born Sept. 8, 1789. On April 5, 1815 at Dreisen (six miles south of Neuhof and Kirchheimbolanden) he married Elisabeth Jotter. She was born on the Froschauerhof estate (between Kirchheimbolanden and Dreisen, and below Marnheim) in 1793, a daughter of Jakob Jotter and Elisabeth Kennel. Their civil marriage entry said that Jakob's father was deceased and his mother still living. Their first child was born only five weeks after the ceremony; son Christian Habecker's *Evangelische* birth entry was created at Marnheim May 12, 1816. Jakob and Elisabeth farmed on the Hanweilerhof estate at Börrstadt (four miles southwest of Dreisen), where Elisabeth died in 1861.

Johannes/Johann/John Habecker was born in the hamlet Neuhof circa March 18, 1788 (per his headstone count).

In 1813 in the village of Kirchheimbolanden he married Barbara Holly. She was born at Niederflörsheim (12 miles east of Kirchheimbolanden) circa 1789, a daughter of Christian Holly and Anna Hochstettler.

Barbara's paternal great-grandfather was minister Christian Holi/Holli/Holly, who had come from Kŭrzenberg, Canton Bern (now part of Linden) to lease the Bärbelsteinerhof estate at Erlenbach bei Dahn in 1718. Her paternal grandparents David Holly and Susanne Fischer had come from the Katharinenthal in Baden-Durlach, to settle on the Hollidahof at Dreisen (six miles south of Kirchheimbolanden). In 1764 they became leaseholders of the adjacent Münsterhof estate with Johannes Kennel and Jakob Müller. Barbara's maternal grandparents were minister Isaac Hochstettler and his second wife Anna Rupp, who were also leaseholders of the Bärbelsteinerhof estate. Barbara's brother Peter Holly was on the Hessian Mennonite voyage of 1832, and traveled to Butler County, Ohio that year.

Before the establishment of a civil system of record keeping throughout what became Germany, *Mennoniten* were required by law to register family events at local churches, as a condition for residence. According to an *Evangelische* entry, Barbara Holly died Oct. 13, 1824, age 36 years and three days (thus born circa Oct. 9, 1788). A daughter Catharina Habecker died on the same day, age three months, 11 days.

Children of Johannes/Johann/John Habecker and his first wife Barbara Holly include:

1. Christian Habecker was born between 1813 and 1823, and was buried at Kirchheimbolanden April 3, 1865. He married Catharina Spring. She was born on the Münsterhof estate at Dreisen in the district of Kirchheimbolanden Oct. 6, 1828, and died at Danvers, McLean County Feb. 2, 1888, a daughter of Johannes Spring and Elisabeth Hochstättler. She sailed with their children on the *Westphalia* from Hamburg via Le Havre, arriving at New York May 28, 1872. The passenger list shows Christe [Catharina] Habecker, 43; Lisette, 23; Amalie, 20; Helene, 17; A., 14 [male]; R., 12 [male]; and Christe, 9 [female]. We found her in the home of a daughter on the 1880 census of Danvers, McLean County: William Naffziger, 32, Germany; Mollie [Amalie Habecker, as later censuses make clear], 27, Germany; Hugo, 5, Illinois; William H. Mahaffy, 27, Illinois; mother-in-law Catharine Habecker, 50, Germany; and Erman [Armand, as later censuses make clear] Naffziger, 4, Illinois.[221] *Christlicher Bundesbote*, Feb. 23, 1888: "*Habecker. Am 2 Feb. in Danvers, Ill., Katharina Habecker, geb. Spring, im Alter von 59 Jahren, 3 Monaten und 26 Tagen. Sie wurde geboren auf dem Münsterhof in der Rheinpfalz. Leichenreden wurden gehalten von Chr. Güngerich ud L.R. Royce.*" She is buried under an obelisk in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers: "Katharine Habecker, born Oct. 6, 1828, died Feb. 2, 1888, aged 59 Yrs. 3 M. 26 D."
2. Jacob Habecker was born circa 1820. He was described as a carpenter on the 1851 passenger list. He is found with the family as a 39-year-old farmer on the 1860 census of Groveland, and as a 50-year-old on the 1870 census of Yates, McLean County. The 1874 plat map of Yates shows owner 'J. Habecker' on the family farm. We could not follow him after that.
3. Catharina Habecker was born circa July 1, 1824. Her death entry was created at Kirchheimbolanden Oct. 13, 1824, the same day as her mother's, and gave her age as three months, 11 days.

[221] Wilhelm Nafziger or Naffziger was a son of Johann Christian Nafziger and Barbara Stahly [Stähli]. As Wilhelm Naffziger, 6, Hessen, he is found with his family on the passenger list of the *Empire* sailing from Le Havre, arriving at New York Nov. 19, 1853. He and Amalie resettled in Iowa before its 1895 state census, which categorizes the family as Mennonite. There he was a farmer and she was a music teacher. They are buried in Marcus-Amherst Cemetery at Marcus, Cherokee County, Iowa as William and Amelia Naffziger.

On May 1, 1828 at Kirchheimbolanden Johannes remarried to Maria Magdalena Klein (the *Evangelische* entry specifically described the groom as the widower of Barbara Holli). She was born at Teschenmoschel (16 miles wst of Kirchheimbolanden) circa 1800. She may have been the Maria Magdalena Klein whose birth was entered in *Evangelische* records at adjacent Dörrmoschel Dec. 20, 1800, a daughter of Johannes Klein and Catharina.

Their 22-year-old son Daniel Habecker sailed from Le Havre on the packet ship *William Tell*, and arrived at New York Oct. 30, 1850.[222] He would later become a prominent resident of Morton.

On Aug. 19, 1851 the Bavarian Royal Land Commission published a public notice at Kirchheimbolanden stating that the landowner [Ger. *Gutsbesitzer*] on the Neuhof at Kirchheimbolanden, Johannes Habecker, was planning to depart for North America with his family. The notice was reprinted two days later in the *Königlich bayerisches Amts und Intelligensblatt für de Pfälz* [Royal Bavarian Administrative and Intelligence Bulletin for the Pfälz].

The packet ship *St. Denis* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York Nov. 14, 1851. The passenger list shows a Bavarian family: Johann Habecker, 65; Magdel, 51; Jacob, 30, carpenter; Catharine, 21; Johann, 18; David, 16; Andreas, 13; and Mari, 9. (The same ship would bring Baechler and Ropp/Rupp families in 1855, and sink later that year; see BECHLER/BECKLER).

They appear on the 1860 census of Groveland as John Haubaker, 73; Hellena, 60; John, 27; Daniel [David], 24; Andrew, 21; Amelia [Marie/Mary], 18; and farmer Jacob, 39; all born in Bavaria. They were living next door to John Gingery, 27 or 37, Nassau; Catharine [Habecker], 30, Bavaria; Mary, 4, Illinois; and John, 2, Illinois.

Before 1870 John purchased 160 acres in the northeast quarter of Section 18 at Yates, McLean County. The 1870 census of Yates has John Hawbaker, 83; Madeline, 70; Jacob, 50; John, 30; Mary Gingerich, 14 [all to this point Bavaria]; and farmhand John Salsman, 15, Louisiana [John Saltzman, a son of Michael Saltzman and Elizabeth Schrag/Schrock].

John Habecker died at Chenoa, McLean County Dec. 18, 1871. *Herald of Truth*, February 1871: "On the 18th of December, at Chenoa, McLean county, Ill., of apoplexy, John Habecker, aged 83 years and nine months. He leaves a wife and seven children to mourn his departure. He was beloved by all who knew him. Funeral address by the writer from *Is. 51 1,2*. S. Baechler."

Maria Magdalena appears on a census at Yates in 1880. Mother-in-law Ella Habecker, 80, Germany, is found in the household of her son Andrew Baechler, 51, France. She died in 1887.

Children of Johannes/Johann/John Habecker and his second wife Maria Magdalena Klein born in the hamlet Neuhof near Kirchheimbolanden include:

4. **Daniel Habecker** was born in August 1828, and died at Morton Dec. 24, 1912.
5. Catharine 'Kate' Habecker was born Dec. 6, 1830, and died April 8, 1889. In February of 1854 in Tazewell County she married John Gingerich. He was born in Nassau circa 1822.[223] John was a witness to the naturalizations of David and Andrew Habecker at the Peoria Courthouse in 1860. They are found on the 1870 census of Morton as farmer John Gingerich, 48, Nassau; Catharine, 40, Bavaria; and seven children born in Illinois (the oldest circa 1857). The 1880 census of Morton has John Gingerick, 58, Germany; Kate, 50, Germany; and six children born in Illinois. Catherine is buried in Buckeye Cemetery at Morton. A headstone with the name 'John Gingerich' (her husband or son) has no legible dates.
6. Johann/John Habecker was born May 28, 1833, and died at Allin, McLean County April 3, 1932. He was naturalized at the Peoria Courthouse Nov. 2, 1868. Three days later in McLean County he married Catherine Nafziger. She was born on the Naumberger Hof estate at Ginsweiler in the Pfälz (20 miles north of Kaiserslautern) in 1843, and died in 1894, a daughter of Christian Nafziger and Elizabeth Brenneman. Her family sailed from London on the *American Eagle*, and arrived at New York Nov. 21, 1856; she is found on the passenger list as Elizabeth Naffziger, 13. The 1870 census of Tremont shows farmer John Hawbaker, 34, Bavaria; Catharine, 25, Bavaria; Ida, nine months, Illinois; and farmer Joseph Gerber, 23, Illinois. They were living at Allin, McLean County in 1880, 1900, and 1910, when John is found as widower John Habecker, 76, Germany. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at

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[222] The *William Tell* became notorious for its near destruction. It sailed between New York and Le Havre from 1850 to 1861. At about 2 a.m. on Sept. 2, 1861 the ship was docked on New York City's North River. It was fully loaded with about $500,000 worth of cargo, had passengers onboard, and was supposed to depart only a few hours later. Cotton bales began to smolder. The crew declined to fight the fire while the ship was towed to Governor's Island, where it burned to the waterline. They were suspected of setting the fire to avoid going to sea, and were summoned to an inquest. Many of them claimed to have lapses of memory due to inebriation on the night of the incident. The burnt hull was auctioned, rebuilt, and re-registered from Boston. On Dec. 23, 1865 its rudder was disabled by small collisions with rocks in the Strait of Juan de Fuca (between British Columbia and the state of Washington). It eventually foundered on a reef and sank Jan. 5.

[223] The Duchy of Nassau was an independent state in the German Confederation 1806-66. In 1866 it was annexed by Prussia.

Stanford, McLean County. His death certificate says he was born at 'Hirth Heim Bolanden Rein Falls, Germany," and names his parents as John Hawbecker and Magdalina Klein.

7. David Habecker was born circa Nov. 18, 1835, and died at Allin, McLean County June 29, 1924. He was naturalized at the Peoria Courthouse Sept. 7, 1860; one witness was his brother-in-law John Gingerich. On June 4, 1874 at McLean County he married Mary A. Springer. She was born in Butler County, Ohio in 1844, and died in McLean County May 17, 1889, a daughter of Joseph Springer (also known as Joseph E. Springer) and Catherine Kinsinger. David is found on the 1910 census of Allin as widowed father-in-law David Habecker, 74, Germany, in the household of Otto Iwig, 31, and Emma, 29. David and Mary are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.
8. Andreas/Andrew Habecker was born June 11, 1838, and died at Green Ridge, Missouri Nov. 27, 1927. On June 8, 1852 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Wenger; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. He was naturalized at the Peoria Courthouse Oct. 24; 1860; one witness was his brother-in-law, found as John Gingrich. On Feb. 22, 1866 in Tazewell County he remarried to Margret Wareham. She was born in 1847, and died in 1883. She is found on the 1860 census of Deer Creek as Margaret Wareham, 13, Ohio, a daughter of Philip Wareham and Sarah. The 1873 plat map of Deer Creek shows 'A. Habecker' on 160 acres in the southeast quarter of Section 8. He remarried to Mahala F. Parson. She was born in 1860, and died in 1890. She is found on the 1880 census of Deer Creek in a Wareham household as domestic Mahala Parson, 20, born in Illinois in 1860 to a father from Virginia and a mother from Vermont. Andreas/Andrew, Margaret, and Mahala are buried in Green Ridge Cemetery at Green Ridge, Missouri.
9. Marie/Mary Habecker was born May 9, 1842, and died at Momence, Kankakee County in 1912. On Jan. 6, 1869 in McLean County she married Andreas Baechler/Andrew Bechler. For background on this couple see BECHLER/BECKLER.

Daniel Habecker was born in the hamlet Neuhof near Kirchheimbolanden in August 1828, and died at Morton Dec. 24, 1912.

He sailed from Le Havre on the *William Tell*, and arrived at New York Oct. 30, 1850. The steerage passenger list shows farmer Daniel Habecker, 20, Hessen.

Other passengers within a page or two included Krehbiels and Stauffers, as well as 'Christ Schwalter, 21.' Christian Schowalter was born at Assenheim (12 miles southwest of Mannheim in the Pfälz) Nov. 11, 1828, and died at Donnellson, Lee County, Iowa April 13, 1907, a son of Johannes Schowalter and Magdalene Herschtein.[224] He would be ordained as a minister in Lee County in 1861, and became elder there with the death of Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith.[225] He was influential in the development of the General Conference Mennonite Church.

Circa 1869 Daniel married Susanne/ Sussanna (per her birth entry)/Susan Conrad. She was born at Mittelbach-Hengstbach (three miles southwest of Zweibrücken) Jan. 25, 1849, and died April 17, 1936, a daughter of Philip Conrad and Maria Mauss.

She had immigrated with a younger brother on the *S.S. Atalanta.* The passenger list shows that the ship sailed from Le Havre and London; they may have boarded at either port. The list composed upon their arrival at New York April 26, 1868 shows baker Susanne Conrad, 19, Bavaria; and Paul Conrad, 17, Bavaria.[226]

The 1870 census of Morton shows harness maker Dan Haubecker, 39, Bavaria; Susan, 22, Bavaria; and Berta, two months, Illinois.

In 1877 Daniel sat on the Board of Trustees of the new village of Morton.

Their household appears on the 1880 census of Morton as harness maker Daniel Habecker, 50, Germany; Mary, 8, Illinois; John, 6, Illinois; Bertha, 10, Illinois; Otto, 4, Illinois; and Susan, 30, Germany. The 1900 census of Morton has harness maker Daniel Habecker, 71, born in Germany in August 1828, married 31 years, immigrated in 1850; Susan, 51, born in Germany in January 1849, married 31 years, immigrated in 1868; Bertha, 29, born in Illinois in May 1871 to German parents; and farm laborer John, 27, born in Illinois in March 1873 to German parents. The 1910 census of Morton shows them as federal mail carrier Daniel Habecker, 82, born in Germany, married 40 years, immigrated in 1850; Susan, 60, born in Germany, married 40 years, immigrated in 1865; and Bertha, 39, born in Illinois to German parents.

Daniel and Susan are buried in Hirstein Cemetery at Morton, where Daniel's headstone says 'Father Daniel Habecker, 1828-1912,' and Susan's says 'Mother Susan Habecker, 1848-1936.'

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[224] Assenheim is now Hochdorf-Assenheim.

[225] Two pages after Daniel Habecker was a listing for Christian Jotter, 18, and Henry Jotter, 16. We could not identify them further.

[226] Paul Conrad was born at Mittelbach-Hengstbach May 17, 1851, and died in Ford County Dec. 27, 1897. He married Caroline Escher. They are found on the 1880 census of Drummer Township, Ford County. They are buried in Drummer Township Cemetery at Gibson City.

Jantzi of Bistroff and Hombourg-Haut

Janzi/Jantzi, like Tchanz/Tschantz/Schantz/Johns and Jenni, is derived from Johannes – Jehova's gift.[227]

To find the ancestral home of Janzis one would go to the ferry port town of Spiez on the western shore of Lake Thun. From there a road goes inland and uphill to Erlenbach im Simmental, the birthplace of Jacob Amman. Then inland to Boltigen, the ancestral home of Reűtigers (later Redigers). Then further to Zweisimmen, 24 miles inland. While this would have been an arduous trek in the 1600s, since 1905 it has been on the route of the Spiez-Zweisimmen-Montreux railroad going to the famous ski slopes of Gstaad.

In the mid-1300s Leopold, Duke of Austria possessed what is now Canton Fribourg. His army was defeated by the forces of Canton Bern at the Battle of Sempach July 9, 1386. The subsequent armistice gave Canton Bern the Simmental region [the valley of the Simmen river].

Recall from REDIGER that St. Mary's Church was first constructed at Zweisimmen 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. From the period 1680-1728 we found seven marriage entries, and 24 baptism entries. From the period 1729-1752 we found only two marriage entries, and 18 baptism entries. The indexes confirm that the record keeper considered the spellings Janssi and Janzi as the same family. (A quick check of the 2016 phone book came up with six Janzi numbers in a village of 3,000).

We could only find one instance of a Swiss Anabaptist with this surname before 1750. *L'Eglise Mennonite ou Anabaptiste en Pays Neuchâtelois* (1969) cites a report on Anabaptists compiled in Neuchâtel in the Jura Mountains in 1725. At the time Neuchâtel was a French-speaking principality [Ger. *Fürstentum Neuenburg*] adjacent to Canton Bern administered by King Frederick I of Prussia; it would not enter the Swiss Confederation as a canton until 1815.

The report mentions Christ Janssy from Gerritz in the district of Thun [50 miles to the southeast of Neuchâtel, at the top of Lake Thun in Canton Bern]. He worked 'on the mountain' for the intendant (district governor) Vornad, and had been in the area 'since his youth' for 14 years. Whether or not he was a forebearer of the family we will follow could not be determined.

In records from the region of Lorraine the surname is generally found as Jantzy or Jantsy – even as they signed 'Jantzi.'

The Amish Mennonite Jantzi family in the region of Lorraine provided a cluster of immigrants who resettled in Lewis County, New York and Ontario, Canada in the 1830s (including a few who later continued on to Central Illinois). They emigrated from Europe because of the issue of military conscription to support the French occupation of Algeria (for background see STAKER). Their voyages were well-documented.

However, the early part of their history is a complete mystery. We can only surmise that they came to the region of Lorraine before a birth there circa 1761.

Michel Jantzi (#1) may have been born circa January 1719 or circa 1728, and died on Belgrade farm at Bistroff, Moselle Aug. 28, 1822.

A child named Anne Jantzÿ is found in Catholic records at Bistroff as someone born and baptized on Dec. 21, 1762 (this does not imply that her parents were Catholic). Her parents were described as Michel Jantzÿ and Barbe Guerber of La Capelle farm. La Chapelle farm was actually situated in adjacent Linstroff, now part of Grostenquin.

Some details of Michel's life are known through a civil entry created the day after his death. It described him as Michel Jantzi, age 103 years and seven months. It did not give his birthplace. The two witnesses were his son Christian Jantzi, 52, of Belgrade farm; and neighbor Michel Salsmann, 41, a farmer at the Bischwald mill above Belgrade farm (the same individual as MICHEL/MICHAEL SALZMAN OF BUTLER COUNTY in SALZMAN). The two signatures look like Christel Jantzi and Michel Salzman. The age 103 is suspect – he was a witness on his son Christian's earlier first marriage entry, with an age that would instead place his birth in 1728.

Michel married Barbe Guerber before 1762. She died before 1794.

BELGRADE FARM AT BISTROFF

Recall from STAKER that the territories in the region of Lorraine had gradually passed from German possession into French possession in the 1500s and 1600s. Lorraine was given to ally and former king of Poland Stanislaus Leszczynski,

[227] In published material we found frequent mixups with the surname Jaŭsi/Jaŭssi/Jaussy, since they can look nearly identical in handwriting. This family was concentrated at Wattenwil, six miles west of the town of Thun in Canton Bern.

the Catholic father-in-law of the French King Louis XV, by the treaties ending the War of the Polish Succession (1738). After his death in 1766, Lorraine was absorbed into France.

Anabaptists may have come to Bistroff in numbers as early as 1765 (the year the Bishopric of Morhange gave up its property holdings) or 1766 (the year the region became part of France). Surnames found there include Blank, Abresol, Engel, Farny, Gerber, Güngerich, Hisser, Fonkennel/Kennel/Kennelle, Moser, Maurer, Nafziger, Oesch, Risser, Schertz, Schrag/Schraque, Spengler, Springer/Sprunger, Stalter, Stecker, Vitrick [Wittrig, later Widrick], and Zehr.

In 1757 Christian Engel (before 1729-1795, the father of the Woodford County minister of the same name) had obtained a lease at Assenoncourt in the Dieuze Ponds area of Lorraine. In 1775 he brought his family to Bischwald mill at Bistroff. His children gave up the leases after Christian Engel's death there in 1795. For the next three decades Belgrade farm would be occupied by Steckers, Jantzis, and Zehrs. See STAKER for more background on Belgrade farm.

Children of Michel Jantzi (#1) and Barbe Guerber include:

1. Anne Jantzÿ is found in Catholic records at Bistroff as a child born and baptized on Dec. 21, 1762. Her parents were described as Michel Jantzÿ and Barbe Guerber of La Capelle farm (La Chapelle farm at Linstroff). Presumably she died before the birth of another child of the same name.
2. **Michel Jantzi** (#2) was born circa 1763. His civil death entry says he was born at Lixing (now Lixing-lès-St. Avold). He died in the Pulvermühle at Macheren July 25, 1833.
3. **Christian/Chrétien 'Christel' Jantzi** was born Oct. 18, 1766 (per his first marriage entry), and died on Belgrade farm at Bistroff Nov. 15, 1828.
4. **Anne Jantzi** was born between 1772 (per the 1860 census) and 1777 (per her son's marriage entry), and died at New Bremen, Lewis County, New York between 1860 and 1865.

1. MICHEL JANTZI

Michel Jantzi (#2) was born circa 1763. His civil death entry says he was born at Lixing (now Lixing-lès-St. Avold). Lixing-lès-St. Avold is located four miles northeast of Bistroff and Grostenquin. From there the stream Ruisseau du Bischwald runs southwest past the Bischwald mill into the large pond Étange du Bischwald in Bistroff.

Circa 1790 Michel married Barbe Neuhauser. She was born at Singling (now part of Gros-Rederching) circa 1765, and died at Hombourg-Haut Aug. 17, 1833, a daughter of Christian Neuhauser and Barbe Zimmerman.

Judging only by the birthplaces of their children, Michel and Barbe were living at St. Avold in 1795, and in the occupied Saar region possibly as early as 1797 to 1804 or later.[228] The civil marriage entry of their son Michel (#3) from 1821 described his parents as residents of Moulin Neuf, Petit-Ebersviller, Macheren [Moulin Neuf is located directly above the village of Petit-Ebersviller, between St. Avold and Macheren].

From 1826 or earlier, three generations lived in the main house at the Pulvermühle [Fr. *moulin à poudre*]. It still stands beside the La Rosselle river [Ger. *Rossel*] at Macheren, Moselle, four miles north of Lixing-lès-St. Avold. Events that took place in the Pulvermühle main house were recorded at either Macheren or adjacent Hombourg-Haut (it was closer to the mayor's office of Hombourg-Haut). The river runs along or near the boundary between the two communities.

At the time, gun powder/black powder manufacturing mills were constructed by rivers or streams, where a water turbine could turn grinding stones. Powdered sulfur, charcoal, and saltpeter were combined in tumbling barrels on rotors. The product was packaged in small wooden boxes or barrels to absorb moisture.

An old powder mill can be easily identified by its unique construction. An especially thick stone wall runs across the interior, or thick stone interior walls form a criss-cross dividing it into quarters. The outer walls are often wood and plaster. This was done so the force of any accidental blast would be directed outward in one direction.

Michel (#2) died in the Pulvermühle July 25, 1833. His civil death entry was created at Hombourg-Haut. It stated that elderly miller Michel Janzi, 70, was born at Lixing, and had resided in the Pulvermühle. He was a son of the deceased Michel Janzi and Anne Gerber, and left the widow Barbe Neyhouser. It was witnessed by miller Michel Janzi, 38, his son.

Barbe Neuhauser died Aug. 17, less than three weeks later. The timing and coincidence suggest that they were victims of a cholera apidemic that affected Asia, Europe, and North America. Her civil death entry created at Hombourg-Haut described her as Barbe Neyhouser, 69, born at Singling and a resident of the Pulvermühle, a daughter of the deceased Christian Neyhouser and Barbe Zimmerman, and the widow of the deceased Michel Janzi. It was witnessed by their son Michel.

Children of Michel Jantzi (#2) and Barbe Neuhauser include:

[228] The Saar region was occupied by France from 1792 to 1815. In 1798 the western third became part of the department of Moselle, the center became part of the department of Saare, and the eastern third became part of the department of Mont-Tonnerre.

1. **Michel Jantzi** (#3) was born at St. Avold April 10, 1795.
2. Catherine Jantzi was born circa 1797, and died at Schwemlingen in the Saar region Nov. 29, 1836 ('Schuvamlingen, Prussia' is found on her husband's civil remarriage entry).[229] On Aug. 28, 1816 at Macheren she married miller Nicolas Schertz. He was born at Bistroff Dec. 11, 1794, and died at nearby Grostenquin Feb. 22, 1868, a son of Joseph Schertz and Barbe Blank. He was a miller in Mill One at Forbach, Moselle. On June 9, 1848 at Macheren Nicolas remarried to Barbe Rouvenacht. She was born at Guermange, Moselle Jan. 26, 1815, and died at Grostenquin Feb. 22, 1885, a daughter of Christian Rouvenacht and Marie Blaser.
3. Jean Jantzi was born Jan. 28, 1803.
4. Barbe/Barbara Jantzi was born at Picard, Saarlouis in the Saare region (in the *Pfalz*, 20 miles north of Hombourg-Haut) Oct. 7, 1804, and died at Melvern, Kansas April 18, 1874. On March 19, 1834 she married Joseph Nafziger (her older brother Michel had remarried to Joseph's younger sister Catherine at the same location almost four years earlier). The event was recorded at Hombourg-Haut. Joseph was born at Weidesheim (now part of Kalhausen) April 2, 1808, though we could not identify a birth entry, and died at Melvern Feb. 8, 1882, a son of Johannes/Jean Nafziger and Catherine Guingrich/Gingerich. For background on this couple see NAFZIGER, GRANDPA JOHN NAFFZIGER.

Michel Jantzi (#3) was born at St. Avold April 10, 1795. We have not seen his full birth entry, but the 10-year civil index lists him as Michel Jantze.

On Jan. 27, 1821 at St. Avold he married Barbe Beller. She was born at Pontpierre March 6, 1797 (per their marriage entry), and died in the Pulvermühle Sept. 17, 1829 (recorded at Hombourg-Haut), a daughter of Pierre Beller and Barbara Hirschi (see BELLER for background on her family).

Children of Michel Jantzi (#3) and his first wife Barbe Beller include:

1. Pierre/Peter Jantzi was born at Valmont Nov. 26, 1821, and died at Wilmot, Ontario July 18, 1854. On March 3, 1847 at Sotzeling, Moselle he married his second cousin Magdalena Spenler. She was born at Sotzeling Aug. 15, 1823, a daughter of Jean Pierre/John Peter Spänler/Spenler and Barbara/Barbe Elisabeth Jantzi. They are found on the 1851 census of Wilmot as wagonmaker Peter Jantzi, 26, France, Mennonist; and Magdalena, 28, France, Mennonist.
2. Michel Jantzi (#4) was born at Valmont Sept. 14, 1823, and died at Sebringville, Perth County, Ontario Nov. 2, 1865. On Oct. 8, 1847 at Hampont, Moselle (near Sotzeling) he married Jacobine Kennel. She was born at Macheren, Moselle Dec. 17, 1820 (her Canadian death entry called her Jacobenia Yantzi and said she was born Dec. 19), and died at East Zorra, Oxford County, Ontario July 28, 1909, a daughter of Jean Kennel and Elisabeth Saltzman. The 1851 census of Waterloo, Watlerloo County, Ontario shows them as miller Michael Jantzi, 29, France, Mennonist; Jacobina, 29, France, Mennonist; Michael, 5, Ontario, Mennonist; and John, 1, Ontario, Mennonist. Jacobine is buried in East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery. Descendants spell their surname 'Yantzi.'
3. Joseph Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle Sept. 8, 1827 (recorded at Hombourg-Haut), and died after immigrating in 1849.
4. Barbe/Barbara Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle June 1, 1829 (recorded at Hombourg-Haut), and died Aug. 23, 1912. Circa 1856 she married Henry Brecher. He was born in June of 1828, and died in 1915. Henry was a carpenter and cabinet maker. 'Henry Breker' of Darmstadt was naturalized at Peoria Nov. 1, 1858. The 1860 census of Peoria has chandler Henry Brecher, 32, Darmstadt Germany; Barbara, 30, France; Barbara, 4, Illinois; and Edward, 2, Illinois. The 1870 census of Peoria describes Henry as a candle manufacturer. They are found on the 1900 census of Peoria Township as carpenter Henry P. Brecher, 71, born in Germany in June 1828, immigrated in 1837; and Barbara, 70, born in Germany in June 1829, immigrated in 1837. Despite these erroneous immigration dates, the 1910 census of Peoria said that Henry, 81, immigrated in 1851; and Barbara, 80, in 1848. Because of this we believe Henry was the 'farmer Heinrich Brecher, 25, Hesse' who departed from Le Havre on the *Samuel M. Fox*, and arrived at New York Nov. 11, 1851 (the same voyage tthat brought the Sutor/Sutters). They are buried in Springdale Cemetery and Mausoleum at Peoria.

On July 10, 1830 Michel (#3) remarried to Catherine Nafziger (the event was recorded at Hombourg-Haut). She was born at Weidesheim (per the entry, though no civil entry is found there; it is now part of Kalhausen) circa 1810, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Nafziger and Catherine Guingrich/Gingerich. See NAFZIGER, GRANDPA JOHN NAFFZIGER for background on her family.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Michel Janzi, 35, born at St. Avold, a resident of the Pulvermühle. He was a son of miller Michel Janzi, 66, and Barbe Neuhauser, 64, residents of the Pulvermühle who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Catherine Naffziger, 20, born at Weidesheim; a resident of

[229] Schwemlingen is three miles over the border into the Saarland of Germany from the department of Moselle. It is 31 miles north of St. Avold.

Amelécourt [in Moselle, 22 miles southwest of Macheren]; and a daughter of miller Jean Naffziger, 51, and Catherine Gingerich, 51, residents of Brandelfing farm at Gros-Réderching who were present and consenting.

Michel resided and worked as a miller in the Pulvermühle, where he died Aug. 31, 1848 (entry created at Macheren).

Children of Michel Jantzi (#3) and his second wife Catherine Nafziger include:

5. Catherine Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle July 14, 1831 (recorded at Hombourg-Haut), and died at Washington July 25, 1894. On Sept. 25, 1856 in Peoria County she married shoemaker and livestock raiser Wilhelm Freidrich/William Frederick 'Fred' Roehm. He was born in Württemburg Aug. 29, 1833, and died at Washington Jan. 15, 1924. In 1865 they went to Washington, where they opened a shoe store at the corner of South Main and Washington Square in July of 1867. The 1870 census of Washington has shoemaker William Roehm, 37, Wurtenburg; Catharine, 39, France; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington. The shoe store was operated by the Roehm family continuously until it was demolished in the early 1970s.
6. Jean/John Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle May 6, 1833 (recorded at Hombourg-Haut), and died of illness during the Civil War. He may have been the 'John Jonsy' who married Mary Hodge in Woodford County Oct. 19, 1856. Mary is found on the 1850 census of District No. 56/Woodford County as Mary, 9, Illinois, a daughter of laborer Hyram Hodge, 35, Virginia.
7. Madeleine/Magdalena Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle Feb. 10, 1835 (recorded at t Hombourg-Haut), and died at Washington June 26, 1920. On Sept. 2, 1856 in Tazewell County she married minister Enoch Von Freeden. He was born at Norden in the Netherlands Nov. 1, 1831, and died at Washington Nov. 6, 1916. They are found on the 1860 census of Forrester, Ogle County as minister (Evangelical) Enock Fraden, 28, Germany; Magdalane, 25, Germany; and Wm., 5, Illinois. The 1900 census of Washington shows them as preacher Enoch Von Feeden, 68, born in Germany in November 1831, immigrated in 1848; and Magdalena, 65, born in France in February 1835, immigrated in 1849. Magdalena's death entry called her Magdelina Van Fruden.
8. Jacobée/Jacobine Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle Aug. 1, 1837 (recorded at Macheren), and died in Orange County, California in 1920. On Jan. 11, 1858 in Tazewell County she married Heinrich/Henry Lageschulte. He was born in Germany in 1833, and died at Ontario, San Bernardino County, California June 17, 1913. In 1868 and 1880 they were living at Waverly, Iowa; in 1885 at Des Moines, Iowa. Henry became a rancher and orange grove cultivator. The 1900 census of Ontario, San Bernardino County describes them as fruit raiser Henry Lageschulte, 67, born in Germany in February 1833, immigrated in 1837; Jacobine, 64, born in Germany in August 1835; and two sons born in Iowa. However, on the 1910 census of Upland, San Bernardino County Henry gave his immigration year as 1845, and 'Jacobina' gave hers as 1848. They are buried in Bellevue Memorial Park and Mausoleums at Ontario, San Bernardino County.
9. Suzanne/Susanna Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle June 21, 1839 (per Macheren civil index), and died at Onecho, Washington March 10, 1904. On Oct. 2, 1858 in Peoria County she married Jean/John Gingerich. He was born in France in December 1835, and died at Onecho June 25, 1913. They are found on the 1880 census of Grove, Davis County, Iowa as farmer John Gingrich, 43, France; Susanna, 40, France; and Charles, 11, Iowa, works on farm. The census page lists them below Susan's maternal uncles, found as Christ Naffziger and John Naffziger. The 1900 census of Onecho has farmer John Gingrich, 64, born in France in December 1835, immigrated in 1857; and Susan, 60, born in France in June 1839, immigrated in 1847. They lived next door to their son Charles. *Herald of Truth*, January 1905: "Susannah Yancy, wife of John Gingerich, died after a short illness, at her home near Colfax, Washington, on the 10th of March, 1904; aged 64 Y., 8 M., 14 D. She was born in France, Europe, in 1839, and came to America in 1848. She was married to John Gingerich in Peoria, Ill., in 1858. They had no children, but one adopted son, who bears their name. She was a devoted member of the Mennonite church. Funeral services were conducted by Paul Aeschleman. She had resided here about twenty years and was considered as a pioneer in the locality. The large attendance of her funeral indicated the great love and respect the people cherished for her, and all deeply sympathize with the bereaved husband and son." The 1910 census of Onecho shows widower John Gingrich, 73, France, immigrated in 1857; he is found on the page following the household of his adopted son Charles. They are buried in Onecho Cemetery, where her headstone describes her as, "Susanah, wife of John Gingrich, born in France June 27, 1839, died March 10, 1904." His headstone calls him John Gingrich and gives the dates 1838-1913.
10. Christian Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle May 12, 1842 (recorded at Macheren), and died at Washington, Tazewell County after 1850.
11. Anne/Anna Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle June 26, 1844 (recorded at Macheren), and died at Hickman, Nebraska Dec. 26 or 28, 1928. On June 23, 1869 in Tazewell County she married farmer Jacob Erismann. He was born March 31, 1836, and died at Hickman April 12, 1922, a son of Peter Ehrismann and Magdalena Stähly. In 1900 and 1911 they were living at Hickman. A biographical sketch and photos can be found in *Lincoln the Capital City and Lancaster County, Nebraska*. They are buried in Hickman Cemetery.
12. Marie/Mary/Maria Jantzi was born in the Pulvermühle Aug. 10, 1846 (recorded at Macheren), and died at Washington Nov. 23, 1935. On Nov. 28, 1872 in Peoria County she married Balthasar 'Balser' Wenk. He was born in Germany Dec. 23, 1845, and died at Washington Aug. 7, 1829, a son of Johannes Wenk and Eva Voelker. They are found on the 1900 census of Washington as salesman Balsar Wenk, 54, born in Germany in December 1845,

immigrated 1865; and Maria, 63, born in France in August 1846, immigrated in 1848. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington.

A party of 16 boarded the *Seine* at Le Havre, and arrived at New York Sept. 17, 1849. The passenger list shows widow Catherine with four stepchildren and eight children: miller Pierre Jantz, 28; Magdalena [Spenler], 26; Barbara Naszeger [Catherine Nafziger Jantzi], 38; Joseph, 22; Barbara, 20; Catharine, 18; Magdalena, 14; Jacobea, 12; Susan, 10; Christian, 8; Anna, 5; Marie, 3; Michel Juntz, 25; Jacobea [Jacobine Kennel], 27; Michel [son of Michel and Jacobine], 2; farmer Samuel Naszger, 19 [Samuel Nafziger, a younger brother to the Christian Nafziger who married Marie Jantzi]; and farther down the list, miller Jean Juntzi, 16.

Andrew J. Sawyer's *Lincoln the Capital City and Lancaster County, Nebraska* (1916) provides a biographical sketch of Catherine's daughter Anne/Anna Jantzi and son-in-law Jacob Erismann. It says that Anne/Anna "…accompanied her mother [Catherine Nafziger Jantzi] and twelve [actually eleven] brothers and sisters to Canada in 1849, and to Peoria, Illinois in 1850."

Why would someone sail from Le Havre to New York City, when they knew their ultimate destination was Ontario? Especially when it meant arrival late in the year?

The high volume of packet mail from America to Europe, and the cotton trade, meant more ships of all kinds returning below capacity from Le Havre to American ports. This brought fares lower. And beginning in 1832, all shipboard immigrants on the St. Lawrence River were funneled through the quarantine island Grosse Île near Quebec City. Those suspected of carrying disease were separated from their families, and the families had to pay for lodging in the city until the outcomes were determined. Though New York City had a similar setup, it was much more lenient. Their immigrants could then cross into Canada on land without hindrance. Canadian arrivals corresponded with their relatives in Europe, and New York became an important alternative route - particularly for families with sufficient means to pay for extra travel - because illness could be expected on a transatlantic voyage.

Arriving as late in the year as they did, the group may actually have spent the winter of 1849-50 with their cousins in Lewis County (upstate near the eastern end of Lake Ontario). Shortly after arrival at New York City they would have taken a steamer up the Hudson River to Albany, then a train to Rome, and then a carriage to Lowville. After the spring thaw they would have traveled by carriage 45 miles west to Sackets Harbor on the eastern shore of Lake Ontario, then put their carriage aboard a steamer and traveled by water to Hamilton, Ontario on the western shore. A carriage ride from Hamilton to Wilmot, Ontario would have crossed 52 miles of muddy roads.

Catherine's two oldest stepchildren elected to remain in Ontario, where they had cousins. We could not account for the next stepchild, Joseph. The youngest stepchild Barbe/Barbara chose to accompany Catherine and her eight children to Central Illinois (likely later in the summer of 1850).

There is a family story that Catherine and those who accompanied her became guests in a home at Metamora, Woodford County. The grown children of minister Christian Engel and his first wife Katharina Nafziger were her second cousins; 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger, who had also lived in Ontario, was her third cousin; and the heads of household in the families called 'the Nafzigers of Washington' were her third cousins.

However, a descendant believes that they initially lived in Tazewell County with Joseph Rocke and his second wife Marie/Mary Nafziger, who were 1850 immigrants. See the Appendix, ROCKE for an explanation of how Marie/Mary was a second cousin to Catherine. *Portrait and Biographical Album of Lancaster County, Nebraska* (1888) said of Joseph Rocke, "He went from New York City to Illlinois, and located in Tazewell County on a farm. He remained there and in McLean County for several years, actively engaged in agricultural pursuits."

Before 1859 two daughters married in Tazewell County, and two in Peoria County.

Catherine is found as a mother-in-law on the 1860 census of Third Ward, Peoria City: shoemaker William H. Rheim, 27, Wurttemberg; Katrina, 29 [daughter], France; Katrina E., 2, Illinois; Louise, nine months, Illinois; Katrina Yancey, 49, France [mother]; and Mary, 14, France [daughter].

In 1866 Catherine died at Washington, Tazewell County, where she was staying with her daughter Catherine. She is buried as Catharina Jantze in Old Washington Cemetery. Her German-language headstone is partially illegible; her lifespan count was 55 years, one month, and nine days.

2. CHRISTIAN/CHRÉTIEN 'CHRISTEL' JANTZI

Christian/Chrétien 'Christel' Jantzi was born Oct. 18, 1766 (per his first marriage entry), perhaps at Linstroff, like his sister Anne, or Lixing-lès-St. Avold, like his brother Michel.

On March 2, 1794 on Belgrade farm at Bistroff Christian married Anne Farny. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Christian Jantzi, 25, a resident of Brandelfing farm at Gros-Redérching [29 miles east of Bistroff]. He was a son of Michel Jantzi, 66, and the deceased Barbe Guerber. (Note that Michel #1's age 66 would yield a birth year of 1728, nine years apart from the 1719 that his civil death entry would yield). The bride was

described as Anne Farny, 23, a daughter of the deceased Christian Farny and Anne Hirchi [Hirchy or Hirschy, derived from the Swiss Hirschi], 46, of Belle-grade farm. She was born there Aug. 15, 1771. Their marriage announcement *bans* had been posted at Gros-Réderching and Bistroff. Anne signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.

There was something conspicuously missing from the marriage entry. Under the *état civil* system of record keeping, municipal clerks were supposed to provide all the information required by a template (model forms were often kept in local registers and can be seen on FHL microfilm copies). Administrative inspectors visited each community annually to ensure that the templates were being followed. The form for marriages gave two places where the places of birth of the bride and groom should appear: the first, just after the name of the bride and groom (look for the word *natif*); and the second, when it is explained what supporting documents were accumulated prior to the ceremony. In this case, it was only stated that an act of birth was obtained showing that Christian was born Oct. 18, 1766 in a legitimate marriage between Michel Janzi and 'Barbe Guerbe.' Since there was no civil system before 1792, and the births of Anabaptists were only occasionally recorded in established churches, a full birth entry would not have existed. Yet in similar instances the birthplace was given in both places. Thus, it has sometimes been assumed that he was born at Gros-Redérching, but it was only stated that he was a resident there.

Why would Christian be reluctant to have his birthplace recorded? It may have been a reflection of the times. We suspect but cannot prove that the Jantzi family, like many Amish Mennonite emigrants, had at one time or another been employed on the properties of military officers or Catholic clergy. It would have been better to let this go unmentioned, and certainly unrecorded, during the period from June of 1793 to July of 1794 – the Reign of Terror [Fr. *la Terreur*].[230] There is more than a small connection: the Engels of Bistroff had previously worked for liberal aristocrat Count Philippe-Adam de Custine, who was sentenced to death by the Committee for Public Safety and guillotined Aug. 28, 1793. Custine's wife was imprisoned, his son was guillotined for defending his honor, and his properties were pillaged by Jacobins (see ENGEL for background).

In 1802, Christian appeared as a witness to the marriage of Anne's sister Barbe Farny and Joseph Stecker (#1) (residents on the farm and great-great-great-grandparents of the author); he was described as cultivator Christian Jancy, 35.

When Anne Farny died on Belgrade farm Dec. 26, 1816, her civil death entry described her as Anne Farny, 50 [she was 45], and her surviving husband as cultivator and farmer Christian Jantzi, 48, of Belgrade farm.

A number of their children contributed to the settlement of Lewis County in New York. The area had been home to exiles from the French military that included the older brother of emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. See the Appendix, THE LEWIS COUNTY SETTLEMENT for background on recruiter-land agent Jean/John Kieffer, the Kiefer/Kieffer family, and the Hirschy/Hirschey family.

Three children from Christian's first marriage reponded to offers from land agent Jean/John Kieffer. They sailed with their families from Le Havre on the bark *Statera*, along with their aunt Anne Jantzi Ringenberg and cousin Nicolas Ringenberg with his wife Marie Hirschi, and arrived at New York June 19, 1833.

The packet ship *Groton* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York June 4, 1834. It held three more children from this marriage, Christian's widowed second wife, and five children from the second marriage.

Children of Christian/Chrétien 'Christel' Jantzi and his first wife Anne Farny born on Belgrade farm at Bistroff, Moselle include:

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[230] Between June of 1793 and September of 1794 more than 16,500 death sentences were administered across France. The sum total of deaths was much higher owing to suicides and starvation or disease in prisons. On Aug. 23, 1793 the National Convention decreed that, "The young men shall fight; the married man shall forge arms and transport provisions; the women shall make tents and clothes and shall serve in the hospitals; the children shall turn all lint into linen; the old men shall betake themselves to the public square in order to arouse the courage of the warriors and preach hatred of kings and the unity of the Republic." Two weeks later it ordered soldiers to seize grain from farmers to lower the price of bread in Paris. On Sept. 17 it authorized the *Law of Suspects*, allowing arrest and indefinite detention simply on suspicion of loyalist sympathies. In February and March statutes were passed that permitted the confiscation of property from suspects and their family members. The violent excesses dwindled after the Thermidorean Reaction on July 27, 1794, the one-year anniversary of the appointment of Maximilien François Marie Isidore de Robespierre to the dreaded Committee of Public Safety. The municipal hall of Paris was stormed. Robespierre and the leaders of the Paris city government were arrested. He attempted suicide by shooting himself in the jaw, but survived long enough to be guillotined without trial the following day.

Paradoxically, Amish Mennonites lost a protector with the death of Robespierre. He was a deist who disliked organized religions. As a slap at the Catholic clergy, he had recommended the granting of exemptions from military conscription for all Anabaptists in the former principality of Salm. See ROPP, JACOB ROUP OF PLAINE for background.

