

ENSMINGER OF ALSACE AND PENNSYLVANIA

by

Raymond Martin Bell

including additions by Brendan R Wehrung

2018 Edition

Including additions by

John Kurt Entsminger

and

Dale Edward Ensminger

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PREFACE

This book is dedicated to Dr. Raymond Martin Bell who was born 21 Mar 1907 and died 12 Apr 1999. Dr. Bell discovered he had an Ensminger ancestor, Peter Ensminger, who came with his family to the United States in 1733. The writer knew his ancestor Peter Ensminger arrived in Pennsylvania in 1733, and likely had brothers Nicholas, Henry and David who came later. Dr. Bell published the first edition of his monograph in 1945 - 5 pages. In 1972, Jean Zimmerman found the 1694 baptism record at Waldhambach, Alsace for Peter, son of Philipp Jr. Cleta Smith beginning in 1979 found Philipp Jr at Durstel and Philipp Jr and Peter at Mattstall. Beginning in 1992 Brendan Wehrung found many additional records and identified Philipp Sr's father as Georg and his grandfather as Hans Meyer. John Kurt Entsminger later identified Hans Meyer's father as Anthon Meyer.

An Ensminger family at Diemeringen, Alsace - just 3 miles from Waldhambach with records dating from 1589 - was first thought to be related.

Dr. Bell continued his research on the Ensminger family for nearly 50 years and updated his monograph several times to publish the new information. His research was remarkable considering he accomplished it without leaving this country for that purpose. His last edition is a book called *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*, 1994, which includes additions by Brendan R Wehrung. Raymond Martin Bell was a professor of physics at Washington Jefferson College and was head of the physics department from 1937 until his retirement in 1975. The following two paragraphs were taken from the following Internet website that contains an insightful biographical summary of the diverse interests of Dr. Raymond Martin Bell: www.chartiers.com/raybell/biography.htm.

"Dr. Bell loved genealogy and pursued this interest for fun, not for profit. He was a very good genealogist and only sold copies of his work for a few dollars to cover his expenses of sending data to others, such as costs of postage and photocopying. Dr. Bell traced both his parents' families to their early 18th century origins in Europe without ever traveling there for that purpose. He found contacts in Scotland and Germany and got their assistance in sending him materials from those locations. He published numerous articles on genealogy and often helped others pursue their roots. He was grateful for the generous help of many people who together sought to uncover not only his story, but that of his forbearers, back to the time when records were first kept. The 1994 revised edition wove together the threads of various bodies of research, into a tapestry covering some 300 years of history, from Renaissance Europe to the beginning of the 20th century."

"Dr. Bell made major contributions in several unconnected worlds – physics, the Methodist church, radio and television, and genealogy. Born March 21, 1907, the son of a Methodist clergyman, he was always active in the church at the local, conference, and national level, including long-term service as the historian of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Church. At Washington and Jefferson College he taught the most advanced physics courses as well as basic physics to premedical students. He was a pioneer in the technical aspects of radio and television. He and his cousin, a central Pennsylvania dairy farmer, built a working television set from spare parts before the first commercial television broadcasts began. He was an amateur radio operator and communicated with persons around the world by two-way "ham" radio."

Dr. Bell acknowledged in his 1994 edition of the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* his gratitude to the many persons who have helped. Much use was made of census, church, court, estate, family, land, pension, and tax records. These sources in particular were of great help to Dr. Bell:

PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN PIONEERS by Ralph B Strassburger and William J Hinke, Norristown, Pennsylvania, 1934.

RECORDS OF PASTORAL ACTS AT THE LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CONGREGATIONS OF THE MUDDY CREEK CHURCH, EAST COCALICO TOWNSHIP, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA 1730-1790, Brenigsville, Pennsylvania, 1981.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY EMIGRANTS FROM THE NORTHERN ALSACE by Annette K Burgert, Picton, Maine, 1992.

Brendan Wehrung's search for his great grandfather's ancestry began with a photograph taken by his uncle Malcolm in the 1920's when Malcolm was a seminary student in Heidelberg. On the back was a notation, "Bachs at Waldhambach." Brendan wrote to the mayor there and discovered that a distant cousin, Irene (Bach) Strohm, still resided in Waldhambach. Brendan visited the village in 1977, and learned for the first time he had an Ensminger ancestor. Ten years later he began a serious study of the filmed church books of Waldhambach, and had traced his ancestry back to the mid 1700's when he discovered Raymond Martin Bell's series of books. Brendan traveled to the areas where our ancestors lived in Alsace and made important contributions to Ensminger family research. His research discovered the existence of 2 men named Hans - Hans Gerber and Hans Meyer - and established that our Ensminger line descends from Hans Meyer rather than Hans Gerber. Dr. Bell and Brendan cooperated in seeking

data and correcting errors until Dr. Bell's death on 12 April 1999. Brendan's hobbies include classical music and genealogy.

Brendan visited Waldhambach and wrote that it is a pleasant village, very much of the old style, including farmers who live in neat stone houses (sometimes over their cattle, which live in a barn below) and go out to tend the surrounding fields. Tractors are not an uncommon sight on the streets. Buildings are dominated by the tower of the Lutheran church, which survived Allied bombing during World War II. On stair walls leading to the belfry are inscribed names, and dates such as 1870, scratched by generations of bell-ringers. Brendan wrote that his father, if still living, would have recognized the rhythms of Waldhambach.

Brendan further penned that his ancestor Ralph Henry Wehrung was born in the village of Maybee, Michigan, where the corn even today (1992) grows within sight of buildings on Main Street. Ralph's grandfather, Heinrich (Henri) Wehrung, was sent at the time of the Franco-Prussian War to the Ohio with two brothers, one of whom returned to Alsace. During this past generation villages such as Maybee are becoming suburbs. Perhaps Waldhambach has changed too, but the long story of its Ensminger inhabitants reminds us of timeless values, and a quality of life both stable and satisfying across the centuries.

John Kurt Entsminger has long considered himself a student of genealogy, enjoying digging through antiquarian resources for family nuggets, much the way archaeologists dig through site remains. While he majored in Anthropology at Cleveland State University, specializing in Mayan studies, his interests embraced multi-cultural remnants of the past, recalling a favorite BBC Time Team series where archaeologists would have just three discovery days at sites to literally unearth clues from Medieval to Roman times. This same hasty turnaround would echo in his own life years later.

John learned genealogy from Mrs. Florence Main, a librarian at the Western Reserve Historical Society. With her assistance, he discovered the 1967 edition of Dr. Raymond Martin Bell's genealogy book on the Ensminger family, some 20 pages. Dr. Bell's book explained an especially interesting family nugget, that the "t" was added to the Ensminger surname in Virginia by John Henry Entsminger (1725-1806). That bit of information stimulated John's quest to learn more about his ancestors. He contacted Dr. Bell and drove to Washington, Pennsylvania, to meet Dr. Bell where he worked at Washington Jefferson College. When John became President of The East Cuyahoga Genealogical Society in 1981, he asked Dr. Bell to come to Cleveland and give a talk, which he did.

John was recommended by the Western Reserve Historical Society in 1979 to research Bob Hope's family tree, in particular Mr. Hope's Cleveland roots. It was this project that harkened back to the seemingly impossible BBC deadlines, as John was given three days to complete his work, sponsored by Research International in Salt Lake City, Utah. John reported his progress daily and the research company was pleased with his work. Offered a chance to meet Mr. Hope, he quickly accepted and was flown to Salt Lake City where he stayed with a young Mormon family. Billy Casper, the famous professional golfer, had paid for the work as a present to Bob Hope for sponsoring a golf tournament. John and the other researchers were allowed to walk the first hole with Billy and Bob. The Hope Genealogy was presented to Bob that evening at a \$150 a plate dinner in Bob's honor. Mr. Hope teared up as he looked at his genealogy gift and asked, "Who did the Cleveland research? I'd like to meet him." Everyone at John's table told him go on up so he did and they shook hands.

John cooperated with Dr. Bell and Brendan Wehrung in researching the Ensminger family. John collaborated with Dr. Bell and John N Entzminger of Oakton, Virginia in writing Part Three of the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*. The focus of the original Part Three, completed in 1995, is the Entzminger family of South Carolina. The original Part Three is attached to the 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*. John has researched his ancestors for over 40 years, including people from Alsace, Italy and Scotland. He has visited the areas where his ancestors lived in Alsace and other countries. Among John's discoveries were the identity of Hans Meyer's father, Anthon Meyer, and Hans' siblings. Some of Anthon Meyer's children became Einßminger (Einssminger) and others remained Meyer. In addition to genealogical research for clients around the country, as well as his findings integrated into this volume, John continues to pursue a range of interests from folk music and art, to, of course, archaeology and genealogy. Most recently, this lover of books opened yet another window to the past. He explored centuries-old Eastern handmade papermaking traditions, learning from elite artists around the globe who traveled to The Morgan Conservatory, a non-profit art and educational foundation in Cleveland, Ohio, where he resides.

Dale Edward Ensminger graduated from Utah State University, majoring in Business Administration. Dale developed research skills through his employment as a contract specialist focused on electric service and water delivery contracts. He learned to research historical records and study relevant events in order to successfully develop and negotiate contracts. His interests include classic rock music, old movie classics, playing daily with his dogs, and genealogy research. He first became interested in genealogy in 2000. His father, youngest of 11 children, was 49

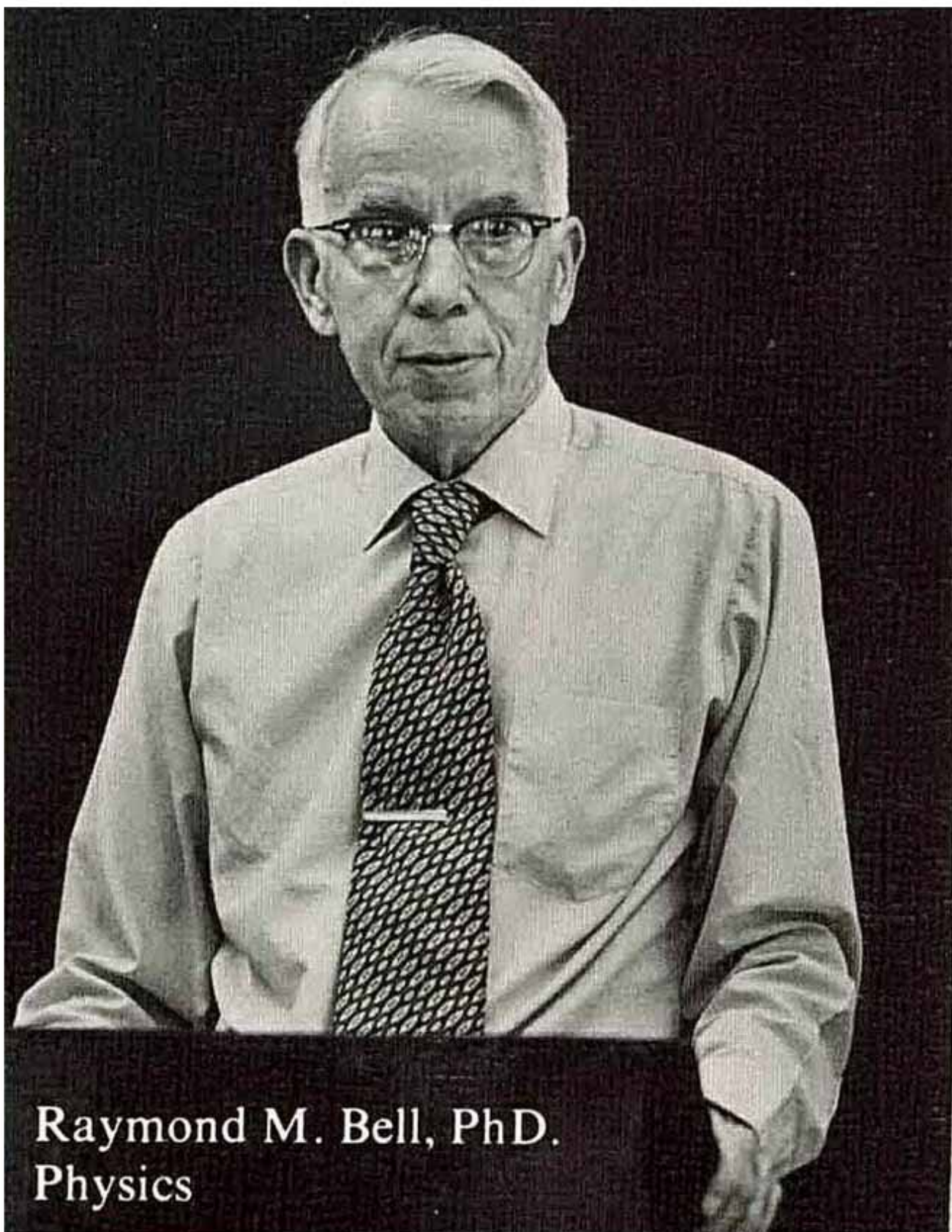
when Dale was born and Dale's grandfather would have been 98 if alive. With no near relatives his age, he thought the Ensminger surname was rare. Dale's mother and brother researched his direct paternal and maternal lines but he wanted to learn more about other Ensmingers. First, Dale created the Ensminger-Reusser-Barfuss Family Tree to document his direct line. Then he expanded his tree to add all the names from the 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*. He then set out to attempt to document every descendant of the seven Ensminger siblings that immigrated to America between 1730 and 1750. A separate tree, the Christian Ensminger Family Tree, was established to research the Ensminger families documented in Part Three of this book. Using his general research skills, he explored each Ensminger line by searching through document collections on Ancestry.com and other resources. Dale considers himself a sleuth and set out to connect some previously unidentified Ensmingers to the larger Ensminger family. His research uncovered some "missing links" that solved broken lines of descent in several family branches and eliminated "dead ends." His research findings corrected some lineage errors in the 1994 edition of this book. A few lineage connections proposed and presented in this edition as possible father-son relationships are based on circumstantial evidence but lack definitive proof. In those cases, the logic underlying the proposed relationships is explained.

Learning work to revise the 1994 edition had not started, Dale offered to initiate that project. His research supplements the extensive research by Dr. Bell, Brendan R Wehrung and John Kurt Entsminger by adding more recent generations not included in the 1994 edition. This revised edition incorporates all the data from the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*, 1994 by Raymond Martin Bell, including the additions by Brendan R Wehrung, but rearranges data. This edition adds spouses and children for many female lines not listed in the 1994 edition. This edition documents female lines in greater detail through three generations. The 1994 edition included data for a few female lines into the 4th and 5th generations. The data beyond the 3rd generation for female descendants were deleted from this book to ensure a consistent three-generation level of data for all female lines. Including data beyond three generations for female lineages is not included in this updated edition for several reasons. First, a proliferation of other surnames would cause the book to lose its identity as an Ensminger paternal ancestry genealogy book. Second, including all known data for female lineages would double the size of this book. The primary focus of this book is the Ensminger surname in its various spellings. While all-encompassing information for female lines is not included in this book, the research done for this book discovered wide-ranging information about female lines. While not documented in this book, the lineages for many female lines is documented in the two public trees named in the preceding paragraph that can be found at Ancestry.com.

About the Authors

- Dr. Bell's 2nd great grandmother Susanna Ensminger is a granddaughter of Peter Ensminger, one of 7 immigrant Ensminger siblings. Peter is a grandson of Philipp Sr Ensminger.
- Brendan's 2nd great grandmother is Sophia Ensminger. Sophia's 4th great grandfather is Nicolaus Ensminger, a brother of Philipp Sr Ensminger.
- John's 5th great grandfather John Henry Jr Entsminger is the son of Heinrich (Henry) Ensminger. Henry Sr is a brother of Peter and a grandson of Philipp Sr Ensminger.
- Dale's 5th great grandfather Nicholas Ensminger is a brother of Peter and Henry, and a grandson of Philipp Sr Ensminger.

The work of Raymond Martin Bell, Brendan R Wehrung, John Kurt Entsminger and Dale Edward Ensminger, with untold assistance from many others, has documented facts about our Ensminger ancestors and helped make the story more interesting. During the last two decades, Brendan R Wehrung has sold copies of the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*, 1994 edition, printed from a copy machine, assembled in soft cover with a comb binding. John Kurt Entsminger continues researching the Ensminger family and in the past was the contact for people wanting to contribute new information. With this updated edition, John has passed responsibility for the repository of new information to David Ensminger, a descendant of Peter Ensminger 22. If anyone wants to contribute new information or offer a correction, please see the instructions on page xii of this preface.



Raymond M. Bell, PhD.
Physics

Old Country Origins

Some question whether we are French or German so a brief summary of our origin is in order. The following three paragraphs, based on information found in Wikipedia, bring to light the origin of the people of Alsace. Nomadic hunters inhabited Alsace during prehistoric times. Celts began to settle in Alsace around 1500 BCE and cleared and cultivated the land. The Roman legions of Julius Caesar conquered Alsace in the 1st century BCE and Romanized the area. The primary land use became the establishment of vineyards and production of wine. The Alemanni, a Germanic people, invaded the area in the 5th century CE but they were in turn conquered by the Franks, another Germanic people. Alsace became a Frankish duchy and the area was Christianized and colonized, eventually becoming part of the Holy Roman Empire until the 17th century. The territory was divided into secular and ecclesiastical lordships and municipalities. Strasbourg and other Alsatian cities became important trade centers. Alsatian cities gradually became free from their feudal overlords with the help of the emperors. Protestantism developed in Alsace during the Reformation and Strasbourg became the center of Alsatian Protestantism. Strasbourg's Protestant influence was countered by the resolute Roman Catholicism of the Habsburgs, who tried to eradicate heresy in upper Alsace.

French influence became apparent in Alsace late in the 16th century during the Wars of Religion and grew during the Thirty Years' War. Alsatian cities, caught between the opposing Catholic and Protestant sides, felt their liberties threatened and appealed to France for help. France became an informal protectorate over Alsace and later established full French control during the reign of Louis XIV. The French monarchy allowed Alsace to have significant autonomy under the French crown during the 18th century, and their status outside the French customs system allowed Alsatian cities to develop a flourishing transit trade. The administrative incorporation of Alsace into France was completed by the French Revolution (1789), when the area became the department of Bas-Rhin and its existence as a separate province was ended.

A coalition of German states, led by Prussia, defeated France during the Franco-German War that raged 1870-1871 and created a unified Germany. Alsace was detached from France and became part of the German Empire. Following the defeat of Germany in World War I, Alsace and part of the region of Lorraine were returned to France under the Treaty of Versailles. Germany again annexed Alsace in the early 1940s but Alsace was returned to France after the end of World War II.

The historical language of Alsace is Alsatian, a mostly Alemannic Germanic dialect. The people of Alsace continued to speak Alsatian after Alsace was officially incorporated into France, but the use of French spread among the upper classes. Today most Alsatians primarily speak French, the official language of France.

