

My Virginia Ancestors:

Fultz, Holler, Rinker, Pence & Ruby

plus...

Smith, Bartley, Hottel & Keller

by Corrine Fultz Ardoin

2025

The following series contains genealogical records pertaining to my paternal ancestry. The story these records tell trace my Fultz family roots back to Germany, France, and Switzerland. These three regions represent the origins of my Fultz family line and their maternal off-shoots, Holler, Rinker, Pence, and Ruby.

To complete the story, I've included a brief history of my Eggert family roots in Germany and Scotland. These regions represent the origins of my Eggert family line and its maternal off-shoots, Schulmeister and Herries. Though, I've also included my Gatchell lineage, beginning with my immigrant ancestor who came from England in 1629, because the Gatchell's played a crucial role in American history, as well as my family history. Hopefully, I will one day present a more substantial documentation of the Eggert family line. Until then, the brief paper I've added here, is meant to serve as a jumping-off point to trace their story about how they became my ancestors.

Learning about my family history has enriched my life, lending me purpose. Through uncovering the lives of long-deceased persons, I have discovered the truth of my own life, to be a storyteller. This series is one of those many stories I have told throughout my life, imparting on readers an understanding of lives passed. In Spanish, they are called *antepasados*. In German, they are *Vorfahren*. In English, they are the ancestors, the forefathers who have come before me, of whom I share their story and, by so doing, ensure they are not forgotten.

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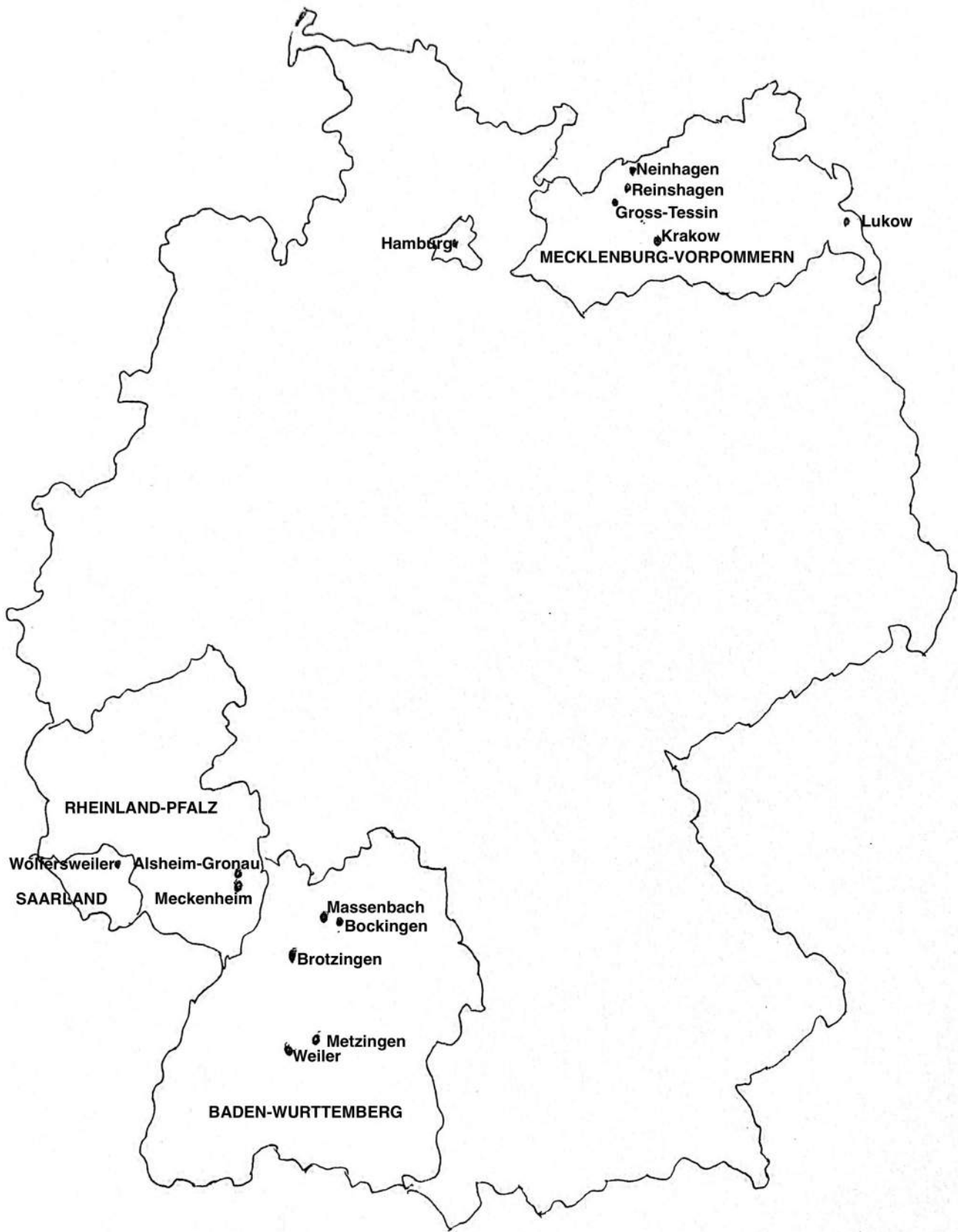
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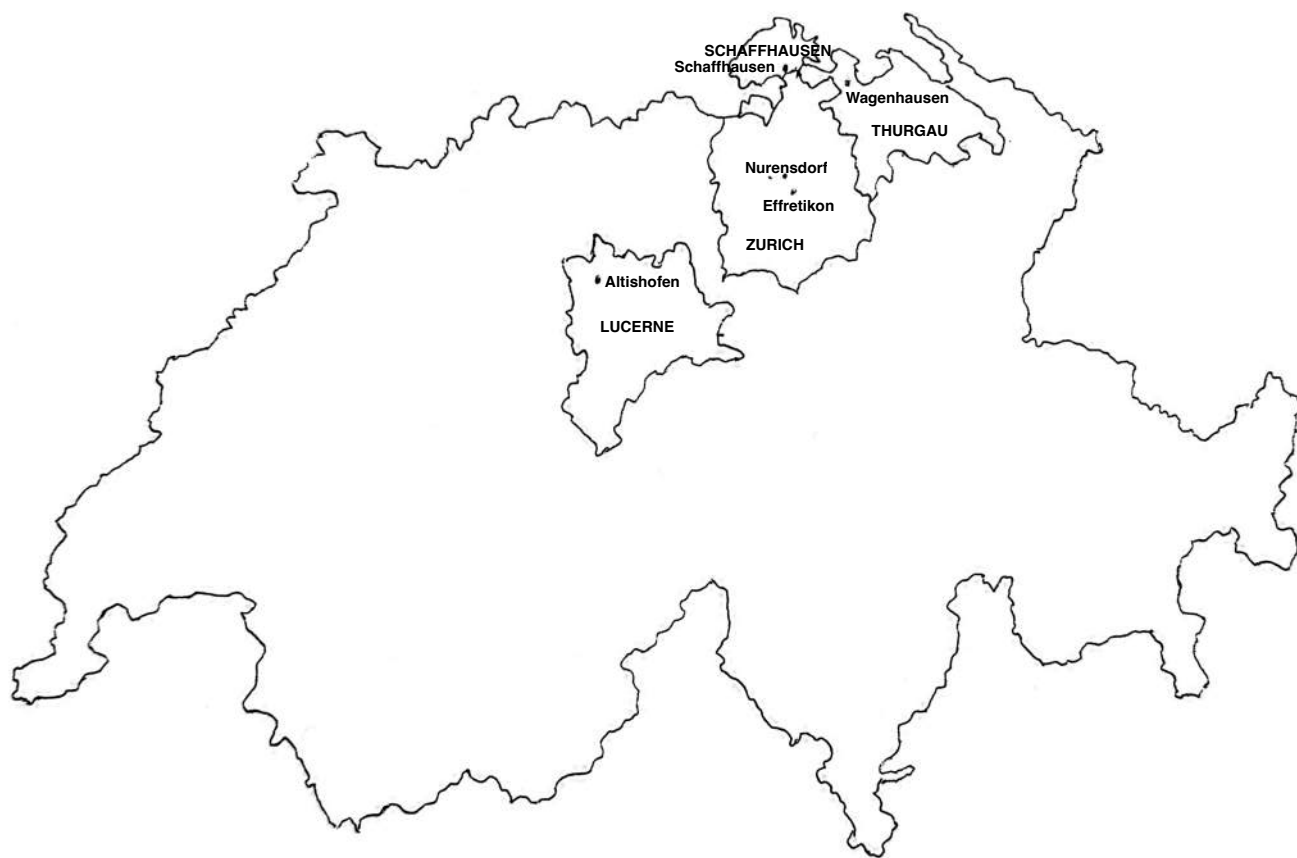
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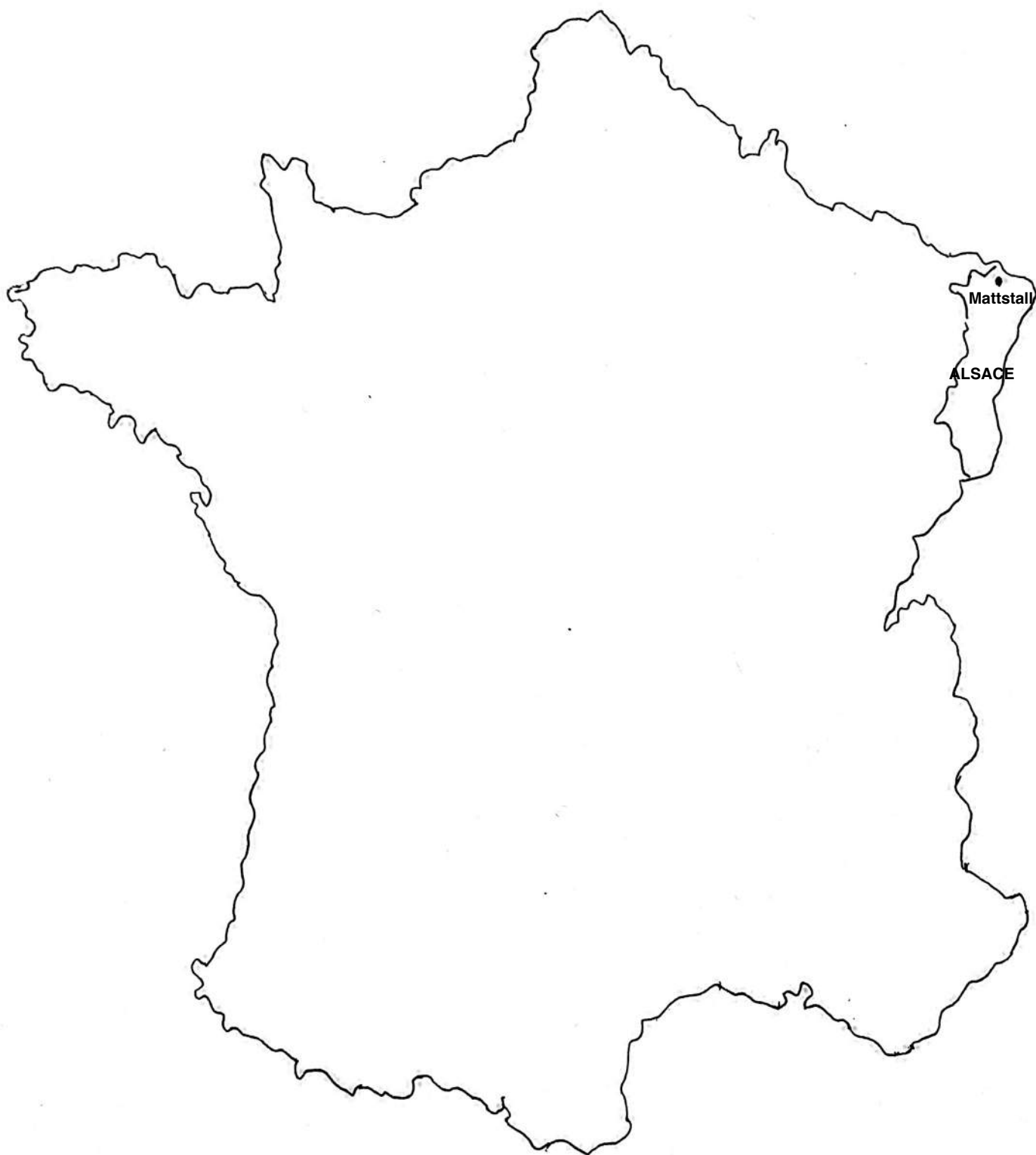
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Joseph Fultz born in Shen Co 1823 mar Dorothy Rinker 1844 died 1895	Jonathan Hollar born in Shen Co 1813 mar Anna Bartley 1835 died 1896	Jacob Rinker IV born in Shen Co 1799 mar Elizabeth Miller 1822 died 1824					
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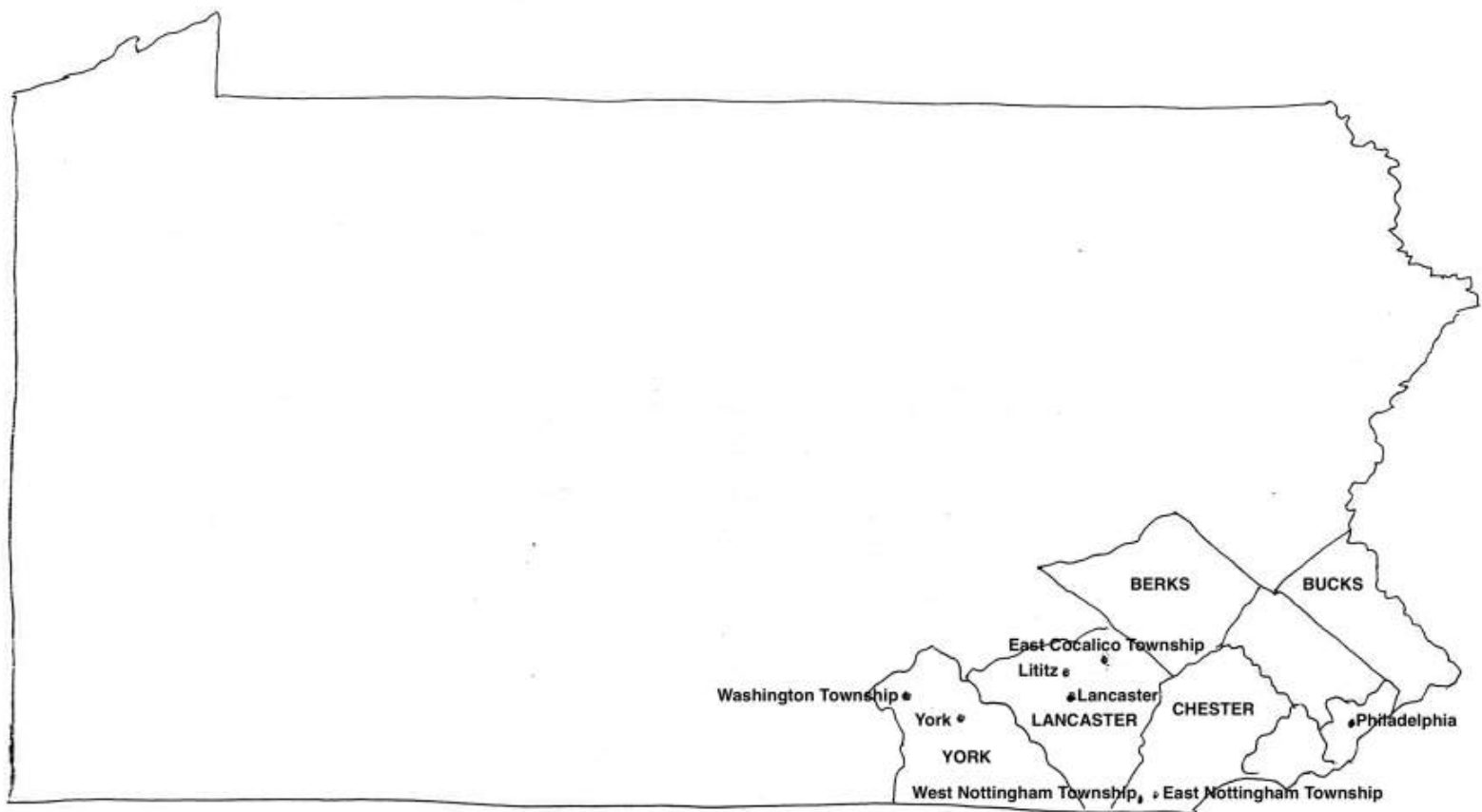
GERMANY