1. Anne/Anna Jantzi was born May 24, 1794. The following day a confusing birth entry was created in Bistroff civil records. It says that Anne Farny, 23, had given birth to an illegitimate [Fr. *enfant naturelle*] daughter named Anne a day earlier. The birth was reported by Anne Hirchy [Hirschi], 48, widow of Christian Farny and resident of Belgrade farm, the grandmother. Anne Hirchy signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. Perhaps the municipal clerk did not recall that only 11 weeks earlier Anne Farny and Christian Jantzi had married there. Family notes say that Anne/Anna was born at Bistroff April 23, 1795, avoiding the confusion altogether - and no such entry exists for that date. On Oct. 9, 1811 at Gros-Réderching she married Michael Zehr. He was born on Olferding estate at Gros-Réderching Sept. 29, 1789, and died at Croghan Feb. 27, 1880, a son of Michel Zehr and Marie Kohler. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator's assistant Michel Zer, 19, a resident of the Olferding estate at Gros-Redérching. His parents were farmer Michel Zer, 50, of Olferding estate, and the deceased Marie Koler. The bride was described as Anne Jantzy, 16, a daughter of farmer Christian Jantzy, 50, and Anne Farney of Belgrade farm at Bistroff. It was witnessed by the fathers of the bride and groom; one signature looks like Cristel Jantzi. After the marriage Michael became an operator of Bischwald mill at Bistroff. They are found on the *Statera* passenger list as miller Michael Zehr, 44; Anna, 40; Michael, 19; Christian, 16; Anna, 14; Georges, 12; Jean, 10; Barbe, 6; Catharine, 4; and Suzanne, 1. Michael became a minister with Rudolf Virkler under minister and elder Joseph Farni/Farney at Croghan and New Bremen. One of Rudolf's sons, Joseph Vercler, established a correspondence with Swiss theologian Samuel Heinrich Froelich. In 1847 Froelich sent Benedict Weyeneth to New Bremen. Before 1852 Weyeneth organized an Apostolic Christian congregation. They were also called the 'New Amish' or *Neu Täufer* (since 1917 the Evangelical Baptist Church). By 1852 Michael was elder of the Amish Mennonite congregation, simply because he was the only minister who did not leave it. Minister and elder Joseph Farni/Farney had also gone over to the new movement. In 1853 Weyeneth moved west to live at Roanoke, Woodford County (see the Appendix, THE LEWIS COUNTY SETTLEMENT). The 1855 state census of Croghan shows farmer Michael Zehr, 64, France; Hannah, 64, France; farmer Andrew, 21, Lewis County; and Jacob, 18, Lewis County. *Herald of Truth*, April 1880: "Feb. 27th, at Crogan, Lewis Co., N. Y., of the Amish Men. church, Bishop Michael Zehr, at the advanced age of 89 years, four months and 27 days. He had nine children, 170 grand and great-grand-children. His wife was called away many years since. He was a good man, whose hand was ever open for the poor. In his office he was a good counselor, and was beloved by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. On the funeral occasion words of comfort were delivered by Peter Lemon and Jacob Vogt. The labors of our brother are ended on this earth, and he has gone to the reward of the righteous." Anne/Anna is thought to have died at Croghan well after her husband on Jan. 18, 1886, despite his obituary. They are buried in the Old Amish/Zehr Cemetery at Croghan, where she is thought to have been the last burial.[231]
2. Marie Jantzi was born April 4, 1796, and died at Croghan Nov. 8, 1875. On May 14, 1817 at Bistroff she married Christian Nafziger. He was born on the Steinbacherhof at Durstel, Lower Alsace Sept. 2, 1791, and died at Croghan July 20, 1871, a son of Valentin Nafziger and his second wife Susanne Sommer. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as Christian Naftziger, 26, born at Steinbach, Saralbe [his father had leased the Steinbacherhof at Durstel, and then the Schottenhof at Sarralbe] Sept. 27, 1791, and a resident of Belgrade farm. He was a son of the deceased Valentin Nafziger who had died Jan. 24, 1796, and 'Susanne Mourer' [not Valentin's first wife Madeleine Maurer but his second wife Susanne Sommer] who had died at Steinbach March 31, 1799. The bride was described as Marie Jantzi, 18, who was born on Belgrade farm April 4, 1796, a daughter of farmer Christian Jantzi and the deceased Anne Farny, who had died Dec. 26, 1816. It was witnessed by father-of-the-bride Christian Jantzi, 50. The signatures looked like Christian Naftziger and Christel Jantzi. Marie signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate. They are found on the *Statera* passenger list as miller Christoph Neufen, 41; Marie, 40; Madeleine, 15; Catharine, 14; Babelt [Babette], 12; Marie, 10; Susanne, 8; Jean, 5; Freden [?], 2; Babette, 46; Solote [?], 26; Joseph, 21; and Madeleine, 22. The place where they settled is now the Croghan reservoir (between Croghan and Belfort). They are found on the 1855 state census of New Bremen as farmer Christian Naftziar, 65, France; Marey, 57, France; Jhon, 26, France; Joseph, 21, Lewis County; Nancey, 19, Lewis County; Jacobah, 17 (female, likely Jacobée), Lewis County; and Christian, 15, Lewis County. They are buried in Kirschnerville Cemetery (also called Mennonite Cemetery on Erie Canal Road) at Kirschnerville, adjacent to Croghan. Some descendants in New York spell their surname 'Noftsier' or 'Nofsier.'
3. Barbe Jantzi was born May 9, 1797, and died at Sotzeling, Moselle Oct. 10, 1865 (the 10-year civil index calls her Elisabeth Yanzi). On April 9, 1816 at Bistroff she married Jean Pierre/John Peter Spänler/Spenler. He was born at Sotzeling (13 miles below Bistroff) Sept. 6, 1793, and died there Dec. 26, 1865, a son of Peter/Pierre Spänler and Marie Legere. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Pierre Spainler, 23, born at Sotzeling Sept. 6, 1793, a resident of Sotzeling, and a son of the deceased Christian Spainler and Marie Legere, who had been millers at Sotzeling. His father had died at Sotzeling in 1802, and his mother 1815. The bride was described as Barbe Jantzi, 19, born on Bellegrade farm May 7, 1797, a daughter of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny. Christian Jantzi was present and consenting.
4. Catherine Jantzi was born Jan. 15, 1801, and died near Bistroff before 1808. Her civil birth entry had the only reference to Christian Jantzi as an *annabaptiste* that we found at Bistroff.

[231] An isolated Amish Mennonite congregation met in Lewis County homes until 1941, when its members formed the First Mennonite Church of New Bremen.

5. Magdalena/Madeleine Jantzi was born Dec. 23, 1801, and died at Wellesley, Ontario Feb. 28, 1881. On June 12, 1823 at Bistroff she married Christian/Christoph Kennel. He was born at Sotzeling March 16, 1800, and died at Wilmot May 12, 1876, a son of Christoph Kennel and Marie Spänler/Spenler.[232] Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Christoph Kennel, 23, an *Anabaptiste* living at Sotzeling, a son of the deceased Kennel who died Jan. 26, 1807, and Catherine Spilner [Spenler] who died in December of 1815. The bride was described as Magdelaine Jantzy, 21, a daughter of *Anabaptiste* cultivator Christian Jantzi of Belgrade farm and the deceased Anne Farny. The bride brought one illegitimate child to the marriage, though this was not documented in the entry. They are found on the *Statera* passenger list as farmer Christoph Kenfinel, 33; Madaline, 32; Barbe, 9; Catharine, 7; Christoph, 5; Madaline, 14 [the illegitimate child]; Suzanne, 3; Nicholas, 24; and Jean, 1. Though they initially went to Lewis County, they resettled at Wilmot, Ontario in 1837-38. They are shown on the 1861 census of Wilmot as Christian Kennel, 62, France, Mennonist yeoman; Magdalena, 60, Mennonist; Joseph, 17, Ontario; Veronica, 16, Ontario; and Daniel, 13, Ontario. They are buried in Mapleview Cemetery at Wellesley, Ontario.
6. Christian Jantzi was born Oct. 11, 1804, and died at Bistroff April 10, 1817.
7. Hans/Jean/John Jantzi was born March 24, 1806, and died at Wilmot, Ontario Dec. 12, 1881. On June 4, 1832 at Hoste-Haut, Moselle he married Elisabeth Guerber/Gerber.[233] The 10-year civil index lists them as Jean Jansy and Elisabeth Guerber. Elisabeth was born Jan. 2, 1806, and died in Ontario June 25, 1890, a daughter of Jean Gerber/Guerber and Magdalena/Madeleine Gerber/Guerber. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Jansy, 26, a resident of Belle-grade, Bistroff. He was born March 24, 1806, a son of the deceased cultivator and farmer Christian Jansy, who had died Dec. 26, 1816 [actually Nov. 15, 1828], and the deceased Anne Farny, who had died Aug. 29, 1822 [actually Dec. 26, 1816 at Bistroff]. The bride was described as Elisabethe Guerber, 26, a resident of Valette, and a daughter of the deceased cultivator and farmer Jean Guerber, who had died July 19, 1822; and cultivator Madeleine Guerber, 58, a resident of Valette who was present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Simon Hirsch, 43, a resident of Valette and brother-in-law of the bride. Signatures looked like Hans Jantzi and Elisabeth Gerber. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Groton*, and arrived at New York June 4, 1834. The passenger list shows John Jansey, 28; Elisa [Gerber], 28; and Magdaline, 1 (Elisabeth also had her mother, bother, and sister along on the voyage; see GERBER/GARBER). John and Elisabeth first settled at Croghan or adjacent Lowville, New York 1835-37. John went with Peter Zehr to visit Canada in 1837. Soon after that they resettled in East Zorra, Ontario. John initiated the Amish Mennonite congregation at Wellesley, which was formally established in 1859, eventually becoming minister and elder. They are found on the 1881 census of Wilmot as John Jantzi, 75, France, Mennonite; and Elisabeth, 75, France, Mennonite. John's death entry described him as Johannes Jantzi, farmer and bishop of the Mennonite Society. *Herald of Truth*, September 1890: "On the 25th of June, in Waterloo Co., Ontario, of bodily infirmities, Elizabeth (maiden name Garber), widow of John Jantzi, at the advanced age of 84 years. She was blind for six years and long ago had a desire to change time with eternity. She was buried on the 27th in Chr. Zehr's burying ground, where a large number of friends had assembled to pay the last tribute of love and respect to the departed sister. Funeral services were held by John Gascho and Jacob Bender, in which they admonished all to prepare for death, for we know not when the Master of this house of clay may come to call us to account." Their home at Wilmot is still in the Jantzi family.
8. Catherine Jantzi was born March 3, 1808, and died in France in April of 1888. On Feb. 24, 1833 at Bouxières-aux-Chênes, Meurthe-et-Moselle she married Christian Blank/Christophe Blanck. He was born there Aug. 15, 1807, and died at Zommange, Moselle March 18, 1868, a son of Nikolaus Blank/Nicolas Blanck and Anne Schwartz (for background on his parents see PLANK). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christophe Blanck, 25 years six months, a local resident born there Aug. 15, 1807, a son of cultivator Nicolas Blanck, 58, and Anne Schwarz, 66, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Catherinne Jansy, 24, a resident of Bellgrade farm at Bistroff, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Christian Jansy, who had died on Bellegrade farm Nov. 15, 1828, and the deceased Anne Farny, who had died there Dec. 26, 1816. Witnesses included cultivator Michel Zehr, 40, resident of Bistroff; miller Christiann Nafier [Nafziger], 40, of Petigny; cultivator Jean Jansy, 27, a resident of Bellegrade farm and brother of the bride; and Pierre Peller [Spänler/Spenler], 38, a brother-in-law of the bride. The signatures looked like Christian Blank, Catherin Jantzi, Christian Naftziger [Nafziger], Michel Zehr, Nikolaus Blank, Hans Jantzi, Anna Blank, and Petter Spänler.
9. Michel/Michael Jantzi was born April 10, 1810, and died at Ayr, Waterloo County, Ontario March 29, 1903. He was presumably a *Groton* passenger in 1834. On Aug. 31, 1834 at Wilmot he married Maria Boshart. She was born at Tagsdorf, Upper Alsace Oct. 9, 1815, died at Wilmot April 1, 1853, a daughter of Christian Boshart and Catherine Litwiller. On July 14, 1853 at Wilmot Michel remarried to Catherine Schweitzer. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Oct. 15, 1831, and died at Wilmot June 22, 1918, a daughter of Joseph Schweitzer and his second wife Catherine Wagler. They are buried in Saint Agatha Mennonite Church Cemetery in Waterloo Township.
10. Joseph Jantzi was born Dec. 4, 1812, and died at Wilmot Jan. 17 or 18, 1847, possibly of smallpox (a son died from it a few weeks later). Joseph was a passenger on the *Groton* in 1834. In May of 1835 at Wilmot he married Catherine Boshart. She was born at Tagsdorf Dec. 22, 1817, and died in Waterloo County Dec. 3, 1894, a daughter of Christian

[232] On May 16, 1820 Bistroff midwife Margueritte Hey, 35, reported the birth of Magdeleine Jantzi. The mother was described as Magdelaine Jantzi, a daughter of cultivator Christian Jantzi of Belgrade farm.

[233] In 1979 the villages Hoste-Haut, Hoste-Bas, and Valette were consolidated as the administrative entity Hoste.

Boshart and Catherine Litwiller. They purchased a farm at Wilmot for 100 pounds. Joseph sold it for the same price in October of 1846. In 1850 Catherine remarried to Christian Riser of Wellesley. He was born in 1819, and died in 1897. Catherine is buried in Poole Mennonite Cemetery in Perth County, Ontario.

On May 21, 1817 at Bistroff Christian remarried to Catherine Spänler/Spenler. She was born circa 1787, a daughter of Peter/Pierre Spänler and Marie Legere. She was an older sister to Christian's son-in-law Jean Pierre Spänler/Spenler Spenler.

Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as cultivator Xtian Jantzi, 40 [yielding an implausibly reduced birth year of 1777], widower of Anne Farny, a resident of Belgrade farm at Bistroff. The bride was described as Catherine Spanler, 30, a resident of the mill at Sotzeling, a daughter of the deceased Pierre Spänler and Marie Legere of the same place. One of the signatures looks like 'Christel Jantzi.'

Christian died on Belgrade farm at Bistroff Nov. 15, 1828. A civil death entry was created Nov. 17. It was witnessed by cultivator Michel Serre, 36 [son-in-law Michel Zehr].

As a widow, Catherine sailed from Le Havre on the *Groton* and arrived at New York June 4, 1834. The passenger list shows Catherine Jansey, 50; John, 19 [Michel]; Joseph, 17; Catherine, 16; Christian, 14; Pierre, 12; Nicolas, 10; and Ferena, 6. The two oldest males may have actually been been Michel and Joseph, 24 and 21, the only single males who appear a short while later at Wilmot; their ages may have been 'adjusted' because of the issue of military conscription. The family of her stepson Hans/Jean/John is found on the same page.

Catherine initially settled in a part of Watson that became Croghan, Lewis County, New York. She accompanied her son Hans/Jean/John when he relocated to Ontario in 1837, and died at Wellesley, Ontario Sept. 12, 1861.

Children of Christian/Chrétien 'Christel' Jantzi and his second wife Catherine Spänler/Spenler born on Belgrade farm at Bistroff include:

11. Catherine Jantzi was born March 26, 1818, and died at New Bremen, New York (nine miles south of Croghan) May 10, 1877. She is buried in Croghan Apostolic Christian Cemetery. On Sept. 9, 1834 in Lewis County 'Catherine Yantzi,' Joseph Farni, Hans/John Gerber, and Christian Hirschy (found as Hirchy) made declarations of intent to become citizens. Catherine signed with an 'x', indicating she was illiterate.[234] Circa 1842 she married Christian Virkler. He was born March 14, 1819, and died Jan. 21, 1899, a son of Rudolf/Rodolphe Virkler and Anna Brechbühl. They are found on the 1870 census of New Bremen as farmer Christian Verkler, 52, France; and Catherine, 52, France. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Croghan.
12. Christian Jantzi/Yancy was born May 16, 1820, and died at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin July 7, 1907. In 1843 in Wisconsin he married Nancy Helmer. She was born at Lowville, Lewis County Jan. 28, 1828, and died at Fond du Lac Oct. 7, 1915. According to Dennis J. Yancey, Christian was involved in a bankruptcy. He harvested maple sap and boiled it down to make brown sugar, earning enough money to purchase a farm. In 1848 they relocated to Ashford, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. There they purchased a log cabin on 80 acres. They are shown on the 1870 census of Ashford as farmer Christian Yancy, 52, Germany; Nancy, 41, New York; Katie, 24, New York; Susan, 20, New York; Marie, 17, Wisconsin; George, 16, Wisconsin; Emma, 13, Wisconsin; William, 8, Wisconsin; Clara, 6, Wisconsin; and Henry, 3, Wisconsin. In 1890 they moved to Fond du Lac. They are found on the 1900 census of Fond du Lac as Christian Yancy, 79, born in France March 16, 1821, immigrated in 1850; Nancy A., 69, born in New York Jan. 28, 1831; and granddaughter Eva C. Snell, 19, born in Illinois Aug. 5, 1880 to parents from England and Wisconsin. Christian's death certificate described him as retired farmer Christian Yancy, born in France March 6, 1819, a son of Christian Yancy and Catherine Spandler, and a resident of Fond du Lac who had died there, but was buried at Campbellsport. His widow was named as Nancy Holmes. *Campbellsport News*, Oct. 7, 1915: "Mrs. Nancy H. Yancy, age 87, a pioneer resident of Fond du Lac county, died at 2:50 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the residence of her grand-daughter, Mrs. H. L. Sweet, 136 West Arndt street, after an illness of six weeks duration. Mrs. Yancy was born January 28, 1828, at Lowville, N. Y. and came here in 1843. She was married to Christian Yancy shortly after coming west. They resided on a farm now owned by Yankow Bros. until 1890 when they moved to Fond du Lac. The deceased is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Platt Durand of Campbellsport, Mrs. Isaac Dyer of Fond du Lac, Mrs. J. A. Crowley of Seattle, Wash., and Mrs. Emma Shattuck of Oshkosh; and two sons, George W. of Seattle Wash., and Haskell of Larson, Wis. The funeral was held at 12:30 o'clock today from the residence at Fond du Lac. The remains were brought here over the Northwestern line and interred in the Union cemetery."
13. Pierre Jantzi/Peter Yancey was born Sept. 10, 1822, and died at Croghan March 20, 1904. On Oct. 30, 1849 at Croghan he married Magdalena Zehr. She was born at Montigny, Meurthe-et-Moselle Sept. 10, 1824, and died May 12, 1903, a daughter of Christian Zehr and Barbe/Barbara Mosimann (Barbe/Barbara arrived in Lewis County in 1849, and the following year remarried to minister and elder Joseph Farni/Farney, widower of Catherine

[234] *New York Alien Depositions of Intent to become U.S. Citizens 1825-81, Book Two*, pages 341-342.

Guerber/Gerber).[235] They are found on the 1855 state census of Croghan as farmer Peter Yancy, 33, France; Laney, 31, France; Elisabeth, 8, stepchild, France; Joseph, 4, Lewis County; Maria, 1, Lewis County; and laborer John Martin, 13, France (on the same page as borther Nicholas). *Journal & Republican* newspaper, March 11, 1904: "Peter Yancey, one of the pioneer residents of Belfort, died Sunday, aged 81 years. The deceased came from Lorraine, France, and located at Belfort, town of Croghan, when that town was a dense wilderness, and with the assistance of his family he felled the trees, built a log cabin and cleared his land. Mr. Yancey accumulated considerable property, having about 800 acres of land and one of the largest sugar orchards in tbe town of Croghan, about 4,000 trees. He leaves surviving seven sons and three daughters, Andrew Yancey, John Yancey, Benjamin Yancey and Daniel Yancey, of Belfort; Peter Yancey, of Watertown; Joseph Yancey, of Minnesota, and Michael Yancey, of Wolcolt, and Mrs. Christopher Martin and Mrs. John Ulrich, of Croghan and Mrs. Joseph Yoder, of Forest, Ill. The funeral services were held yesterday at the new Anabaptist church in New Bremen, Rev. Virkler, officiating. The interment was in the Anabaptist cemetery." They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Croghan.

14. Nicolas Jantzi/Nicholas Yancy was born April 11, 1824, and died at Lowville, Lewis County, New York March 4, 1906. His civil birth entry calls him 'Nikel' and 'Nickel,' though the annual index calls him Nicolas Janzy. He married Anna Bach. She was born circa 1811, and died in Lewis County Sept. 30, 1901. They are shown on the 1855 state census of Croghan as farmer Nicholas Yancy, 31, Germany; and Ann, 31, France (on the same page as brother Peter). The 1870 census of Croghan has farmer Nicholas Yancey, 47, France; and Anna, 58, France; and the 1880 census of Croghan has farmer Nicholas Yancy, 56, France; and Annie, 70, Switzerland. *Journal & Republican* newspaper, March 8, 1906: "The funeral services of Nicholas Yancey, who died in Lowville, Monday, were held from the Evangelical Baptist Church Wednesday, at 2 p.m. He had been in the County Home for sometime." They are buried in the Croghan Apostolic Christian Cemetery.
15. Elisabeth Jantzi was born June 4, 1826, and died at Bistroff Feb. 3, 1828. Her civil death entry called her Frena Jantzy; it was witnessed by cultivator Michel Zehr, 28. The 10-year civil index lists her death entry as 'Frein Jantzi.'
16. Fréne (birth entry)/Verena 'Freni' Jantzi was born May 15, 1828, and died at Croghan in 1837. She is buried in the Old Amish/Zehr Cemetery as Freni Jantzi.

3. ANNE JANTZI

Anne Jantzi was born between 1772 and 1777, and died at New Bremen, Lewis County, New York between 1860 and 1865.

Circa 1797 she married Jean Ringenberg. He was born circa 1770, and died at Diesen, Moselle Dec. 13 or 30, 1803.[236]

Their son **Nicolas/Nicholas Ringenberg** was born at Diesen circa 1798.

On Feb. 4, 1832 at Hombourg-Haut, Moselle he married Marie Hirschi. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller's assistant Nicolas Renckenberg, 33, born at Diesen, Bionville, Moselle, a resident of Baudrecourt [in Moselle]. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Jean Renckenberg, who had died at Diesen Dec. 13, 1803, and Anne Jansy [Jantzi], 55, a resident of Diesen who was present and consenting. The bride was described as Marie Hirschi, 29, born at Mariendahl, St. Avold [Marienthal between Macheren and Henriville, now part of Barst], and a resident of the Pülvermuhle [at Macheren, below Hombourg-Haut]. She was a daughter of cultivator Jean Hirschi, who had died at Henriville April 23, 1826, and Madeleine Schertz, 60, a resident of Morhange who was present and consenting. One witness was miller Michel Jantzi [Michel #3], 37, a resident of Hombourg-Haut and friend of the bride.

They sailed from Le Havre on the bark *Statera*, and arrived at New York June 9, 1833. They are found on the passenger list as farmer Nicholas Rinquenbert, 28; Marie, 26; Madaline, 3; Marie, 1; and Nanette, 40. Though her age is underestimated here, Nanette or later Nancy is thought to have been Anne Jantzi. Other passengers on the voyage included children of Anne's brother Christian/Chrétien 'Cristel' Jantzi and his first wife Anne Farny.

The 1840 census of Watson, Lewis County, New York (a part of Watson became part of New Bremen when that community was established in 1848) has the household of 'Nicholas Rickenburgh' as one male in the 40-49 age range; one male under 5; one female 40-49; one female 5-9; and one female under 5.

The 1855 state census of New Bremen shows farmer Nicolous Ringenberg, 60, France, in residence 24 years; Marey, 56, France, Nancy, 20, Lewis County; Jhon, 18, Lewis County; Marey, 16, Lewis County; Barbara, 14, Lewis County; Christian, 10, Lewis County; and Nancy, 75, France. The 1860 census of New Bremen has farmer Nicholas Rinkenberg, 70, Germany; Mary, 60, Germany; Mary, 22, New York; Barbaray, 19, New York; Chris John

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[235] The *John Hancock* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York May 29, 1849. The passenger list shows passenger #151 Barbara Mosiman, 56, France; Magdelena, 24; Catharina, 17; Jacques Rogui [Roggy], 25; and Maria Gzare [Zehr], 38, Suisse.

[236] Civil records for Diesen were kept at adjacent Porcelette.

[Christian], 15, New York; and Nancy, 88, Germany. The 1865 state census of New Bremen has farmer Nicholas Rinkinberg, 60, France; Mary, 58, France; Mary, 23, Lewis; and Barbaray, 22, Lewis.

Presumably Anne died between 1860 and 1865, and Nicholas and Marie died between 1865 and 1870. They are thought to be buried in Croghan Apostolic Christian Cemetery near their children John and Mary (identified on headstones as John Rinkenburg and Mary Rinkenborg).

Egli of Freistett

The village of Eglisau falls on either side of the Rhine River, in the district of Bülach in Canton Zurich. It is 20 miles north of the city of Zurich, and less than a mile from the present Swiss border with Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

A document from 1304 AD called the area around a cluster of farm houses *ze Seglinger Owe* – the meadow of the Seglinger family. It was the administrative seat of the *Landvogt*, an administrator who oversaw the area on behalf of the council at Zurich. Over time a bridge was constructed over the river, and it grew into a market town.

And over time Seglinger was shortened to the more familiar-sounding Egli. In the Swiss-German dialect an *Egli* is a fresh-water perch, which could not describe a meadow. But it can also be a diminutive form of the first name *Eglolf*, which describes a wolf – so that Eglisau would seem to make sense as a description of a wolf's meadow.

When place names were being adopted as surnames in the 1400s and 1500s, Egli would have been a natural choice.

The surname spread to such an extent that we note an Egli in the records of Steffisburg, Canton Bern created as early as Dec. 10, 1610. When Margaretha Joder had a son baptized, she named the father as Peter Egli of Schangnau. After this the surname pops up periodically in the area, particularly at Schangnau and Diessbach (where it was also found as Eggli). We do not suggest that the family we will look at came from Canton Bern, only that there are many possibilities because Eglis were found outside Canton Zurich.

Today three *Heimatorte* places of legal origin for Swiss citizenship rights (established in 1920, 1930, and 1967) are Krauchthal and Schangnau in Canton Bern, and Brislach in Canton Basellandschaft. In all three locations the family's *Wappenschild* features the image of a perch.

Martyrs Mirror tells the story of an Anabaptist Egli in 1635:

> "Thereupon it followed that the magistrates issued a command, that all the Baptists (who contemptuously were called Anabaptists) should have to go to church with them and attend their worship, if they wished to retain their liberty.
>
> But when they could not do this with a good conscience, and hence refused to comply with it, the magistrates, incensed at this, towards the close of the year 1635, caused many of them to be arrested, all of whom, with the exception of three, escaped (since the prison was not strong) and fled from the hands of the persecutors. The other three, however, namely, Rudolf Egli, Uhbi Schmied and Hans Müller, remained, and were each separately imprisoned, in the council house, where they persevered about twenty weeks, amidst much conflict, adversity and temptation, inflicted upon them in order to make them apostatize from their faith.
>
> But when they in no wise wished to apostatize, and their adversaries could accomplish nothing with them; inasmuch as they indeed promised, if they should be released, to render their authorities, as they had previously done, all proper honor, subjection, and taxes, but that they would in no wise go to their church, nor attend their worship (which was the principal point); they were enjoined, that they, in order to come to a resolution, should deliberate and advise with their brethren; wherefore they, provisorily, were released from their imprisonment and bonds for a month's time.
>
> Afterwards, when they, according to the charge given them, and their promise, returned, and could still not consent to or follow with a good conscience that which the authorities demanded of them touching their religion, they were again confined in prison.
>
> But when, as before, their good resolution and firm faith could not be changed, they were finally again released upon the afore-mentioned condition, but afterwards, having proved what they had to expect, they did not again appear before them without safe-conduct. But all these things were but the beginning of sorrows."

And in 1639:

> "The misery of the beloved friends and children of God continued; insomuch that in the year 1639 they laid their hands also on a pious hero and soldier of Christ, named Jacob Egli, from the Groeningen Bailiwick [Grüningen, a village in the district of Hinwil, Canton Zurich, 13 miles southeast of the city of Zurich]. He was also taken to Zurich, and there imprisoned in the convent dungeon Othenbach.[237]

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[237] The former cloister/convent Ötenbach/Othenbach in the city of Zurich had become a public building. According to the official story, the Dominican nuns there had collectively abandoned their vows after listening to a sermon by Reformation theologian Leo Jud.

Some sources confuse this location with the community of Ottenbach on the Reuss River, 12 miles southwest of the city.

Herein he persevered upwards of seventy weeks, but was finally no longer able to endure, according to the flesh, the severity of the place and the bad treatment, so that he at last, when his strength failed more and more, and his infirmities increased, with a cheerful heart, commended his soul into the hands of God, and through death departed this life."

A document composed at Hohenwettersbach, Baden-Durlach Sept. 12, 1729 was signed by representatives of the Amish Mennonite congregation there. Ministers included **Hans Jacob Egli**, Ulrich Mischler, and Hans Hŭrtzler; deacons were Jacob Kŭrtz and Hans Mÿschler (all five spellings from their signatures). The estate where they met was leased by Peter Rothacker.

Fifty years later a 79-year-old Jacob Egli represented Baden-Durlach at the 1779 *Dienerversammlung* assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen. He is presumed to have been the same person.

Hans Jacob Egli may have been the father of Jacob Egli, who was born circa 1725; Martin Egli, who was born circa 1728; and Johannes Egli, who was born circa 1733. At one time or another all three farmed on the Lerchenhof estate at Obermönsheim and had entries for family events recorded at adjacent Wimsheim. Wimsheim is 22 miles southeast of Hohenwettersbach; between them are former meeting places Remchingen, Königsbach (now Königsbach-Stein), and Pforzheim.

Martin's descendants include Indiana minister Henry Egley of the 'Egley Amish' Defenseless Mennonite Church, as well as some who arrived in Woodford County in 1874. Background on this branch can be found in Duane L. Egle's *Christian Egle and Marie Rediger Family* in the October 2015 issue of the *Mennonite Family History*.

Another son may have been plowman **Christian Egli**, who was born at Pforzheim circa 1746. According to descendant Duane L. Egel, Y-chromosome testing of descendants of Christian and Martin indicate a common forebearer.

Circa 1770 Christian married Fronika/Veronika/Véronique Ernst. She was born circa 1746.

They farmed at Freistett, in the upper margravate of Baden-Durlach (45 miles southwest of Pforzheim). Recall from ROTH that 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.

FREISTETT

Freistett had a Rhine River crossing into Gambsheim, Lower Alsace, and only nine miles to the southwest was the village of Kehl with its crossing into the city of Strasbourg.

It was mentioned earlier as the birthplace of Napoleon's spymaster Karl Ludwig Schulmeister (see STAKER). Schulmeister purchased the property called Canardière in Strasbourg in 1806; he moved into the manor house Le Meinau in 1809. During the Napoleonic wars he would employ Amish Mennonites including Eglis.

From 1792 to 1796 Freistett residents were obligated to board the dragoons and hussars of Field Marshal Dagobert Sigmund von Wurmser, who commanded the Austrial Imperial Army of the Rhine and then the Army of the Upper Rhine. He was a native of Strasbourg.

On April 20 and 21, 1797, a major battle between Austrian and French forces took place in a community adjacent to Freistett. The combatants were unaware that only two days earlier Napoleon had negotiated a preliminary armistice which became the Peace of Leoben.

In the spring of 1797 Austrian forces were encamped evenly along a 330-mile line from Dusseldorf south to Basel. The overall commander was Maximilian, Graf [Count] Baillet von Latour, who expected the French to cross the Rhine River midway at Mannheim. When French General Moreau and his Army of Rhine-Moselle opted to cross the river near Strasbourg, Latour was too far away to react.

Moreau's initial attempt to cross at night was unsuccessful because the river was low. His small boats were too loaded down with horses and artillery. Fearing the element of surprise would pass, he decided to press on as the sun rose on the 20th. But the Austrians shelled boats attempting to land at Freistett, and the French were forced to land on an island near adjacent Diersheim. That day Diersheim changed hands seven times in fierce fighting.

In the evening Austrian reinforcements arrived from Kehl. But by this time the French were working on a bridge across to the island near Diersheim, and it was completed by midnight. Over 400 cavalry pulling small artillery crossed within hours. On the morning of the 21st the Austrians under Count Sztaray de Nagy-Mihaly attacked. Moreau had a horse shot out from under him, but Sztaray was wounded. Each side lost 3,000 troops. By nightfall Sztaray had retreated into the Black Forest.

While they were freed from their obligation to board Austrians, the residents of Freistett were now ordered to board French occupation troops. Many of those with French working documents now crossed the military bridges to the west and sponsored the resettlement of their extended families and relatives on the Alsatian side of the Rhine River.

See REDIGER for background on engagements in the area of Strasbourg during the Napoleonic Wars.

In 1975 Freistett, Diersheim, Hausgereut, Helmlingen, Hohbuhn, Holzhausen, Honau Linx, Memprechtshofen, and Rheinbischofsheim were combined to become boroughs of the township Rheinau, in the district [Ger. *Kreis*] of Ortenau in Baden-Württemberg, Germany. Rheinau holds the city hall and administrative offices for the township.

NEUFREISTETT

Some family events may have taken place at Neufreistett.

In 1730, 32 acres of property in Freistett was acquired by Strasbourg banker Georg Daniel Kückh. He established offices for a trading company there in 1739, and had his properties formally acknowledged by the landgrave. In 1745 the name 'Neufreistett' was approved and given market rights. It became a tolerant community of merchants and craftsmen, including several Jewish and Anabaptist families.

Kückh was found drowned in the Rhine River in 1754, after financial losses from a failed canal project.

In 1783 the Neufreistett properties (with the exception of a castle estate) were auctioned to the citizens of Freistett. The legal entity Neufreistett lingered until 1929, when it was administratively re-incorporated into Freistett.

Christian died April 12, 1779 on the grounds of the monastery Chartreuse [charter house, Carthusian Order] at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace. Eckbolsheim is on the west side of the city of Strasbourg; Lingolsheim and the Strasbourg district Montagne Verte form its southern boundary; below Montagne Verte are Ostwald and Illkirch.

Anabaptists had come to Eckbolsheim at least two centuries earlier. A tract written by Lutheran minister Elias Schad of Strasbourg recounted how in 1576 he had attended an evening Anabaptist service in the forest at Eckbolsheim.[238]

In her article *Egly Update* in the April 2004 issue of *Mennonite Family History*, Neil Anne Stuckey Levine wrote that Christian Egli's employer Christian Rogi reported his death to Catholic authorities (for background Rogi see ROGI in the Appendix). This led us to the entry in the *Registre de Sépultres, Paroisse Catholique.* It said that Christianus Eckli, living with Veronica in *conjugem Anabaptistarum* [an Anabaptist marriage], had died at *Carthusia*, Eckbolsheim. It was signed with an 'x' by Christian Rogi, indicating he was illiterate.

Christian Egli had likely moved his family to Eckbolsheim with him, but his youngest son was born at Freistett circa 1780 (after his death). We could not determine whether widow Fronika/Veronika/Véronique simply preferred to deliver the child in familiar surroundings with a familiar midwife, or returned there until her children came of age.

Fronika/Veronika/Véronique Ernst died at Hohwart. Hohwart was originally the area of a guard post outside the gates of Strasbourg; it is now Rue de la Hohwart in Strasbourg, named after a mountain in the Black Forest of Baden. Her death was reported at Illkirch (now Illkirch-Graffenstaden, below Strasbourg) March 2, 1801. Her civil death entry described her as Veronika Ernst, the 54-year-old widow of Christian Egli. It was witnessed by Ulrich Gerber, 24; Bantz Müller, 36; and son Jacob Egli, 29. 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.

Children of Christian Egli and Fronika/Veronika/Véronique Ernst include:

1. Jacob/Jacques Egli was born at Freistett circa 1770, and died in his home at Hohwart, Strasbourg Feb. 5, 1847. He lived at Illkirch, then Eckbolsheim, then Strasbourg. On Sept. 17, 1800 at Illkirch he married Barbara/Barbe Steiner. She was born circa 1777, and died at Montagne Verte, Strasbourg March 5, 1820, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Steiner and Magdalena Eichelberger. Their German-language civil marriage entry described the groom as Jacob Egli, 29, born at Freÿstätten, Durlach [Freistetten, Baden]. The bride was described as Barbara Steiner, 23, a daughter of Johannes Steiner and Magdalena Eichelberger. Both the groom and his new father-in-law signed the entry with an 'x,' indicating they were illiterate. Barbara's civil death entry described her as Barbe Steiner, 48, born at Nehwiller, Lower Alsace, a daughter of cultivator Jean Steiner and the deceased Madeleine Eichelberger. Her husband was cattle tender [Fr. *nourrisseur*] Jacques Egli, 49. One witness was her brother George Steiner, 44, a cultivator. Jacob/Jacques's civil death entry described him as cultivator Jacques Egly, 77, born at Neufreistett in the Grand Duché [of Baden], the widower of Barbe Steiner. His parents were the deceased Chrétien Egly and the deceased Véronique Ernst. The only witness was neighbor and cultivator Joseph Müller, 46. (Neufreistett parted from Freistett administratively in 1745; both are now part of Rheinau). According to Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, Barbara/Barbe had left employment as a servant at Canardière, Strasbourg Jan. 10, 1800. Children of Jacob/Jacques Egli and his first wife Barbara/Barbe Steiner include:
    a. Maria Magdalena Egli was born at Illkirch July 20, 1801.
    b. Barbe/Barbara Egli was born at Strasbourg Jan. 15, 1803, and died there Nov. 20, 1885. Her civil birth entry described her as a daughter of cultivator Jacques Egli and Barbe Steiner, living near la Porte du

[238] See *Magister Elias Schad, True Account of an Anabaptist Meeting at Night in a Forest and a Debate Held There with Them* in *Mennonite Quarterly Review 58* (July 1984). The full text can be found online.

Boucher, Strasbourg. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Egli, 25, a resident of Strasbourg [her uncle]. Her civil death entry calling her Barbara Egli was witnessed by her sister Catherine/Katharina.

c. Elisabeth Egli was born at Strasbourg July 18, 1805, and died at Phalsbourg, Moselle Sept. 23, 1871 (found as Elisabeth Ecli). On Jan. 13, 1831 at Eckbolsheim she married Nicolas Ulrich. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Nicolas Ulrich, 40, born at Ribeauvillé Dec. 6, 1790, a cultivator at Eckbolsheim who was a son of the cultivator Jean Ulrich and the deceased Anne Eymann. He was the widower of Barbe Eyer. The bride was described as servant Elisabeth Egli, 25, born at Strasbourg July 18, 1805, a resident of Strasbourg who was a daughter of the cultivator Jacques Egli, 60, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Barbe Steiner. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Ulrich 36, brother of the groom; cultivator Chrétien Lauber, 58, of Strasbourg; and cultivator Chrétien Stuky, 55, of Lingolsheim. They farmed on the estate of the Parmentier family at Phalsbourg.[239] Nicolas died at Phalsbourg Jan. 22, 1844.

d. Catherine Egli was born at Eschau (below Illkirch and Strasbourg) April 2, 1808, and died at Eckbolsheim Feb. 23, 1812. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Jacques Egli, 37, farming at Wibolsheim [a hamlet that later became a district in the south quarter of Eschau], and Barbe Steiner. It was signed Jacob Eglÿ. Her death entry called her Catherine Egly, and described her parents as day laborer Jacques Egly and Barbe Steiner. One witness was cultivator Jean Egly, 30, uncle of the deceased. Father and uncle signed their names Jacob Eglÿ and Johannes Egli.

e. Véronique Egli was born at Eckbolsheim Dec. 10, 1810. The father was described as a 39-year-old day laborer at Roethig, Eckbolsheim. One witness was cultivator Jean Rupp, 34. She was employed at Meinau, Strasbourg.

f. Catherine Egli was born in Maison No. 153, Eckbolsheim Nov. 26, 1813, and died there March 25, 1814. One witness was cultivator Jean Egle, 33, uncle of the deceased. Father and uncle signed their names Jacob Egli and Johannes Egli.

g. Catherine Egli was born in Maison No. 153, Eckbolsheim Feb. 9, 1816, and died at Strasbourg Aug. 30, 1887 (found as Katharina Egli).

Jacob/Jacques Egli remarried in 1820 to a woman with the same name as his first wife. She was born at Niederbronn, Lower Alsace circa 1772, and died at Strasbourg Feb. 11, 1823. Their civil marriage entry described her as a daughter of the deceased cultivator Andreas Steiner and the deceased Dorothé Weinmann. Their child was:

h. Jacques Egli was born in Maison No. 46, Montagne Verte, Strasbourg Nov. 15, 1821, and died at Strasbourg July 11, 1883.

2. Verena/Veronika Egli was born circa Aug. 19, 1775, and died at Strasbourg Nov. 30, 1844. She married Frantz Müller. He was born at Salm circa 1764, and died at Illkirch June 20, 1801. His civil death entry described him as a 36-year-old; it was witnessed by Jacob Egli, 29 (Verena/Veronika's older brother), and Johannes Egli (her younger brother). Their child was:

a. Joseph Müller was born at Hohwart, Strasbourg Dec. 28, 1800. On Dec. 23, 1830 at Strasbourg he married Jacobina Frey. She was born at Strasbourg July 9, 1802, a daughter of Jacob Frey and Barbara Boshart.

On Jan. 10, 1802 at Illkirch Verena remarried to Joseph Streidt. Their German-language civil marriage entry described the groom as Joseph Streidt, born March 16, 1773, a son of Johann Streidt and the deceased Barbara Halter. The bride was described as Verena Egli, born Aug. 19, 1775, a daughter of Christian Egli, plowman at Fraystadt [Freistett, Baden] and Catarina Ernst. Witnesses included Noh Aŭgsbŭrger, 45, a plowman at Strasbourg [see AUGSPURGER for his background]; and brothers-of-the-bride plowman Jacob Egli, 30, residing at Hohenwart, Strasbourg; and Johann Egli, 23. Joseph died at Strasbourg Sept. 14, 1817.

3. Chrétien Egli was born at Freistett circa 1777, and died at Strasbourg Oct. 26, 1832. He married Catherine Maurer. She was born at Luttenbach (now Luttenbach-près-Munster), Upper Alsace circa 1770, and died at Strasbourg April 7, 1834, a daughter of Mathias Maurer and Anne Catherine Burger. Chrétien's civil death entry identified him as Chretien Egli, 53, born at Freistett, *Grand Duché de Bade*, a son of the deceased cultivator Chrétien Egli and the deceased Veronique Ernst. He was a resident of Strasbourg who had died at Hohwart, and the husband of Catherine Muhrer [Maurer]. Witnesses included his son Joseph Egli, 29, a cultivator; and brother of the deceased Jacques Egli, 63, a cultivator. Catherine's civil death entry called her Catherine Muhrer, 64, the widow of cultivator Chrétien Egli. She had died at Hohwart. Her parents were named as M. Muhrer and Catherine Burger, and her birthplace was given. One witness was her son Joseph Egli, 31, a cultivator. The present Rue de la Hohwart is a few blocks south of the neighborhoods called Meinau and Canardière. These were the residence and estate owned by Karl Ludwig Schulmeister. It is probable that Chrétien was one of the many Amish Mennonites who were employed there, and at the time the road was within le Canardière's boundaries. Note the appearance of Schulmeister's estate manager Christian Augspurger (later of Butler County, Ohio, see STAKER for background) as a witness on their daughter Barbe's civil birth entry in 1811. Children of Chrétien Egli and Catherine Maurer born at Strasbourg include:

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[239] Politician Charles Joseph Parmentier (1765-1843) was the son of a counselor to the French king. He became a mayor of Phalsbourg, Baron of the Empire, and Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur.

a. Madeleine Egli was born July 19, 1801, and died at Strasbourg Nov. 7, 1878. Her civil birth entry described her as Madeleine Eglé, a daughter of cultivator Chrétien Eglé and Catherine Maurer, who resided at la Port au Boucher (one of the gates that defined neighborhoods), Strasbourg. On May 19, 1831 at Strasbourg she married cultivator Joseph Kreibiel. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as someone born at Neuhof, Strasbourg Oct. 23, 1800, a son of the deceased cultivator Chrétien Kreibiel, who died at Neuhof July 5, 1826, and Barbara Buchter, who was residing at Neuhof and was present and consenting. The bride was described as Madeleine Eglé, born at Strasbourg July 19, 1801, a daughter of the cultivator Chrétien Egli and Catherine Maurer, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included cultivator Joseph Egli, 28, brother of the bride; Jean Egli, 50, uncle of the bride; and cultivator Chrétien Stucki, 56. Joseph died at Strasbourg June 20, 1846.

b. Joseph Egli was born July 4, 1803. On June 21, 1828 at Strasbourg he married Anne Marie Ruby. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Joseph Egly, born at Strasbourg July 4, 1803, a son of the cultivator Chrétien Egly and Catherine Maurer, who were present and consenting. The bride was described as Anne Marie Ruby, born at Hohroth, Munster, Upper Alsace May 17, 1806, a daughter of cultivator Benoit Ruby and Madeleine Schwarin, who were present and consenting. Anne Marie and her parents were residents of Luttenbach, Upper Alsace (two miles southwest of Munster, 56 miles southwest of Strasbourg). Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Stucki, 52; and Matthias Maurer, 26.

c. Chrétien Egli was born Feb. 28, 1806, and died March 12, 1806. His civil birth entry described his parents as cultivator Chrétien Egli, 32, and Catherine Maurer, living at la Porte d'Hopital. His civil death entry was witnessed by cultivator Jacques Egli, 36, uncle of the deceased; and cultivator Joseph Strid [Streidt], 36, a neighbor.

d. Catherine Egli was born Feb. 8, 1807, and died at Luttenbach March 6, 1859. On her civil death entry witness Henry Ehrisman, 33, described her as a 50-year-old textile worker [Fr. *ouvriere de fabrique*], naming her birthplace and parents.

e. Barbe Egli was born Sept. 13, 1808, and died at Strasbourg Sept. 18, 1808. He civil death entry described her parents as day laborer Chrétien Egli, 30, and Catherine Maurer, living near la Porte de l'Hopital.

f. Chrétien Egli died at Strasbourg Nov. 9, 1809, age 11 days.

g. Barbe Egli was born Aug. 18, 1811. Her civil birth entry described her father's occupation as dairyman [Fr. *laitier*]. It was witnessed by cultivator Chrétien Augsburger [Augspurger], 40.

h. A child was stillborn Feb. 9, 1815. One witness was cultivator Chrétien Müller, 30.

4. **Johannes/Hans/Jean Egli** was born at Freistett circa 1780, according to his first marriage entry, or on June 16, 1781, according to his second marriage entry.

Johannes/Hans/Jean Egli was born at Freistett circa 1780, according to his first marriage entry, or on June 16, 1781, according to his second marriage entry. Note that his father, Christian Egli, had died at Eckbolsheim April 12, 1779 – casting doubt on the second date.

On Jan. 4, 1806 at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace he married widow Catharina Müller (Eckbolsheim is less than four miles west of Strasbourg). She brought four children to the marriage.

Their German-language civil marriage entry described the groom as plowman [Ger. *Ackermann*] Johannes Egli, 25, born at Freystatt, Kŭrfurstentum Baaden [Freistett, Baden]. He was a son of plowman Christian Egli, who had died at the *Karthaŭs* at Strasbourg [this would be an inn and livery stable, but is instead an obvious garbling of Chartreuse monatery] 26 years earlier, and Fronika Ernst, who had died five years earlier on the Hohwort at Illkirch. He was a resident of Eckbolsheim. The bride was described as Catharina Müller, 31, born on the Allenaŭer farm at Strasbourg, a daughter of plowman Christian Müller working at Strasbourg, and the deceased Maria Reis. She was the widow of Ulrich Gerber, a plowman on the Wolkenbrunn at Eckbolsheim [he had died at Eckbolsheim Dec. 21, 1803]. Witnesses included brother-of-the-groom Jacob Egli, 35; plowman Noah Aŭgsbŭrger, 50; Michael Müller, 34, and plowman Joseph Ropp [Rŭpp], 31.

The place they lived is found in documentation as Wolckenbrunnen at Eckbolsheim. This was likely meant to mean it was near the *Volkenbrunnen*, or public fountain.