At the time of the French Revolution, the predominant population in the Alsatian region where our ancestors lived was of Germanic ethnic origin and most villages and cities had German names. Following the French Revolution, some place names were changed. For example, Lützelstein, Alsace became La Petite Pierre, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France.

The dates listed in Part One are Julian in Germany before about 1697 and in Pennsylvania before 1752. England and its colonies were slow to adopt the Gregorian calendar. During the French Revolution, the French Republican calendar was introduced to start a new era devoid of all Catholic religious associations. The Republican Calendar (initially called the French Revolutionary Calendar) was adopted on 5 October 1793 and used until 1 January 1806. This is important to know because some dates in our family's history are recorded in official French records under the Republican Calendar system. The dates listed in Part One of the 1994 edition using the Republican Calendar system are shown in this updated book two ways: first by the Republican Calendar dates and then the converted dates under the Gregorian calendar as shown inside parentheses marks.

Our earliest proven ancestors were documented by records kept by Alsatian churches and in tax records. In the early records, the letter "b" may mean born or baptized. The French Revolution serves as a dividing point for several changes in how this book lists data. First, dates were recorded under different calendar systems before, during and after the revolution. Second, some place names changed. Third, official French records discontinued use of the German symbol "ß" (double "s") after the Alsace region officially became part of France. After Alsace's assimilation into France, use of the Enßminger surname was discontinued in official French records. Today, the Ensminger descendants of Anthon Meyer mostly spell their surname Ensminger or Entsminger. A lesser number of descendants from this line became Entzminger or Ensinger.

The Alsatian city where our ancestors lived is referred to as both Hambach and Waldhambach. After Alsace's assimilation into France, the Hambach in Alsace where our ancestors lived became Hambach, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France. There was already a Hambach in the Moselle province of France. To eliminate confusion, the Hambach in Bas-Rhin became Waldhambach in 1890. References in this book generally use Hambach, Alsace prior to 1789;

Hambach, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France 1789-1890, and Waldhambach, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France starting in 1891. All three names refer to the same city.

The area from which the 7 Ensminger siblings came to America 1730-1750 is referred to in this book as Alsace. The Ensmingers who came to America from that area after the French Revolution were French citizens who emigrated from Alsace, France. Whether our immigrant ancestors were considered Alsatians or French citizens depends on what year they left the old country. Regardless of the political boundaries of the region and the timing of when our ancestors immigrated, our Ensminger ancestors are of German ethnic origin. The area from which they came, once called Alsace, became part of the department of Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France. The French legislature passed territorial reform in 2014 that resulted in the merger of the Alsace administrative region with Champagne-Ardenne and Lorraine to form Alsace-Champagne-Ardenne-Lorraine.

Information about our family's history has been documented for more than 400 years through church and government records. Those records show births, baptisms, christenings, confirmations, marriages, divorces, deaths, burials, census information, immigration, military service, property ownership and taxes. Additional data have been recorded in newspapers, biographies and family records.

Prehistory Origins

DNA testing and the mapping of migration patterns allows population geneticists to look deeper into the past and identify our ancestors' prehistoric migration path. A DNA sample was submitted to the National Geographic Society's Genographic Project 2.0 for testing. The results of that Y-Chromosome DNA test identified the prehistory origin and migration pattern of our family. This information is relevant to each male Ensminger in this book who has a continuous biological line of descent from Ensminger father to Ensminger son. The Y-Chromosome DNA test results are summarized in Appendix 3.

Migration Patterns and Occupations in America

Our ancestors arrived in America at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and originally settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. At the time of the American Revolutionary War, our ancestors lived mostly in Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland. The four original immigrant brothers (Peter, Nicholas, Henry and David) were either deceased or too old to join militias. Four of their children and 11 of their grandchildren served in militias during the war. Their names are shown in Part One of this book on page 25.

Between the time of the Revolutionary War and the American Civil War, our family spread into other states. Initially they moved mostly to Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. Pennsylvania had higher concentrations of Ensmingers than any other state for many years and perhaps still does. Families often lived in the same community for several generations, but when a man moved to another location, he was often accompanied or soon followed by other family members, including parents, siblings, uncles and cousins, each with his own family. The Ensminger family moved steadily westward through the 1800s to settle new lands and seek fresh starts. Our ancestors were often among the earliest non-native settlers in several Midwestern and western states. Some of our ancestors founded new communities and were often leading citizens who made their communities stronger through their commitment to faith, family, hard work, community service and local politics. While many Ensmingers led everyday lives, others played leading roles in civic, fraternal, and professional organizations. Whether or not our ancestors were highly educated, a manager or a laborer, they were honest, hardworking people.

Census records and historical accounts show our ancestors were farmers, blacksmiths, masons, carpenters, sawyers, millers, miners and leather workers. There were railroad engineers and firemen, and workers in steel and textile mills and auto plants. There were government workers including members of the military, civil service, law enforcement, post office, Foreign Service, and political office. There were members of the clergy, some of whom served missions in foreign lands. There were engineers, doctors, lawyers, accountants, bankers, manufacturers, printers, merchants, grocers, mechanics, plumbers, teachers and countless other professions. The 1940 censuses show many worked for the Work Projects Administration "WPA" to carry out public works projects. Unless widowed with no family to provide financial support, women generally did not work outside the home until the early 1900s. Prior to the WW II era, job opportunities for women who worked outside the home or off the farm were usually limited to school teachers, nurses, store clerks, weavers in textile mills, and housekeepers. Some widows who needed to work managed the family farm or worked at home as a home laundress or tailor.

The Ensmingers have shown outstanding patriotism and loyalty to their country in America. Many members of our family served in the military during our nation's military conflicts. Some paid the ultimate sacrifice during their service while others were decorated or earned pensions. Our ancestors performed military service during the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, in Korea, and in

Vietnam. Members of our family served during the American Civil War on both sides of the conflict. Some were killed, captured and held as prisoners of war, or died as a result of injuries or disease contracted during the conflict. Although our family members fought on both sides of the Civil War, no documentation has been found that Anthon Meyer's male Ensminger descendants owned slaves. The inborn German tradition of being hard working and industrious no doubt established a sense of pride in performing one's own labor.

Updating the Book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*

Additional information from Ensminger descendants and new data through Internet access to census and other public records has expanded the information that could be added to an updated Ensminger family genealogy book. A decision was made to update the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*. The contents of the 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* are incorporated into this revised edition. This revised edition builds on the existing work but was restructured to better accommodate the presentation of new information and make it easier to trace anyone's lineage from one generation to the next, forward or backward.

The new generations in this book were identified through several means. The data provided during the last two decades to John Kurt Ensminger were reviewed. Records from other sources were reviewed and compared, including census records, draft registration records, military records, birth, marriage, and death records, historical biographies, family histories, obituaries, burial records, newspaper stories and family trees. Many people were listed in different records under a first, middle, or nickname and names were often recorded wrong. Records contain conflicting information about the full name, birth, marriage and death dates, ages, or place of birth for many people. Conflicting information was usually resolved after weighing the source and the amount of evidence. It should be understood that the information contained in this publication is only as accurate as the source material from which it came. For any errors in names, dates or other information, we ask your pardon. Many families were identified by piecing together separate clues from two or more sources. The middle initial of a married woman on census records and cemetery headstones is often the first letter of her maiden name rather than a true middle name. This initial gave the vital clue that helped identify many maiden names and parents. Inconsistent listing of names in older records casts some doubt about the correct order of given names.

Another source for information used in this book comes from a 1992 book by Donald Edwin Ensminger titled *On and On to Eternity, a Record of the Ensminger Family in America*, third edition dated 1992. Donald is a 5th great grandson of Nicholas Ensminger 23. He was proud of his surname and wanted to research its heritage in America. He spent many years researching, conducted numerous personal interviews with Ensminger family members, wrote hundreds of letters and had numerous telephone conversations. He traveled thousands of miles to visit government offices, organizations and institutions to view records, books and microfilm.

The lineage for the earliest generations shown in the *On and On to Eternity* book is flawed for both the Ensmingers of Pennsylvania and the Ensmingers of Louisiana. The general consensus among researchers prior to 1994 was that Hans and his son Carl were the ancestors of the Ensmingers who immigrated to Pennsylvania. In 1993, Brendan Wehrung's research of church records discovered that lineage connection was incorrect.

The Ensmingers of Pennsylvania descend from seven Ensminger siblings who emigrated from Alsace to Philadelphia between 1730 and 1750. Those siblings are children of Philipp Jr Ensminger (b 1666, d ca 1730). The first five generations of this family lived in Alsace in the vicinity of Hambach (later renamed Waldhambach). The true surname was initially Meyer.

The first five generations of the Anthon Meyer Ensminger family lived in Alsace:

Anthon Meyer b ca 1545, d 1604.

Hans Meyer b 1575, d 1621.

Hans Georg Ensminger b 1620, d 1708.

Philipp Sr Ensminger b 1640, d 1712.

Philipp Jr Ensminger b 1666, d ca 1730.

The Hans and Carl mentioned above in the *On and On to Eternity* book are Hans Gerber and Carl Gerber. They are ancestors of another Ensminger family who lived in Diemeringen, Alsace; the true surname was initially Gerber. Some of Hans Gerber's descendants emigrated from Alsace to South Carolina and New York. Regarding the Ensmingers of Louisiana, the *On and On to Eternity* book is correct that the Ensmingers who settled in the Louisiana delta came from South Carolina. Not much is known about the Frederick (mentioned in the *On and On to Eternity* book) who came to America in 1751 from Alsace after landing in Philadelphia. If he had sons named Peter, Christian and Frederick Ensminger, there is no evidence they migrated to South Carolina from Pennsylvania. In any case, David W Ensminger b ca 1788 did not descend from the Frederick who came to America in 1751.

The South Carolina Ensminger family descends from Christian Ensminger (b ca 1709, d 1755) who emigrated directly from Alsace to South Carolina. In South Carolina, the surname became Entzminger. Christian's grandson, David W Ensminger b ca 1788, d 1844, migrated from South Carolina to Louisiana. The first five generations of ancestors of the Ensmingers of Louisiana family lived in Alsace. Christian Sr (generation six) emigrated to South Carolina and he and his son Christian (generation seven) continued to live there.

The first seven generations of the Peter Gerber Ensminger family:

Peter Gerber d 1597.

Hans Gerber/Einsminger b 1577, d 1630.

Carl Ensminger b 1605, d 1666.

Adam Ensminger b ca 1630, d 1693.

Peter Ensminger b ca 1676, d ca 1721.

Christian Ensminger b ca 1709, d 1755.

Christian Ensminger b ca 1752, d ca 1805.

Some lines in the On and On Book are vague or incomplete, likely because Donald did not visit certain areas to conduct his research or due to nonresponse to his inquiries. There are a few other lineage errors in his book and some people were placed in the wrong family but in general Donald's research was very thorough. We are grateful for the information in his book which helped this writer supplement or validate some information.

This revised edition is an extension of the initial research done by Raymond Martin Bell, Brendan R Wehrung and John Kurt Ensminger. As Dr. Bell acknowledged, many other people have helped in the collection of this data and we are grateful for their assistance. This updated edition builds on the existing work but was restructured and sections renumbered. This was done to capture people missed in the earlier books and to better accommodate the presentation of new information. This book is also divided into several parts, including this preface. The information from the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* is spread among the various parts. The focus of Part One is historical events. Part Two contains the lineage of the descendants of Anthon Meyer. Part Three contains historical data and the lineage of Christian Ensminger, a descendant of Peter Gerber. Part Three includes the Entzminger family of South Carolina and its Ensminger family branch of Louisiana.

The numbering system in this book is similar to the system used in the 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*, but each generation is presented in a separate section. Anthon Meyer, who was born about 1545 and died 1604, is the earliest known ancestor in this Ensminger line and he alone makes up Generation One. Anthon's existence was undiscovered when the 1994 edition of the book *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* was completed. As noted earlier, John Kurt Entsminger found evidence to document the father (Anthon Meyer) and siblings of Hans Meyer der Einssminger.

Some new information about the Anthon Meyer family has been added and placed in appendixes. The appendixes are attached to the book following Part Two in order to group together all parts of the book related to Anthon Meyer. Appendix 1 contains ship manifests that document immigration to America and the oaths of allegiance the immigrants were required to take. Appendix 2 includes German language records and photographs of places in Alsace where Anthon Meyer and his descendants lived. Appendix 3 summarizes Y-Chromosome DNA test results that identify the prehistoric origin and prehistory migration pattern of Ensminger men.

This book retains the title *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*. General reference to the Ensminger family includes descendants with the surnames of Ensminger, Entsminger, Entzminger and Ensinger.

In the 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* and also in this revised edition given names are anglicized. Call names are used which normally were the middle names in Alsace and early America: (John) Peter Ensminger is Peter Ensminger; (Mary) Catharine Ensminger is Catharine Ensminger. English clerks often in error listed the first name of the individual. This revised edition uses full names for more recent generations to better differentiate between men with the same call names. Beginning in the early 1900s the call name is usually the first name.

The 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* was divided into two parts. Part One (prepared with the assistance of Brendan R Wehrung) deals with Ensminger origins in the then German province of Elsaß (Alsace, France after the conclusion of the 30 Years War) through preparations for emigration. Part Two deals with Ensmingers of the United States.

The portion of the 1994 edition that discusses the preparation for emigration, ships voyages, the several families that connect to the Ensminger family, and early life in America is included in Part One of this revised edition.

Part One of this revised edition, like the 1994 edition, presents the emergence of two separate Ensminger lines. The line of Hans Meyer, son of Anthon Meyer, is associated with the Village of Waldhambach, Alsace. The line of Hans Gerber, son of Peter Gerber, is associated with the Village of Diemeringen, Alsace. The lineage for the first six generations of the family of Peter Gerber is included in Part One and picked up again in Part Three.

It is unfortunate so many today have such little knowledge of our history. Our ancestors were a distinctive people. Old photos and stories are priceless and many life stories are compelling reading. We encourage everyone to keep a family record so future generations can always trace their families back to those recorded in this book.

New Information

As Dr. Bell stated in his 1994 work, any genealogical book is subject to revision. The public release of more information during the last two decades has led to the discovery of previously missing surnames and helped correct data. Family trees and written biographical sketches has further enabled names and dates to be cross-checked. Several lineage corrections and possible connections have been discovered by review of this new data and are presented below. The following references to "Sec (#), page _" refer to sections in the 1994 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania*.

Lineage Corrections

1. Nicolaus Ensminger (b Oct 1642, d 21 Apr 1712) in Part One of the 1994 edition, pages 13, 20. Some information in the 1994 edition may have been copied wrong from a review of the church records for Waldhambach and the surrounding villages. Doris Wesner discovered some differences which are noted below.
 - a. Nicolaus Ensminger, listed in section 2) d) in Part One of the 1994 edition, page 21. Elisabetha Bieber and her children belong with a different Nicolaus, listed below in 1. d. Absent this marriage, there is no evidence that Nicolaus in section 2) d) exists or is a son of Nicolaus in section 2). Nicolaus in section 2) d) should be deleted.
 - b. Nicolaus Ensminger, b 1 May 1709, d 4 Sep 1750, listed as section 2) d) in Part One of the 1994 edition, page 23. His listed wives Anna Magdalena Gersheimer and Catharina Elisabetha Dopp and the children belong with a different Nicolaus, listed below in 1. c.
 - c. Nicolaus Ensminger, bp 17 Jan 1697, listed as section 3) b) in Part One of the 1994 edition, page 21. This Nicolaus is the husband of Anna Magdalena Gersheimer and Catharina Elisabetha Dopp and their listed children.
 - d. Nicolaus Ensminger, b 1 May 1709, d 8 Mar 1790, listed as section 3) in Part One of the 1994 edition, page 23. This Nicolaus is the husband of Elisabetha Bieber and the 7 children listed on page 21. There are 2 additional children not included in the 1994 edition, the oldest Catharina Elisabetha, and the youngest Christina Magdalena.
2. David Ensminger (b 1710 and d 1770) [Part Two of the 1994 edition, page 31]. Henry b 1761, Catharine b 1763, and Peter b 1767 were listed as David's grandchildren by his son David Jr (b 1738, d 1785). Henry, Catharine, and Peter are now believed to be the three youngest children of David (1719-1770) and younger siblings of David Jr. Mary, listed as married to Carl Imhoff and the oldest child of David Sr may not be David's child; verification is needed. David's Sr's children are now listed as David Jr b 1738, Susanna b 1745, Christine b 1753, (Catharine) Barbara b 1757, Henry b 1761, Catharine b 1763, and Peter b 1767. David Jr's children are now listed as Elizabeth b 1772, Susanna b 1778, and David III b 1780.
3. Andrew Ensminger b 1799 [Part Two of the 1994 edition, Sec (9), page 40]. He did not have a dau Mary Anna b 24 Aug 1838, d 17 Oct 1876 who m Thomas B Lewis. Andrew and his second wife Mary (1807-1842) did have 2 daughters named Mary - Mary Jane b Apr 1835 m Henry Niebaum and Mary Angeline b 22 Jan 1837 m Ira Huffman. The wife of Thomas B Lewis is Mary Ann Ensminger b 28 Aug 1846, d 17 Oct 1876. The 1994 edition lists Mary Ann with two children - Luceann and Flora. "Luceann" is shown on the 1870 census for Shelbyville, IN as "Lucean." However, the 1870 census record clearly shows the child's name is a male named St. Clair, not Lucean. Mary Ann, married to Thomas Lewis and the mother of St. Clair and Flora, is the dau of Andrew's brother Philip Ensminger b 1801 [Sec (10), pages 40-42] and Mary Polly Ballard. St. Clair is named after his mother's brother - St. Clair Ensminger (1827-1914).

The 1994 edition of this book confuses two first cousins - Henry Ensminger **90** and Philip Henry Ensminger **99**.

4. Henry Ensminger **90** b 1803 is listed in Part Two of the 1994 edition, Sec (22), page 51, as the son of Jacob (1759-1837) and Magdalena Wolf. He is listed in the 1994 edition as married to Maria Moyer. Henry **90** did not marry Maria Moyer. Henry **90** married a Catherine and they are parents of Andrew, George and Elisa. Henry's family was in Mifflin, Cumberland Co., PA 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880. Henry's father Jacob and his brothers Jacob

and George appear to have lived in Mifflin, Cumberland Co., PA their entire lives. The 3 brothers were on census records there from 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880. A fourth brother, John, died 1852 in Guilford, Franklin Co., PA.