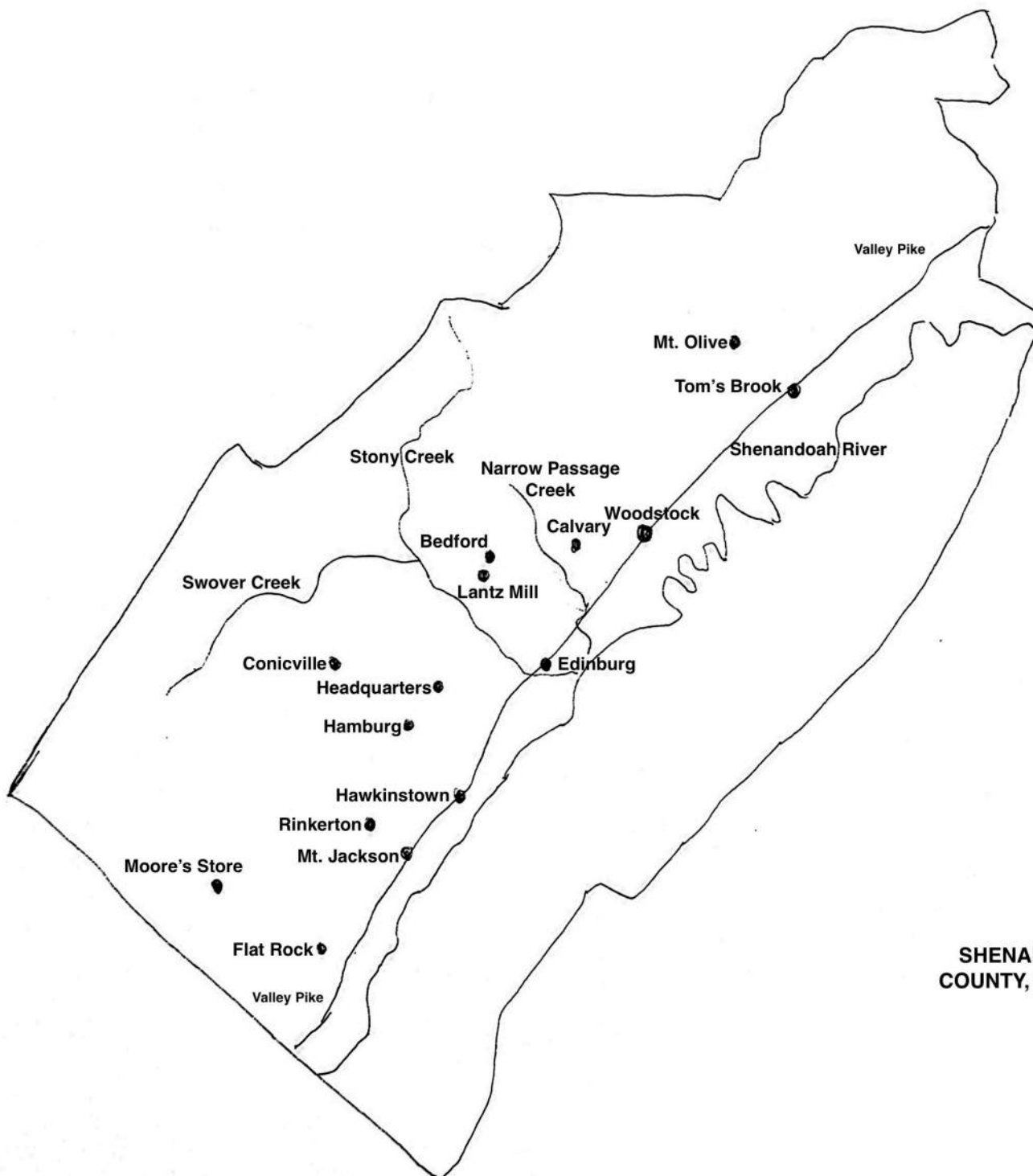
SWITZERLAND



FRANCE



PENNSYLVANIA



**SHENANDOAH
COUNTY, VIRGINIA**



WYANDOT

• Upper Sandusky
• Mifflin Township

TUSCARAWAS

HARRISON

Cadiz Township •

• Moorefield
Township

LICKING

• Newark

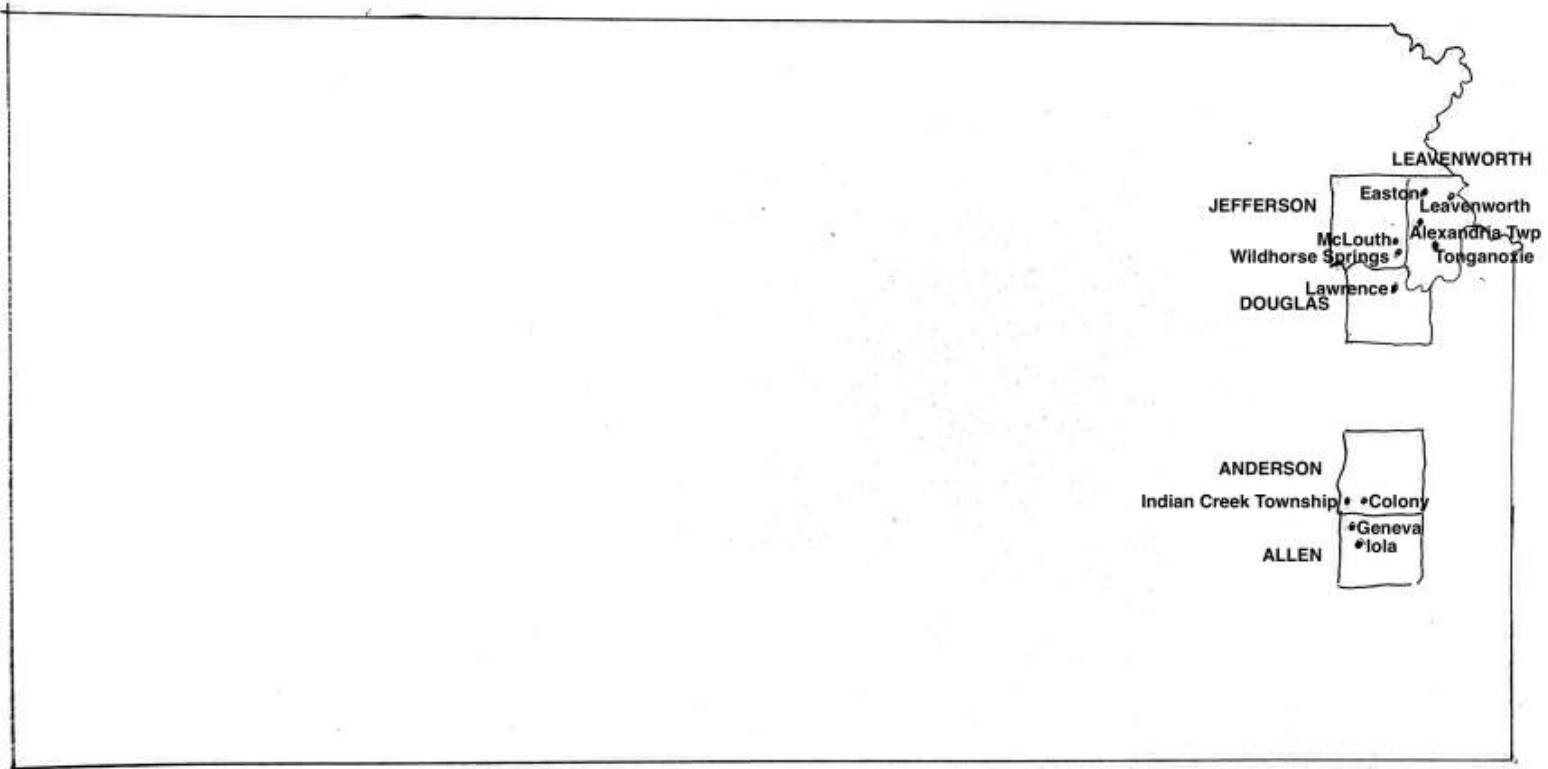
• Violet Township

FAIRFIELD

MONTGOMERY

• Farmersville

OHIO



KANSAS

The Search For Freedom

Fultz

The Fultz's emigrated in the 1700s from what is now called Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany. Formerly a Celtic region, it was at that time part of the Holy Roman Empire in a territory known as the Palatinate. King Louis XIV of France invaded the Palatinate, leaving it ravaged and degraded. There were crop failures, especially harsh winters, then famine. Whole villages went up in flames. Additionally, colonial church leaders, such as William Penn, appealed to the Crown and, likewise, called upon these German-speaking Protestants to emigrate, extolling the benefits of voyaging to America. By the 1700s, the Fultz's were among tens of thousands of German refugees forced to leave their homeland, some destitute and starving, others hopeful for a new life awaiting them across the Atlantic.

Emigrants were shipped together like freight down the Rhine River, which took several weeks, stopping at the numerous custom houses that lined its banks, until they reached Rotterdam in the Netherlands. They had to wait several weeks before they could sail onward. However, they were only taken across the English Channel to a port in England. The British government was overwhelmed by this mass migration of people arriving by the thousands.

Eventually, ships were arranged to take them to the English Colonies, where they would be put to work. Most, like my ancestors, boarded a ship from the port, Cowes. Between the years 1727-1774, records show nearly twenty Fultz men arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Henrich Fultz, September 30, 1727, on the Ship Molley
Heinrich Voltz, October 8, 1737, on the Ship Charming Polly
Mathias Fols, September 26, 1741, on the Ship St. Mark
Johannes Foltz, September 5, 1748, on the Ship Edinburgh
Jans Peter Fols, September 16, 1748, on the Ship Patience
Hans Peter Voltz, October 17, 1749, on the Ship Dragon
Peter Foltz, August 11, 1750, on the Ship Patience
George Voltz, August 28, 1750, on the Ship Phoenix
Joseph Voltz, August 26, 1751, on the Ship Anderson
Conrad Foltz, September 14, 1753, on the Ship Edinburgh
Michael Voltz, September 24, 1753, on the Ship Peggy
Georg Voltz, September 14, 1754, on the Ship Barclay
Johannes Voltz, August 24, 1765, on the Ship Polly
Friederich Foltz, November 19, 1771, on the Ship Tyger
Conrad Voltz, September 18, 1773, on the Ship Britannia
Jacob Voltz, September 30, 1774, on the Ship Union

The entire passage from the homeland to North America would take as long as six months. Accounts of these emigrant voyages tell a story of life aboard ship that was horrendous. Gale storms, overcrowding, disease, poor food, and cruel ship's masters ensured that dozens would die, mostly children. Upon arrival, those who were not sick were herded over to the Philadelphia Courthouse where their names were again entered in immigrant lists, and how those names were spelled would change. For example, "Jans Peter Fols," would become, "Johann Peter Voltz." He was only eighteen years of age and, like all the men sixteen and older, had to pledge this oath:

"We subscribers, natives and late inhabitants of the Palatinate upon the Rhine and places adjacent, having transported ourselves into this Province of Pennsylvania, a colony subject to the crown of Great Britain, in hopes and expectation of finding a retreat and peaceable settlement therein: Do solemnly promise and engage, that we will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his present Majesty King George II, and his successors, kings of Great Britain, and will be faithful to the

Proprietors of this Province; and that we will demean ourselves peaceably to all his said Majesty's subjects, and strictly observe and conform to the laws of England and of this Province, to the utmost of our power and the best of our understanding."

Afterward, herded back to the ship, the marketing would begin. Merchants picked which men they wanted as workers and paid the ship's master for the immigrant's passage and other debts incurred along the voyage. These now-indentured laborers had to work it off, unless they had plenty of money or a family already there who could pay the passage debt for them.

The Fultz's who arrived in America would have eventually found their way. Many of their fellow countrymen were very industrious, creating their own German-speaking communities patterned much the same as the ones they left behind. Two of the Fultz's settled in what would later become Shenandoah County, Virginia. Johann Martin Voltz and his cousin, Johann Peter Voltz, both received land grants from Lord Fairfax, a British peer in the Virginia Colony who owned hundreds of slaves and millions of acres. Martin received 384 acres in 1766, while Peter received 400 acres in 1778. Like most, they raised livestock and grew wheat, flax, and other grains. Peter kept a grist mill for their grain and a saw mill. His sons, Joshua and Joseph, also received land that bordered their father's. The family's total land acreage would be nearly a thousand acres along Stony Creek, which flowed into the Shenandoah River through Edinburg. Johann Martin Voltz, like his cousin, helped to found the Zion Lutheran Church, along with a school. His land was along Narrow Passage Creek, which flowed into Stony Creek. Upon his death in 1782, his sons, John, Daniel, and Martin, Jr., were given the land, which they and their descendants eventually sold to others.

Families descended from Martin's and Peter's large families, from over two hundred and fifty years ago, yet live in Shenandoah County. Many left for Ohio and elsewhere. Several descendants of Martin's left Virginia on a wagon train bound for the Ohio Valley in 1810. There, the Fultz name became "Fuls."

Besides those who had fought in the Revolutionary War, like Joshua Foltz, who became a private with the Shenandoah Pens, many of the Fultz's who remained fought in the War of 1812 and the Civil War. My direct ancestor, Joseph Fultz, was a private in J.W. Carter's Company of the Virginia Horse Artillery in 1863, the year his company fought at Gettysburg, as well as numerous other skirmishes and battles. While the residents of Shenandoah County were mostly adverse to the notion of secession from the Union, the issue of State's rights rallied them to the cause, even though most did not own slaves. Joseph's father, John Foltz, however, owned a slave in 1845 and, being a blacksmith on the main road south of Edinburg, the Valley Pike, he was commandeered by the Confederacy for his aid in supplying horses and wagons.

Holler

In 1733, after much religious persecution by France's King Louis XIV and the Holy Roman Empire after the Reformation, Heinrich Haller brought his wife, Anna Catharina Carle, and their six surviving children to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, he and his eldest son, Petter, fulfilled their requirement to pledge their allegiance to the British Crown. Their descendants, however, would later fight against England in the Revolutionary War, though Heinrich left Europe because, true to his religious beliefs, he did not believe in war or violence. He did not believe in slavery either, though his descendants would fight for the Confederacy during the Civil War. The Holler's were persecuted in Europe and again persecuted in America for their pacifist and anti-slavery views. Yet, many of their sons went to war in 1776, 1812, and 1861.

In Mattstall, Alsace, France, Heinrich worked as a *zeigler*, a brickmaker or stonemason, though he was born in the village of Wagenhausen in Thurgau, Switzerland, and he and his wife were married in Saarland, Germany. The journey to the Colonies cost between \$27 and \$90 per person, which few

persons had. As was done, they first traveled down the Rhine River to Rotterdam, then went over to Deal, England, where they boarded the Ship Samuel for Philadelphia. After their arrival on August 17, 1733, they went to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where Heinrich received a land grant. He and all of his children, except for his eldest, Petter, would remain in Pennsylvania, helping to establish the Reformed Lutheran Church in Muddy Creek in East Cocalico Township. His descendants would spread across the country, from Virginia to West Virginia and Ohio, Tennessee, North Carolina, Indiana, Kansas, and beyond.

After his father's death in 1761, Petter Haller left for Virginia. Since there were no roads, he brought his wife and children to the Shenandoah Valley on horseback with packhorses carrying their belongings. He had acquired large tracts of land that had to be cleared for farming. German settlers, like the Haller's, needed to be self-sufficient in the early wilderness. Their first real homes were of logs, with gaps in them for their rifles to shoot at any attacking Indians. Crops were planted close to home so they had protection near at hand from wild animals, such as wolves. The land and the domesticated animals provided all their food and even fabric for clothing and other necessities. Looms, spinning wheels, mills, a variety of implements and hand tools were a necessity for these early settlers.

Like the Fultz's, lacking a standardized spelling of their surname, the Holler surname varied from person to person. For instance, the Haller's changed the spelling of their surname to Hollar, then Holler, sometimes even Hallow and Hollow. They were very religious people, serving as elders in the Lutheran churches and schools they helped to found along Stony Creek near Edinburg in Shenandoah County. They donated the land for the Union Forge Church and cemetery, and a nearby school, as well. Other schools and public meeting houses sprang up in the County as the region became prosperous and bountiful. During the Civil War, this was well-known, and "The Burning" was systematically carried out by Union troops led by their commanders, like George Armstrong Custer, an especially ruthless leader. Its intention was to bring the war to the civilian population and thus destroy their support for the war and for secession. The citizens of Hamburg, Edinburg, Mt. Jackson, Lantz Mill, Woodstock, and other small villages, few of whom were slave owners, were helpless as their crops were destroyed, their animals slaughtered, and their homes and barns burned to the ground.

Hardship followed, but they were hard-working people. Many bills went before the House, asking for relief for those, such as my direct ancestor, Jonathan Hollar, who had suffered huge losses. He had four sons who fought in the war. One of them, John Edward Holler, was shot through the lungs at a battle in Maryland. Another son, Mahlon Holler, had become a prisoner-of-war and was held at Point Lookout, Maryland, one of the notoriously horrifying camps during the Civil War, overcrowded, filthy, and disease-ridden, nothing more than a muddy corral. Mahlon was transferred to a hospital in Richmond, Virginia and then the war ended. To this day, his descendants tell the tale of Mahlon, who sat tall in the saddle, riding through the village on his great white horse. He married soon after the war and his daughter, Wilmuth Ann, would join many other Haller-Hollar-Holler's and leave Virginia with her Fultz husband, Napoleon, seeking the wide open spaces, opportunities, and a new life out West.

Rinker

Hans Jacob Rinker I emigrated with two of his brothers, his step-mother, and his step-brother on the Ship Francis & Elizabeth. They sailed out of Rotterdam on May 5th, 1743, then afterward from Cowes, England. (A third brother sailed on the Ship St. Andrew and arrived in Pennsylvania before them.) They were from Nurensdorf, Zurich, Switzerland. They arrived at Philadelphia on August 30th, 1743. Beside his name on the passenger list, it says he was sick. Eventually, he and his wife, Catherine, made it to the Shenandoah Valley where he received a large land grant from Lord Fairfax. In 1764, he received 386 acres, in 1779, 278 acres, in 1787, he received 117 acres, and he received 200 acres in 1789, all of which were in Shenandoah County. He lived on Cabin Hill near Swover Creek in the small village of what is today known as Conicville. His original house is no longer standing, but he also built a stone house sometime around 1753, which is still in existence. It was frequently used as a meeting

house and as a fort during Indian attacks. In 1770, he built an impressively large log home nearby, which is also still standing. It has an immense fireplace, typical of pre-Revolutionary War homes. A story is told that one of the Rinker women was alone at home when Indians came into the house. She took her baby and climbed up inside the chimney and hid there until they left.

The Rinker's were an illustrious family that would make its mark in American history. They were very wealthy, owned a lot of land, as well as several slaves at various times. Hans Jacob Rinker's son, Colonel Jacob Rinker II, became a renowned county surveyor, earning the trust of all who knew him. His surveys and opinions on the surveys of others were thought of as the final say on the matter. During the Revolutionary War, he was commissioned on March 4th, 1776 as a Lieutenant in Capt. Jonathan Clark's company in the 8th Virginia Regiment. He resigned on May 10, 1777. He was appointed County Justice of the Court on June 29, 1778, appointed census taker in 1785, and appointed delegate in 1788, representing Shenandoah County to the Virginia Ratifying Convention. He voted to approve the Constitution we live by today. In 1812, he was appointed magistrate for Shenandoah County, then appointed County Sheriff in 1819. He was directed to conduct elections, collect taxes, accounts, forfeitures due the Commonwealth of Virginia. He was highly-esteemed by friends, neighbors, and colleagues. Even his death was notable, brought about by illness after riding horseback at age seventy-eight to visit a friend in the rain and cold. His remains received a military escort to Woodstock where they were delivered to his family and friends. A Daughters of the American Revolution plaque, as well as a Sons of the American Revolution marker, were placed at his grave in the Rinker family cemetery to honor his service.

His wife, Mary Keller, draws in another branch of the family, the Hottel and Keller families, which arrived in Shenandoah County long before the Revolutionary War. The Hottel's originated in Altishofen, Lucerne, Switzerland, though their children were born in Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany. They came to Pennsylvania aboard the Ship Pennsylvania Merchant on September 11, 1732. The Keller's originated in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, though they established themselves in Metzingen, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany before emigrating. They arrived in Pennsylvania on October 11, 1732 aboard the Ship Pleasant. One wonders if they already knew one another.

Colonel Jacob Rinker II and Mary Keller's son, George Rinker, lived in the Hamburg area of Shenandoah County, Virginia. His son, Jacob Rinker IV, also lived there, but he died soon after his two children were born. His son, Isaac Rinker, became the first postmaster of Hamburg, while his daughter, Dorothy, married Joseph Fultz. She received a generous dowry of land in Hamburg, which descendants of Joseph Fultz yet own and reside on today.

Pence

Like the Fultz's, the Holler's, and the Rinker's, the Pence's arrived in America during the 1700s. On passenger lists, they are said to be Palatines, which was not uncommon for German-speaking migrants to be thus labeled (whether they were from the Palatinate or not). Various spellings of the surname were given. My direct ancestors used Benz and Bentz, but eventually adopted the spelling of "Pence." Between the years 1727-1772, records show that over twenty Pence men, some with their families, arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Johannes Bense, October 16, 1727, on the Ship Friendship
Lodowich Bentze, October 16, 1727, on the Ship Friendship
Michael Pentz, September 25, 1732, on the Ship Loyal Judith
Johannes Bentz, September 25, 1732, on the Ship Loyal Judith
Lenhart Bentz, September 30, 1732, on the Ship Dragon
Georg Jacob Bentz, October 31, 1737, on the Ship William
Adam Pence, September 20, 1738, on the Ship Nancy and Friendship
Valentin Pence, September 20, 1738, on the Ship Nancy and Friendship

Jacob Bantz, January 10, 1739, on the Ship London
Andreas Bentz, December 3, 1740, on the Ship Robert and Alice
Johan Jacob Bentz, September 7, 1748, on the Ship Hampshire
George Bentz, September 15, 1749, on the Ship Phoenix
Jacob Bence, September 15, 1749, on the Ship Phoenix
Michael Penns, September 15, 1749, on the Ship Edinburgh
Johannes Bentz, September 21, 1751, on the Ship Two Brothers
Johan Christoph Bentz, September 19, 1752, on the Ship Edinburgh
Adam Pence, October 4, 1752, on the Ship Neptune
George Henrich Bentz, October 23, 1752, on the Ship Bawley
Christian Friederich Panse, September 24, 1753 on the Ship Peggy
Johan Christ. Bentz, September 29, 1753, on the Ship Snow Rowand
Johann David Bennz, September 20, 1772, on the Ship Minerva

My direct ancestor, Johann Nicolaus Benz, lived in Pennsylvania. He must have known the Holler's, because he also attended the Muddy Creek Church in East Cocalico Township. Their children were baptized at the same time by the same minister. Eventually, however, Johann Nicolaus Benz, or, "John Nicholas Pence," his wife, Maria Margaret Lantz, and their seven children left Pennsylvania to establish themselves in Shenandoah County, Virginia. Nicholas's name appeared in Shenandoah County tax and census records by 1783. His third child, Jacob, married and had a daughter, Mary Margaret Pence, who would come to marry John Foltz, the blacksmith of Hawkinstown. Nicholas's fourth child, John Pence, married John Foltz's widowed mother, Magdalena Ruby, before homesteading with her in Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio. There, they established another branch of the Fultz, Pence, and Ruby family trees. The Ruby's, like those listed below, also arrived from the Palatine, according to immigration lists. Magdalena's grandfather, Peter Ruby, is first on the list:

Peter Ruby, September 11, 1738, on the Ship Robert and Oliver
Hans Ruby, gave oath at the courthouse in Philadelphia, September 24, 1742, having arrived on the Ship Robert & Alice
Bernhart Roobe, gave oath at the courthouse in Philadelphia, November 2, 1744, having arrived on the Ship Friendship
Casper Ruby, September 7, 1748, on the Ship Hampshire

If you wish to know more about your Virginia German ancestors, I highly recommend Klaus Wust's book, *The Virginia Germans*. Look for it at your local library. It is an excellent, in-depth study of German immigration and settlement in America and it offers an enjoyable reading experience.

John Foltz & Mary Margaret Pence



The final resting place of John Foltz & his wife, Mary Margaret “Peggy” Pence, at the Old Bethel Cemetery outside of Edinburg. This picture was taken during my visit to Shenandoah County, Virginia in 2015. Only the headstones could be located, stacked by one tree. It was a short walk across a pasture to reach the cemetery where once a small church stood. Fortunately, the burial ground was still being maintained, even though the original burial locations appeared to have been lost.

Foltz descendants continue to live in and around Edinburg. The Foltz name is on mailboxes. There is a Foltz auto repair shop, a Foltz Creek, a Foltz Road. Someone you meet by chance may be a Foltz, or a Fultz. As for John Foltz, all I really know is that he was a blacksmith. He and his wife raised their large family in the unincorporated village of Hawkinstown. These two towns, Edinburg and Hawkinstown, lay along the Valley Pike, originally a type of hard-packed gravel road. He bought and sold various properties in the vicinity. Some of his transactions involved purchases of several horses or wagons.