Catherine died at Eckbolsheim May 20, 1814. She had given birth to a daughter only six days earlier. Her civil death entry described her as a 40-year-old resident of Eckbolsheim who had died in Maison No. 151. It described her parents as the deceased Chrétien Müller and deceased Catherine Maurer. She was the widow of Jean Eglé and Ulrich Gerber. Witnesses included husband and cultivator Jean Eglé, 33 [he signed Johannes Egli]; and brother-in-law Jacques Eglé, 40 [he signed Jacob Egli].

Children of Johannes/Hans/Jean Egli and his first wife Catherina Müller born at Eckbolsheim include:

1. Christian Eglÿ (as found in the margin)/Chrétien Egli (as found in the text) was born Oct. 14, 1806, and died at Hohwarth No. 21 in Strasbourg Oct. 20, 1887 (as reported by his half-sister Marie). On Dec. 22, 1831 at Strasbourg he married Catherine Lauber. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a cultivator. His parents were Jean Egli, a resident of La Robertsau (above Strasbourg) who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Müller, who had died at Eckbolsheim May 20, 1814. The bride was Catherine Lauber, who was born in the *Jardin de Angleterre* [English garden] at Bischheim, Lower Alsace, a daughter of cultivator Chrétien Lauber, who was present

and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Uhler [Ulrich], who had died at Strasbourg June 21, 1827.[240] Witnesses included Nicolas Ulrich, 41, brother-in-law of the bride; cultivator Jean Ulrich, 28, brother-in-law of the bride; cultivator Jean Grieser, 31; and cultivator Michel Zimmerman, 26. A civil birth entry at Bischheim shows that Catharina Lauber was born there Dec. 25, 1804, a daughter of Christian Lauber, 36, and Catharina Uhllman. She died at Hohwarth No. 25 in Strasbourg March 29, 1881 (entry created April 3).

2. Joseph Egli was born May 25, 1808, and died at Eckbolsheim April 2, 1810.
3. Jacques/Jacob Egli was born March 27, 1810, and died at Lockridge, Iowa July 9, 1879. On April 18, 1838 at Wintzenheim he married Barbe Röss/Barbara Roess. (Wintzenheim is now a district of Colmar, Upper Alsace; a part that ran across the boundary into Lower Alsace is now called Wintzenheim-Kochersberg). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jacques Egli, a resident of Logelbach, Wintzenheim. He was born at Eckbolsheim March 27, 1810, a son of cultivator Jean Egli, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Catherine Muller, who had died at Eckbolsheim May 20, 1814. The bride was described as Barbe Röss, born at Volgelbach Jan. 17, 1817, a daughter of the deceased Jean Röss, who had died at Logelbach March 24, 1836, and Magdalane Gautsche, a shopkeeper there who was present and consenting. The groom formally acknowledged their child Catherine Egli, born at Wintzenheim Aug. 17, 1837. Witnesses included cultivator Joseph Roth, 29, of Logelbach, a brother-in-law of the bride; and miller Nicolas Stucky, 30, of Turckheim, also a brother-in-law of the bride. According to Dominique Dreyer's *Emigrants Haut-Rhinois en Amérique 1800-1870*, 36-year-old shop owner [Fr. *proprietaire*] Jacques Egli applied for a passport for himself, his wife, two brothers, and a servant (Jacob Streidt) at Colmar, Upper Alsace March 4, 1847. He came from Eckbolsheim and Wintzenheim, and gave his intended destination as New York. They immigrated with his half-brothers Benjamin and Johannes/Jean/John in 1847 (see Benjamin's information). Upon arrival they went to Oxford County, Ontario. In the fall of 1854 they relocated to Lockridge, Jefferson County, Iowa. The 1870 census of Lockridge shows farmer Jacob Eglie, 60, France; Barbra, 53, France; and farm laborer John, 17, Canada. Barbe/Barbara died at Lockridge Aug. 20, 1888. Jacob/Jacques and Barbe/Barbara are buried in Lockridge Cemetery. Their children include:
    a. Elisabeth Egli (twin) was born at Logelbach Oct. 5, 1836, and died the following day.
    b. Barbe Egli (twin) was born at Logelbach Oct. 5, 1836, and died there Oct. 26, 1836.
    c. Catherine Egli was born at Logelbach Aug. 17, 1837, and died in Henry County, Iowa June 4, 1901. She married Joseph Graber. He was born at Lorient, Brittany, France May 7, 1823, and died at Lockridge May 31, 1901, a son of Jean Graber and Catherine Roth. They are buried in Vorhies Cemetery at Rome, Henry County.
    d. Barbe/Barbara Egli was born at Logelbach May 21, 1839, and died in Henry County, Iowa April 3, 1915. On Oct. 18, 1850 she married Jacob Christner. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania June 20, 1836, and died in Henry County March 6, 1904, a son of Peter Christner and Veronica/Fanny Baur. They lived at Wayne, Henry County. They are buried in Sugar Creek Cemetery at Wayland, Henry County.
    e. Jacques Egli was born at Logelbach Dec. 25, 1842, and died there Dec. 26, 1841 (his civil death entry created Dec. 26 says 26 hours).
    f. Jacques/Jacob Egli was born at Logelbach June 21, 1843, and died at Merrimac, Henry County, Iowa Jan. 17, 1917. On Nov. 27, 1866 at Trenton, Henry County he married Barbara Roth. She was born Oct. 14, 1840 (October of 1841 on the 1900 census), and died in Henry County May 11, 1917, a daughter of Joseph Roth and Elisabeth Röss. The 1900 census of Trenton, Henry County has farmer Jacob Egli, 57, born in Germany [Alsace was occupied by Prussia 1870-1918] in June 1843, immigrated in 1854 [from Canada]; Barbary, 58, born in Germany in October 1841; and four grown children. The 1910 census of Trenton said Barbara immigrated in 1851. They are buried in Green Mound Cemetery in Henry County.
    g. Chrétien Egli was born at Logelbach April 10, 1845. One witness was Jean Egile, 31. Chrétien's death there was recorded April 13, 1845.
    h. Marie/Mary Egli was born at Wayne, Ontario June 17, 1848, and died at Woodburn, Oregon Aug. 4, 1918. On Nov. 29, 1866 at Trenton, Henry County she married Joseph Roth. He was born at Logelbach Jan. 8, 1838, and died at Woodburn March 28, 1910, a son of Joseph Roth and Elisabeth Röss. His family is found on the 1860 census of Lockridge as domestic Elizabeth Roth, 40, France; farmer Joseph, 22, France; domestic Elizabeth, 18, France; Christopher, 13, France; and Mary, 9, France. *Gospel Herald*, September 1918: "Mary (Egli) Roth was born June 17, 1845, in Waterloo Co., Ont., died at her home near Woodburn, Oreg., Aug. 4, 1918; aged 70 y. 1 m. 15 d. She moved with her parents to Jefferson Co., Iowa, in the fall of 1954 and was married to Joseph Roth Nov. 29, 1866. To this union were born 10 children. Four sons, four daughters, two brothers, and twenty-nine children survive. She accepted Christ as her Saviour in early youth and was a faithful member of the A.M. Church until death. Funeral services conducted at Zion Church by Bros. C.R. Gerig and A.P. Troyer. Text, *Rom. 4:7*. Remains laid to rest in the cemetery nearby. A faithful member, a kind neighbor, will be missed in the

[240] We only found an entry for Barbe Ulrich [a misidentification of the bride's mother], who had died at Strasboug June 27, 1827. It described her as someone aged 63 years and six months, born at Boersch, Lower Alsace, a daughter of N. Ulrich and an unknown mother. She was the wife of cultivator Chrétien Lauber, 55. She had died in Maison No. 31 near la Porte Blanche. The entry was witnessed by grandson and cultivator Nicolas Ulrich, 36.

home, church and community." Marie/Mary and Joseph are buried in Zion Mennonite Cemetery at Ninety-One, Clackamas County, Oregon.

i. Christian Egli was born at Wayne, Ontario Aug. 15, 1850, and died at Trenton Nov. 8, 1930. On Aug. 15, 1876 in Henry County he married Emeline/Amelia E. Roth. She was born in Iowa March 28, 1859, and died at Trenton Aug. 12, 1943, a daughter of Michel/Michael Roth and Anna Goldschmidt/Nancy Goldsmith. Her family is found on the 1860 census of Trenton as farmer Michl. Roth, 24, Ohio; Nancy, 19, Ohio; Emeline, 1, Iowa; and laborer Benj. Gardner, 21, W. Canada. The 1910 census of Trenton has farmer Christ Egli, 59, Germany, immigrated in 1854 [from Canada]; Emelia, 51, born in Iowa to parents form Ohio; and Nina E., 13, Iowa; on the same page as older brother Jacob Egli. They are buried in Green Mound Cemetery in Henry County.

j. John Egli was born at Toronto, Ontario Dec. 4, 1852, and died at Hubbard, Oregon July 8, 1924. On Nov. 20, 1879 he married Magdalena Rich. She was born at Wayland, Henry County Dec. 18, 1858, and died at Aurora, Oregon Jan. 15, 1926, a daughter of Joseph Rich and Anna Maria/Mary Wenger. They relocated from Iowa to Oregon in 1897. They are buried in Zion Mennonite Cemetery at Ninety-One, Clackamas County, Oregon.

4. Catherine Egli was born March 10, 1812.
5. Anne Eglé was born May 16, 1814, and died at Eckbolsheim June 6, 1814.

On Jan. 21, 1815 at Eckbolsheim Johannes/Hans/Jean remarried to Maria Geisert (also found as Geissert). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as a cultivator living at Eckbolsheim, the widower of Catherine Miller, and a son of the deceased Chrétien Egli and Véronique Ernst. The bride was Maria Geissert, born at Freistatt, Baden Jan. 27, 1782, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Georges Geissert who had died at Freistett Jan. 20, 1811, and Marie Bernert, who was present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Jean Rothacker, 52, of Lingolsheim.[241]

In 1817 Jean was working as a laborer at Niederbronn. In 1819 he was a cultivator on the Fleckensteinerhof farm at Lembach, Lower Alsace. From 1821 until the summer of 1823 they lived on the Mantelhof estate at Űberauchern, Baden. According to Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, the wife of the estate manager there was Maria's sister Magdalena Geisert.

In 1823 they relocated to Strasbourg. Johannes/Jean died there Feb. 28, 1852, and his cvil death entry was created March 1. It described him as a 71-year-old cultivator, gave his birthplace as Freistett, and named his father and two wives. His place of death was Quartier Bleu No. 2 at La Robertsau.

Children of Johannes/Jean Egli and his second wife Maria Geisert include:

6. Marie Madeleine Egli was born at Eckbolsheim 'Christian Suter' signed a naturalization *Declaration of Intent* in Tazewell County in 1848. 1806. Her civil birth entry identified her mother as Marie Geissert.
7. Anne Marie Egli was born at Niederbronn (now Niederbronn-lès-Bains), Lower Alsace May 6, 1817, and died at Strasbourg April 4, 1888. Her civil birth entry described her parents as laborer Jean Egli, 35, a resident of *la cense de Reisacker*, and Marie Geissert. On Oct. 15, 1859 at Strasbourg she married widower Georges Schwing. His first wife Madeleine Selden had died at La Robertsau in 1858. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as someone born at La Robertsau, Strasbourg Feb. 17, 1812, a son of the deceased Georges Schwing and the deceased Christine Bada. The bride was described as servant Anne Marie Egli, born at Niederbronn May 6, 1817, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Egli, who had died at La Robertsau Deb. 28, 1852, and Marie Geissert, a resident of La Robertsau who was present and consenting. Anne Marie was a widow at the time of her death.
8. Barbe Egli was born at Lembach, Lower Alsace Oct. 13, 1819, and died at Űberauchen, Baden Aug. 9, 1823. Her civil birth entry described her parents as cultivator Jean Egli *de la cense de Fleckstein* (the Fleckensteinerhof farm at Lembach), 38, and Marie Geisert.
9. Johannes/Jean/John Egli was born June 16, 1821. Some sources say he was born at Eisingen, Baden (below Hochberg), but according to Duane L. Egel, descendant Mark Egli found an entry in Catholic records at Kirchdorf, Baden, serving adjacent Űberauchen. It described his birth on the Mantelhof at Űberauchen. He died at Hopedale Dec. 11, 1907. He immigrated with his brother Benjamin and half-brother Jacques/Jacob in 1847 (see Benjamin's information). The three initially settled in Oxford County, Ontario. On Feb. 10, 1850 in Ontario he married Magdalena Gascho. She is described in the *Karlskron Familienbuch* as someone who was born at Probfeld, Bavaria

[241] Johannes/Jean/Hans Rothacker married Catherine Augspurger at Strasbourg Oct. 3, 1796. On their civil marriage entry the groom was described as cultivator Jean Rothacker, 24, who was born at Beblenheim, Upper Alsace May 9, 1772, a son of cultivator David Rothacker and the deceased Barbe Wittner. He had been a resident of Strasbourg for five years. The bride was described as cultivator Catherine Augspurger, 24, who was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Upper Alsace March 4, 1772, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Noé Augspurger and the deceased Julienne Doebler. She was accompanied by her brother, cultivator Noé Augspurger, 38. The groom signed Johannes Rothacker, the bride aŭgsbŭrger.

There was another Johannes Rothacker who lived at Lingolsheim, presumably a cousin to this one. He was born circa 1759, a son of Christian Rothacker and Anna Rŭpp. On Feb. 14, 1797 at Lingolsheim he married Barbara Litwiller. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Johannes Rothacker, 36, a son of Christian Rothacker and Anna Rŭbin [Rŭpp]. The bride was described as Barbara Littwiller, 23, a daughter of Samuel Littwiller and Barbara Rŭbin [Rŭpp]. One witness was plowman David Rothacker, 62, of Strasbourg [presumably the uncle of the groom].

Aug. 28, 1827, and died in 1829, a daughter of Joseph Gascho and Magdalena Ingold. However, her headstone at Hopedale says she was born June 24, 1826 (see GASCHO for background on her family). They settled in East Zorra, where they attended the Blake Mennonite Church. In 1861 John was ordained as a minister for an Amish Mennonite congregation at Zurich, Hay County, Ontario. In the fall of 1867 they relocated to Tazewell County, purchasing a property in 1870. The 1880 census of Boynton has farmer John Egli, 58, France; Magdalina, 54, Bavaria; Christian, 20, Canada; Benjamin, 19, Canada; Jacob, 17, Canada; Fanny, 15, Canada; Anna, 12, Illinois; Magdalena, 8, Illinois; and Mary, 6, Illinois. They partially relocated to remote Offerle, Kansas 1886-88, while retaining their Illinois property. We could not determine the reason for this temporary move; Offerle's present population is less than 200. After their return John served as a minister in the Hopedale Amish Mennonite Church until his death. The 1900 census of Hittle shows John Egli, 79, born in France in June of 1820, immigrated in 1870 [to America from Canada]; Magdalena, 74, born in Germany in June of 1826; immigrated in 1870. They are found on the same page as the households of sons Chris and Joseph. John attended the *Dienerversammlungen* assemblies of Amish Mennonite ministers in 1871, 1872, 1875, and 1878. Magdalena died at Minier April 8, 1902, and John at Hopedale Dec. 11, 1907. They are buried under a joint headstone in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. *Herald of Truth*, December 1907: "On Dec. 11, 1907, near Hopedale, Ill., Pre. John Egli, after an illness of two weeks with stomach trouble; aged 86 Y., 5 M., 24 D. He is survived by 10 children, 76 grandchildren and 39 great-grandchildren. He was a minister in the Amish Mennonite church for 46 years. He was a faithful laborer in the Lord's vineyard and was ready and willing to go when the Lord called him home. Funeral was held Dec. 13 by J. E. Birky at the home, P. Sommer, S. Garber and P. D. Schertz at the A. M. church near Hopedale, Ill." *Gospel Witness*, January 1908: "Pre. John Egli was born in Baden, Germany, June 16, 1821. One year later his family moved to Strasburg, Alsace, where he grew to manhood. He came to America in 1837 [1847], settling in Huron Co., Ontario, Canada. He was married to Magdalena Gascho in 1850, with whom he lived happily until her death in 1902. In 1867 they came to Illinois. In 1886 they went to Offerle, Kans., coming back in 1888 to their home five miles southwest of Minier, where they spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of twelve children, ten of whom survive, six sons and four daughters, also 76 grandchildren and 39 great-grandchildren. The funeral was held at the A.M. church south of Hopedale, with the sermon by Samuel Garber of Metamora, Ill. The deceased was a member of the Mennonite Church for 79 years and for 46 years a minister. He was loved and respected by all. He died Dec. 11, at the age of 86 y., 5 m., 24 d." Their children include:

a. Katharine/Katie Egli was born at East Zorra, Ontario Nov. 19, 1850 (her obituary says Zurich, where she grew up), and died at Minier June 17, 1932. On Dec. 12, 1868 in Tazewell County she married George/John Reinhardt (he was an illegitimate child of Marie Madeleine Roth who changed his name before emigrating from Europe). For background on this couple see ROTH.

b. Joseph Egli (also found as Joseph E. Egli) was born at Zurich, Huron County, Ontario Feb. 2, 1852, and died at Manson, Iowa Oct. 10, 1915. On Jan. 29, 1874 in Tazewell County he married Barbara Sutter. She was born at Hopedale Aug. 31, 1851, and died at Minier April 2, 1885, a daughter of Christian Sutter and Magdalena Nafziger; she is buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery. On Jan. 3, 1886 in Tazewell County Joseph remarried to Mary Birky. She was born at Morton Aug. 13, 1860, and died at Manson, Iowa March 2, 1926, a daughter of Christian Birky and Catherine Mosiman. The *Tazewell County Register of Marriages* contains information from their marriage license entered Dec. 28, 1885. It describes him as 33, born in Canada and a resident of Hittle, and a son of John Egli and Anna Gasho. It was his second marriage. The bride was described as Mary Birky, 26, born at Morton and a resident of Hopedale, a daughter of Christian Birky and Anna Moseman in her first marriage. The ceremony took place in the Amish Mennonite Church of Hopedale. Witnesses included Joseph Springer, Andrew Nafziger, and Christian Nafziger. *Gospel Herald*, November 1915: "Joseph Egli was born in Huron Co., Canada, Feb. 2, 1852; died Oct. 10, 1915 at his home in Manson, Ia.; aged 63 y. 9 m. 10 d. He united with the Mennonite Church at the age of eighteen; was ordained to the ministery in 1891, in which capacity he labored faithfully till called to higher service. He was married to Sister Barbara Sutter at Hopedale, Ill., Jan. 29, 1874. To this union were born one son and four daughters, of whom one daughter died in infancy. His companion died April 2, 1885. On Jan. 2, 1886, he was married to Sister Mary Birkey of Hopedale, Ill. To this unio n were born three sons and four daughters. He leaves his companion, 11 children, 39 grandchildren, five brothers, four sisters, and a large circle of friends to mourn his departure. He moved to Manson, Iowa from Hopedale, Ill. five years ago. Funeral was held Tuesday, Oct. 12, from the Mennonite Church where often his voice had been heard in earnest, loving, effective service. There was an unusually large attendance, the church being filled with friends from all denominations, showing the confidence and esteem in which the brother was held in the community, and the sympathy held for his bereaved family. Bro. E. J. Berkey of Waynesboro, Va., conducted the services, taking for his text *Amos 4:12*. Interment was made in Rose Hill Cemetery. Bro. Egli was a friend to all and will be greatly missed in the home, the church, and the community."

c. Andrew Egli was born at Zurich Dec. 2, 1856, and died at Kouts, Indiana Dec. 16, 1933. He is buried in Hopewell Mennonite Cemetery at Kouts.

d. John Egli was born at Zurich April 20, 1859, and died at Manson, Iowa Feb. 26, 1934. On Jan. 23, 1890 in Tazewell County he married Anna Riggenbach. She was born at Tremont Jan. 10, 1869, and died at

Manson April 29, 1959, a daughter of Johannes Riggebacher/John Riggenbach and Katharina 'Katy' Bauer Berger (first married to Christian Berger, see CHRISTIAN BERGER in the Appendix for background on both of her husbands). They relocated to Manson, Iowa in 1913. They later lived in Oklahoma for three years, but returned to Manson. *Gospel Herald*, March 1934: "John, son of John and Magdalene (Gascho) Egli, was born in Zurich, Ont., on April 20, 1859. In the fall of 1867 he, with his parents moved to Tazewell Co., Ill., where he grew to manhood. On Jan. 23, 1890, he was united in marriage with Anna Riggenbach of Allentown. To this union were born seven sons and three daughters. In 1913 he moved his family to Iowa where he has since resided, except for three years which were spent in Oklahoma. He passed away at his home in Manson, Iowa on Feb. 26, 1934, aged 75 y., 10m., 6 d. He enjoyed unusually good health until Dec. 21, 1932, when he suffered a slight stroke of paralysis, after which he never regained his usual health; suffering much distress and discomfort he never complained, and always said: "Lord, Thy will be done." He was a devoted father, deeply interested in his family and was always happy to have them all gather around him, especially in trying times… Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery."

e. Christian Egli was born at Zurich March 3, 1860, and died at Kouts, Indiana Aug. 22, 1944. On Feb. 19, 1888 in McLean County he married Veronica 'Fannie B.' Augsburger. She was born at Groveland Oct. 8, 1869, and died at Kouts Dec. 7, 1947, a daughter of Jacob Augsburger and Barbara Steinman. Christian and Fannie are found on the 1900 census of Hittle as farmer Chris Egli, born in Canada in January 1860 to German parents, immigrated in 1870; Fannie B., born in Illinois in October 1869 to German parents; and two children born in Illinois. The 1920 census of Porter County, Indiana shows their household as Chris Egli, 59, Canada; Fannie Egli, 50; and Andrew Egli, 63. They are buried in Hopewell Mennonite Cemetery at Kouts, Indiana as 'Chris Egli' and 'Fannie Egli.'

f. Benjamin Egli was born at Zurich June 6, 1861, and died at Manson, Iowa March 16, 1936. On Feb. 6, 1887 in Tazewell County he married Adelia Reinhardt. She was born Dec. 16, 1865, and died at Manson May 25, 1939, a daughter of George/John Reinhadt and Katharine/Katie Egli. *Gospel Herald*, April 1936: "Benjamin, son of John and Magdalene (Gascho) Egli, was born in Zurich, Ont., June 6, 1861; died March 16, 1936; aged 74 y. 9 m. 10 d. In the fall of 1867 he with his parents moved to Tazewell Co., Ill, where he grew to manhood. On Feb. 6, 1887 he was married to Adelia Reinhardt. To this union 10 children were born; two sons (Albert and Allen) preceded her in death. He settled on a farm near Minier, Ill., where he lived for six years. He then moved to Champaign Co, Ill., where he lived for 14 years. On Jan. 24, 1907, he moved to Iowa and settled on a farm near Pomeroy. In 1927 he retired and moved to Manson, where he lived until his death…. Three brothers and three sisters preceded him in death." They are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery at Manson.

g. Jacob Egli was born at Zurich Jan. 26, 1863, and died at Bloomington, McLean County March 15, 1946. On Oct. 13, 1885 he married Susan Sutter. She was born in Tazewell County Jan. 19, 1866, and died at Hopedale Sept. 9, 1926, a daughter of Christian Sutter and Magdalena Nafziger. On Feb. 19, 1928 he remarried to Barbara Litwiller. *Gospel Herald*, April 1946: "Jacob, son of John and Lena Egli, was born in Canada Jan. 26, 1863; peacefully fell asleep at the Mennonite Hospital, Bloomington, Ill. March 5, 1946, after a few weeks illness; aged 83 y. 1 m. 17 d. He came to Illinois at about five years of age and lived in Tazewell County most of his life. On Oct. 13, 1885 he was united in marriage with Susan Sutter, who preceded him in death. Surviving are four children (Lena Litwiller, Morton, Ill; John and Simon, Hopedale, Ill.; and Lizzie Nafzinger, Minier, Ill.), 29 grandchildren, and 25 great-grandchildren. On Feb. 19, 1928 he was united in marriage with Barbara Litwiller, who preceded him May 22, 1942. He also leaves five stepchildren (Joe, Roy, and Emery Litwiller, Delavan, Ill.; William Litwiller, Mason City, Ill.; and Alma Litwiller, of Hopedale)… Interment was made in the Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery."

h. Fanny Egli was born at Zurich Jan. 27, 1865, and died in Tazewell County Sept. 4, 1905. On April 13, 1886 she married George Eichelberger. He was born in Germany Oct. 13, 1857, and died at Manson, Iowa Dec. 12, 1945, a son of Jacob Eichelberger and Elizabeth Birky. He immigrated in 1862. *Herald of Truth*, September 1905: "Fanny Egli was born Jan. 27, 1865; died Sept. 4, 1905; aged 40 Y., 7 M., 7 D. She was married to George Eichelberger, April 14, 1887. To this union were born nine children, seven sons and two daughters; one daughter died in infancy. Sister Eichelberger united with the A.M. church and lived a Christian life to her end, so we believe we need not mourn as those who have no hope. The remains were buried near Hopedale in the A.M. graveyard, Sept. 6. Sermons by Daniel Nafziger, Peter Oswald, and the writer." George remarried to Magdalena Martin in February of 1910; she died July 1, 1919. They are buried in Hopedale Mennonite Cemetery.

i. Anna/Annie Egli was born in Tazewell County in 1868, and died in 1936. On Dec. 13, 1883 in Tazewell County she married Samuel E. Naffziger. He was born in 1862, and died in 1956, a son of Peter J. Naffziger and Magdalena Nafziger. The *Tazewell County Marriage Book* describes the groom as Samuel Naffziger, 21, a farmer at Hopedale who was born in Woodford County, a son of Peter J. Naffziger and Maggie Nafziger. The bride Annie Egli was a 16-year-old born at Boynton, a daughter of John Egli. The ceremony took place at Hopedale; witnesses included C. Heiser, Jacob A. Naffziger, and justice of the

peace G. Black. In 1910 they were living at Arcada, Michigan. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery at Alma, Michigan.

j. Magdalena Egli was born at Minier March 18, 1872, and died at Kouts, Indiana Nov. 2, 1941. On Dec. 19, 1889 in McLean County she married Louis Lampl. He died circa 1898. Magdalena's household is found on the 1900 census of Little Mackinaw as farmer Lena Lampl, 33, born in Illinois in July 1866 to German parents; Lewis, 9, born in Illinois in October 1890; Joseph, 8, born in Illinois in February 1892; John, 5, born in Illinois in December 1894; Lena, 2, born in Illinois in September 1897; servant Minnie Knoll, 15, Illinois; and boarder Henry Gallman, 22, a farm laborer from Canada born in June 1877. A blended household is shown on the 1910 census of Minier: odd job laborer Herman J. Sawatzki, 24, who had immigrated from Germany in 1890; Lena, 37, Illinois; Roy, 6, Illinois; stepson Louie, 19, Illinois; stepson Joe, 18, Illinois; stepson John, 15, Illinois; and step daughter Lena, 12, Illinois. They are found again on the 1930 census of Pleasant, Indiana: railroad foreman Herman Sawatzki, 44, Germany; Lena, 57, Illinois; son Roy, 26, Illinois; and stepson Joseph Lample, 38, Illinois. Magdalena is buried as "Lena Sawatzki Lampl, 1872-1941" in Graceland Township Cemetery at Kouts, Indiana.

k. Mary Egli was born at Minier June 18, 1874, and died at Pekin Feb. 19, 1939. On Dec. 9, 1894 in Tazewell County she married Henry Eichelberger. He was born at Pontiac, Livingston County June 20, 1868, and died at Pekin Jan. 19, 1939, a son of Jacob Eichelberger and Elizabeth Birky. They are found at Hittle in 1900, Hopedale in 1910, Boynton in 1920, and Cincinnati (Tazewell County) in 1930. They are buried in Lakeview Cemetery at Pekin.

10. Jacobina Egli was born at Űberauchern, Baden April 1, 1823.
11. Joseph Egli was born at Strasbourg July 5, 1826, and died at Maison No. 48 Montagne Verte, Strasbourg May 26, 1827. Witnesses on his civil birth entry included Chrétien Muller, 44; and cultivator Joseph Ulrich, 27. One witness on his civil death entry was gardener [Fr. *jardinier*] Jacques Egli, 55, described as a neighbor [Fr. *voisin*] of the deceased.
12. **Benjamin Egli/Egley/Egly** was born at Strasbourg Aug. 27, 1830 (his headstone gives the date April 27, 1831), and died at Deer Creek Feb. 20, 1904. His civil birth entry called him Benjamin Egli, and gave his address as 48 Montagne Verte, Strasbourg. His father was 50, and his mother 48. One witness was Jacques Egli, 60.

Benjamin Egli/Egley/Egly was born at Strasbourg Aug. 27, 1830 (his headstone gives the date April 27, 1831), and died at Deer Creek Feb. 20, 1904.

He sailed from Le Havre on the *Caspian* with half-brother Jacob/Jacques Egli and brother Johannes/Jean/John Egli (later a minister at Boynton), and arrived at New York April 3, 1847. The passenger list shows Jacques Egli, 37; Barbara Ros [Röss], 30; Catherine, 9; Barbara, 7; Jacques, 31 [should have been 2]; Jacques Shirts [servant Jacques Streidt?], 40; Jean Egli, 25; Bergman [Benjamin Egli], 16; Georg Zehr, 21; Catharina Stevan or Hevan, 28; and Catharina Schertz, 26. Christian Berger (see CHISTIAN BERGER in the Appendix) may also have been a passenger on this voyage.

The three brothers initially settled in what is now Oxford County, Ontario (created in 1850 adjacent to Perth and Waterloo Counties).

Benjamin submitted a *Declaration of Intent for Naturalization* at Pekin Feb. 1, 1856. It described him as a 25-year-old from France who had arrived in 1847. He owed allegiance to Louis Napoleon.

On Feb. 7, 1856 in Tazewell County he married widow Magdalena 'Lena' Stecker/Staker; the ceremony was performed by minister Michael Mosiman. The county register has her as Magdalena Shafer.

Magdalena was born at Hellering, Moselle (adjacent to St. Avold) April 4, 1832, a daughter of Christian Farny or Stecker/Staker and Magdalena Gabriel. Her civil birth entry was created at adjacent Hombourg-Haut the following day; it described her parents as miller Christiane Stecker, 31, and Madeleine Gabriel, 28, residents of Hellering. See STAKER for background on her parents and immigration.

Magdalena was first married to tailor Lewis Schafer, who died circa 1855. She brought one child to this second marriage, and he became Benjamin's stepson. **John E. Schafer** was born in Butler County, Ohio Dec. 2, 1850.

The 1860 census of Groveland has farmer Benj. Egley, 29, France; Magdalen, 30, France; John [Schafer], 9, Ohio; and laborer Caspar Benferth, 21, Hanover.

The family appears on the 1870 census of Deer Creek as farmer Benjamin Egley, 40, France; Magdalen, 38, France; farm laborer John [Schafer], 19, Ohio; and farm laborer Henry Switzer, 23, Virginia.

On Dec. 24, 1872 in McLean County John married Mary E. Strubhar; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey.

Mary was born at Stout's Grove, McLean County Sept. 15, 1853, a daughter of Valentin/Valentine Strubhar and Barbara Guingrich (see STRUBHAR for background on her family).

The 1880 census of Deer Creek shows farmer Benjamin Egley, 50, and Magdalena, 48. He gave the birthplace of his parents as Alsace, while she gave Lorraine for hers; others in their household include servant James Chad, 10,

Illinois; servant and farm laborer Gottlieb Habb, Switzerland; and domestic servant Jacobina Ayrsman [Ehrisman], 52, Germany. Their next-door neighbor was their son, whose household is found as farmer John Shaffer, 29, born in Ohio to parents from Prussia [Moselle was occuped by Germany 1870-1918]; Mary [Strubhar], 28, born in Illinois to parents from Lorraine; Magdalena, 3, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois; and Barbara, 2, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois. The household listed on the census before the Shaffers was that of Bartholomew Zook and Barbara (Magdalena's older sister Barbara Stecker/Staker).

Around this time Benjamin had his photograph taken by Henry Hobart Cole (1833-1925) of Pekin. Cole was the professional who created numerous portrait images of Abraham Lincoln during his 1857 senatorial campaign; a number can be seen in scrapbooks at the Metamora Courthouse and the Pekin Public Library. Benjamin's image was one of 1,500 found in the basement of the old Tazewell County Courthouse before it was destroyed in 1914. A copy can be obtained by ordering from the *Tazewell County Notable Men Photo List* on www.tcghs.org.

On the 1900 census of Deer Creek, Benjamin Egly is a 68-year-old farmer born in 1831, and Magdalena is his 68-year-old wife born in 1831; a 15-year-old grandson Louis Schaffer lived with them. That census also confirms that Benjamin and Magdalena both came to America in 1847.

They are buried in Mount Zion Cemetery in Montgomery, Woodford County as 'Benjamin Egly' and 'Lena Steckerr.' Her date of death was not inscribed on their joint headstone.

The 1910 census of Deer Creek shows dairy farmer John E. Shafer, 59, 37 years of marriage, born in Ohio to a German father and a French mother; Mary E. [Strubhar], 56, born in Illinois to French parents; and Ruth M., 18, born in Illinois to parents from Ohio and Illinois.

John died at Deer Creek March 17, 1912, and Mary died there Feb. 21, 1913. They are buried in Mount Zion Cemetery at Deer Creek as "John E. Schafer, 1850-1912" and "Mary E. his wife, 1853-1913."

Henry Egly

Recall from STAKER the story of Berne, Indiana minister Henry Egly and the Egly Amish/Defenseless Mennonite congregations.

Two distinct families are listed on the *Seelen Tabell 1792*, a page found in the records of the *Evangelische* church at Wimsheim, Württemberg.

According to some sources, the two heads of family were sons of **Martin Egle** [Egli], born circa 1720, and Magdalena Kaufmann, born at Steffisburg, Canton Bern May 30, 1723.

- 'Anabaptista' on the Obermönsheimerhof: Martin Egli and his wife Elisabetha Kaufmann, parents of Abraham, Barbara, Nicolai, Anna, Veronika (she married Johannes Ehrismann), Magdalena, and Johan.

- 'Anabaptista' on the Lärchenhof: **Jakob Egli** *and his wife Magdalena [Eyer], parents of Elisabetha, Jakobina, Heinrich (he married Jakobina Ehrismann), Magdalena, Jakobina, Barbara, and one illegible.*

Jakob Egli and Magdalena had at least eight more children after 1792. They included **Abraham Egle.** He was born April 26, 1797, and died at Geneva, Indiana Sept. 9, 1872.

In March of 1819 at Hagnau am Bodensee he married Magdalena Reber. She was born at Schangnau or Lützelflüh, Canton Bern Oct. 31, 1802, and died in 1834, a daughter of Christian Reber and Maria Zaugg.

Their son **Heinrich/Henry Egle** was born on the Lärchenhof farm April 5, 1824. The packet ship *Utica* sailed from Le Havre, and arrived at New York City July 29, 1837. The passenger list shows widower Abraham Egle, 40, and his children Elizabeth, 16, and Heinrich, 12. They went to Cincinnati, Ohio, then settled in adjacent Butler County in 1839.

Heinrich was baptized there in 1841. On Aug. 3, 1848 in Butler County, Ohio he married Katharine Goldsmith, a daughter of minister/elder Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith and Elizabeth Schwartzentruber (see GOLDSMITH). The ceremony was performed by minister Nicholas Augspurger.

In 1850 Heinrich/Henry moved to Berne, Indiana, and became better known as Henry Egly. He became a deacon in 1850, a minister in 1854, and elder in 1858.

He later attributed his strong faith to the ordeal of a prolonged illness in 1853.

Heinrich/Henry Egly died June 23, 1890, and is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne, Adams County, Indiana. His double headstone says "Father, Bishop Henry Egly, born Apr. 5, 1824, died June 23, 1890, aged 66 y. 2 m. 17 D." and "Catharine Egly, born June 15, 1827, died Feb. 27, 1905, aged 82 Y. 8M. 12 D."

Stucky of Upper Alsace

This portion of text is an answer to a query about the Stucky burials in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery at Elm Grove, Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland, and Gridley Cemetery in McLean County.

Recall from STAKER that Stücker comes from the root 'Stück.' It is pronounced with an initial 'sht' sound, rhyming with the English 'cooker.' In the Bernese dialect 'Stück' is related to wood. The surname Stücker describes someone who removes trees to clear fields for planting. The diminutive or affectionate form of the surname is Stŭcki or Stücki, which has been interpreted to describe small wood, such as a twig or a branch, but also describes a wood gatherer. Stücker became Stecker in Lorraine, then Staker in America. Stŭcki or Stücki became Stucky to French speakers and Stuckey to English speakers.

The *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname Stücki include Wimmis, Oberdiessbach, and Diemtigen.

In most early French-language documents the participants signed their surname Stŭckÿ. We also found Stoki, Stoky, Stoqui, and Stucky from French-speaking clerks, and Stücki from German speakers.

Stucky of Munstertal

Christen Stŭckÿ and **Nicolas Stŭckÿ** were born before 1719. They may have been brothers or cousins.

In the mid-1700s they and their children lived in the three villages Wintzenheim, Wihr-au-Val, and Walbach in the valley of the Fecht River, west of the city of Colmar. In German the valley was called *Munstertal*, after the village of Munster, three miles west of Wihr-au-Val. American tourists know it as the Valley of Munster, close to Colmar and the villages of the Wine Road. It leads west from Colmar to the *Parc naturel régional des Ballons des Vosges*, an extensive outdoor recreation area.

Although it has generally been thought that the two came directly up from Canton Bern or Canton Jura, this early settling in the valley of the Fecht River raises another possibility. Ste. Marie-aux-Mines was only 16 miles to the north. Were Christen and Nicolas members of a family or families that initially settled there?[242]

Note that minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ of Münsingen, Canton Bern, who came to the area no later than 1744, leased part of the Schoppenwihr estate at Bennwihr. Bennwihr is only six miles north of Wintzenheim. Although we could not determine a direct relationship with Christen or Nicolas, their descendants certainly knew each other (if for no other reason than that Bentz was a prominent minister) and several cross-marriages took place.

CHRISTEN STŬCKŸ

Christen Stŭckÿ was born before 1719.

He first married Anne Roth. She was born before 1721, and died before 1751. Their child was:

1. Hans/Jean Stŭckÿ was born circa 1739. He married between 1760 and 1762. We could not identify his first wife, who died before 1777. Their child was:
    a. Christian Stŭckÿ was born circa 1762. On May 13, 1787 at Grandvillars he married Maria Kauffmann. She was born at Montbéliard circa 1768, a daughter of Jacob Kauffmann and Bäbi Richen. Recall an earlier migration from SCHROCK: "With the death of Empress Maria Theresa, her son and co-regent became Joseph II, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. On Oct. 13, 1780 he signed a decree of tolerance acknowledging the rights of Protestants. On Sept. 17, 1781 his government issued a colonization decree encouraging resettlement in the newly acquired eastern provinces. Residents of the Pfalz were invited to colonize Galicia, a region that would now be described as straddling the borders of Poland and the Ukraine. Mennonites would be exempted from combatant roles in military service; they would also be permitted to build their own church structure once natural growth increased their numbers to 100

[242] A loose end: From at least 1781 there was a Swiss-descent Stŭckÿ family at Kunheim, located on the French western shore of the Rhine River, 10 miles east of the city of Colmar. They do not seem to have been Anabaptists, have connections to the families we will follow, or have ties to Illinois. **Nicola Stŭckÿ** is known to us only from the civil death entry of his son. His wife was not identified. **Jacob/Jacques Stŭckÿ** was born circa Feb. 17, 1755, and died at Kunheim March 27, 1813. He married Anne Marie or Anna Maria Hunsinger/Huntsinger. She was born circa 1759, and died at Kunheim Feb. 17, 1814, age 54. Jacob/Jacques was a shoemaker. When he died in *Maison No. 5* at Kunheim, his civil death entry said he was aged 58 years, one month, and 10 says, and identified his wife as Anne Marie Hunsinger.

families. However, they would not be permitted to baptize adults from families associated with other religions. A decree of acceptance was issued March 29, 1784….In 1784 Johannes [Schrag] and Elizabeth [Albrecht] joined a traveling party at Albisheim (near Marnheim and Kirchheimbolanden). With the Austrian government paying part of their expenses, they passed through Regensburg, Linz, Vienna, Krakow, and Lemberg (now Lviv in the western Ukraine) before arriving in the village of Falkenstein south of Lemberg - a journey of more than 1,400 miles. There they were soon joined by Amish Mennonites from Montbéliard." While visiting Montbéliard in 1790, Polish Prince Adam Kazimierz Czartoryski (1734-1823) was impressed by the behavior of 13-year-old house servant Catherine Stŭckÿ, Christian's half-sister. She was modestly dressed and respectful of others. The prince made inquiries about the beliefs and general work habits of Amish Mennonites. We can assume that he was attracted by the same attributes that appealed to other high military officers. He envisioned workers who would conscientiously improve his position by cultivating poor land, while remaining withdrawn from organized religious affiliation and politically neutral. English-language histories tell about two groups that traveled to Eastern Europe to colonize his properties. One departed in November of 1790, and went directly to Urszulin, Poland (66 miles east of Czartoryski's palace at Pulawy, and 34 miles east of the city of Lublin). Then another party departed in February of 1791, and settled at Einsiedel in the Podolia Territory (now near Lviv in Western Ukraine) before resettling at Urszulin in 1794. The Moses Gering, Johann and Christ Graber, Peter Kauffman, Johann Liechti, Christian Stŭckÿ, and Anna Roth families departed from Montbéliard Feb. 8, 1791, planning to arrive for spring planting at Einsiedel. The Stŭckÿ party included Christian, his seven months-pregnant wife Maria, and his three younger half-sisters. At the time Montbéliard was governed by the Principality of Wŭrttemberg. Those authorities sent letters ahead to the German territories they would cross, asking that they be given safe passsage and assistance. The party traveled through Galicia on the way to Einsiedel. Their numbers were increased by later arrivals, who were often relatives. In late 1794 they resettled at Urszulin, Poland. After the harvest of 1796 the settlers began to build dugouts and cottages about two miles away on a hill surrounded by marshy land. This became Michelsdorf. At Urszulin and Michelsdorf they were given financial assistance by government authorities. For the first few years they were exempted from taxes, rents, and military service. Each farmer was awarded up to 30 acres. Christian and Maria prospered at Michelsdorf. They purchased a depot house and a brewery, and Christian became a minister. He attended an assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in December of 1799 representing the *Littauer Gemein* [congregation east of Prussia] with Christian Graber and Johannes Flickinger. There he would have been reunited with Montbéliard ministers Hans Richen and Hans Roth and met Colmar minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ. He died after 1814; one source says he served as elder from 1810 until 1829. In 1815 the Urszulin and Michelsdorf settlers, dissatisfied with the poor quality of the soil, moved again to Poutschy [Ger. *Eduardsdorf*], Volhynia (now in the Western Ukraine).[243] Children of Christian Stŭckÿ and Maria Kauffmann include:

1) Verena/Freni Stŭckÿ was born July 2, 1789, and died Aug 4, 1789.
2) Christian Stŭckÿ was born at Einsiedel March 17, 1791, and died at Poutschy Aug. 11, 1851. On Feb. 3, 1807 at Urszulin he married Katharina Mündlein. She was born at Falkenstein, Galicia Jan. 16, 1791, and died at Poutschy July 13, 1855, a daughter of Joseph Mündlein and Elisabeth Maurer. Joseph Mündlein was a former Roman Catholic priest who became such a devout Amish Mennonite that he served as a minister and attended the assembly of 39 ministers at Essingen in 1799. Like his father and father-in-law, Christian also became a minister.
3) Maria Stŭckÿ was born at Urszulin Nov. 3, 1794, and died Feb. 10, 1851. In January of 1815 she married Christian Kauffmann. He was born Feb. 12, 1792, and died Nov. 2, 1861, a son of Peter Kauffmann and Barbara Graber.
4) Johann Stŭckÿ was born at Michelsdorf, Poland Jan. 11, 1797, and died March 14, 1856. On Dec. 11, 1814 at Urszulin or Michelsdorf he married Barbara Rupp. She was born circa 1800, and died in 1874. She was a daughter of Elisabeth Rupp, who was a widow with three daughters when she arrived at Poutschy after 1793.
5) Barbara Stŭckÿ was born at Michelsdorf March 3, 1800, and died there May 31, 1846. In 1822 at Michelsdorf she married Daniel Gering. He was born at Lublin, Poland circa 1800, and died at Poutschy June 30, 1857, a son of Moses Gering and Maria Hablutzel. On June 28, 1846 at Michalin, Russia (now in the Ukraine) he remarried to Anna Harms. She was born there Dec. 12, 1817, and died in Kansas, April 4, 1904. She remarried to Jacob Krehbiel Feb. 1, 1859. She is buried in First Mennonite Church Cemetery at Pretty Prairie, Kansas.
6) Jacob Stŭckÿ was born at Michelsdorf March 14, 1804, and died circa 1840.

[243] As noted in SCHRAG, someone researching the 1874 exodus of the Volhynian Amish Mennonites and their voyage to America might start with the passenger list of the *S.S. City of Richmond*, a ship that departed from Liverpool and Queenstown and arrived at New York Aug. 31, 1874.

On April 30, 1771 Hans/Jean remarried to Anna Wenger. The ceremony was entered in the register of Montbéliard ministers Hans Roth and Hans Richen. She was a daughter of Hans Wenger of the Blumenburgerwald. Hans, and possibly Anna, died between 1783 and 1791. Children of Hans/Jean Stŭckÿ and his second wife Anna Wenger include the three daughters who accompanied older half-brother Christian to Eastern Europe:

b. Catherine Stŭckÿ was born circa 1777. In 1798 at Michelsdorf she married Christian Graber. He was born at Montebéliard June 6, 1775, a son of Christian Graber and Maria Roth. He became a minister.

c. Barbara Stŭckÿ was born circa 1780. On Jan. 4, 1801 at Urszulin/Michelsdorf she married Johann Christian Graber. He was born at Montebéliard Aug. 5, 1779, and died at Urszulin/Michelsdorf Feb. 21, 1798, a son of Christian Graber and Maria Roth.

d. Freni Stŭckÿ was born circa 1783, and died at Poutschy Aug. 19, 1859. On Jan. 1, 1803 at Urszulin/Michelsdorf she married Joseph Schrag. He was born at Falkenstein, Galicia circa 1785, and died at Poutschy Aug. 19, 1959, a son of Joseph Schrag and Elizabeth Albrecht (see SCHROCK). Joseph was ordained as an Amish Mennonite minister at Doisdorf (now Zabara, Ukraine) in 1807, and became an elder in 1810.

Before 1751 Christen remarried to Barbara/Barbe Schlatter. She was born circa 1720, and died at Staffelfelden Jan. 11, 1792.[244]

They settled at Wintzenheim, Upper Alsace. This village on the Fecht River is sandwiched between Wihr-au-Val and Walbach on the west side, and Colmar on the east side. Recall from EGLI that Wintzenheim is now a district of Colmar; a part that ran across the boundary into Lower Alsace is now called Wintzenheim-Kochersberg.