5. Philip Henry Ensminger **99** is listed in Part Two of the 1994 edition, in paragraph 7. b. xi, page 22. Philip Henry **99** is the correct husband of Maria Moyer, his second wife. The children numbered 1 through 7 as listed in Part Two of the 1994 edition, Sec (22), page 51, are those of Philip Henry **99** Maria Moyer. Philip Henry moved his family to Stark Co., Ohio 1835-1838 where his 5 youngest children were born. His marriage to Maria Moyer and his death date are documented in the Thompson Family Tree, Ancestry.com user 1_cenger. Maria's location in McLean Co., IL is well documented by census records, McLean Co., IL history and records of her descendants. Maria (Moyer) Ensminger was in Bloomington, McLean Co., IL 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. Maria Ensminger, a widow, married John Hargis Rhodes 18 Mar 1863 per published McLean Co., IL history. Maria's 7 children listed in Sec (22) were married in McLean Co., IL and, like Maria, lived in Bloomington. The Illinois Death Records for Henry Sylvanus Ensminger and Sabina (Ensminger) Moore list their father as Philip Henry Ensminger. Henry Sylvanus' mother is listed as Maria Moyers and Sabina's mother is listed as Maria Meyers. Maria's maiden name is misspelled in both instances. The Find a Grave memorial record for Philip's daughter Harriet states she was the daughter of Philip Henry and Maria Ensminger and that she was one of their seven children that traveled to Bloomington, IL by covered wagon in 1849.

The family information shown in Part Two of the 1994 edition, in paragraph 7. b. xi, page 22, includes three more possible sons - David, Andrew and Henry. Henry, discussed in the following paragraph, is Henry Ensminger **194**, a son of Philip Henry **99** and his first wife Sarah Berkey. Maria Moyer (born 16 Dec 1814) was too young to be the mother of Henry b 1827. Andrew is listed in this book as a possible son of Philip Henry **99** and Sarah Berkey. David appears to be David Ensminger **218**, married to Polly Ward and the son of David Ensminger **116** and Hannah Stripe.

6. Henry Ensminger **194** is listed as Henry b 1828 in Part Two of the 1994 edition on page 75. Although listed on page 75 as a possible son of Henry and Maria Moyer, he is a son of Philip Henry **99** and Sarah Berkey. Henry **194** was born 5 Mar 1827 and married Lydia Biesecker in Jenner, Somerset Co., PA. Their 27 Feb 1853 marriage in Somerset Co., PA is recorded on a list of Pennsylvania Marriages, 1852-1854. The transcribed marriage record lists Henry and his father as Hemminger. Henry's mother is listed as Sarah Berkey; his wife is listed as Lydia Beesecker, daughter of Fredrick and May (Mary) Biesecker. Frederick Biesecker is the spelling on his headstone. Frederick's Find a Grave memorial names his wife as Anna Maria "Mary" Betz and lists 7 children but not Lydia. Lydia is listed in their household on the 1850 census, 3 years before she married Henry. Henry moved to Tama Co., Iowa while his half brothers and sisters went with their mother to McLean Co., IL. Philip Henry m Sarah Berkey and Maria Moyer. Henry's son Dennis was married twice. The record of Dennis' m1 to Cecilia Angelia Mundhenk records his mother's surname as Busecker. The record for Dennis's m2 to Mrs. Margaret Luttle lists his mother's name as Lydia Biesecker. The record for the marriage of Henry's daughter Lydia (listed by her nickname Linnie) lists her mother as Lydia Beseckers. This book lists Lydia's surname as Biesecker.

Confirmed Lineage Connection

7. David Robert Entsminger b 4 Sep 1839 Rockbridge Co., VA, d 3 Aug 1867 Lexington, Rockbridge Co., VA had 2 children b out of wedlock according to a descendant. David Robert is David b 1840, son of Alexander b 1807 - Sec (52), page 71. David Robert m Mary Jane Morris b ca 1842 Rockbridge Co., VA, d 30 Jan 1862 Colliertown, Rockbridge Co., VA. They had two Issue: Mary Elizabeth and John Alexander (who died in infancy). After Mary Jane Morris died, Phoebe Goodbar (dau of Joseph Goodbar and Martha Robinson) moved in with David to help raise his daughter. David and Phoebe had 2 children born out of wedlock (Robert David and Charles Harvey "Homer" Entsminger). After David Robert died, Phoebe m Samuel Vest. Robert and Charles were in Samuel and Phoebe's household in 1870, listed under the Vest surname. Mary Elizabeth Entsminger was raised by her maternal grandparents (John Jr Morris and Elizabeth Vess). Phoebe died 1875 and her sons went to live with relatives. Robert David and Charles Homer lived near each other in Kerrs Creek, Rockbridge Co., VA 1900. A granddaughter of David Robert was told David fathered 2 girls born out of wedlock by Phoebe Goodbar but the children were boys (Robert David and Charles Homer). The VA Death Certificate for Charles confirms he is Charles Harvey Entsminger, the son of David Entsminger and Phoebe Goodbar.

Probable Lineage Connections

8. Emanuel Ensminger b 1777 PA d 1832 IL was determined to be a son of John Michael Ensminger (1735-1822) and Mary Holbrin for reasons explained below. Emanuel m Catherine Davenport b 1777 VA. The family lived in Equality, Gallatin Co., IL and Marion, Williamson Co., IL. Emanuel has to descend from one of 3 possible people:
 - (i) One of 4 brothers that immigrated to America: Peter (1733), Nicholas (1738), Henry (1741), David (1750);
 - (ii) Frederick (1751) nat Philadelphia 1765, taxed in Brecknock Twp., PA 1779 and in Paxton Twp., PA 1780;
 - (iii) John (1753) in Philadelphia, PA 1779.

Not much is known about Frederick or John and Emanuel could have descended from one of them. However, evidence shows Emanuel is a descendant of Peter Ensminger (1694-1739). Peter's son John Michael (1735-1822) had a son Samuel (1763-1840). Samuel in turn had a son Emanuel (1812-1863). Children of this era were often named after their parents or siblings of their parents. Samuel's son Emanuel (1812-1863) could be named after his presumed uncle Emanuel (1777-1832). This conclusion is supported by the Wilson-Boenker Family Tree on Ancestry.com, owner: Lambsedivey, which lists Emanuel Ensminger as the son of John Michael Ensminger and Mary Holbrin. This relationship was further established by the research completed by Donald Edwin Ensminger and documented in his 1992 book *On and On to Eternity*. This revised edition lists Emanuel as a possible son of John Michael.

9. Alfred B Ensminger was b 10 Sep 1825 OH (of parents b PA) and d 1 Oct 1891 Van Wert, Van Wert Co., OH. There are limited possibilities for Alfred's father. The two most likely possibilities are George Frederick Ensminger 77 and Peter Ensminger 139. Several Ancestry trees George Frederick Ensminger 77 as the father of an Alfred b 1821 but list nothing more. The Bails-Judge Family Tree, owner: BailsSaelzler lists Alfred B Ensminger as the son of George Frederick Ensminger 77. That tree shows Alfred with much of the same information discovered by this book, including vital dates, his 3rd wife Eliza Greek, and 4 of his sons. Alfred was not found on the 1850 census and no record was found that names his parents. Alfred was considered to be a possible son of Peter Ensminger 139 based purely on speculation. An 1840 census record for Peter Ensminger 139 in Newberry, York Co., PA listed a male child age 10-14 which fits Alfred. However, the descendants of Peter Ensminger 139 remained in York County, PA and Alfred B was born in OH. This revised edition is persuaded by the Bails-Judge Family Tree and lists Alfred as a son of George Frederick Ensminger 77.

Unidentified People

10. A John Ensminger immigrated to Philadelphia 14 Sep 1753 on the Ship Edinburgh (see Part One, page 14). Johannes is listed at age 29 on a list of communicants at St. Michael's Lutheran Congregation in 1760, so he was born about 1731. Friederich Ensminger's name is written right after John's on that 1760 list. Johannes Ensminger and Dorothea Weiss were married 27 Jan 1767 at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA. John Ensminger is listed on two separate Pennsylvania Tax and Exoneration lists for Mulberry Ward, Philadelphia, PA in 1779. A Dorothy Ensminger was found in Philadelphia, PA in 1790; there were 3 members in her family. John's connection to the Ensminger family has not been identified.
11. A Frederick Ensminger immigrated to Philadelphia 16 Sep 1751 on the Ship Brothers (see Part One, page 14). A Friederich Ensminger was found on lists of communicants at St. Michael's Lutheran Congregation in 1759 (age 24) and 1760 (age 25). Frederick was born about 1735. Friederich's name was also listed right after Johannes' name on the 1760 list of communicants referenced above that listed Johannes, so they are likely close relatives, possibly brothers. A Frederick was naturalized at Philadelphia in 1765; one was taxed in Brecknock Twp., PA 1779 and in Paxton Twp., PA in 1780. Frederick's connection to the Ensminger family has not been identified.
12. William K Ensminger b 16 Mar 1849 PA, d 30 Nov 1910 Clay, Lancaster Co. PA; unmd. He was a blacksmith, listed as a veterinary surgeon in 1910. He was in Clay Township, Lancaster Co., PA 1860, 1870, 1900, 1910. His PA death certificate states his parents were unknown. He is bur Brunnerville Cem., Brunnerville, Lancaster Co., PA.
13. Harriet Amanda Ensminger b 18 Mar 1835 Hancock Co., OH, d 11 May 1900 Wood Co., OH m 5 Jun 1852 (Hancock Co., OH) Daniel Wheatstone (son of Peter Whetstone and Susan Shong) b 9 Jan 1831 OH, d 16 May 1902 Wood Co., OH. She lived in Liberty, Wood Co., OH 1860; Bowling Green, Wood Co., OH 1870, 1880; Milton, Jackson Co., OH 1900. He was a carpenter and a U.S. Civil War veteran. They are bur Oak Grove Cem., Bowling Green, OH. They had 8 children. Her husband Daniel was in Portage, Hancock Co., OH in 1850 and at least one of her children was born there. She is listed as Harriet Amanda Ensminger on her marriage record but no birth, death or census record was found that names her parents. She may be related to George Frederick Ensminger 77 because George Frederick and his children also lived at times in Portage, OH.

Order of Arrangement and Explanatory Notes

In order to ensure a systematic arrangement and facilitate reference, this book arranges descendants by generations. The patriarch of this family - Anthon Meyer - alone makes up the first generation. His sons Hans Meyer², Anthon Meyer³, Mathis Meyer Forester⁴, Nicholas⁵ and Lorenz make up the second generation. The grandchildren of Anthon Meyer make up the third generation, the great grandchildren of Anthon Meyer make up the fourth generation, and so on through succeeding generations. Each generation is arranged in a separate section within Part Two of this book. The small figure to the right of each man's name (superscript font size) indicates that man's generation. This new arrangement of lineages by generations will make future updates of this book easier to accomplish.

After the name of a man, known facts are listed that may include his spouse(s), their birth dates, marriage dates, death dates, occupations, burial locations and other facts of special interest. Below the name of the head of the household appears the names of any children, all of which are numbered with lower case Roman numerals, e.g., i, ii, iii, and so forth.

An Ensminger (male or female) with an Ensminger surnamed son is given a section number to carry the lineage of the son(s) forward to the next generation. Information about a woman without an Ensminger surnamed son is also listed under the woman's father. Information about Ensminger women and their descendants is limited to 3 generations: the daughter and her spouse(s), the daughter's children and their spouse(s), and the daughter's grandchildren and their spouse(s). In the third generation (grandchildren) – the information is limited to just names for living people, but birth and death dates are included for people known or presumed to be deceased. This more limited information in generation three helps keep the book more concise and keeps the focus of the book on the Ensminger surname.

The Arabic number preceding a man's or woman's name and the plus sign (+) following the name indicate that the record is carried forward to another generation.

The "+" symbol following a person's name indicates that no further information about the individual is known.

The following abbreviations are used: "aft" means after, "appl'n" means application, "b" means birth, "bef" means before, "bp" means baptism, "bur" means buried, "c" means christening, "ca" (circa) means around or about, "conf" means confirmation, "dau" means daughter, "DOB" means date of birth, "GAR" means Grand Army of the Republic, "invalid" pension means a disability pension, "m" means married or marriage, "unmd" means unmarried, "nat" means naturalized, "n.c." means no children, "poss" means possibly, "WPA" means Work Projects Administration, "WW I" means World War I, "WW II" means World War II.

As a key to the method of tracing one's ancestry back to Anthon Meyer¹ one may refer to the record of Peter Ensminger. The record will show the number 11 before the name of Peter's father Philipp Jr. Turning back to the record for Philipp Jr will show the number 8 before the name of Philipp Jr's father Philipp Sr, and so forth back to the name of Anthon Meyer. Descendants can be traced the opposite way by turning forward to the numbers for the sons of Peter and succeeding generations. Using this method, once the desired name is located, any line can be traced backward or forward entirely by the numbers.

The book limits information about people presumed to be living to names. A lot of information is available in public records but this book has chosen not to include personal information about living people.

Search Feature

This digital book is searchable. After opening this book with a pdf reader, a keyboard shortcut will open a "Find" window so the reader can search the document. For a PC, press the Ctrl + F key. For a MAC, press the Command + F key. The search feature will find all exact matches, whether or not in bold type and is not case sensitive. For example, a search for "John George Ensminger" (1744-1815), son of Henry Ensminger (1723-1790) will find him in Part Two, on page 22, listed as a son of Peter in Generation Six and again as the head of household on page 31 in Generation Seven.

Distribution and Use of this book

This 2017 edition of *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* is over 700 pages in an Ariel font, size 9. Its large size makes it impractical to publish and distribute the book in a printed edition. The book is only available in a pdf format document. The book has been provided to leading genealogy websites in the United States from where it will be a free download. The book can be downloaded, saved, and copied but it is write-protected to prevent others from creating and circulating different versions.

Once the entire book is downloaded, a person can print the entire book or only the portions of special interest.

Disclaimer: The purpose of this book is to create a historical record to help descendants of the Ensminger family learn about their heritage. The use of any name in this book to market products or proselytize living people or to do posthumous baptisms for deceased people is not sanctioned by the authors of this book.

Contact Information to Contribute New information or Offer a Correction

John Kurt Ensminger and others - including David Ensminger, a descendant of Peter Ensminger **22** - are continuing Ensminger family research. Dr. Bell updated his original book several times and it may be updated again in the future when there is sufficient new information to justify another revision. If someone wishes to contribute new information or offer a correction, we ask that you contact David Ensminger. David Ensminger will maintain the collection of new information or corrections and hold them for future reference. The new information or corrections will be reviewed in the future if and when the book is updated again. David's contact address:

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THE SURNAME

Various authorities believe that the present surname, commonly spelled Ensminger but having several variations, once denoted a former inhabitant of Insming, a village now found in the Department of Moselle, France, but once part of the Duchy of Lorraine).

Gustav Matthis in his book *Die Leiden der Evangelischen in der Grafschaft Sarrwerden* (Strasbourg, 1888) stated: *Ensminger von Dorfe Insmingen in Lothringen herrührend.*

The secretary of the mayor of Albestroff, 3 km southwest of Insming wrote to John K. Entsminger of Cleveland on April 18, 1978:

Il est possible que votre nom de famille 'Ensminger' soit dérivé de Insming. En effet, autrefois Insming se nommait 'Ensmingen' 'Ensminger' signifierait 'habitant d'Ensmingen'.

Variations of the name include Entsminger, which is found in Virginia, and Entzminger in South Carolina. Peter was known as Entzminger in Mattstall, his last place of European residence, and in 1733 signed Enßminger, namely Enszminger. All spellings, Alsatian or American, have the same pronunciation, "ENTS-MINGER."

In Alsace and Pennsylvania the family was Lutheran (Evangelical Protestant). Now scattered world-wide, all persons bearing this surname are likely to share a common place of origin.

INSMING

Although a small village today, Insming has a long history. The site was known as early as the 8th century, appearing on ancient deeds under such names as Asmangia, Esmings, Ensmings, Amange, Ensmingen and Seel-Ensmingen. Located on the border shared by the Roman Catholic bishoprics of Metz and Strasbourg, Ensmingen's political alliances would shift between Lorraine and Alsace. As described in Rev. Canon Kirschving and Pastor Abbe Antoni in their *Histoire d'une ville: Insming, 1100--1945*, a chapel dedicated to Notre Dame d'Amange (Our Lady of Ensmingen) was tended by Benedictine clerics. At the beginning of the 12th century the priory was subservient to the abbey of Saint-Mihiel (near Verdun), the land upon which it stood at various times owned by dependents of the Duke of Burgundy or the Duke of Lorraine (specifically in the 13th and 14th centuries, the lord at Finstingen--now Fénétrange), who would have prized it for its fortifications. In both religious and temporal matters Ensmingen was responsible for the welfare of several surrounding villages. Physically, it was surrounded by a ditch walled on both sides (a double rampart), entered by either of two gates fitted with a drawbridge. The central square or plaza was dominated by a massive tower believed to have been 100 ft. tall and having walls a meter thick. The market at Ensmingen (probably held weekly) was important enough that until the beginning of the 17th century it took place under the roof of a purpose-built market hall. Ensmingen also held exclusive right to market salt to the nearby countryside, a right one family held until the Revolution.

The major and traumatic event of the succeeding period was invasion by Swedish troops in 1637 (during the 30 Years War), during which the entire religious community was slaughtered, with church and cloister leveled to the ground. While the walls surrounding the village were taken by storming, the central tower resisted until the ensuing siege was abandoned by the Swedes.

Ensmingen itself never recovered from these events; the village declined to a parish, the outer walls were demolished during the reign of Louis XIV, and the remains of the tower were destroyed by explosives in 1844. Whatever records might have been kept were lost during these violent times. In any case, the ones to later bear the Ensminger surname had already left. Although any number of reasons might be suggested, the most likely is religious difference, in the form of Evangelical Protestantism, with the Catholic curate of Ensmingen.

TWO MEN NAMED HANS

In 1993, Brendan Wehrung, who was pursuing detailed studies of early Ensminger families in Diemeringen and Waldhambach, discovered a 1977 series of indexes of various church books of that era by Dr. Gerhard Hein collectively titled *Die Einwohner Krummen Elsaß und seiner Umgebung vor 1700*. Mr. Wehrung had earlier noted the appearance of a Hans Einssminger in the church book for Bockenheim, as well as Hans Ensminger of Diemeringen, heretofore presumed to be the first to bear that surname. Using Diemeringen records alone, a line of descent can be traced from Hans of Diemeringen to Ensmingers who emigrated to the United States--but cannot be connected to those of Waldhambach.

Dr. Hein suggests a different scenario, in which two men names Hans--of different surname and occupation--came to be called "Einsminger," presumably because of their place of origin. Dr. Hein presents the following:

(1)

Hans Meyer "der Einssminger" (died before 29 Aug 1621 in Bockenheim) who fathered 12 children. The oldest, Margaret, was born 10 October 1601; the 11th was George, b 23 April 1620, presumably father of the three Waldhambach brothers. His is today the earliest surviving historical record bearing a person clearly traceable as an Ensminger--Hans was a godparent on 29 August 1598.

(2)

Hans Gerber/Einsminger (died 26 Dec 1630 in Diemeringen). He married Christina Gut on 17 Jun 1600. Hans' son Carl was the father of Adam of Diemeringen, born 24 Jan 1630. Hans of Diemeringen was the first to be associated, in 1605, with "Ensminger" used as a surname.