The blacksmithing trade was passed down to his sons, Uriah, Isaac, and Joseph. When Peggy's father died, John inherited half the land, which he later passed down to his sons, Joseph and Jacob. I imagine he was a family man, aiding others and being supported by them. He owned slaves, but he also hired free blacks to work for him. There are no stories or photographs of him for me to share, so I can only imagine who he was and what his life had been. It would have involved hard work, blacksmithing and being around a lot of horses every day, as well as trading in and maintaining wagons and other hardware. He served in the War of 1812 and the Civil War. But, not long after that, in 1869, at the age of 76, he died from a condition people used to call, “dropsy,” which is now known as edema. His wife, Peggy, outlived him by several years, herself passing away in 1874. They were both born in the 1700s and had seen a lot of change, from the Revolutionary War through the Civil War.

The following records provide additional information.

This Indenture under the fiftenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two. Between John Folly of and Jacob Folly lies of the children thirteenth law of Daniel Folly dec^d of the County of Shennandoah and State of Virginia of the one part, and Jacob Shuby of the County State aforesaid of the other part. Witnesseth that the said John Folly and Jacob Folly for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand Dollars current money of the United States unto them in hand paid by the said Jacob Shuby the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and thereof release acquit and discharge the said Jacob Shuby his heirs executors and administrators by their parents, the said John Folly and Jacob Folly have granted bargained sold assigned and conveyed and by their parents as grant bargain sell assign and conveyed unto the said Jacob Shuby his heirs and assigns two undivided fourth parts of a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the said County ~~adjoining~~ the land of John Folly and others containing one hundred thirty-one acres and of the same tract that was sold to the said Daniel Folly by the last will and testament of his father John Martin Folly dec^d. The same right in the said land of Moderate Peace late Moderate Folly widow and relict of the Daniel Folly dec^d. excepted. Together with all houses buildings orchards crops water watercourses mines profits and commodities hereditaments and appurtenances what ever to the same belonging or in any way

and appertaining, and the revenues and revenues remainder and remainders rents fines and profits thereof. Also all the estate right title interest and trust property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said John Folly and Jacob Folly in law or equity of case in the premises aforesaid and every part thereof. To have & to hold all and singular the premises with the appurtenances hereby conveyed unto the said Jacob Shuby his heirs and assigns to the only proper and good behoof of the said Jacob Shuby his heirs and assigns forever.

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And testify that the said John Folly and Jacob Folly and their heirs all and singular the premises hereby conveyed with the appurtenances thereto belonging unto the said Jacob Shuby his heirs and assigns against the said John Folly and Jacob Folly and their heirs and all and every other person and persons whatsoever that shall or lawfully may demand by their parents. The same right aforesaid excepted. In Witness whereof the said John Folly Jacob Folly have hereunto set their hands and seals the day before last above written.

Signed sealed & delivered
in the presence of
Shennandoah County

John Folly (Seal)
Jacob Folly (Seal)
witness

The within conveyance was ~~delivered~~ ^{acknowledged before me} in the Clerk's Office of said County on the 15th day of January 1818 & admitted to record.

Jeff. Williams Sec. Sh. Co.

Record reads: "This Indenture made this fifteenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen. Between John Foltz and Jacob Foltz two of the children heirs at law of Daniel Foltz deceased of the County of Shenandoah and State of Virginia of the one part, and Jacob Sheetz of the County State aforesaid of the other part. Witnesseth that the said John Foltz and Jacob Foltz for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand dollars current money of the United States unto them in hand paid by the said Jacob Sheetz the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and thereof do release acquit and discharge the said Jacob Sheetz his heirs, executors, and administrators by these presents, the said John Foltz and Jacob Foltz have granted bargained sold aliened and confirmed and by these presents do grant bargain sell alien and confirm unto the said Jacob Sheetz his heirs and assigns two undivided fourth parts of a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the said County adjoining the lands of John Foltz and others containing one hundred seventy acres and is the same tract that was willed to the said Daniel Foltz by the last will and testament of his father John Martin Foltz deceased. The dower right on the said land of Modelene Pence late Madelene Foltz widow and relict of the Daniel Foltz deceased excepted. Together with all houses buildings orchards ways waters watercourses mines profits and commodities hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the same belonging or in any since appertaining, and the revision and reversions remainder and remainders rents issues and profits thereof. Also all the estate right title interest and trust property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said John Foltz and Jacob Foltz in law or equity of and in the premises aforesaid and every part thereof. To have and to hold all and singular the premises with the appurtenances hereby conveyed unto the said Jacob Sheetz his heirs and assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said Jacob Sheetz his heirs and assigns forever and lastly that the said John Foltz and Jacob Foltz and their heirs all and singular the premises hereby conveyed with the appurtenances thereto belonging unto the said Jacob Sheetz his heirs and assigns against the said John Foltz and Jacob Foltz and their heirs and all and every other person and persons whatsoever shall seize warrant forever defend by these presents. The dower right aforesaid excepted. In witness thereof the said John Foltz and Jacob Foltz have hereunto set their hands seals the day and year first above written.

John Foltz

Jacob Foltz (his mark)

Signed sealed & delivered

In the presence of

Shenandoah County

The written conveyance was acknowledged before us in the Clerk's Office of said County on the 15th day of January 1818 and admitted to record.

P. Williams Clerk, Shenandoah County

Source: Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book Y, 1817-1818, page 131

Note: The significance of this record is that, in the sections I have underlined, it shows the relationship of John Foltz to his father, Daniel Foltz, and Daniel Foltz's relationship to his father, Johann Martin Foltz, making him my immigrant ancestor.

Know all men by these presents that we ^{the said} Daniel Folgy & Jacob Ruty are held and firmly Bound unto his Excellency Beverly Randolph Esqr Governor of Virginia in the just and full sum of fifty pounds current Money to ~~be paid~~ payment well and truly to be made to the said Governor or his successor we bind ourselves our heirs executors and administrators jointly and severally by these presents sealed with our seals and dated this 28th Day of November 1789

The Condition of the above obligation is such that whereas there is a marriage suddenly intended to be solemnized between the above bound Daniel Folgy and Magdalena Ruty now if there be no Lawful cause to obstruct the said marriage then the above obligation to be void and of no effect otherwise to remain in full force and virtue

Sealed and Delivered in the presence of

the presents of

Williams & Co

Daniel & Folgy
Jacob. Ruty
mark

Secur
Seal

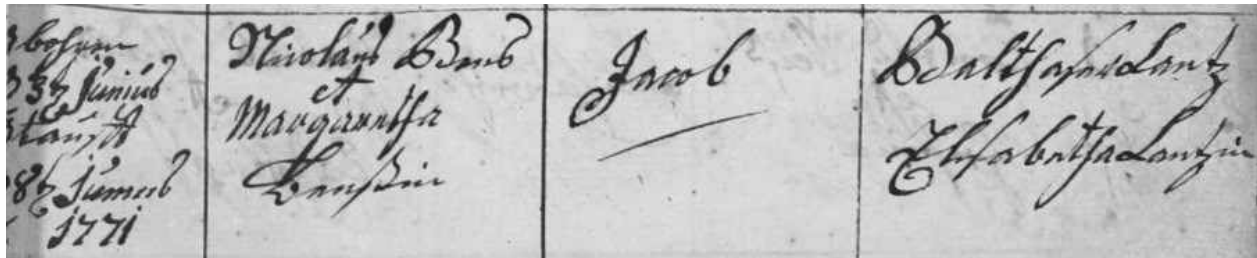
This marriage bond record shows John Foltz's father, Daniel Foltz, married Magdalena Ruby in 1789. She was the daughter of Jacob Ruby and Elizabeth Lorah. They had four children before Daniel died in 1799, while yet in his twenties. John, the eldest son, was only six years of age at the time. Magdalena, or Madelene, remarried to John Pence in 1802. Despite the fact that she and her second husband left Virginia for Ohio in 1810, along with her siblings and her other children, John's life appears to have remained in Virginia. In 1815, he married John Pence's niece, Mary Margaret "Peggy" Pence. Together, they raised an enormous family, eight to ten children and dozens of grandchildren.

I have often wondered if John had apprenticed with Peggy's father, Jacob Pence, to become a blacksmith. That could be one explanation why he stayed in Virginia. Jacob may have served as a father figure to John who had lost his father at a very young age and who had witnessed his entire family move away. At age nineteen, he fought in the War of 1812. His fate could have taken a turn for the worse. But, he survived and, as numerous other records, land transactions, census and tax records, all show, John Foltz lived his entire life in Shenandoah County, Virginia. Between Hawkinstown and Edinburg, the Valley Pike and the banks of the beautiful Shenandoah River, he forged a life of his own, lived on his own terms. His house may yet be standing today. Nearby, as visitors view the grand mansion, "Red Banks" for the first time, or walk the field to the Old Bethel Church burial ground, they can imagine his life, lived like all of our ancestors once had, in a time passed, among a landscape forever altered by this modern world.

Source: Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

The Pence Family

I have been unable to locate my Pence immigrant ancestor. Additionally, lumping all German immigrants under the category of "Palatine," hardly constitutes a reliable source of information, which was how immigrants, such as the Pence's were labeled. The furthest back I have reached is with Jacob Pence's father, John Nicholas Pence. Nicholas eventually wound up in the East Cocalico Township of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where his children were born. Family records, such as baptisms and marriages, were often written in German, as the following baptism record shows. It is for their son, my direct ancestor, Jacob Pence:



In the first column, it gives the birth and baptism dates of June 3rd and June 8th, 1771. In the second column, it gives the parents names, Nicolaus Bens & Margaretha Lantzin, Third column is the child's name, Jacob, and the final column are the names of the sponsors, or witnesses, Balthasar Lantz and Elisabetha Lantzin. It was common practice to add "in" onto the end of the woman's surname. The baptism was conducted at the Muddy Creek Church in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Jacob's two older siblings, Elizabeth and Peter, were also baptized at Muddy Creek.

Note: It was common practice for grandparents to be the child's sponsors. It is likely that Balthasar Lantz and his wife were Margaretha's parents.

Source: Muddy Creek Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church Register, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Eventually, the Pence family made it to Shenandoah County, Virginia. Earliest records place other Pence's there by 1772, but Nicholas Pence does not show up in County records until 1784. Many of the Pence's lived near one another on Pence Hill near Red Banks and Edinburg and ran a blacksmithing shop and wagon stand. Jacob Pence, himself, was a wagon maker and a blacksmith. According to John W. Wayland in his book, *"A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia,"* on page 458, one of the houses on Pence Hill was built using some of the timbers from the old Bethel Church that sat along the banks of the Shenandoah River. Its cemetery, now defunct, was where Jacob Pence, Sr. and his wife, Catharine Calback were buried, and also their son, Jacob Pence, Jr. and wife, Harriet Beckwith Hisey, their son-in-law, John Foltz, who married their daughter, Mary Margaret Pence. Jacob Sr.'s father, Nicholas Pence, may have been buried there, as well.



German Fraktur print, a traditional art form used in recording family births and baptisms. This one was for my direct ancestor's son, Jacob Pence, Jr. (Mary Margaret Pence's brother). It reads:

“Jacob Pence was born in Virginia Shenandoah County the 1st day of October 1795 on thursday in the sign Capricorn His Parents are Jacob Pence and his beloved wife Catharine he was born in the afternoon about 4 o'clock his sponsors are Nicolaus Pence and wife Margareta.”

On the following page are two more examples of Fraktur prints. The first is a black-and-white copy of the Fraktur for Joseph Foltz, who was the son of Johann Peter Voltz. The second is for an unknown person who also lived in Shenandoah County, Virginia. It is on display at the Edinburg Mill Museum in Shenandoah County, along with the one for Jacob Pence, Jr. However, unlike the Fraktur for Jacob Pence, Jr., these next two are in German. They demonstrate the continuing traditions of German immigrants who built a new life in America.



Joseph Vols Ist
Auf Diese Welt
Gebahren Jahr Unsero Herrn
1763 den 20 Horning Und
Habe Mich Verheyrahtet
Mit Maria Elsin den 8 May
Im Jahr 1781

1807 den 13 ten
Oktobers

In *Griffioen Bayj* — Auf diese Welt geboren worden, den Christlichen
Kirch. in *Griffioen Bayj* — County, im Staat *Virginia* —
der Vater war *Griffioen Bayj* — die Mutter *Cassius* —
eine geborene *Napier* — Taufstegen
sind gewesen

Laß die angeerbte Sünd, Durch dein Blut sich von ihm scheiden,
Durch dein Geist es dir verbindt, Daß sichs mög in dir ver-
fleiden, Und den Namen den wir geben, Schreib ins
Lebensbuch zum
Leben.

Griffioen Bayj 1853 *Johann Lenzbach*

Last Will and Testament for Jacob Pence, Sr.:

"I Jacob Pence of the County of Shenandoah and State of Virginia do hereby make my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say

1st I desire that my Executor hereafter named shall immediately after my decease sell all my perishable property, and out of the moneys arising therefrom pay all my Just debt and funeral expenses

2ndly I give to my son Jacob Pence and Son in law John Foltz all my lands lying on the east side of the old stage road upon the condition that they pay five hundred dollars each in manner hereafter named, that is to say, I will to my son Jacob Pence his heirs executors, administrators and assigns, the one half of my said lands, on condition that my said son Jacob Pence is to pay unto William my son by Magdalene Fry the sum of two hundred and twenty five dollars, the twenty five dollars to be paid for the benefit his education, and the remaining two hundred to be paid him, the said William, when he arrives at the age of twenty one, and the balance of the five hundred dollars to be paid to the heirs of my son David Pence, namely Morgan and Mary Catherine, when they arrive at the age of twenty-one

here it will appear that I haven't give to my son David what I gave to my other lawful heirs. I will therefore name that I gave to him when he first went to business about two hundred and twenty five dollars worth of property which would make him equal with the rest, and I will to my said son in law, John Foltz & Margaret his wife their heirs Exs admins & assigns the other half of my said lands, upon the conditions that the said John Foltz is to pay my daughter Susannah, five hundred dollars in annual installments of forty dollars each the first to be paid one year after my death, to be applied as hereafter stated, as my daughter Susannah is deaf and dumb and has married Abraham Moyer who has left her, and is very desperate and not calculated to provide for her new family. I therefore will that no part of affects shall go into the hands of the said Abraham Moyer, but that, my executor shall be considered his committees a trustee to act and do for her as he may think her case may require out of the funds he has in his hands not requiring him to pay more than forty dollars per year, except in a case of great necessity and then he shall have the privilege of retaining it out of the next installment, and after her death, the balance of any to go to her heirs.

3rdly I have given my son Jos Pence all my lands on the west side of said old stage road, which was to be considered his full share as interest of all my lands. I therefore will that my son Joseph, is to have no more of my real estate than that which I have already made him a deed for.

4thly after all my Just debts and funeral expenses is paid it is my will that the balance of all my estate whatsoever kind it may be that has not already been disposed of be equally divided among my heirs And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my son in law John Foltz executor of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all other or former wills or testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set forth my hand and affirmed my seal this 25th day of June 1842
Signed, sealed published and described by Jacob Pence as and for his last will and testament in the presence and hearing of us, who, at his request and in his presence have subscribed our names as Witnesses Jhn I Allen Philip Pitman Jacob Pence, his mark and seal

At a court held for the county of Shenandoah on Monday the 12th day of June 1843 the last will and testament of Jacob Pence deceased was produced unto court and proven by the oaths of John I. Allen and Philip Pitman witnesses thereto and ordered to be deemed, On Motion of John Foltz the executor therein named who was sworn and entered into bond with Jacob Pence his security on penalty of \$11.00 conditioned according to law= a certificate for obtaining a probate thereof in due form is granted him Teste P. Williams CM

Source for this transcript: Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book W, Page 12

Note regarding underlined sections: This information is of great value to family historians.

Last Will and Testament for Nicholas Pence:

In the name of god Amen. I, Nicholas Pence of Shenandoah County Virginia am of sound mind and memory do make, this my last will and testament as followeth to wit it is my will that all my just debts together with my burial charges being first paid out of my personal estate after my decease and further it is my will I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Margaret the one third of my real and personal estate together with the possession of the house and all building during her life and further it is my will after the decease of my wife Margaret that all my real estate to be sold by my executors either for ready money or on payments as they may think best and the money to be distributed as hereafter directed, it is my will I give and bequeath and equal share unto my six children namely my daughter Catharine the wife of John Wynat of Pennsylvania and sons Peter, Jacob, John and George and my daughter Rebecca the wife of Frederick Shover. Nevertheless whereas Frederick Stover has received fifteen pounds heretofore, paid for him specifying by sheriffs receipt it is my will that the said fifteen pounds shall be redacted out of his or her share, and further it is my will that all the share of my daughter Rebecca the wife of Frederick Shover shall be for the use of her or her body by heirs, and further it is my will and I do order that the share willed to my son George shall be retained in the hands of my executors and to be paid him from time to time as (?) or his information may require and further it is my will I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Margaret my black mare over her third heretofore willed, and further it is my and I do appoint Peter Snyder and Jacob Fravel of this County or the survivors of them executors of this my last will and testament giving and granting them full power to grant bargain and sell all my real and personal estate in fee simple forever, for the use and purpose herein mentioned to be distributed as is this my last will and testament by me directed recalling (?) and disallowing all my former wills and testaments. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 13th day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirteen 1813. Nicholas Pence

Sealed and delivered by the testator in the presence of John Hoffman, John Luts, James P. Barnell, George Feather

N.B. Omitted above, I give and bequeath a complete bed and bedstead unto my wife over her part above willed, and also I give and bequeath unto my grand daughter Catharine Shover.

In the presence of John Hisey George Feather

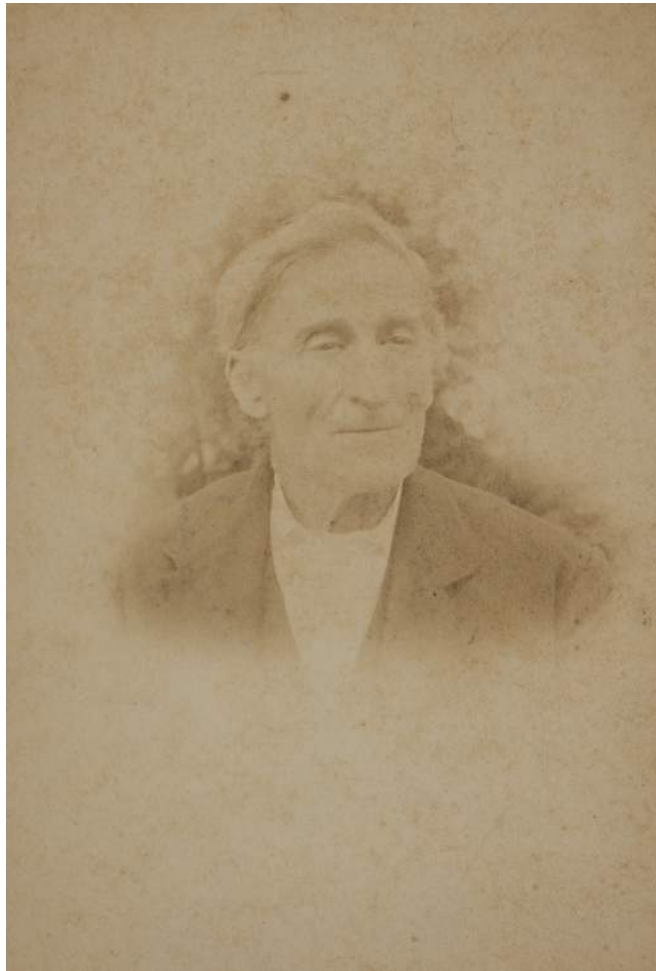
At a court continued and held for the County of Shenandoah on Tuesday the 13th day of September 1814.

This Last Will and Testament of Nicholas Pence deceased was produced in Court and proved by the oaths of John Hisey and George Feather witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded, and upon the motion of Peter Snyder one of the executors therein named who made oath according to law and entered into bond with John Hisey his security in the final sum of two thousand dollars. Conditioned as the law directs a probate of the said will in due form is granted him and liberty reserved for the other executor to qualify at a future time. Teste P. Williams Cl SC (Clerk Shenandoah County)

Source for this transcript: Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book I, Page 112

Note: When a last will and testament is brought before the Court and “proved,” it means that the person has died. So, Nicholas Pence died somewhere between the writing of his will and the date it was proved.

Joseph Fultz & Dorothy Rinker



Joseph Fultz was born in 1823 to John Foltz and Mary Margaret Pence of Hawkinstown. He homesteaded on land his wife received in her dowry in a little village named Hamburg. First, he built a two-room house, the upstairs for sleeping, downstairs for living. It had a huge rock chimney with a hearth for cooking and heating. He was a farmer and had to clear his own land and he was a blacksmith and fashioned implements, like hangers for the cooking pots. He eventually built a two-story, red brick colonial house. That first home he built, however, lasted longer than the brick house, which was torn down in the late 1950's. The two-room house became a wash house, then a storeroom.