The year 1763 was a key turning point in European history. On Feb. 2 the Treaty of Paris ended the Seven Years' War involving most of the major nations. But even Étienne François de Choiseul, the French Secretary of State for War and for Navy, admitted that he expected the fighting to resume once the participants had replenished their treasuries. Military training became mandatory for single young men. But 1763 was also the year that restrictions on travel were lifted.

The family relocated to Grandvillars in the Territoire de Belfort that year. After the move family events were entered in Amish Mennonite registers kept by the Montbéliard congregation (11 miles west of Grandvillars). There father Christen was generally referred to as Christen Stŭcki of the *Schloss* [Fr. *château*, manor house] at Grandvillars. See SCHLEGEL for background on this community and local history.

The ruined manor house that Christen and Barbara/Barbe lived in was built between 1330 and 1342, then heavily damaged and rebuilt in 1444. It would be demolished and rebuilt on the same site behind the village church in 1787.

Christen died Feb. 12, 1780. The event actually appears in two registers kept by Montbéliard ministers Hans Richen and Hans Roth; contrary to many sources, neither entry gave his age – he was simply described as *ein alter Mann*, an old man. Rich wrote that he died "*zŭ dam bier aŭf das Movval [illegible] gŭtt."* This may have been a farm in the former community of Moval (six miles northwest of Grandvillars), but more likely it was 'at Dampierre-les-Bois on the Moval farm' (five miles southwest of Grandvillars).

He was buried in the Burgerwald forest at Montebéliard. Recall from SCHLEGEL that this area is now the Mont Chevis Cemetery. The Rue du Mont Chevis is on the northwest outskirts of the city.

Circa 1787 widow Barbara/Barbe left the Territoire de Belfort and returned to Upper Alsace, settling among Schlatter relatives at Staffelfelden.

STAFFELFELDEN

The village of Staffelfelden is nestled among other small communities above the city of Mulhouse.

After the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) King Louis XIV presented it as a gift to the noble de Peschery family from Picardy. The de Peschery family suppressed any rights or small privileges that might normally exist under feudal systems, constructing a château and dungeon that still exist.

The family fled during the French Revolution of 1789. Because they had owned all of Staffelfelden, the community must have become available to claimants all at once. Their land was not properly nationalized and subdivided, but was simply taken up by others after being abandoned with little likelihood the prior owners would return. The de Peschery château/manor house was temporarily used as a prison for the members of other noble families.

The Stuckys from the valley of the Fecht River may have been invited to farm the land and provide food for, or simply act as servants for the prisoners in the manor house. The earliest Stucky family events recorded at Staffelfelden took place in 1790.

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[244] In Canton Bern a *Shlatter* is someone who lives near a marsh. Legal points of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname are Konolfingen and Signau.

Colonel Henry-Martin Baradin de Peschery died of wounds while commanding the 64th *Regiment d'Infantrie* in the Battle of Ocana Nov. 19, 1809. The last claimant died in 1811. In 1820 the family's former properties were taken over by the courts and sold to Nicolas Schlumberger, a businessman from Guebwiller.

During this time frame entries for numerous Anabaptist family events can be found in records there and in the villages touching its north side: Berrwiller, Bollwiller, Feldkirch, Ungersheim, and Pulversheim. Almost no mentions are found in the communities on the south side: Wittelsheim and Wittenheim.

The 1910 census of Staffelfelden showed only 253 inhabitants, and there is no evidence that the population was greater before this.

Why resettle at Staffelfelden? It could not be used for large-scale farming. Even in modern day, aerial views make it look like an island of wooded land. So leases may have been relatively low-cost. Many Swiss emigrant farm families practiced bee-keeping, then wove linen and flax during colder months. Fine linen and honey would have been profitable in the outdoor markets at nearby Mulhouse.

Widow Barbara/Barbe died at Staffelfelden Jan. 11, 1792. Her German-language civil death entry was the first in their new *état civil* register. It described her as Barbara Shlatterin, 73, mother of witness Claŭs Stŭckli, 32. She had been a resident of Staffelfelden for five years.

Any of their children who remained in the area of Grandvillars would have been drastically affected by the two sieges of the fortress at Belfort during the Napoleonic wars. See SCHLEGEL for background on these events.

It is probable that all five children of Christen Stŭckÿ and his second wife Barbara/Barbe Schlatter were born at Wintzenheim. Only one lacks documentation of this. They include:

2. Bendicht/Benoit Stŭckÿ was born at Wintzenheim circa 1749, and died at Lure, Haut-Saône Jan. 27, 1825. On May 4, 1779 on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars he married Anne/Anneli Eicher. Montbéliard minister Hans Roth/Jean Richen recorded the event, spelling their names Benndit Stŭcki and Annlli Eicher. She was born circa 1756, and died at Grandvillars Aug. 6, 1810, a daughter of Jacob Eicher and Marie Kropf. Her civil death entry ceated Aug. 7 described her as cultivator Anne Haiker, 54, a resident of Grandvillars and the wife of cultivator Benois Stoky. Widower Bendicht/Benoit was living at Lure (29 miles northwest of Grandvillars) by 1818. His civil death entry described him as miller Benoit Stoky, 69, a son of Christ Stoki and Marie Schlatre. Their children include:
    a. Peter Stŭckÿ/Stoky/Stuky was born at Grandvillars Jan. 10, 1783, and died in Williams County, Ohio in 1846. He is buried in Lockport Cemetery at Stryker, Williams County as 'Peter Stuky, 1781-1846.' His full identity and even the names of his children have been mysteries to descendants. For a lengthy explanation – not necessarily relevant to Central Illinois – see PETER STUKY in the Appendix.
    b. Jacob/Jacques Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars Feb. 1, 1785, and died at Montbéliard June 19, 1847. On Sept. 11, 1806 at Morvillars he married Verena/Freni Kauffman, who was also called Marchand (perhaps her mother remarried to a Marchand after being widowed in 1803). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Jacques Stoky, a resident of Morvillars who was born at Grandvillars Feb. 1, 1785, a son of Benois Stoky and Anne Ayeere. The bride was laborer Freni Kauffman, aged 21 years seven months. She was born at Florimont, a daughter of the deceased Pierre Kaffeman, who had died Oct. 7, 1803, and Elizabreth Clobelaine [Klopfenstein] of Florimont. One witness was laborer Pierre Stauffer, 22, a cousin of the groom living at Morvillars. Verena/Freni Kauffman died at Froidefontaine June 9, 1847, 10 days before her husband. Her civil death entry described her as Veronique Marchand, 63, wife of Jacques Shtoki. It was signed by her sons miller Jacques Shtoki, 28, and miller Josephe Shtoki, 23. Their signatures looked like Stoki and Stoki. Jacob/Jacques's civil death entry described him as Jacques Stocki, 63, born at Grandvillars and a resident of Froidefontaine, the widower of Véronique Kauffmann. It was witnessed by sons-in-law innkeeper Pierre Meyer, 43, and cultivator Pierre Schindler, 34.
    c. Christ/Christoph Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars Sept. 28, 1786, and died at Dampierre-les-Bois, Doubs Jan. 10, 1858. On Sept. 23, 1813 at Lure, Haut-Saône he married Elisabeth/Elise Stucky. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Christoph Stocky, 23, born at Grandvillars Sept. 28, 1786, and a resident of Lure. He was the son of miller Benoit Stoky, a resident of Lure who was present and consenting; and Anne Heicher, who had died at Grandvillars Aug. 5, 1806 [Aug. 6, 1810]. The bride was Elizabeth Stucky, 22, who was born at Staffelfelden July 21, 1792. She was a daughter of the deceased Nicolas Stucky, who had died at Staffelfelden Dec. 24, 1801; and the deceased Marie Hochstettler, who had died at Staffelfelden Feb. 29, 1804. [We will look at them later as Nicolas 'Claŭs' Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Hochstätter]. Signatures looked like Christ Stŭckÿ and Elisabeth Stŭckÿ. This was a grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and his second wife Barbara/Barbe Schlatter, and a grandddaughter of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Marie Haldimann. His civil death entry described him as Christ Stocky, 67, born at Grandvillars, a son of the deceased Benoit Stocky of Lure and the deceased Catherine Heiherre. He was the husband of Elise Stucky, 65, a resident of Le Feschette, Dampierre. The entry was witnessed by son and worker Christophe Stocky, 43, and cultivator Pierre Lecler, 63. Apparently Christ/Christopher and Elisabeth/Elise resettled at Dampierre-les-Bois in 1827, about the same time that a person who may or may not have been his brother or cousin Christophe Stucky died (he was a son of Jean Stucky and Sabine

Amstutz). (In 1828 Christophe Stucky's widow Susanne Catherine Leclere took her grown children to America, but no civil death entry marks the time of his death). The earliest indication of Christ/Christoph and Elisabeth/Elise living there is the birth of a son Septo Stucky on Nov. 15, 1827.[245]

d. Anne Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars circa 1788. On June 7, 1810 at Morvillars she married Joseph Joder. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Joder, aged 22 years eight months, born at Morvillars. His parents were the deceased cultivator Joseph Joder and Catherine Stauffer. The bride was Anne Stoky, aged 22 years and seven months, a daughter of cultivator Benoit Stoky and Anne Aicher, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included cultivator Pierre Stauffer, 29, cousin of the bride and resident of Morvillars; Criste Stoky, 21, brother of the bride; and Jacques Stoky, 29, brother of the bride. Their daughter Catherine Joder, born March 26, 1811, married Pierre Stŭckÿ/Stoki/Peter Stuckey and went to Ohio in 1837.

e. Catherine Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars May 15, 1788, and died in Fulton County, Ohio March 2, 1851. On Nov. 8, 1810 at Grandvillars she married Christe Klopfenstein. He was born at Froideval June 17, 1789, and died at Clinton, Fulton County June 12, 1873, a son of Peter Klopfenstein and Freni Joder. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Christe Klopfenstein, born at Froideval near Belfort June 17, 1789. His parents were Pierre Klopstein and Frenÿ Jöder, cultivators on Chalembert farm at Grandvillars. The bride was Catherine Stokÿ, age 22 years, five months, and 23 days. She was born at Grandvillars May 15, 1788, a daughter of Benois Stokÿ, a cultivator at Grandvillars, and the deceased Anne Haiker [Eicher]. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Elizabeth*, and arrived at New York July 27, 1824. The passenger list shows Christian Klopfanstein, 36, France; Catharina, 36; Peter, 19; Barbara, 11; Catharina, 9; Maria, 7; Ana, 5; Christian, 4; and Joseph, 1. Christe's death entry in the Fulton County register described him as farmer Chris Klopfenstein, 85, a native of France living at Clinton. They are buried in Johnson Cemetery at Burlington, Fulton County, Ohio.

f. Jean/Johannes Stŭckÿ was born at Morvillars (below Grandvillars) June 24, 1792, and died at Fêche-l'Eglise (adjacent below Grandvillars) Sept. 22, 1866. On Oct. 8, 1815 at Morvillars he married Catherine Frey. Their civil marriage entry described her as Catherine Frey, 22, born at Chatenoix [Chatenoix-les-Forges, Territoire de Belfort] June 22, 1792, a daughter of Jacques Frey and Anne Meyer. Witnesses included Benoit Stoky, father of the bride; Joseph Joder, brother-in-law; uncle-of-the-bride Joseph Frey, 56, a resident of Charmont; and uncle-of-the-bride Jean Meyer, 42, a resident of Charmont. They were farming on Lahÿ farm at Florimont, Territoire de Belfort in 1820-21; they are later found at Fêche-l'Eglise (adjacent below Grandvillars).

g. Nicolas Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars Jan. 31, 1795. On March 24, 1818 at Morvillars he married Marie Barbe Stauffer. She was born at Vezelois Dec. 30, 1793, a daughter of Michel Stauffer and Catherine Conrad. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farm equipment operator Nicolas Stoky, 25, born at Grandvillars, a son of cultivator Benoit Stucky and the deceased Anni [illegible], who had died at Grandvillars. The bride was Marie Barbe Stauffer, 25, a resident of Belfort who was a daughter of the deceased Michel Stauffer and the deceased Catherine Conrad. Witnesses included miller Jean Stoky, 26, a brother of the groom and resident of Berrwiller [adjacent to Staffelfelden, Upper Alsace]; cultivator Joseph Joder, 29, a cousin of the groom and resident of Morvillars; and cultivator Jean Scalenberg [Schellenberg], 25, a friend of the bride and resident of Morvillars. Her civil death entry was created at Grandvillars May 9, 1863. It described her as Elizabeth Stauffer, 69, a resident of Grandvillars who was born at Vezelois. She was a daughter of the deceased Michel Stauffer and the deceased Elizath Cuienrard. Her husband was farmer Nicolas Stucki of Grandvillars, 68. One witness was farmer Jean Graber, 45.

h. Elizabeth Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars Sept. 17, 1797. On May 3, 1827 at Grandvillars she married Peter/Pierre Amstutz. He was born at Normanvillars, Florimont Aug. 8, 1799, a son of Jean Ulrich Amstutz and Barbe Wenger (his civil birth entry was signed Hans Amstutz). Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Pierre Amstutz, aged 24 years, nine months, and 25 days. He was born at Florimont, a son of the deceased Jean Ulrich Amstutz, who died at Florimont May 7, 1824, and Barbe Waingre [Wenger], who was present and consenting. The bride was day laborer Elizabethe Sthoki, aged 29 years, eight months, and 17 days. She was born at Grandvillars, a daughter of the deceased Benoit Sthoki, who had died at Lure Jan. 28, 1825, and the deeased Anne Haikre [Eicher], who had died at Grandvillars Aug. 7, 1810 [Aug. 6, 1810]. Witnesses included laborer Jean Ulrich of Florimont, 36, a brother of the groom; laborer Christian Amstutz, 66, paternal uncle of the groom; laborer Christ Sthoki, 37, a resident of Dampierre, Doubs and brother of the bride; and laborer Joseph Joder, 40, a resident of Grandvillars and brother-in-law of the bride. Signatures looked like Pettnr am Stŭtz, Barbra Stŭckÿ [actually written with the pronunciation marks reversed, which we could not reproduce here; this suggests that the municipal clerk signed for her], Christ Stŭckÿ, Jean U. Amstutz, Christan Stŭckÿ, and Joseph Joder.

[245] Septo = Latin number seven.

i. Marie Stŭckÿ was born at Grandvillars July 27, 1800. Her civil birth entry had the most convoluted spellings of all: her parents were described as Pentigue Stoqui, farmer at the Grandvillars mill, and Anne Haiquette. Her father signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate. On Feb. 5, 1822 at Anteuil, Doubs she married Pierre Richard [derived from Ritschardt]. According to their civil marriage entry he was born at Autechaux-Roide, Doubs July 27, 1794, a son of Gaspart Richard and Elisabeth Riche. According to a marriage pre-announcement dated Jan. 6, 1822, preserved at Florimont, the groom was Pierre Richard, 26, a son of Caspard Richard and Barbe Riche. He was born at Tournedos, Beaume, Doubs.[246] The bride was Marie Stukÿ, 22, born at Grandvillars. She was a resident on the farm Lahÿ at Florimont.[247] Her parents were Benoit Stuky, a resident of Haute-Saône who was present and consenting, and the deceased Anne Eicher.

j. Benoit Stoki (twin) was born at Morvillars Dec. 7, 1802, and died at Delle, Territore de Belfort Jan. 25, 1876. His civil birth entry described his parents as miller Benoit Stoki and Anne Heigueur. His civil death entry described him as bachelor cultivator Benoit Stoki, 73, a resident of Delle. He was born at Morvillars, a son of the deceased Benoit Stoki and the deceased Anne Heigner.

k. Joseph Stoki (twin) was born at Morvillars Dec. 7, 1802, and died the same day.

3. Bäbi/Barbe Stŭckÿ was born at Wintzenheim circa 1751, and died at Pfastatt June 24, 1819. On Feb. 9, 1773 in the château at Grandvillars she married Christian/Chrétien/Christ Ummel, according to the register of Montbéliard ministers Hans Rich and Hans Roth (their names spelled Christen Ummell and Bäbi Stŭcki by minister Hans Richen). They went to Eastern Europe with minister Samuel Stoll in 1790, and Christ died at Urszulin or adjacent Michelsdorf in February of 1795. Barbe returned to live at Pfastatt after 1806. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Stocky, 68, born at Wintzenheim and a resident of Pfastatt, widow of the deceased Chrétien Umel. She had died at the tileworks on the Rue de Mulhausen outside Pfastatt. It was witnessed by her son cultivator Chrétien Umel, 40. Children of Babi/Barbe Stŭckÿ and Christian/Chrétien/Christ Ummel include:

a. Christian/Chrétien Ummel was born at Grandvillars in February of 1772, and died at Illzach April 6, 1856. On April 4, 1808 at Staffelfelden he married his cousin Barbe Stŭckÿ. She was born circa 1778, and died at Mulhouse May 17, 1824, a daughter of Niclaŭs/Claŭs Stŭckÿ and his first wife Anna Maria Zimmerman. Their German-language civil marriage entry called the groom Christian Humell. It gave his age as 36, and hers as 30. The bride's parents were misidentified as Christian Stŭckÿ and Anna Zimmerman. Witnesses included Joseph Joder the older and Joseph Joder the younger. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Stocki. It said she was born at Wintzenheim, a legitimate daughter of Nicolas Stocki and Marie Zimmerman. It was witnessed by Chrétien Umel, 48, and his brother-in-law Nicolas Schlegel, 43. On Jan. 28, 1825 at Pfastatt he remarried to Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Umel, 52, a resident of Mulhouse. He was born at Grandvillars in February of 1772, a son of the deceased Chrétien Umel, who had died *en Pologne*, and the deceased Barbe Stocky, who had died at Pfastatt June 24, 1819. He was the widower of Barbe Stucky, who had died at Mulhouse. The bride was described as Barbe Zimmerman, 32, a resident of Pfastatt. She was born at Graffenstaden [now Illkirch-Graffenstaden by Strasbourg] March 31, 1792. She was a daughter of cultivator Jean Zimmerman and Barbe Stocky, residents of Strasbourg. One witness was cultivator Jacques Gerig, 38, a brother-in-law of the bride. Christian/Chrétien signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate; the bride signed Barbara Zimmerman. This was a grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and his first wife Anne Roth, and a granddaughter of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. With the marriage Christian/Chrétien Ummel, whose mother Barbe Stŭckÿ had died in 1819, and whose first wife Barbe Stŭckÿ had died in 1824, gained a mother-in-law named Barbara Stucky/Barbe Stocky.

b. Verena Ummel was born circa 1778, and died at Pfastatt Sept. 6, 1812. She married Daniel Frutiger. He was born at Sigriswil, Canton Bern Jan. 5, 1777, and died at Pfastatt July 9, 1824, a son of Ulric Frŭtiger and Barbara Sigrist. On Nov. 30, 1812 at Pfastatt Daniel remarried to Catherine Stocky/Stucky. She was born at Wihr-au-Val Nov. 30, 1788, and died at Illzach June 7, 1857, a daughter of Nicolas Stucky and Barbara Roth. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Umel, 36, the groom's brother-in-law.

c. Magdalena/Madeleine Ummel was born at Grandvillars Oct. 19, 1783, and died at Mulhouse Aug. 17, 1849. On Jan. 24, 1806 at Pfastatt she married Nicolas Schlegel. He was born at Rougemont, Territoire de Belfort April 20, 1782, and died at Mulhouse April 4, 1842, a son of Nicolas Schlegel and Madeleine Ummel. See SCHLEGEL for background on this couple. (Yes, Nicolas and his wife had the same names as his parents).

d. Catherine Ummel was born circa 1787. She married Jean Roth and Simon Neuhaŭser; see NEUHAUSER for background on her second marriage at Réchésy, Territoire de Belfort Feb. 11, 1815.

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[246] Tournedos is now L'Isle-sur-le-Doubs, 27 miles west of Florimont. Beaume is now Beaume-les-Dames or Baume-les-Dames, 16 miles west of L'Isle-sur-le-Doubs. Anteuil is six miles south of L'Isle-sur-le-Doubs.

[247] The farm location is now called Le Fahy, on the Rue du Fahy below the church at Florimont.

4. Anne Marie Stŭckÿ was born at Wintzenheim circa 1751, and died at Staffelfelden Dec. 10, 1813. On July 12, 1778 she married Joseph Joder, according to the Montbéliard register of minister Hans Richen (he spelled their names Joseph Jodter and Marrÿ Stŭcki). He was born circa 1750, and died at Hirtzbach May 31, 1825, a son of Johannes/Jans/Jean Joder and Freni Zimmerman. This was a grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and his first wife Anne Roth, and a granddaughter of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. Background on this couple and their children can be found in YODER.

5. Freni/Véronique Stŭckÿ was born circa 1755 (likely at Wintzenheim), and died at Dornach Jan. 22, 1802. On July 12, 1778 her marriage to widower Johannes/Hans/Jean Roth was recorded by ministers Hans Roth and Hans Richen at Montbéliard. He was born on Les Gouttes farm between Exincourt (three miles southeast of Montbéliard) and Montbéliard Nov. 18, 1740, and died at Dornach Jan. 26, 1802, a son of Jacob/Jacques Roth and Anna/Anneli Freÿ. Her civil death entry described her as Ferena Staky, 46. See ROTH for background on this couple.

6. Niclaŭs/Claŭs Stŭckÿ was born at Wintzenheim circa 1757, and died in the home of son Nicolas at Bourbach-le-Bas June 25, 1839. Circa 1778 he married Anna Maria Zimmerman. She may have died in or soon after childbirth.
    a. Barbe Stŭckÿ was born at Wintzenheim circa 1778, and died at Mulhouse May 17, 1824. On April 4, 1808 at Staffelfelden she married her cousin Christian/Chrétien Ummel. He was born at Grandvillars in February of 1772, and died at Illzach April 6, 1856, a son of Christian/Chrétien Ummel and Barbe Stŭckÿ. Their German-language entry called him Christian Humell. It gave his age as 36, and hers as 30. The bride's parents were described as Christian Stŭckÿ and Anna Zimmerman. Witnesses included Joseph Joder the older and Joseph Joder the younger. Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Stocki. It said she was born at Wintzenheim, a legitimate daughter of Nicolas Stocki and Marie Zimmerman. It was witnessed by Chrétien Umel, 48, and his brother-in-law Nicolas Schlegel, 43. On Jan. 28, 1825 at Pfastatt he remarried to Barbara/Barbe Zimmerman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Chrétien Umel, 52, a resident of Mulhouse. He was born at Grandvillars in February of 1772, a son of the deceased Chrétien Umel, who had died *en Pologne*, and the deceased Barbe Stocky, who had died at Pfastatt June 24, 1819. He was the widower of Barbe Stucky, who had died at Mulhouse. The bride was described as Barbe Zimmerman, 32, a resident of Pfastatt. She was born at Graffenstaden [now Illkirch-Graffenstaden by Strasbourg] March 31, 1792. She was a daughter of cultivator Jean Zimmerman and Barbe Stocky, residents of Strasbourg.

    Circa 1789 Niclaŭs/Claŭs remarried to Elisabeth Hochstettler. She was born circa 1764, and died at Morschwiller-le-Bas Oct. 24, 1818, a daughter of Jacob Hochstettler and Elisabeth Freÿ. Her civil death entry described her as Elisabeth Hoffstattler, 54, and said that she had died in the house at the château. One witness was her husband Nicolas Stucky, master servant [Fr. *maitre domestique*] for Antoine Strach at the *Château de Niedermorschweiler*. The Renaissance-style castle was constructed in 1726. The property was nationalized during the French Revolution. In 1805 it was purchased by Antoine Strach, the mayor of adjacent Lutterbach. Niclaŭs/Claŭs's civil death entry described him as day laborer Nicolas Stucky, 82, born at Wintzenheim, the widower of Elisabeth Hochstettler. It was witnessed by his son farmer Nicolas Stucky, 47. Children of Niclaŭs/Claŭs Stŭckÿ and his second wife Elisabeth Hochstettler include:
    b. Catherine Stucky. On May 26, 1810 at Pfastatt a child was born to Catherine Stucky, outside of marriage. The civil birth entry described the mother as a daughter of day laborer Nicolas Stocky, 50, a local resident. The child died at Pfastatt July 7, 1812.
    c. Nicolas/Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ or Nicholas Stucky was born at Staffelfelden Nov. 25, 1790, and died at Linn Grove, Adams County, Indiana Aug. 22, 1857. On Mary 24, 1821 at Pfastatt he married Barbara/Barbe Frutiger. She was born at Pfastatt May 31, 1802, and died in childbirth at Bourbach-le-Bas June 15, 1842, a daughter of Daniel Frutiger and his first wife Verena Ummel. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Nicolas Stocky, 31, born at Staffelfelden Nov. 25, 1790, a resident of Niedermorschwiller [Fr. *Morschwiller-le-Bas*]. He was a son of Nicolas Stocky, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Elisabeth Hochstettler, who had died at Niedermorschwiller. At the time of the wedding the bride's stepmother (Daniel's second wife) was Catherine Stocky, a granddaughter of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ (born before 1722, married to Marie Haldimann). Widower Nicolas applied for a passport at Colmar June 24, 1846. His application describes him as farmer Nicolas Stucky, 55, born at Staffelfelden and a resident of Bourbach-le-Bas. His stated destination was New York. Nicolas departed from Le Havre on the *Memphis*, and arrived at New York Sept. 15, 1846. The passenger list shows farmer Nicolas Stocki, 56, France; Nicolas, 21; Jacob, 20; Christian, 16; Cath., 13; Benedict, 10; Barb, 9; Anna, 7; Christina, 6; Barb Stucki, 46 [Nicolas's sister]; Barb Schlatter, 21; Christian, 18; Simon Joder, 55; and Anna, 49 [Nicolas's sister Marie Stucky and her husband]. They first went to Wayne County, Ohio, then on June 3, 1847 purchased 144 acres in Adams County, Indiana. Their household is found on the 1850 census of French Township as farmer Nicholas Stukey, 25, Germany; Franey [Verena Schmucker], 22; Nicholas, 60; Christina, 10; Anna, 11; and Benedict, 14; all from Germany. Nicolas/Nicholas Stucky is buried as 'Nicholas Stuckey, Alsace, 1790-1857' in Moser Cemetery at French Township. Children of Nicolas Stucky and Barbara/Barbe Frutiger include:

French Township is on the northwest corner of the city of Berne. Berne is in Monroe and Wabash Townships. Both locations are in Adams County, 35 miles south of Fort Wayme, Indiana.

1) Nicolas/Nicholas Stucky was born at Morschwiller-le-Bas Jan. 14, 1825, and died in Adams County, Indiana Sept. 8, 1887. He married Verena/Fanny Schmucker. She was born at Les Fontenelles, Doubs May 30, 1827, and died at Leo, Allen County July 10, 1901, a daughter of Daniel Schmucker and Barbara Yoder (who was a daughter of Joseph Joder and Marie Stucky). They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne, Adams County.
2) Jacques/Jacob Stucky was born at Morschwiller-le-Bas Sept. 26, 1826, and died at Monroe, Adams County March 1, 1895. He married Barbara Gerig. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 17, 1830, and died in Wabash Township, Adams County Sept. 3, 1913, a daughter of Jean Gerig and Magdalena Ruby. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne.
3) Chrétien/Christian Stucky was born at Richwiller July 23, 1828, and died in Adams County July 4, 1906. His civil birth entry described his parents as farmer Nicolas Stucky, 38, and Barbe Frutiger, 25. One witness was farmer Chrétien Schlatter, 57. The father's signature looked like Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ. On Jan. 3, 1856 he married Fanny Moser. She was born at Orrville, Wayne County, Ohio March 10, 1838, and died at Hartford, Adams County June 14, 1912, a daughter of Abraham Moser and Catherine Eicher. They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne.
4) Benoit Stucky was born at Richwiller May 21, 1830, and died there Dec. 21, 1830.
5) Catherine Stucky was born at Richwiller May 6, 1832, and died in Adams County May 22, 1893. She married Joseph Joder/Yoder. He was born at Steinbach, Upper Alsace March 31, 1823, and died June 21, 1911. His paternal grandparents were Joseph Joder and Anne Marie Stucky. His parents were Johannes/Jean Joder and Marie Conrad. YODER told the story of their immigration voyage in 1845, when Marie had a heart attack and died at sea only a few days before the arrival at New York. Johannes/Jean is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne, under a modern bronze plaque that inexplicably says 'Mary (Schmucker) - 1840, buried at sea, Johannes Yoder, 1795-1878.' His son Joseph and Catherine are buried nearby.
6) Benoit/Benedict/Benjamin Stucky was born at Bourbach-le-Bas Dec. 11, 1834, and died in Adams County March 7, 1873. He married Anna Moser/Mosser.[248] She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Jan. 14, 1839, and died at Berne, Adams County April 7, 1912, a daughter of Abraham Moser and Catherine Eicher. On Nov. 24, 1878 at Fort Wayne she remarried to Michael Zehr. He was born in Stark County, Ohio Oct. 8, 1844, and died at Fort Wayne July 13, 1896, a son of Jean/John Zehr and Catherine Bachmann.[249] They are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne.
7) Barbe/Barbara Stucky was born at Bourbach-le-Bas June 3, 1836, and died May 2, 1907. She married Peter Moser/Mosser. He was born at Orrville, Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 6, 1830, and died in Adams County Jan. 22, 1912, a son of Abraham Moser and Catherine Eicher. They are found on the 1870 census of Hartford, Adams County as farmer Peter Moser, 39, Ohio; Barbara, 34, France; Susan, 10, Indiana; Noah, 8, Indiana; Henry, 5, Indiana; and Sarah, 1, Indiana. Only one household removed (on the following page) was 'farmer Henry Egley, 45, Baden,' who established the Egly Amish/Defenseless Mennonite Church, later called Evangelical Mennonites. Peter's sister Lydia Moser married one of Henry Egly's sons. Barbe/Barbara and Peter are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne.
8) Anne/Anna Stucky was born at Bourbach-le-Bas May 4, 1838. She married widower Joseph Moser. He was born at Thiancourt in the Territoire de Belfort May 10, 1824, a son of Abraham Moser and Catherine Eicher. They are found next door to the Yoder household (her older sister Catherine married to Joseph Joder/Yoder) on the 1860 census of Wabash: farmer

[248] Abraham Moser (1794-1876) and Catherine Eicher (1801-1870) married at Montbéliard May 3, 1821. They sailed from Le Havre with a Litwiller party on the brig *Abby Jones*, and arrive at New York July 12, 1827. The passenger list shows farmer Abram Moser, 33, destination Ohio; Catherine, 26; Christian, 5; Joseph, 3; and Jacob, 1. (See PASSENGER LISTS in the Appendix).

[249] Jean/John Zehr and Catherine Bachmann married at Obernai, Lower Alsace March 12, 1837. They departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Rhone*, and arrived at New York July 11 or 17, 1841. The passenger list shows Jacques Ropp, 26, Baden…consecutive entries for Anna Sommer, 18; farmer John Zehr, 36; Catherine, 29; Christian, 3; Catherine, 1; and Barbara Bachman, 62…one passenger later farmer John Rupp, 29; Maddelena, 27; Elizabeth, 1; Peter, 25; and Barbara, 31…farther down the page John Sommer and Joseph Sommer, no ages given. See LITWILLER, ONTARIO LITWILLERS for the names of Litwillers, Roths, and Liechtis who sailed on this voyage and settled at Wilmot, Ontario.

Joseph Moser, 39, France; Anna, 25, France; Elize, 15, Ohio; Emanuel, 11, Ohio; Jonathan, 4, Indiana; and Peter, 1, Indiana. The 1870 census of Wabash Township has farmer Joseph Moser, 48, Switzerland; Anna, 36, France; Samuel, 5; Ctherine, 5; Rachel, 4; and Rosena, 2; all children born in Indiana, next door to the Yoders. The 1880 census of Medford, Reno County, Kansas shows farmer Joseph Moser, 55, Alsace; Anna, 44, Alsace; Samuel, 18, Indiana; Catharine, 15, Indiana; Rachel, 13, Indiana; Rosanna, 12, Indiana; and Amos, 9, Indiana. Joseph Moser is buried in the Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery at Berne, where an obelisk says he died June 11, 1902, aged 78 years, 1 month, and 1 day (May 10, 1824). Although the birth date would be inaccurate, Anne/Anna was likely the 'Anna, wife of Joseph Mosier, born Jan. 23, 1836, died June 30, 1884' buried in Sterling Mennonite Cemetery at Nickerson, Reno County, Kansas (adjacent on the east side of Medford), the same location where her sister Christine/Christina is buried.

9) Christine/Christina Stucky was born at Bourbach-le-Haut April 2, 1840, and died at Sterling, Kansas Nov. 25, 1910. On Jan. 15, 1863 in Adams County she married Joseph Zimmerman. He was born at Lörrach, Baden Feb. 2, 1833, and died at Sterling Feb. 25, 1917, a son of Johannes/John Zimmerman and Anna Schneider. See ZIMMERMAN, DESCENDANTS OF JOHANNES ZIMMERMAN for background on this couple.

10) Vérène Stucky was born at Bourbach-le-Bas June 15, 1842. Her mother died in childbirth, and she died at Bourbach-le-Bas July 26, 1842.

d. Jacob/Jacques Stŭckÿ was born at Staffelfelden Feb. 25, 1793 (per marriage entry). No civil birth entry is found there, but the *état civil* record-keeping system was still relatively new in early 1793. On Jan. 13, 1842 at Raedersheim he married Marianne Stucky, who was 25 years younger. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as day laborer Jacques Stucky, 49, a resident of Raedersheim. He was born at Staffelfelden Feb. 25, 1793, a son of the deceased Nicolas Stucky, who died at Bourbach-le-Bas June 25, 1839, and the deceased Elisabeth Hoffstattler, who died at Niedermorschwiller Oct. 24, 1818. The bride was Marianne Stucky, 24, a resident of Raedersheim. She was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine [Ger. *Heilige Kreuz*](eight miles southeast of Wintzenheim), June 24, 1817 [no civil entry is found there], a daughter of the deceased David Stucky, who had died at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine Sept. 10, 1831, and the deceased Anne Marie Schlatter, who had died at Rustenhart Oct. 23, 1824. Witneses included farmer Joseph Schlegel, 32; cultivator Joseph Peterschmitt, 52; and André Kroff [Kropf], 23. The groom signed Jacob Stŭckÿ; the bride did not sign, and it was stated that she was illiterate.

e. Johannes/Jean Stucky was born at Pfastatt Aug. 1, 1794, and died at Pfastatt Jan. 5, 1798, age three years, five months. The death was reported by father Claŭs Stŭcki, 33, and Christen Stŭcki, 33, of Kingersheim.

f. Marie Stucky was born at Pfastatt Jan. 23, 1796, and died in Indiana Dec. 20, 1865. Before 1846 she married Simon Joder/Yoder. He was born at Danjoutin June 4, 1789, and died in Indiana in 1870, a son of Christen/Christe Joder and Liesi Lehmann. See YODER for background on this couple.

g. Barbara Stucky was born at Pfastatt Feb. 2, 1799, and died there Jan. 6, 1800.

h. Barbara/Barbe Stucky was born at Pfastatt Nov. 26, 1800, and died in Adams County, Indiana in 1860. On Dec. 30, 1818 at Richwiller she married Nicolas Schlatter. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Nicolas Schlatter, 30, born at Richwiller, a son of cultivator Chrétien Schlatter, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Chretienne Freÿ. The bride was Barbe Stokÿ, 18, a resident of Niedermorschwiller. She was born at Pfastatt, a daughter of Nicolas Stokÿ and the deceased Elisabethe Hochstetler. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Schlatter, 49, brother of the groom; Chrétien Schlatter the younger, 23, a nephew of the groom; and Nicolas Stokÿ, 27, brother of the bride and a resident of Niedermorschwiller. Nicolas died at Richwiller May 19, 1832. His death was witnessed by brother-in-law Nicolas Stucky, 42. Barbara/Barbe sailed on the *Memphis* with her brother Nicolas and sister Marie in 1846. She is found on the 1850 census of French Township in Adams County, Indiana living in the household of her older sister Marie: Simon Yutter, 62; Mary, 53; Barbara Stuckey, 50; and Christian Slaghter [Schlatter]; all Germany.

i. Fronica Stoky/Freni Stucky was born at Dornach June 22, 1804, and died at Pfastatt Sept. 2, 1806. Her civil birth entry described her father as Niclaŭs Stoki, 50. It was witnessed by Daniel Frutiger. Signatures looked like Niclaus Stŭckÿ and Daniel Frŭtiger. Her civil death entry called her Verene, and was witnessed by her father day daborer Nicolas Stuckÿ, 46.

j. Anne Stucky was born at Pfastatt April 11, 1806, and died there June 12, 1808.

k. Benoit Stucky was born at Pfastatt Jan. 4, 1809. His civil birth entry described his parents as day laborer Niclaus Stockÿ, 47, and Elisabeth Hochstettler.

l. Joseph Stucky was born at Pfastatt April 28, 1812.

— Jean Stucky may or may not belong in this family. His identification as a son of Christen could be assumed, resting on the probability of the relationship given a coincidence of geography - his residence at Dampierre-les-Bois, the place where Christen died in 1780. (This community is on the southwest corner of Grandvillars; it is also found as

Dampierre-outre-les-Bois, Dampierre 'next to or beyond the woods'). Additionally, when Jean's son died, the son's widow turned over their farm to a Stŭckÿ who would have been her husband's cousin. Yet, without knowing Jean's birth year, it is impossible even to identify his mother or birthplace - was his mother first wife Anne Roth or second wife Barbara/Barbe Schlatter? Was he born at Wintzenheim? And what of the clash of names: could one son be named Hans/Jean (born circa 1739) and a half-brother born later be named Jean? The answer to the last question is problematic. Even less is known with certainty about Hans/Jean (including his full proper name) than about Jean. But the answer may also be 'none of the above.' Jean's children married local residents. We can only conclude that Jean was a Stucky who lived at Dampierre-les-Bois, and may have been related in some way to the Anabaptist family at adjacent Grandvillars. Jean married Sabine Amstutz, a daughter of Johann Heinrich/Jean Henri Amstutz and his second wife Verena/Françoise Kaufmann. Jean died before their son's wedding in 1798. Sabine died at Dampierre-les-Bois Oct. 26, 1809. Unfortunately civil records for Dampierre-les-Bois from the years 1804-1812 were not imaged for the department's online archives; this does not necessarily mean that they were destroyed altogether, but may mean that they were not reproduced because they were damaged or barely legible. Jean and Sabine had a son and a daughter who resided at Dampierre-les-Bois:

a. Christophe Stucky (as he wrote his name on his marriage entry) or Jean Christophe Stoky/Stoki or J.C. Stoki (as he wrote his name after marriage) was born circa 1776. On May 26, 1798 at Dampierre-les-Bois he married Susanne Catherine Leclere. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Christophe Stoky, 23, a son of the deceased Swiss-German [Fr. *Suisse Allemand*] Jean Stoky and Sabine Amstutz. The bride was Susanne Catherine Leclere, 22, a daughter of the deceased David Leclere the younger and Marie Elisabeth Perrenot. Witnesses included Pierre Brand, maternal uncle of the groom [he was married to Sabine's sister Marguerite Amstutz, who died at Dampierre-les-Bois Dec. 12, 1795]; Georges-Frédéric Perrenot, uncle of the bride; and Jean-Jacques Leclere, brother of the bride. Signatures looked like Christophe Stucky and Susanne Catherine le cler. Presumably Christophe/Jean Christophe died circa 1827, though no entry is found at Dampierre-les-Bois. In 1827 his cousin Christ/Christoph Stucky (a son of Bendicht/Benoit and Anne/Anneli Eicher, married to Elisabeth/Elise Stucky) came from Haute-Saône to resettle at Dampierre-les-Bois; the first indication of his presence was the birth of a child named Septo [the Latin number seven] Nov. 15, 1827. Susanne and her children sailed from Le Havre on the *Pallas*, and arrived at New York June 14, 1828. The passenger list shows Susan Le Cler Stoky, 51, France; Perre [Pierre], 26; Henry, 23; Frea [Fred], 21; Charles, 17; Eliz., 30 or 80 [Susanne's mother Marie Elizabeth Perrenot?]; Louisa, 3 [Louise Julie Stoky, born to Pierre Frédéric Stocky and Augustine Bietry?]; Jean G. Fericot, 27; Eliz., 29; Perre [Pierre], 6; and George H., 3. Children of Christophe Stucky and Susannee Catherine Leclere born at Dampierre-les-Bois include:
    1) Susanne Elisabeth Stocky was born April 25, 1799, and died in Wood County, Ohio June 30, 1871. On April 17, 1823 at Dampierre-les-Bois she married Jean-George Ferciot. He was described on their civil marriage entry as a 22-year-old cultivator born at Allenjoie June 30, 1801, a son of cultivator George-Frédéric Ferciot and Marie Thérese Barbier. Witnesses included maternal uncle Frédéric Lecler, 39, *ancien d l'Eglise* [ordinarily this would mean 'elder of the church,' but it may pertain to the nearby village Fêche-l'Église]]; and maternal uncle cultivator Jean-Jacques Leclere, 48. They sailed on the *Pallas* with sons Pierre and George. After having daughters in New York, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia, they settled as farmers in Lovett's Grove at Plain, Wood County, Ohio. Jean-George (now George Ferciot) died in Wood County Sept. 22, 1874. They are buried in Union Hill Cemetery at Bowling Green, Wood County.
    2) Pierre Frédéric Stocky/Peter Stokey was born Aug. 6, 1803. His father signed the entry JC Stoky. On March 12, 1825 at Dampierre-les-Bois he married Augustine Bietry. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as ironworker [Fr. *ouvrier toureur en fer*] Pierre Frédéric Stoky, 21, born at Dampierre Aug. 6, 1803, a son of Jean Christophe Stokey and Susanne Lecler, who were present and consenting. The bride was Augustine Bietry, 17, born at Dampierre Jan. 1, 1808, a daughter of Joseph Bietry and Ursule Broyer, who were present and consenting. Witnesses included brother-in-law of the groom and farm equipment operator Jean George Ferçiot, 25; cousin by marriage George Frederic Drot, 26; and cousin by marriage to the bride and watchmaker [Fr. *ouvrier horloger*] Charles Perrenot, 40. Signatures looked like Frederic Stocky, Jean Christophe Stoky, Susann lecler, Jean George Ferciot, and G. F. Drot. Pierre/Peter accompanied his widowed mother and siblings to America in 1828, taking one of his two daughters with him. Peter Stokey is found living next door to Frederick Stokey on the 1840 census of Howell, Monmouth County, New Jersey: one male 30-39 years of age; one female 20-29; one female 15-19; and one female 5-9. Did Augustine follow him to America, and was she the female 20-29? She would have been 22.
        a) Louise Julie Stoky was born at Dampierre-les-Bois Aug. 12, 1825. She was likely the 'Louisa, 3' on the *Pallas* passenger list.
        b) Julie-Judith Stoky was born at Dampierre-les-Bois Aug. 28, 1827. Her father signed the entry P F Stocky. When one-year-old 'Judith-Julie Stoky' died at

Dampierre-les-Bois Aug. 26, 1828, her civil death entry described her as a daughter of Augustine Bietry living at Dampierre and Pierre-Frédéric Stoky living in America.

3) Hanrÿ Stoki/Henry Stoky or Stokey was born Feb. 12, 1806, and died at Parish, Oswego County in November of 1867. He was naturalized as Henry Stokey at Mexico, Oswego County June 4, 1839, and is found on censuses there in 1840 and 1860. As Henry Stokey he married Elizabeth. The 1860 census has them as day laborer Henry Stoky, 56, France; Elizabeth, 52, France; and Louisa, 18, New York. Henry is buried in French/French Street Cemetery at Hastings, Oswego County, New York.

4) Frédéric Stoki/Frederick Stokey was born July 24, 1808, and died at Wall Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey Feb. 4, 1882. His civil birth entry described his father as cultivator Jean Chrit Stoki, 32, and he signed J. Christophe Stoky. As Frederick K. Stokey he married Dorothy/Dorothea/Dollie Burdge at Howell, Monmouth County Oct. 20, 1832. She was born in New Jersey circa 1813, a daughter of John Burdge and Sarah Veriote. Frederick Stokey is found next door to Peter Stockey on the 1840 census of Howell, Monmouth County, New Jersey in 1840: one male 30-39 years of age; one male 5-9; one male under 5; one female 20-29; and two females under 5. The 1850 census of Wall, Monmouth Township has storekeeper Frederick Stoky, 40. France; Dorathea, 46, New Jersey; John, 16; Susan, 14; Frederick, 12; Sarah, 11; Henry, 9; Fanny, 6; and Amelia, 3, all children born in New Jersey. *The Freehold Transcript*, Feb. 15, 1907: "Mrs. Dorothea Stokey died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Alexander Hurley at Glendola, Monday, February 4, 1907, of old age in her 94th year. She was the widow of Frederick Stokey of Allaire [Allaire Village within Allaire State Park in Wall Township], who died February 4, 1882. Mrs. Stokey was the mother of eight children, four sons and four daughters, five of whom still survive her, two sons and three daughters: John C. of Asbury Park; Peter E. of Manasquan; Mrs. Isaiah Hankins of Freehold, Mrs. Alexander Hurley of Glendola, and Mrs. William Cox of Brooklyn, New York. Also 39 grandchildren, 72 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Alexander Hurley, with interment at Glendola Cemetery." Glendola Cemetery is located at Wall.

5) Pierre Charle Stoki/Charles Stokey was born Jan. 28, 1811, and died at Canton, Ohio April 4, 1872. His civil birth entry was signed Jean Christophe Stoky. On Sept. 9, 1837 at Philadelphia as Charles Stokey he married Marie/Mary Eicher. She was born at Audincourt, Doubs Aug. 4, 1813, and died at Canton Aug. 11, 1891, a daughter of Jacob Eicher and Marie Riche. As a widow Marie/Mary is found on the 1880 census of Canton, Ohio: Mary Stokey, 65, France; bolt maker Daniel, 30, Ohio; Lydia, 24, Ohio; dry goods clerk Christena, 22, Ohio; and dressmaker Elizabeth, 20, Ohio. Pierre Charles and Marie/Mary are buried in West Lawn Cemetery at Canton.

b. Marie Elizabeth Stoky was born Jan. 1, 1778, and died at Dampierre-les-Bois Nov. 13, 1846. On Oct. 22, 1800 at Dampierre-les-Bois she married Georges-Frédéric Drotz. He was born at Dampierre-les-Bois Dec. 13, 1777, and died there Dec. 17, 1839, a son of Jean Pierre Drotz and Marguerite Bouthenot. Their civil marriage entry described the bride as Marie Elizabeth Stoky, 22, a local resident who was born at Dampierre-les-Bois Jan. 1, 1778. Her parents were the deceased Jean Stoky and Sabine Amstutz. Witnesses included cultivator Jean George Pigot, 63, an uncle of the groom; and Pierre Brand, an uncle of the bride [he was married to Sabine's sister Marguerite Amstutz]. Signatures looked like Elizabeth Stouky, George Frie. Drot, and Sabine Amstutz. Marie Elizabeth's civil death entry described her as Elizabeth Stoky, 68, the widow of the deceased Georges-Frédéric Drotz. Her parents were the deceased Jean Stoky and the deceased Sabine Stoutz [Amstutz].