The exciting aspect of Dr. Hein's scenario is that he places both men later to be known as Hans Ensminger in family settings. While this presents certain problems, not the least of which is whether they shared a blood tie (an unanswerable question since no records exist to tell us), it also resolves certain inconsistencies found in earlier presentations which sought to combine Ensminger records from Bockenheim with those of Diemeringen.

It now seems clear that, from the beginning of the 17th century, Ensminger families of Diemeringen had no close ties to those first found in Bockenheim (later Waldhambach, Mattstall and the United States).

Ensmingers still live in this region in Bettwiller, Burbach, Diemeringen, Drulingen, Harskirchen, Hoenheim, La Petite Pierre, Mundolsheim, Strasbourg, Schillersdorf, Schiltigheim and Waldhambach. Historical records exist for their ancestry in Adamswiller (1731-1778), Bettwiller, Büthen (1749-1787), Diedendorf (1698-1787), Domfessel (1624, 1628), Drulingen, Durstel, Langensoultzbach, Lorentzen (1698-1759), La Petite Pierre (Lützelstein) (1746-1766), Mattstall, Sarre-Union (Bockenheim), Tieffenbach (1735-1761), Volksberg and Wolfskirchen.

ENSMINGER OF DIEMERINGEN

While our interest is concerned with Ensminger ancestry at Waldhambach, the families of Diemeringen cannot be ignored.

Although learned treatises assure us that surnames appeared in the 15th century, it is quite clear from the earliest surviving church records (ca. 1600) of Diemeringen that some people had yet to acquire a permanent second name.

Dr. Gerhard Hein's contention is that Peter Gerber--or perhaps, once gerber (= tanner) of Ensming--had a son Hans, who late in life became known as Hans "of Ensming," that is, the "Einsminger" (as the surname was first spelled). There were a number of Gerber families in Diemeringen, but no other explanation as to why Peter's grandchildren would have adopted a new surname (albeit sporadically at first), nor why Hans' burial record shows him as "Hans Eynsminger der gerber." The oldest child of Hans Gerber was Peter, born 12 Nov 1601. Carl, the first to be consistently identified as "Einsminger," was born 14 July 1605 and died 18 Jul 1666. There were at least eight other children, but infant mortality was high in those days. Plague decimated the Peter Gerber's family in 1597, and several Gerber/Einsminger children died during the 1630's. In addition, fighting associated with the 30 Years War (1618-48) occurred to the south in 1635, by which time the Ensminger surname was firmly attached to the families of Diemeringen.

Although the Ensminger surname was to spread throughout this corner of Alsace over the course of the next century, the Diemeringen branch was to be perpetuated by the thinnest of threads. Of the acknowledged or presumed sons of Hans, Peter's family was virtually wiped out by the end 1633. The high rate of infant mortality may also account for the children of Hermann, although Dr. Hein insists that he should be known as Becker (Hermann the bäcker = baker). In any case, no descendants are traceable by either surname. If nothing else, the 30 Years War made record-keeping almost impossible in some areas.

Adam Ensminger--son of Carl and grandson of Hans--was the survivor from whose parentage most later-born Ensmingers of Diemeringen could trace their ancestry. He also has the distinction of being the great great great grandfather of three emigrants to the United States. A detailed study of this line, proceeding through Adam (1630-1693), Conrad (1711-1775) and Carl (bp 1740) is found in Robert D. Sherry's 1990 book, *An Ensminger Family from Alsace: The Descendants of Conrad Ensminger and Carolina Gaupp from Diemeringen, Alsace, France, Early Settlers of Tonawanda and Amherst Townships, Erie County, New York*.

Diemeringen shares one unfortunate bond with Ensming - both witnessed trial and executions for witchcraft. Synnel, wife of Hans Stumpf, was accused of sorcery in November 1608 and burned alive in Ensming's public square

early the next year. Some 63 years later Diemeringen experienced the same madness, as between 1671 and 1673 a dozen people, many of them elderly widows, were tried, be-headed and their bodies burned. Among that number was Ottilia Ensminger (*vulgo gerber Ottel* = "commonly known as Ottilia the tanner"), widow of Carl Ensminger, the tanner.

It is not known if the replacement of "s" by "ß" (German double "ss") in mid- and late-century church records is significant. Diemeringen records returned to a single "s" in the 18th century. After Alsace's assimilation into France, the Ensminger surname was no longer recorded as Enßminger in official French records. Records for descendants of Peter Gerber reflect how the father's name was written at the child's baptism.

First Six Generations of Peter Gerber's Line

The lineage for the first six generations of Peter Gerber's Diemeringen branch of the Ensminger family is presented below. Surnames for those children reflect how their fathers were named in baptismal, marriage or death records.

THE FIRST GENERATION OF THE ENSMINGER FAMILY DESCENDED FROM PETER GERBER

1 Peter¹ Gerber was born unknown and died 6 Oct 1597. He married Margreth, born unknown and died 21 Sep 1597.

Issue:

- i. **Mathis Gerber/Einsminger**, b and d unknown, godparent listed as "Peter Gerbers Mathis" on 21 Apr 1601.
- ii. **Gertrud Gerber**, b and d unknown, married 5 Feb 1594 Heinrich (son of Hans) Schuhmacher at Bettwiller, Alsace.
- 2** iii. **Hans Gerber/Einsminger**, b and d unknown. +
- iv. **Catharina Einsminger**, b and d unknown, m 24 May 1608 Conrad (son of Martz "der Förster") Förster.
- v. **Margreth Gerber**, bp 19 Dec 1589, d unknown.
- vi. **Nesa Gerber**, bp 23 Sep 1591, d unknown.
- vii. **Peter Gerber**, b and d unknown, bur 3 Jun 1597.
- viii. **Child**, b and d unknown, bur 10 Oct 1597.
- ix. **Siempt Gerber**, b and d unknown, bur 25 Oct 1597.

THE SECOND GENERATION OF THE ENSMINGER FAMILY DESCENDED FROM PETER GERBER

2 Hans² Gerber/Einsminger (Peter¹ Gerber) was born and died unknown and buried 26 Dec 1630. He married 17 Jun 1600 Christina (dau. of Peter) Gut, born and died unknown, buried 2 Jan 1635. Although the Ensminger surname was to spread throughout this corner of Alsace over the course of the next century, the Diemeringen branch was to be perpetuated by the thinnest of threads. Of the acknowledged or presumed sons of Hans, Peter's family was virtually wiped out by the end 1633. The high rate of infant mortality may also account for the children of Hermann, although Dr. Hein insists that Hermann should be known as Becker (Hermann the bäcker = baker). In any case, no descendants are traceable by either surname. If nothing else, the 30 Years War made record-keeping almost impossible in some areas.

Issue:

- 3** i. **Peter Gerber/Einsminger**, b and/or bp 12 Nov 1601 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown. +
- ii. **Margaretha Gerber**, b 12 Sep 1603 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- 4** iii. **Carl Einsminger**, b 14 July 1605 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 18 July 1666 Diemeringen. +
- iv. **Siempt Gerber**, bp 9 Feb 1607 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- v. **Maria Einsminger**, bp 10 Ap 1608 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- vi. **Jacob(?)**, b and ca 1610 Diemeringen, Alsace, godparent 1630, 1631 (Diemeringen).
- 5** vii. **Hans Hermann(?)**, b and ca 1612 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown. +
- viii. **Anna Einsminger**, bp 15 Dec 1625 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 23 Dec 1625 (Diemeringen).
- ix. **Appel Einsminger**, bp 15 Dec 1625 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 10 Jan 1626 (Diemeringen).
- x. **Johannes Gerber**, b 23 Nov 1628 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur Dec 1633 (Diemeringen).
- x. **Anton** - possible son - b and d unknown. Anton is the only unaccounted for Diemeringen-associated Ensminger to appear in a church record near Diemeringen. There was a (1609-1623) gap in

Diemeringen church records. Anton was godparent in Domfessel, Alsace in 1624 and a father (with wife Agnes) of son Anton, bp 16 Nov 1628. Domfessel record keeping ceased in that year, and he did not reappear after they began again. It is not known how (or if) he was related.

**THE THIRD GENERATION
OF THE ENSMINGER FAMILY
DESCENDED FROM PETER GERBER**

3 Peter³ Einsminger (Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) was born and/or baptized 12 Nov 1601 Diemeringen, Alsace, died unknown and was buried 2 Dec 1633 (Diemeringen). He married and was christened (at Diemeringen) Engel, born and died unknown.

Issue:

- i. **Barbara**, b and ca 1626 (Diemeringen, Alsace), d unknown, m 16 Jan 1744 (Diemeringen) Michael Diebold, b and d unknown.
- ii. **Hans**, b and ca 1627 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 4 Dec 1633 Diemeringen.
- iii. **Hans Diebolt Einsminger**, bp 24 Feb 1628 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 15 Mar 1628 Diemeringen.
- iv. **Anna Einsminger**, b and ca 1630 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 3 Mar 1632 Diemeringen.
- v. **Conrad Einsminger**, b and ca 1632 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 4 Dec 1633 Diemeringen.
- vi. **Sebastian Einsminger**, b Jan 1633 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, bur 5 Dec 1633 Diemeringen.

4 Carl³ Einsminger (Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) was baptized 14 July 1605 Diemeringen, Alsace and died 18 July 1666 Diemeringen. He married Ottilia (dau of Adam and Barbara) Bach, born 1 Dec 1608 Voellerdingen, Alsace, died 16 Oct 1673 Diemeringen. As noted earlier, Ottilia was executed after trial for witchcraft.

Issue:

- 6** i. **Adam Einsminger**, bp 24 Jan 1630, d 1 Jun 1693. +
- ii. **Orto (Otto) Einsminger**, bp 5 Dec 1632 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iii. **Clemens Einsminger**, bp 21 Feb 1635 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.

5 Hans Herman³ Einsminger (Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) b and ca 1612 Diemeringen, Alsace, d by 1674, m Christina.

Issue:

- i. **Jacob Eißminger**, b 20 May 1635 Diemeringen, Alsace, d young.
 - ii. **Jacob Einsminger**, b 1636 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
 - iii. **Waldberga Einsminger**, bp 12 Nov 1648 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
 - iv. **Christina Einsminger**, b unknown, d 25 Sept 1674 Diemeringen, Alsace.
 - v. **Adam Enßminger**, bp Feb 1655 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
-

**THE FOURTH GENERATION
OF THE ENSMINGER FAMILY
DESCENDED FROM PETER GERBER**

6 Adam⁴ Ensminger (Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) was baptized 24 Jan 1630 Diemeringen, Alsace and died 1 Jun 1663 Diemeringen. He married (1) and was christened 1656 (Diemeringen, Alsace) Catharina, born and christened 1636 Diemeringen, died 8 Feb 1684 Diemeringen. He married (2) 30 May 1684 (Diemeringen) Gertrude (dau of Conrad) Schreiner, born 1651 Diemeringen, died 15 Nov 1687 Diemeringen. He married (3) 25 May 1688 (Diemeringen) Anna Margaret (dau of Peter) Moyer, born Jun 1649 Diemeringen, died 28 Sep 1720 Diemeringen. Adam was the survivor from whose parentage most later-born Ensmingers of Diemeringen could trace their ancestry. He also has the distinction of being the third great grandfather of three emigrants to the United States. A detailed study of this line, proceeding through Adam, Conrad and Carl is found in Robert D. Sherry's 1990 book, *An Ensminger Family from Alsace: The Descendants of Conrad Ensminger and Carolina Gaupp from Diemeringen, Alsace, France, Early Settlers of Tonawanda and Amherst Townships, Erie County, New York*.

Issue:

- i. **Hans Conrad Enßminger**, b 23 Mar 1659 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 21 Nov 1675 Mattstall, Alsace.
- 7** ii. **Hans Daniel Ensminger**, bp 6 Mar 1661, d before 1717. +
- iii. **Catharina Dortha Ensminger**, bp 18 Mar 1664 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, m 26 Jan 1683 (Diemeringen) Hans Jacob Simon.
- 8** iv. **Johann Carl Einßminger**, bp 30 April 1666, d unknown. +

- 9 v. **Hans Adam Ensminger**, bp 5 May 1668, d 6 Sept 1729. +
 - 10 vi. **Hans Nicolaus Ensminger**, bp 28 April 1670, d 19 Dec 1706. +
 - vii. **Hans Andreas Ensminger**, bp 25 Aug 1672 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 1 Nov 1672 Diemeringen.
 - viii. **Hans Philipp Einßminger**, bp 2 April 1674 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
 - 11 ix. **Johann Peter Ensminger**, bp 23 Nov 1676, d unknown. +
 - 12 x. **Johann Caspar Ensminger**, bp 13 April 1680, d 4 Dec 1727. +
- Issue m2:
- xi. **Margaretha Enßminger**, bp 1 May 1686 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 15 May 1686 Diemeringen.
 - xii. **Johann Conrad**, bp 25 Mar 1687 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 31 Mar 1687 Diemeringen.
- Children Third Marriage:
- xiii. **Johann Melchior Enßminger**, bp 5 May 1689 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 28 May 1689 Diemeringen.
 - xiv. **Anna Catharina Enßminger**, bp 6 Jul 1690 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 13 July 1690 Diemeringen.
 - 13 xv. **Johann Jacob**, bp 2 Sept 1691, d 29 Jan 1758. +

THE FIFTH GENERATION OF THE ENSMINGER FAMILY DESCENDED FROM PETER GERBER

7 Hans Daniel⁵ Ensminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 6 Mar 1661 Diemeringen, Alsace, d before 1717 Kirn, Germany, m Elisabetha, b unknown, d 26 Feb 1717.

Issue:

- i. **Johanetta Elisabetha**, b 9 Feb 1689 Kirn, Germany, d unknown, m 22 Jul 1710 Reichart Kreuzer.
- ii. **Philipp**, bp 4 Mar 1691 Kirn, Germany, d unknown.
- iii. **Anna Elisabetha**, bp 21 June 1691 Kirn, Germany, d unknown, m 27 Apr 1717 Paul Hautt.
- iv. **Catharina**, b 14 Sep 1695 Kirn, Germany, d unknown.

8 Johann Carl⁵ Einßminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 30 April 1666 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, m Anna 27 Jan 1688 (dau of Jacob) Zimmer, b unknown, d 11 April 1737 Diemeringen. He was a harness maker.

Issue:

- i. **Johann Martin**, bp 14 Nov 1688 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 9 Jan 1689 Diemeringen.
- ii. **Anna Maria**, b 2 Apr 1690 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, m 1 Dec 1712 (Diemeringen) Peter (son of Balthasar) Sang.
- 14 iii. **Johann Carl**, bp 25 Jan 1693, d 25 Feb 1763. +
- iv. **Anna Ottilia**, bp 5 Oct 1696 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 10 May 1742 Dehlingen, Germany, m 15 Nov 1719 (Dehlingen) Peter Koppel.
- v. **Anna Elisabetha**, bp 9 Jun 1699 Diemeringen, Alsace, m 10 Feb 1722 (Kirn, Germany) Jacob Büchmeyer.

9 Hans Adam⁵ Ensminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 5 May 1668 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 6 Sept 1729 Diemeringen, m Ursula Roos, b 24 June 1678 Diemeringen, d 6 June 1751 Diemeringen. He was a butcher.

Issue:

- i. **Daniel**, bp 17 Nov 1701, Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- ii. **Dorthea Sophia**, bp 17 Nov 1703 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iii. **Johann Gustav**, bp 28 Jan 1706 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iv. **Maria Christina**, b 9 April 1709 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- 15 v. **Johann Conrad**, b 19 Aug 1711 Diemeringen, Alsace, bp 23 Aug 1711 Diemeringen, d 9 Jan 1775. +
- vi. **Jacob**, bp 19 Oct 1714 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 2 Jun 1785 Diemeringen, m 28 Sep 1741 (Diemeringen) Johanna Stutzman, b 1718 Diemeringen, d 6 Apr 1770 Diemeringen. He was a butcher.
- 16 vii. **Philipp**, bp 6 Jan 1717 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown. +
- viii. **Adam**, bp 23 Sept 1722, d unknown, m (Lützelstein) 5 May 1746 Catharina Brumm. He was a shoemaker.

10 Hans Nicolaus⁵ Ensminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 28 April 1670 Mackwiller, Alsace, d 19 Dec 1706 Diemeringen, Alsace, m Eva Elisabetha (dau of Jerg Fridrich) Hutten, 20 April 1694 Durstel, Alsace. He was a tile maker.

Issue:

- i. **Elisabetha**, b and d unknown.
- ii. **Anna Catharina**, bp 27 Nov 1701 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.

- iii. **Johann Clemen**, bp 6 April 1704 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 24 Aug 1704 Diemeringen.
- 17 iv. **Hans Adam**, bp 14 April 1706, d 1 May 1757. +

11 Johann Peter⁵ Ensminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 23 Nov 1676 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, m 5 Apr 1701 Cath. Dorothea (dau of Andreas) Schoenberger, bp 21 Aug 1677 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 26 Sept 1731 Alsace. He was a blacksmith.

Issue:

- i. **Adam**, b 25 Jan 1702 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, m Maria Strauss, b 1701 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 1770 Diemeringen. He was a wagon maker.
- ii. **Peter**, bp 17 June 1704 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iii. **Philipp Andreas**, bp 16 Jan 1707 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 23 Jan 1787 Diemeringen, m 11 Apr 1741 (Diemeringen) Johanna Christina Haenel, b 1722 Diemeringen, d 22 Feb 1789 Diemeringen. He was a farmer.
- 18 iv. **Johann Christian**, bp 1 Nov 1709 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown. +
- v. **Jacob**, bp 26 July 1712 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 23 Jan 1786 Diemeringen. He was a hat maker.
- vi. **Maria Catharina**, bp 25 Dec 1715 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- vii. **Johann Carl**, bp 29 Dec 1718 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 10 Feb 1723.
- viii. **Conrad**, bp 29 Dec 1718 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- ix. **Johann Jost**, bp 22 Dec 1722 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.

12 Johann Caspar⁵ Ensminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 13 April 1680 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 4 Dec 1727 Diemeringen, m 12 Jun 1708 (Diemeringen) Magdalena (dau of Alexander) Wursteisen, b 23 Oct 1685 Diemeringen, d 11 Dec 1769 Diemeringen. He was a tailor.

Issue:

- i. **Johann Philipp**, bp 1 Aug 1709 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 19 Mar 1763 Diemeringen, m Christina, b 1710 Diemeringen, d 1785 Diemeringen. He was a tailor.
- ii. **Maria Christina**, bp 22 Feb 1712 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iii. **Johann Andreas**, b 30 Jan 1714 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 12 May 1717 Diemeringen.
- iv. **Johanna Magdalena**, bp 30 May 1717 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.

13 Johann Jacob⁵ Ensminger (Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 2 Sept 1691 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 29 Jan 1758 Diemeringen, m 5 May 1716 (Diemeringen) Anna Christina Braun. He was a wagon maker.