Joseph had married Dorothy Rinker, the daughter of Jacob Rinker IV and Elizabeth Miller. They had seven children, three of whom died from scarlet fever in 1862. DeWitt and Lucy on the same day, Luke the day after, while they yet lived in Hawkinstown. Their first child, Mark, survived and lived a full life, as did his sister, Mary, who was only eight months old when scarlet fever struck their family home. After they moved to Hamburg, another daughter and son were born who also lived full lives. Sidney married and lived next door to her parents. The youngest, Napoleon Bonaparte, left Virginia for good after his father died in 1895. He took his family and headed west, settling in Kansas. Fultz's who yet live in Shenandoah County, still bear the memory of Napoleon's departure. They say, "Oh, isn't he the one that left?"

Joseph, Dorothy, DeWitt, Luke, Lucy, and Mary were all buried in Hawkinstown.



Joseph Fultz and his wife, Dorothy Rinker (both seated), with their daughter, Mary, standing behind them. The other woman holding the child may be Joseph and Dorothy's other daughter, Sidney. The date of this picture may be around 1893 when Sidney's eldest children were ages one and two, before she had her third child in 1894. Joseph died in 1895, along with his wife, Dorothy, whose nickname was "Dolly." A 1959 letter written by my grandfather tells more in an account of his visit back to Hamburg to visit his step-brother:

"The place where he lives is the old Granddad Fultz place, where he and Grandma first started. The little house they lived in is still there. Two rooms. One down for living, and one up for sleeping. The huge rock chimmeny with hearth for heat and cooking. The iron hangers on which was hung the cooking pots are all still there.

"Granddad was a blacksmith and they tell me he made those hangers by hand- just some fire and a hammer. The old house is now just a junk catcher.

"As soon as old Gramps got a little more ahead- in money and kids- they built an eight room red brick colonial type house. The old house was then used as a wash house downstairs- water was heated in large kettles on the hearth. The sleeping room was used by the house servents...working for board and room.

"At the time the old house was built, the clay was dug from the ole virginny hills, the brick was made by hand and burned in home made kilns.

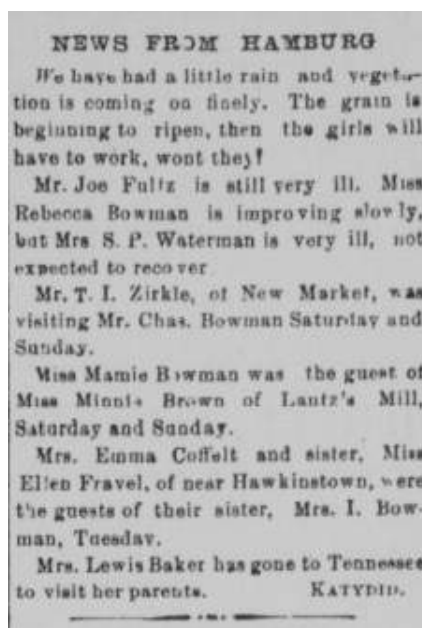
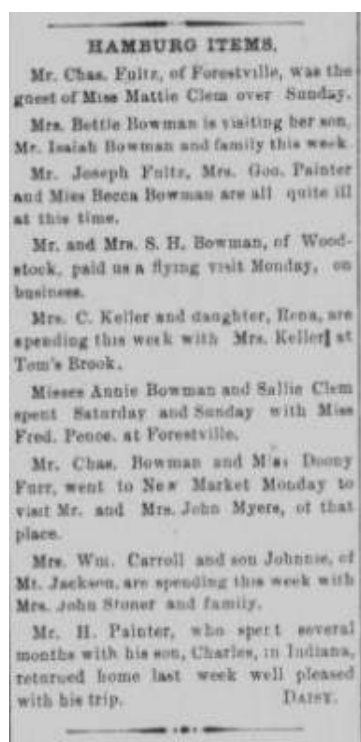
"Granddad Fultz had four kids living when he died. My dad- Mark- Mary and Sidney. My old man was a black sheep and was willed one dollar, with Earl... getting willed our dad's share, which was ½ the home place. Mary, the old maid aunt got the other half. Mark and Sidney got an equal amount of land in other farms."



Salem Church, located on Middle Road near the Joseph Fultz estate, was co-founded by him and the Disciples of Christ congregation in 1877. It was known locally as the Campbellite Church. They sold it in 1898 to the Lutherans who sold it in 1945. This picture was taken in 2015 when my husband and I visited and the building was being used for storage. An excerpt from the 1885 Hammond's Atlas shows the Joseph Fultz estate in relation to the church and his neighbors in Hamburg.



Joseph and Dorothy Fultz must have been beloved members of the community as demonstrated by the following newspaper tidbits.



The significance of these last two reports, dated June 7 and 14, 1895, is that Joseph and Dorothy died in 1895. The illness mentioned may have been the cause. Small town news like these from Hamburg, was common for the day. Familiar surnames, Clem, Bowman, Painter, Keller, Coffelt, Fravel, like the Fultz's, demonstrate their families long-time residency in the County that spans centuries.

This Deed made the 30th day of April eighteen hundred and seventy between Joseph Foltz and Dorothy his wife of the one part, and John Foltz of the other part, all of the County of Shenandoah and State of Virginia: Witnesseth: That for and in consideration of Fifteen hundred dollars, in hand paid by the said John Foltz, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and further consideration that the said John Foltz will comply with all the conditions of the last will and testament of John Foltz deceased, and pay and do all that the said Joseph Foltz is required by said will to pay and do, the said Joseph Foltz and Dorothy his wife do sell and convey to the said John Foltz all the land and personal estate given to the said Joseph Foltz by the will of his father, John Foltz; subject only to the life estate of Margaret Foltz, the widow of John Foltz deceased.

Witness the following signatures and seals

1872 U.S.N. Stamp Commissioner

Joseph Foltz (seal)
Dorothy Foltz (seal)

This Deed, made the 30th day of April eighteen hundred and seventy between Joseph Foltz and Dorothy his wife of the one part, and John Foltz of the other part, all of the County of Shenandoah and State of Virginia: Witnesseth: That for and in consideration of Fifteen hundred dollars, in hand paid by the said John Foltz, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and the further consideration that the said John Foltz will comply with all the conditions of the last will and testament of John Foltz deceased, and pay and do all that the said Joseph Foltz is required by said will to pay and do, the said Joseph Foltz and Dorothy his wife do sell and convey to the said John Foltz all the land and personal estate given to the said Joseph Foltz by the will of his father, John Foltz; subject only to life estate of Margaret Foltz the widow of John Foltz deceased.

Witness the following signature and seals

Joseph Foltz

Dorothy Foltz

Shenandoah County, Virginia Deed Book 10, 1860-1872, page 363

Note: The significance of the underlined section of this deed record is that it gives the relationship of Joseph Foltz, who married Dorothy, as the son of John and Margaret Foltz. John Foltz, the payee in this transaction, was Joseph's brother, John Walton Foltz. The deceased John Foltz was their father.



I visited Shenandoah County, Virginia in October of 2015. Joseph Fultz and his wife, Dorothy, along with several of their family members, reached their final resting place there at the Hawkinstown United Methodist Church cemetery. There is nothing more meaningful on ones family history search than to stand at the grave of one of your ancestors. The person I never met, whom my own grandfather called, "Granddad Fultz," truly existed. His grave I visited remains as proof of that fact. All the searching, the poring over of data and records seems to meet its just purpose, that of finding someone whom you're descended from and marvel that you exist because of them. Like a thin thread, family connections are borne along, from a land across the Atlantic, to a new land that became America, from Pennsylvania to "Virginny." Through wars, hunger, illness and great losses, they continued on until they could no more. I exist, simply because all those who came before me survived long enough to pass along their dna. The following account of Joseph's military service during the Civil War, like his father's time serving in the War of 1812, shows just how thin that thread truly is.

Joseph Fultz

Battle Unit Name: J.W. Carter's Company, Virginia Horse Artillery

Side: Confederacy

Soldier's Rank In: Private

Soldier's Rank Out: Private (information courtesy of the National Park Service's Soldier's Database)

The Virginia Horse Artillery was part of the nineteen-year-old, VMI member, Captain Roger Preston Chew's Battery. It was created in 1861 to give military support to Turner Ashby's 7th Virginia Cavalry, also known as the famous "Laurel Brigade." They were armed with an imported British Blakely rifled cannon, which was uncommon, a 12-pound bronze smoothbore cannon and a 3-inch Ordnance Rifle, or muzzleloading cannon. It was the first of many horse artillery batteries organized and used by Confederate cavalry commanders. By the time the war ended, the Battery had earned a reputation of valor second to none. Their military campaigns included the Shenandoah Valley Campaign and many skirmishes within the Valley, the First Battle of Winchester, Battle of Port Republic, Battle of Bull Run, Battle of Brandy Station, Battle of the Wilderness, and many others.

Joseph Fultz fought on the wrong side of the Civil War, but I love him. He is my great-great-grandfather. He lived and died, dreamed and fought and raised his children to work hard and never give up until it's your last day on Earth. Many thanks to my Great-great-grandpa and grandma Fultz!

The Rinker Family



During my visit to Shenandoah County in 2015, my husband and I located this stone house on Jerome Road in an area referred to as Conicville. It was built around 1753 by Hans Jakob Ringger I, who was my immigrant ancestor. It was used as a meeting house and as a fort in the event of an Indian attack. It is the oldest house in Conicville. Below, the log home at right belonged to his son, Colonel Jacob Rinker II.





Across the road from the two homesteads, is the Rinker Family burial ground. Many of the headstones are no longer readable, but the grave of Colonel Jacob Rinker II stands out. The Daughters of the American Revolution placed a plaque and the Sons of the American Revolution placed a marker at his grave to honor his exceptional service during Revolutionary times. His father's headstone is likewise eroded, but yet marks the final resting place of my immigrant ancestor, Hans Jakob Ringger I. The first log home he had built, once located near the stone meeting house, is no longer standing, but the legacy of his wealthy and industrious family has earned a place in the overall history of America.

More about the Rinker Family:

The first-born son of Colonel Jacob Rinker II was George Rinker, born in 1775. Both father and son died in 1827. George's third son, Jacob IV, married Elizabeth Miller in 1822 and had two children, Isaac and Dorothy. (Dorothy later married Joseph Fultz.) The Rinkers attended the Zion Lutheran Church in Hamburg where the children were baptized. After Dorothy's birth in March of 1824, Jacob IV passed away that August, leaving his wife a widow with two small children. His father, George, acknowledged Jacob's death in his will, leaving Isaac and Dorothy their father's inheritance when they came of age. Elizabeth received nothing. She remarried in 1834 to a Michael Lindamood and had two more children, Catharine Anne and Harrison. They, too, attended Zion Lutheran Church. Elizabeth appears to have continued living in Hamburg as her four children grew up, married, and had children of their own. By 1860, she's living with her son, Isaac and his family in Hamburg where, in 1852, he had become their 1st postmaster. He may have also founded the town. He had married Caroline Painter and had six children between the years 1853-1861: Charles, Alonzo, Virginia, Luther, Lucy, and James. They are all in the 1860 U.S. census, except Charles who had died from measles in 1855. Shortly after their son, James' birth in 1861, Elizabeth, Isaac, and Caroline disappear from the record. Checking the death register for Shenandoah County, pages are unfortunately missing in the early 1860s, leaving a hole in my family history I am unable to fill. However, there is a will record for Isaac Rinker, dated July 11, 1864, in which the court appointed several men as administrators of Isaac Rinker's estate.

One thing I realized is that on January 1, 1862, the Civil War had begun. Men were heading off to battle. Joseph Fultz and Mahlon Holler, their nephews, brothers, and cousins all joined up. Hawkinstown, Edinburg, Stony Creek, Hamburg, Woodstock, Mt. Jackson and numerous other areas across the valley rang with gunfire and skirmishes with cannon balls fired amongst the towns. Hundreds of battles took place in the Shenandoah Valley, the largest engaging over 54,000 troops, resulting in thousands of casualties. What happened to Dorothy Rinker's mother, brother, and sister-in-law? Was it the same illness that she and her husband, Joseph Foltz, had in their home, losing three of their children, Dewit, Lucy, and Luke in April of 1862 to scarlet fever? In the 1850s and 1860s, there was a global pandemic of scarlet fever, which may have also killed Isaac, his wife, Caroline, and his mother, Elizabeth. What happened to Dorothy's nieces and nephews, Alonzo, Virginia, Luther, Lucy, and James?

By 1870 Virginia and James were living with the Isaac Burner family in Woodstock where Virginia was working as a servant at the age of 14. James was 9. It appears the children were orphaned. In 1880, Virginia was still living there as a servant. Nearby, Luther was living with Isaac Foltz as a boarder. Alonzo was living in Hamburg and was married with one child. I may never know what happened to their parents, but, despite war and family separations, life had continued on for this Rinker family.



This photo was taken in 1993. I was told this was a Rinker family home.

Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz & Wilmuth Ann Holler



The Fultz's lived in a log cabin where this white house was later built near Moore's Store, Shenandoah County. Moore's Store, pictured at top of page, is how the village looked in 2015 when I visited. This Seth Thomas clock, which I now have in my possession, was kept at the house. Life in the remote corners of Shenandoah County must have been very quiet and lonely as Napoleon's diary entry relates: *"Moore's Store, Oct. 13: This is a very lonesome day at this place being Sunday. No one stirring and nothing going on. All I can do is sit in the house or walk around through the fields. NBF"* My grandfather wrote in his letter: *"This place...set way back in the fields. But when we got back to it, it was a pretty nice farm home. Large bank barn and large eight room house. The same barn that was always there but the house was newer...This is the place my folks were living when they left Virginia...At that time it was owned by my granddad Holler...His first name was 'Malon...'"*



These are the children of Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz and Wilmuth Ann Holler. They were all born in Shenandoah County, Virginia. From left: Irene, Catherine Frenchie, Lucy, my grandfather, Charles (the littlest one in front), Lee, Roy, and Dewey. They left Virginia in 1908. This picture was taken in 1909 outside Paris, Illinois, the nearest post office to where they were living on a farm in the Hunter Township. They then moved to Southeast Missouri in 1912 at Tram Switch where they rented a 600 acre farm. The nearest post office would have been in Morehouse. The Hunter Township in Edgar County, Illinois was prairie, where farmers settled. Morehouse, in New Madrid County, Missouri in the Little River Valley, however, had long been a mill town with several lumber and saw mills, a railroad and, in the late 1800s, was considered the roughest town in the state. By 1910, once the trees were all cleared, farmers were being encouraged to move there and farm, but there were stumps everywhere that had to be blasted out with dynamite before any planting could be done. Still, roots were plentiful and very dangerous for a farmer behind a horse-drawn plow to encounter as the plow handle would spring back onto the farmer and cause serious harm. The WCTU, Women's Christian Temperance Union was formed by the time the Fultz's moved to Morehouse in 1912, and had the goal of taming the wild town.

By 1917, the Fultz's were living at Indian Creek in Anderson County, Kansas, north of Geneva. Their son, Dewey, and their daughter, Irene, along with her husband, remained at Tram Switch and took over the family farm there. By 1920, they had moved back to Morehouse, where they remained. Dewey never married. He lived with his sister, Irene, and her family. Lucy, Lee, Roy, and Charles remained close to one another. Lucy and Roy lived with their families in the Geneva Township, while Charles and Lee moved to Lawrence. Charles had married Fannie Mae Eggert.



A colorized photo of the Joseph Fultz estate in Hamburg where Napoleon was born. The large, red brick house was torn down, the brick sold and hauled away. A note for "Polie," as Napoleon was nicknamed, was sent from the village of Headquarters. No post office remains in either village.

Headquarters, Va. August 22nd 1890

Mr N. B. Fultz you will
 please please pay to the bearer R. E.
 Lindamood Seven dollars the
 amount due me for a colt from
 my horse Dundie and oblige
 Yours Respectfully
 Jas. C. Fultz

Rest paymed. in
 full for above order July 18th 1890
 R. E. Lindamood





1903 Hamburg, before my grandfather was born. Wilmuth is holding Frenchie. Napoleon is holding Roy. Between them, stands Irene, Lucy, Lee, and Dewey. The boy in back is from a previous marriage. Below, in Kansas, Napoleon on the farm wearing his seafarer's hat and smoking a pipe. In the right hand photo, note the four-horse team plowing the field in the background.



Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz was born on January 15, 1867 in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia. He married three times, first to Josephine Clem in 1885 when he was eighteen years of age. He wrote in his diary:

"For my dear wife Josie, Weep not for those whom the veil of the tomb/ In life's early morning hath hid from our eyes/ Ere sin threw a veil o'er the spirit's young bloom/ Or earth had profaned what was born for the skies. Your beloved husband Hamburg, Va Shen Co July 12, 1885"

"Dear Josie, There was never a day so sunny/ But a little cloud appears/ There was never a life so happy/ But has had its time of tears. Hamburg, Va Sept. 5, 1885 Napoleon B. Fultz"

The following year, she died giving birth to a stillborn baby boy. He then married Nina Clanahan in 1887, but she died just two years after their son, Joseph Earl, was born. My grandfather described Earl as, *"...a tall slim guy, with gray green eyes like our Dad..."*

Napoleon tried his best to succeed at farming the land where he and his third wife, Wilmuth, and their children lived near Moore's Store. However, they eventually pulled up stakes and left Virginia permanently. My grandfather relates more of the story regarding his father, as well as a return visit to Moore's Store in 1959.

"...my dad was a good farmer, a hard worker and took very good care of land."

"At one time it (Moore's Store) boasted the store, blacksmith shop, shoe maker shop- they made shoes and boots to your measurements, by hand- and a flour mill- custom grinding. (pictured, below, as it looked in 2015)

"The store was still there and doing business- I seen a coca cola sign hanging out front. The blacksmith and shoemaker shop had been gone for years. The mill was there. It's doors and windows boarded up, and the mill wheel gone. The wheel shaft was still sticking out of the side of the building. The dam had been cut and the mill pond and the mill race had been drained. The stream which had been used for the power was only a small creek. I remember when I was just a kid, some one back there drew a pencil sketch of this old mill then operating- and with a poem they had made up about it, sent it to my dad. As I looked at this deserted building, in my mind I could see that picture.

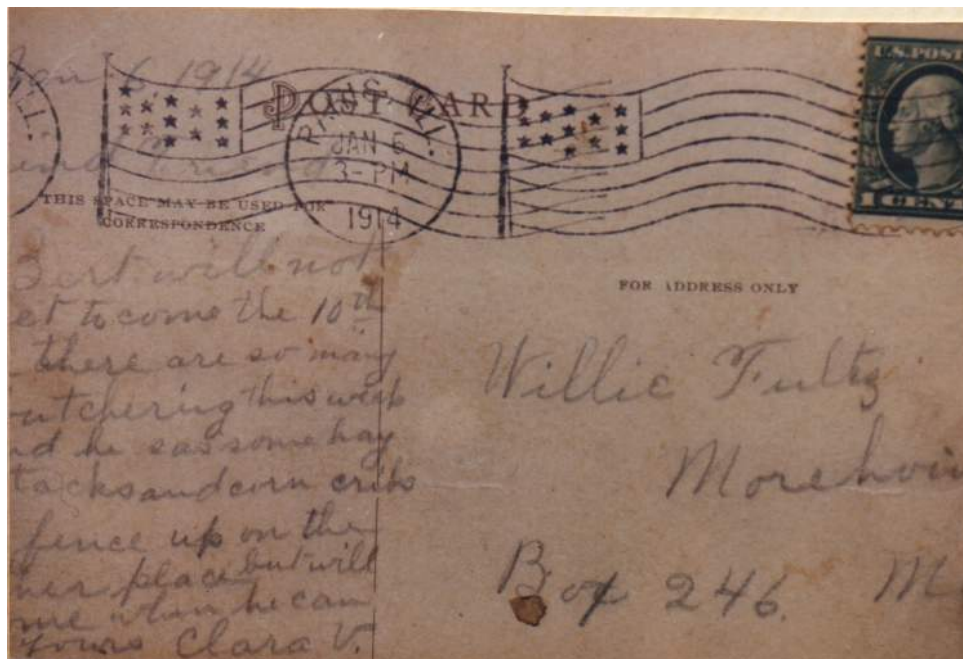
"Earl told us of an old man living there who was a boyhood friend of our dad. He took us to see him... He had quite a sense of humor and told of several funny incidents that happened when Dad and he were boys."



The Holler Family



Portrait of Wilmuth Ann Holler



Postcard postmarked on January 6, 1914 from Paris, Illinois was written by a Clara V. to Willie Fultz of Morehouse, Missouri at Box 246. The note is about life on the farm in the early 1900's.