NICOLAS STŬCKY/STŬCKŸ

Nicolas Stŭcky/Stŭckÿ was born before 1719, and died before the marriage of his daughter Barbe Dec. 22, 1785.

He first married Marie Haldimann. She died before 1758.

Descendants of Nicolas lived at Wihr-au-Val. This community and Walbach are adjacent to Wintzenheim, which was mentioned earlier as a home to Christen. All three communities are on the Fecht River, west of the city of Colmar.

Children of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and his first wife Marie Haldimann include:

1. Jacob/Jacques Stŭckÿ was born in 1739 or earlier (proposed solely on the birth year of his first known child, born 1760 or earlier), and died at Liestal after 1767. Circa 1761 he married Marie Roth. Circa 1767 they were living on the *Ferme du Lameysberg*, a dairy farm five miles southwest of the village of Münster, and now within the community boundaries of Breitenbach. It is still an active producer of Münster cheeses [Fr. *fromagerie*]. It is likely

that they resettled 60 miles to the southeast at an Anabaptist settlement in the forest at Liestal before 1777, the year a son resettled in an adjacent village. Liestal, which is now in Canton Basel-Landschaft, is 10 miles southeast of the city of Basel, and less than five miles south of the Rhine River border with Baden. It was an out-of-the-way location that has now gone back to forest. What would draw Jacob/Jacques to Liestal? Perhaps he had heard about it from the Stauffers related to Michel Stauffer of Binningen. Binningen was a center of Anabaptist activity with participants coming for services from as far as the city of Basel, 11 miles to the northwest. Perhaps he simply chose to resettle in a location more favorable to dairy farming. Children of Jacob/Jacques Stŭckÿ and Marie Roth may include:

a. Christian/Chrétien Stŭckÿ/Stokÿ was born in 1760 or earlier, and died at Liestal March 19, 1786. He married Anne Marie Schwari/Schwarÿ. She was born at Le Muesbach (nine miles southeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines) circa 1760, and died at Heimersdorf (adjacent above Feldbach) Dec. 14, 1829. Their household is found as a farmer, his wife, and one child on a 1783 census of Anabaptists in Basel at Bubendorf, a village adjacent below Liestal (see more on this census in the Appendix). That census also said that he had arrived at Bubendorf circa 1777. Following Christian/Chrétien's death Anne Marie remarried to day laborer Christian Sommer. He was born circa 1749. They were living at Schweighouse-Thann [Ger. *Schweighausen*] in 1808. Anne Marie's civil death entry described her as Anne Marie Schwarÿ, 69, widow of the deceased Chrétien Sommer, born at *Moschbach canton de Sainte Marie*, and a resident of Heimersdorf. It was witnessed by her son-in-law Peter/Pierre Neŭhaŭser, 50. Children of Anne Marie Schwari/Schwarÿ and her first husband Christian/Chrétien Stucky include:

1) Joseph Stucky was born at Schweighouse-Thann circa 1781. He married there Dec. 31, 1808. His wife was identified in PETERSMITH as Elisabeth Peterschmitt, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Petter Schmid and Verena/Frena Wagner. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as day laborer Joseph Stuki, 27, born at Schweighausen. He was a son of the deceased Chrétien Stuki, who had died at Liestel [Liestal] March 19, 1786; and day laborer Anne Marie Schwarri, a resident of Schweighausen. The bride was described as Elisabeth Schmid, 26, a servant at Aspach. She was born at Bollwiller, a daughter of the deceased Jean Schmid, who had died at Bollwiller May 26, 1784; and Vérène Wagner, a day laborer at Ruederbach. Witnesses included stepfather-of-the-groom Chrétien Sommer, 59, a day laborer; farmer Joseph Schürch, 32; and cultivator Jean de Dietrich, 56; all residents of Schweighausen. The groom signed with an 'x,' indicating he was illiterate. They immigrated in 1834. The 1850 census of St. Clair, Butler County, Ohio has them in the household of their daughter: farmer John Fry, 48, France; Catharine [Stucky], 40, France; Josep, 22, France; John, 18, France; Fanny, 16, New York; Catharine, 12, Ohio; Anna, 10, Ohio; Barbary, 8, Ohio; Elizabeth, 6, Ohio; Christena, 4, Ohio; Mary, 2, Ohio; farmer Joseph Stucky, 68, France; and Elizabeth, 72, France. They were one page removed from Bartley [Bartholomew] Zook, who resettled at Elm Grove.

a) Catherine Stucky was born at Schweighouse-Thann June 3, 1810, and died in McLean County Dec. 1, 1881. Her civil birth entry was witnessed by day laborer Chrétien Sommer, 63. On Feb. 21, 1828 at Altkirch, Upper Alsace she married cultivator Jean Frey/John Fry. He was born at Montbéliard July 8, 1801, a son of Chrétien Frey and Elisabeth Eicher. He signed the entry Johannes Freÿ. They immigrated with her father in 1834. In 1854 the family moved from St. Clair, Butler County, Ohio to McLean County. Jean/John died in a farm accident in McLean County in September of 1859. Catherine, who had 12 children, was left with eight still at home. On Oct. 28, 1860 in McLean County she remarried to widower Elias Yoder. He was born at Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Oct. 16, 1821, and died in McLean County Jan. 18, 1875, a son of minister/elder Jonathan 'Yony' Yoder and Magdalena Wagner. His first wife Lydia Plank had also died in 1859, and he had seven children. They are found on the 1870 census of Dry Grove as farmer Elias Yoder, 49, Pennsylvania; Catherine, 58, France; John, 24, teaching school, Pennsylvania; Isaac, 18, Illinois; Christopher, 13, Illinois; Mahalia, 20, cripple, Illinois; Mary, 16, Illinois; servant Magdeline Fry, 15, Illinois; and painter Benedict Miller, 38, Indiana. Elias is buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock; Catherine is buried as Catharine Yoder in Stout's Grove Cemetery at Danvers.

2) Anne Marie Stucky was born at Liestal circa 1782. On Nov. 17, 1811 she had an illegitimate child named Anne Marie born at Schweighouse-Thann; the child died there Dec. 15, 1811. On Dec. 18, 1812 at Feldbach she became the second wife of Peter/Pierre Neŭhaŭser. He was born circa 1780, and died at Altkirch Nov. 28, 1847. His first wife had been Anne Marie Roth, a daughter of Jacques Roth and Marie Schallenberger. See NEUHAUSER for background on this couple.

b. Jacob Stŭckÿ or Stucky/Jacques Stocky (he signed his own name Jacob Stŭckÿ) was born on the *Ferme du Lameysberg c*irca 1767. The *Ferme du Lameysberg* is a dairy farm five miles southwest of the village

of Münster, now within the community boundaries of Breitenbach. He died at Froeningen, Upper Alsace Jan. 25, 1828. On Sept. 17, 1800 at Feldbach he married Anne Marie Roth. She was born circa 1775, and died at Staffelfelden Nov. 20, 1819. Unfortunately only a few lines of their civil marriage entry were scanned for the online archives of Upper Alsace. The main body of the entry was omitted altogether, perhaps because it was illegible. Its first lines were only enough to tell that the groom was Jacob Stŭckÿ, 33, born at *den Hoof Laigisbŭrg beÿ Münster*. Jacob Stŭckÿ, 33, is found as a witness to the birth of Chatharina Peter Schmit, a daughter of Jacob Peter Schmid and Barbara Laŭberin, at Waltenheim March 7, 1801. (This was Katharina/Catharina Peter Schmidt; see PETERSMITH for background on her family). Anne Marie's civil death entry said she was 44 years of age, born *sur la coure sur la peis Nimbelgarth*, a location we could not identify. It was witnessed by her husband Jaque Stucky, 54, a resident of Staffelfelden. He signed Jacob Stŭckÿ. Jacob/Jacques's civil death entry described him as Jacque Stockÿ, 65, the widower of the deceased Anne Marie Roth. One witness was his nephew, cultivator Jean Roth, 39. Their children include:

1) Johannes Stŭckÿ (as he signed his own name)/Jean Stucky/John Stuckey was born at Feldbach Aug. 23, 1801, and died at Nimishillen, Stark County, Ohio March 20, 1875. His garbled German-language civil birth entry does not identify his mother, and names his father in the text and in the index as Jacob Stŭcklÿ. His father signed Jacob Stŭckÿ. He married Verene Frutiger, though it is doubtful that a civil ceremony ever took place; no pre-announcements were found in records of their home towns Hirtzbach and Pfastatt or at Brunstatt (below Mulhouse), the place of their employment. She was born at Pfastatt May 20, 1800, a daughter of Daniel Frutiger and his first wife Verena Ummel; on her civil birth entry one witness was plowman Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ, 39 [the husband of Elisabeth Hochstettler]. At the time of their marriage Verene's stepmother would have been Catherine Stocky (Daniel's second wife), a granddaughter of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ (born before 1722, maried Marie Haldimann). Verene died at Brunstatt Feb. 5, 1835. Her civil death entry described her as servant Vérene Frutiger, 34, born at Pfastatt. She had died in Maison No. 67 at Brunstatt. Her husband was servant Jean Stucky, 34, an *Anabaptiste* resident of Hirtzbach. On May 27, 1835 at Hirtzbach he remarried to Anne Marie Liechti. She was the widow of Johannes/Jean Stucky; this was a great-grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and Anne Roth and the widow of a grandson of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as servant Jean Stucky, born at Feldbach May 28, 1801. His parents were the deceased cultivator Jacques Stucky, who had died at Froeningen Jan. 25, 1828, and the deceased Anne Marie Roth, who had died at Staffelfelden Nov. 20, 1819. He was the widower of Vérene Frutiger, who had died at Brunstatt Feb. 5, 1835. The bride was Anne Marie Liechti, 28, born at Bettendorf Jan. 19, 1797, and a resident of Hirsingue. Her parents were cultivator Jacques Liechti, 74, a resident of Hirsingue who was present and consenting; and the deceased Barbe Joder, who had died at Traubach-le-Bas Feb. 21, 1807. She was the widow of Jean Stucky, who had died at Altkirch July 13, 1831. One witness was Joseph Kauffman, 27. On March 18, 1845, calling himself Jean Stucky, he applied for a passport at Colmar. His application described him as a 46-year-old cultivator, born at Feldbach but a resident of Schlierbach. He would travel with his wife and two children. His destination was given as '*Numichling tauchib*' [Nimishillen?]. Jean Joder and Pierre Liechti had also applied for passports. Joder stated that he was born at Steinbach but a resident of Walheim; Liechti stated that he was born at Bettendorf but was living at Schlierbach. He gave his destination as '*Nemichling tauhib*.' They sailed from Le Havre on the *Emerald*, and arrived at New York June 5, 1845. The passenger list has Jean Stoky, 46, France; Anne Marie, 40; Joseph, 7; Jean, 3; Pierre Liechti, 44; Jean Joder, 49; Anna, 20; Jean, 18; Christian, 7; and Pierre Gering, 30. The 1860 census of Nimishillen shows farmer John Stucksey, 55; Mary Ann, 64, France; carpenter Joseph, 21; farm hand John, 18; and Peter Leichty, 60; all born in France. The 1870 census of Nimishillen shows retired farmer John Stuckey, 70, Germany; Mariah, 68, Germany; laborer Joseph, 32, Germany; Mary, 28, Germany; and a one-year-old male [illegible]. One household away on the same census page was Peter Lichty, 68, France. They died at Nimishillen within three days of one another. The county death register says Mary Stukey died of palsy March 17, 1875, aged 78 years, six months, and 23 days; John Stukey died of a cold March 20, 1875, age 68. Both were from Germany (Upper Alsace was occupied by Germany 1870-1918).
2) Verena Stucky was born at Feldbach Dec. 14, 1802. Her father signed the entry Jacob Stŭckÿ.
3) Chrétien/Christian Stucky was born at Feldbach March 2, 1805. On Jan. 17, 1833 at Waldighoffen he married Anne Marie Äschlemann. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Chrétien Stocky, 28, a resident of Waldighoffen. He was born at Feldbach March 2, 1805, a son of the deceased Jacques Stocky, who had died at Froeningen, and the

deceased Marie Rott, who had died at Staffelfelden Nov. 20, 1819; they had been cultivators at Staffelfelden. The bride was Anne Marie Äschlemann, 18, born at Berentzwiller April 17, 1815, a daughter of the deceased Jean Äschlemann, who had died at Obermuespach [Fr. *Muespach-le-Haut*] April 15, 1829, and the deceased Catherine Rich, who had died at Grentzingen Nov. 24, 1824. They had been cultivators at Obermuespach. One witness was cultivator Jean Schmitt, 25 [earlier in the entry Chrétien/Christian was erroneously described as the widow of Charles Chmitt; this was apparently meant to describe Anne Marie, explaining the presence of a witness named Schmitt]. Anne Marie was actually born at Berentzwiller April 27, 1815. Her civil birth entry described her parents as *annabaptiste* blacksmith and cultivator Jean Äschlimann born at Steinboller, and Catherine Rich, born at Gran[illegible]. Chrétien/Christian Stucky and Anne Marie Äschlemann had five children at Waldighoffen between 1833 and 1842:

a) Chrétien Stukÿ was born Nov. 19, 1833. The municipal clerk spelled his surname three times, in three different ways: Stokÿ in the left margin beside the entry, Stukÿ in the entry, and Stuckei in the summary at the index of the year. His parents were described as *Anabaptise* cultivator Chrétien Stukÿ, 29, and Anne Marie Eschlin, 19.

b) Verene Stockei was born March 17, 1836. Her civil birth entry described her parents as farmer Chrétien Stocki, 31, and Anne Marie Eschelmann, 21. On May 28, 1860 at Réchésy, Territoire de Belfort she married Pierre/Peter Eicher. He was born at Willer, Upper Alsace March 27, 1837, a son of Pierre/Peter Eicher and Catherine Ropp. They emigrated and settled in Ontario in 1861, then resettled at Elm Grove in 1867. For background on this couple, see EICHER in the Appendix.

c) Joseph Stockÿ was born Oct. 27, 1838, and died at Waltighoffen Sept. 24, 1839.

d) Anne Marie Stocky was born Oct. 29, 1840.

e) Anne Stocky was born Sept. 26, 1842.

After 1842 Chrétien/Christian remarried to Barbe Roth. When she died at Waltenheim Dec. 21, 1853, her civil death entry described her as *Anabaptiste* Barbe Roth, 48, born at Feldbach and a resident of Waltenheim. Her husband and witness was *Anabaptiste* Chrétien Stucky, 55 [an exaggerated age, but fortunately his next marriage entry was precise and inclusive]. On Nov. 23, 1859 at Réchésy, Territoire de Belfort Chrétien/Christian maried a third time to Anne Sommer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Chrétien Stucky, 55, a resident of Réchésy who was born at Feldbach March 2, 1805. He was a son of the deceased Jacques Stucky, who had died at Froeningen Jan. 25, 1828, and the deceased Marie Roth, who had died at Staffelfelden Nov. 20, 1819; and the widower of Barbe Roth, who had died at Waltenheim Dec. 21, 1853. One witness was miller Jean Amstutz, 78.

4) Benoit Stocky/Benedict Stucky was born at Luemschwiller (11 miles south of Feldbach) April 5, 1808. His civil birth entry described his father as an *Anabaptiste* farmer. One witness was *Anabaptiste* weaver Michel Roth, 40. His father signed 'Jacob Stŭcky.' On March 30, 1830 at Hirtzbach he married Elisabeth Liechti. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as valet and laborer Benoit Stucky, 22, a resident of Altkirch. He was born at Luemschwiller, a son of the deceased Jacques Stucky, who had died at Froeningen, and Marie Roth, a cultivator who had died at Staffelfelden. The bride was described as day laborer Elisabeth Liechti, 35, a resident of Hirtzbach. She was born at Friesen, a daughter of farmer Nicolas Liechti, a farmer at Hirtzbach who was present and consenting; and the deceased Barbe Joder, who had lived at Heimsbrunn. She was the widow of Pierre Kauffman, a farmer who had died at Heimsbrunn March 27, 1827. Elisabeth had married her first husband Pierre Kauffmann at Hirtzbach Nov. 30, 1810. That entry had also omitted her birthday, giving the age 20, yielding a birth year 1790. At the time her parents were living at Barthlen Hutten, Largitzen, a location associated with the Ropp family. Elisabeth brought to her second marriage a son Joseph Kauffmann, born at Heimsbrunn Nov. 25, 1826. Joseph's civil birth entry erroneously described his parents as farmer Pierre Kauffmann, 44, and Elisabeth Eichlÿ. Father, mother, and son Joseph chose to emigrate from Europe. Accompanying them would be Pierre/Peter Kauffman, a nephew to Elisabeth. He was born at Hirtzbach March 20, 1823, a son of cultivator Jean Jacques Kauffmann, 40, and Cecile Diebolt. They departed from Le Havre on the *France*, and arrived at New York July 12, 1833. Page 2 of the passenger list has Jacob Augspurger, 18, France. Farther down the page is a family that would be residents of Wayne County, Ohio: Christian Schantz, 46, France; Catharine [Roggi], 40; Magdelina, 19; Christian, 19; Christian, 16; Peter, 14; Peter, 14; Elizabeth, 11; Jacob, 8; and Barbara Summer [Sommer], 21. On page 5 is a couple that would be residents of Spring Bay, Woodford County in 1850: Bendict Stucky, 25, France;

Elizabeth [Elisabeth Liechti], 40; Peter [Pierre Kauffman, Elisabeth's nephew],10; and Joseph, 5 [a son from Elisabeth's first marriage]. Farther down that page is a family that would be residents of Butler County, Ohio, and Elm Grove: carpenter Peter Ulrich, 30, France [actually Jacob Berse, who would later be known as Isaac Wagler]; Catharine [Catherine Ulrich, his wife and cousin], 33; and Peter, 2 [Peter Jacob Berse]. One line later Catherine's parents Peter Ulrich, 60, France, and Catharine Lowbers [Lauber], 55. The 1850 census of Woodford County shows farmer Benedict Stoquey, 42, France; and Elisabeth, 42, France – though she may have been as much as 18 years older. The neighbors listed around them indicate that they were living in what became Spring Bay: John Belsey on the page before; Christian Ash, Andrew Eversall, Peter Garber, and Daniel Orendorff on the same page. The records end there. Did they die soon after the census? Or from an epidemic? (See STEIDER for background on the cholera epidemics of 1848-49, and SMITH for background on the Asiatic cholera epidemic that peaked in Woodford County in July and August of 1855). Were they buried under perishable wooden markers in Belsley-Camp Cemetery at Spring Bay?

5) Marie Stokÿ (as found on her birth entry, though later called Anne Marie) was born at Luemschwiller Aug. 10, 1811, and died at Grandvillars July 14, 1862. Her civil birth entry called her Marie, and described her parents as gentleman Jaques Stucki, 44, an *Anabaptiste* cultivator who had resided at Luemschwiller several years, and Marie Roth. Witnesses included weaver Michael Roth, 25, and cultivator Joseph Ropp, 50. On Aug. 8, 1832 at Riespach she married Pierre Rich. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as gentleman Pierre Rich, proprietor of the Baumert farm at Riespach, born there Sept. 3, 1796. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Pierre Rich, who died on Baumert farm June 20, 1826; and the deceased Anne Müller, who died there Oct. 30, 1809. The bride Anne Marie Stokÿ was born at Luemschwiller Aug. 10, 1811, and was a servant at Riespach. Her parents were the deceased Jacques Stokÿ, who had died at Froeningen Jan. 25, 1828; and the deceased Marie Roth, who had died at Staffelfelden Nov. 20, 1819. Although it was not required by the *état civil* system of administrative record keeping, her grandparents were also identified: Jacques Stokÿ who died at Liestel [Liestal] in 1760, and Marie Roth who died at Tharni [Thann] in France in 1770. Witnessses included Chrétien Stokÿ, a resident of Waldighoffen, Upper Alsace; Antoine Traxler a resident of Riespach; and Jean and Daniel Rich of Baumert farm. Pierre died at Riespach Jan. 1, 1839. On Feb. 19, 1840 at Riespach Marie remarried to Blaise Stirlin (he signed his own name Blaisi Stürlein). He was born at Bettendorf May 11, 1807, a son of Blaise Stirlin and Elisabeth Hoff. She signed their civil marriage entry with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate. Her civil death entry described he as Anne Marie Stocki, 50, a resident of Grandvillars. She was born at Luemschwiller to unidentified parents. It was witnessed by her husband Blaise Stirlin, 55.

2. Nicolas Stŭckÿ was born circa 1742, and died at Wihr-au-Val Feb. 13, 1792. Circa 1773 he married Verena Zimmerman. She died at Wihr-au-Val Aug. 20, 1790. Their children include:

   a. Nicolaŭs Stŭcki (as he signed his own name) was born circa 1774, and died at Turckheim Jan. 4, 1840. The southern side of Turckheim touches the northern community boundaries of (left to right) Wihr-au-Val, Walbach, and Wintzenheim.[250] On Oct. 9, 1801 at Wihr-au-Val he married Barbara/Barbe Roth. She was born at Illzach (27 miles south of Turckheim) circa 1766, and died at Turckheim Jan. 14, 1825. Their civil marriage entry had little of the information required by the *état civil* format, such as the names of the parents. It described the groom as miller Niclaŭs Stŭcky, 27, born at Wihr im Tal. The bride was Barbara Roth, 35, widow of miller Joseph Kempf. Signatures looked like Nicolaŭs Stŭcki and Barbara

[250] Joseph Stucky was born at Wendlingen im Breisgau, Baden (now a village in the northwest corner of the city of Freiburg) circa 1729, and died at Turckheim Feb. 7, 1807, a son of Josephus Stucki and Anna Zaan. On April 12, 1785 at Turckheim he married Anna Maria Meyer. Joseph's civil death entry created there Feb. 7, 1807 described him as a 77-year-old cultivator of grapes for wine making [Fr. *vigneron*].

They had a son François Joseph Stucky (he signed his name Stŭcki) born there Sept. 7, 1792 (he married Catherine Meyer there June 5, 1827), and a daughter Madeleine born there April 7, 1797 (she married George Meyer there Oct. 4, 1827). We also suspect but cannot prove that they had a daughter Anne Marie Stucky/Stocky who was born at Freiburg im Breisgau 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; she was born at Fribourg, Duché de Baden. It was signed by her son-in-law miller David Léhi [Lehe], 37 [married to her daughter Barbe Fongond]. Her husband Ulrich Fongond was born at La Broque 1789-93, and died at Bourg-Bruche Dec. 1, 1848, a son of Ulrich Fongond and Elisabeth Neuhauser.

Roth. At Turckheim they would operate a mill (also called *Maison No. 7*). Her civil death entry described her as Barbe Roth, 59, who had died in the mill called the *Obermühl*. Witnesses included her husband Nicolas Stucky of Turckheim, 48, and shopkeeper Sebastien Peterschmitt of Ste. Croix-en-Plaine, 77. His civil death entry described him as miller Nicolas Stucky, 63, born at Wihr-au-Val. He was the widower of Barbe Roth, who had died at Turckheim. Witnesses included his son laborer Nicolas Stucky, 32, and laborer (and son-in-law) Chrétien Kempf, 33.

1) Barbe Stucky was born at Wihr-au-Val June 26, 1803. On July 5, 1820 at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine she married Jean Peterschmitt. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as gentleman and miller Jean Peterschmitt, 22, a son of the deceased shopkeeper and miller Sebastian Peterschmitt and Barbe Schlatter [Sebastian's father had also married a Barbe Schlatter]. The bride was Barbe Stucky, 17, a daughter of gentleman and miller Nicolas Stucky and Barbe Roth, who were residents of Turckheim. Signatures looked like Johannes Peterschmitt, Barbara Stŭckÿ, and Niclaŭs Stŭcky.
2) Marie Stucky was born at Turckheim Nov. 22, 1805, and died at Wintzenheim Sept. 16, 1852. On July 5, 1838 at Turckheim she married Christian/Chrétien Kempf. He was born at Bourg-Bruche, Vosges July 19, 1806, and died at Wintzenheim July 31, 1867, a son of George Kempf and Barbe Bacher. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer Chrétien Kempf, 31, a resident of St. Gilles, Wintzenheim. He was a son of laborer George Kempf, 64, and Barbe Becher, 542, who were present and consenting. The bride was Marie Stucki, 32, a resident of Turckheim. She was born there Nov. 21, 1805, a daughter of miller Nicolas Stucki, 61, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Barbe Rothe, who had died at Turckheim Jan. 14, 1825. One witness was the bride's brother miller Nicolas Stucki, 30. Marie's civil death entry described her as Anne Marie Stucky, 47, born at Turckheim, a daughter of Nicolas Stucky and Barbe Roth. It was witnessed by her husband cultivator Chrétien Kempf, 46.
3) Nicolas Stucky was born at Turckheim Nov. 13, 1807. On July 15, 1829 at Turckheim he married Catherine Röss/Roess. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller's assistant Nicolas Stucky, 21. He was born at Turckheim Nov. 13, 1807, a son of miller Nicolas Stucky, who was present and consenting, and the deeased Barbe Roth, who had died at Turckheim Jan. 14, 1825. The bride was Catherine Roess, 18. She was born at Logelbach Nov. 6, 1810, a daughter of miller Jean Roess, who was present and consenting, and Madeleine Gautsché. Catherine died from complications of childbirth in Maison No. 7 at Turckheim May 15, 1839. On Oct.22, 1839 at Turckheim Nicolas remarried to Barbe Roth (the same name as his deceased mother). Their civil marriage entry describe the groom as miller Nicolas Stucky, the widower of Catherine Röss, who had died at Turckheim May 15, 1839. He was a son of miller Nicolas Stucky, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Barbe Roth, who had died at Turckheim Jan. 14, 1825. The bride was Barbe Roth, a resident of Logelbach who was born at Habsheim Dec. 10, 1810. She was a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Roth, who died at Illzach Dec. 10, 1814; and the deceased Elizabeth Stucky, who had died at Altkirch March 26, 1828. Witnesses included innkeeper [Fr. *cabartier*] Jacques Egli, 30, a resident of Logelbach and brother-in-law of the groom; and cultivator Joseph Roth, 32, a resident of Logelbach and brother of the bride. This was a great-grandson of Nicolas Stŭcky/Stŭckÿ and his first wife Marie Haldimann, and a great-granddaughter of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser.

b. Elisabeth Stocky was born circa 1783. When she died at Pfastatt April 26, 1812 her civil death entry was witnessed by laborer Daniel Frutiger, 35, and farmer Chrétien Umel [Ummel], 35. They described her as Elisabeth Stocky, 29, single, a daughter of Nicolas Stucky and Verena Zimmerman.
c. Catherine Stocky was born at Wihr-au-Val Nov. 30, 1788, and died at Illzach June 7, 1857. On Nov. 30, 1812 at Pfastatt she married widower Daniel Frutiger. His first wife Verena Ummel had died at Pfastatt Sept. 6, 1812. He was born at Sigriswil, Canton Bern Jan. 5, 1777, and died at Pfastatt July 9, 1824, a son of Ulric Frŭtiger and Barbara Sigrist. Their civil mariage entry described the bride as Catherine Stucky, 23, a resident of Bollwiller born at Wihr-au-Val. It identified her parents as the deceased Nicolaus Stocky and Verene Zimmerman. The father had died at Wihr-au-Val Feb. 13, 1792, and the mother had died there Aug. 20, 1790. The groom's parents had died at Sigrisil Feb. 4, 1794 and Dec. 16, 1804. Witnesses included cultivator Chrétien Umel, 36, the groom's brother-in-law.

3. Marie Stŭckÿ was born circa 1742, and died at Hohwald, Breitenbach, Lower Alsace Aug. 6, 1799. She married Daniele Erb, a son of Daniel Erb and Maria Lutt. Her civil death entry was created at Breitenbach Aug. 7, 1799, and was witnessed by her son cultivator Ullrich Erb, 28. It said that Marie Stockÿ had died at Hohwald, Breitenbach a day earlier, age 57.

Marie Haldimann died, and before 1755 Nicolas remarried to Madeleine Zender. She was born circa 1735, and died after Dec. 10, 1793 (the day she attended the marriage of daughter Véronique).

Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ's first set of children includes sons named Jacques and Nicolas. These names are also found in his second set of children, yet the first two were still alive. This occasionally happens when we cannot identify birth documentation. A hypothetical example: a son may be named Jacques at birth. A later son is named Jean Jacques at birth. As adults both chose to use only Jacques.

Children of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and his second wife Madeleine Zender include:

4. Jacques Stuckÿ was born circa Feb. 17, 1755. When he died at Kunheim, Upper Alsace March 27, 1813, his civil death entry described him as Jacques Stuckÿ; aged 58 years, one month, and 10 days; and a son of the deceased Nicolas Stockÿ. He had been married to Maria Hunsinger. He had died in Maison No. 5, the home of witness, neighbor, and day laborer Jacques Reiss, 23. Their son Mathieu Stockÿ was born at Sundhoffen July 9, 1781. When he married Marie Madeleine Dürringer at Kunheim Feb. 10, 1807, his parents were identified as shoemaker [Fr. *cordonnier*] Jacques Stockÿ and Anne Marie Hunsinger, who were present and consenting.
5. **David Stŭckÿ** was born circa 1758, and died at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine Sept. 10, 1836.
6. Christian Stŭckÿ was born circa 1758, and died at Staffelfelden Jan. 12, 1799. His civil death entry was witnessed by Claŭs Stocky, 36; it gave Christian's age as 40.
7. Nicolas 'Claŭs' Stŭckÿ was born circa 1762, and died at Staffelfelden Dec. 28, 1801. Circa 1788 he married Anna Maria Hochstätter. She was born circa 1770, and died at Staffelfelden Feb. 29, 1804, age 33. Witnesses included her husband; her father Jacob Hochstatter, 75; and Joseph Jotter, 51. Their children born at Staffelfelden include:
    a. Anne Marie Stucky was born Nov. 8, 1788 (headstone count 81Y 7M 3D), and died in Fulton County, Ohio June 16, 1873. On Oct. 30, 1810 at Dornach she married Jacob Binder (he would be known as Bender in America). He was born at Bülach, Canton Zurich circa 1780, and died in Lucas County, Ohio (now part of Fulton County) in November of 1846. They are buried in Lauber Hill Cemetery, though Jacob has no headstone. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as landowner Jacques Binder, 30, born at *yllnau, canton Bülache en Suisse.* His parents were the deceased Jacques Binder and the deceased Maria Anna Bachoffer. The bride was Anne Marie Stokÿ, 23, of Staffelfelden. Her parents were the deceased Nicolas Stokÿ and the deceased Anne Marie Hochstattler, who had been residents of Staffelfelden. Witnesses included landowner and day laborer Nicolas Stokÿ, 49, of Dornach; cultivator Nicolas Roth, 31, of Pfastatt; and cultivator Daniell Frudiguere, 28, of Pfastatt. The groom and bride signed Jacob Binder and Anna Maria Stŭcki. With her sister Christina and her husband Christian Rŭpp, they started out from Mulhouse March 8, 1834. They sailed from Le Havre on *L'Edmond* April 18, and arrived at New York May 19, 1834. The passenger list shows farmer Jacques Binder, 53, Switzerland; his wife, 45; one son, 8; and seven daughters 22, 16, 14, 11, 6, 4, and one year of age; farmer Christain Rupp, 42, Duchy of Baden; his wife, 33; one son, 7; and three daughters 5, 3, and 1; farmer Christian Lauber, Switzerland; his wife, 36; one son, 7; and three daughters 9, 8, and 7. Farther down the page and possibly relevant are Christian Laubec, 19, France; his sister, 28, France; two brothers 15 and 13; and Christian, 30, a farmer from Switzerland. Jacques/Jacob and Anne Marie are buried in Lauber Hill Cemetery. For background on their journey see ROPP, RUPP OF FULTON COUNTY.
    b. Elisabeth/Elise Stŭckÿ was born July 21, 1792. On Sept. 23, 1813 at Lure, Haut-Saône she married Christ/Christoph Stucky. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller Christoph Stocky, 23, born at Grandvillars Sept. 28, 1786, and a resident of Lure. He was the son of miller Benoit Stoky, a resident of Lure who was present and consenting; and Anne Heicher, who had died at Grandvillars Aug. 5, 1806 [Bendicht/Benoit Stŭckÿ and Anne/Anneli Eicher]. The bride was Elizabeth Stucky, 22, who was born at Staffelfelden July 21, 1792. She was a daughter of the deceased Nicolas Stucky, who had died at Staffelfelden Dec. 24, 1801; and the deceased Marie Hochstettler, who had died at Staffelfelden Feb. 29, 1804. Signatures looked like Christ Stŭckÿ and Elisabeth Stŭckÿ. This was a grandddaughter of Nicolas Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Marie Haldimann, and a grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and his second wife Barbara/Barbe Schlatter. See his information for his civil death entry.
    c. Claŭs Stŭckÿ was born Feb. 1, 1795, and died the same day. One birth witness was Elisabetha Freÿ [maternal grandmother], 60, wife of Jacob Hochstätler.
    d. Christina Stŭckÿ/Stucky was born May 8, 1796, and died in Fulton County, Ohio in 1855. One witness on her civil birth entry was Elisabetha Freÿ. Christina married widower Christian Rŭpp; they sailed on *L'Edmond* in 1834. For background on this couple see ROPP, RUPP OF FULTON COUNTY.
    e. Magtalena Stocky was born at Staffelfelden Feb. 6, 1798, and died there Nov. 6, 1800. Her father was 37. Witnesses on her civil birth entry included Christen Slatter, 30, plowman; and Barbara Stucky, 18, related to Claŭs.
    f. Niclaŭs Stocky was born May 10, 1800, and died at Staffelfelden Oct. 30, 1800. Birth witnesses included plowman Joseph Jotter, 40; and Anna Maria Jodter, 17, his daughter. Death witnesses included plowman Joseph Jotter, 49, and Jacob Hochstatter the older.

8. Barbe Stŭckÿ may have been born on Schoppenwihr farm at Ostheim (found on her marriage entry) or at 'Baweiller, Haut Rhin' (death entry; Bollwiller and Berrwiller are both adjacent to Staffelfelden) circa 1763. The first location is obviously more reliable, having been recorded in the presence of Barbe and her mother. She died at Eckbolsheim, Lower Alsace Aug. 12, 1817. On Dec. 22, 1785 at Schirmeck she married Johannes/Jean Sommer. He was born on the Struthof at Natzwiller (three miles southeast of Schirmeck) circa 1762, and died at Ribeauvillé Aug. 16, 1814, a son of Christian Sommer and Barbe Gerber (also found as Karbre). See SOMMER, SOMMER OF BUTLER COUNTY for background on their family, including five sons who went to Butler County, Ohio.
9. Véronique Stŭckÿ was born circa 1767, and died at St. Quirin, Moselle Aug. 24, 1846. On Dec. 10, 1793 at La Broque, Lower Alsace she married Christian Gerber. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as weaver Christianne Karber, 30, born at Salm, La Broque, a son of the deceased Jean Carber [Jean Gerber] and Anne Liechlitt [Liechti]. The bride was Véronique Stoqui, 26, born at Minstetal [Ger. *Munstertal,* the valley of Munster; the village of Munster is three miles west of Wihr-au-Val]. She was a daughter of Nicolas Stoqui and Magdelaine Seinderine [Zender], natives of Switzerland. Witnesses included cultivator Christianne Naihausser [Neuhauser] of Salm; cultivator Christianne Praspieller [Brechbŭhl] of Benaville; cultivator Jacob KopferSchmett [Kupferschmitt] of Salm; and cultivator Urlich Fongon [Ulrich von Gunden] of Salm. Véronique and her mother signed with an 'x', indicating they were illiterate; Nicolas did not sign. Signatures looked like Christian Garber, Christian Naihaŭser, Christian Brachbeihl, Jacob Kupfer Schmitt, and Ulrich Vongonden. The entry does not suggest that father-of-the-bride Nicolas was *feu* or *defunt*, but it is also obvious that he was not present for the ceremony, without explanation. It appears that the La Broque municipal clerk did not desire to delay the ceremony to await the documentation required under the *État Civil* system of record keeping. Another ceremony was held in conjunction with this one. The civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Joseph Naihauser [Neuhauser], 21. He was a son of the deceased cultivator Joseph Naihauser and Suzanne Sinderine [Zender], a resident of Salm. The bride was Anne Auchpanderine [Augspurger], 22. She was born on the farm La Loch at Germaingoutte, a daughter of cultivator Nicolas Auchpanderine and Barbe Fongon. Both bride and groom were illiterate. Véronique and Christian farmed at Les Harcholins, Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurthe-et-Moselle.

David Stŭckÿ was born circa 1758, and died at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine Sept. 10, 1836.

On April 19, 1799 at Staffelfelden he married Anne Marie Schlatter. The 10-year civil index lists a ceremony for Davit Stucky and Anna Schlatter, but the entire year of full texts is missing.

Anne Marie was born at Guebwiller circa 1774, and died at Rustenhart Oct. 23, 1824, a daughter of Jean Schlatter and Anne Marie Linder.

Rustenhart is only six miles southeast of Ste. Croix-en-Plaine. The Rhinefelderhof estate at Rustenhart was leased by the Anabaptist Peterschmitt family. At the time of Anne Marie's death her husband David and son Jean were working as day laborers there, and they appeared as witnesses. Unfortunately one or both spoke only German, and both were illiterate. The entry describes Ann Marie as a 50-year-old miller residing at Staffelfelden. She was born at Guebwiller, a daughter of the deceased Jean Schlatter and Anne Marie Linder. The two witnesses are described as husband Matthias [David] Stucky, 65, and son Jean Stucky, 23. Both signed with an 'x,' indicating they were illiterate. The erroneous name Matthias in the text was also marked with an 'x.' The clerk noted that he had interpreted the information from German.

David's more accurate civil death entry said that day laborer David Stocky, 78, had died in the mill at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine. His parents were identified as the deceased Nicolas Stocky and Barbe Madeleine Zender. He was the widower of Anne Schlatter. It was witnessed by his cousins miller Jean Peter Schmitt, 38 [actually the husband of David's older half-brother's granddaughter; Jean had married Barbe Stucky at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine July 5, 1820], a resident of Ste. Croix-en-Plaine; and miller Sebastian Peter Schmitt, 52, a resident of Bennwihr.

Their children's birth entries created at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine were witnessed by maternal grandparents *annabatiste* miller Sebastian Peterschmitt and his wife Barbe Schlatter, residents of the Ste. Croix mill.

1. Chrétien Stockÿ (twin) was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 23, 1800, and died at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 27, 1800.
2. Jean Stockÿ (twin) was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 23, 1800, and died five hours later.
3. Jean Stockÿ was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 22, 1801. His civil birth entry described him as *Anabaptiste.* On May 17, 1826 at Rustenhart he married Anne/Anna Schlabach. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Stocky, 24, born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 24, 1801. He was a son of day laborer David Stocky, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Anne Marie Schlatter, who had died at Rustenhart Oct. 23, 1824. The bride was Anne Schlapach, 34, who was born at La Petite Fosse, Vosges. She was a daughter of the deceased Volrich [Ulrich] Chlapach, who had died at La Petite Fosse July 20, 1817; and Elisabeth Schebach, a resident of Grand Fosse. It was signed Johannes Stŭcki. They had children at Ensisheim, Balgau, and Rustenhart.
4. Marie Anne Stockÿ was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine March 27, 1803. For the first time her father signed an entry 'Stockÿ.'

5. **Joseph Stucky** was born circa Feb. 7, 1804 (estimated from his headstone count), and died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 18, 1875.
6. Christian Stockÿ was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine April 23, 1807, according to his marriage entry, though no entry is found there. On Jan. 13, 1842 at Raedersheim he married Anne Reber. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as servant Chrétien Stucky, 34, a resident of Raedersheim who was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine April 23, 1807. His parents were the deceased David Stucky, who had died Sept. 10, 1836, and the deceased Anne Marie Schlatter, who had died at Rustenhart Oct. 24, 1824. The bride was dressmaker Anne Reber, 32, a resident of Schoensteinbach, Witttenheim born at Nassviller, Schirmeck, Vosges Dec. 27, 1809. She was a daughter of farm equipment operator Chrétien Reber, 55, and Elisabeth Vormwald, 49, residents of Hauserin, Schirmeck. Witnesses included farmer Joseph Schlegel, 32; cultivator Joseph Peterschmitt, 53; and cultivator Andre Kroff [Kropf], 23. The groom signed Christian Stŭcki. There was a reason for urgency: on May 13, 1842 at Raedersheim servant Chrétien Stocky, 34, reported that his wife Anna Reeber, 28, had given birth to a daughter Anne. Thus she was five months pregnant at the time of the marriage. This couple remained in Raedersheim and had six children, of whom three were still living in 1851.
7. Marianne Stucky was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 24, 1817, according to her marriage entry, though no entry is found there. At the same time and place that Christian and Anne were married, Marrianne married Jacob/Jacques Stŭckÿ. The groom was 25 years older than the bride, and according to her entry she had the same parents as the groom in the first marriage. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as day laborer Jacques Stucky, 49, a resident of Raedersheim. He was born at Staffelfelden Feb. 25, 1793, a son of the deceased Nicolas Stucky, who died at Bourbach-le-Bas June 25, 1789, and the deceased Elisabeth Hoffstattler, who died at Niedermorschwiller Oct. 24, 1818. The bride was Marianne Stucky, 24, a resident of Raedersheim. She was born at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine June 24, 1817, a daughter of the deceased David Stucky, who had died at Ste. Croix-en-Plaine Sept. 10, 1831, and the deceased Anne Marie Schlatter, who had died at Rustenhart Oct. 23, 1824. The same three witnesses participated. The groom signed Jacob Stŭckÿ; the bride did not sign, and it was stated that she was illiterate.

Joseph Stucky was born circa Feb. 7, 1804 (estimated from his headstone count), a son of David Stŭckÿ and Anne Marie Schlatter. It is likely that he was born at or very near Ste. Croix-en-Plaine, Upper Alsace, though no entry is found there. His four older siblings are all found on civil birth entries created there; his two younger siblings are not found, but they stated that it was their birthplace on marriage entries.

We identified him in two ways. First, on June 26, 1831 at Rustenhart he and his older brother Jean served as witnesses to the marriage of Sebastien Peterschmitt of Ste. Croix-en-Plaine and Catherine Steinmann of Eusserthal. They were described as Jean Stocky, 30, *menonist* day laborer at Balgau, and second cousin to the groom; and Joseph Sticky, 27, *menonist* day laborer at Balgau, and second cousin to the groom. And second, when a child died at Balgau Feb. 28, 1841, the civil death entry identified his parents as Jean Stocky, 40, and his wife Anne Schlabach; the witness was Joseph Stocky, 36, described as an uncle.

Circa 1830 he married Elisabeth/Elise Sprecht. She was born at Sankt Georgen im Schwarzwald, Baden (50 miles east of Balgau) circa 1808.

Until 1864 they lived at Balgau, a village with Rustenhart on its west side and the Rhine River on its right. Joseph's older brother Jean Stucky and his wife Anne/Anna Schlabach lived there at the same time. Their names are found in its records as Stocky or Stuckÿ.

They relocated to Guebwiller in 1866. Elisabeth/Elise died there Nov. 30, 1871. Her civil death entry described her as Elisabeth Specht, 63. She was born at *St. Georges, Bade*, a daughter of cultivator [unknown] Specht and Barbe Müller. One witness was her husband, day laborer Joseph Stucky, 67.

As a widower Joseph sailed from Hamburg on the *S.S. Pommerania*, and arrived at New York May 13, 1874. The passenger list has worker Joseph Stucky, 70, Swiss; Veronica, 31; Barbara, 27; Anna, 23; and Catharina, 9.

He died at Smithville, Wayne County, Ohio Oct. 18, 1875. He is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, where his headstone says he was "Joseph Stucky, died Oct. 18, 1875, aged 71 y.rs, 8 m.s, 11 d.s."

Children of Joseph Stucky and Elisabeth Sprecht born at Balgau include:

1. **Chrétien/Christian Stucky** was born Nov. 18, 1831. His civil birth entry described his parents as day laborer Joseph Stocky, 27, and Elise Specht, 25. His father signed Stŭcki.
2. Elise/Elisabeth Stucky was born Oct. 19, 1833. On Jan. 29, 1862 at Balgau she gave birth to an illegitimate son Joseph. The civil birth entry described her as a dressmaker, and described her parents as day laborer Joseph Stucky, 58, and Elisabeth Specht, 54.
3. Catherine Stucky was born July 31, 1835, and died in 1918. On Aug. 7, 1869 at Guebwiller she married servant Chrétien Kropf. He was born at Zellwiller July 26, 1831, a son of the deceased Chrétien Kropf and Barbe Sommer. Their civil marriage entry stated that she had been living in Guebwiller for five years. It described her parents as day laborer Joseph Stucky, 65, and Elise Specht, 63; they were residents of Guebwiller who were present and consenting. One witness was brother-in-law to the bride Chrétien Eymann, 44, a resident of Guebwiller.