Issue:

- i. **Johann Christina Susanna**, bp 21 Feb 1717 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- ii. **Anna Margaretha**, bp 7 Dec 1719 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iii. **Maria Catharina**, bp 8 Sept 1723 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- iv. **Anna Elisabetha**, bp 5 Mar 1726 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- v. **Maria Ottilia**, bp 13 Aug 1729 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown.
- vi. **Christina?**, b unknown, d 25 Sep 1674 Diemeringen, Alsace.

THE SIXTH GENERATION OF THE ENSMINGER FAMILY DESCENDED FROM PETER GERBER

14 Johann Carl⁶ Ensminger (Johann Jacob⁵, Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 25 Jan 1693 (Diemeringen, Alsace), d 25 Feb 1763 Diemeringen, Alsace, m 10 May 1718 (Diemeringen) Johanna Ottilia Bach, b Jan 1697 Diemeringen, d 18 Mar 1781 Diemeringen. He was a harness maker.

Issue:

- i. **Johann Carl** bp 11 Mar 1719.
- ii. **Christina** bp 23 Dec 1720, d 12 Dec 1721
- iii. **Johann Niclaus**, bp 28 June 1722 m1 29 Sep 1746 Johanna Christina Janus; 2(m) 7 Oct 1755 Catharina Stock; m3 Anna Eva Schmidt.
- iv. **Sophia** bp 3 Nov 1724.
- v. **Anna Ottilia** bp 15 Jan 1728, d 1760 m 12 May 1746 (Hambach) Peter Bieber.
- vi. **Andreas** b 1729.
- vii. **Maria Susanna** b 3 Jun 1732.
- viii. **Johann Adam** bp 9 Feb 1734, d 13 Jan 1779 m 23 Jan 1759 Maria Elisabetha Lerch.
- ix. **Johann Philipp** bp 16 Dec 1736, d 1806 m 22 May 1759 Anna Elisabetha Schoenberger.

15 Johann Conrad⁶ Ensminger (Johann Jacob⁵, Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) b 19 Aug 1711 Diemeringen, Alsace, bp 23 Aug 1711 Diemeringen, b 9 Jan 1775 Diemeringen, m 27 Sep 1736 Christina Margaretha (dau of Martin) Greiner. He was a shoemaker.

Issue:

- i. Johann Conrad b 29 Oct 1737.
- ii. Johann Carl bp 19 Mar 1740 m 16 Jun 1767 Susanna Christian Schick - [parents of Robert D Sherry].
- iii. Johann Philipp b 25 Sep 1742, d 11 Jun 1747.
- iv. Juliana Sophia b 1 Jun 1745, m 12 May 1789 Philipp Vautrin.
- v. Johanna Christian, b 9 Apr 1748 m 24 Nov 1772 Johann Christian Bach.
- vi. Johann Philipp b 5 May 1751, d 11 Aug 1751.
- vii. Johann Jacob b 10 Jun 1752.
- viii. Maria Catharina b 6 Jan 1755 m 28 Dec 1786 Johannes Depp.
- ix. Anna Margaretha b 4 Nov 1757, d 12 Nov 1757.
- x. Johann Philipp b 4 Nov 1757.

16 Philipp⁶ Ensminger (Johann Jacob⁵, Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 6 Jan 1717 Diemeringen, Alsace, d unknown, m 4 Jan 1752 (Waldhambach) Catharina Margaretha (dau of Heinrich) Scheiner. He was a butcher.

Issue: (all b Waldhambach):

- i. Philipp Heinrich b 8 April 1753.
- ii. Johannes b 22 June 1754.
- iii. Christina Margaretha b 23 Aug 1755.
- iv. Johann Christian b 5 Jan 1758.
- v. Catharina Margaretha b 17 Mar 1760, d 1 April 1760.
- vi. Catharina Margaretha, b 9 Feb 1761.
- vii. Johann Georg b 8 April 1763, d 4 June 1765.
- viii. Carolina b 23 April 1766, d 3 Mar 1830.
- ix. Johann Georg b 13 Aug 1770, d 27 May 1772.

17 Hans Adam⁶ Ensminger (Johann Jacob⁵, Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 14 April 1706 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 1 May 1757 Diedendorf, Alsace, m 27 Nov 1736 (Diedendorf) Eva Juncker (widow of Johann Moll). Issue: (all bp Diedendorf)

- i. Johann Adam bp 16 Sept 1737.
- ii. Samuel bp 5 Dec 1740 m 3 Jan 1764 (Diedendorf, Alsace) unknown Harry.
- iii. Johann Peter bp 1 Aug 1747.

18 Johann Christian⁶ Ensminger (Johann Jacob⁵, Adam⁴, Carl³, Hans² Gerber/Einsminger, Peter¹ Gerber) bp 1 Nov 1709 Diemeringen, Alsace, d 1775, m 3 Feb 1739 (Diemeringen) Elisabetha Schur. Christian took his family to Appenhofen, Germany. There are church records for him at Billigheim, Germany. They immigrated to America in 1763. The lineage for **(Johann) Christian¹⁸ Ensminger** continues in Part Three.

Except for the lineage of **(Johann) Christian¹⁸ Ensminger** continued in Part Three, the rest of the lineage of Peter Gerber's Diemeringen branch of the Ensminger family is not included in this book. As noted earlier, more detailed data of other descendants of Peter Gerber's line are found in Robert D. Sherry's 1990 book, *An Ensminger Family from Alsace: The Descendants of Conrad Ensminger and Carolina Gaupp from Diemeringen, Alsace, France, Early Settlers of Tonawanda and Amherst Townships, Erie County, New York*.

ENSMINGER OF WALDHAMBACH

The verifiable history of Ensminger families in Waldhambach takes a different path from those of Diemeringen. Clear and complete records exist from 1683, when Waldhambach began keeping its own record book. In 1683 three Ensminger families, headed by Philipp (b ca 1640), Nicolaus (b ca 1642) and Georg (b ca 1652) already had children and all three presumed brothers would be, within a decade, grandparents.

For many years it was assumed that, given the identical surname, Ensminger families of Waldhambach descended from Hans of Diemeringen. Proof of the assumption was, however, impossible to discover using Diemeringen records--none of the three brothers were born there, nor was their father.

A few earlier mentions of religious events in Waldhambach (known simply as "Hambach" in these, and later, documents) appear between 1645 and 1655 in church records kept at Lützelstein; these include the appearance of one Georg Ensminger, *stabhalter* (mace bearer = administrator). Evidence of his paternity of the later three Ensmingers is found in a tax document dating from 1662, conveniently indexed by Gerhard Hein. In that year the lord

of Grafschaft Lützelstein, which included Waldhambach, ordered a listing of taxable occupants within his domain. On it appears:

Hans Georg Enßminger, 46	
1) Philipp,	20y Schmiedwerks
2) Nicolaus	18y
3) Cathrin	14y
4) Appolonia	10y
5) Hans Georg	9y
6) Bärbel	7y

The three sons of Georg match the heads of the three Ensminger households well documented in the church book, although their ages are off by a little, based on the ages recorded at their deaths. (Other people with verifiable birth dates are shown incorrectly on this list as well.)

The baptism of Georg, son of Hans Einsminger, was recorded in the church book of Bockenheim (now Sarre-Union). Dr. Hein suggests in his index that for Georg's parentage we look to Hans Meyer (meyer = dairy farmer) "der Einsminger."

The surnames reflect how Hans was recorded in the church book, doubled "ss" and all. (There is actually a slightly greater variation in spelling, but the same person is clearly referred to.) Meyer appears to be a true surname, carried on by Hans' son Philipp at his marriage in 1629. Noted on the 1662 tax list for Waldhambach was Philipp Enßminger (Georg's son?), and Peter Enßminger, who could not be matched to any earlier record.

It is appropriate to consider the possible relationship of the two families that came to bear the name Ensminger. On the surface, none exists, but in the occupations of the two founders--if their surnames reflect their occupations--lies a clue. Peter Gerber (tanner) of Diemeringen and Hans Meyer (dairy farmer) of Bockenheim both dealt in cattle products. As has been seen from occupations chosen by some descendants of Carl of Diemeringen, the slaughter of cattle and various workings of leather were family preoccupations. A dairy farmer would be a producer of a tanner's raw material. One difference is that the original "ss" of Bockenheim was preserved in Waldhambach as "ß" through the entire 18th century, until the French Revolution. (This may reflect nothing more than a writing convention, dropped in the face of the new government, or have been intrinsic to the surname.)

It is also interesting to speculate as to how far removed from Ensming the two might have been. Hans Meyer, "the man of Ensming" may have been born there, as might Hans, son of Peter Gerber. There may have been no relationship at all. For the sake of argument, assuming that the two named Hans were of the same generation and shared a common grandfather in Insming, the closest possible relationship between Adam of Diemeringen (great grandson of Peter) and the three brothers of Waldhambach would have been fourth cousins, which explains why, although living only 2.8 km apart, there was no established connection found (in the form of reciprocal appearances as godparents at Ensminger christenings) between the Ensmingers of Diemeringen and Waldhambach.

The lineage for the descendants of Hans Meyer is presented in Part Two of this book, *Genealogy of the Ensminger Family Descendants of Hans Meyer*. Surnames for those children reflect how their fathers were named in baptismal, marriage or death records.

THE VILLAGE OF WALDHAMBACH

Waldhambach acquired its full name only in 1891; earlier official records referred to it as "Hambach," although the full name appears once or twice in various Lutheran church books as early as the end of the 17th century. Sturdy stone houses lend an air of permanence quite in line with Waldhambach's long history. Neolithic peoples used the site, and Romans lived there (remains have been discovered), influencing its first recorded name, "Disciacus." (A Germanic name from the same period survives: "Villa Haganbah," still reflected in the name Minre Hagenbach, now applied to a small locality between Waldhambach and nearby Weislingen.)

Rights to tax and tithe appear to have been given to the Abbey of Wissembourg in 713 and were confirmed in Papal documents in 1179, 1193 and 1215. Political control was passed from one local noble house to the other, finally ceded to the lord at Lützelstein (now La Petite Pierre) in 1544, under whose authority the village remained until the entire area was formally annexed to France (which gained nominal control in 1681) in 1790. Although surrounded by fields and supporting a local dairy industry, occupants of Waldhambach have traditionally engaged in a number of crafts and industries, including four mills, one of which dates back to before 1539.

In recorded times war has altered the face of Alsace three times: the 30 Years War, the Prussian occupation (and France's re-acquisition after World War I) and the Allied victory of World War II. Bombing destroyed many structures in 1944. Prussian troops were quartered there in 1871. But in proportional terms mid-1630's fighting was the most destructive this corner of "Crooked Alsace" (*Alsace Bossue*, the northwest tip that almost nudges the Vosges Mountains) would ever see. Villages to the south were burned and leveled to the ground. If Waldhambach was not entirely depopulated, it was at least a place for a young man to make his mark. Such a one may have been Georg Ensminger, son of Hans Meyer.

Unfortunately, no record exists of the birth of any of Georg Ensminger's children. We know that he lived in Waldhambach by 1654 because on 13 August of that year Georg Ensminger of Waldhambach appeared as a godparent in Bettwiller. On 31 March 1658 Georg Ensminger, "Stabhalter" of Hambach, was a godparent in Waldhambach. On 14 November 1665, Catharina Ensminger, daughter of Georg, the former "Schultheiss" (= mayor) of Hambach, was married. These records from church records of distant Lützelstein, along with the tax list, constitute the sum total of what we have discovered about his life. We do know that Georg Ensminger (Sr) was the founder of a vigorous family, one that would extend itself into several villages of the area--although the surname remains, even today, tightly regional--and the United States.

EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF PHILIPP ENSMINGER JR (his children went to Pennsylvania)

In 1979 Cleta W. Smith discovered Peter Ensminger moved to Mattstall, where six of his children were baptized during Peter's time in central northern Alsace. Peter married Catharine, daughter of Christopher Trautmann (1660-1726) and Catharine Emmerich (born 1673 - she died in America). Peter's wife was baptized 10 Jan 1700. This modest body of information provided a starting point from which Peter's ancestry could be traced.

Peter's father, Philipp Jr, was a wanderer. Baptismal records for his two oldest children are to be found in the Waldhambach church book. Cleta W. Smith found six more at Durstel, 1696-1705, and Brendan Wehrung discovered that, when his wife died in 1707, the record gave Philipp's place of residence at Hangwiller. His three youngest children were confirmed at Mattstall, but no baptismal records have been located; they may have been born at Hangwiller.

From the Henri Süss Collection

Maria Catharina, daughter of Philipp Ensminger of Metting, Moselle (i.e. Lorraine) m Heinrich (son of Jacob) Peter, 1731 in Woerth.

Philipp is shown as a resident of Mattstall 1718-22, at Langensoultzbach in 1723 and 1726, and Metting in 1731. His final resting place is unknown. A summary of his children follows, with places where the events were recorded. A more detailed chronology will be found in Part 2:

(W) = Waldhambach (M) = Mattstall (D) = Durstel (Wo) = Woerth

1. Philip bp 3 Mar 1692 (W), bur 18 June 1696 (D)
2. Peter* bp 28 Jan 1694 (W), m Catherine Trautmann, 21 Nov 1719 (M)
3. Jacob bp June 1696 (D), bur Aug 1696 (D)
4. Margaret* bp 21 Sept 1697 (D), m John Wolfersberger, 27 Jan 1721 (M)
5. Nicolaus* bp 4 Oct 1699 (D), m Anna Margaretha (Lutz?), ca 1724
6. Elizabeth bp 2 June 1701 (D), bur 8 June 1701 (D)
7. Catharine* bp 1 June 1702 (D), m Henry Peter, 1731 (Wo)
8. Henry* bp 10 Mar 1705 (D), m ca 1724
9. Barbara b ca 1708, conf 1719 (M), no record after 1723
10. David* b ca 1710, conf 1723 (M), m Christine, ca 1735
11. Elizabeth* b ca 1712, sponsor 1726, m Peter Schmidt

[Note: persons with names followed by an asterisk (*) came to America]

OTHER EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF PHILIPP JR

- 1691 m Elizabeth Quirin, b 21 Sep 1671 (Waldhambach).
 1692 Philipp bp 3 Mar, bur 18 Jun 1696.
 1694 Peter bp 28 Jan -- later to Durstel, Alsace.
 1696 Jacob bp 1st Sunday after Trinity, bur Aug 1696
 Sponsors: Stefan Diedrich, Jacob Ott, Anna Kentzeli, Christina Diedrich.
 1697 Catharine Margaret bp 21 Sep

- Sponsors: John Schmidt of Wolfskirchen, Batholomew Eberhardt of Durstel, Catharine Elizabeth (dau of George Dieter) of Durstel, Margaret (dau of Nicholas) Quirin of Wolfskirchen.
- 1699 Nicholas bp 4 Oct
Sponsors: Simon Wagner of Adamswiller, Nicholas Weiss of Bettweiler, Margaret Dietrich of Durstel.
- 1701 Elizabeth bp 2 Jun, bur 8 Jun, age 10 days.
Sponsors: Daniel Gerber pastor at Hambach, Elizabeth Herrenschmid of Bistorff, Diebold Quirin of Bockenheim, Elizabeth Zins of Bist.
- 1702 Catharine bp 1 Jun
Sponsors: Catharine Wagner of Adamswiller, Gerhardt Klein of Rexingen, Sibella Eberhardt of Durstel, Dietrich Luttman of Gungweiler.
- 1705 Henry bp 10 Mar.
Sponsors: Jacob Pfersch of Weßner, Margaret Ensminger of Bist, Margaret Weiss of Bettweiler, Henry Scherr of Adamswiller.
-- to Hangviller, Lorraine.
- 1707 wife Elizabeth d 16 Jul -- m Margaret Hörth.
- 1708 Barbara b and c.
- 1710 David b and c.
- 1712 Elizabeth b and c -- to Mattstall, Alsace.
- 1718 Margaret 28 Oct sponsor (Dufforth).
- 1719 Henry and Barbara conf.
Peter m 21 Nov.
- 1720 Margaret, wife of Philipp Jr sponsor (Trautmann) 3 Jul.
- 1721 Margaret m 27 Jan.
Henry sponsor (Offner) 16 Oct.
Catharine, wife of Peter sponsor (Wolf) 16 Oct.
Catharine, wife of Peter sponsor (Süss) 11 Dec.
Barbara sponsor (Friedrich) 15 Dec.
- 1722 Catharine sponsor (Krautter) 23 Jun.
Barbara sponsor (Münder) 28 Jun.
Philipp sponsor (Haller) 9 Aug.
Philipp sponsor (Haller) 3 Oct.
- 1723 to Langensoultzbach, Alsace.
David conf.
Barbara sponsor (Friedrich) 6 Nov.
- 1724 Philipp sponsor (Hellman) 5 Aug.
- 1725 David sponsor (Herman) 5 Aug.
Philipp sponsor (Vahn) 6 Nov.
Peter sponsor (Süss) 26 Dec.
- 1726 Elizabeth sponsor (Kringer) 22 Oct -- later to Metting, Lorraine.
- 1731 Catharine m.

ALSACE EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF PETER (son of Philipp JR)
(Peter went to Pennsylvania in 1733)

- 1694 bp 28 Jan (Waldhambach).
- 1719 m Catharine Trautmann 21 Nov (Mattstall) - LDS film 767,276

1719. Domin. 22 Trinit. ☉. d 5 Nov. wurd zu Mattstall zum Ersten. Dom. 23 Trin. ☉. d 12 Nov. allda zum zweyten und Dom. 24 Trin. ☉. 19 Nov. zu Niedersteinbach zum dritten mahl proclamirt; der Ehrsame und bescheidene Hanss Peter Entzming der ledige Schmidt; Mstr Philipp Entzmingers Jetzmahlig Innwohners Ehl Sohn und die Ehr und tugendsame Jgfr. Maria Catharina Christoph Trautmanns burg zu Mattstall Ehl tochter. ♂ . 21 Nov. zu Mattstall copulirt.

Translation:

1719, 22 Trinity Sunday, the 5 November at Mattstall was announced for the first time; 23 Trinity Sunday, the 12 November there for the second; and 24 Trinity Sunday, 19 November at Niedersteinbach for the third. The respectable and modest Hans Peter Entzming(er), the single smith, legitimate son of Mister Phillipp Entzming(er), resident for the present time, and the respectable and virtuous maiden, Maria Catharina, legitimate daughter of Christoph Trautmann, citizen at Mattstall, were married Tuesday, 21 November, at Mattstall.