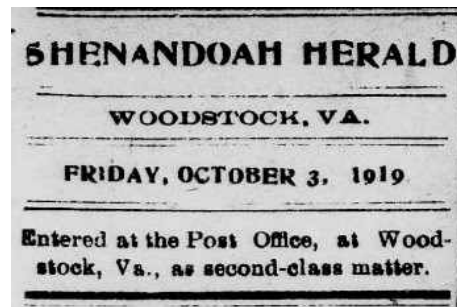
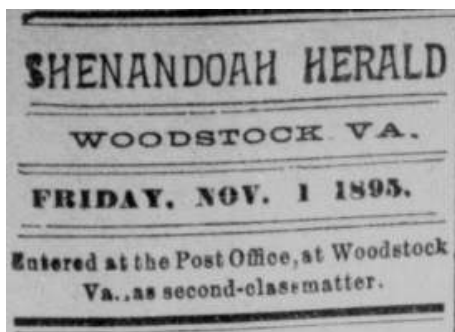


Mahlon Holler and wife, Amanda Smith. Below, the family home in Hamburg in 2015.



My Grandpa Fultz wrote in his letter about his mother's father, Mahlon Holler:

"Granddad Holler died with his boots on. He came in from doing the morning chores, washed up for chow, reached for the towel- and never made it. That was around forty years ago (1919)."



The large barn belonging to Mr. Mahlon Holler, a few miles west of Edinburg, was totally destroyed by fire on Monday morning about 3 o'clock. The contents consisting of about 600 bushels of wheat, a lot of clover seed, hay, a fine young mule and many other articles were destroyed. A number of shocks of corn in a nearby field were also burned. The loss we learn is not less than \$2,000, upon which there is an insurance of \$1,000 in the London company.

The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, who if caught should be so punished that it would deter such scoundrels from plying their devilish business in this section.

Mr. Holler is one of the good citizens of this county and his many friends deeply sympathize with him in his heavy loss.

Mahlon Holler Dead.

Mahlon Holler, retired farmer of the Hamburg neighborhood, died at his home Friday morning. He was seventy-five years old.

He was a son of the late John Holler, of Hamburg.

He is survived by his wife, two children, Mrs. Willie Holler Foltz, living in the far west, and, Randolph Holler, who lives on the home place. He is also survived by one brother, Lemuel Holler, of St. Luke's and one sister, Mrs. Joseph Coffelt, of Lantz Mills.

The funeral services were conducted Sunday morning at 10 o'clock from the home, Rev. Mr. Royer, of the Mt Jackson Lutheran Church officiating. Interment was made in the Bethel Lutheran Cemetery.

Mrs. Amanda Hollar wife of Mahlon Holler, died at the home of her son R. T. Holler January 18. Mrs. Holler was one of the oldest ladies in our community, and will be missed by all who knew her. Her age being eighty two years, one month and one day.

Sweet thoughts shall ever linger, Round the grave where she is laid.





The Holler monument above marks the burial of Mahlon and Amanda Holler at the new Bethel Church in Hamburg. The monument below marks another Holler burial ground at Union Forge Church in Edinburg. As evidenced by this stone work, my Holler ancestor's worked as brickmakers, stonemasons, and plasterers from the old country to the new. The land for the Union Forge Church, cemetery, and schoolhouse was deeded by Mahlon Holler's grandfather, Augustine Hollar.





This historic building was once a busy grist mill in the thriving village of Lantz Mill. It sits on land that belonged to my ancestor, Peter Haller II. In his will, he left the land to his sons, John and Henry. Henry received 100 acres with a saw mill, while John received 100 acres, the grist mill, and the family homestead. Another son, Jacob, also received land. He was deaf. There was a high incidence of deafness in the Holler family genes, as well as in other families in the valley. It was so prevalent, with sometimes both husband and wife being deaf, and with several children being deaf, that a colony became established in Lantz Mill. Its members developed their own form of sign language.

Supposedly, the Lantz Mill, as it came to be known, was used as a slave auction site in later years, when the Holler's no longer owned it. It is said that slaves were kept chained in a back room. Slave burials are also reported to be located on either side of the mill. Stories abound, that of another son of Peter Haller II, Augustine Hollar, who supposedly publicly denounced the practice of slavery and often went to the aid of those who were persecuted for likewise speaking out against slavery. I have often imagined him taking a stand out front of the mill during a slave auction, arm raised and finger pointing toward heaven.

Despite his supposed views on the matter, however, Augustine's daughter, Lydia Ann, who had married a Clinedinst, would have seven sons fighting in the Civil War. Augustine's youngest son, Jonathan Holler, would have four sons fighting in the war. His youngest son, Mahlon, fought with the 7th Virginia Cavalry under Colonel Richard Henry Dulany. The 7th was also known as the Laurel Brigade. He had enlisted on September 29, 1862 in Charlestown, West Virginia as a Private, after the Battle of Harper's Ferry, in which his Company, Company C, had fought. As members of the 7th Virginia Cavalry, along with two of his brothers, Samuel and Reuben, they took part in the Battle of Brandy Station at Culpeper, Virginia on June 9, 1863, where the Confederates won the largest cavalry battle ever fought in North America. After that, the 7th fought in the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 1-3, 1863, where the Confederates lost and 28,063 of their soldiers died. Lastly, the 7th fought in the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864 and Mahlon Holler was taken prisoner, December 21, 1864, at Edinburg, Virginia. The muster role call stated that they found his horse, but he was missing. He was sent to the Union prisoner of war camp at Point Lookout, Maryland where he awaited a prisoner exchange on January 13, 1865. On March 2, 1865, he was admitted into the hospital at Richmond, Virginia and stayed there for 31 days. After the war ended, he married Amanda J. Smith on September 8, 1867 in Shenandoah County, Virginia.

Deed from Thomas Lord Fairfax Dated the Eighth Day of October 1766.
to Peter Hollow (say Peter Hollar) for a certain Tract or parcel of Land on both sides
of Stony Creek in the said County (Frederick) now Shenandoah, and bounded as by
Survey thereof made by Robert Rutherford. - Beginning on the south side of the Creek
at a blackoak & hickory corner to S^d Hollows other Survey and standing in the line of Christian
Goffield on a still, Thence Extending with Goffields line S. 40° E. fifty four poles crossing a
Branch to the Bank of Stony Creek near two white oaks, thence up the Creek & binding on the same
N. 50° W. Forty poles, N. 70° W. 32 poles, N. 80° W. 39 poles, N. 10° W. 20 poles
N. 25° W. 40 poles. N. 16° E. 20 poles crossing the Creek to a double bodied Sycomore
Corner to William M^cKenney, Thence with M^cKenneys line N. 46° E. 216 poles to his
Corner three pines by a drain, thence S. 44° E. 176 poles to Isaac Ruddells line by three
pines in a Valley, thence with Ruddells line S. 20° W. 300 poles to two pines, thence
N. 70° W. 55 poles crossing the Creek to a blackoak on the bank in said Ruddells line and
Corner to said Hollows other Survey, thence up the Creek and binding on the same with the lines
of his other ^{Survey} Sixty two poles to a double bodied black oak on the Bank of the Creek and a
Corner to his other Survey and extending thence with a line of the same West Ninety six poles
to the Beginning Containing Three hundred and seventy two Acres.

A Virginia Northern Neck Land Grant deed received by Peter Haller I from Thomas Lord Fairfax October 8, 1766. It outlines the boundaries of the property, both sides of Stony Creek, in Shenandoah County, Virginia, which used to be Frederick County. The land was 372 acres and was surveyed by Robert Rutherford on May 1, 1761. It is the land that later became the area called Lantz Mill.

Peter Haller I immigrated with his parents and siblings from France to Pennsylvania. While his family were Evangelical Lutherans, practicing the Protestant, Reformed religion, how they practiced Christianity joined the many variations now being practiced in the United States. He was a German who was born in France, traveled westward across the Atlantic Ocean to eventually make his home in a new land not without its own struggles and conflicts. Because of that, I am here today. I am very thankful that he survived the harrowing journey of emigration and the wars fought on American soil. I am thankful for all my ancestors!

Family Group Charts & Sources

Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz Family Group

Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz

Born January 15, 1867, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married **Wilmuth Ann Holler**, daughter of Mahlon Holler & Amanda Jane Smith, June 4, 1893, Rinkerton, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer and merchant

Resident of Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia; Hunter Township, Edgar County, Illinois; and Indian Creek Township, Anderson County, Kansas

Died July 15, 1925 from cardio renal disease, Indian Creek Township, Anderson County, Kansas

Buried July 18, 1925, Geneva Cemetery, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas

Children:

Eulalia Irene Fultz

Born March 31, 1894, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Thomas Ewen Jennings, 1915, Tram Switch, New Madrid County, Missouri

Died December 16, 1979 of heart failure, Tram Switch, New Madrid County, Missouri

Lucy Virginia Fultz

Born November 30, 1895, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Ernest Amos Powell

Died 1976 of stroke, Iola, Allen County, Kansas

Buried Geneva Cemetery, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas

John Fultz

Born November 11, 1896, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died December 13, 1896 of spasms, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

James Lee Fultz

Born March 17, 1897, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Registered for the draft September 12, 1918, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

Married Carrie Mae Hunsinger, daughter of Charles & Effie Guthrie Hunsinger, June 5, 1924, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

Worked as a tinner and ran a tin shop

Resident of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

Died October 15, 1959 from falling off a roof, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

George Dewey Fultz

Born February 14, 1899, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Registered for the draft September 12, 1918, New Madrid, New Madrid County, Missouri

Unmarried

Worked as a farmworker

Died October 1972 of emphysema, La Porte, Indiana

Catherine Frenchie Fultz

Born April 28, 1900, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Roy Herbert Hardin, Sr., May 1926, Iola, Allen County, Kansas

Died July 9, 1972 of heart leakage, Trinity Hospital, Dodge City, Ford County, Kansas

Roy Napoleon Fultz

Born October 28, 1901, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Ila M. Broughton

Worked as a tobacco farmer

Died April 16, 1973 of a heart attack, Ottawa Hospital, Ottawa, Franklin County, Kansas

Buried April 19, 1973, Geneva Cemetery, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas

Charles Clinton Fultz

Born March 19, 1907, Moore's Store, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married **Fannie Mae Eggert**, daughter of Herman Eggert & Sarah Myrtle Herries, August 3, 1927, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

Worked as a city water department engineer

Resident of Lawrence, Douglas County, and Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas

Ordered to report for induction into the military, January 26, 1945, Armory Building, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas
Died December 3, 1966 from heart disease, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas
Buried December 7, 1966, Sunset Memory Gardens, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas Site B1, 12 C, Space 1 & 2, Garden of the Christus

Sources for Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz & Family:

Delayed Certificate of Birth for James Lee Fultz, dated April 10, 1956, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Richmond, Virginia, Virginia Department of Health
Certificate of Vital Record for Charles Clinton Fultz, dated November 5, 1941, Commonwealth of Virginia, Department Of Health-Bureau Of Vital Statistics- filed late
Marriage Certificate for Charles Clinton Fultz, dated August 3, 1927, Lawrence, Kansas
Marriage License for Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz, dated June 1, 1893, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Certificate of Marriage for Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz, dated June 4, 1893, Shenandoah County, Virginia, Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Health, Division of Vital Records
Standard Certificate of Death for Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz, dated August 3, 1925, State of Kansas, State Board of Health, Division of Vital Statistics
Death Certificate for Charles Clinton Fultz, dated December 14, 1966, Kansas State Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics
Draft Registration Card for James Lee Fultz, dated 1917-1918, Douglas County, Kansas
Draft Registration Card for George Dewey Fultz, dated 1917-1918, New Madrid County, Missouri
Order To Report For Induction for Charles Clinton Fultz, dated January 26, 1945, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas
Family letter detailing the life events of Eulalia Irene Fultz and family
Obituary for Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz
Obituary for Wilmuth Holler Fultz
Obituary for Catherine Fultz Hardin
Obituary for Roy Napoleon Fultz, Topeka State Journal, April 17, 1973, page 11
Obituary for Charles Clinton Fultz, dated December 1966, Leavenworth Times Newspaper, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Birth Register, 1853-1892
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Birth Register, 1892-1896
Bethel Lutheran Church & Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Geneva Cemetery, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas
Sunset Memory Gardens, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas
State Board of Agriculture Population Schedule, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas, 1952, 1953
United States Census, Colony Town, Indian Creek Township, Anderson County, Kansas, 1930
United States Census, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas, 1940
United States Census, Hunter Township, Edgar County, Illinois, 1910
United States Census, Indian Creek Township, Anderson County, Kansas, 1920
United States Census, Lawrence City, Douglas County, Kansas, 1930, 1940
United States Census; Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1900
United States Census, West Township, New Madrid County, Missouri, 1920, 1930, 1940
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Death Register, 1853-1896
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1882-1915

Joseph Fultz Family Group

Joseph Fultz

Born 1823, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated July 8, 1844, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Joshua Foltz

Married **Dorothy Rinker**, daughter of Jacob Rinker IV & Elizabeth Miller, July 12, 1844, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer and blacksmith

Resident of Hawkinstown and Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Engaged in several land deals surrounding family inheritances within the Fultz and Rinker families

Deed record regarding land given him by his father's will that he sold to his brother, John Walton, dated April 30, 1870

Private in J.W. Carter's Company, Virginia Horse Artillery, 1861-1865 (Civil War)

Co-founder of Salem Cambellite Church in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1877

Died by September 1895, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Hawkinstown United Methodist Church Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Mark Fultz

Born November 2, 1850, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Francena Stoner, daughter of David & Catharine Stoner, November 2, 1872, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer

Died January 20, 1914 of a stroke, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried January 23, 1914, Stoner's Graveyard, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

DeWitt William Fultz

Born April 4, 1853, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died April 26, 1862 from scarlet fever, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Luke Fultz

Born January 6, 1856, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died April 27, 1862 from scarlet fever, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Lucy Fultz

Born February 6, 1859, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died April 26, 1862 from scarlet fever, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mary Fultz

Born August 17, 1861, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Never married

Died October 7, 1939 from pneumonia, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Hawkinstown United Methodist Church Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sidney S. Fultz

Born June 27, 1864, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married John Frederick Vehrencamp, son of Frederick & Sophia Vehrencamp, April 6, 1890, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died November 16, 1935 of cerebral hemorrhage, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz

(See Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz Family Group)

Sources for Joseph Fultz & Family:

Marriage License for Mark Fultz, dated October 31, 1872, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Death Certificate for Mark Fultz, dated January 20, 1914, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Death Certificate for Mary Fultz, dated October 7, 1939, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Death Certificate for Sidney Fultz Vehrencamp, dated November 16, 1935, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; page 47

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Register of Births, 1853-1871

Greene, Michael J.L.; Valley Churches; Churches In Shenandoah County And Adjacent Locales In The Valley Of Virginia; printed by Commercial Press, Inc., Stephens City, VA 22655

Sentinel of the Valley Newspaper; Woodstock, Virginia; July 15, 1844; Vol. XXIV, No. 43

Hawkinstown United Methodist Church & Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Bethel Lutheran Church & Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Stoner's Graveyard, Conicville Road, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1850-1910

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Death Register, 1853-1896
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book VV, 1845-1846, pages 477, 478, 251, 152
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book ZZ, 1850-1852, page 148
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, 1852-1853, page 227
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 5, 1857-1859, page 464
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 8, 1863-1868, pages 325, 369
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 10, 1860-1872, page 54
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1882
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1882-1915
Shenandoah County, Virginia, GenWeb Project, Shenandoah County, Virginia, Wars, Civil War: 1861-1865; Confederates;
Shenandoah Valley Confederate Soldiers, Surnames beginning with "F"
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Personal Property Taxes, 1850

John Foltz Family Group

John Foltz

Born May 15, 1793, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Fought in the War of 1812

Marriage license bond with **Mary Margaret Pence**, daughter of Jacob Pence, Sr. & Catharine Calback, May 14, 1815, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Pence, Sr.

Worked as a blacksmith

Resident of Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Engaged in several land deals with neighbors and family members regarding inherited land and land he left to his sons

Died December 24, 1869 of "dropsy" (edema) in Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Last will and testament proven January 10, 1870, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Old Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery in Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Uriah Foltz

Born in Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Ann Hoover, October 25, 1841, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a blacksmith

Died December 22, 1857

Jacob Foltz

Born December 20, 1817, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Rachel Ellen Shaver, daughter of Frederick & Rebecca Shaver, June 18, 1838, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: John Foltz

Worked as a farmer

Became crippled in later years

Died June 21, 1901, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Hawkinstown United Methodist Church Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Isaac J. Foltz

Born in Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Catherine Proctor, March 23, 1854, Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer

Resident of Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia and Rockbridge County, Virginia

Joseph Foltz

(See Joseph Fultz Family Group)

Jane Foltz (twin)

Born September 15, 1828, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

John Walton Foltz (twin)

Born September 15, 1828, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Mary Jane Shaver, January 30, 1850, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer

Died May 20, 1894, Hawkinstown (Red Banks), Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Hawkinstown United Methodist Church Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sarah Catharine Foltz

Born October 14, 1832, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Never married

Died November 12, 1884 of paralysis, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Hawkinstown United Methodist Church Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Margaret Foltz

Born in Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Simeon Woods, son of Ephraim & Dorothy Woods, November 6, 1855, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for John Foltz & Family:

Bethel Cemetery (defunct), Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Hawkinstown United Methodist Church & Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Lexington, South River Township, Rockbridge County, Virginia, 1870

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1820-1880

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, Schedule 2: Persons who died during the year ending 1st June, 1870 in

Ashby Township

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Minute Book, 1869-1872, page 103, John Foltz will proven

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book NN, 1833-1835, pages 301, 302

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book Y, 1817-1818, page 131

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1856

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1882

USGenWebArchives, Military Records, War of 1812, Veterans Buried in Virginia, Shenandoah County

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Personal Property Taxes, 1819-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book W, 1841-1846, page 312

Daniel Foltz Family Group

Daniel Foltz

Married **Magdalena Ruby**, daughter of John Jacob Ruby and Anna Elizabeth Lorah, November 28, 1789, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died in 1799, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Estate appraised on December 21, 1799; sold December 27, 1799; recorded January 14, 1800; final settlement recorded May 13, 1811, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Elizabeth Foltz

Born May 17, 1791, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Philip Slifer, December 10, 1811, Montgomery County, Ohio

Donated land for Slifer's Lutheran Church, December 2, 1816, Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Died August 17, 1853, Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio

Buried at Slifer's Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

John Foltz

(See John Foltz Family Group)

Jacob Foltz

Born December 23, 1795, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized May 1, 1796, Lutheran Zion-Pine Church, Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Mary Catherine Siler, daughter of John Siler and Sarah Thompson, July 1, 1819, Montgomery County, Ohio

Worked as a farmer

Died May 5, 1835, Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio

Buried at Slifer's Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Magdalena Foltz

Born June 5, 1798, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized August 12, 1798, Reformed Zion-Pine Church, Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Andrew Faust, February 20, 1816, Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio

Sources for Daniel Foltz & Family:

Wust, Klaus, editor, *Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, Volume One, 1786-1799, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia*

Wust, Klaus, editor, *Reformed Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, 1788-1827, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia*

United States Census, Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Virginia, 1820, 1830, 1850

Slifer's Presbyterian Church History and Records, Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Court Records, 1795-1802, regarding Daniel Fultz, deceased, page 30 (missing)

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Order Book, 1799-1802, regarding Daniel Fultz, deceased, page 30 (21-36 missing)

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book Y, 1817-1818, regarding sale of land by John and Jacob Foltz, inherited from their father, Daniel Fultz, who inherited it from his father, Johann Martin Fultz, part of original land grant, page 131

Montgomery County, Ohio, Marriage Records, 1803-1827, Volume A-1

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book C, 1789-1791, last will and testament for Jacob Ruby, Sr., page 248

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book E, 1796-1802, estate appraisement for Daniel Fultz, dated December 21, 1799

Johann Martin Voltz Family Group

Johann Martin Voltz

Born 1721, Bockingen, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany

Baptized October 24, 1721 Bockingen Evangelical Church, Bockingen, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany

Immigrated to America

Married **Anna Margaretha**, last name unknown

Received a land grant of 384 acres from Lord Fairfax, August 27, 1766, on Narrow Passage Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Provided beef to the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War

Last will and testament, dated January 19, 1782, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died February 1782, Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Anna Catharina Voltzin

Married George Lentz, March 14, 1773, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Bernhard Shireman

Rosianna Voltzin

Married Christian Haisey, Jr., widowed

Last will and testament, dated September 28, 1827, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved October 13, 1828

Elizabeth Voltzin

Married Henry Rorer

Margaretha Voltzin

Married Jacob Naiswander

Johannes Voltz

Last will and testament, dated February 14, 1818, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved March 9, 1818

Daniel Foltz

(see Daniel Foltz Family Group)

John Martin Foltz

Married Susanna Shutzer, January 5, 1793, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated January 7, 1793, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman:

Frederick Foltz

Christina Foltz

Marriage license bond with William Philips, March 4, 1793, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: John Fultz

Anna Maria Foltz

Marriage license bond, dated July 30, 1788, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Henry Barr

Married William Kronk, August 3, 1788, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Magdalene Foltz

Marriage license bond, January 23, 1800, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: John Fultz

Married John Hammon, January 26, 1800, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Johann Martin Voltz & Family:

Ashby, Bernice M., compiler; *Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Bonds, 1772-1850*; Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1993; pages 19, 96

Gary, Gertrude E., *Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants, 1694-1742*. Baltimore, MD, USA; Genealogical Publishing Co., 1997 Vol. III 1775-1800.