4. Madeleine Stucky was born Feb. 24, 1837. She married widower Chrétien Eymann. He was born at Strasbourg Oct. 8, 1824, and died at Guebwiller Oct. 21, 1871. His civil death entry described him as day laborer Chrétien Eymann, 47, a resident of Guebwiller. He was born at Strasbourg, a son of the deceased Pierre Eymann, who had been a resident of Soultz, and Marie Zehner, who was a resident of Ribeauvillé. He was the widower of Madeleine Lehmann and the husband of Madeleine Stocky, 34.
5. Joseph Stucky was born Jan. 4, 1839, and died at Balgau Oct. 8, 1840.
6. Joseph Stucky was born Oct. 8, 1841, and died at Balgau Oct. 12, 1841.
7. Verena/Veronica/Fanny Stucky was born Sept. 11, 1842, and died in Daviess County, Indiana July 23, 1921. On June 11, 1864 at Balgau she gave birth to an illegitimate daughter Catherine. On Dec. 12, 1875 in Allen County she married widower John Shutt Overholt. He was born April 13, 1820, and died in Allen County April 16, 1890. They are found on the 1880 census of Cedar Creek, Allen County as farmer John Overholt, 60, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; Veronick, 37, born in France to Prussian parents; John, 22, Pennsylvania; Abraham, 19, Indiana; Anna, 12, Indiana; Joseph, 3, Indiana; Simon, 1, Indiana; stepdaughter Catherine Stuckey, 16, France; and stepdaughter Caroline Stuckey, 5, Ohio. They are buried in Stoll Cemetery at Montgomery, Daviess County.
8. Barbe/Barbara Stucky was born March 23, 1846, and died in 1878.
9. Anne/Anna Stucky was born June 21, 1850, and died at Milton, Wayne County, Ohio Dec. 12, 1881. In December of 1875 at Smithville, Ohio she married Jacob Gerig Meyer. He was born at Mulhouse Oct. 16, 1846, and died at Sterling, Wayne County Feb. 16, 1930, a son of Jean Jacob Meyer and Elisabeth Gerig. *Gospel Herald*, March 6, 1930: "Meyer. Jacob G., son of John Jacob and Elizabeth (Gerig) Meyer was born in Alsace, France, Oct. 16, 1846; died Feb. 16, 1930, at his home in Sterling, O.; aged 83 y. 4 m. He with his mother and brother Albert, came to America in 1872. He united with the Oak Grove Mennonite Church in 1874, and was a faithful and active member until death. By his presence, prayers, counsels, and means, he gave loyal support to his church. He was married to Anna Stucky in December, 1875. To this union were born three children (Daniel F., Mrs. David S. Schrock, and Mrs. Cyrus B. Fetzer). His wife died in 1881. In March, 1883, he was united in marriage to Mary Conrad of Louisville, O., to which union nine children were born (Mrs. Emmet Yoder, Benjamin, Mrs. Noah Schrock, Jacob C., Mary Jane, Elmer, Emanuel, Mrs. John Lerch, and Mrs. Marvin Wenger). The widow, 12 children, 33 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends mourn his departure. He had selected the text and songs for the service. Texts, *Psa. 90* and *Job 19:25-27*. The funeral services were in charge of Bros. C. Z. Yoder, J. S. Gerig, and I. W. Royer. Interment in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery." Anne/Anna, Jacob, and Mary are buried under a joint headstone in Pleasant Hill Mennonite Cemetery at Smithville.

Chrétien/Christian Stucky was born at Balgau, Upper Alsace Nov. 18, 1831.

During the Crimean War (1853-1856) he was drafted into the French army, and served two years.

On May 17, 1862 at Vogelgrün (six miles above Balgau on the Rhine River) he married Magdalena Zehr. She was born on the Fischwoogerhof estate at Dahn, Bavaria Oct. 12, 1834, and died at Geneva, Adams County, Indiana Nov. 19, 1921, a daughter of Georg Zehr and Jacobine Steinmann.

Their civil marriage entry described the groom as miller's assistant Chrétien Stucky, 31, born at Balgau Nov. 18, 1831. He was a son of cultivator Joseph Stucky and Elise Sprecht, residents of Balgau. The bride was servant Madelaine Zehr, 28, born at Dahn, *Bavière* Oct. 11, 1834. She was a daughter of Georges Zehr and Jacobine Steinmann, residents of Dahn. One witness was cousin-of-the-groom miller Jean Peterschmidt, 29.[251] Signatures looked like Stockÿ, Zehr, and Peterschmitt.

Madeleine had two cousins who lived in Tazewell County, Georges/George Zehr (1825-1904) who married Barbe/Barbara Litwiller, and Elisabeth/Elizabeth Zehr (1828-1900) who married Christian Nafziger. See ZEHR for background on her family.

Christian died Oct. 26, 1866. Family passdown says he drowned while collecting driftwood in the Rhine River. When a daughter was born to Madeleine at Balgau six months later, the civil birth entry provided the date of his death, but not a cause, and described the location as what looks like Vieux Beinch. This was almost certainly Vieux-Brisach or old Breisach, the German village directly across the river from Balgau.

Children of Magdalena Zehr and her first husband Chrétien/Christian Stucky include:

1. Chrétien/Christian N. Stucky was born at Volgelsheim (seven miles north of Balgau) April 6, 1863, and died at Hartford, Adams County, Indiana Oct. 21, 1957. His civil birth entry described his parents as miller's assistant Chrétien Stucky, 31, and Madeleine Zehr, 28, residents of Volgelsheim. He immigrated in 1888. On Feb. 22, 1892 he married Catherine/Katharina/Katie Stucky. She was born in Adams County Dec. 21, 1868, and died there July 5, 1957, a daughter of Nicholas Stucky and Verena/Fanny Schmucker. Her father Nicolas was born at Bourbach-le-Bas Jan. 18, 1825, a son of Nicolas Stucky and Barbara Frutiger (mentioned earlier). They lived at French Township, then went to Morton from 1868 until 1900. The 1900 census of Morton shows farmer Christian Stucky, 37, born in

[251] Jean Peterschmitt was born at Bennwihr May 28, 1832, and died at Vogelgrun Jan. 23, 1909, a son of Sebastién Peterschmitt and his second wife Catherine Steinmann. On March 8, 1858 at Rustenhart he married Elisabeth Peterschmitt.

Germany in April 1863 [Alsace and Lorraine were occupied by Germany 1870-1918], immigrated in 1888; Katie, 30, born in Indiana in December 1868; four children born in Illinois, and one born in Indiana. In 1900 they returned to Indiana to live at Berne, where he became a minister of the Defenseless Mennonite Church. They are buried in the Defenseless Mennonite Cemetery at Berne, now called the Evangelical Mennonite Church Cemetery.

2. **Joseph Stucky** was born at Balgau Aug. 20, 1865, and died at Groveland March 7, 1958.
3. Catherine/Katie Stucky was born at Balgau April 25, 1867, and died at Morton May 18, 1947.

On Feb. 10, 1874 at Balgau widow Magdalena remarried to Pierre/Peter Peterschmitt. He was born at St. Croix-en-Plaine, Upper Alsace Jan. 22, 1840, and died in Adams County, Indiana Sept. 7, 1915, a son of François Jean Peterschmitt and Verena Roth (found on the 1874 German-language civil marriage entry as Johannes Peterschmitt and the deceased Veronika Roth). Witnesses at their ceremony included his brothers miller Joseph Peterschmitt, 56, and plowman Christian Peterschmitt, 50; and her brother plowman Johannes Zehr, 28.

Madeleine's oldest son Chrétien immigrated in 1888. The others sailed from Le Havre on the *La Champagne*, and arrived at New York May 11, 1891. The passenger list shows steerage passengers farmer Peter Peterschmid, 51; Madeleine, 56; Jacob, 49; and Madeleine [later known as Mary], 16. One passenger removed from them were farmer Joseph Stucki, 26, nationality German [Alsace and Lorraine were occupied by Germany 1870-1918], destination Berne [Indiana]; and his sister Catherine Stucki, 21

Their first American home was Geneva, Wabash Township, Adams County, Indiana (52 miles west of Berne).

In America Magdalena Zehr and her second husband Pierre/Peter Peterschmitt had three children, two dying as infants.

MARIE/MARY PETERSCHMITT

Their daughter Marie/Mary Peterschmitt (found on their passenger list as Madeleine, 16) was born at Balgau, Upper Alsace Jan. 12, 1876, and died at Morton July 8, 1968.

At Bern, Adams County, Indiana she married David Schertz. He was born in Adams County (per his draft registration card) Jan. 12, 1874, and died at Morton Sept. 3, 1968, a son of Andrew Schertz and Barbara Neuhauser. His family was shown on the 1880 census of Perry, Tippecanoe County, Indiana.

The 1910 census of Geneva shows farmer Peter Peterschmidt, 70; Magdaline, 75; laborer Jacob Peterschmidt [Peter's brother]; Peter's son-in-law farmer David Schertz, 36, born in Indiana to a father from Ohio and a mother from Germany; Mary, 34, Germany; and Peter's grandson Ezra, 5, born in Indiana to a fther from Ohio and a German mother.

Marie/Mary and David are buried in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Joseph Stucky was born at Balgau Aug. 20, 1865, and died at Groveland March 7, 1958.

On Aug. 2, 1896 at Groveland he married Elizabeth Hochstettler. She was born Feb. 17, 1859, and died July 4, 1931, a daughter of Peter Hochstettler and Barbara Birky.

They were living at Morton in 1900. He is found as father-in-law and widower Joseph Stucky, 74, France, on the 1940 census of Groveland; there he was living in the household of son-in-Elias E. Zimmerman and daughter Katherine.

Joseph died at Groveland March 7, 1958, age 92. His *Pantagraph* obituary said, "Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Elias E. Zimmerman, R.R. 5, Peoria; a half sister, Mrs. David Schertz, Morton; three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. A brother and a sister preceded him in death. He came to the United States and to Bern, Ind., in May, 1891, and moved to the Groveland area in 1902. He was a retired farmer and a member of the Groveland Evangelical Mennonite Church."

He and Elizabeth are buried under a joint headstone in Evangelical Mennonite Cemetery at Groveland.

Minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ of Münsingen

Münsingen is a village on the east side of the Aare River, nine miles southeast of the city of Bern and 17 miles north of the town of Thun. It was an important gathering place during the Swiss Peasants War of 1653.

Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ was baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church of Münsingen Jan. 10, 1717. His parents were identified as Bentz Stŭcki and Madlena Moser, and he was identified as Bents Stŭcki. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Neŭenschwander, Ulli Stŭcki, and Caterÿ Bigler. Later in life his goose quill signature looked like 'Bend Stücky' as the t and z merged.

Circa 1744 Bentz married Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. She was born circa 1725. They leased the farm grounds of the Schoppenwihr estate at Bennwihr, Upper Alsace (adjacent to Ostheim, six miles north of Colmar, eight miles northeast of Wintzenheim, 10 miles northeast of Walbach), and their first child was born there the following year.

THE SCHOPPENWIHR ESTATE

The Schoppenwihr estate was at the extreme east end of Bennwihr, in an annex that is seperated from the rest of the community by the Fecht River. It is closer to the village of Ostheim than the village center of Bennwihr.

When Bentz first came there it was owned by Baron Philippe-Frédéric de Berckheim, who was only 13 years of age. His father had died when he was only one year old; presumably the first lease was offered by his widowed mother acting as administrator. Philippe-Frédéric later served as a captain of Alsatian infantry regiments in the service of France, and married Marie Octavie Louis de Glaubitz. They were childless, and his line of the de Berckhim family came to an end with his death in 1812.

The estate on the Rue du Château held a four-story château (surrounded by water and accessed by a footbridge), cleared fields, an extensive English garden, carp ponds (a staple in Catholic France), and strips of forest. The Stuckys renewed the lease until son Nicolas Stucky moved into a house at Ostheim in or after 1814.

Later Napoleon III held a number of royal hunts on the estate, and during World War I it was used as a rest home for wounded German officers.

In late summer of 1944 *Reichsführer* of the *Schutzstaffel* (SS) Heinrich Himmler was appointed commander-in-chief of Army Group Upper Rhine. He occupied the château on the Schoppenwihr estate for several months.

In the last days of World War II the Colmar pocket was bitterly contested. The American 7th Infantry Regiment reached Bennwihr Jan. 24, 1945. They were aware of the significance of the estate, and were drawn onto the grounds by German soldiers. There they were raiked by machine guns firing from within the château. One Panzer tank appeared from behind it. But the American infantry was an advance guard for tanks hidden in a nearby forest. A barrage of shells reduced the château to ruins, and the farm was destroyed.

Nine days later the surviving 7th Infantry Regiment troops arrived seven miles south at the gates of Colmar. They gratefully participated in the restful pause that permitted French tanks to be the first to enter the city.

Parc de Schoppenwihr is now an arboretum with exotic plants and trees covering 106 acres.

The three Colmar representatives at the assembly of Amish Mennonite ministers at Essingen in 1779 were recorded as Nicolaus Blank, Hans Rupp, and Benz Stucky. According to the *Global Anabaptist Encyclopaedia Online*, 'Hans Rub' and 'Bäntz Stucky' signed for the Colmar congregation.

Recall from ROPP: "The Amish Mennonite families in the area shared the same surnames as those that had lived near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, or in the principality of Salm. They appear to have come down from the Vosges Mountains once restrictions were relaxed. In *Both Sides of the Ocean*, J. Virgil Miller writes that, 'The Anabaptists or Mennonites who formed this group [the Colmar congregation] probably did not live in the city of Colmar since most of them were farmers. Some families lived northwest of Colmar, about half-way to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in the same general direction.'"

Bentz's civil death entry created at Ostheim March 20, 1793 said that he had died the day before, age 77. It identified his wife as Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. Witnesses included his son Niclaŭs Stucki, 37 (thus born circa 1756); Johannes Ris, 20; and Johann Conrath [Conrad].

Anna Maria died at Bennwihr Aug. 25, 1794. Her civil death entry created at Ostheim called her Anna Maria Stucky (rather than Neuhaŭser), which might have caused confusion, but one of the witnesses was described as her son Niclaŭs Stŭcky, 38, a plowman on Schoppenwÿer. The other witness was Johannes Riss [Roess], 30.

Children of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser born on the farm of the Schoppenwihr estate at Bennwihr include:

1. **Mathias Stŭckÿ** was born circa 1745.
2. Anna Maria Stŭckÿ (as her name was written on her second marriage entry) was born July 20, 1746, and died at Pulversheim Dec. 27, 1803 (an entry was made at Richwiller). She married Johannes/Hans Roth. He was born at Pulversheim circa 1740, and died there March 10, 1794; his civil death entry described him as plowman Johans Roth, 53, son of Johannes Roth and Anna Blankin, and husband of Anna Maria Stocky. On Jan. 28, 1798 at Pulversheim she remarried to widower Christian Schlatter. He was born at Richwiller June 15, 1743, and died there Feb. 6, 1829. For background on her marriages and a son who went to Ontario see ROTH.
3. Catherine Stucky was born March 19, 1749, and died at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Jan. 11, 1814. She married Jacob Goldschmitt. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Feb. 5, 1744, and died there Feb. 27, 1803, a son of Jacob/Jacques Goldschmidt and Barbe Fritz. Her civil death entry described her as Catherine Stucky, 65, wife of Jacques Golschmitt, and a daughter of Benedicht Stocky and Marie Neyhusser, born at Chopwihr near Colmar.
    a. Jacob Goldschmitt was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines circa 1779. On Dec. 19, 1805 at Staffelfelden he married Anna Maria Joder, who was born circa 1785. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jacob Goltschmitt, 26, a resident of Markirch [Ste. Marie-aux-Mines], a son of Jacob Goltschmitt and Catherine Stucky. The bride was Anna Maria Jodter, 20, a daughter of Joseph Jodter, 60, and Anna Maria Stucky. Witnesses included Christien Goltschmitt, 36, of Markirch; Joseph Joder, 60; and Niclaus Stucky, 41. This was a granddaughter of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser, and a grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and his first wife Anne Roth.

4. Nicolas Stucky was born circa 1756, and died at Ostheim Dec. 9, 1821. He married Barbara Röss/Roess. She was born circa 1761, a daughter of Melchior Roess and Elisabeth Gerig. She was born circa 1761, and died in 1834. His civil death entry said that cultivator Nicolas Stuckÿ, 65, was born at Schoppenwihr, a son of the deceased cultivator Benoit Stuckÿ and the deceased Anne Marie Neuhauser. He had died in *Maison No. 2*. He was the husband of Barbara Roess; they had one child:
    a. Nicolas Stucky (he signed his own name Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ) was born on Schoppenwihr farm July 8, 1787, and died there April 4, 1859. On Feb. 6, 1812 at Rosheim, Lower Alsace he married Anne Marie Fritz. She was born on the Bildhauserhof at Rosheim Feb. 15, 1788, and died at Ostheim Aug. 29, 1826, a daughter of Joseph Fritz and Anne Schantz. Witnesses on their civil mariage entry included miller Pierre Ulrich, 50, of Bennwihr; cultivator Joseph Sommer, 41, of Gresswiller; cultivator Christian/Chrétien Kropf, 42, of Gresswiller; and cultivator Peter/Pierre Fritz, 30, of Rosheim.
        1) Nicolas Stucky (he signed his own name Niclaŭs Stŭckÿ) was born at Ostheim April 25, 1813. On Oct. 3, 1839 at Wintzenheim he married Rosine Kempf (she signed her own name Rosina Kämpf). The ceremony at Wintzenheim does not necessarily indicate a genetic tie between Christen and Nicolas (whose descendants lived there) and Bentz, the great-grandfather of the groom. It was simply that Rosine was born there. Her brother Chrétien/Christian Kempf would marry there later in the month; his bride Marie Stucky was be a great-grandaughter of Nicolas Stŭcky/Stŭckÿ and his first wife Marie Haldimann. The civil mariage entry of Nicolas Stucky and Rosine Kempf described the groom as bachelor cultivator Nicolas Stucky, who was born at Ostheim April 25, 1813. He was a son of cultvator Nicolas Stucky of Ostheim, who was present and consenting; and the deceased Anne Marie Fritz, who had died at Ostheim Aug. 29, 1826. The bride was Rosine Kempf, who was born at St. Gille, Wintzenheim Feb. 26, 1818. She was a daughter of cultivator George Kempf, a resident of St. Gille who was present and consenting; and the deceased cultivator Marie Barbe Baecher, who had died at St. Gille March 30, 1839. Witnesses included Chrétien Kempt, 33, a resident of Turckheim and brother of the bride.

5 Benedict Stŭckÿ was born circa 1761. He was a witness to the marriage of Anne Marie Stŭckÿ and Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman at Walbach June 3, 1798. Their civil mariage entry described him as plowman Benedict Stŭckÿ, 37, from Heÿden in Canton Breysach (Heiteren, four miles south of Neuf-Brisach, Upper Alsace; 20 miles southeast of Walbach, near the Rhine River). The bride was his niece.

6. Christian/Chrétien Stucky was born March 9, 1762, and died at Bollwiller Nov. 27, 1832. He married Verena/Véronique/Feronika Zimmerman. His civil death entry described him as day laborer Chrétien Stocky, 74, husband of Feronie Zimmerman. It was witnessed by livestock handler [Fr. *vacher*] Chrétien Jausy, 40, and cultivator Jean Roth, 39.
    a. Catherine Stocky was born circa 1788. On Sept. 4, 1817 at Bollwiller a midwife reported that day laborer Catherine Stocky, 29, had given birth to an illegitimate daughter Catherine Stocky. The mother was living with her father day laborer Chrétien Stocky of Bollwiller.
    b. Nicolas Stocky was born at Bollwiller Nov. 15, 1796, and died there Dec. 24, 1796.
    c. Nicolas Stucky was born circa 1799, and died at Bollwiller Aug. 27, 1829. His civil death entry described him as day laborer Nicolas Stoky, 30, a son of Chretien Stoky, 66, and Feronica Zimmerman.
7. Barbara Stucky was born circa 1764, and died at Strasbourg April 16, 1828. She married Johannes/Jean Zimmerman. He was born circa 1759, and died at Strasbourg Dec. 18, 1828, a son of Johannes Zimmerman and Anna Müller. See ZIMMERMAN for background on this couple.

Mathias Stŭckÿ was born on Schoppenwihr farm at Bennwihr circa 1745, which may have been the first year his parents were there.

Circa 1770 he married Elisabeth/Elizabeth Schwartz. She was born at Walbach, Upper Alsace (adjacent to Wihr-au-Val) circa 1736, and died on St. Apollinaire farm May 5, 1801, a daughter of Johannes Schwartz and Anna Kropf. Her civil death entry described her as Ellisabett Schwartzin, 65, identifying her birthplace and parents.

Mathias died on St. Apollinaire farm at Michelbach-le-Haut, Upper Alsace at age 63 on Jan. 11, 1808. His civil death entry called him 'Mathié Stocky *Anabaptiste*' in the margin, and said that he had died in the home of Madam Preiswerd at St. Apollinaire [farm]. It was witnessed by his son Mathie Stoky, 32; he signed Mathis Stückÿ.

Children of Mathias Stŭckÿ and his first wife Elisabeth Schwartz born at Walbach include:

1. Elisabeth/Lisette Stŭckÿ was born circa 1770, and died at Altkirch, Upper Alsace March 26, 1828. On Feb. 26, 1797 at Walbach she married Johannes/Jean Roth. He was born circa 1772, and died at Illzach Dec. 10, 1814, a son of Johannes/Jean Roth and Anna Maria Stŭckÿ. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as plowman Johannes Roth, 24, a son of Johannes Roth and Anna Maria Stŭckÿ. His place of birth was illegible. The bride was described as Elisabetha Stŭckÿ, 26, a daughter of plowman Mathias Stŭckÿ, 56, and Elisabetha Swartz, 52. Witnesses included Christian Roth, 28, of Altkirch; and plowman Christian Stucky, 30, of Bollwiller. Johannes/Jean's civil death entry said he was cultivator Jean Roth, 42, a son of the deceased Jean Roth and the deceased Marie Stockey. He died in his

home at Modenheim, an annex of Illzach. It was witnessed by Pierre Tschantz, 36, who signed Petter Tschantz. Elisabeth's civil death entry described her as Elisabethe Stucky, 57, the widow of Jean Roth, who had been a cultivator at Modenheim. Her parents were the deceased Mathias Stucky and the deceased Elisabeth Schwartz, who had been residents of St. Apollinaire. It was witnessed by cultivator Jean Stucky, 46, a resident of Altkirch (presumably her brother, whose true birth year is difficult to determine).

2. Anne Marie Stŭckÿ was born circa 1776, and died at St. Louis, Upper Alsace Sept. 26, 1851. On June 3, 1798 at Walbach she married Jacob/Jacques Zimmerman. He was born on the Hochburg estate between Sexau and Emmendingen, Baden-Durlach circa 1777, and died at St. Louis, Upper Alsace Sept. 27, 1804, a son of Jacob Zimmerman and Barbara Schneider. Their civil marriage entry was witnessed by Christian Zimmerman, 29, a plowman from Emmendingen; plowman Johannes Roth, 24, from Richwiller; and plowman Benedict Stŭckÿ, 37, from Heÿden in Canton Breysach (Heiteren, four miles south of Neuf-Brisach, Upper Alsace; 20 miles southeast of Walbach, near the Rhine River). They farmed on the Michelfelden farm at St. Louis with Jacob/Jacques' brother Christian. On Dec. 16, 1806 at St. Louis Anne Marie remarried to Christian Eicher. He was born in 1773, and died at St. Louis June 12, 1833. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Chretien Eichter, age 33 years, one month, and 25 days. He was born at Audincourt, Porrentruy [at the time it was part of Upper Alsace, but is now in the department of Doubs], a son of Joseph Eicher and Anne Lehman, who were present. He was the widower of Anne Lugbul [Luginbühl], with whom he had lived at Tagolsheim, Upper Alsace. The bride was described as farmer Anne Marie Stucki, age 30 years, 10 months. She was born at Walbach, a daughter of Mathias Stucki and the deceased Elisabeth Schwartz. She was the widow of Jacques Zimmerman of Michelfelden, and a resident of Obermichelbach [Michelbach-le-Haut]. She was accompanied by her father. Witnesses included farmer Jacques Eicher, 50, a second cousin and resident of Aspach; Chretien Lugbuhl, 51, a cousin and resident of Altkirch; farmer Jean Roth, 33, a brother-in-law and resident of Eguisheim; and Jean Stucky, 30, brother-of-the-bride and resident of Bourg Libre [Strasbourg]. The bride signed Marie Stŭckÿ. They had five children at St. Louis between 1808 and 1820.

3. Christian Stŭckÿ was born circa 1777, and died at Reiningue, Upper Alsace Jan. 21, 1847. On Jan. 5, 1818 at Pulversheim he married Anna Maria Roth (as she signed her own name). She was born in 1797, and died at Hegenheim Sept. 7, 1820, a daughter of Christian Roth and Barbara Schürch. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christiane Stokÿ, 30, a resident of Altkirch. He was the son of Mathae Stoky, who had died Jan. 11, 1808 at age 63; and Elisabethe Schwarz, who had died at age 60. The bride was Marria Roth, 29, a daughter of Christiane Roth, 50, an *Anneabastiste* cultivator and miller at Pulversheim, and the deceased Barbe Sherk, who had died Oct. 6, 1808. She was accompanied by her father. Witnesses included cultivator Jacobe Rhot, 52, of Ensessheim [Jacob Roth of Ensisheim]. They had children at Hegenheim in 1818 and 1820. On July 9, 1821 at Bitschwiller-lès-Than, Upper Alsace he remarried to Madelaine Sommer. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Christien Stuky, 44, a resident of Hegenheim. He was a son of Mathei Stuki and Elisabeth Schwartz. The bride was Madelaine Sommer. She was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines March 26, 1798, a daughter of Jean Sommer, who was present and consenting, and the deceased Barbe Goldschmitt, who had died in January of 1817. Witnesses included Christien Goldschmitt, 46; cultivator Jacques Goldschmitt, 35; cultivator Christien Rothe, 55; and cultivator Jacque Roth, 23, all residents of Bollwiller. Children of Christian Stŭckÿ and his first wife Anna Maria Roth born at Hegenheim include:
    a. Chrétien Stucky was born Nov. 10, 1818.
    b. Anne Marie Stucky was born May 30, 1820. On May 12, 1846 at Cernay she married Jean Sommer. He was born at Kintzheim, Lower Alsace April 17, 1814, a son of Jean Sommer and Barbe Goldschmitt.

4. Anne Stŭckÿ (also found as Anne Marie Stocky) was born July 24, 1778, and died at Blotzheim Feb. 19, 1841. On Feb. 24, 1805 at Michelbach-le-Haut she married Johannes/Jean Freÿenberger. He was born at St. Jacques (also called St. Jakob farm) near the city of Basel Oct. 7, 1779, and died at Blotzheim Feb. 28, 1856, a son of Johannes Freÿenberger and Anne Marie Neuhauser. See FREYENBERG in the Appendix for background on this couple.

5. Johannes/Jean Stŭckÿ was born circa 1779, and died at Altkirch July 13, 1831. He was living at Strasbourg in 1806. On Dec. 12, 1813 at Altkirch he married Catherine Lugenbiehl [Luginbŭhl]. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Stucky, 42, a six-month resident of Altkirch [yielding a birth year of 1771, exaggerating his age during a time of high military conscription]. He was a son of the deceased Mathias Stucky and the deceased Elisabeth Schwartz of Guggisberg, Canton Bern. Mathias had died Jan. 11, 1808, and Elisabeth had died May 5, 1801, both at Obermichelbach [Michelbach-le-Haut]. The bride was described as Catherine Lugenbiehl, 19, a daughter of cultivator Chretien Lugenbiehl and Anne Eicher. Witnesses included uncle-of-the-bride Jean Eicher, 62, from Altkirch; cultivator Jacques Kauffman, 50, from Altkirch; and uncle-of-the-bride Jacques Eicher, 57, a farmer at Aspach. Catherine was born at Étupes, Doubs in 1794, and died at Altkirch Dec. 7, 1829. On June 1, 1831 at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace – six weeks before his death – Johannes/Jean remarried to Anne Marie Liechti. She was born at Bettendorf, Upper Alsace Jan. 19, 1797, and died at Nimishillen, Stark County, Ohio March 17, 1875, a daughter of Jacob Liechti and Barbe Joder. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Jean Stockly, a farmer for Monsieur Pfleiger at Altkirch. He was born at Walbach in 1779, a son of the deceased Mathias Stucky, who had been a farmer for Madame Breiswarth at St. Apollinaire, Obermichelbach [Michelbach-le-Haut], and Elisabethe Schwartz, who had died at St. Apollinaire. He was the widower of Catherine Lugenbiehl, who had died Dec. 7, 1829. The bride was described as Anne Marie Liechty, 34, a resident of Hirsingue. She was born at Bettendorf Jan. 19,

1797, a daughter of cultivator Jacques Liechti and the deceased Barbe Joder, who had died at Traubach-le-Bas, Upper Alsace Feb. 21, 1807. Witnesses included farmer Chrétien Lugenbiehl of Altkirch, 75, who was the father-in-law of the groom; and cultivator Jacques Joder of Altkirch, 52, a brother-in-law of the bride. Jean's civil death entry described him as a 48-year old cultivator and farmer born at Walbach [yielding an unreliable birth year of 1783]. It was witnessed by farmer-cultivators Jacques Stauffer, 54, and Chrétien Eicher, 26. On May 27, 1835 at Hirtzbach widow Anne Marie Liechti remarried to Johannes/Jean Stucky/John Stuckey. He was born at Feldbach May 28, 1801, and died at Nimishillen March 20, 1875, a son of Jacques Stucky and Anne Marie Roth. This was a great-grandson of Christen Stŭckÿ and and his first wife Anne Roth and the widow of a grandson of minister Bentz Stŭcki/Stŭckÿ and Anna Maria Neuhaŭser. The story of their immigration is told with his information. Children of Johannes/Jean Stŭckÿ and his first wife Catherine Lugenbiehl [Luginbŭhl] born at Altkirch include:

a. Chrétien Stucky was born May 12, 1815, and died at Altkirch Oct. 5, 1818.
b. Joseph Stucky was born Jan. 24, 1817.
c. Marie Stucky was born Jan. 6, 1819, and died at Reiningue Dec. 18, 1848. On Jan. 12, 1843 at Altkirch she married Jacques Kauffman. He was born at Levoncourt Dec. 9, 1809, a son of Michel Kauffmann and Anne Ummel. On Jan. 15, 1850 at Ruederbach he remarried to Catherine Hirschy. She was born at Bollwiller April 11, 1817, a daughter of Christian Hirschy and Anne Ropp.
d. Chrétien Stucky was born Feb. 2, 1820. On March 16, 1844 at St. Louis he married Barbe Wenger. She was born at *Baumgarten, canton de Soleur en Suisse* [Baumgart, Canton Solothurn] June 28, 1824, a daughter of Joseph Wenger and Anne Marie Zimmerman. As a widow, she applied for a passport at Colmar April 19, 1853. The application described her as Barbe Stucky née Wenger, 29, born at St. Louis but a resident of Altkirch, with two children. Her stated destination was New York.
e. Jacques Stucky was born at Altkirch ept. 16, 1821, and died at Altkirch March 25, 1851.

On May 24, 1802 at Staffelfelden Mathias remarried to 19-year-old Anna Maria Boshart. Anne Maria was born March 22, 1783, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Boshart and Anne Marie Müller. Their civil marriage entry described him as Mathias Stŭckÿ, 56, a laborer at Michelbach who was born at Schoppenweyer [Schoppenwihr farm at Ostheim]. The bride was described as Anna Maria Boshartin, 20, born March 22, 1783, a daughter of Johannes Boshart and Anna Maria Millerin. Witnesses included plowman Jacob Hirschi, 62, of Bollwiller; plowman Joseph Jotter, 50; and Jacob Hochstätter, 46. Anna Maria signed with an 'x,' indicating she was illiterate. See BOSHART in the Appendix for background on her family.

Mathias and Anna Maria farmed at Michelbach-le-Haut, Upper Alsace. Mathias died there Jan. 11, 1808. His civil death entry describes him as Mathié Stocky, *Anabaptiste,* 63, and stated that he had died in the home of Madame Preiswerd at St. Apollinaire. It was witnessed by his son Mathié Stocky, 32.

Children of Mathias Stŭckÿ and his second wife Anna Maria Boshart born at Michelbach-le-Haut include:

6. **Benedict Stucky** was born Jan. 7, 1805, and died at Hégenheim July 28, 1854.
7. Nicolas/Nicholas Stucky was born Dec. 14, 1806. He sailed from Le Havre on the *Burgundy*, and arrived at New York April 20, 1837. (See KENNEL, THE PACKET SHIPS for an account of the gold shipment on this voyage). The passenger list shows him with his aunt Marie Eicher and her five children: Marie Eicherin, 49, France; Chretien, 18; Josephe, 16; Pierre, 14; Catherine, 12; Benois, 8; and Nicolaus Stugky, 29. Marie was the widow of Johannes/Jean/John Boshart who had died before 1834 – see BOSHART in the Appendix. They traveled to Wilmot, Ontario, where they were initially taken in by Marie's brother Christian Boshart. Marie died at Wilmot Feb. 15, 1850; she is buried in Old Baden Cemetery, also called Kropf Cemetery, at Baden. We could not follow Nicolas/Nicholas after his arrival.
8. Barbara/Barbe Stucky was born March 1, 1808, and died at Allschwil, Switzerland Dec. 2, 1842. Her civil birth entry calling her Barbara Stoky described her parents as Mathié Stoky, 32, and Anne Marie Bosertine. On March 7, 1836 at Hegenheim she married Jacob/Jacques Goldschmitt. He was born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines Dec. 17, 1808, a son of Jacques Goldschmitt and Barbe Kauffman. One witness to the ceremony was brother-of-the-bride Benoit Stucky, 31. After her death he remarried to Anna Maria/Anne Marie Zimmerman (see ZIMMERMAN). Children of Jacob/Jacques Goldschmitt and his first wife Barbara/Barbe Stucky born at Allschwil included:
    a. Jacob Goldschmidt was born April 19, 1838, and died at Huningue, Upper Alsace May 21, 1878. On July 2, 1869 at Neuwiller, Upper Alsace he married Catherine Graber.
    b. Joseph Goldschmidt/Goldsmith was born Nov. 16, 1841, and died at Pettisville, Fulton County, Ohio Nov. 16, 1888; he is buried in Eckley Cemetery at Pettisville. On Jan. 26, 1868 at Allschwil he married his cousin Marie Anne Goldschmitt. She was born *a la Hütten* [often a name for a community-owned shelter] at Kiffis, Upper Alsace Jan. 17, 1846, a daughter of Jacob/Jacques's brother Jean Goldschmidt and Marie Klopfenstein. Her civil birth entry described her parents as Jean Golschmitt, 31, born at Markirch [Ste. Marie-aux-Mines], but a resident of Kiffis, and Marie Klopfenstein, 35. They sailed from Le Havre on the ship *Canada*, and arrived at New York Nov. 24, 1883. They are found on the passenger list as laborer Joseph Goldshmit, 42, German; Marie, 37, German; Joseph, 12; Marie, 10; Jacqu, 9; Barbe, 8; Catherine, 6; Nanette, 5; Anna, 4; and Emma, 1. *Herald of Truth*, March 1888: "On the 3rd of

February, near Pettisville, Fulton County, Ohio, Joseph Goldschmidt, aged 46 years, two months, and 27 days. He suffered severely for over two months of glandular swellings. He was buried on the 5th. Services by Christian Freyenberger and Chr. S. Stuckey, from *John 11:23-26*. He leaves his wife and eight children to mourn his death, having lived in matrimony 19 years and nine days. He emigrated from Allschwiller, Canton Basel, Switzerland, to Fulton County, Ohio, in 1883. He was a member of the Amish Mennonite church." On Feb. 9, 1897 in Fulton County Marie Anne remarried to Samuel Burkholder. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio April 24, 1838. They are found on the 1900 census of Richland, Allen County, which said that Mary, 54, was born in Switzerland in January of 1846, and immigrated in 1850. After 1910 they returned to Pettisville to live in the home of her daughter Mary Goldschmidt Roth. Marie Anne is buried in Eckley Cemetery as "Mary, wife of Joseph Goldsmith, born Jan. 14, 1846, died Sept. 7, 1920." Two of their children had connections to Tazewell County:

- Jacob Goldsmith was born at Allschwil June 11, 1873, and died at Harlem, Montana June 6, 1946. He came to Morton in 1893 after living in Fulton County, Ohio for 10 years. On July 31, 1898 at Pekin he married Caroline Gerber. She was born at Elm Grove Feb. 24, 1868, and died at Highmore, South Dakota May 20, 1948, a daughter of Christian Gerber and Anna Roth. According to the 1900 census, they also lived in a home on the family farm at Elm Grove. However, because of severe allergic reactions, they sold the land and most of their belongings to move to Highmore in 1907. Jacob helped to establish the Missionary Alliance Church of Highmore.
- Barbara Goldsmith was born at Allschwil Sept. 17, 1874, and died at Bloomington, McLean County April 27, 1954. On Aug. 16, 1900 in Ford County she married Serenus Ropp. He was born at Pekin Feb. 23, 1870, and died at Gibson City, Ford County April 7, 1947, a son of John Ropp and Catherine Gerber. They are buried in Drummer Township Cemetery in Ford County.

Benedict Stucky was born at Michelbach-le-Haut, Upper Alsace Jan. 7, 1805, and died at Blotzheim July 28, 1854 (though an entry was created at Hegenheim).

His civil birth entry actually described him as Benedict Stoky, a son of Mathias Stoky, a 60-year-old Anabaptist peasant [Fr. *paysan Annabaptiste*] residing at St. Apollinaire. He would also be known as Bendicht or Benoit.

On May 26, 1834 at Hégenheim, Upper Alsace he married Véronique/Verène/Verena Rich. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as laborer/farmhand Benoit Stucki, a resident of Hégenheim who was born at St. Apollinaire, Michelbach-le-Haut Jan. 17, 1805. He was a son of the deceased farmer Mathias Stucki of St. Apollinaire, and Marie Bosert, a farmer at Hégenheim who was present and consenting. The bride was Véronique Rich, a resident of Leymen, Upper Alsace who was born at St. Appollinaire, Obermichelbach March 18, 1806. She was a daughter of farmer Nicolas Rich of Bottingen [Bottmingen, below the city of Basel, four miles southeast of Hégenheim) and the deceased Anne Marie Eicher, who had died at Binningen [in the district of Arlesheim below the city of Basel, above Bottmingen] Feb. 20, 1829. Witnesses included Mathias Stucki, 60, a farmer at Hégenheim who was a brother of the groom; Pierre Rich, 24, a farmer at Liebsdorf, Upper Alsace who was a cousin to the bride; and day laborer Jean Müller, 42. Signatures looked like (old style German 'e' looking like an 'n') Bnnndicht Stŭckÿ, Verena Rich, Peter Rich, and Müller.

Benoit's civil death entry created at Hegenheim described him as cultivator Benoit Stucky, 48, born at Obermichelbach, the husband of Véronique Rich, 46. He was a son of the deceased Mathias Stucky and Anne Marie Bosshart. He had died in the home of notary Jacques Freund at Blotzheim. One witness was cultivator and brother-in-law Jacques Goldschmitt, 46, a resident of Allschwil.

Verena died at Hegenheim Dec. 16, 1870. Her civil death entry described her as farmer Vérène Rich, 60, widow of the deceased Benoit Stucky. She was born at Obermichelbach. Although one witness was her son Benoit, a 36-year-old farmer, the names of her parents were not known.

Children of Benedict Stucky and Véronique/Verène/Verena Rich born at Hégenheim include:

1. **Benoit Stucky** was born March 8, 1835.
2. Nicolas Stucky was born Jan. 4, 1837.
3. Anne Marie Stucky was born Sept. 29, 1838. On Feb. 3, 1868 at Hégenheim she married Pierre Schérick. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as farmer Pierre Schérick, 31, a resident of Cernay, Upper Alsace. He was born at Bourg-Bruche, Vosges Feb. 8, 1837, a son of the deceased Jean Pierre Schérick [Göerig] and the deceased Marie Bacher. They had died at Bourg-Bruche on May 20, 1860 and April 1, 1864. The bride was described as Anne Marie Stucky, 29, a resident of Hegenheim. She was a daughter of the deceased farmer Benoit Stucky, who had died at Hegenheim July 28, 1854, and farmer Verène Rich, 63, who was present and consenting. Witnesses included

farmer Benoit Stucky, 33; cultivator Nicolas Stucky, 30; and cultivator Joseph Stucky, 21; all three brothers of the bride. Pierre died at Bourg-Bruche Dec. 15, 1928.

4. Barbe Stucky was born Oct. 31, 1840.
5. Catherine Stucky was born Feb. 27, 1843, and died at Hégenheim March 20, 1846 .
6. Madeleine Stucky was born June 27, 1845. Her birth was belatedly registered at Hégenheim Sept. 1, 1862, according to her civil marriage entry. On Jan. 4, 1866 at Hegenheim she married Jean/John Rich. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Rich, 22, a resident of Munchenstein [on the southeast corner of the city of Basel], canton de Bale, who was born at St. Louis, Upper Alsace Jan. 12, 1843. He was a son of the deceased farmer Jean Rich, who had died at Munchenstein July 12, 1849, and Françoise Richard, 63, a resident of Munchenstein. The bride was Madeleine Stucky, 20, a resident of Hégenheim who was born June 27, 1845. She was a daughter of the deceased farmer Benoit Stucky, who had died July 28, 1854, and farmer Verène Rich, 60, who was present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Nicolas Stucky, 29. Widower Jean/John Rich and his children came to America in 1882 with his brother-in-law Benoit Stucky.
7. Joseph Stucky was born Dec. 27, 1848.

Benoit Stucky was born at Hégenheim, Upper Alsace March 8, 1835.

On Jan. 5, 1866 at Hégenheim he married Anne Maria Kauffman. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Benoit Stucky, 30, born at Hégenheim March 8, 1835. He was a son of the deceased farmer Benoit Stucky, who had died there July 28, 1854, and Verène Rich, 60, who was present and consenting. The bride was Anna Marie Kauffmann, 29, a resident of Hirsingue, Upper Alsace, who was born at Reinach, canton de Bale March 8, 1836. She was a daughter of the deceased Jacques Kauffman, 58, and Anne Marie Rick [Reck], 60, who was present and consenting. One witness was cultivator Nicolas Stucky, 29.

Anna Maria died at Hégenheim March 21, 1871.

Children of Benoit Stucky and his first wife Anna Maria Kauffman born at Hégenheim include:

1. Josephine Stucky was born July 17, 1866, and died at Peoria Dec. 16, 1939. On Nov. 8, 1885 in McLean County she married John U. Egolf. He was born at Zurich, Switzerland June 23, 1861, and died at Gridley, McLean County Oct. 14, 1919. They are found on censuses of Gridley from 1900 through 1930. In 1900: harness maker John Egolf, 34, born in Germany in June 1861; Josephine, 33, born in Germany in July 1866; Walter, 17, born in Illinois in December 1888; and Harry, 9, born in Illinois in February 1891. Her death entry named her parents as Benedect Stucky and Mary Kaufman. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
2. Joseph Stucky was born Sept. 2, 1867, and died at Gridley July 19, 1926. On Jan. 31, 1900 at Gridley he married Anna Barbara Donner. She was born at Panola, Woodford County May 1, 1865, and died at Gridley Aug. 13, 1949, a daughter of Frederick Donner and Barbara Gingerich. They are found on the 1900 census of Gridley as farmer Joseph Stucky, 32, born in Germany in December of 1867, immigrated in 1882; and Anna B., 35, born in Illinois in May of 1865 to parents from Ohio and New York. On the 1920 census of Gridley Joseph reported that he was born in Alsace-Lorraine, and spoke German; but desribing his parents, he reported that they spoke French. Anna reported that her father came from Ohio, but that her mother came from Alsace-Lorraine and spoke German. They are buried in Gridley Cemetery.
3. Marie/Maria Stucky was born June 9, 1869, and died at Hégenheim Sept. 13, 1869.

On Jan. 12, 1873 at Hégenheim Benoit remarried to Catherine Goldschmitt. She was born at Basel May 11, 1849, and died at Morton Jan. 1, 1929, a daughter of Jacob Goldschmitt and Anne Marie Zimmerman. On the civil marriage entry he was described as 37-year-old miller Benedict Stucky, the widower of Anne Maria Kauffmann, a son of the deceased Benedict Stucky and the deceased Verena Rich. The bride was Catharina Goldschmitt, 23, a daughter of Jacob Goldschmitt, 53, and Maria Zimmerman, 52, residents of Neuwiller, Upper Alsace.

They sailed from Le Havre on the ship *France*, and arrived at New York Dec. 15, 1882. The passenger list shows cultivator Benoit Stucky, 47, Alsace; Catharine, 33; Joseph, 17; Josephine, 16; Elisa, 1; and Lisette, 28. (This was Lisette Goldschmitt, who became the second wife of minister Daniel Roth in Tazewell County Sept. 15, 1887; see ROTH for background). They were accompanied by the family of Benoit's brother-in-law (the husband of Madeleine Stucky, who was now a widower): cultivator Jean Rich, 40; Marie, 16; Joseph, 8; and Josephine, 7.

Benoit Stucky was buried in Gridley Cemetery in McLean County as "Benedict Stuckey, Mar. 21, 1834-Jan. 19, 1896."

The 1900 census of Morton shows Katy Stucky, 51, born in Germany in May of 1849, immigrated in 1882; Lizzie, 18, born in Germany in July of 1880; and Christian, 16, born in Illinois in October of 1883.

The 1920 census of Morton has farmer Lizzie Stucky, 39, Germany, immigrated in 1883; mother Kate, 70, Germany, immigrated in 1883; and boarder George Guengerich, 38, immigated from 'Byren' [Bayern/Bavaria] in 1913.

Gospel Herald, January 1929: "Catherine Goldsmith Stucky was born in Basel, Switzerland, May 11, 1849; died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Guengrich; aged 79 y. 9 m. 20 d. In the year 1873 she was married to Benedict Stucky. This union was blessed with seven children, five of whom died in infancy. In 1882 she, with her family, came to America, residing in Gridley, Ill., at which place in 1896 her husband preceded her in death. In 1900 she with her daughter, Lizzie, and son, Chris, moved on a farm near Morton and lived there until her son died at an early age in 1908. Surviving her are two daughters, Mrs. George Guengrich of Morton, and Mrs. Josephine Egolf of Gridley, Ill., besides a number of relatives and a host of friends. Early in life she united with the Mennonite Church to which she remained faithful until her death. In her girlhood days she met with an accident which later deprived her of her hearing. But in spite of this misfortune she always had a loving and cheerful disposition, her home always having been one of hospitality and a pleasant place to visit." She is buried as Katherine Stucky in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery, where her headstone gives the dates May 11, 1849-Jan. 1, 1925.

Children of Benoit Stucky and his second wife Catherine Goldschmitt include:

4. Marie Stucky was born at Hégenheim May 8, 1874, and died there July 11, 1874.
5. Anna Stucky was born at Hégenheim April 23, 1875, and died there May 18, 1875.
6. Jacob Stucky. His birth was not registered, but his father reported his death at Hégenheim at age 22 days on Nov. 19, 1876.
7. Catharina Stucky was born at Hégenheim Oct. 22, 1877, and died there Sept. 7, 1878.
8. Elisa/Lizzie Stucky was born at Hégenheim July 31, 1880, and died in Tazewell County July 18, 1961. On Feb. 12, 1924 in Tazewell County she married George Guengerich. He was born Feb. 14, 1882, and died May 5, 1969. They are buried under a joint headstone in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.
9. Christian Stucky was born in Tazewell County Oct. 2, 1883, and died there Oct. 28, 1906. He is buried as Chris Stucky in Pleasant Grove Mennonite Cemetery.

Schlabach of Ostwald

Schlabach is derived from Schlapbach. In Canton Bern a *Schlapbach* is a slack brook or stream. *Heimatorte* or legal places of origin for Swiss citizenship rights for this surname include Steffisburg, Oberlangenegg, Eriz, Frŭtigen, Rüderswil, and Brenzikhofen. In North America this also became Slaybaugh and Slabaugh.

A very similar but less common surname is derived from *Schŭpbach*, a description of a rocky brook or stream. Roggiwil, Langnau im Emmental, and Signau are *Heimatorte*. In France-speaking areas this also became Chepack or Chipach.