- 1721 Peter b 13 Apr, bp 16 Apr, d 10 Mar 1728.
Sponsors: Peter Kramer of Langensoultzbach, Henry Trautmann son of Peter, Margaret wife of Henry Süss of LS.
- 1723 Henry b 7 Apr, bp 11 Apr.
Sponsors: John Keifer of Weissenburg, Henry Süss of LS, Dorothy, born Kahn, wife of Alexander Rollwagen of Weissenburg
- 1725 Susanna Catharine b 9 Aug, bp 12 Aug.
Sponsors: Alexander Rollwagen of Weissenburg, Susanna Catharine wife of George Weymar of LS, Christina wife of Henry Süss of LS
- 1727 Philip b 20 Nov, bp 23 Nov.
sponsors: Peter Trautmann of Mattstall, Peter Knobel of Mattstall, Barbara nee Trautmann, wife of Henry Trautmann of Mattstall
- 1730 Christina b 17 April, bp 19 Apr.
Sponsors: Daniel Trautmann of Mattstall, Christina wife of Peter Hörten of Mattstall.
- 1732 Nicholas b 22 Jul, bp 25 Jul.

Johan Niclaus

Joh. Peter Ensminger und Maria Catharina sein eheliche haussfrau hat 2 morgens um 3 uhr d 22 Jul einen sohn gebohren und ist 2 darauff d 25 ejusd. getauft werden. Gevatterleut waren Peter Trautman burger und Ackersman zu Mattstall. Heinrich Haller der ziegler zu Mattstall. Maria Elisabeth Daniel Trautman burger und Ackersman zu Mattstall eheliche haussfrau.

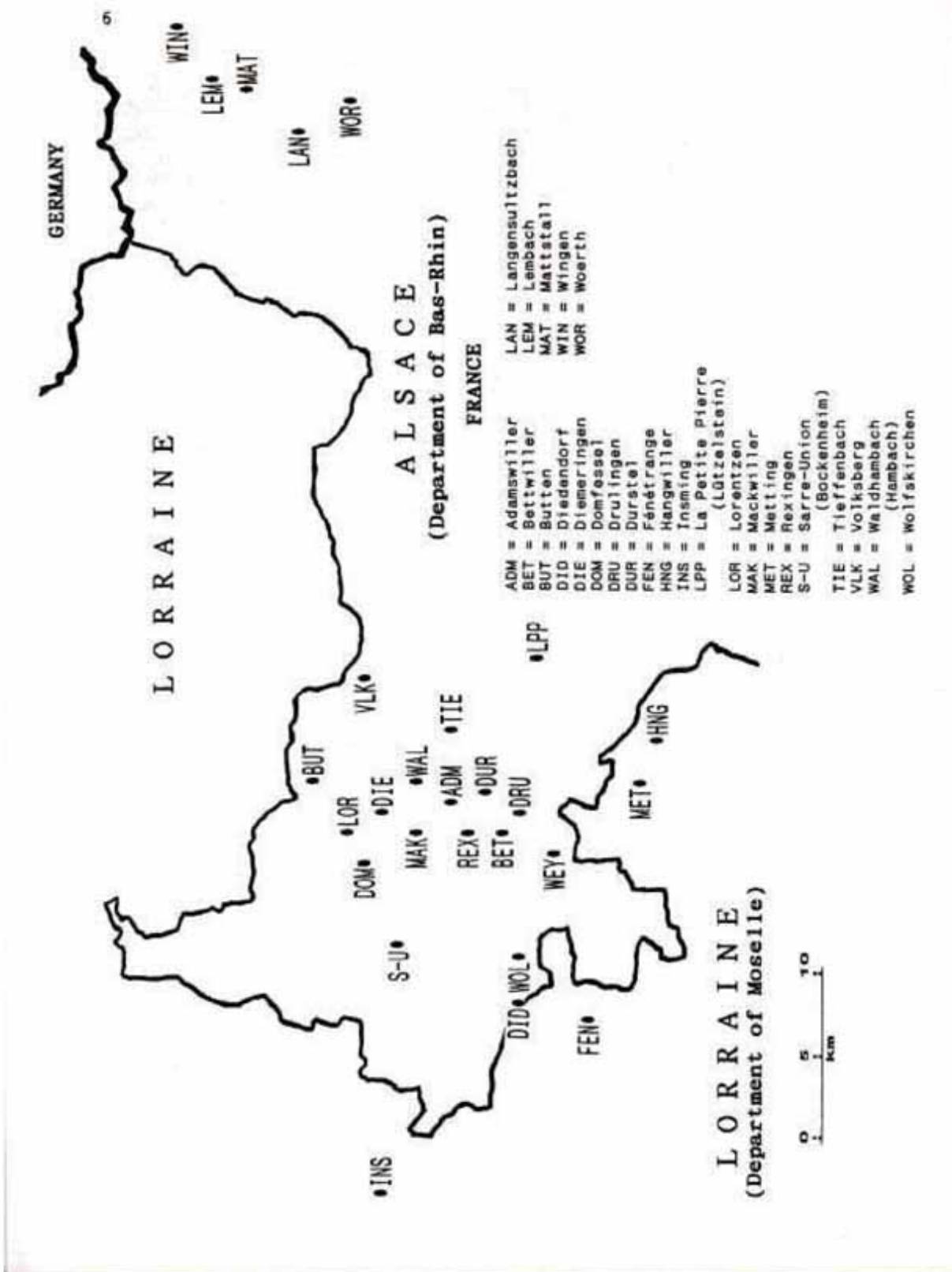
Word-for-word translation:

1732 Johann Niclaus

Johann Peter Ensminger and Maria Catharina his lawful wedded wife has Tuesday morning about 3 hour on the 22 July a son born and is Friday after that on the 25 of the same baptized was. Godfather people were Peter Trautman citizen and farmer in Mattstall. Heinrich Haller the brick maker in Mattstall. Maria Elisabeth Daniel Trautman citizen and farmer in Mattstall lawful wedded wife.

Johann Peter Ensminger und Maria Catharina sein eheliche haussfrau hat 2 morgens um 3 uhr d 22 Jul einen sohn gebohren und ist 2 darauff d 25 ejusd. getauft werden. Gevatterleut waren Peter Trautman burger und Ackersman zu Mattstall. Heinrich Haller der ziegler zu Mattstall. Maria Elisabeth Daniel Trautman burger und Ackersman zu Mattstall eheliche haussfrau.

Cleta Smith has copied many church records (Lutheran) on LDS films:
Durstel 729, 715, Langensoultzbach 717, 746, Mattstall 767, 276.



TO PENNSYLVANIA

As noted earlier, Europe was in turmoil and Alsace in particular was a battleground throughout many wars. Whether driven by a desire for religious, political, or economic freedom, the mass migration of German-speaking folk to Pennsylvania began in the early 1700s and continued until the time of the American Revolution (1775). They were mostly Lutheran and Reformed -- the most came from the Palatinate. However, the Ensmingers came from Alsace, just south of the Palatinate.

These persons settled in southeastern Pennsylvania and maintained themselves as a distinctive people. As farmers, they excelled; they were conservative, industrious, religious, and frugal. The German language prevailed for many years -- today "Pennsylvania Dutch," a written and spoken language.

From 1727 to 1775, 324 ships arrived. An average of 200 persons per ship makes 64,800. In 1775 the population of Pennsylvania was about 300,000 -- 1/3 of German origin.

Two groups are of special interest, all coming from the Lembach-Mattstall section of Alsace:

- (1) 12 families (32 persons) - mostly young couples from Lembach - landed October 17, 1732 - Elizabeth Ensminger Schmidt on board.
- (2) 11 families (62 persons) from the Mattstall area - landed August 17, 1733 - the next ship after October 17, 1732. Mattstall is 2 miles from Lembach - they left after April 15 - Peter Ensminger and Catherine Ensminger Peter on board.

Here is an account of the 1733 voyage.

SHIPMATES

In the late spring or early summer of 1733 a group of families from the Mattstall region prepared for a trip overland (about 30 km) to the Rhine. Their journey took them downstream to Rotterdam and the Atlantic, and a ship bound for Pennsylvania. John Wolfersberger, brother-in-law of Peter Ensminger, had gone to America in 1730.

On March 3, 1733 Ursula, daughter of Henry Haller and wife Catherine, was baptized at Mattstall. Sponsors were: Peter Frey of Wingen (north of Mattstall); Catharine, wife of Peter Ensminger; Ursula, wife of Peter Knobel. (The latest date in Mattstall church records listing a member of this group is April 15, 1733). These four families-- Ensminger, Frey, Haller and Knobel were on the ship "Samuel" when it landed at Philadelphia August 17, 1733. Were any friends there to greet them?

Landing at Philadelphia were:
Ensminger, Peter 39

wife, Catharine 33
Issue: Henry 10, Catharine 8, Philipp 6, Nicolaus 1
Catharine's mother, Catharine Trautmann 62

Frey, Peter 44

wife, Barbella 37
Issue: Margaret 17, Valentine 12, Eve 10, Mary 8, Peter 4, Christian 2

Haller, Henry 44

wife, Catharine 40
Issue: Peter 18, Christina 16, Henry 13, Catharine 7, Dorothy 3
Catharine's mother, Elizabeth Carle

Knobel, Peter 43

wife, Ursula
daughter Mary 16

ENSMINGER LANDING DATES

Margaret and John Wolfersberger	August 29, 1730
Elizabeth and Peter Schmidt	October 17, 1732
Catharine and Henry Peter	August 17, 1733
Peter and Catharine Ensminger	August 17, 1733
Nicolaus and Margaret Ensminger	October 28, 1738
Henry Ensminger	November 20, 1741
David and Christine Ensminger	August 28, 1750

THE VOYAGE

The 11 families (62 individuals) from the Mattstall area, including Peter Ensminger and family, had about 20 miles to go to reach the Rhine River. Here they got on a boat going to Rotterdam, Holland - about 350 miles. They left Mattstall about the end of April. The last record is April 15. Rotterdam would be reached by the middle of May.

Stops at German custom houses slowed them down. Strange sights and new scenes caused comment. Koblenz and Köln seemed large. Stops were made to buy food and other supplies. Then windmills and canals appeared. They were in Holland. Signs and speech were in Dutch. They got off the boat and looked at the quaint, gabled houses, the market, the churches.

The ship was about 140 x 30 x 15. Sleeping quarters were below deck - for families, for single men, for single women. Each person had a space about 6 by 2 feet, with 5 feet for head room. There was little privacy. The crew members had their own quarters. There was a cabin for the captain. He had promised to supply water, flour, some dried meat and peas, as well as cheese. It took a lot of food to feed 291 people plus crew for 3 months. On the voyage there would be births, deaths and illnesses. Christina Ensminger and Ursula Haller likely were among the children who died.

The trip was hardest on the very young. There was no milk or fruit or green vegetables. It was hard for the old folks too. Catharine Trautmann was 62, Appolonia Frey 58, Elizabeth Carle 50. The captain reminded them that England was on the old calendar - 11 days behind Germany. There were all kinds of people on board.

Daily prayers were held and on Sundays church services. The men walked on deck. The women cooked and cleaned and tried to keep the little ones from falling overboard. The older children were a great help. The old told stories to the young. Soon they were out on the broad Atlantic. The captain said the 4000-mile trip to Philadelphia would take about 3 months if the winds were favorable. The ship would go south about 1000 miles to the Canaries, then pick up trade winds to carry it across the Atlantic.

Wind and rain storms made the going rough. The families took turns cooking on the iron grates. At night the cries of the young, the moans of the ill, the groans of the old could be heard. When the wind roared, the boat creaked, the waves splashed. Then one day land was sighted - AMERICA - green fields and houses.

Friday morning, August 17, 1733, the ship anchored at Philadelphia. This was the first of 7 ships to arrive in 1733. The captain turned in his list of 90 names - men over 16. The men had to go to the courthouse to take the oath of allegiance and the oath of abjuration - denying the right of a Pretender.

SHIP LISTS

(from Strassburger and Hinke)

Beginning in 1727, all captains carrying Germans were required to submit lists of passengers landing at Philadelphia. Many just listed the names of the men, but those for 1732, 1733, 1738 in which we are interested listed names of men, women and children.

#11	Thistle	29 Aug 1730	76 men + 184 women & children = 260
	John & Margaret Wolfersburger		
#28	John & William	17 Oct 1732	71 men + 98 women & children = 169
	Peter & Elizabeth Schmidt - no child		
#29	Samuel	17 Aug 1733	90 men + 86 women + 116 children = 292
	Henry & Catharine Peter, Peter Ensminger - with children		
#63	Thistle	28 Oct 1738	42 men + 36 boys + 63 women & chldn = 141
	Nicholas Ensminger 39, Margaret 35, Christina 13, Catharine 10, Ludwig 7, Mary 3, (Nicholas 1 - not listed)		
#90	Europa	20 Nov 1741	65 men + women & children
	Henry Ensminger with Eisenhauers		
#154	Phoenix	28 Aug 1750	222 men + 117 women & children = 339
	David Ensminger with Philippis		
#169	Brothers	16 Sep 1751	94 men + 106 women & children = 200
	Frederick Ensminger (see preface page xii)		
#211	Edinburgh	14 Sep 1753	104 men + women and children
	John Ensminger (see preface, page xii)		
#232	Neptune	30 Sep 1754	58 men + 90 women & children = 148
	Nicholas Ensminger (possibly Nicholas bp 21 Mar 1723 at Weyer, son of Nicholas and Eva Ensminger)		

The Ship JOHN & WILLIAM #28

The number is the family number assigned by Burgert. The first 12 names all appear together in the ship list. The names in parentheses () are given maiden names of the women, from Burgert. L = Lembach M = Mattstall LS = Langensoultzbach

#477	Sprecher, George c19 L	step-mother Catharine (Hügel)
#370	Nagel, John c27 L m 1731 Mary (Sprecher)	
	Schmidt, Peter wife Mary Elizabeth (Ensminger)	
#259	Husam, John LS wife Mary Elizabeth (Engel)	
#232	Hoffman, Michael LS m 1732 Catharine (Jägi)	dau of John

- Boschung, Nicholas not L, M or LS
 Weimer, Bernard not L, M or LS
 #183 Gerlach, Baltzer L wife Mary?
 #337 Low (Lau), Christmann M wife Cleophe 36 (Frey) - Chldn Philip 10, Christian?
 #338 Low (Lau), Conrad L m 1721 Barbara (Frey) - Margaret?
 (Cleophe and Barbara Frey are sisters)
 #251 Hgel, Ludwig 33 L
 #536 Weber, Jacob 36 L wife Christina 32 - Dorothy 6, Jacob?, _____
 #266 Jgi, John LS Pauline? - _____
 #406 Roser, Lawrence LS m 1726 Dorothy (Gnter)

The Ship SAMUEL #29

- #57 Bischoff, Henry LS
 #94 Damrong, Jacob 36 LS wife Barbara 37 - son Michael 3
 #105 Drachsel, Peter 42 L wife Mary (Frawhger) 32
 #128 Ensminger, Peter 39 M wife Catharine (Trautmann) 33
 Chldn: Henry 10, Catharine 8, Philip 6, Nicholas 1; wife's mother Catharine Trautmann 62
 #159 Frey, Peter 44 Wingen wife Barbella (Schmidt) 33
 Chldn: Margaret 17, Valentine 12, Eve 10, Mary 8, Peter 4, Christian 2
 Frey, Andrew 35 brother of Peter wife Barbara 30
 Chldn: Salome 14, Elizabeth 9, Christopher 8, Margaret 3,
 Appolonia 48
 Smith, Catharine Frey (dau of Conrad Frey) 46 husband Killian Smith 40
 Chldn: Margaret 14, Mary 11, Agnes 4
 #205 Haller, Henry 44 M wife Catharine (Carle) 40
 Chldn: Peter 18, Christina 16, Henry 13, Catharine 7, Dorothy 3
 wife's mother Elizabeth Carle
 #287 Klein, Marx 45 Wingen wife Elizabeth (Deckenberger) 42
 Chldn: Juliana 13, Elizabeth 11, Catharine 10, Dorothy 8, Max 4
 #292 Knobel, Peter 43 M wife Ursula (Frahr) 43 - dau Mary 16
 #307 Krebs, Christian 33 LS wife Christina (Bischoff) 24
 Chldn: Margaret 5, Percy (f) 1/2
 #388 Peter, Henry 26 Woerth wife Catharine (Ensminger) 32 - son Henry 1
 #543 Weiss, Leonard 29 L wife Margaret (Hermann) 38
 [Note: Ursula, daughter of Henry and Catharine Haller, bp at Mattstall on 3 March 1733. Sponsors (shipmates on the ship Samuel) were: Peter Frey, Catharine wife of Peter Ensminger, Ursula wife of Peter Knobel.]

After leaving the ship Samuel, 6 of the families - Ensminger, Frey, Haller, Klein, Krebs and Peter - made the 80 mile trip to Cocalico Township, Lancaster County. Their names appear in the records of the Muddy Creek Lutheran Church.

The German language was evident everywhere - speech, signs, newspapers, church services. They felt at home. Farms, however, were larger. They had friends and relatives waiting for them - Peter Ensminger's sisters Margaret and Elizabeth.

THE SISTERS OF PETER ENSMINGER

There is no record of Barbara, but Margaret came in 1730, Elizabeth and Catharine in 1733. [The 1994 edition listed Elizabeth as coming in 1732 but two of Peter Schmidt's descendants - Anne Livesay and Linda Monticelli - found evidence that Peter and Elizabeth arrived in 1733. Anne is a descendant of Elizabeth Ensminger, Peter Schmidt's 2nd wife. Linda, a descendent of Peter and his first wife, has the books of the ship records, "Pennsylvania German Pioneers," by Strassburger and Hinke. Peter and Elizabeth Schmidt are listed on the ship manifest for the Pennsylvania Merchant that arrived on 18 Sep 1733 at Philadelphia.]

Margaret: bp 21 Sep 1797 Durstel, m 27 Jan 1721 (Mattstall) John Wolfersberger

1721.⊙. Domin. 1 E' _____. 12 Januar wird zum Ersten Mahl. Dom. 2 E' _____. 19 Jan. zu Mattstall zum sweten und Dom. 3 E' _____. allda zum dritten mahl proclamirt und _ d 27 " derauf allda copulirt. Joh. Wolffsbeger. Joh. Erhard Wolffsbergers burg zu Wolschheim h _____ h _____ schafft Ehl Sohn; und Jgfr Anna Margaretha; Phillipp Entzmingers Schmidt und Innwohners zu Mattwstall hl tochte. G. G. G. und Seeg. Amen

Translation:

1721, 1 Epiphany Sunday, 12 January was announced for the first time; 2 Epiphany Sunday, 19 January at Mattstall for the second; and 3 Epiphany Sunday there for the third time; and after that married there Monday, the 27 January, Joh. Wolffisberger, legitimate son of Joh. Erhard Wolffisberger, citizen at Wolschheim _____, and Anna Margaretha, legitimate maiden daughter of Phillipp Entzminger, smith and resident at Mattstall. (A blessing, abbreviated.)