Original Land Survey Atlas of Shenandoah County 1739-1850s; *Quadrangle Map of Edinburg overlay* Library of Virginia, (online) *Research Guide and Indexes, Land Patents and Grants, Virginia Land Patents and Grants, Survey of Johann Martin Voltz Lord Fairfax grant, dated November 21, 1752*

Bockingen Evangelical Lutheran Church Register, Bockingen, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book K, 1795-1797, page 274, Johannes sold inherited portion of his father's land

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Virginia Public Service Claims Certificates, 1780-1783, Certificate for Martin Fults, dated October 28, 1782

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book K, page 423, last will and testament for Johannes Voltz

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book O, page 422, last will and testament for Rosanna (Voltzin) Haisey

Family Groups: Maternal Line

Mahlon Holler Family Group

Mahlon Holler

Born September 19, 1844, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Enlisted September 29, 1862, Charlestown, West Virginia; rank & company: Private, Company C, Shenandoah Rangers, 7th Virginia Cavalry

Fought at the Battle of Brandy Station, June 9, 1863, Culpepper, Shenandoah County, Virginia; the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Captured December 21, 1864, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia, imprisoned at Point Lookout, Maryland

Hospitalized March 2, 1865, Richmond, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married **Amanda Jane Smith**, daughter of Samuel W. Smith & Nancy Fleming, September 8, 1867, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a stonemason and plasterer

Resident of Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Last will and testament, dated October 26, 1909, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died September 26, 1919 of heart failure, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried September 28, 1919, Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Wilmuth Ann Holler

Born January 16, 1868, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married (see Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz Family Group)

Died February 27, 1926 of a kidney disorder, Indian Creek Township, Anderson County, Kansas

Buried March 1, 1926, Geneva Cemetery, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas

Randolph Tucker Holler

Born March 30, 1872, Bedford, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Annie Eliza Rosenberger, daughter of C.T. & Fannie V. Rosenberger, May 14, 1893, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer

Died February 7, 1952, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at St. John's Unified Church of Christ Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Mahlon Holler & Family:

Last Will & Testament for Mahlon Holler, dated October 26, 1909

Certificate of Death for Mahlon Holler, dated September 26, 1919, Commonwealth of Virginia, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State Board of Health

Standard Certificate of Death for Wilmoth A. (Holler) Fultz, dated February 27, 1926, State of Kansas, State Board of Health, Division of Vital Statistics

Obituary for Mahlon Holler, dated October 3, 1919, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Obituary for Amanda Holler, dated January 30, 1925, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Obituary for Wilmuth Holler Fultz

Spratt, Thomas M., compiler; Shenandoah County Men In Gray, Volume 1; Iberian Publishing Company, Athens, Georgia; 1992; entry on Mahlon Holler, page 296

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Birth Register, 1853-1892

Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

St. John's Church Cemetery, Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Geneva Cemetery, Geneva, Allen County, Kansas

United States Census Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1870-1920

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 15, 1846-1847, page 320

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1882

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1882-1915

National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

Jonathan Holler Family Group

Jonathan Holler

Born October 10, 1813, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond to **Anna Bartley**, daughter of John Bartley, May 18, 1835, Shenandoah County, Virginia; widowed

Worked as an expert stonemason (maven)

Resident of Bedford, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Member of the German Baptist Church

Land grant, dated July 1, 1850, Pine Woods north of Stony Creek

Deed regarding 136 acres of land conveyed to him by the Commonwealth of Virginia and others, dated August 19, 1871

Prenuptial agreement regarding pending marriage to Jemima Helsley, dated March 14, 1872

Married Jemima Hudson Helsley, widow of Joseph Helsley, March 14, 1872, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died February 24, 1896, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried on the Holler Family Estate owned by his brother, Alexander, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Sarah Catherine Holler

Born January 3, 1836, near Union Forge, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married William Henry Fadeley, son of David and Elizabeth Fadeley, May 20, 1858, near Union Forge, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage Certificate, dated May 21, 1858, recorded marriage ceremony conducted by J.W. Kelley

Suffered from consumption

Died May 6, 1905 from a stroke near Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Virginia

Buried May 12, 1905, Mount Olive Brethren Church cemetery, McGaheysville, Rockingham County, Virginia

David Samuel Holler

Born March 16, 1840, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Enlisted during the Civil War; Private in Company C, 7th Virginia Cavalry, Confederacy

Married Elizabeth Ann Wiseman, daughter of Samuel and Annie M. Wiseman, May 3, 1868, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer

Died April 30, 1907 of heart trouble and pneumonia, Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Virginia

Buried at Mount Pleasant Church of the Brethren cemetery, Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Virginia; plot: Section 1

Reuben Holler

Born 1842, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Enlisted July 16, 1861 at Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia; Private, Company C, 7th Virginia Cavalry, Confederacy

Appointed 3rd Corporal November 21, 1863 and distinguished himself as a superb horseman; Civil War

Married Mary Catherine Hottel, daughter of George Hottel and Cassandra Fleming, October 17, 1871, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a stonemason with an apprentice and as a farmer

Resident of the Stonewall District of Shenandoah County, Virginia

Member of the Methodist Church

Died August 22, 1910 from an illness, Tom's Brook, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mahlon Holler

(See Mahlon Holler Family Group)

John Edward Holler

Born December 25, 1846, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Enlisted July 12, 1861 at Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia; Private, Confederacy, Civil War

Wounded January 2, 1862, Hancock, Maryland, shot through the lungs

Enlisted May 1, 1862 at Conrad's Store, Elkton, Rockingham County, Virginia; Private, Company C, 7th Virginia Cavalry, Confederacy, Civil War

Married Ann Rebecca Marshall, daughter of Joseph P. Marshall and Catherine Ann Feller, December 24, 1873, Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer and as a carpenter

Residents of Pine Woods and Green Hill, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died November 2, 1910, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Union Forge Church cemetery, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Richard Lemuel Holler

Born February 16, 1850, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Ann Cornelia Haun, daughter of Jacob Haun and Elizabeth Coffman, June 15, 1876, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a carpenter, laborer, and farmer

Resided near his father and brother in the Bedford area, in Pine Woods and Green Hill, then Woodstock in his older years
Widowed

Died March 31, 1834 of pneumonia, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Ellen Virginia Holler

Born November 1854, Pine Woods, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Joseph Calvin Coffelt, son of Levi and Rebecca Coffelt, March 26, 1878, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died July 11, 1937, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Union Forge Church cemetery in Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Jonathan Holler & Family:

Marriage Certificate for Sarah Catherine Holler and William H. Fadeley, dated May 21, 1858, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Death Certificate for Richard Lemuel Holler, dated April 1, 1934, Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics

Obituary for Jonathan Holler, dated March 13, 1896, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Obituary for Sarah Catherine Holler Fadeley, dated May 12, 1905, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Obituary for David Samuel Holler, dated May 3, 1907, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Obituary for Reuben Holler, dated August 26, 1910, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Tribute to Reuben Holler, dated September 2, 1910, Shenandoah Herald Newspaper, Woodstock, Virginia

Fuller, Lena French; Original Land Survey Atlas of Shenandoah County 1739-1850s; Quadrangle Map of Edinburg overlay; U.S. Geological Survey, publisher, 2010; no. 63

Gilreath, Amelia Cleland, compiler; Haller, Hollar, Holler Genealogy, 1981, pages 66, 67

Spratt, Thomas M., compiler; Shenandoah County Men In Gray, Volume 1; Iberian Publishing Company, Athens, Georgia; 1992, entry on Reuben Hollar, page 297

Union Forge Church Cemetery, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1840-1930

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 6, 1859-1862, page 249

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book 10, 1860-1872, pages 363, 383, 595

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1882

Augustine Hollar Family Group

Augustine Hollar

Born September 19, 1768, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Confirmed May 30, 1789 at age 20 in the Reformed Zion-Pine Church, Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated July 26, 1798, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Helsley

Married **Catherine Haltiman**, a German immigrant, July 26, 1798, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 105+ grandchildren

Worked as a farmer

Deeded land for Union Forge Church, cemetery, and schoolhouse, December 11, 1815, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Last will and testament, dated October 5, 1830, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved on December 13, 1830

Died December 3, 1830, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Union Forge Church cemetery, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Rachel Hollar

Born December 5, 1798, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond to marry Jacob Reedy, son of Philip Reedy, August 9, 1821, Shenandoah County, Virginia;

bondsman: Augustine Hollar

Lydia Ann Hollar

Born December 1799, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated March 7, 1825, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Augustine Hollar

Married Isaac Clinedinst, March 9, 1825, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mother of 13 children, born between 1819 to 1840's

Died June 11, 1880, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Union Forge Church cemetery, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Leah Hollar

Born February 22, 1800, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married John Bowman, son of Daniel Bowman, Jr. and Ann Reesor, January 12, 1821, Shenandoah County, Virginia

David Hollar

Born Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Rebecca Reedy, daughter of Philip Reedy, May 25, 1822, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 14 children

Deeded land to brother, Augustine Hollar, Jr., portion of Peter Holler I land grant, dated March 4, 1834

Widowed on March 7, 1848

Married Catherine Andes, June 12, 1848

Had 8 children

Fathered a total of 22 children between 1821-1865

Died January 2, 1875, Rockingham County, Virginia

Isaac James Hollar

Born June 6, 1804, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Elizabeth M. Marshall, daughter of John Marshall, December 24, 1828; bondsman: John Marshall

Had 1 deaf child

Worked as a farmer

Abraham Hollar

Born June 6, 1804, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Elizabeth Crone, daughter of John Crone, May 23, 1831, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 11 children

Deeded land to George Coffelt, August 28, 1835, part of land inherited by his father, Augustine Hollar, Sr.

Augustine Hollar, Jr.

Born September 25, 1807, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated January 24, 1832, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Bowers

Married Polly Bowers, daughter of Jacob Bowers, January 25, 1832, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Susannah Hulvey, June 14, 1848, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a farmer

Mary Catharine Hollar

Married Reuben Bowers, August 8, 1832, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Catharine Hollar

Marriage license bond with Philip Olinger, son of David Olinger and Priscilla Philips, July 21, 1831, New Market, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Augustine Hollar

Had 13 children

Died on August 2, 1871 of apoplexy, Boiling Springs, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Alexander Hollar

Marriage license bond, dated March 10, 1834, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Philip Sine

Married Catharine Bidleman, March 16, 1834, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 2 children, first child born deaf

Marriage license bond, dated August 2, 1841, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Job Dove

Married Eva Price Coffman, widow of William Coffman, August 5, 1841, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 8 children, first child born deaf

Worked as a farmer and a mail contractor

Resident of Lantz Mill and Stony Creek

Deed recorded October 10, 1843 regarding sale of land on Stony Creek willed to him and Augustine Jr. by their father

Died November 16, 1884 of edema, Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Union Forge Church cemetery, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Jonathan Hollar

(See Jonathan Hollar Family Group)

Sources for Augustine Hollar & Family:

Gilreath, Amelia Cleland, compiler; Haller, Hollar, Holler Genealogy, 1981, pages 38-41

Wust, Klaus, editor, Reformed Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, 1788-1827, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia, page 33

Union Forge Church Cemetery, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1820-1880

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Death Register, 1853-1896

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book W, 1815-1816, page 246

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book NN, 1833-1835, page 235

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book PP, 1836-1838, page 245

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book UU, 1843-1845, page 139

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book XX, 1847-1849, page 4

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1850-1856

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1882

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book Q, page 129

Peter Haller II Family Group

Peter Haller II

Born 1748, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Arrived in Shenandoah Valley, Virginia around 1761 with his parents and siblings

Married **Catherine Kauffman** in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 11 children, two of whom were born deaf

Worked as a farmer

Deed recorded December 7, 1792, between Peter Haller I and Peter Haller II, regarding land from original land grant

Resided on family plantation inherited from his father, Peter Haller I, in Lantz Mill, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Last will and testament, dated October 22, 1813, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved March 7, 1814

Died 1813, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried (on the Haller's Narrow Passage Creek plantation) at the Haller Family Cemetery, near Wesley Chapel and Calvary, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

John Hollar

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated November 17, 1810, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Augustine Kauffman

Married Barbara Coffman, daughter of Augustine Coffman, November 19, 1810, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Inherited 100 acres, the Haller residence and grist mill from his father, October 22, 1813

Resided in Newton, Licking County, Ohio in 1820

Died 1824 in Licking County, Ohio

Augustine Hollar, Sr.

(see Augustine Hollar, Sr. Family Group)

Jacob Hollar

Born in 1769, deaf, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Never married

Henry Hollar

Born August 25, 1770, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated March 1, 1797, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Peter Helsley (note: bond record gives his name as Henry Hollar, Jr.)

Married Catharine Helsley, daughter of George Jacob Helsley and Mary Margaret Kaemerer, March 7, 1797, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Inherited 100 acres of land and the Haller saw mill from his father, October 22, 1813

Resided in Newark, Licking County, Ohio in 1820

Died December 15, 1826 in Licking County, Ohio

Buried at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Newark, Licking County, Ohio

Catharine Hollar

Born in 1771, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Confirmed May 30, 1789 at age 18, Reformed Zion-Pine Church, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Peter Helsley, son of George Jacob Helsley and Mary Margaret Kaemerer, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died before the 1850 US census in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Eva Phoebe Hollar

Born in 1776, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Confirmed December 14, 1793 at age 17, Zion Reformed Church, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated January 12, 1799, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Peter Hollar

Married John Sivey, son of Mathias and Barbara Sivey, January 15, 1799, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Resided in Violet Township, Fairfield County, Ohio in 1830

Dorothy Hollar

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated April 9, 1804, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Augustine Hollar

Married Martin Dellinger, son of Emanuel Dellinger and Magdalena Foltz, April 9, 1804, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Resided in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Elias Hollar

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Catharine Scheckel, February 23, 1838, Rockingham County, Virginia

Peter Hollar III

Born in 1783, deaf, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond, dated June 11, 1813, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: John Dake

Married Magdalene Dake (deaf), daughter of John Dake and Catharine Coffelt, June 12, 1813, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Had 6 children, 2 of whom were deaf

Inherited 100 acres of land from his father, October 22, 1813

Resident of Union Forge, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died 1855, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried (on the Haller's Narrow Passage Creek plantation) at the Haller Family Cemetery, near Wesley Chapel and Calvary, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Susanna Hollar

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Jacob Bowman, dated December 3, 1808, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: John Hollar

Elizabeth Hollar

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Adam Olinger

Sources for Peter Haller II & Family:

Gilreath, Amelia Cleland, compiler; Haller, Hollar, Holler Genealogy, 1981, pages 23, 24

Wust, Klaus, editor, Reformed Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, 1788-1827, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia, page 33

Haller Family Cemetery, near Westley Chapel & Calvary, Shenandoah County, Virginia

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Jerome, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Fairfield County, Ohio, 1830

United States Census, Licking County, Ohio, 1820

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1810-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Death Register, 1853-1896

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book H, 1790-1792, page 528

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book H, page 511

Peter Haller I Family Group

Peter Haller I

Born August 7, 1715 in Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized August 11, 1715, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Married **Anna Dorothea Halrin** in Berks County, Pennsylvania

Religion: Mennonite

Received a land grant, dated August 6, 1766, 280 acres on Narrow Passage Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Received a land grant, dated October 8, 1766, 372 acres, on Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a miller and as a farmer

Last will and testament, dated December 21, 1796, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved January 14, 1800

Died 1799 Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried (on his Narrow Passage Creek plantation) at the Haller Family Cemetery, near Wesley Chapel and Calvary, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

(2 daughters & a son were baptized on June 19, 1755 Muddy Creek Church, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania)

Barbara Haller

Born deaf, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Never married

Catharine Haller

Born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Married Peter Coffelt, son of Johann Christoph Coffelt & Anna Sarah Dillman-Degen

Married Jacob Surber, Sr., son of Hans Heinrich Surber & Barbara Page, April 10, 1768, Frederick County, Maryland

Peter Haller II

(See Peter Haller II Family Group)

Henry Haller

Born April 28, 1752, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Married Elizabeth Miller

Died August 6, 1825, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried (on the Haller's Narrow Passage Creek plantation) at the Haller Family Cemetery, near Wesley Chapel and Calvary, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mary Margaret Haller

Married Andrew Hunter Finter, October 20, 1774, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Elizabeth Haller

Married John Miller

Anna Maria Haller

Married George Moyer

Catharine Haller, Jr.

Marriage license bond with Peter Miller, October 14, 1784, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Eva Haller

Marriage license bond, dated October 18, 1792, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: George Shoemaker

Married John Shoemaker, October 23, 1792, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Christina Haller

Marriage license bond, dated February 11, 1794, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: George Miller

Married Phillip Getz, February 17, 1794, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Peter Haller I & Family:

Fuller, Lena French, Original Land Survey Atlas of Shenandoah County 1739-1850s; Quadrangle Map of Edinburg overlay; publisher: U.S. Geological Survey, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2010; No. 65: Peter Hollow, No. 78: Peter Huller Gilreath, Amelia Cleland, compiler; Haller, Hollar, Holler Genealogy, 1981, pages 7-12

Haller Family Cemetery, near Wesley Chapel & Calvary, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mattstall Evangelical Lutheran Church Register, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Muddy Creek Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church Register, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book G, page 206, last will and testament of Peter Haller I

Heinrich Haller Family Group

Heinrich Haller

Born in 1689 to Hans Heinrich Haller and Margareta Hugelschofferin in Wagenhausen, Thurgau, Switzerland

Baptized September 7, 1689, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wagenhausen, Thurgau, Switzerland

Married **Anna Catharina Carle**, January 7, 1713, Wolfersweiler, Saarland, Germany

Worked as a zeigler, or brickmaker

Had 8 children born in Mattstall, Alsace, France, one born after immigration, with 6 surviving into adulthood

Immigrated August 17, 1733 into Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on the Ship Samuel with his family

Resided at Muddy Creek, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Followed the Reformed religion, acted as church treasurer for the Muddy Creek Church

Received a land warrant for 277 acres

Died 1761 in Muddy Creek, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Children:

Petter Haller I

(see Peter Haller I Family Group)

Anna Christina Haller

Born February 15, 1717 in Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized February 18, 1717, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Immigrated with her parents, August 17, 1733, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Married John Jacob Ream in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Johann Heinrich Haller

Born September 2, 1719 in Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized September 6, 1719, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Immigrated with his parents, August 17, 1733, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Married Anna Maria Hunsicker, a midwife, daughter of Peter and Anna Benedida Hunsicker, August 13, 1740, Muddy Creek Church, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Worked as the minister of the Moravian Church at Muddy Creek

Died April 10, 1788 in Pennsylvania

Anna Maria Elisabetha Haller

Born August 7, 1722, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized August 9, 1722, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Died April 21, 1723 in Mattstall, Alsace, France

Anna Catharina Haller

Born July 29, 1724, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized August 9, 1724, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Immigrated with her parents, August 17, 1733, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Married Henry Konig

Johann Daniel Haller

Born March 9, 1727, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized March 12, 1727, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Died April 13, 1728, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Elisabetha Dorothea Haller

Born May 6, 1730, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized May 10, 1730, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Died December 20, 1804 in Pennsylvania

Maria Ursula Haller

Born February 28, 1733, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Baptized March 3, 1733, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Died in infancy

Johann Nicholas Haller

Born December 15, 1735, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Baptized January 20, 1736, Muddy Creek Church, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Immigrated with his parents, August 17, 1733, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sources for Heinrich Haller & Family:

Gilreath, Amelia Cleland, compiler; Haller, Hollar, Holler Genealogy, 1981, page 1-3

Rupp, Prof. I. Daniel; A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French, and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania From 1727 to 1776; Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 1965
Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, LLD; Edited by William John Hinke, PHD, DD; Pennsylvania German Pioneers: Volume I, 1727-1775

Mattstall Evangelical Lutheran Church Register, Mattstall, Alsace, France

Muddy Creek Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church Register, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Wagenhausen Evangelical Lutheran Church Register, Wagenhausen, Thurgau, Switzerland

Jacob Rinker IV Family Group

Jacob Rinker IV

Born September 23, 1799 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized December 9, 1799 at the Reformed Zion-Pine Lutheran Church in Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with **Elizabeth Miller**, dated February 7, 1822, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Died August 8, 1824 in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia, five months after their second child, Dorothy, was born

Children:

Isaac Rinker

Born June 26, 1822 in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized August 11, 1822 at the Reformed Zion-Pine Lutheran Church in Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Inherited land from his grandfather, George Rinker, through his will, dated June 14, 1826

Married Caroline Painter, daughter of C. Painter, March 4, 1852, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as the first postmaster of Hamburg and as a boot maker (may have founded Hamburg in 1856 or 1857)

Resided in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Isaac and his wife, Caroline, had six children between 1853-1861

Will record, dated July 11, 1864, states Isaac Rinker as being deceased; court appointed administrators of his estate

Dorothy Rinker

Born March 4, 1824 in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized 1824 at the Reformed Zion-Pine Lutheran Church in Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married (see Joseph Fultz Family Group)

Inherited land from her grandfather, George Rinker, through his will, dated June 14, 1826

Died 1895 in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Hawkinstown United Methodist Church Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Jacob Rinker IV & Family:

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; page 47

Sentinel of the Valley Newspaper; Woodstock, Virginia; July 18, 1844; Vol. XXIV, No. 43

Wayland, John W., PhD, A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia; 2nd Edition, Regional Publishing Company, Affiliate of Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1989; page 152

Wust, Klaus, editor, Reformed Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, 1788-1827, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia; page 23

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Birth Register, 1853-1871

Hawkinstown United Methodist Church & Cemetery, Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1830, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church Register, 1787-1905, Augusta County

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Death Register, 1853-1896

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book VV, 1845-1846; page 477

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book ZZ, 1850-1852; page 148

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book I, 1852-1853; page 227

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1850-1856

George Rinker Family Group

George Rinker

Born on March 20, 1775, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with **Dorothy Hottel**, daughter of Henry and Christina Hottel, dated December 12, 1795, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Henry Hottel

Married on December 13, 1795, Shenandoah County, Virginia by Rev. James Huffman

Resided in Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Will dated June 14, 1826, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proven on February 12, 1827

Deed regarding land he inherited from his father and sold by his heirs, dated May 21, 1827, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Estate settled August 24, 1829-August 11, 1834, Absalom Rinker, executor

Children:

John Rinker

Born September 12, 1796, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized on October 20, 1799 at the Reformed Zion-Pine Church in Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Joseph O. Rinker

Born January 21, 1798, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized on April 5, 1798 at the Reformed Zion-Pine Church in Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Elizabeth Frantz, daughter of Adam Frantz, dated September 8, 1821, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Adam Frantz, Jr.