This portion of text provides a small piece of a puzzle: the identification of Jacobine Habecker, which was a mystery to her descendants for many years. She and her Schlabach first husband immigrated in 1838. They appeared on the 1840 census of Tazewell County, where he died before the spring of 1841. Neither of his children lived longer than 1850. Jacobine remarried to Michael Ropp/Rupp of Elm Grove (see ROPP).

Children of **Johannes Schlabach** and Anne Sneider include:

1. **Jacob/Jacques/Jakob Schlabach** was born circa 1762.
2. Christian/Chrétien Schlabach was born circa 1776. On June 5, 1809 at Ostwald, Lower Alsace he married Anne Marie Hundsinger. She was born at Richwiller, Upper Alsace circa 1776, and died at Strasbourg May 6, 1838. Their civil mariage entry described his parents as Johannes Schlabach and the deceased Anne Sneiderin, and hers as the deceased Johannes Hundsinger and Catherine Peter Smidtin. Her parents had been residents of Richwiller. Her civil death entry described her as Marie Hunsinger Schlabach, 62, born at Richwiller, a daughter of the deceased cultivator Jean Hunsinger and the deceased Catherine Schmitt. She was the wife of cultivator Chrétien Schlabach, 62, a resident of Strasbourg. Her husband was a witness, and signed 'Shlabach.'

Jacob/Jacques/Jakob Schlabach was born circa 1762.

He married Catherine Hunsinger. She was born circa 1767 at Bollwiller, Upper Alsace (eight miles north of Richwiller), and died at Ostwald Jan. 3, 1836, though her death was recorded at Strasbourg.

Jacob/Jacques/Jakob died at Kirchdorf, Villingen, Baden [now Villingen-Schwenningen, 59 miles southeast of Ostwald] Dec. 27, 1823. A burial entry in the records of Sankt Martinus Katholisch church at Villingen gave his age as 61. He may have been working at nearby Űberauchern (four miles north) on the Mantelhof estate associated with the Egli family.

Catherine's Strasbourg civil death entry described her as Catherine Hunsinger, 68, the widow of cultivator Jacques Schlabach. Her parents were the deceased cultivator Jean Hunsinger and the deceased Catherine Schmidt. She died in *Maison No. 17* at *la Hohwarth* (the present *Rue de la Hohwart* is a few blocks south of the neighborhoods called Meinau and Canardière). It was witnessed by her son cultivator Jean Schlabach, 34.

Their children born at Ostwald include:

1. **Johannes/Jean Schlabach** was born June 18, 1804.
2. Catherine Schlabach was born Oct. 18, 1806.

Johannes/Jean Schlabach was born at Ostwald, Lower Alsace June 18, 1804.

On Dec. 30, 1830 at Strasbourg [above Ostwald] he married Jacobine Habecker. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as cultivator Jean Schlabach, a resident of Strasbourg. His parents were the deceased Jacques Schlabach, who had died at Kirchdorf, Baden Dec. 28, 1823, and Catherine Hundsinger, a resident of Windstein, Lower Alsace who was present and consenting. The bride was Jacobine Habecker, a resident of Strasbourg who was born at Lembach [adjacent on the east side of Windstein and Niedersteinbach] July 8, 1808. She was a daughter of the deceased Jean Habecker, who had died at Lembach Sept. 26, 1815, and the deceased Catherine Schantz, who had died at Niedersteinbach Oct. 31, 1828. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Hunsinger, 46; cultivator Jean Egli, 50; cultivator Chrétien Stucki, 55; and cultivator Jacques Schott, whose age was illegible. The groom signed 'Johannes Schlabach.'

The names of the witnesses suggest the group was made up of employees on the grounds of the notorious smuggler-spy-general Karl Ludwig Schulmeister's simple quarters at Canardière, or at his elaborate Château Meinau on adjoining property (see EIGSTI for background on these locations).

A great deal of garbling and confusion of Jacobine's identity has come from conflicting and incomplete information. This might be expected; she was certainly illiterate, likely spoke only German, and later in life was described as 'insane.'

According to their civil marriage entry, the groom was a son of the deceased cultivator Jacob/Jacques Schlabach (he had died at Kirchdorf, Baden Dec. 27, 1823) and Catherine Hundsinger [Unzicker], a resident of Windstein, Lower Alsace. His actual birth entry verifies this, naming his parents as Jacob Schlabach and Catharina Hundsinger. Jacobine's description provided the names, places of death, and dates for her parents. Witnesses included cultivator Jean Hunsinger, 46; cultivator Jean Egli, 51; cultivator Chrétien Stucki, 53; and cultivator Jacques Schott, 26.

In 1836 they were living in Maison No. 38 on Route de Colmar at Strasbourg.

Johannes/Jean and Jacobine departed Le Havre on the *Albany*, arriving at New York June 7, 1838. They are found on the passenger list as Johann Schlabach, 33; Jacobé, 30; Andreas, 6; Elisabeth, 2; and Christian Schlabach, 36. This was the same voyage that brought the family of Peter/Pierre Schertz and Magdalena/Madeleine Zehr, who are found on the same page (see SCHERTZ).

Jacobine had relatives in the area, children of her brother Johannes/Jean Habecker and Barbara Stalter. Her niece Katharina/Catherine Habecker had married Nicholas Roth in Butler County, Ohio in 1843, and they are found on the 1850 census of Morton. Her nephew Johannes/John Habecker and Magdalena Roth arrived in Peoria County and McLean County in October of 1850. Her nephew Pierre/Peter Habecker married Elisabeth/Elizabeth Rich in Tazewell County in 1856, and they settled at Washington.

Johannes/Jean died between the 1840 census and March 7, 1841. The county registers says that on March 7, 1841 at Pekin Jacoby Schlabach married Michael Roupp; minister Michael Mosiman performed the ceremony. This brought Jacobine together with another German-speaking Amish Mennonite who was familiar with the place she was first married, Strasbourg (Bischheim is less than two miles from the city limits), and Baden, the home of her first husband (across Rhine River bridges from Strasbourg).

Michel Ropp (later known as Michael Rupp) was born at Bischheim, Lower Alsace April 22, 1804. A listing for the birth of Michel Rop on this date is found in the 10-year civil index, though no full entry is found in the register for that year or those around it. But we can assume that he was a son of Joseph Ropp and his first wife Anne Müller, since at the time of their marriage in 1799 Anne was an employee in the English garden of the *Château de Angleterre* at Bischheim.

Michael was a younger brother to Wilmot settler Joseph Ropp. We could not determine when Michael emigrated from Europe (his older brother arrived at Wilmot in October of 1827), when or if he went to Ontario, or when he later came to Illinois.

For background on their life together see ROPP, OTHER RŬPPS.

Children of Jacobine Habecker and her first husband Johannes/Jean Schlabach include:

1. Andreas Schlabach was born circa 1832, and died before the 1840 census.
2. Elisabeth Schlabach was born at Strasbourg, Lower Alsace March 23, 1836, and died before the 1850 census.

Moser of Bollwiller

In Canton Bern a *Moser* was someone who drained and reclaimed wetlands [Ger. *Moos*] for farming. *Heimatorte* or legal points of origin for Swiss citizenship rights include Biglen, Langnau im Emmental, Röthenbach im Emmental, Rűderswil, and Sigriswil.

The most significant Moser in Anabaptist history disagreed with Jacob Amman.

NICLAŬS/CLAŬS MOSER

He was born in the hamlet Friedersmatt (now the road Friedersmatt at Bowil), and baptized at Grosshöchstetten April 17, 1636, a son of Jost Moser and Anna Lűginbűhl.

On Jan. 9, 1663 at Grosshöchstetten he married Elsbeth Haldimann. They had 10 children baptized there between 1664 and 1682.

On Aug. 24, 1671 bailiffs were instructed to take prominent citizens as hostages in Steffisburg and Signau parishes, places suspected of harboring Anabaptists. Baptism entries from 1674, 1676, and 1678 said that 'Niclaŭs Mooser' was *Anabaptista*, and the babies had been brought to the church by his brother Allbrecht on behalf of Elsbeth.

Recall from BERNESE ANABAPTISTS, THE AMISH DIVISION that in late July or early August of 1693 Niclaŭs hosted a meeting with Jacob Amman in his home. The well-respected Mennonite Hans Reist did not appear, and they decided to meet again in two weeks. When it became apparent that Reist had stayed away once again, the second meeting erupted into the Amish division. Ammann first announced that he was placing Reist under the *Ban*, then host Moser and Peter Geiger, then that he would expel Peter Habegger, Jacob Schwartz, and Peter im Gul [Ingold] as well. As they departed, Amman and his companions refused to shake hands with those who had taken moderate positions.

In 1709 Niclaŭs wrote a letter to Holland asking for funds on behalf of would-be emigrants and expressing his desire for reconciliation.

He was jailed in the city of Bern in 1710. He was not among those put on an exile boat in 1710, and was reported by Melchior Zahler to have died in prison.[252]

Children of Niclaŭs/Claŭs Moser and Elsbeth Haldimann of Friedersmatt baptized at Grosshöchstetten include:

1. Anni Moser was baptized March 13, 1664.
2. Barbeli Moser was baptized March 19, 1665.
3. Jost Moser was baptized July 24, 1666, and died before Nov. 1, 1668.
4. Jost Moser was baptized Nov. 1, 1668.
5. Barbara Moser was baptized Aug. 4, 1672.
6. Catharÿna Moser was baptized April 10, 1674. Her father was described as *Anabaptista*, and her mother mistakenly identified at Cathrÿna Haldimann. She was brought in for baptism by brother Allbrecht Moser.
7. Hans Moser was baptized May 26, 1676. His father was described as *Anabaptista*, and he was brought in by Allbrecht Moser. He died before Feb. 1, 1678.
8. Hanns Moser was baptized Feb. 1, 1678. His father was described as *Anabaptista*. The word '*obyt*' in the entry indicates that he died as an infant.
9. Elsbeth Moser was baptized March 7, 1679. Her father was described as *Anabaptista*. She was brought in by Allbrecht Moser.
10. Margreth Moser was baptized July 14, 1682. Her father was described as *Anabaptista*.

The important point is that Niclaŭs/Claŭs and Elsbeth did not have a son Hans born before 1674. Thus they could not have been the forebearers of the line that descends to Central Illinois. Jumping ahead to those Tazewell and Woodford County settlers...

On the east side of Grosshöchstetten and Bowil, four villages make a line north-to-south. They are Lűtzelflűh, Rűderswil, Signau, and Röthenbach im Emmental (formerly called simply Röthenbach).

Hans Moser (#1) was born before 1674. He married Elsbeth Műssli. Their children baptized at Röthenbach include:

1. Anna Moser was baptized Oct. 7, 1694. Witnesses included Peter Moser, Cathrina Műller, and Madlena Wenger.
2. Barbara Moser was baptized Oct. 21, 1697. Witnesses included Bendicht Reinhard, Barbara Wenger, and Anna Schindler.
3. Elsbeth Moser was baptized Dec. 29, 1700. Witnesses included Niclaŭs Wenger, Barbara Stram, and Elsbeth Moser.

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[252] That Moser's death in prison went unnoticed may have to do with confusion over his name, and how it would be identified in Swiss records. Even the church at Grosshöchstetten often misspelled it as 'Mooser.' Letters related to the Amish division call him Nikolas, while his first name is generally found as Nicolaŭs or Nicholas in English-language items; he was actually baptized Niclaŭs and all entries at Grosshöchstetten were spelled that way.

4. **Hans Moser** (#2) was baptized Oct. 14, 1703. Witnesses included Jaggi Stŭcki, Peter Schär, and Verena Műller.

Hans Moser (#2) was baptized at Röthenbach Oct. 14, 1703.[253]

On Feb. 21, 1726 at Röthenbach he married Elsbeth Lehmann. She was baptized at Röthenbach Jan. 29, 1702, a daughter of Christen Leeman and Barbara May. Witnesses included Christen Schindler, Barbara Dällenbach, and Anna Birschi.

Their son **Hans Moser** (#3) was baptized at Röthenbach Oct. 26, 1727. His baptism entry said that he had been born at Wirzbrűnnen, now a road just above the village center of Röthenbach im Emmental. Witnesses included Benedicht Műller, Ŭlli Hertig, and Margreth Moser.

Hans (#3) married Elsbeth Reinhard of Lűtzelflűh.

They were the parents of **Hans/Johannes/Jean Moser** (#4). He was baptized at Biglen (above Grosshöchstetten) May 28, 1758.[254] Witnesses included Niclaŭs Reinhard of Lűtzelflűh, Christen Grŭber of Biglen, and Catharina Reinhard of Lűtzelflűh.

Between 1780 and 1789 he married Barbara Grieser. She was born circa 1762. The Amish Mennonite Grieser family was associated with Emmendingen or Niederemmendingen, two villages in the district of Hochberg within Baden-Durlach (they merged in 1883). Other surnames found there were Berner, Eyer, Hodel, Iseli, Joder, König, Leutweiler, Müller, Roth, Rŭpp, and Zimmerman.

Presumably the ceremony took place at Bollwiller or nearby in the Sundgau region of Upper Alsace (97 miles north of Biglen). There were numerous Zimmermans from Emmendingen and Niederemmendingen living there or nearby in Soultz and Ungersheim.

Recall from ROPP that ...The predominantly German-speaking region is a geographic area bounded on the west by the *Territoire de Belfort*, on the north by the Alsatian Plain, on the east by the Rhine River, and on the south by the Swiss border. The centerpiece of the Sundgau region was the city-republic of Mulhouse. Mulhouse was actually a detached enclave of the Old Swiss Confederacy, completely surrounded by Alsace. Because of its limited space and location on trade routes with Baden and Basel, its economy revolved around weaving and fabric printing."

At Bollwiller (10 miles northwest of Mulhouse) the resident minister/elder was Jacob Hirschi. He was born circa 1737 and had arrived there after operating a grain mill at Sigolsheim, Upper Alsace (see ROPP for background). Families in his congregation included Eicher, Liechti/Liechty, Roth, Schurch, Sommer, Steiner, Stŭckÿ/Stocky, Tschantz, and Zimmerman.

Hans/Johannes/Jean died there March 31, 1800. Barbara died at Schweighouse-Thann (10 miles southwest of Bollwiller) May 9, 1805. Her civil death entry called her Barbe Grieserin. It gave her age as 42, and said that she had died in Maison No. 87, the Waldner home. It was witnessed by her supervisor Joseph Schurch [Fr. *maitre de la defunct*], his brother Chrétien Schurch, and neighbor Joseph Stucki.

Children of Hans/Johannes/Jean Moser (#4) and Barbara Grieser include:

1. Madeleine Moser was born Oct. 6, 1789. On April 25, 1831 she requested an authorization for a foreigner to establish a domicile in France (the source of the birthdate above). Being a lawful permanent resident was necessary to obtain a *Justificatif de Domicile*, or proof of residence. This was not naturalization, but it was necessary to open a bank account, enroll children in public schools, or sign certain legal documents.
    a. Magdalena Moser was born in the home of the widow König at Illzach (eight miles southeast of Bollwiller) Dec. 12, 1812, and died at Mulhouse Sept. 10, 1868. Her civil birth entry described her as Mathalaine Mosser and her mother as Mathalaine Mosser, 24. The birth was reported by midwife [Fr. *sage femme*] Barbe Vogel, 65, who was illiterate and signed the civil birth entry with an 'x.' On Dec. 28, 1832 at Pulversheim she married Nicolas Hildy. He was born at Hirtzbach May 23, 1803, and died at Mulhouse Sept. 25, 1837, a son of Joseph Hildy and Marie Kauffmann. Their civil marriage entry described the bride as a *fille illegitime de la Demoiselle Madeleine Moser* living at Illzach. One witness was farmer Jean Eicher, 48, of Pulversheim. On Sept. 19, 1839 at Richwiller she remarried to Johannes/Jean Neuhauser. He was born at Feldbach May 17, 1811, a son of Pierre Neuhauser and Anne Marie Roth. Her mother was present and consenting.
2. Jean Moser was born Nov. 25, 1791, and died at Bourtzwiller, Illzach March 23, 1847 (no longer in Illzach, now the most populated quarter of Mulhouse). He became a cultivator. On Sept. 21, 1830 he requested an authorization for a

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[253] We used the names of witnesses to distinguish him from another Hans at Röthenbach. The other Hans Moser was baptized Sept. 18, 1702; his parents were Christen Moser and Barbara Stram. Witnesses included Andreas Moser, Hans Tschantz, and Barbara Jŭng.

[254] Helmut Gingerich noticed that Magdalena Sommer was born at Bollwiller Aug. 15, 1797, a daughter of Christian Sommer and Anne Marie Schwari/Schwarÿ. One witness was Johannes Moser, 41. Yet Moser's 1800 death entry said he was 40.

foreigner to establish a residence in France (the source of the birthdate above). His inaccurate civil death entry described him as servant Jean Moser, 55, born at Signau, Switzerland, a son of the deceased Jean Moser, a day laborer, and Catherine Bossers. One witness was launderer [Fr. *blanchisseur*] Jean Neuhauser, 36. Neuhauser was described as an uncle of the deceased, but was actually his nephew.

3. Christian (as he signed his name)/Chrétien Moser was born at Bollwiller in 1797. On July 5, 1828 at Bollwiller he married Anne Wenger. Their civil marriage entry described the groom as Chrétien Moser, 32, a servant who was born at Bollwiller in 1797. He had submitted a notarized document that explained his birth in the family home at Bollwiller to a civil court [Fr. *tribunal de grande instance*]. He was a son of the deceased Jean Moser, who had died at Bollwiller March 31, 1800, and Barbe Grieser, who had died at Schweighausen May 9, 1805. The bride was Anne Wenger, 33, born at Florimont, Belfort May 7, 1795. She was a daughter of the deceased Jean Wenger, who died at Hirsingue, Upper Alsace Dec. 7, 1815 [his civil death entry labeled him an *annabaptist*], and Anne Kaufmann, who died at Florimont Nov. 24, 1807. Witnesses included day laborer Benois Moser, 36, brother of the groom; cultivator Benois Tschantz, 36; and cultivator Chrétien Schtafre [Stauffer], 49. On April 25, 1831 he requested an authorization for a foreigner to establish a domicile in France. He was described as day laborer Chrétien Moser, born at Bollwiller in 1797. Their children born at Bollwiller include:
    a. Anne Marie Moser was born April 12, 1829, and died at Bollwiller April 26, 1829.
    b. Chrétien Moser was born Sept. 14, 1830.
    c. Benois Moser was born Dec. 8, 1832. His civil birth entry described his father as day laborer Chrétien Moser, 36, and Marie Anne Wenger, 37. One witness was his uncle Benois Moser, 34.
4. **Benois/Benedict Moser** was born at Bollwiller Dec. 12, 1798, and died circa 1849.

Benois/Benoit/Benedict Moser was born at Bollwiller Dec. 12, 1798, and died circa 1849. His civil birth entry described him as a day laborer, and his parents as landowner [Ger. *Burger*] and daily wage earner [Ger. *Taglöhner*] Johannes Moser and Barbara Grieser. It was witnessed by Benedict Tschantz and Elisabeth Zimmerman.

On May 27, 1826 at Bollwiller he married Elisabeth Roth. Their civil marriage entry describes the groom as Benois Moser, age 27 years and five months, born at Bollwiller Dec. 12, 1798. He was a son of the deceased day laborer Jacques Moser, who had died at Bollwiller March 31, 1800, and the deceased Barbe Grieser, who had died at Schweighausen May 9, 1805. The bride was domestic servant Elisabeth Roth, age 20 years and three months. She was born at La Croix-aux-Mines [in Vosges] Feb. 12, 1806, a daughter of farm equipment operator Nicolas Roth. He was a resident of La Croix who was present and consenting. Her mother was the deceased Anne Miller, who had died at La Croix June 24, 1814. One witness was cultivator Jean Roth, 32.

On April 25, 1831 Benois/Benoit/Benedict requested an authorization for a foreigner to establish a residence in France. He was described as Benoit Moser, a day laborer, born at Bollwiller Dec. 12, 1798.

Circa 1835 the family relocated to Mulhouse. There Benois/Benoit/Benedict would be employed as a valet for Charles Georges Marie Joseph Kestner (1803-1870). Kestner inherited and operated factories that produced dyes and acids for the textile industry. He encouraged progressive improvements in the lives of his workers by awarding annual bonuses proportional to seniority, retirement benefits, loans for land and home purchases, and offered savings safeguards in the form of company banks.

On March 23, 1843 at Colmar (18 miles north of Bollwiller) Benois/Benedict Moser applied for a passport. He was described as farmer Benoit Moser, 43, born at Bollwiller and living at Mulhouse. His destination was recorded as New York. If he obtained a passport, it was never used.

Kestner became a political opponent of Louis-Napoléon Bonaparte III. Bonaparte had been president of the French Republic for three years before Dec. 2, 1851. On that day he dissolved the National Assembly. When opponents from the countryside marched toward Paris, more than 27,000 were arrested and charged. Kestner was arrested, but found a way to go into exile in Switzerland. He returned within a few months.

Daughter Anne Marie/Anna departed from Le Havre on the *Gallia*, and arrived at New York April 21, 1851. She accompanied the family of her future husband. They are found on the passenger list as Peter Ledermann, 57; Anna, 54; Johannes, 28; Peter, 28; Catherine, 13; Judith, 8; Anne Moser, 20; Johann Ramseier, 29; Johann Blank, 28.

On Dec. 2, 1852, the one-year anniversary of his initial decree dissolving the national assembly, Bonaparte became Emperor Napoleon III of the French Second Empire.

Although son Christian later reported that he had immigrated in 1853, we suspect but cannot prove that he traveled with another Moser family a year earlier. (More on this to follow).

Mother Elisabeth applied for a passport at Colmar Feb. 24, 1854. She was described as Elisabeth Moser, a widow who was born a Roth [Fr. *Moser Elisabeth veuve née Roth*], 47, born at La Croix-aux-Mines, with four children. Her destination would be New York. They sailed from Le Havre on the *Cotton Planter*, and arrived at New York May 10, 1854. The passenger list has Elise Roth, 47; Catherine Moser, 26; Eliz. Moser, 19; Marie

Moser, 17; and Benoit Moser, 10. The names directly above theirs were traveling companions Pierre Lichty, 32; Anne, 36; Joseph, 6; Anne, 5; Catherine, six months; Barbe Hilty, 42; and Nicolas, 18. The first and second passengers were Pierre Lichty born at Allenjoie, Doubs Sept. 9, 1821, a son of Pierre Lichty and Maria Hildy, and his wife Anne Hildy. They had been married at Illzach (eight mile southeast of Bollwiller) Jan. 28, 1847, and obtained their passport on the same day as Elisabeth.

Elisabeth is found for the last time on the 1870 census of German, Fulton County in the household of her daughter Marianne/Marie/Mary and her husband Christian King: farmer Christian King, 44, Switzerland; Mary, 34, France; corn laborer Joseph, 16, Ohio; Elizabeth, 13, Ohio; John, 11, Ohio; David, 9, Ohio; Magdalin, 8, Ohio; Mary, 6, Ohio; Catharine, 3, Ohio; Samuel, four months, Ohio; and Elizabeth Mosier, 65, France. She died at German May 19, 1876, and is buried in Aeschliman Cemetery at Pettisville.

There are a number of coincidences associated with German Township, Fulton County. Among the settlers there were Griesers who had sailed from Le Havre on the *Asia*, and arrived at New York May 26, 1834. This will be recalled as a ship that brought Amish Mennonite families from Baden named Eyer, Gautschi/Gautsche, Goldschmidt, Gundy, Reidiger [Reŭtiger/Rediger], Zehr, and Zimmerman (for background see KING and GOLDSMITH). The passenger list shows farmer Michel Griesser, 43, Baden; Barbe, 43; Barbe, 21; Anne M., 19; Madeleine, 17; Elise, 14; and Daniel, 12. The 1860 census of German Township shows 16 Griesers in four households.

Children of Benois/Benedict Moser and Elisabeth Roth include:

1. Catherine Moser was born Aug. 8, 1826. Her civil birth entry described her parents as servant Benoit Moser, 27, and Elisabeth Roth, 20. She was living in Indiana in 1889.
2. **Christian Moser** was born at Bollwiller May 3, 1829.
3. Anne Marie/Anna Moser was born at Bollwiller June 28, 1831, and died in Fulton County, Ohio July 30, 1912. Circa 1855 she married John Leatherman [Ledermann]. He was born in Switzerland circa March 24, 1824, and died in Clinton Township Jan. 1, 1898. A headstone in Aeschliman Cemetery says "Anna, wife of John Leatherman, died July 30, 1912, aged 73 Y. 1 M." This erroneous age count would place her birth in June of 1839, conflicting with the birth date of younger brother Benedict. But the 1860 census of German, Fulton County has farmer John Leatherman, 35, Switzerland; Anna, 26, France; Jacob, 4, Ohio; Eunice, 2, Ohio; and Magdeline Rote, 8. The 1880 census of Clinton Township (containing Wauseon), Fulton County has farmer John Leatherman, 47, Switzerland; Ann, 48, France; Jacob, 24, Ohio; Jonas, 22, Ohio; and John, 17, Ohio. The 1900 census of Clinton Township has Annie Leatherman, 66, born in Germany in January of 1833, with no date of immigration; farmer Jacob, 44, born in Ohio in May of 1856 to parents from Germany; and farm laborer Jonas, 42, born in Ohio in May of 1858 to parents from Germany. John's headstone says he died Jan. 2, 1898, aged 74 Y. 9 M. 22 D. (note that he would have been about 13 years older than the age reported on the 1880 census).
4. Elizabeth Moser was born at Bollwiller July 1, 1833, and died in 1923. Circa 1860 she married John Schrock. They may have been a household found on the 1860 census of Wayne Township, Wayne County as farmer John Schrock, 35, Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, 25, Germany; and Hen. McFadden, 10, Ohio. They are found on the 1900 census of Milton, Wayne County, Ohio as farmer John Schrock, 75, born in Pennsylvania in September of 1825; Elizabeth, 64, born in Germany in July of 1836; and Johnathan, 26, born in Ohio in November of 1873.
5. Marianne/Marie/Mary Moser was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace Feb. 5, 1836, and died at Wauseon Dec. 18, 1917. Her civil birth index described her as Marianne Mosser, a daughter of day laborer Benoit Mosser, 36, born at Bollwiller, and Elisabeth Roth, 28. She was born in the Leonhardt home. Her father's signature looked like Bnnndicht Mosnr. On May 29, 1856 in Fulton County she married widower Christian King. He was born at Basel April 26, 1827, and died at German Township (surrounding Archbold), Fulton County May 29, 1911, a son of Johannes/John King and Magdalena Rupp. His first wife had been Salome Sauder, who had died May 27, 1854. The 1900 census of German shows them as landlord Nicklos King, 73, born in Germany in April of 1827, immigrated in 1837; landlady Mary, 63, born in Germany in February of 1837, immigrated in 1854; carpenter Christian, 28, born in Ohio in December of 1871; servant Sary, 20, born in Ohio in April of 1880; farm laborer Joel, 25, born in Ohio in June of 1874; and Joel's wife servant Liddy, 23, born in Ohio in October of 1877. They are buried in Aeschliman Cemetery, where his headstone does not give an exact date of death, but the age 84 Y. 1 M. 17 D.
6. Benoit/Benedict Moser was born at Mulhouse, Upper Alsace March 11, 1839, and died at Morton June 12, 1923. His civil birth entry described him as Benoit, and his parents as day laborer Benoit Mosser, 39, born at Bollwiller and a resident of Mulhouse, and Elisabeth Roth. He was born in the Kestner home on the Route de Colmar at Mulhouse. Circa 1860 he married Verena 'Fanny' Steiner. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio Jan. 26, 1839, and died at Morton Jan. 28, 1916, a daughter of minister John Steiner and Anna. Benedict was naturalized at Peoria Feb. 10, 1868, giving his country of origin as France; his witnesses were Jacob Miller and John Claudon. The 1900 census of Morton lists their household as farmer Benedict Moser, 60, born in France in March of 1840, immigrated in 1853; Fanny, 61, born in Ohio to German parents in January of 1839; farm laborer Ruben, 25, born in Illinois in August of 1874; Lydia, 24, born in Illinois in May of 1876; Leo, 22, born in Illinois in February of 1878; and Sarah, 20, born in Illinois in January of 1880. The 1910 census of Morton shows Benjamin Moser, 70, born in Germany to German

parents, immigrated in 1854; Verena, 71, born in Ohio to German parents; Leo, 28, Illinois; Lydia, 33, Illinois; and Ruben, 35, Illinois. The 1920 census of Morton has widower Benedict Moser, 79, born in France to a father from Switzerland and a mother from France; Lydia H., 43, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Ohio; and Leo, 40, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Ohio. Like his brother Christian, Benedict died of pneumonia. Benedict and Verena are buried in Morton Apostolic Christian Cemetery, where a headstone erroneously gives his birth date as March 18, 1840.

7. Benjamin Moser was born at Mulhouse Sept. 23, 1841, and died there Jan. 8, 1845. His civil birth entry created Sept. 24 identified him as Benjamin Mosser. His parents were valet [Fr. *voiturier*] Benoit Mosser, 42, born at Bollwiller to Swiss parents [Fr. *du parents d'origines Suisse*], and Elisabeth Roth, 34. They were residents of Mulhouse. He was born in the Kestner home on the Rue Faubourg de Colmar at Mulhouse. His father signed Bennndicht Moser. On his civil death entry his parents were described as day laborer Benoit Moser, 44, and Elisabeth Roth, residents of Muhouse. His birth date was given incorrectly as Sept. 22, 1840, and his age count was calculated as three years, three months, and 16 days.

Christian Moser was born at Bollwiller May 3, 1829, and died at Montgomery, Woodford County Nov. 17, 1900.

On Feb. 28, 1853 domestic servant Chrétien Moser, 24, applied for a passport at Colmar. His birthplace was given as Bollwiller. His intended destination was New York. He reported on the 1900 federal census that he had immigrated in 1853.[255]

There may have been specific reasons for his departure. Recall from SCHERTZ that the United Kingdom declared war on Russia March 27, 1854. France announced their alliance the following day. However, a French resident fearing a military draft would have been wary well before war was actually declared. In late summer of 1852 Napoleon III had ordered the new 80-gun ship *Charlemagne* through the Dardanelles into the Black Sea as a show of force, in violation of the London Straits Convention of 1841.

At the time the standing French army was made up of volunteers who had enlisted for seven-year terms. The lengthy term meant that they were relatively well trained. The French government eventually decided not to return to a draft system of military conscription, to avoid diluting the strength of their troops. The Treaty of Paris ended hostilities March 30, 1856. However, the risk of military conscription would have seemed very real in 1852 and 1853.

From New York Christian traveled to Wayne County, Ohio, where he worked as a farmhand and earned enough money to bring over his widowed mother, four sisters, and brother Benedict in 1854. That summer he settled them near what is now Wauseon, Fulton County, Ohio (adjacent to Pettisville).[256]

In 1855 Christian went to Adams County (below Fulton County) for a year. In the summer of 1856 he and his younger brother Benedict headed west.

Recall from CAMP that on Dec. 26, 1837 in Butler County, Ohio Christian Kempf/Camp married Magdalena Sommer. She was born in Ohio June 1, 1816, a daughter of John Sommer and Susannah Chalen. Their household is found on the 1840 census of Liberty, Butler County, Ohio. In 1845 they resettled on 80 acres at Partridge, Woodford County.

On June 12, 1856 Christian helped a neighbor to shingle a barn. He fell from the roof, shattering his leg. He died from the effects of internal bleeding June 15.

A few weeks later Christian Moser arrived from Adams County. He had verbally contracted to work for Christian Kempf. He helped the family for three years, then purchased 80 acres near their farm. On April 5, 1859 in Woodford County he married the widow Magdalena.

After their marriage Magdalena joined Christian on his farm, and his brother Benedict worked her old farm. They appear on the 1860 census of Montgomery Township. The census page shows them living next door to brother-in-law and minister Peter Farny and his second wife Magdalena Oyer. Peter Farny's first wife Anne Kempf was Christian Kempf's older sister. The household is shown as farmer Christian Moser, 31, France; Madeline, 40, Ohio; Susan Camp, 9, Illinois; Moses, 6, Illinois; Daniel, 5, Illinois; and Catharine Moser, four months, Illinois.

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[255] It is possible that he emigrated in 1852 by traveling with another Moser family. The *Arcadia* departed from Le Havre, and arrived at New Orleans April 14, 1852. This earlier date agrees with a family story that he saved money by working as a farm laborer for two summers before his widowed mother could follow. The passenger list shows #245 Swiss farmer Christian Moser, 50; Johann, 27; Christian, 23; Frederic, 21; Jacob, 18; Madeleine, 17; Rosine, 19; and Anna, 22; and #260 Johann Tschanz, 30; Elisabethe, 28; Marianne, 8; Edouard, 5; and Rosine, 3. But this would not explain the passport application in 1853. It is also possible that an 1853 passenger list has not been identified because he was traveling under another name to avoid military training requirements or conscription.

[256] Land was initially platted for a town called Litchfield. This was changed to Wauseon in 1859, when the town was incorporated. It became the county seat in 1869.

The same year, three of Magdalena's sons are found on the farm of Valentine Strubhar and Barbara Guingrich at Danvers.[257] Oldest son Joseph was already a widower from a brief first marriage. They appear on the census as laborer John Campe, 19, Ohio; laborer Joseph Campe, 22, Ohio; and laborer Christian Campe, 14, Ohio [he was actually born in Woodford County]. Son Peter is found as laborer Peter Camp, 18, Illinois, in the household of 'John Switzer' [born Jean Suisse, also known as John Schweitzer] and Marie/Mary Engel on the census of Morton.

In 1865 Christian Moser purchased the shares of the Kempf farm in Montgomery Township, Woodford County that had been inherited by the older Kempf children. His brother Benedict Moser lived there for several years before relocating to Morton.

On Nov. 30, 1869 Christian purchased 40 acres of public land in SWSE Section 20 in Montgomery Township at $9 per acre. In Dec. 31, 1873 he purchased another 40 acres in NWSE Section 20 for the same amount. In 1875 he purchased a Sears & Roebuck home for less than $300, and erected it there.

Christian also served on the board of directors of the Mackinaw Dells Apostolic Christian Church, occasionally hosting services in their home.

The Moser household is found on the 1880 census of Montgomery Township as farmer Christian Moser, 50, born in Germany; Magdelina, 65, born in Ohio to parents from Germany and Ohio; stepson Daniel Camp, 24, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio; and Catherine Moser, 20, born in Illinois to parents from Germany and Ohio.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Woodford County (1889):

> CHRISTIAN MOSER. The agricultural interests of Montgomery Township have been sensibly promoted by Mr. Moser, who occupies his time in the cultivation of a quarter-section of prime land on section 20. He has lived upon this since 1856, and put up his present residence in 1875.
>
> He was born in Alsace, formerly a Province of France, but now belonging to Germany, May 3, 1829, and there spent the opening years of his life. In 1853, when a young man twenty-four years old, he set sail for the United States in hopes to better his condition, financially. The first two years thereafter he spent in Wayne County Ohio; then removed to Adams County, where he lived one year, and from there came to Woodford County, of which he has since been a resident. His record has been eminently that of an honest man and a good citizen.
>
> The parents of our subject were Benedict and Elizabeth (Roth) Moser, the former of whom died in the Province of Alsace, at the age of forty-nine years. The mother lived there until after her son Christian had come to America, and then the latter sent her money to join him in this country. She died in Fulton County, Ohio, when seventy years of age. Both were members of the old Omish Church.
>
> Mr. Moser was the eldest son and second child of his parents, whose family consisted of seven children. One of these died young in France. The other six came to the United States, and are all married. Three are living in Ohio, one in Indiana and two in Illinois. Christian, our subject, was educated both in the French and German languages and remained with his parents until coming to America, a single man.
>
> After becoming a resident of this county he was married, in Montgomery Township, to Mrs. Magdalena (Summers) Camp. She was born in Butler County, Ohio, June 1, 1816, and is a daughter of John and Susannah (Chalen) Summers. Her father was also of French birth and a native of Alsace, and the mother was born in Pennsylvania, in which State they were married. After living on a farm there a number of years they went to Butler County, Ohio, and later to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where the father died at the age of eighty-eight years. The widowed mother subsequently made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Moser, and departed this life at the ripe old age of ninety-two years. Both were members of the old Omish Church.
>
> Mrs. Moser was the third youngest but one of three sons and six daughters born to her parents, and she with her sister, Mrs. Susannah Salsman, are the only living representatives of her family. The first husband of Mrs. Moser was Christian Camp, who was born in Germany. After coming to America he settled in Butler County, Ohio, and thence came to Illinois and died in Montgomery Township, July 15, 1856, in the prime of life, being only forty years of age. He left his widow with nine children, one of whom is since deceased; Christian, a youth of seventeen, makes his home with his brother in McLean County; Joseph, Nancy, John, Daniel, Peter, Lizzie, Susan and Moses; all are married excepting Peter.
>
> Mr. and Mrs. Moser are the parents of one child only, a daughter, Catherine, who is the wife of Albert Meyer, and they live on a farm in Montgomery Township. Mr. Moser and his wife, as did their respective parents, belong to the Omish Church.

Magdalena died at Montgomery Township July 3, 1890.

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[257] Valentine Strubhar was indirectly related. Christian Kempf had an older sister named Madeleine Kempf, born circa 1804. On Dec. 7, 1846 at Blevaincourt, Vosges she became the second wife of Joseph Stroubhar. He was a son of Peter/Pierre Stroubar and his first wife Madeleine Abresol/Habresol. Peter/Pierre Stroubar and his second wife, Marie Gerber, had a son Valentine, who was born at Ernestviller, Moselle Sept. 15, 1818. Another way to say this is that Valentine's father Peter/Pierre was a father to Joseph, who was an uncle to the three Kempf sons. He could be called a half-uncle.

On March 29, 1891 Christian remarried to widow Emma Clara Habeck. She was born in 1861, and died in 1941. Her father had been postmaster of Farnisville and owned Habeck's general store there; her first husband had been Charles 'Carl' Doebler (Oct. 16, 1859-April 10, 1886, buried in Slabtown Cemetery). She brought two children to the second marriage, Olga Francesca and William Charles.

The 1900 census of Kansas and Montgomery shows farmer Christian Moser, 71, born in France in May of 1829, immigrated in 1853; Emma C., 39, born in Pennsylvania in April of 1861 to German parents; Catharine B., born in Illinois in December of 1892 to parents from France and Pennsylvania; Noah B., 7, born in Illinois in May of 1893 to parents from France and Pennsylvania; Julia R., 5, born in Illinois in October of 1894 to parents from France and Pennsylvania; Ernest E., 4, born in Illinois in October of 1894 to parents from France and Pennsylvania; Emma F., born in Illinois in June of 1898 to parents from France and Pennsylvania; stepdaughter Olga F. Doebler, 16, born in Illinois in January of 1884 to parents from Illinois and Pennsylvania; and stepson William C. Doebler, 14, born in Illinois to parents from Illinois and Pennsylvania.

A family story says that Christian remained relatively vigorous in later years. His youngest child was born in 1898, when he was 70. However, he also had two bouts of pneumonia. In the fall of 1900 he noticed that a repair had to be made on fencing surrounding his farm at Montgomery, and sent his children Julia and Noah to fetch a tool from the barn. While they were gone he sat in tall wet grass. He contracted pneumonia once again, and died Nov. 17, 1900.

Christian Moser and his second wife Emma Clara Habeck are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville. His headstone erroneously gives his date of birth as 1828.

The child of Christian Moser and his first wife Magdalena Sommer Kempf was:

1. Catherine Moser was born at Congerville, Woodford County Dec. 25 or 26, 1859, and died at Bay City, Michigan Jan. 24, 1943. On Dec. 2, 1883 she married Albert Meyer. He was born at Basel, Switzerland April 24, 1856, and died at Bay City June 8, 1927, a son of Henry Meyer and Elizabeth Heddiger. The 1900 census of Montgomery Township shows farmer Albert Meyer, 44, born in Switzerland in April 1856, immigrated in 1870; Catherine, 40, born in Illinois in December 1859 to parents from France and Ohio; and 10 children born in Illinois. They lived next door to Catherine's father Christian Moser and his second wife Emma Clara Habeck. Catherine and Albert are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Kawkawlin, Michigan.

Children of Christian Moser and his second wife Emma Clara Habeck born at Congerville include:

2. Elizabeth Moser was born in December of 1892, and died in 1983. She married Walter H. Honegger; they are buried in the North Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Forrest, Livingston County.
3. Noah Benjamin Moser was born May 6, 1893, and died at Dayton, Washington Oct. 10, 1976. He married Hazel Irene Gaddis; they are buried in Dayton City Cemetery.
4. Julia Ann Moser was born Oct. 29, 1894, and died at Toledo, Ohio March 21, 1983. She married Thomas Joseph Grant; they are buried in Toledo Memorial Park at Sylvania, Ohio.
5. Ernest Edward Moser was born April 20, 1896, and died at Danvers, McLean County Nov. 16, 1973. He married Mary A. Rinkenberger She was born in 1899, and died June 28, 1963. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.
6. Emma May Moser was born May 26, 1898, and died in Woodford County Feb. 5, 1977. She married William E. Reeser. He was born Jan. 27, 1897, and died April 19, 1974. There is a memorial headstone in Garden of Memories Cemetery at Tampa, Florida. However, they are actually buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Congerville.

Strubhar of Lafrimbolle

In the 16th century the surname Straubhaar was found in the area of the town of Thun in Canton Bern. It is now sparsely distributed throughout Switzerland.

The first noteworthy American immigrant with this surname was Hans Straubhaar. He was thought to have been born at Niederstocken in the parish of Reutigen, Canton Bern Aug. 31, 1727 (though no baptism entry is found there), and died in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Jan. 15, 1795, a son of Michael Staubhaar and Barbara Michel.

His name is found as Hans Strubhar on a list of male, 16-and-over *Phoenix* passengers created in the courthouse at Philadelphia Sept. 15, 1749. It named immigrants who had taken the *Oath of Abjuration to the Pope*, one of the customary steps upon arrival in an English colony since 1727. The *Phoenix* had sailed from Rotterdam via the tax station at Cowes to Philadelphia. The substantial number of familiar surnames among the passengers stand out: Bender, Dartweiler [Dätwyler], Fischer, Hochstätter and Hochstetter [the original forms of Hochstettler], Isch [Ösch], Kauffman, Keim, Kurtz, Lans [Lantz], Miller [Müller], Mischler, Nofsker and Nafzger [Nafziger], Perquy [Birki], Rupp, Springer, Staufer, Stecker, and von Gumden [von Gunden]. The oath list noted that they came from Pfalz-Zweibrücken, the Pfalz, Nassau, and Württemberg. A number of these immigrants figured in these pages.

A contemporary Strubhar might be mildly surprised by our inclusion of this family. They are generally thought of as McLean County settlers until the last third of the 19th century. Only Magdalena/Madeleine Strubhar (1804-1887), the second wife of Christian Farny, is considered in the history of early Tazewell County settlers — and her story is told in FARNY.

The Strubhar family came to Central Illinois in 1837. The land that became the family homestead was situated in an area that was caught between Tazewell and McLean from 1837 to 1841. In 1841 it was formally ceded to McLean County. We include the Strubhars to clarify relationships, because of their multiple marriages with Tazewell County families.

The Central Illinois family is descended from **Christian Strŭbhar**. He was born circa 1725, and died at Lafrimbolle Feb. 8, 1812. Though his name is found in a variety of spellings on French documents, such as Stroubhar or Sthroubhard, he wrote his signature this way.

He married Anne Fongond/Vongond/Vongonden.[258] She was born circa 1720, and died at Lafrimbolle March 27, 1796, age 71. Her civil death entry described her as Anne Vongonde, wife of Chetianne Stroubhard. It was witnessed by laborer Bastien Chemette, 40, and weaver Jacob Lez 31 (her sons-in-law). They signed as Bastian Smitt and Jacob Lehe.

Christian remarried to Elisabeth Stieren.

His death entry was created at Lafrimbolle Feb. 8, 1812. It described him as Christiane Sthroubhard, 87, the widower of Elisabeth Stieren. His son-in-law laborer Jacob Lehé, 43, stated that Christian had died in Jacob's home. It was witnessed by Christiane Verly, 33, and Joseph Boulange, 27.

Children of Christian Strŭbhar and Anne Fongond/Vongond/Vongonden are found on French documents with a variety of spellings. They include:

1. Anne Strubhar (found as Strup) was born in 1759, and died at Imling, Moselle Aug. 18, 1839 (the death entry of 'Anne Strop' gives age 80). She married Sebastien Schmitt/Bastian Smitt. He was born circa 1756, and died at Imling April 27, 1838. His first wife was Catherine Maurer. Their names appear as Bastien Chemotte and Anne Stroubhard on the birth entries of three children at Lafrimbolle 1793-1797.
2. Marguerite Ann Strubhar (found as Stroubar) was born at Turquestein, Moselle (since 1961 Turquestein-Blancrupt) May 26, 1760.
3. Barbe Elisabeth Strubhar was born at Turquestein in 1764, and died at Val de Bonmoutier, Meurthe-et-Moselle Sept. 28, 1840. In 1784 she married Jacob Lehé. He was born circa 1765, and died at Métairie-St. Quirin (adjacent to Lafrimbolle) Jan. 23, 1826, a son of Jacob Lehé and Elisabeth Kauffman. They had nine children at Lafrimbolle 1802-1812.
4. Marie Strubhar (found as Sthroubhard) was born circa 1767, and died at Lafrimbolle June 15, 1807. On Jan. 22, 1797 at Lafrimbolle she married Pierre Maier. Their marriage entry described the groom as farmer Pierre Maier, 36, a resident of Angomont, Meuse; a son of the deceased Michel Maire and Marie Eparque, a resident of Angomont.

[258] Fongond, Vongond, and Vongonden were derived from von Gunten. The surname implies that someone is from the hamlet of Gunten near the village of Sigriswil on the eastern shore of Lake Thun, Canton Bern. Gundy and Vongundy were also derived from the location.

The bride was described as Marie Stroubhard, 30, a daughter of Christianne Stroubhard, a resident of Lafrimbolle, and the deceased Anne Vongond. Witnesses included laborer Nicolas Boulanger, 60, and cultivator Andre Simon, 22, who were neighbors; and farmer Bastien Chemette, 43, and Jacques Ley, 37, who were brothers-in-law. Signatures on the entry include M. [likely Marie who was illiterate]. Christian Strŭbhar, Pierre Maire, N. Boulanger, and Bastian Smitt. After the marriage they farmed at Angomont. Marie's death entry was declared by her father, who was described as 69-year-old laborer Christiane Sthroubhard. It was witnessed by Jacob Lehé, 45, and Christiane Sthroubhard, 28, described as carriage drivers/porters/valets [Fr. *voituriers*]

5. **Peter/Pierre Strubhar** (also found as Stroubhar and Struphar) was born at Lafrimbolle circa 1772, and died at Oberstinzel, Moselle Aug. 20, 1835.
6. Christian Strubhar was born circa 1779. He was a carriage driver/porter/valet at Lafrimbolle. He married Marie Maire. Their son Christian Strubhar/Christianne Stroubhar was born at Lafrimbolle May 3, 1802. A census of Mennonite families created April 24, 1809 shows 'Christiane Struther' as a head of a household at Lafrimbolle holding only one resident.