Children born in Alsace:

Peter 16 Oct 1721, Ursula 29 Aug 1724 (d 8 Sep 1727, Frederick 1 Jun 1727, John 1730

Catharine: bp 1 Jun 1702 Durstel, m 1731 Henry (son of Jacob) Peter son Henry b 1732 and others
Henry & Catharine sponsors at Muddy Creek Lutheran Church 3 Jan 1741

Elizabeth: b and c 1712, m and c Peter Schmidt - likely 1732

1736 Mary b 4 Dec, bp 9 Mar 1737

sponsors Peter Wolfersberger & Mary Wolfersberger

1739 Peter (twin) b 8 Apr, bp 3 Jul

sponsors Peter Wolfersberger & Susanna Catharine Ensminger

Susanna Catharine (twin) b 8 Apr, bp 3 Jul - sponsor Margaret Ensminger

1741 Elizabeth b 19 Feb, bp 26 Apr

sponsors Nicholas and Margaret Ensminger

1742 Nicholas b 3 Nov, bp 6 Dec

sponsors Nicholas Ensminger and John Husam

(the name John Husam is listed next to Peter Schmidt in the 1732 ship list –

John Husam's Chldn: Jeremiah, James, John, Mary Jane, Laura, Emeline)

1748 John b 12 Jun, bp 19 Jun

sponsors Nicholas and Margaret Ensminger

(Elizabeth's husband Peter Schmidt sponsor 19 Oct 1742 for Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret Ensminger)

10 children baptized at Muddy Creek Lutheran Church:

Nicholas b 1749 - sponsor Nicholas Ensminger

Andrew b 1751 - sponsor Andrew Gansert

Henry b 1753 - sponsors Nicholas and Margaret Ensminger

Margaret 1757 - sponsors Nicholas and Margaret Ensminger

In 1749 Caspar Lutz and Margaret Ensminger were sponsors at the baptism of Barbara, daughter of Andrew and Margaret Gansert. Were Caspar and Margaret related? Was Margaret born Lutz? Casper came to Pennsylvania in 1738. In 1748 Andrew Gansert & wife sponsored the baptism of a grandchild of Peter Ensminger. Nicholas Körper and wife Margaret had (1) Andrew b 1746, sponsor Andrew Gansert; (2) Margaret b 1750 with Nicholas Ensminger & wife sponsors. In 1747 Nicholas Körper and wife sponsored Margaret, daughter of Andrew Gansert. Were these families related?

RELATED FAMILIES - SOME IMMIGRATED TO AMERICA

PHILIPPI FAMILY

John Philippi (of Swiss origin) b c 1695 m c 1720 Christina Cleiss, Volksberg, Alsace to Pennsylvania 1750

1. John b c 1721; conf 1735, m 17 Sep 1751 Juliana Riehm b 1 May 1731, nat 1765
2. Andrew b c 1724, conf 1738 -- no further record
3. Christian b c 1727, m 12 Dec 1752 Mary Ensminger - nat 1765
4. (Eva) Christina b 13 Jan 1730, m 12 Dec 1752 Ludwig Ensminger
5. (Anna) Mary b 16 Aug 1733 d 26 Aug 1733
6. (Anna) Elizabeth b 31 Oct 1734, m 18 May 1754 Nicholas Ensminger
7. Jacob b 9 Dec 1737 - nat 1765

FREY FAMILY

Jacob Frey, d 1715, Wingen, Alsace, m 21 Oct 1788 Mary Schaub

1. Peter b 27 Sep 1689, d 4 May 1766 (Friedberg, NC)
m 18 Feb 1716 Barbara Smith b 5 Apr 1696 -- to PA 1733
 - a. Margaret b 20 Nov 1716; m 1736 George Högie
 - b. Eva b 30 Dec 1718; m 1736 Michael Kapp
 - c. Valentine b 9 May 1721; m 1742 Barbara Binckele
 - d. Barbara b 7 Sep 1723; m 1741 Michael Lauer
 - e. Mary b 7 Apr 1726
 - f. Peter b 13 Nov 1729
 - g. Christina b 22 Dec 1731 -- to PA 1733
 - h. Juliana b Feb 1735
 - i. George b Dec 1740
2. Henry b 27 Jun 1693 (family to PA 1738), m 23 Apr 1715 Dorothy Rummel, d shipboard.
a. Barbara b 13 Jun 1715, m1 1735 Peter Brücker, m2 23 Oct 1739 Henry Stöhr
b. Eva Catharine 9 Sep 1717, m 1735 George Brendel b 1713
c. Dorothy b 19 Nov 1719 d young
d. Henry b 25 Dec 1722
e. Martin b 29 Oct 1724, m 29 Apr 1742 Susanna Catharine Ensminger
f. Sibella b 13 Sep 1727, m 16 Dec 1744
g. Jacob b 21 Apr 1729
h. Margaret b 5 Jan 1732, m 20 May 1750 John Rupp
i. Anna Catharine b 6 Aug 1734
3. Cleophe b 27 Apr 1696, m Christmann Low -- to PA 1732
 - a. Philip b 29 Mar 1722
 - b. Juliana b 8 Oct 1724
 - c. son b 19 Feb 1727, d infant
 - d. Peter b 19 Mar 1728
 - e. Jacob b 11 Dec 1730 -- to PA 1732
 - f. Margaret b Nov 1733
 - g. Michael b 30 Oct 1735
 - h. Mary b 17 Apr 1737
 - i. Magdalena b 5 Sep 1739
4. Andrew b 7 Nov 1698, m Barbara b 1703 -- to PA 1733
 - a. Salome b 1719
 - b. Elizabeth b 1724
 - c. Christopher b 1725
 - d. Margaret b 1730; to PA 1733
 - e. Mary b 24 Jun 1740
5. Barbara b 21 Apr 1701; m 25 Feb 1721 Conrad Low; to PA 1732
 - a. Catharine b 28 Nov 1722
 - b. Barbara b 14 May 1724, d infant
 - c. Peter b 26 Sep 1725, d infant
 - d. Barbara b 24 Jul 1727, d infant
 - e. Mary b 18 Mar 1729
 - f. Peter b 19 Jan 1731, d infant
 - g. Peter b Nov 1733
 - h. Barbara b 28 Dec 1736
 - i. Frederick b 9 Oct 1739
6. Catharine b 10 Jun 1704

THE QUIRIN FAMILY OF WOLFSKIRCHEN

The surname Quirin is an ancient one, found in several villages in the westernmost edge of northern Alsace. Gustav Matthis wrote in 1888:

QUIRIN. Das stammdorf, wo die Familie schon vor dem 30j Krieg blühte, ist Wolfskirchen, wo vor 1620 Einer dieses Namen Mayer war und 1668 der Stamm bereits in 2 deste gespalten erschien, nämlich Britz Quirin (Censor) und Nickel Quirin der Tochtermann des Meyers Gerber. Veilicht noch während des Kriegs verplantzte sich ein Theil des Geschlechts in der person von Quirinus Quirin nach Bettweiler und hat von da aus unliegende Dorfes besiedelt.

The family that concerns us appears in Wolfskirchen and was more extensive than is indicated below. Only those who can reasonably be named as the offspring of Britz Quirin are shown. The book *Alsace Bossue* suggests names of children not discovered in church records--these appear *sans* dates. Although the surname was rendered in various ways (Kurin/Kiren/Kyren) it soon regularized to "Quirin" and the children of Britz are shown with this spelling.

While no marriage records survive for the two Ensminger brothers of Waldhambach, the birth years of two daughters of Britz Quirin, Jr are good matches for these men's wives, and the names are right. All events shown took place in Wolfskirchen unless otherwise mentioned.

Pritius "Britz" Kurin m1 1636 Elizabetha Schmidt (Finstingen, Lorraine)

1. Nicolaus Quirin bp 3 Feb 1643, m Margaretha?
 - a. Hans, b unknown, d 3 April 1671
 - b. Anna Elisabetha, bp 10 Oct 1670
 - c. Hans Philipp, bp 17 Sept 1672
 - d. Johann Matthias, bp 2 Aug 1674
 2. Hans Thebalt Quirin, bp 24 Aug 1645 (wool weaver) m 30 April 1669 Margaretha Paul (Bockenheim)
 - a. Anna Ottilia
 - b. Nicolaus, bp 29 Jan 1674 (Bockenheim) m Jeanne Rout
 - c. Johannes, bp 14 Jan 1680 (Bockenheim) m Anna Maria Wagner
 - d. Hans Thiebolt, bp 24 Jan 1682, d 26 April 1683 (Bockenheim)
 - e. Hans Georg, bp 27 April 1684, d 30 April 1684 (Bockenheim)
 3. Jacob Quirin, bp 15 Oct 1648 m 11 Feb 1673 Anna Catharina Schlosser
 - a. Heinrich
 - b. Andreas
 - c. Johann
 - d. Hans Jacob, bp 19 Dec 1677, d 3 May 1678?
 - e. Nickel
 - f. Matthias (later in Bistroff sur Sarre)
 4. Bricius (Pritius) Quirin, bp 14 Oct 1648 m 28 June 1668 Rosina Schmidt
 - a. Hensel, bp 22 Sept 1668, d 1 Nov 1668
 - b. unnamed boy, bp 4 Dec 1669
 - c. Daniel
 - d. Johannes (later in Schopperten)
- Bricius m2 Synnel, 1670
- e. Elisabetha, bp 21 Sep 1871, d 16 Jul 1707 (Durstel), m and c 1691 Philipp Jr Ensminger, b c 1666 (Children Part Two)
 - f. Anna Margaretha, bp 5 Mar 1674, m 10 Feb 1694 Mathias Ensminger, b and c 1664 (Children in Part Two)
 - g. Catharina, bp 3 Sept 1676 m 21 Oct 1698 Michael Grünwald
 - h. Hans Georg, bp 8 Sept 1678, conf 1695, d 9 May 1702
 - i. Nickel m 27 Jan 1711 Maria Magdalena Fischer
 - i. Johann Mathias, bp 23 Feb 1712
 - ii. Johann Nickel, bp 16 Dec 1714
 - iii. Maria Elisabetha, bp 24 May 1716
 - iv. Anna Christina, bp 14 Sept 1718
 - v. Catharina Margaretha, bp 17 Feb 1721
 - vi. Margaretha Elisabetha, bp 4 Mar 1723
 - vii. Maria Magdalena, bp 18 Aug 1725
5. Hans Heinrich Quirin, bp 24 Nov 1656 m1 Anna Elisabetha, m2 Anna Margaretha Klein
 - a. Maria Catharina Quirin m 4 Nov 1710 Nickel Schmidt, b c 1688

QUIRIN FAMILY ANCESTORS OF PETER ENSMINGER

<p>Peter Ensminger B 1694 c 1739</p> <p>m 1719</p> <p>Catharine Trautmann bap 1700</p>	<p>Philipp Jr c 1666 m 1691</p>	<p>Philipp Sr b 1640 d 1712 m 1661</p>	<p>George b 1620 (Waldhambach) m c 1639</p>	<p>Hans Meyer c1575, d1621 (Sarre-Union) m 1617 Margaret (dau of Nicholas) Wagner</p>
	<p>Elizabeth Quirin b 1671 d 1707</p>	<p>Pritius or Britzius b 1648 m 1670 Simmel</p>	<p>Pritius or Britzius (Wolfskirchen) M Elizabeth</p>	
	<p>Christopher b 1660 d 1726 m 1697</p>	<p>Balthasar c 1624 d 1704 (Mattstall) m Dorothy</p>		
	<p>Catharine Emmerick b 1673 - to PA</p>	<p>Diebolt (Lembach) m Catharine</p>		

Some descendants of Pritius "Britz" Kurin Sr immigrated to America and lived in New York State. A Quirin family grave monument is erected in Mount View Cemetery, Olean, Cattaraugus, New York, USA. The following photos from a Find a Grave memorial show the monument and names on the monument. Pritius "Britz" Quirin (Kurin) is listed on the grave monument under the phonetic interpretation of Precious Quirin. The names are shown below in three photographs. First, the monument. The left side of the monument lists the direct male Quirin descendant line from Britz to William. The final photo (right side of monument) lists the Quirin wives.



THE TRAUTMANN FAMILY OF MATTSTALL

Balthasar Trautmann (brother of Arbogast), b bef 1624, d 20 May 1704, m1 Dorthea, c 1746, m2 Christina 25 July 1675 (widow of Hans Eschembrenner)

1. Catharina Trautmann, bp 19 Aug 1647
2. Balthasar Trautmann, bp 23 Mar 1649
3. Nickel Trautmann, bp 9 Oct 1650
4. Peter Trautmann, b c 1654 m 14 Nov 1684 Barbara Uhlmann
5. Catharina Trautmann, bp 2 Feb 1657
6. Dorthea Trautmann, bp 24 Feb 1658
7. Christopher Trautmann, bp 20 May 1660, d 21 June 1726 m1 1 Nov 1684 Margaretha Schleber, b 1655, d 25 May 1696, m2 Catharina Emmerich, bp 15 May 1673 (dau of Diebolt and Catherine of Lembach)
 - a. Christina, bp 9 Dec 1685
 - b. Martin, bp 15 Nov 1687
 - c. Philipp, b 9 July 1698, d 27 June 1715
 - d. Catharina, bp 10 Jan 1700 m 21 Nov 1719 Peter Ensminger, bp 28 Jan 1694, d Oct-Nov 1739. (Children in Part Two)
 - e. Barbara, b 19 April 1703
8. Christina Trautmann, bp 29 Dec 1662
9. Margaretha Trautmann, bp 28 May 1665
10. Barbara Trautmann, bp 20 Oct 1667

WOLFERSBERGER FAMILY

(See *The Wolfersberger-Wolfensberger Family* 1987 by Raymond Martin Bell)

At Ettenhausen, Switzerland (Paternal Lineage Line):

Jacob b 1550, d 1588, m 1575 Elsbeth Knecht
Erhart, b 1581, c 1622, m 1611 Margaretha Lutz
Hans b 1615, d 1688, m 1635 Margaret Banwart
Ulrich b 1637, d 1678, m 1655 Ann Kägi

At Wolschheim, Alsace:

Erhart b 1666, d 1740, m 1689 Ursula Emm
John b 1695, d 1760, m 27 Jan 1721 (Mattstall, Alsace) Margaret Ensminger

John Wolfersberger (son of Erhard of Wolschheim, Alsace) b c 1695, d c 1760 Lebanon Co., PA m (Mattstall, Alsace) 27 Jan 1721 Margaret Ensminger (dau of Philipp Jr) b 21 Sep 21 1697, d 1 Dec 1775 -- to Pennsylvania 29 Aug 1730, nat 1744.

1. (John) Peter b 16 Oct 1721 d 1802; naturalized 1755; m1 c 1744 Apollonia Brunner; m2 6 Mar 1784 Elizabeth
 - a. Frederick b c 1744 d 1795 m c 1773 Elizabeth Neaff
 - b. George Michael bap 15 Mar 1747 d 1789 Culpepper Co., VA m Elizabeth Wenz
 - c. Margaret m1 George Stoned 1783; m2 Daniel Henning b 1755 d 1831
 - d. Peter b 30 Apr 1758 d 29 Dec 1812 m Catharine Burkey
 - e. Anna m 1782 John Thomas b 1761 d 1795
 - f. (John) George b c 1765 d 1816 m c 1794 Eve Miller
 - g. John d 23 Mar 1807 m Elizabeth _____
 - h. Catharine b Jun 1768 d Mar 1769
2. (Mary) Ursula b 29 Aug 1724 d 8 Sep 1727 Langensoultzbach, Alsace
3. (Jacob) Frederick bap 1 Jun 1727 Langensoultzbach, Alsace d 1764 nat 1761, m1 c 1748 Ann Meiser, m2 Elizabeth Smith (Zecht), she m2 Michael Mayer
 - a. Catharine b c 1749 m 1767 Jacob Gemberlin b 1736 d 1824
 - b. John (under 21 - 1764) may have m Catharine ____ d Gallia Co., OH 1827
 - c. Anna Mary
4. John b c 1730 Alsace, bur 18 Nov 1788 Shenandoah Co., VA -- nat 1761 m c 1751 Hannah Summer -- to VA c 1770
 - a. Peter b 1752 d 1834 Knox Co., TN; m1 c 1777 Susanna Miller b 1759 m2 c 1813 Milly Hanson - pension application R11770
 - b. John b 17 Aug 1754 d 17 Nov 1840 Highland Co., OH -- to NC 1778 m c 1778 Christina (dau of Valentine) Frey b 22 Nov 1759
 - c. Benjamin b c 1758 d 1812 Wythe Co., VA, m1 7 Aug 1780 Catharine Brown m2 9 Apr 1798 Elizabeth Miller
 - d. Frederick m Catharine _____, living Greenbrier Co., (now WV) 1830
 - e. Hannah m1 7 Jan 1778 John Gillock d 1783, m2 1 Jun 1784 George Woods
 - f. Philip b 1761 d 1 Oct 1852 Pike Co., OH m1 4 May 1786 Catharine Cooper b 18 Feb 1774 d 14 Feb 1855 -- pension W6575; m2 23 May 1791 Catharine Cooper b 18 Feb 1774
 - g. Mary m 24 Mar 1782 Martin Miller
 - h. Joseph d 1808 Shenandoah Co., VA; m1 3 May 1791 Elizabeth Hoy, m2 8 Feb 1794 Ann McGovern b 1773
 - i. Barbara d bef 1795 m 2 Apr 1788 Joseph Skinner
5. (Mary) Catharine b 3 Aug 1733 Cocalico, Lancaster Co., PA m c 1753 Jacob Tuy - nat 1761
6. (Anna) Mary b c 1736 m c 1756 Martin Heffelfinger b 1733 - nat 1761
7. Philip b 14 Feb 1739 d 14 Jul 1824 m1 c 1766 Susanna _____ b 1745 d 8 Feb 1816, m2 28 May 1818 Charlotte Sihle b 15 Sep 1783 d 15 Jun 1857
 - a. John b 11 Apr 1767 d 8 Sep 1818 m c 1788 Margaret Thomas
 - b. Philip b 8 Sep 1769 d young
 - c. Frederick b 20 Jun 1772 m 12 Nov 1805 Sarah Nuhmann
 - d. Adam b 20 Jan 1774 d 15 Nov 1777
 - e. Philip b 5 Feb 1778 d 3 Aug 1846 m1 26 May 1799 Mary Elizabeth Haak b 30 Aug 1774 d 12 Oct 1821; m2 25 Sep 1827 Barbara Startzer
 - f. Peter b 12 Apr 1780 m 9 Jun 1805 Susanna Dumme
 - g. Jacob b 28 Nov 1782 d young
 - h. Reuben b c 1819

COCALICO

The Ensmingers upon landing at Philadelphia went to Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Here were friends and relatives. Peter was 39. He was followed by his brothers, Nicholas who came in 1738 at 39; Henry in 1741 at 36; and David in 1750 at 40. Peter's sister Margaret married John Wolfersberger in 1721. They came to Pennsylvania in 1730. John Wolfersberger was living in Lebanon Township in 1746. Sister Elizabeth and husband came in 1733, Catherine and husband in 1733.

The Muddy Creek Lutheran Church (Swartzville, PA) lists the baptisms:

Children of Peter: Michael 1735, Margaret 1739

Children of Nicholas: Elizabeth 1742, Henry 1745, Margaret 1747

Rev. John Caspar Stoeber married a number of the Ensmingers.

The events at Cocalico can be summarized:

1733	Sep	Peter arrived (landed 17 Aug)
1735	Mar	Peter naturalized
	Nov	Peter first baptism (Michael)
1738	Oct	Peter got land
	Nov	Nicholas arrived (landed 28 Oct)
1739	Oct	Peter died
1741	Dec	Henry arrived (landed Nov 20)
1742	Apr	Peter first child married (Henry)
	Sep	Nicholas first baptism (Elizabeth)
1744	Mar	Henry Jr married
	Nov	Nicholas first child married (Christina)
1745		Henry Jr first baptism (Catharine)
1747	May	Henry Jr in York County, PA
1750	Sep	David arrived (landed 28 Aug)
1751		David to York County, PA
		Henry, son of Peter, to York County, PA

Other Baptismal Records (All Lutheran except White Oaks):

Location	Father	Baptism Date	Sponsor (sp)
<u>Swartzville (Muddy Creek)</u> (from 1728)	Peter	1735, 1739	Nicholas
	Nicholas	1742, 1745, 1747	Henry 1747
	Henry (of Peter)	1744 (twins), 1746, 1748, 1749, 1751	
	Ludwig	1753	
	Henry Jr	1750, 1753	
	Peter Schmidt	1736, 1739, 1741 1742, 1748	(Ensmingers and Wolfersbergers)
<u>Schaefferstown (St. Paul's)</u> (from c 1760)	Nicholas Jr	1762, 1764, 1775 1777	
	Nicholas (of Peter)	1771	
<u>Lebanon (Salem)</u> (from 1752)	Nicholas (of Peter)	1774	
<u>Bergstrasse (Ephrata Twp)</u> (from 1752)	Henry Jr	1755, 1757	
	Nicholas (of Peter)	1757	
	Philip	1757	
<u>Lancaster (Trinity)</u>	Henry Jr	1760	

<u>York (Christ)</u>	Henry Jr	1747	Henry, of Peter 1757
	David	1753	
	Henry (of Peter)	1754	
	Philip	1757	
<u>Quickel's (Conewago Twp)</u>	Henry (of David)	1798, 1800, 1804	
	David Jr	1767, 1772	
	Conrad's children		
	George's children		
<u>Pastor Stoever</u>	Henry Jr	ca 1745	
<u>White Oaks (Warwick Twp)</u>	Philip	1754, 1756	
Unidentified sponsors (if correct)	1755	Ursula	
	1762	Susanna	

NATURALIZATIONS ON RECORD

Peter	29 Mar 1735
Nicholas	25 Sep 1759
Philip	23 Aug 1762
Henry of York	1 Sep 1765
Frederick of Philadelphia	Sep 1765
Nicholas of Lebanon	Sep 1765

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

Many of the new Ensminger immigrants and their children served their new country in militias during the American Revolutionary War. The following table indicates with an asterisk (*) which Ensminger men served in militias. The units in which those men served are as follows:

Lebanon Twp (now Lebanon Co.)	1782	Capt Baltzer Orth: Christian, Peter, Daniel Capt Michael Holderbaum: Henry Capt David Krause: Jacob, Michael
Derry Twp (now Dauphin Co.)	1778	Capt Robert McKee: David
Antrim Twp (now Franklin Co.)	1781	Capt William Berryhill: Nicholas
York Co.:		Conrad, David, George, Henry
Virginia:		John, Joseph, Joshua
Maryland:		Philip

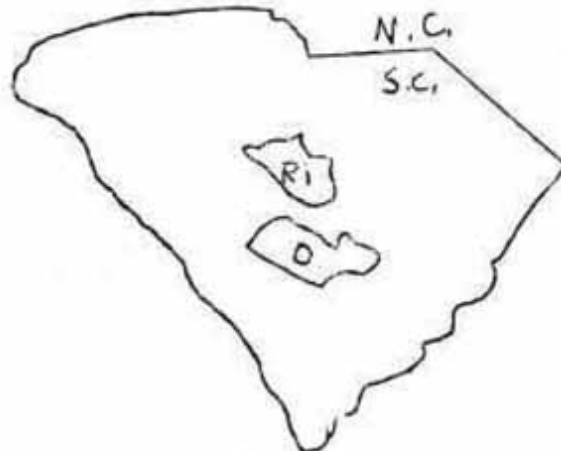
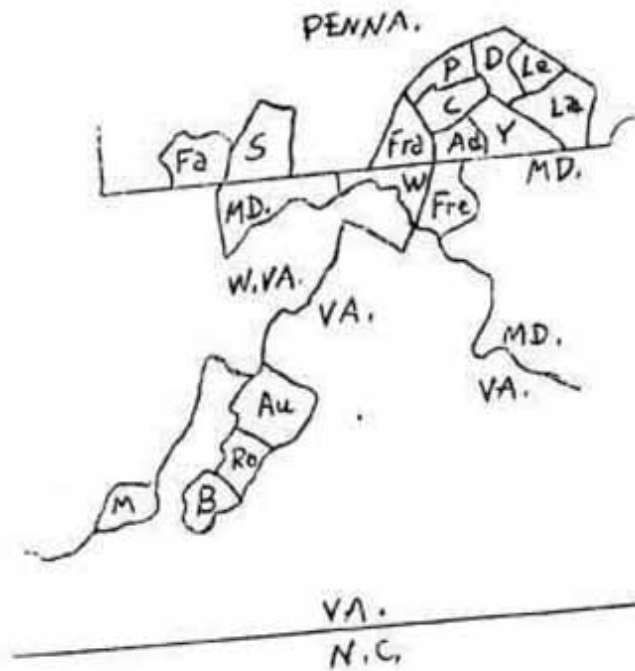
Philipp Jr 1666-after 1730	Peter 1694-1739	Henry 1723-1789	George *	1744-1815
			Conrad *	1747-1783
		Philip* 1727-1807	Andrew	1756-
			Joshua *	1760-1851
			Henry	1765-
			Elijah	1769-
			Anthony	1773-1825
			Philip	1777-
		Nicholas 1732-1781	Peter*	1755-1814
			Daniel*	1757-1802
			Jacob*	1759-1837
			Christian*	1762-1836
			Jonathan	1776-1853
		Michael* 1735-1822	Henry*	1757-1833
			Samuel	1763-1840
			Michael	1774-1811
	Nicholas 1699-1786	Ludwig 1731-1761	Ludwig	1753-1792
			Christian	1759-1816
			Leonard	1764-
		Nicholas* 1736-1815	Jacob	1766-1850
			Henry	1771-1832
George			1775-1830	
Philip			1777-	
John			1780-1850	
John*			1757-1830	
Joseph*			1760-1829	
Henry 1705-	Henry 1725-1806	David	1762-1841	
		Philip	1764-	
		Jonathan	1766-1844	
		David 1710-1770	David* 1738-1785	Henry*
		David	1780-	

Ensminger Men - The First Four American Generations

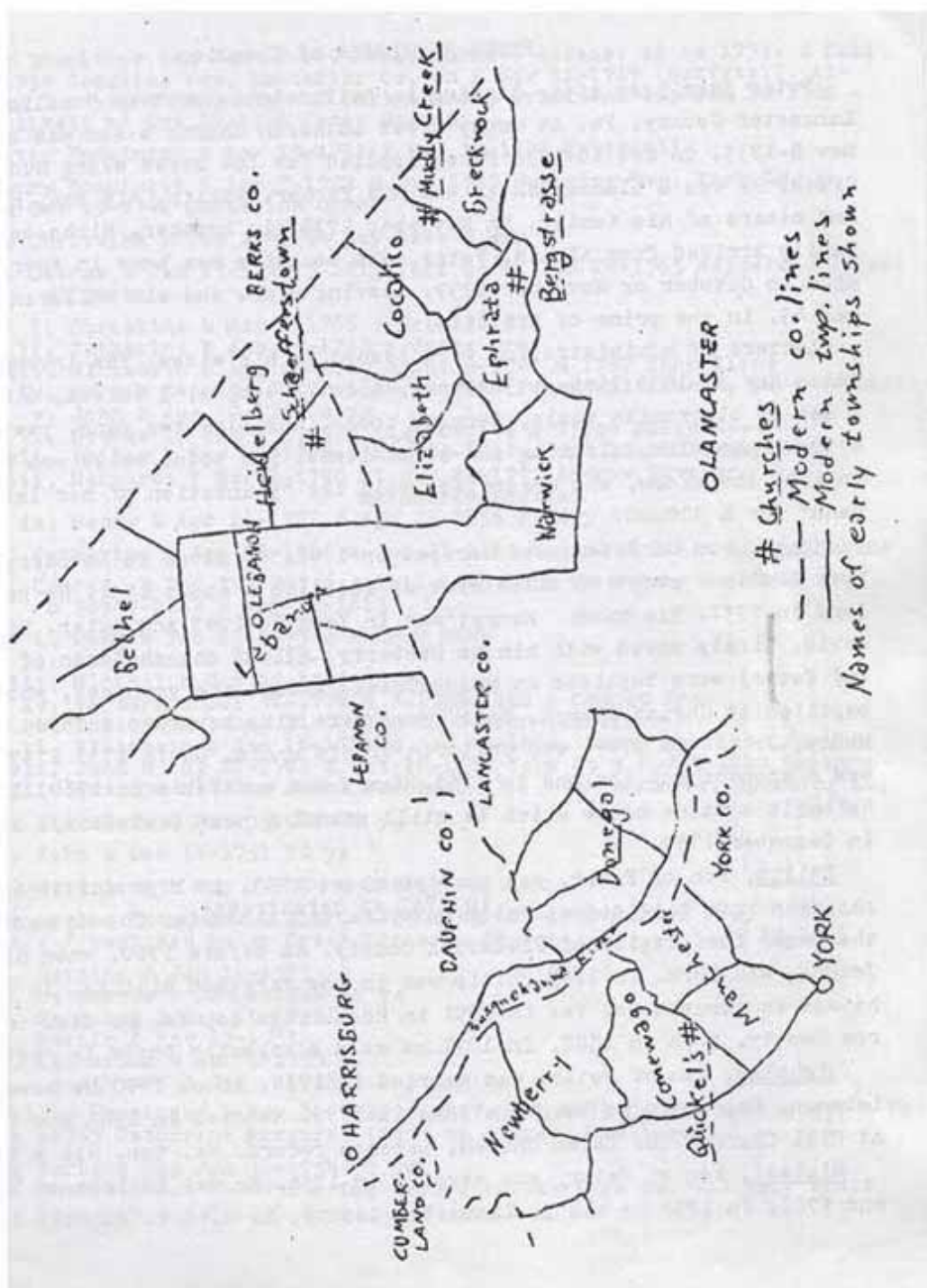
Philipp Jr 11	Peter 22	Henry 37	George 50 Conrad 51	George 77, Philip 78, Henry 79 John 80
		Philip 38	Andrew Joshua 52 Henry Anthony 53	Andrew 81, Philip 82, John 83, Riley 84 Jacob 85, John 86, Jonathan 87, Joshua 88
		Nicholas 39	Peter 54 Daniel Jacob 55 Christian 56 Jonathan 57	John 89 John 90, Jacob 91, Henry 92, George 93 John 94, David 95, Daniel 96, Jacob 97, Joseph, 98, William 99 Jacob
		Michael 40	Henry Samuel 58 Michael 59 Emanuel 60	John, Samuel 100, Philip 101, Emanuel 102, Frederick 103 Joseph 104, Philip 105, Samuel 106, William 107 Benjamin 108, Lewis 109, Stephen 110, John 111
	Nicholas 23	Ludwig 41	Ludwig 61 Christian 62	John 112, Philip 113, George 114 Ludwick 115, David 116, Martin 117, Christian
		Nicholas 42	Jacob 63 Henry 64 George 65 John 66	Andrew 118, Henry 119, Daniel, John 120, Philip, Cornelius 121, Samuel 122 Michael 123, George 124 John 125, Peter
	Henry 24	Henry 43	John 67 Joseph 68 David 69 Philip 70 Jonathan 71	David 126, John 127 John 128, Samuel 129, James 130, Joseph 131 John 132, David 133, Alexander 134, Lewis 135 John 136, Philip John 137, Elijah 138
	David 25	David 44 Henry 45	David 72 Samuel 73	Peter 139 Henry 140

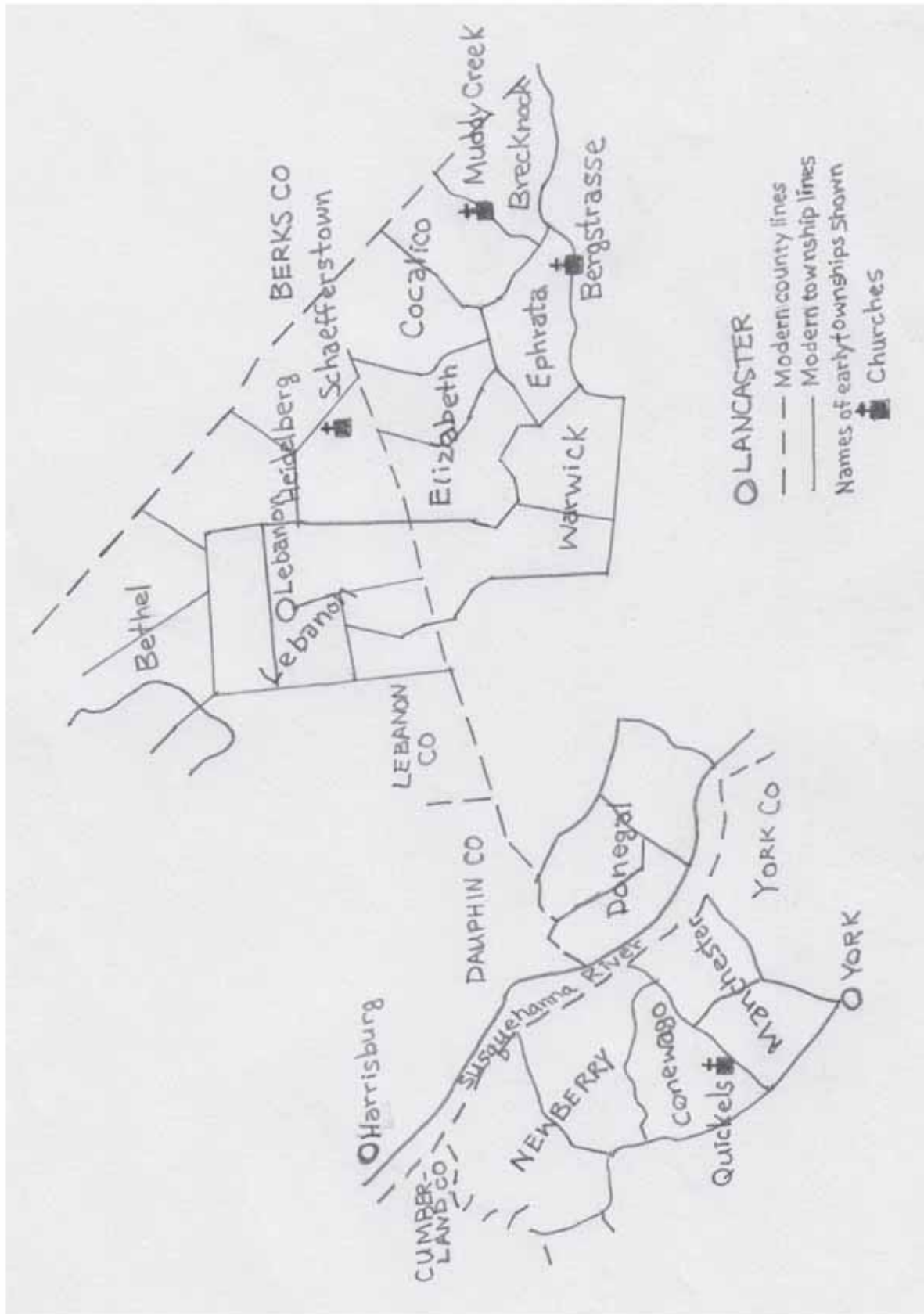
Numbers following the names refer to the sections in Part Two for men with issue. Ensminger males who died before reaching adulthood are not included in the above table.

COUNTIES IN WHICH
ENSMINGERS LIVED



Ad	Adams
Au	Augusta
B	Botetourt
C	Cumberland
D	Dauphin
Fa	Fayette
Fra	Franklin
Fre	Frederick
La	Lancaster
Le	Lebanon
M	Monroe
O	Orangeburg
P	Perry
Ri	Richland
Ro	Rockbridge
S	Somerset
W	Washington
Y	York







Other Ensminger Histories

- Evelyn S Warren: ANDREW AND ISABELLA ENSMINGER BATTERTON 1974, 25 pgs, Springfield, MO; Isabella b 1823, d 1880 - see Part Two, sec 87 xi, pg 33.
- Marion Eugene Ensminger: THE ENSMINGER ROOTS 1981, 10 pgs, Clovis, CA; Marion b 1908, d 1998 - see Part Two, sec 522, pgs 292, 391.
- Vernon Neil Ensminger: THE CHARLES H AND MARY E ENSMINGER FAMILY, 1984, Zanesville, Ohio; Vernon b 1928, d 2001 - see Part Two, sec 772, pgs 412, 471.
- Robert D Sherry: AN ENSMINGER FAMILY FROM ALSACE, 1990, 64 pgs, Point Pleasant, WV; his ancestor Conrad Ensminger b 1711, d 1775 - see this Part One, pg 27.
- Brendan Wehrung: ENSMINGER OF WALDHAMBACH, 1992, 46 pgs, Royal Oak, MI; his ancestor Adam Ensminger b 1706, d 1750 - see Part Two, sec 32, pgs 11, 18.
- Wanda Starman: AN ENSMINGER FAMILY FROM ALSACE TO IOWA, 154 pgs, traces 14 generations with U.S. descent from Peter Ensminger b 1838, d 1911 and wife Caroline Bieber; with Peter Ensminger descending from Nicolaus Ensminger b 1709, d 1781 - see Part Two, sec 33, pgs 11, 19.
- Thomas Aaron Jr Entzminger: GENEALOGIES OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILIES IN SOUTHWESTERN NEW YORK STATE (1830-1955), 182 pgs. His immigrant ancestor is Johann Christian Ensminger b 1709, d 1753 - see Part Three, pgs 5, 8.
- Donald Edwin Ensminger: On and On to Eternity, a Record of the Ensminger Family in America, 468 pages. His immigrant ancestor is Nicholas Ensminger **23**. Donald's book lists all Ensmingers in America he was able to document. His book groups the families in separate sections since he was unable to establish connections between them. His groupings include people from the following families: members of the Ensmingers of Pennsylvania, the Ensmingers of Louisiana, the Ensmingers of Allen County, Kansas, Russian-German Ensmingers, and some of the Ensmingers of Tonawanda, Erie Co., NY.