Jacob Rinker IV

(see Jacob Rinker IV Family Group)

Isaac Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

William Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Sarah Painter, dated May 29, 1833, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Philip Painter

Married June 2, 1833 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Resided in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mary Magdalena Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Isaac Newland, son of John Newland, dated February 19, 1824, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Joseph Rinker

Married February 22, 1824, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Henry J. Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Sarah Hickie on July 22, 1830, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Eleanora Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Samuel Copp on August 30, 1830 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Elizabeth Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with William Penninger, dated June 19, 1837, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Isaac Foltz

Married on June 21, 1837 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

George Rinker

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for George Rinker & Family:

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; pages 47-49

Wust, Klaus, editor, Reformed Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, 1788-1827, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia; pages 17, 20, 23

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1820

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book FF, 1826-1827, page 372

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book O; page 35

Jacob Rinker II Family Group

Colonel Jacob Rinker II

Born on March 28, 1749 in Pennsylvania

Married **Mary Keller**, daughter of George Keller & Barbara Anna Hottel, May 3, 1772

Inherited 186 of the original 386 acre land grant where he was already living near his father, (his log house still standing today on Jerome Road), plus 50 of the original 200 acre land grant, all of the 278 acre land grant, and all of the 117 acre land grant

Enlisted March 4, 1776, 1st Lieutenant, 8th Va. Regiment, Revolutionary War; resigned May 10, 1777

Appointed County Justice of the Court, June 29, 1778, by the governor of Virginia, Patrick Henry

Appointed census taker 1785

Appointed delegate to the Virginia Ratifying Convention to vote for the approval of the Constitution of the United States in 1788, acting as one of two representatives for Shenandoah County

Appointed magistrate for Shenandoah County in 1812

Appointed Sheriff, March 8, 1819, directed to conduct elections, collect taxes, accounts, forfeitures due the Commonwealth

Died on January 18, 1827 after an illness in Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried beside his wife on his estate, where it is now called the Jacob Rinker Cemetery, Conicville, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Received military honors at his burial which was attended by numerous individuals

Children:

Catharine Rinker

Married Phillip Mavius, June 15, 1800, Shenandoah County, Virginia

George Rinker

(see George Rinker Family Group)

Barbara Rinker

Marriage license bond with Robert Gaw, dated November 12, 1796, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Rinker

Married November 13, 1796, Shenandoah County, Virginia; minister: J. Huffman

Elizabeth Rinker

Marriage license bond with Samuel Watt, a wealthy storeowner, dated January 2, 1806, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Absalom Rinker

Married on January 6, 1806, Shenandoah County, Virginia; widowed

Marriage license bond with Sylvanus Mayberry, part owner of the Columbia Iron Furnaces, dated July 20, 1807, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Samuel Coffman

Slave owner

Captain Jacob Rinker III

Marriage license bond with Mary Fravel, daughter of George Fravel & Elizabeth Bushong, dated March 20, 1808, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: George Fravel

Married March 20, 1808 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Elizabeth Haas, dated August 22, 1822, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Abn. Fravel

Captain in the Virginia militia, served in South Carolina and guarded prisoners taken at the Battle of Cowpens

Mary Rinker

Absalom Rinker

Marriage license bond with Elizabeth Snyder, daughter of Peter Snyder & Anna Maria Zeigler, dated December 18, 1807, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Peter Snyder

Slave owner

Rebecca Rinker

Ephraim Rinker

Born on May 14, 1788 Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized on July 27, 1788 Reformed Zion-Pine Church, Stony Creek, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Slave owner

Sources for Colonel Jacob Rinker II & Family:

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; pages 23-31

Burruss, Daniel Warrick II & Yelton, Sandra Helsley; A Book of Records of Plotts and Certificates of Surveys Made in the County of Shenandoah; 1999; Jacob Rinker, Chief Surveyor, Shenandoah County

McAllister, J.T.; Virginia Militia In The Revolutionary War; McAllister Publishing Co. Hot Springs, Virginia; 1913; reprint

published by Heritage Books, 1989; page 44

Wayland, John W., PhD, A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia; 2nd Edition, Regional Publishing Company, Affiliate of Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1989; pages 121, 556-558

Wust, Klaus, editor, Reformed Lutheran Zion-Pine Church Records, 1788-1827, Stony Creek, Virginia, Shenandoah History Publishers, Edinburg, Virginia; page 15

Rinker Family Cemetery, Conicville, Shenandoah County, Virginia

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1810, 1820

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1850: Slave Inhabitants in the 58th District

Virginia State Census, 1783

Virginia State Census, 1785

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Digital Public Library of America, National Archives Catalog, National Archives at Washington, D.C., Rinker, Jacob

Letter, dated July 30, 1952, Adjutant General's Office, War Department, Washington, verifying Jacob Rinker's service

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Personal Property Taxes

Hans Jacob Rinker I Family Group

Hans Jacob Rinker I

Born about 1724 in Nurensdorf, Zurich, Switzerland

Baptized September 24, 1724 in Nurensdorf, Zurich, Switzerland

Emigrated with his family on May 5, 1743, Ship "Francis & Elizabeth," arriving in Pennsylvania on August 30, 1743

Resident of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania

Married **Catherine**, last name unknown

Obtained land grant for 386 acres, dated January 9, 1764, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Obtained land grant for 278 acres, dated April 24, 1779, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Built a stone house on Cabin Hill in Conicville, used as first meeting house for Sunday school and church

Property tax list for years 1782-1790 with son, Henry, in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Provided beef for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, dated October 28, 1782

Resident of Cabin Hill in Conicville, Shenandoah County

Will dated May 24, 1797, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved September 12, 1797

Died on August 26, 1797 on Cabin Hill, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at what is now known as the Jacob Rinker Cemetery in Conicville, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Colonel Jacob Rinker II

(see Colonel Jacob Rinker II Family Group)

George Rinker

Born on September 1, 1751 in Pennsylvania

Married Mary Catherine Cauffman, widowed

Served as a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War 1780-1781

Property tax list for years 1782-1790 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Marriage license bond with Mary Magdalena Surber, daughter of Jacob Surber, Sr. and Catherine Haller, November 2, 1792, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Surber, Sr.

Married November 18, 1792, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Owned land and built a house near his father's on Swover Creek in the Conicville area of Shenandoah County, Virginia

Moved with his wife to Greene County, Tennessee in 1802

Died on December 11, 1835 in Harrison Township, Union County, Indiana

Johannes Rinker

Born on March 24, 1753 in Pennsylvania

Elizabeth Rinker

Born on March 14, 1755 in Pennsylvania

Henry Rinker

Born on January 9, 1757 in Pennsylvania

Served as a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, 1778

Marriage license bond with Christina Waggoner, daughter of Ulrick Waggoner, on September 17, 1783, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married on September 28, 1783 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Property tax list with his father 1783-1790, then on his own from 1802 until his death in 1805, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Inherited 200 acres of his father's original 386-acre Lord Fairfax land grant, 150 acres of the original 200-acre land grant, his father's black cattle, sheep, and household items, through his father's will, dated May 24, 1797

Died on May 20, 1805

Buried on May 12, 1805

His widow, Christina, owned a slave after his death, according to property tax lists, 1806-1809

Sources for Hans Jacob Rinker I & Family:

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; pages 2-15

Fuller, Lena French, Original Land Survey Atlas of Shenandoah County 1739-1850s; Quadrangle Map of Conicville overlay; publisher: U.S. Geological Survey, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2010; pages 12, 13

Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, LLD; Edited by William John Hinke, PHD, DD; Pennsylvania German Pioneers: Volume I, 1727-1775; page 332

Rinker Family Cemetery, Conicville, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Pennsylvania Early Census, 1743

Virginia State Census, 1783

Virginia State Census, 1785

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book F, 1786-1788, pages 372, 385, regarding Henry & Christina Waggoner Rinker, George & Catherine Rinker, and Henry Rinker

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book K, 1795-1797, page 283, regarding George & Magdalene Rinker

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book L, 1797-1799, page 256, regarding George & Magdalene Rinker

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book M, 1799-1802, page 587, regarding George & Magdalene Rinker

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book O, 1804-1805, page 412, regarding George & Magdalene Rinker of Green County, Tennessee

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Public Service Claims Certificates, 1780-1783

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Personal Property Taxes

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book E, 1796-1800, page 114

Jacob Pence, Sr. Family Group

Jacob Pence, Sr.

Born on June 3, 1771 in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
Baptized on June 8, 1771 at Muddy Creek Church in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
Marriage license bond with Catharine Calback, July 26, 1794, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Nicholas Pence
Married August 3, 1794 in Shenandoah County, Virginia by Anderson Moffet, minister
Indenture agreement between himself and his brother, Peter, dated December 10, 1799, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Married Magdalene Fry, as mentioned in his will
Worked as a blacksmith and wagonmaker
Resided in Hawkinstown and Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Will dated June 25, 1842, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved: June 12, 1843; executor: John Foltz
Died on June 12, 1843 in Shenandoah County, Virginia
Buried at the old Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery in Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Jacob Pence, Jr.

Born on October 1, 1795 in Shenandoah County, Virginia
Marriage license bond with Edith Rennerd, daughter of George Rennerd, July 27, 1822, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: George Rennerd
Inherited half of his father's land through will, dated June 25, 1842
Marriage license to marry a widow, Harriet Beckwith Hisey, the daughter of Samuel and Susan Beckwith, May 28, 1875, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Married June 1, 1875 at age 80, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Worked as a blacksmith, wagon stand owner, and farmer
Resident of Pence's Hill in Edinburg, Shenandoah County and in Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Virginia
Died on August 17, 1881 in Shenandoah County, Virginia
Buried at the old Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery in Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Mary Margaret Pence

Born on November 17, 1797 in Shenandoah County, Virginia
Married (see John Foltz Family Group)
Resident of Hawkinstown, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Died on November 5, 1874 Shenandoah County, Virginia
Buried at the old Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery in Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Susannah Pence

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia, born deaf
Marriage license bond with Abraham Myers, January 8, 1827, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Abandoned by her husband, according to her father's will, mentioning his name as Abraham Moyer
Inherited an annual stipend for her and her daughter's support

Joseph Pence

Born in 1807, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Marriage license bond with Mahala Grim, September 8, 1836, Shenandoah County, Virginia
They had twelve children between 1837 and 1856, four of whom were two sets of twins
Worked as a farmer and laborer
Resident of Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

David H. Pence

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia
Marriage license bond with Missouri Barnes, March 13, 1832, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Jacob Pence, Sr. & Family:

Family traditional German fraktur record for Jacob Pence, Jr., Edinburg Mill Museum, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Marriage License, Shenandoah County, Virginia for Jacob Pence, Jr. and Harriet Hisey, dated May 28, 1875
Edinburg Mill Museum, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia
Bethel Cemetery (defunct), Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia
United States Census, Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Virginia, 1860
United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1810-1880
Muddy Creek Evangelical Reformed Church Register, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book M, 1799-1802, pages 117, 118, regarding Peter and Jacob Pence

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1781-1850

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage Register, 1854-1882

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book W, page 312, last will and testament for Jacob Pence

Johann Nicolaus Benz Family Group

Johann Nicolaus Benz

Born in Pennsylvania

Married Maria Margaretha Lantz, daughter of Balthasar & Elizabeth Lantz

Attended the Muddy Creek Church in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Resided in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Resided in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Personal property tax records for Shenandoah County, Virginia 1784-1813

Will dated October 3, 1813, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved: September 13, 1814

Died on May 6, 1814 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Elizabeth Pence

Born on June 10, 1767 in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Baptized on June 28, 1767 at the Muddy Creek Church in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Died prior to her father's 1813 will, because he did not mention her

Peter Pence

Born on May 30, 1769 in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Baptized on June 4, 1769 at the Muddy Creek Church in East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Marriage license bond with Catharine Godfrey, dated October 19, 1792, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Nicholas Pence

Personal property tax records for Shenandoah County, Virginia in 1807

Indenture agreement between him, his wife, and his brother, Jacob, dated December 10, 1799, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Deed record conveying ownership of land to his brother, Jacob, which he inherited from their father, dated October 7, 1815, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Jacob Pence, Sr.

(see Jacob Pence, Sr. Family Group)

John Pence

Born in Pennsylvania

Marriage license bond with Magdalena Foltz, widow of Daniel Foltz, daughter of John Jacob Ruby and Anna Elizabeth Lorah, December 28, 1802 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Personal property tax record for Shenandoah County, Virginia 1809

Legal agreement between John Pence and Magdalena Foltz Pence, as widow of Daniel Foltz, and William Philips, their attorney, toward managing the rent of land of Magdalena's dower, dated June 10, 1811, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Homestead dated February 6, 1813 in Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio: 160 acres, Range 4, Township 4, Section 11, SW part of section

Indenture agreement between him and his wife and his brother, Jacob Pence, for sale of land he inherited from their father, dated October 11, 1815, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Indenture agreement between him, his wife, and her children and their spouses, with their brother, Jacob Foltz for sale of land they inherited from their father, Daniel Foltz, dated October 13, 1818, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Personal property tax records for Montgomery County, Ohio in 1816, 1819

Resided in the Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio from before 1820-1850

Will recorded in Montgomery County, Ohio

Died on October 3, 1851 in Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio

Buried at Slifer's Cemetery in Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Catharina Pence

Born in Pennsylvania

Married John Wynat of Pennsylvania, as mentioned in her father's will

Resided in Hopewell Township of York County, Pennsylvania, as mentioned in a deed record, dated June 28, 1816, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Rebecca Pence

Born in Pennsylvania

Marriage license bond with Frederick Stover, dated March 2, 1795, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Peter Pence

George Pence

Born 1780 in Virginia, according to the 1850 U.S. Census

Marriage license bond with Elizabeth Bear, widow of John Bear, dated February 17, 1802; bondsman: Nicholas Pence

Married Mary

Will dated December 18, 1851, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved: April 12, 1852
Resided with his nephew, Joseph Pence, during the 1850 census

Sources for Johann Nicolaus Benz & Family:

Humphrey, John T., Pennsylvania Births, Lancaster County, 1723-1777; Humphrey Publications, Washington, D.C., 1997

United States Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, Jackson Township, 1820-1850

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1810-1850

Virginia State Census, 1783

Virginia State Census, 1785

Muddy Creek Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church Register, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Slifer's Presbyterian Church History and Records, Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book M, 1799-1802, pages 117, 118, involving Peter and wife, and Jacob

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book R, 1809-1810, page 417

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book S, 1810-1812, page 306

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book W, 1815-1816, page 244, 245

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book X, 1816-1817, page 34

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book Z, page 27

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850

Montgomery County, Ohio, Tax Records, 1816, 1819

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Personal Property Taxes

Montgomery County, Ohio, Will Book E, page 12

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book I, page 112

John Jacob Ruby Family Group

John Jacob Ruby

Born to Peter Ruby I and Anna Callet of Bern, Switzerland who immigrated to Pennsylvania on September 11, 1738
Married **Anna Elizabeth Lorah**, November 26, 1761, Christ Lutheran Church, York, York County, Pennsylvania
Will dated June 25, 1788, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proven on January 27, 1791

Children:

Maria Elizabeth Ruby

Born February 21, 1763, York, York County, Pennsylvania
Baptized March 27, 1763, Trinity First Reformed Church, York, York County, Pennsylvania
Marriage license bond with John Steagle, February 12, 1791, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Ruby
Jacob Ruby, Jr.
Marriage license bond with Catharine Painter, daughter of Johannes Benjamin Painter, December 21, 1793, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: George Painter
Homesteaded 249 acres in Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio
Died August 10, 1833, Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio
Buried at Slifer's Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Magdalena Ruby

Born December 16, 1769 in York, York County, Pennsylvania
Married (see Daniel Foltz Family Group)
Married (see Johann Nicholas Pence Family Group)
Died October 16, 1835 Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio
Buried at the Slifer's Cemetery in Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

John Ruby

Marriage license bond with Peggy Hite, daughter of John Hite, February 2, 1801, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Lewis Foust
Homesteaded 161 acres in Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio
Resided in Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio

Catarina Ruby

Marriage license bond with George Moura, January 13, 1800, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Jacob Ruby
Sold her inherited portion of her father's land in Shenandoah County, Virginia to her brother-in-law, John Pence, dated September 10, 1810

Henry Ruby

Marriage license bond with Catharine Rodeheffer, daughter of Samuel Rodeheffer, January 9, 1802, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: Samuel Rodeheffer

Barbary Ruby

Marriage license bond with Samuel Rodeheffer, April 25, 1806, Shenandoah County, Virginia; bondsman: John Ruby
Died November 2, 1832, Montgomery County, Ohio
Buried at Slifer's Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio

Sources for John Jacob Ruby & Family:

United States Census, Jackson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, 1820, 1830
Christ Lutheran Church Marriage Register, 1735-1881, York, York County, Pennsylvania
First Reformed Trinity Church Register, 1745-1800, York, York County, Pennsylvania
Slifer's Presbyterian Church History and Records, Farmersville, Montgomery County, Ohio
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Book R, 1809-1810, page 417, 418
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Marriage License Bonds, 1772-1850
Montgomery County, Ohio, Tax Records, 1819
Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book C, 1789-1791, page 248

Extended Family Groups

Samuel W. Smith Family Group

Samuel W. Smith

Born in 1819 according to the 1850 United States Census

Married Nancy Fleming on January 3, 1840 in Page County, Virginia

Died before 1860, because wife was remarried to a William Fry by the 1860 United States Census

Children:

Amanda Jane Smith

Born on December 17, 1842 in Page County, Virginia

Married (see Mahlon Holler Family Group)

Died January 18, 1925 from "La Grippe" (flu virus) on Buck Hill in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Buried at Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery in Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

William Harrison Smith

Born on May 10, 1848 Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia (death certificate says 1858)

Married with three children and widowed by 1910

Died on December 8, 1924 in Rolette County, North Dakota

Buried December 10, 1924 at Rolla Cemetery in Rolla, Rolette County, North Dakota

George W. Smith

Born in 1850 Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia (age 3 months in 1850 United States Census)

Died on October 8, 1854 Hamburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Virginia F. Smith

Born in 1854, Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Sylvanus Good, a shoemaker and son of John A. and Mollie Good, on January 27, 1876 in Forestville, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for Samuel W. Smith & Family:

Certificate of Death, Commonwealth of Virginia, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State Board of Health; Amanda Jane Hollar, widow, born December 17, 1842, died January 18, 1925 from La Grippe, daughter of Samuel Smith & Nancie Fleming, R.T. Hollar, informant

Certificate of Death, State of North Dakota, Bureau of Vital Statistics; William H. Smith, widow, born May 10, 1858, died December 8, 1924 at age 76, son of Samuel Smith and Nancy Fleming; Mrs. Clere Lewis, informant

Marriage License, Shenandoah County, Virginia, Sylvanus Good & Virginia F. Smith, County Court of Shenandoah County, 24th day of January 1876

North Dakota State Census, 1915

United States Census, Shenandoah County, Virginia, 1850-1880

United States Census, Towner County, North Dakota, 1900, 1910

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Death Register, 1853-1896

USGenWeb, Archives, marriage of Samuel W. Smith & Nancy Fleming

John Hottel Family Group

John Hottel

Born on June 28, 1681 in Altishofen, Lucerne, Switzerland to Hans Hodel and Marie Trachsler

Baptized July 6, 1681 in Altishofen, Lucerne, Switzerland

Married **Elisabetha**, last name unknown, 1712, in Switzerland

Left Switzerland and bought a small farm and vineyard near Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Members of the Reformed Evangelical Lutheran Church in Alsheim-Gronau

Elisabetha died on December 21, 1726 and was buried the next day at the church

Married Maria Margaretha Rheinwald, widow, June 23, 1728 in Meckenheim, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Immigrated with his 2nd wife and children on September 11, 1732, at Port Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, aboard the Ship

Pennsylvania Merchant, with Captain John Stedman, Master, giving oath at the Philadelphia Courthouse

Resident of Shenandoah County, Virginia

Will dated August 11, 1760, Frederick (now Shenandoah) County, Virginia; proved November 5, 1760

Buried at the Keller Hottel Cemetery, Mount Olive, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Children:

Anna Barbara Hottel

Born on December 3, 1713 in Germany

Baptized on December 10, 1713 at the Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church of Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Immigrated with her father on September 11, 1732, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Married (see Hans George Keller Family Group)

Inherited her father's homestead in 1760

Died 1798 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Charles Hottel

Born on October 25, 1718 in Germany

Baptized on November 2, 1718 at the Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church of Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Immigrated with his father on September 11, 1732, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Received land grant on August 8, 1749 for 204 acres near Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Received land grant on August 2, 1766 for 285 acres near Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

George Hottel

Born on April 4, 1722 in Germany

Baptized April 12, 1722 at the Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church of Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Immigrated with his father on September 11, 1732, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Married **Elizabeth Pigot** (as in "spigot")

Resident of Shenandoah County, Virginia

Their son, **Henry Hottel** (1748-1789), was **Dorothy Hottel's** father. (see George Rinker Family Group)

Buried at the Hottel/Keller Cemetery in Edinburg, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Catharine Elizabeth Hottel

Born on November 17, 1725 Germany

Baptized on November 25, 1725 at the Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church of Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Died before the family immigrated

John Hottel, Jr.