Peter/Pierre Strubhar (found as Stroubhar and Struphar) was born at Lafrimbolle circa 1772, and died on Sarreck farm at Oberstinzel, Moselle Aug. 21, 1835.

Circa 1798 he married Madeleine Abresol/Habresol. She died at Métairie-St. Quirin March 17, 1806.

Children of Peter/Pierre Strubhar and his first wife Madeleine Abresol/Habresol born at Métairie-St. Quirin include:

1. Joseph Strubhar (also found as Stroubhar) was born March 14, 1799, and died at or near Clifford, Butler County, Kansas Feb. 21, 1885. On Nov. 14, 1829 at Robert-Espagne, Meuse he married Madeleine Engel. She was born at Herbéviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle Nov. 9, 1807, and died at Ménil-sur-Saulx, Meuse Nov. 6, 1845. Madeleine's civil death entry described her as Magdelaine Lange, 35, the wife of Joseph Strof and daughter of 67-year-old Joseph Lange and the deceased Elisabeth Carber [Guerber]. It was witnessed by miller Josephe Strof, 46, and farm equipment operator Jean Martin, 37. On Dec. 7, 1846 at Blevaincourt, Vosges he remarried to Magdalena/ Madeleine Kempf. She was born at Rhodes Aug. 2, 1804, and died between 1860 and 1870, a daughter of Christian Kempf and Anne Pillman [Bielemann]. Their marriage entry described the groom as Joseph Stroup, 47, miller at Menil at Saulx in the district of Bar le Duc [in Meuse], born March 16, 1799, a son of the deceased Pierre Stroub and Magdelaine Aborsol [Abresol], and the widower of Magdelaine Eange, who had died Nov. 8, 1845. The bride was described as Magdelaine Kempf, 42, living in the *Moulin Rouge* at Blevaincourt, born at Rhodes Aug. 2, 1804. Her parents were described as miller Christian Kempf, 68, and Anne Billemann, 64, living in the *Moulin Rouge,* present and consenting. One witness was brother-in-law of the bride and miller Jacob Franck, 38, a resident of Blevaincourt. In 1854 or 1855 Joseph and Magdalena/Madeleine came to America with daughter Barbara (first marriage) and sons Nicholas and Emile. The 1860 census of Danvers shows farmer Joseph Strupe, 62, France; Madeline, 50, France; and Nicholas, 19, France. The 1870 census of Danvers shows farmer Nicolas Stroubhar [Joseph's son], 28, France; Samuel [Joseph's grandson], 8, Illinois; and Joseph Stroubhar, 68, retired, France. The 1874 plat map of Danvers shows 'Jos. Strubhar' on 130 acres in northeast Section 34, below the 'Imhoff' farm. Joseph is found on the 1880 census of Clifford, Butler County, Kansas as 81-year-old Joseph Strupher, born in France to French parents, in the household of son Nicolas Strupher, 54, born in France to French parents; Hannah [Yoder], 34, born in Pennsylvania to parents from Pennsylvania; and three children born in Illinois. He is buried as 'Joseph Struber, Feb. 21, 1885' in Fairmount Lonestar Cemetery in Butler County, Kansas. Children of Joseph Strubhar and Madeleine Engel include:
    a. Joseph Strubhar was born at Robert-Espagne, Meuse Aug. 17, 1830.
    b. Marie Strubhar was born at Lacroix-sur-Meuse, Meuse May 29, 1832, and died at Wassy, Haute Marne July 17, 1876. On April 23, 1855 at Wassy she married Christian Neuhauser. He was born at Langatte, Moselle Feb. 19, 1834, a son of Jean Neuhauser and Madeleine Saltzmann. On Feb. 12, 1877 at Signéville, Haut Marne he remarried to Madeleine Saltzmann.
    c. Katharina Strubhar. On Sept. 21, 1857 at Montier-en-Der, Haute Marne she married Charles François George.
    d. Barbara Strubhar was born at Commercy, Meuse March 13, 1834, and died at Colfax, McLean County Aug. 13, 1895. On Dec. 25, 1856 in McLean County she married John Stuckey; the ceremony was performed by justice-of-the-peace Henry Deal. John was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio Oct. 23, 1833, and died at Carlock, McLean County April 13, 1912, a son of Peter Stuckey and Elisabeth Sommer and a brother of minister Joseph Stuckey. See ULRICH for background on their family.
    e. Nicholas Strubhar was born at Commercy, Meuse Dec. 6, 1842, and died at Hubbard, Oregon March 12, 1920. On Oct. 17, 1865 in McLean County he married Elizabeth Rupp; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Elizabeth was born at Madison, Butler County, Ohio circa Oct. 13, 1843, and died in McLean County Jan. 16, 1867, a daughter of Christian Rupp and Jacobine Raber (see ROPP, THE UNFORTUNATE RUPP FAMILY OF DANVERS). Nicholas was naturalized in the McLean County court house Nov. 8, 1864; he gave his age as 21, and his witness was Jacob Jacoby. Nicholas and Elizabeth had one son, Samuel. *Gospel Herald*, March 1867: "On the 16th of January, 1867, in McLean Co., Ill., Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Strubher, aged 24 years, 3 months, and 3 days. Funeral sermons

were preached by the writer from the 38th chapter of *Isaiah* and by Jonathan Yoder from *Jn. 5*. Joseph Stuckey." On Jan. 27, 1874 in McLean County Nicholas remarried to Hannah Yoder; minister Joseph Stuckey performed this ceremony as well. Hannah was born at Juniata County, Pennsylvania Oct. 7, 1841, and died at Hubbard, Oregon May 16, 1920, a daughter of Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder.[259] Ley writes that their children included Solomon, Andrew, and Emma; they adopted Anny, who was born Sept. 1, 1883. Circa 1880 they resettled at Clifford, Butler County, Kansas, where father Joseph Strubhar died in 1885; circa 1887 they went to Arkansas; and circa 1891 they arrived in Oregon. The 1900 census of Needy Precinct, Clackamas County, Oregon shows farmer Nicholas Strubhar, 57, born in France in December 1842, immigrated in 1854; Hannah, 57, born in Pennsylvania in October 1842; farm laborer and son Solomon N., 24, born in Illinois in July 1875; farm laborer and son Andrew J., 23, born in Illinois in May 1877; and daughter-in-law Rosa, 18, born in Missouri in July 1881 to German parents. They are also found on the 1920 census of East Hubbard, Marion County, Oregon where Nicholas and Hannah were living in the household of their son Andrew J. Strubhar; their entries appear as father Nicholas, 77, born in France, immigrated in 1855, naturalized in 1866; and mother Hanna, 78, born in Pennsylvania. *Gospel Herald*, April 1920: "Strubhar - Nicholas Strubhar was born in Abramae village, France, Dec. 6, 1842; died March 12, 1920, at his home near Hubbard, Oreg.; aged 77 y. 3 m. 6 d. His mother died when he was quite young. Father, one brother and one sister came to the U.S. A. In 1858 he married Barbara Roop. To this union one son was born. In 1861 his wife died. Several years later he married Hanna Yoder, who survives him; also three sons and one adopted daughter, and a number of grandchildren. When a young man he united with the Mennonite Church and remained faithful until death. Funeral on the 14th at the Zion A. M. Church near Hubbard, Oreg. A. P. Troyer conducted the services. Remains were laid to rest within the cemetery nearby." *Gospel Herald*, July 1920: "Strubhar - Hannah Yoder was born in Juniata Co., Pa., Oct. 7, 1841; died May 16, 1920, at her home near Hubbard, Oreg.; aged 78 y. 7 m. 9 d. She was the last one of the Joel Yoder family [see the footnote on her parents]. She was married to Nicholas Strubhar in McLean Co., Ill., who preceded her to the spirit world. She leaves three sons and one adopted daughter. She became a member of the A. M. Church in youth and remained faithful until death. Funeral services conducted by Dan Erb and E. Z. Yoder at the Zion A. M. Church. Text, *Psa. 115:15*. Remains laid to rest in cemetery nearby." *Woodburn Independent*, May 20, 1920: "Death of Hannah Strubhar. Mrs. Hannah Strubhar, relict of the late Nicholas Strubhar, died at the home of her son Andrew, two miles east of Hubbard, last Sunday, May 16, in the 79th year of her age. Deceased had received two strokes of paralysis and was stricken with a third which caused demise. Hannah Yoder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Yoder, was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, October 7, 1841. With her parents she moved to Illinois, where she married in McLean county Nicholas Strubhar, who passed away last March. They moved to Kansas, resided there for eight years, then lived in Arkansas for four years, coming from there to Oregon. She lived in Oregon for 28 years. Mrs. Strubhar was a devoted wife and mother and one held in the highest esteem. In early life she joined the Amish Mennonite church and had been a faithful member. She leaves two sons, Andrew Strubhar of near Hubbard and S. N. Strubhar of Woodburn; a stepson, Samuel Strubhar of Wichita, Kans., and an adopted daughter, Mrs. Frank Romer of Oakland, Cal., who recently visited her. The funeral was Tuesday morning, services being held at her late home and also at Zion church. Interment was at Zion cemetery." Hannah is buried in Zion Mennonite Cemetery at Estacada, Oregon.

f. Jean Emile Strubhar was born at Commercy, Meuse June 23, 1844, and died Nov. 5, 1915. He has been cited as an example of someone who enlisted to expedite naturalization. On Jan. 29, 1864 he enlisted at Bloomington with Peter Kempf/Kamp/Camp. Entry documents describe him as John E. Stroup, a 21-year-old resident of Danvers and a farmer born in France, height 5 foot-3½, light hair, blue eyes, fair complexion. He was mustered in at Camp Butler at Springfield the same day. He and Peter served as privates in Company D, 94th Illinois Infantry, nicknamed "the McLean Regiment." During his period the company was used for sentry duty at Galveston, Texas. On July 16, 1865 he transferred to Company G, 37th Illinois Infantry. He was discharged from Galveston Jan. 23, 1866. On Jan. 31, 1869 in Woodford County he married Anna Erb.[260] She was born in Bourges, Cher, France Aug. 29, 1846, and

[259] In YODER there is substantial evidence that Hannah was a daughter of Yost Yoder and Leah Yoder, who were next-door neighbors to Nicholas Strubhar's family in 1860. A number of sources say Hannah was a daughter of Joel Yoder and Lydia K. Yoder, making an assumption from the obituary that incorrectly names her father as Joel Yoder. Joel was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Aug. 29, 1817, and died in McLean County July 7, 1902, a son of John Yoder and Susannah Stutzman. . Lydia K. was born in Mifflin County Oct. 4, 1811, and died in McLean County Aug. 19, 1889, a daughter of Jacob Yoder and Mary 'Polly' Keim. They did not come to Danvers, McLean County until 1851. The 1860 census of Danvers shows the household of Joel Yoder, 43, Pennsylvania; Lydia, 43, Pennsylvania; Gideon, 17; Elizabeth, 14; Solomon, 11; and Nancy, 10; all children born in Ohio. Joel and Lydia are buried in Lantz Cemetery at Carlock, McLean County.

[260] County records list them as Emil Strubhar and Anna Erb.

died at Melvin, Ford County May 27, 1932, a daughter of Joseph Erb and Elizabeth.[261] The Strubhars are shown on the 1880 census of Groveland as farmer Emil Strubhar, 34, France; Annie, 33, France; Emma, 10, Illinois; Frank, 8, Illinois; Louisa, 7, Illinois; Alvin, 6, Illinois; Henry, 5, Illinois; infant Louis, Illinois; Ida, 2, Illinois; widower father-in-law Joseph Erb, 73, France; and laborer Frank Felix, 61, France. They are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton as Emil Strubbar and Anna Erb Strubhar.

2. Barbe Strubhar was born Sept. 8, 1800, and died at Metaires-St. Quirin April 5, 1804. Her civil death entry called her Elizabeth Stroubhart and said she was four years old. Her civil birth entry had described her parents as cultivator Pierre Stroubhart and Madelaine Habresole. It was witnessed by cultivator Christianne Mosimann, 45, and Marie Barbe Haffenmayer, 44.
3. Pierre Stroubhard was born Dec. 27, 1802, and died at Metairies-St. Quirin Jan. 9, 1804. The civil death entry gave his age as 15 months.
4. Madeleine Strubhar was born Dec. 15, 1804, and died at or near Plum Grove, Kansas Feb. 1, 1887. On June 14, 1840 in McLean County she became the second wife of Christian Farny (one of 'the Amishmen who hired Lincoln'). See FARNY, FARNY OF BISPING for more on this couple.

Within a month of his first wife's death - on April 16, 1806 at Dolving, Moselle - Peter/Pierre remarried to Anne Marie Gerber/Guerber/Kerber. She was born in the hamlet Kreutzfeld at Saverne, Lower Alsace circa 1782, a daughter of Johannes/Jean Gerber and Catherine Gingerich.

A census of Mennonite families created April 24, 1809 shows 'Pre. Strouhard' as a head of a household at Nitting, Moselle holding six residents.

The birth entries of children born in 1813 and 1815 describe Peter/Pierre as a cultivator or stock raiser [Fr. *marquaire*] on Videlange farm [Ger. *Videlingen*] at Gelucourt in the Dieuze Ponds area of Moselle, about 20 miles northwest of Lafrimbolle.

On Sarreck farm at Oberstinzel, Moselle father Peter/Pierre cut himself while skinning an animal. He died from septicemia Aug. 21, 1835.

His widow obtained a *Certificat de Moralité* from the mayor of Oberstinzel April 10, 1836. It stated that Marie Guerber, widow of Pierrre Straubar, and her children "Pierre, Falatin, Andres, et Magdalena" lived in his community and departed honorably and with distinction. The document was a prerequisite for emigration.

They sailed from Le Havre on the *Troy*, and arrived at New York May 20, 1836.[262] The passenger list shows Maria Gerber, 54, France; Magdalena, 36; Valentin, 17; Petre, 8; and Andreas, 2.

That summer they arrived in Butler County. They initially lived at Hamilton, the county seat of Butler County, before resettling in Central Illinois.

Anne Marie Gerber/Guerber/Kerber died Sept. 29, 1864, at age 82. Her headstone describes her as "Maria, Ehefrau von Peter Strubhar, gest. 29 Sep. 1864, 82 Jahre alt." Peter Maurer Cemetery is located near County Road 75 N, southeast of Congerville on the Woodford-McLean county line

Children of Peter/Pierre Strubhar and his second wife Anne Marie Gerber/Guerber/Kerber include:

5. Chrétien/Christian Strubhar was born at Nitting, Moselle (adjacent to Metaires St. Quirin on its north side) March 16, 1808. The 10-year index of civil entries listed his birth name as Chrétien Stroubhare. Christian Strouphan died at Rémering-lès-Puttelange Jan. 6, 1818.
6. **Jean/John Strubhar** was born at Nitting Nov. 6, 1809, and died at Danvers Nov. 17, 1883. The 10-year index of civil entries listed his birth name as Jean Strouhare.
7. André Struphart was born circa 1810, and died at Ernestviller, Moselle Aug. 4, 1820. His death entry stated that he was 10 years old, a son of cultivator Pierre Struparh, 47, and Marie Guerber.
8. Catherine Strouphan died at Rémering-lès-Puttelange Aug. 2, 1816, according to their 10-year index of civil entries. She was presumably born in the same place as older brother André in 1811 or 1812.
9. Marie Strubhar was born at Gelucourt Aug. 1, 1813, and died there March 16, 1814.
10. Pierre Strubhar was born at Gelucourt Feb. 27, 1815, and Pierre Strouphan died at Rémering-lès-Puttelange Feb. 18, 1819.

Many of the civil entries created at Rémering-lès-Puttelange, Moselle (below Ernstviller) have an unusual spelling of Strubhar. Perhaps the municipal clerk purposely chose 'Strouphan' to differentiate this family from others in the community with similar surnames such as Strouper and Strusser.

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[261] Her family appears on the 1860 census of Elm Grove as farmer Joseph Erb, 54; Elizabeth, 56; Andrew, 23 or 25; Anna, 14; laborer John --- [illegible], 22; and laborer Jacob Switzer, 23; all from France, though Anna's later entries say she was born in Illinois. Joseph Erb was born in 1806, and died in 1894; he is also buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery at Morton.

[262] Some sources say the ship arrived May 26, but this is our interpretation of the header on the handwritten passenger list in the National Archives.

11. Valentin/Valentine Strouphan (as found) was born at Rémering-lès-Puttelange, Moselle (below Ernstviller) Sept. 15, 1816, and died in McLean County Nov. 29 (obituary) or 30 (headstone and Leys), 1881. In Illinois he was also known as 'Valty,' which was often misunderstood to be 'Faulty.' On March 27, 1847 in Woodford County he married Barbara Guingrich; the ceremony was performed by Christian Ropp. She was born March 19, 1828 (according to her headstone), and died at Piper City, Ford County March 26, 1913. See GINGERICH for our speculation that she was an illegitimate daughter of Joseph Guingrich and his first wife Magdalena Gerber. They are found on the 1860 census of Danvers as farmer Valentine Strouper, 40, Bavaria; Barbara, 40, Bavaria; Melinda, 9, Illinois; Mary, 7, Illinois; John, 3, Illinois; farm laborer John Hinckler, 25, Indiana; John Campe, 19, Ohio; Peter Myer, 25, N. York; Joseph Campe, 22, Ohio; and Christian Campe, 14, Ohio. (The 'Campes' were Kempf/Kamp/Camps). They appear immediately after the household of older brother John on the 1870 census of Danvers: farmer Valentine Stroubher, 53, France; Barbry, 42, France; Magdaline, 19; Mary, 16; John, 14; Peter, 9; Rose, 7; Amelia, 5; Elizabeth, 3; Caroline [Jacobine], 1; all children born in Illinois; and John Colsmer, 23, hand on farm, Ohio. Farther down the same page is a set of curious entries: farmer Christopher Ruopp, 52, France; Phoeba, 48, France; Michael, 25, Illinois; and Samuel Stroufher, 3. This was the family from ROPP, THE UNFORTUNATE RUPP FAMILY OF DANVERS. We suspect that Samuel was the 2-year-old who appears on the next page as a son in the household of Christian Strubhar and Magdalena Ehresman. The family is found on the 1880 census of Danvers as Valentine Strubhar, 63, France; Barbara, 55, France; John W., 24; Peter A., 19; Rosanna, 17; Emile A., 15; Elisabeth A., 13; and Phebe C., 11; all children born in Illinois. *Herald of Truth*, January 1882: "Nov. 29th, in McLean Co., Ill., of dropsy, Valentine Strubher, aged 64 years, 2 months and 14 days. He leaves a wife and eight children to mourn their loss. Funeral the 1st of December. Services by Peter E., and Joseph Stuckey from *John 14:2*." They are buried under a joint headstone in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers. Their children include:
    a. Joseph Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove March 19, 1847, and died Jan. 27, 1856. His headstone in Peter Maurer Cemetery says he died at age 8 years, 10 months, and 7 days.
    b. Magdalena/Melinda Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Dec. 1, 1850, and died at Danvers Nov. 22, 1916. On April 4, 1871 in McLean County she married John H. Salzman; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. John was born in Butler County, Ohio July 15, 1848, and Nov. 7, 1887, a son of Christian Salzman and Marie Imhof. His family moved to Tippecanoe County, Indiana in 1850. He came to Illinois from Indiana in 1869. After three years of marriage John and Magdalena farmed in Indiana for three years, then returned to McLean County to purchase 400 acres. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.
    c. Mary E. Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Sept. 15, 1853, and died at Deer Creek Feb. 21, 1913. On Dec. 24, 1872 in McLean County she married John E. Schafer; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. Schafer was born in Butler County, Ohio Dec. 2, 1850, and died at Deer Creek March 17, 1912, a son of Magdalena Stecker/Staker and her first husband tailor Lewis Schafer. His father had died circa 1855, and his mother had remarried to Benjamin Egli/Egley in Tazewell County in 1856. See EGLI for background on this couple.
    d. John W. Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Dec. 20, 1855, and died at Normal, McLean County July 4, 1940. On Dec. 2, 1880 in McLean County he married Catherine Farney; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born July 4, 1859, and died Dec. 22, 1915, a daughter of Joseph Farney and Catherine Smith. They are found on the 1900 census of Danvers as farmer John Strubahar, 44, born in Illinois in December 1855 to German parents; Catherine, 38, born in Illinois in July 1861 to a father from Pennsylvania and a mother from Canada; and four children born in Illinois. They appear on the same census page as John W.'s sister Rosanna (found as Rosine) and her husband James F. Tobias. They are found on the 1910 census of Danvers as John W. Strubhar, 54, born in Illinois to German parents; Cathern, 49, born in Illinois to a father from Germany and a mother from Canada; and Valentine J., 24, born in Illinois. They are buried at North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery in McLean County.
    e. Valentine Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove April 31, 1859, and died Feb. 11, 1860. His headstone in Peter Maurer Cemetery says he died at age 8 months 11 days.
    f. Peter A. Strubhar was born at Danvers Feb. 5, 1861, and died at Jan. 20, 1937. On Dec. 14, 1882 in McLean County he married Elizabeth A. Augsburger. She was born in August 1862, and died in 1953. We could not identify her because of mixed information. She may have been the 17-year-old servant Elizabeth Augspurger, born in Ohio, who is found in the household of John R. Miller on the 1880 census of Danvers. The 1900 census of Cissna Park, Pigeon Grove, Iroquois County shows farmer Peter Strubahr, 39, born in Illinois in February 1861 to French parents; Elizabeth, 39, born in Ohio in August 1862 to parents from Ohio; and four children born in Illinois. On the 1910 census of Doyle, Iowa Elizabeth's parents are stated to be from Ohio. The 1920 census of Doyle has P.A. Strubhar, 58, born in Illinois to French parents; Elizabeth A., 57, born in Illinois to a father from France and a mother from Kentucky; and son Virgil C., 16, born in Iowa to parents from Illinois. In 1930 they are found at Murray, Iowa (also in Clark County); on that census Elizabeth has parents from Germany and Kentucky. They are buried in Murray Cemetery at Murray, Clark County, Iowa.
    g. Rosine (headstone)/Rosa/Rosanna Strubhar was born at Danvers Feb. 16, 1865, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Feb. 8, 1918. On Dec. 13, 1883 in McLean County she married farm

hand James F. 'Frank' Tobias. He was born Aug. 26, 1860, and died April 8, 1910. They are found on the 1900 census of Danvers as farmer James F. Tobias, 39, born in Ohio in August 1860 to parents from Ohio; Rosine, 37, born in Illinois in February 1863 to French parents; and Arthur, 11 or 12, born in Illinois in June 1888. They appear on the same census page as her brother John W. They are buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

h. Emile E. Strubhar was born at Danvers Feb. 25, 1865, and died in Hollywood, California Jan. 15, 1935. On March 1, 1883 in McLean County he married Nannie A. Hall. She was born March 8, 1868, and died May 9, 1923. They are found on the 1910 census of Chicago as Emile E. Strubhar, 45, Illinois; Nannie A., 42, Illinois; and three children born in Illinois. They were placed in a crypt in the main hall chapel in Hollywood Forever Cemetery in Hollywood, California, where Emile is identified as a Freemason. The cemetery was formerly called Hollywood Memorial Park Cemetery.[263]

i. Elizabeth Anna 'Lizzie' Strubhar was born at Danvers May 6, 1867, and died at Piper City, Ford County Dec. 21, 1946. On Dec. 10, 1885 at Danvers she married Jacob Ehresman. He 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, a son of Christian Ehresman and his third wife Veronica 'Fannie' Barnett. 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. They are buried in Brenton Cemetery at Piper City.

j. Jacobine 'Phebe' C. Strubhar was born at Danvers June 5 (Leys) or 15 (headstone), 1869, and died Aug. 8, 1887. She is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

k. Ulysses Strubhar was born at Danvers May 13, 1872, and died May 17. *Herald of Truth*, August 1872: "On the 17th of May, in McLean Co., Ill., a little son of Valentine and Barbara Strubher, aged 3 days. Sermon by Christian Risser and John Stahly." He is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

12. André Strouphan was born at Rémering-lès-Puttelange (entry André Strouban) Dec. 9, 1819, and died there as André Struphart Aug. 4, 1829.
13. Anne Strouphan was born at Rémering-lès-Puttelange Feb. 28, 1822, and died there as Anne Strubhard Jan. 8, 1825.
14. **Peter/Pierre Strubhar** was born at Rémering-lès-Puttelange Nov. 12, 1827, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Oct. 22, 1902. His civil birth entry describes his parents as day laborer Pierre Stroubhar, 55, and Marie Guerber.
15. Andreas/André Stroubar was born circa 1834. He appears on the *Certificat de Moralité* created at Oberstinzel in 1836, and on the passenger list. However, we could not follow him after his arrival at New York, and he may have died young. He is absent from the family on the 1840 census.

JEAN/JOHN STRUBHAR

Jean/John Strubhar was born at Nitting, Moselle Nov. 6, 1809, and died at Danvers Nov. 17, 1883.

He departed from Le Havre on the packet ship *Charles Carroll*, and arrived at New York May 12, 1834. The passenger list shows 'Jean Strouppart, 25, France' immediately before 'Anna Gingerich, 23, France.' We could not identify Anna further. [264]

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[263] Hollywood Forever Cemetery is located on Santa Monica Boulevard in Hollywood. Paramount Studios was built on adjacent land purchased from the cemetery owner. Emile is surrounded by celebrities such as Mel Blanc, Harry Cohen, Douglas Fairbanks (Jr. and Sr.), John Houston, Adolph Menjou, Paul Muni, Johnny Ramone, Nelson Riddle, Ann Sheridan, Bugsy Siegel, Carl 'Alfalfa' Switzer, Norma Talmadge, Toto, Rudolph Valentino, Clifton Webb, and Fay Wray, as well as minor movie industry professionals. His son Artis H. Struhber (1899-1972) and daughter or daughter-in-law Katharina (1901-1983) are also buried there.

[264] A family genealogy written by Estella Risser Leys and published in 1939 was a piece of fiction. It seems to have been a composite of snippets from the biographies of other early settlers. "In 1826, when he was 19 years old, after a journey of 78 days, he arrived at Hamilton, Ohio. Here he secured a job in a distillery, and by hard work and frugality, he accumulated a sum of money, which he invested in 80 acres of land four miles northwest of Danvers, Illinois. He paid $4.50 an acre for this land on which there was a small house and other improvements. He made the trip from Hamilton, Ohio to Danvers, Illinois and return by walking the entire distance, averaging about 50 miles per day…He continued in his work at the distillery, and for two years did the work of two men, thereby earning enouch money to bring his parents and other members of the family to America." "Unfortunately the weather kept them on the ocean 130 days, and the latter part of their voyage they were compelled to subsist on a biscuit a day."

William B. Weaver's *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* offers another historically inconsistent version of events. The author wrote in 1926, "The first Amish of which there is any record to come to Central Illinois was Peter Maurer. He settled in McLean County near what is now Rock Creek fair grounds, five miles north of Danvers, in 1829. Mr. Maurer came from Alsace to Butler County, Ohio, in 1827, and two years later came to McLean County, Illinois. In 1830 two young men, John Strubhar and Nicholas Maurer, walked all the way from Butler County to McLean County. John Strubhar took a claim and

While Jean/John worked in a distillery in Butler County, his mother and brothers Valentine and Peter resettled in McLean County in 1837. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church* says that, "In 1837…Valentine and Peter Strubhar, with their mother and Rev. Michael Kinsinger, came from Butler County to Danvers Township." Michael Kinsinger was married to Magdalena Nafziger, a daughter of minister 'Apostle Peter' Naffziger and Barbara Beck. Jean/John joined them in 1839.

On Dec. 7, 1839 at what is now Congerville John married Anne/Anna/Anna Nancy/Nannette Schertz. She was born at Sarrebourg, Moselle March 14, 1823, a daughter of Christian Schertz and Margueritte Müller, who were living at adjacent Bühl. She died at Danvers Nov. 8, 1901. See SCHERTZ, THE SCHERTZ FAMILY OF BÜHL for background on her parents.

According to *Portrait and Biographical Album of McLean County* (1887), Jean/John "…operated a farm in his native country until 1833, then emigrated to America and located in Butler County, Ohio, where he engaged in distilling for about six years. In 1839, after having come to this county, he was married to Miss Anna Schertz. The parents of Mrs. S. came here from New Orleans. After marriage John Strubhar purchased 80 acres of land, to which he afterward added 650 acres, and in due time became proprietor of one of the finest farms in this section of the country. Upon the homestead which he had thus established, he remained until his death, which occurred Jan. 17, 1884, when he was over seventy-five years of age, being born in 1809. The mother, born in 1820, is still living." *The History of McLean County* (1879) simply says, "...John Strubhar, emigrated from France and settled in Danvers Township as early as 1839."

STOUT'S GROVE AND DANVERS

Regardless of the date of the purchase, the lot that Jean/John bought was located at Stout's Grove. The area was caught between Tazewell and Woodford Counties from 1837 and 1841, then ceded to McLean County. It was tallied with McLean County on the 1840 federal census.

The farm was northwest of the village of Concord, which was renamed Danvers in 1861. Danvers was incorporated as a village in 1869. Since that year Stout's Grove has been a part of Danvers Township, which borders Morton in Tazewell County.

However, the federal census of 1860 enumerated the residents of Stout's Grove as if they were already part of Danvers, the nearest business center. The families of Jean/John and his two brothers Pierre/Peter and Valentine did not spread out from the area of their initial settlement for a few years. But for our purposes, we will say that children born there after 1859 were born at Danvers (reflecting the way we found the information on census pages).

The land of 'J. Strubhar' is found on the 1874 plat map of Danvers as 40 acres in southeast Section 32. The same map shows V. Strubhar on 72 acres in northeast of Section 5; V. Strubhar on 160 acres in northwest Section 34; and Jos. Strubhar on 130 acres in northeast Section 34 (below the Imhoff farm).

Someone looking for the site of John Strubhar's farm might drive four miles west from Carlock on County Road 2050 North. Turn right and head north on 55 toward Congerville to find the Imhoff Cemetery.

The 1840 federal census was taken beginning June 1, over a period of 18 months. The census of McLean County shows the John Stroup household: one male 20-29 [Jean/John]; one male 15-19 [Valentine]; one male 10-14 [Peter]; and one female 50-59 [Marie Gerber]. Jean/John's new wife Anna /Anne Schertz was absent. She was not found in the household of her parents Christian Schertz and Margueritte Müller, who are found on another page as Christian Shirts: one male 50-59, and one female 40-49. John's next-door neighbor was Peter Morey [Maurer], and two doors away was John Michael Kistler [found as Michael Kisteler].

The 1850 census of Stout's Grove lists four consecutive households:

— Farmer Valentine Stroop [Strubhar], 32, France; Barbary [Gingerich], 21, France; and Joseph, 2, Illinois.
— Farmer Peter Stroop [Strubhar], 22, France; Barbaray [Barbara Schweitzer], 19, France; Malinda Gingery [Barbara Guingrich's younger sister Magdalena Gingerich], 19, France; and Mary Stroup [Marie Gerber Strubhar], 68 France.
— Farmer John [Strubhar], 41, France; Nancy Ann [wife Anne/Anna/Nanette Schertz], 27, France; Mary, 8, Illinois; Christian, 6, Illinois; Nancy, 4, Illinois; Magdaline, 1, Illinois; and Barbaray, one day old marked as '1/365'), Illinois.
— Farmer Christian Shirts, 64, France; and Margaret M. [Müller], 54, France.

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settled in what is now Danvers Township. Nicholas Maurer crossed the line into Woodford County and took a claim a mile north of Congerville. These three are the first Amish or Mennonites to be found in Central Illinois and the first Amish to be found west of the state of Ohio." However, considerable doubt has been cast on almost every aspect of this story. Strubhar did not arrive in the country until 1834. It is now thought that Peter Maurer did not arrive in Central Illinois until 1837, the year of his first land purchase (see MAURER). And according to Christian Engel's autobiography, he accompanied Nicholas Maurer on his immigration voyage in 1839 – nine years after Maurer purportedly accompanied Strubhar to Illinois.

On the 1860 census of Danvers they appear as farmer James Strouper, 52, France; Anna, 36, France; Mary, 18, Illinois; Cristian, 17, Illinois; Ann, 15, Illinois; Melinda, 12, Illinois; Barbaray, 10, Illinois, Catherine, 7, Illinois; Margaret, 4, Illinois; laborer Margaret Shirtz, 63, Penn.?France [sic]; laborer John Sankey, 21, Baden; and laborer Ferdinand Woldy [Welte], 22, Baden. They are found on the census page after Peter and Valentine Strubhar, and on the same page as minister Joseph Stuckey [found as Stokey) and his first wife Barbara Roth.

The 1870 census of Danvers shows farmer John Stroubher, 61, France, Anna, 50, France; Nanny, 24; Lany, 22; Barbaray, 21; Kate, 18; Margret, 13; Vernika, 11; and Peter, 7; all children born in Illinois. The next household on the census page is that of brother Valentine.

The 1880 census of Danvers shows farmer John Strubhar, 70, born in France to parents from Switzerland and France; Anna, 58, born in France to French parents; Anna, 34, born in Illinois to French parents; Peter 17, works on farm, born in Illinois to French parents; farm hand Frank Tobias, 19, born in Ohio to parents from Ohio; and servant Mary Chatlain, 11, born in Switzerland to Swiss parents.

History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church: "He was one of the men who were responsible for the organization of the first Amish Sunday School in about 1865, and also in the building of the first Amish church house in 1853. The Amish conference of Unites States and Canada that was held in Danvers, Illinois, in 1866 was held in his barn [The *Diener Versammlung* assembly of ministers drew 1,500 people; he also spoke at the 1871 assembly of ministers at Gridley Prairie]. He was ordained to the office of deacon April 8, 1860, by bishop Jonathan Yoder. He served as treasurer of the church until 1872. He remained deacon of the Rock Creek Church and later the North Danvers Church until 1883."

Herald of Truth, December 1883: "On the 17th of Nov., of old age, John Strupher, aged 74 years, and one month. He leaves a widow and six children to mourn his departure. Buried on the 19th in the presence of many friends and acquaintances. Funeral services were held by Joseph Stuckey and others in the English and German languages." They are buried under a joint headstone in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.

Children of Jean/John Strubhar and Anne/Anna/Anna Nancy/Nannette Schertz include:

1. Mary Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Oct. 11, 1842, and died Feb. 17, 1875. On March 26, 1861 in McLean County she married Christian Imhoff Jr. Christian was born at Lemon, Butler County, Ohio Oct. 31, 1838, and died at Danvers May 31, 1881, a son of Christian Imhoff and Barbe/Barbara Schertz. For background on this couple see IMHOFF.
2. Christian Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove June 13, 1844, and died April 19, 1919. On Feb. 20, 1866 in McLean County he married Magdalena Ehresman; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. She was born Jan. 22, 1845, and died Feb. 25, 1925 (according to Leys; the *Illinois Statewide Death Index* says Lena Ehresman died in McLean County Aug. 7, 1924), a daughter of Christian Ehresman and his third wife Veronica 'Fannie' Barnett. On the 1870 census of Danvers they appear on the page after Valentine Strubhar, as farmer Christopher Stroubher, 26; Magdaline, 25; Liddy A., 3; and Samuel, 2; all born in Illinois. They are found on the 1880 census of Danvers as farmer Christian Strubhar, 36, born in Illinois to parents from France; Magdalena, 35, born in Illinois to parents from Württemberg; Lydia, 13, born in Illinois; and Samuel, 12, born in Illinois. In 1889 Christian sold his farm and moved into Danvers Village, where he sold farm hardware. Christian and Magdalena are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers. *The History of McLean County* (1879): "Christian Strubhar, farmer; P.O. Danvers; was born in Danvers Township, McLean Co., June 13, 1844; his father, John Strubhar, emigrated from France and settled in Danvers Township as early as 1839. He obtained a fair education at the common schools, and spent his early life upon his father's farm; in 1874, he purchased 40 acres of his present farm; this has since increased to one hundred and sixty. He was married Feb. 22, 1866, to Magdalena Ehrismann, a native of Illinois; has two children - Samuel, Lydia. Has held the offices of School Director, Commissioner of Highways, and at present holds the office of School Trustee for Danvers Township..."
3. Anna 'Nanny' Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Jan. 14, 1846, and died Feb. 21, 1910. She was living with her parents in 1880. She is buried in Imhoff Cemetery at Danvers.
4. Magdalena 'Lany' Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Feb. 12, 1849, and died at Danvers June 16, 1935. On Jan. 10, 1871 in McLean County she married Christian W. Kinsinger; the ceremony was performed by minister Joseph Stuckey. He was born at Congerville July 11, 1846, and died March 25, 1914, a son of Michael Kinsinger and Magdalena Naffziger. They are buried in the North Danvers Mennonite Cemetery.
5. Barbara Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Sept. 30, 1850, and died there May 18, 1914. On Dec. 28, 1875 she married Pierre/Peter Risser. He was born at Berthelming, Moselle Aug. 28, 1850, and died at Danvers, McLean County March 5, 1932, a son of Nicolas/Nicholas Risser and his first wife Catherine Schmitt. The 1900 census of Danvers Village shows them as farmer Peter Risser, 49, born in France in August 1850, immigrated in 1860; Barbara, 49, born in Illinois in September 1850 to French parents; and five children born in Illinois. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers.
6. Catherine 'Kate' Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Sept. 10 (Leys) or 21, 1852, and died at Danvers Aug. 2, 1932. On Dec. 23, 1872 in McLean County she married Christian Roth Stuckey; the ceremony was performed by his

father. He was born at Concord (now Danvers) Sept. 21, 1852, and died at Bloomington, McLean County Jan. 21 1933, a son of minister Joseph Stuckey and his first wife Barbara Roth. They are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Danvers. Catherine and Christian were the great-grandparents of historian Neil Ann Stuckey Levine.

7. Jakobina Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove Sept. 5, 1854, and died March 18, 1857. She is buried in Peter Maurer Cemetery.
8. Marguerite (headstone)/Margaret (obituary) Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove March 14, 1857, and died Dec. 20, 1872. *Herald of Truth*, February 1873: "In McLean county, Ill., December 20th 1872, of epilepsy, Margaret Strubher, aged 15 years, 9 months, and 6 days. Buried the 22nd in Imhoff's burying ground. Occasion improved by Jos. Stuckey, from *1 Cor. 15*."
9. Veronica 'Fanny' Strubhar was born at Stout's Grove July 15, 1859, and died Feb. 15, 1860. She is buried in Peter Maurer Cemetery.
10. Peter Strubhar was born at Danvers May 2, 1863, and died there July 16, 1894. On May 17, 1891 at Danvers he married Mary Musselman. She was born in McLean County circa 1864, and died at Danvers Jan. 26, 1911, a daughter of blacksmith Jacob Musselman and Magdalena Ehrisman. *Herald of Truth*, August 1894: "On the 16th of July 1894, in Danvers, Illinois, of typhoid fever, Peter Strupher, aged 31 y., 2 m., 14 d. He suffered only ten days, and leaves his wife with an infant of eight months; also his mother, a brother and four sisters. The blow falls heavily upon the widow and the mother who has had two strokes of paralysis and is very feeble. He was the youngest in the family. Buried on the 18th. Funeral services in the Danvers Baptist church by preachers Schleswig and Lawrence in English and Joseph Stuckey in German."

PETER/PIERRE STRUBHAR

Peter/Pierre Strubhar was born at Rémering-lès-Puttelange Nov. 12, 1827, and died at Washington, Tazewell County Oct. 22, 1902. His civil birth entry describes his parents as day laborer Pierre Stroubhar, 55, and Marie Guerber.

On Sept. 26, 1850 in Woodford County he married Barbe/Barbara Schweitzer. She was born at Imling, Moselle Jan. 10, 1831, and died at Danvers Aug. 23, 1912, a daughter of Jean Suisse (later known as John Schweitzer or Switzer) and Marie/Mary Engel.

Cooper Station, originally on the property of Joseph Cooper, crossed Sections One and Two of Morton, on the Washington boundary. At the time Peter lived there it was woods; it later became the site of a train depot, grain elevator, school, and a few residences. Leys: "Peter Strubhar lived on a farm near Cooper Station for several years before he purchased a timber farm, with a log cabin, four miles northwest of Danvers. Later he borrowed the money to buy 160 acres of school land adjoining his farm. He bought a sawmill, and with the revenue from the black walnut trees and war prices for his grain, he soon paid off his indebtedness."

They are found on the 1860 census of Danvers as farmer Peter Strouper, 34, Bavaria; Barbara, 29, Bavaria; Joseph, 7, Illinois; Peter, 3, Illinois; Christian, 6, Illinois; Valentine, 1, Illinois; and Mary [Marie Gerber], 80, Bavaria.

Leys: "In 1865 the family moved out of the log cabin into a comfortable house on a farm near Washington, Illinois. He lived in this community the rest of his life..."

They appear on the 1870 census of Washington as farmer Peter Strubhar, 44, France; Barbaray, 39, France; Joseph, 17, Illinois; Christian, 15, Illinois; and Valentine, 11, Illinois. The 1873 plat map of Washington shows P. Strubar on 80 acres in Section 19, just east of the town center. They also appear on the 1880 census of Washington as farmer Peter Stroubher, 52, born in France to parents from Switzerland [France] and France; Barbara, 48, born in France to parents from France; and son Valentine, 21, born in France [Illinois] to parents from France; and on the 1900 census of Washington. The households of sons Joseph and Valentine can be found on the same census page.

At his death Peter left each of his four sons a 160-acre farm.

Peter/Pierre and Barbe/Barbara are buried under a joint headstone in Glendale Cemetery at Washington. Their children born at Stout's Grove include:

1. John Strubhar was born July 10, 1851, and died at Danvers July 23, 1852.
2.. Joseph Strubhar was born Aug. 8, 1853, and died at Danvers, McLean County June 20, 1916. On March 9, 1876 at Washington he married Jacobine Ropp. She was born July 27, 1854, and died Aug. 9, 1883, a daughter of Joseph Ropp and Catherine Birky. They had two children and lived at Washington. On Feb. 9, 1886 in Tazewell County Joseph remarried to Jakobina 'Phoebe' Kinsinger. She was born at Congerville March 1, 1854, and died Feb. 19, 1939. She is found on the 1930 census of Washington as widow Phoebe Strubhar, 76, born in Illinois to parents from Germany; two sons Chester and Jesse, and a grandson Joseph. Joseph and Phoebe are buried in Glendale Cemetery.
3. Christian Strubhar was born Dec. 29, 1854, and died in Tazewell County July 11, 1924. On Feb. 15, 1877 in Tazewell County he married Catherine 'Katie' Ropp. She was born Jan. 5, 1857, and died in Illinois March 11,

1892, a daughter of Joseph Ropp and Catherine Birky. *Herald of Truth*, April 1892: "Struhbar - On the 14th of March 1892, in Tazewell Co., Ill., Sister Catharine Struhbar, maiden name Rupp. She was born Jan. 5th 1857, was married in 1877. Of her six children, three preceded her in death. She was a faithful member of the church. Her mortal remains were laid to rest in the Washington graveyard on the 16 of March. Funeral services by M. S. Moyer of Missouri in English, and by David Augsburger and Michael Kinsinger in German. A large concourse of people assembled on the solemn occasion." On Nov. 21, 1893 in Tazewell County he remarried to Susan Reeser. She was born at Washington March 24, 1861, and died there Dec. 20, 1932, a daughter of Joseph Reeser and Elizabeth Guth. They are found on the 1900, 1920, and 1930 censuses of Washington. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery.

d. Peter Strubhar [Jr.] was born March 18, 1857, and died July 9, 1907. Circa 1880 he married Katharina 'Kate' Donner. She was born at Panola, Woodford County Oct. 5, 1858, and died May 11, 1953, a daughter of Christian Donner and Katharina/Catherine Roggy. They are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington, where Katharina is 'Katherine Strubhar.'

e. Valentine Strubhar was born April 23, 1859, and died at Washington July 28, 1941. On Feb. 1, 1883 in Tazewell County he married Katharina 'Katie' Guth. She was born at Washington Feb. 21, 1865, and died there March 8, 1941, a daughter of John Guth/Good and Marie/Maria Ehresman. *History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church*: "Valentine Strubhar was born in McLean County, four miles northwest of Danvers, April 23, 1859. His father was Peter Strubhar. Peter Strubhar's father and mother were Peter and Mary Garber Strubhar of Alsace-Lorraine. Peter's father died in Alsace and his mother came to America in 1835, settling in Butler County, Ohio. Peter and his mother came to McLean County in 1837. Peter Strubhar was married to Barbara Sweitzer, the oldest daughter of John and Marie Sweitzer, natives of Nancy, France. Peter Strubhar settled on a farm northwest of Danvers where Valentine was born. In the spring of 1865 Valentine with his parents moved to Washington, Illinois. Here he grew to manhood. Valentine Strubhar was baptized in the autumn of 1879 by Rev. Peter Stuckey, and became a member of the East Washington Church. He was married to Katie Guth, daughter of John and Mary Guth of Washington, Illinois, on February 1, 1883. He was active in church work before he was ordained. At the age of fourteen he taught a Sunday School class in German spelling and was also superintendent of the Sunday School for about one year. He was ordained to the ministry January 10, 1893, by Bishop Peter Stuckey and Rev. Peter Schantz. A few years later he was ordained to the office of bishop. Rev. Strubhar has served on the Foreign Mission Board from its beginning, and has been very much interested in all the activities of the church. He is at present the senior pastor of the Calvary Mennonite Church and one of the oldest ministers in the Conference." He filed an application for a patent Feb. 23, 1916, which was approved as serial number 79,851 on Nov. 7, 1916: "Valentine Strubhar of Washington, Ill. Scraper. Application led February 23, 1916. To all whom it may concern be it known that I, Valentine Strubhar, citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the county of Tazewell and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Scrapers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same. This invention relates to a device for removing mud and dirt from boots and shoes. It pertains more particularly, however, to a so-called scraper adapted to be driven into the ground or attached to a suitable support, adjacent doorways or entrances to buildings, by which persons before entering may remove the mud and dirt from their shoes. One of the objects of the invention is to furnish a simple scraper of this nature that can be manufactured at little cost and so arranged that both the sole of the shoe and the upper may be thoroughly cleaned..." Valentine and Katharina are buried in Glendale Cemetery at Washington, where Catherine is 'Katherine Strubhar.'

In the near future we hope to visit the Family History Center at Salt Lake City to view FHL microfilm 1979969 (DGS 8011421). The online 10-year index of civil entries at Rémering-lès-Puttelange, Moselle shows a number of births and deaths that cannot be explained (Struper to Strouphan to Strubhard). The actual texts of the entries are not online. STRUBHAR will not be complete until we can explain those entries.