Born on October 27, 1731 in Germany to John and 2nd wife, Maria Margaretha Rheinwald

Baptized on November 4, 1731 at the Klingenmunster Evangelical Reformed Church, Meckenheim, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Immigrated with his father on September 11, 1732, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Settled in Shenandoah County, Virginia, owning over 300 acres

Died in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Sources for John Hottel & Family:

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; pages 24-27

Fuller, Lena French, Original Land Survey Atlas of Shenandoah County 1739-1850s; Quadrangle Map of Edinburg overlay; publisher: U.S. Geological Survey, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2010, page 9, 10

Rupp, Prof. I. Daniel; A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French, and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania From 1727 to 1776; Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 1965; page 73-75

Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, LLD; Edited by William John Hinke, PHD, DD; Pennsylvania German Pioneers: Volume 1, 1727-1775; pages 66-70

Alsheim Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church Register, Alsheim-Gronau, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Meckenheim Evangelical Reformed Lutheran Church Register, Meckenheim, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book 1, page 444

Hans George Keller Family Group

Hans George Keller

Born in 1711 to Bastian Keller of Schaffhausen, Schaffhausen, Switzerland and Elisabeth Hildebrant of Metzingen, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany

Immigrated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on October 11, 1732 aboard the Ship Pleasant, Captain James Morris, Master

Married **Anna Barbara Hottel**

Settled in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Received a land grant in 1764 near North Mountain, Shenandoah County, Virginia

Will dated July 13, 1779, Shenandoah County, Virginia; proved on March 28, 1783

Children:

George Keller II

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Worked as a blacksmith

Married Catherine

Martin Conrad Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

John Carl Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Anna Barbary Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Henry Fravel

Margaret Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married Matthias Wilkin

Elizabeth Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married a Bowman

Mary Keller

Born 1753 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Married (see Colonel Jacob Rinker II Family Group)

Jacob Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Inherited 330 acres of his father's plantation and lived there

Barbara Keller

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Henry Keller

Born September 28, 1759 in Shenandoah County, Virginia

Baptized on November 4, 1759

Sources for Hans George Keller & Family:

Burruss, Daniel Warrick, II; The Rinkers Of Virginia, Their Neighbors & Kin And The Shenandoah Valley; 1993; pages 24-27

Gilreath, Amelia, compiler; Shenandoah County Virginia Abstracts of Wills, 1772-1850; Amelia C. Gilreath, 1980; page 120

Rupp, Prof. I. Daniel; A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French, and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania From 1727 to 1776; Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 1965; page 83

Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, LLD; Edited by William John Hinke, PHD, DD; Pennsylvania German Pioneers: Volume 1, 1727-1775; pages 99-101

Shenandoah County, Virginia, Will Book A, page 487

THE KANSAS CONNECTION

Charles Clinton Fultz meets Fannie Mae Eggert

When Napoleon Bonaparte Fultz and Wilmuth Ann Holler arrived in Kansas, they could not have foreseen the changes to come nor could they have seen the enormous historical implications of a life on the frontier plains. It would not be an easy life, farming, nor would it be a long one, because they would each die in mid-life. But, as their children married and moved away to lead their own lives in other parts of the country, their family became a part of that history. One-room schoolhouses, small towns with only a church and a cemetery, maybe a store, and neighbors coming together to help in the harvest, were evidence of another time, another place in our overall American history, with always the push westward to satisfy restless souls. What yet remains, the wooden grain elevators, silos, and old brick buildings on the horizon are only remnants of that simpler time. Yellowed photographs and letters, like all saved mementos, were also left behind, but are mere scraps of a life-way my ancestors were a part of and which the stories of elders strive to keep alive, yet which inevitably fade over time.

When Napoleon and Wilmuth died in 1925 and 1926, they left their youngest, Charles Clinton Fultz, practically an orphan. At age eighteen, he would soon meet and marry Fannie Mae Eggert, the daughter of Herman Eggert and Sarah Myrtle Herries. She was born in one of those small towns, Wildhorse Springs, and attended a one-room schoolhouse, Valley Grove School where her own sister was the teacher. She worked on the farm as hard as any man and owned her own rifle. She once described her father as, "a mean German."

Herman's parents and two eldest siblings were immigrants from Prussia. They left in June of 1871 as their homeland became Germany. First, they lived in Indiana, then settled in Monroe County, Michigan by 1880. The following entry documents that journey:

Ernst Martin Justus Eggert, son of Martin Eggert and Maria Rubow, born April 19, 1844 in Gross Tessin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany, married Sophia Friederike Caroline Johanne Wilhelmine Schulmeister, daughter of Ernst Helmuth Schulmeister and Friederike Johanne Sophia Dorothea Peters on June 9, 1871 in Reinshagen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany. They immigrated to New York on August 16, 1871 on board the Prinz Albert from Hamburg. He died on January 31, 1910 in York, Monroe County, Michigan. Sophia's family were from Nienhagen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany, with her father having come from Lukow. She outlived her husband by fifteen years.

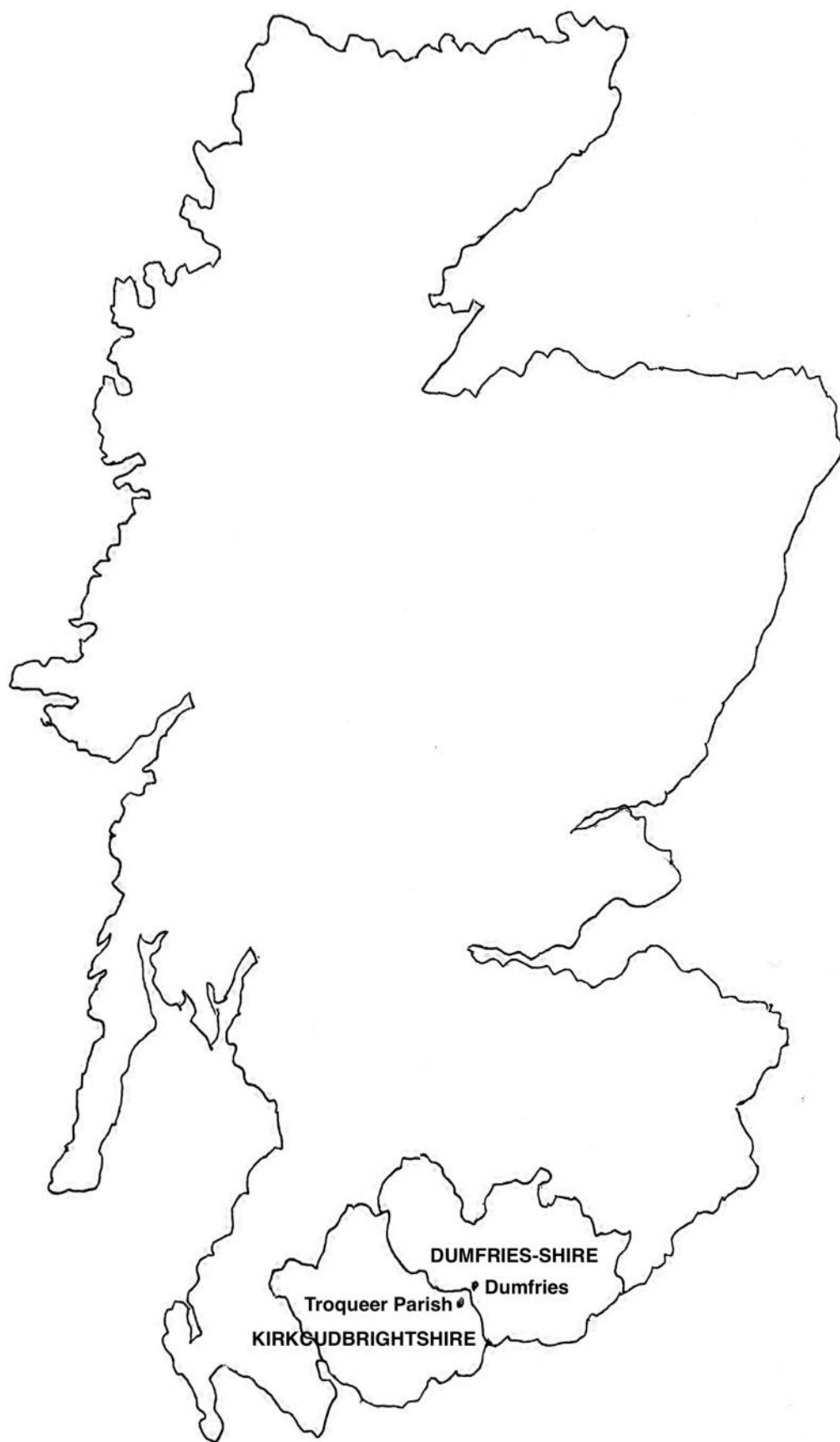
Fannie's mother, Sarah Myrtle Herries, was also a child of an immigrant, David Herries, whose family came from Dumfries, Dumfries-Shire, Scotland and settled in Brant County, Ontario, Canada. The following entry documents their story:

James Herries, son of John Herries and Mary Craig, born in 1800 in Troqueer Parish, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland, married Isabella Smith, daughter of Samuel Smith on March 4, 1827 in Troqueer Parish. They immigrated with their six children in 1846 to Montreal, and died on March 21, 1889 in the Onandaga Township, Brant County, Ontario, Canada. He had outlived his wife by ten years.

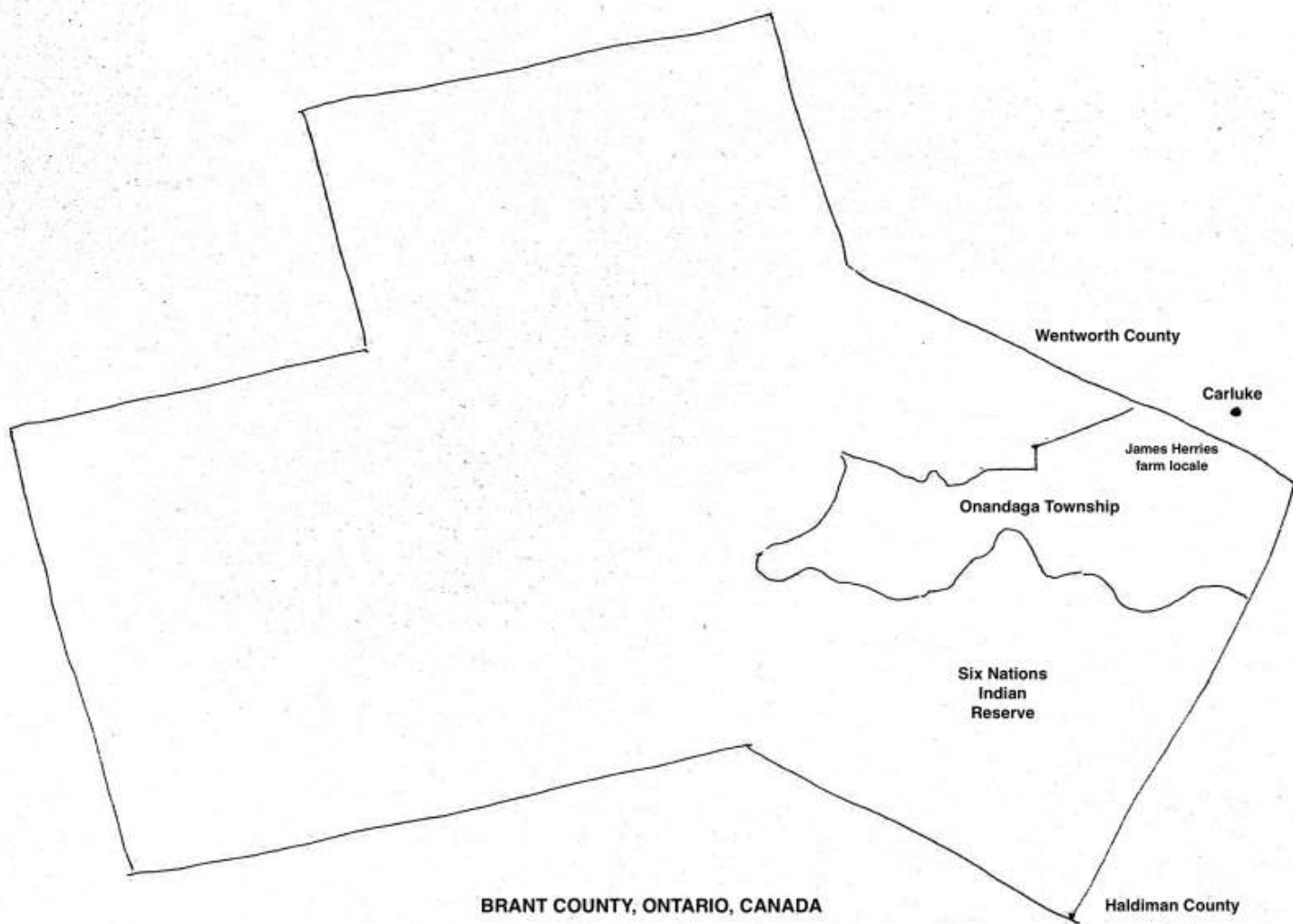
A third family line, the Gatchell's, must be included, because it further brings together the Kansas connection between my grandparents' families, without which I would not be here today. The Herries' and Gatchell's had arrived in Kansas decades before the Fultz's, in the Civil War era just after Kansas became a state. David Herries' brother, John, had left Canada to join the Union army and, afterward, settled in Leavenworth County, Kansas. David joined him there and married Margaret Gatchell of Wyandot County, Ohio. She had been visiting family who just happened to live on a neighboring farm. Their arrival was at a time on the brink of permanent change, when Indian tribes yet lived there but were being driven out and thousands of buffalo yet dominated the landscape yet were being slaughtered to near-extinction. Quantrill's Raiders had been ravaging the border towns, especially Lawrence, Kansas, in a vicious pro-slavery and anti-slavery conflict.

The following entry briefly charts the lineage of the Gatchell's in America which began in the 1600s, making them my first immigrant ancestors:

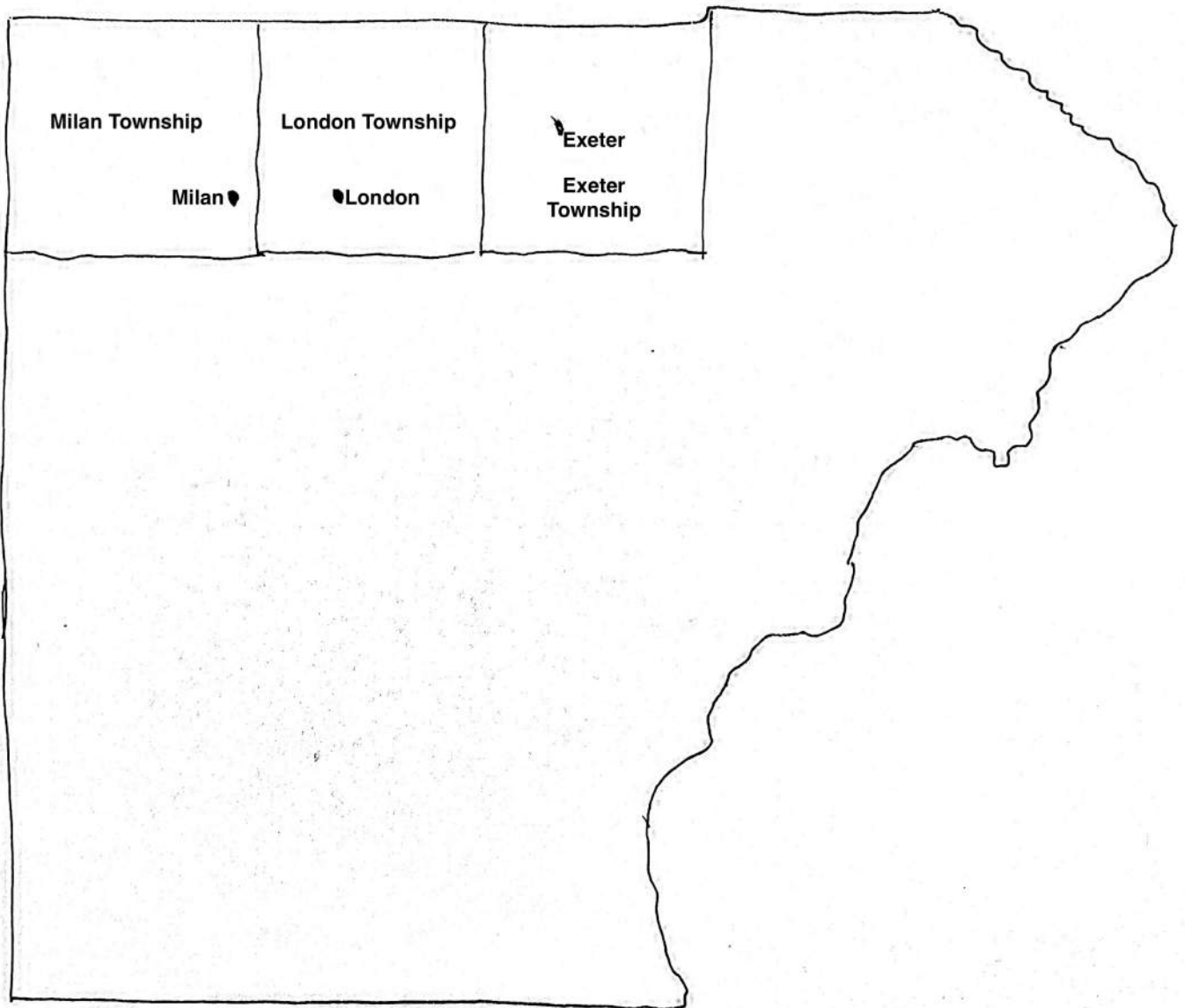
John & Wibera Gatchell arrived in Marblehead, Massachusetts shortly after its inception in 1629. They became Quakers. Jeremiah & Elizabeth Gatchell left for East Nottingham Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania by the early 1700s. Elisha Gatchell, Sr., Elisha Gatchell, Jr., and David Gatchell all continued to reside there with their families. Jacob Gatchell left Pennsylvania to homestead in the Cadiz Township, Harrison County, Ohio in 1810. Hiram Gatchell obtained a homestead in Mifflin Township, Wyandot County, Ohio. Margaret Gatchell visited her sister in Kansas and later married David Herries in 1870.



SCOTLAND



●Ypsilanti (Washtenaw County)



MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN