

## HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

The period from 1740 to 1763 was one of conflict and privation in what is now southern West Germany. The War of Austrian Succession and the Seven Years War resulted in great hardship and oppressive military servitude. For this reason, many persons living in the area known as the Palatinate wished to leave their homeland. Pennsylvania offered one of the brightest prospects for resettlement because of the declared policy of freedom from religious persecution and the abundant resources for agricultural development. Permission to leave the homeland was very difficult to obtain, but many migrated, with or without permission, by way of the Rhine River Valley and the Port at Rotterdam. Here they secured passage, usually on a British ship, that took them to America. An interesting, first hand account of such a trip was written by Gottlieb Mittleberger. He was a passenger on the ship "Osgood" which arrived in Philadelphia in September 1750. By happenstance, Andreas Harter, whose name will appear later as an ancestor of some of us, was also a passenger on the "Osgood". Mittleberger was delivering an organ to New Providence, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. He stayed in America four years and then returned to Germany where he wrote his book, Journey to Pennsylvania. His object was to persuade his fellow countrymen not to make the trip to the new world because "all was not as rosy as pictured" by the Newlanders (agents of the ship captains). However, this did not stop the migration. The splendors of the New World glistened in contrast to the miseries of the homeland, and thousands of oppressed persons welcomed the opportunities of a new life in America.

One such person was our ancestor, John Adam Wuertemberger. He was a protestant and settled in or near Reading, Pennsylvania, where some of the records pertaining to him and to the birth and baptism of some of his children can be found in the records of the Trinity Lutheran Church. He may have come to America as early as about 1750, but the

circumstances regarding his arrival are mostly presumptions colored by several seemingly unrelated traditions and items discovered by research.

A tradition among the Wattenberger descendants is to the effect that a mother and five sons arrived at Philadelphia on the ship "Shirley" on 5 September 1751. The ship list shows the names of H. Georg Wurtenberger and H. Michael Wurtenberg(er). Both signed their name with an X. The signature of Johan Adam Wirdeberger, presumed by some researchers to have been our ancestor, appears on the list for the ship "Neptune" on 24 September 1751. It is, of course, possible that these were three of five sons; the other two, if less than age sixteen, would not have appeared on a ship list.

A Whittenberger tradition is that three brothers arrived in America and that two returned to their homeland. In this connection it is noted that a George Wirtenberger, possibly H. Georg, appears on the coventry rate for Chester County, Pennsylvania, 1765-1771.

The tradition handed down by the Lewis Wertenberger (122) line is that our ancestor was a stowaway.

Etna (Wertenberger) Anderson (726), wrote in 1964:

"My father, Ephraim, told me that the Wertenberger of which we are descendants came from Wüerttemberg, Germany. He was a government official of some kind, a count or something. Anyway, Dad said there wasn't room for him and the government officials; so he came to America".

It is also reported that Ephraim inferred that our ancestor fled or left Germany unannounced. It is noted that Charles Eugene of the House of Wüerttemberg was ruler of the province from 1737 to 1793. According to S. Baring-Gould in The Land of Teck and it's Neighbors, the period was one of cruel suffering for the people but of great court splendor. He sold 6,000 young men to France in 1753 for foreign military service, and after separation from his wife in 1754, "he gave full range to his worst passions".

The Pennsylvania German Folklore Society, Vo. 16, 1951,

includes a List of Emigrants from Zweibruecken, 1750-1771, Oberamt Bergzabern, which shows for the year 1753:

*Not a  
Bernhard  
Adam Wirthembecher  
page 4.*

"Johann Adam Wurtenberger of Ilbesheim leaves for America. Bernhard Wuertenbecher with wife and children leaves for America".

It is noted that this Johann Adam Wurtenberger who left Germany in 1753 could hardly have been the same as the Johann Adam Wirdeberger who arrived in Philadelphia in 1751.

Research conducted in Germany by Jürgen Nickchen in connection with this publication disclosed records in the Reformed Church of Ilbesheim, near Landau, in the province of Rhineland-Palatinate regarding the family of Johannes Wirthembecher (Wirthembacher) who died in 1743. His children included Bernhard, born in 1722 and Johann Adam, born in 1733, possibly those appearing on the list of emigrants from Zweibruecken, cited above. Note that the location of Ilbesheim is not within the bounds of Baden-Württemberg, the province from which it appears likely John Adam Würtemberger, our ancestor, came to America. Also, the family name Wirthembecher seems somewhat removed from Würtemberger as it appears in nearly all cases in the Trinity Lutheran Church records in Reading, Pennsylvania. While many different spellings of the Wuertemberger name have been found in America, the spelling Wirthembecher is not one of them.

As of this time, it is not known whether or not our ancestor was married when he came to America. The first authentic date related to him was found in the records of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading, Pennsylvania, where on 5 March 1757, he and his wife, Anna Maria, presented their son, John Jacob, for baptism.

The research carried out by Jürgen Nickchen may, in fact, relate to our family but the connection has not been proved. It is presented here with the hope that others doing further research may find it useful. Some comments have been added to the report.

The following records are from the church books of a Reformed Church in Ilbesheim, a village near Landau, in the Palatinate region of Germany. The records began in 1722.

Johannes Wirthembecher died 21 May 1743 (age 50) at Ilbesheim. He was a former citizen and resident there. (This would indicate he was born about 1693).

Anna Maria, the surviving widow of the late Joh. Wirthembecher, died 8 Sept. 1756 (age 61). (Indicating she was born about 1695).

Their children: Surname: Wirthembecher

(All were baptized at Ilbesheim. There were probably older children whose baptismal records were in an earlier book.)

1. Bernhard - bapt. 24 April 1722 Sponsors: Bernhard Dörner (Doerner), citizen of Ilbesheim, and his lawful wedded wife, Anna Catharina. Bernhard (b. 1722) was married 26 Sept. 1747 to Anna Catharina Clunden. In Maryland Marriages, 1634-1777, compiled by Robert Barnes, there is record of a marriage for John Bernh't Wurtenbecker to Mary Eva Hein on 22 March 1757. This marriage was recorded at First German Evangelical Reformed Church in Frederick County, Maryland. Possibly the Bernhard who came from Ilbesheim in 1753 and possibly a second marriage for him. There were also records of marriages for Adam, Elizabeth and Mary Wertenbecker in Frederick County in 1785, 1786 and 1792 who could have been Children of Bernhard Wurtenbecker.

2. Johann Adam - bapt. 29 Oct. 1724 Sponsors: Johann Adam Wirthembecher, citizen and shoemaker in Landau, and Petronella, his lawful wedded wife. This child died 14 Feb. 1727.

3. Johann Jacob - bapt. 3 Feb. 1726 Sponsors: Johann Jacob Wirthembecher, citizen and butcher at Landau, and Judith, his lawful wedded wife. Johann Jacob (b. 1726) possibly emigrated, however this is not certain.

4. Thomas - bapt. 11 July 1728 Sponsors: Thomas Schmid, citizen and inhabitant there (Ilbesheim), and Maria Magdalena, his lawful wedded wife. Thomas (b. 1728) died 9 Sept. 1743.

5. Maria Petronella - bapt. 17 Dec. 1730 Sponsors: Johann Henrich Krebs, citizen and cooper in Leinsweiler, and Maria Petronella, lawful wedded wife of Joh (ann) Adam Wirthembecher, citizen and shoemaker at Landau. Maria (b. 1730) died 24 April 1743.

6. Johann Adam - bapt. 6 April 1733 Sponsors: Johann Adam Wirthembecher, citizen and shoemaker at Landau, and Anna Apollonia, lawful wedded wife of Mr. Andreas Köhler (Kochler), Village Mayor at Ilbesheim.

7. Matthes - bapt. 9 Sept. 1736 Sponsors: Matthes Wirthembecher, citizen and shoemaker at Ilbesheim, and Catharina, his lawful wedded wife. Matthes (b. 1736) married at Albersweiler on 14 July 1758 to Barbara Pfuster.

In all probability Johann Adam, Johann Jacob and Matthes Wirthembecher were brothers to Johannes Wirthembecher and were named sponsors for Johannes' sons, as such an arrangement was common practice.

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Filler material.

Excerpt from THERE GOES CHARLEY'S BICYCLE, 1972, by Bill (No. 655), Whittenberger, 503 unnumbered pages, Bartel Printing, Warsaw, Ind.

Regarding his father, Sumner Bruce Whittenberger:

"SBW was the only Ford agent in USA who couldn't drive the cars he sold. He employed many drivers.....including Chauncy Tucker and Franzyl Hayworth. They were his favorites and he created a Claypool expression still in use; start the motor, Franzl. SBW was Ford's first agent to publish new Ford owners names in the local paper, running ads in both the CLAYPOOL JOURNAL (Indiana) and the SILVER LAKE RECORD. Some of his other firsts were breeding and selling 'Belgum Mules', first to sell a Ford tractor, first to have harness and buggies made to order under the Whittenberger name, first to buy oil by the car load. He advertised, 'Buy from the small town dealer---low overhead---we buy our salt by the carload--sugar by the barrel and flour in 100 lb. bags.' People always wondered why SBW didn't move to Warsaw (Indiana) and get into the big time. His theory was stock the best, sell reasonable, and advertise. He used newspapers, sale bills and dodgers. He served free coffee, hot dogs and soup at his auctions, gave his buyers and regular customers free tickets for Wonderley's Restaurant and Ladies Aid chicken dinners. He would take his prospects to the factory and one time went to Chicago and bought three Fryber pianos---one for Willodean, one for Loehrs, and one for the Erba Kinsey family. He bought coal, corn, apples, potatoes by the carload for resale, either at auction or retail. He sold Kiblinger buggy autos, Model T Fords, Maxwell cars, Studebaker wagons, Columbia buggies, bought and sold lots during the Gas City (Indiana) boom and built the first concrete block building.....He started Farmers Institute (and) Boys of Claypool; followed Billy Sunday to Chicago, Detroit and Indianapolis. (He was the) only member who could recite the IOOF Lodge pledge and gave initiations all over northern Indiana. Ran in fat man race with Merle Downing and Bill Jamison. Played tennis at 350 pounds. Yes, here was a super salesman!"

Regarding his mother, Mary Anna (Kinsie) Whittenberger:

"Mother Anna was a very thrifty woman. She made do---and repaired everything. Nothing was thrown away. She might have invented recycling! .....If she couldn't fix a garment or utensil at once, it went to the attic for future attention. She made everything from dresses to bedding, even mattresses. These were made with sheeting stuffed with chicken feathers and quilted on the

sewing machine in six inch strips. Anna made all of her own clothes and Willodean's clothes, and all of Wade and Bill's clothes, even pants, till we were ten years old. The sewing scraps went into quilts and warm comforters. After garments were past mending days, she tore into strips to sew together, to hook, braid, weave or crochet, attractive rugs for her rough floors. She made her own sheets from unbleached muslin, sometimes from sugar sacks. On wash days the sheets were boiled in a copper boiler on the back of our kitchen wood range, then rinsed well and hung in the sun to bleach. She had a large truck patch on our lot one block from home and raised everything but potatoes and corn. These were raised on our big truck patch on the Whittenberger farm which Wade or Bill tended. The tin cooking pans were soldered by Tommy Tinker of Packerton and used and used and resoldered. Anna saved her own seed from vegetables and flowers and dried them through the winter. Fruits and vegetables were dried on the tin roof over our porch. She ground corn and wheat from our farm. Ground wheat made a fine breakfast food. She canned vegetables, fruits and meat. The best meat I ever ate was her canned beef and pork tenderloin. She sugar-cured hams and bacon..... Salt came from the Whittenberger livery barn, molasses and honey stretched the sugar supply. Her community yeast helped her bake bread and biscuits every Monday and Friday. Her 200 laying hens kept us in eggs and a 'chicken every Sunday.' Milk came from the farm. Eggs were traded at Strayer's store for sugar. Butter was churned in a hand churn and she and SBW drank the buttermilk. Yes, Anna was thrifty, but we were well cared for, Bill, Willodean and Wade."

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Excerpt from a letter to the Editor from H. Galen Wertenberger, Norcatur, Kansas, 28 December 1967.

"Yes, I remember very well the day Grandpa and Grandma (William and Mary Wertenberger) came to Kansas, but I cannot give you the date. I was at the school. I remember that they brought some dried apples 'snitz' along with some good Indiana apples. They lived in three different houses in Norcatur; all small except one and this Grandpa bought a small tract, maybe 8 acres, just west of the Norcatur Cemetery and built a house, I believe it was a five room house and it is still standing and never has been vacant for very long. I know they were living there in 1906 when Mother, Aldula and I were back in Indiana on a visit.... I remember of George and Edmond (William's brothers) coming to visit there.

Now, this Mollie Wertenberger married a Funk and they lived at Jennings, Kansas, s.w. of Norcatur, maybe 18 or 20 miles. She has a Granddaughter that lives in Norton and she works in the Dr.'s clinic in Norton. I see her every time I go to see my Dr. I call her Cousin Mary. These Funks were mostly all doctors or dentists, and most all played some kind of a musical instrument. I remember of Grandpas and us going to see them once in a while.

Well, as I remember Grandma, she never said much. The first Christmas they were out here, she gave me a boy doll and I still have what is left of it after all our children played with it. I do remember the last year that they lived here, she put her arm around my waist and said, 'when you get old enough to vote, you vote Republican' ". H. Galen Wertenberger (No. 745, p. 211)

## THE IMMIGRANT AND FIRST GENERATION IN AMERICA

(1)

### JOHN ADAM WÜERTEMBERGER

John Adam, our immigrant ancestor, was probably single when he came to America in the 1750's. The exact date has not been established. By 1758 he and his wife, Anna Maria, (maiden name unknown) were living in or near Reading, Cumru Township, Pennsylvania. No marriage record was found, but as man and wife they presented a son, John Jacob, for baptism on 5 March 1758 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading, Pennsylvania. It appears that John Jacob was born almost a year earlier, place uncertain.

The 1763 Weiser lot list of Warrants and Patents for Reading, Pennsylvania shows Adam Würtemberger's name in relation to Lot # 335 on Clement Street in Reading. His name appears within the outline of lot # 335 on the City Plat Maps but no date of patent is provided as appears for most of the lots. (Reference: Internal Affairs Monthly Bulletin, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Vo. 22, # 6 and 7 May-June 1954 pp. 11-22).

John Adam Würtemberger and wife, Anna Maria, were sponsors at the baptism of John Adam Zimmerman on 18 May 1764 at Trinity Lutheran Church.

On 15 September 1782, Adam Würtemberger, widower, and daughter, Mary, partook of The Lord's Supper at Trinity Lutheran Church. Therefore, it is presumed that Anna Maria had died sometime between 1764 and 1782. This was the last entry for John Adam, Sr. in the records of Trinity Lutheran Church, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

No death or tombstone records have been found for John Adam, or his wife, Anna Maria. A burial ground, adjacent to the Old Church House, is now beneath part of the present church. A record of the old stones did not include the Würtemberger name.

The following excerpt provides information about the church to which the early Würtembergers belonged.

"Trinity Lutheran Church came into being with the founding of the town of Reading. The town was laid out in 1748... no records were kept until 1751 .... that the congregation was organized before that time is attested by the record of a congregational meeting held on Epiphany Day 1752 .... that speaks of the re-election of church officers .... the ground was conveyed to the congregation ... by Conrad Weiser in 1752. The church .... was constructed of logs, with galleries on three sides, surmounted by a steeple ... was dedicated ... on 17 June 1753. A flourishing school was connected with Trinity Church prior to 1759, when a large building was erected on a lot immediately across Washington Street from the church building. Parochial schools of this type were forerunners of the local school system". (from A Brief Historical Sketch of Trinity Church by Rev. Gunnar Knudsen, May 1945)

According to the Church Secretary, John Adam Wüertemberger was not among the founders of Trinity Lutheran Church in Reading. The family name was not found in the records of this church after 3 November 1790.

Tax records for Cumru Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, for 1781 lists the following:

Adam Wortemberger, stocking weaver;  
Jacob Wertemberger, stocking weaver;  
Adam Vortemberger, single, freeman.

These were, no doubt, Adam, Sr. and his two eldest sons. Stocking weavers, and others able to produce finished goods, were much in demand during and after the Revolutionary War. Prior to that time the colonies were expected to supply England with raw materials, and were mostly prohibited from engaging in the manufacture of finished goods which were instead purchased from English firms.

The 1790 Federal Census indicates that John Adam, Sr. may have been living with either his son, Adam, Jr. in Berks County, or with another son, George, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Both households had two males over age 16 in their household.

The Wüertemberger name appears in several forms in the translated church records and elsewhere. More than twenty-five different spellings of the name have been found by those



contributing to this publication. No Wüertemberger, under any of the various spellings, was found in the 1800 Federal Census for Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Children: 5, probably others Surname: Wüertemberger

- p. 47 -
- (2)\* 1. John Jacob - b. 28 March 1757
  - (3)\* 2. John Adam, Jr. - b. 22 Feb. 1760
  - (4)\* 3. John George - b. 4 May 1762
  - (5) 4. Anna Maria - b. 20 Nov. 1764, baptized 9 Dec. 1764.

Pennsylvania Archives, Sixth Series, Vo. VI, page 199 provides records of Rev. John Waldschmid 1724-1789. He served several northern Lancaster County Congregations, some of which later joined with the Reading church.

One entry in his records is:

Weber, Catharina, daughter of Bastian and Anna Maria born 17 Feb. 1783; baptized 8 June 1783.  
Sponsors: Jacob Wirthenberger and wife, Catharine.

It is not unreasonable to suppose that Anna Maria, wife of Bastian Weber, was a sister of Jacob Wirthenberger.

(6) 5. Mary Rosina - birthdate uncertain. She was admitted to Communion for the first time on Easter 1779. Mary and her father partook of The Lord's Supper on 15 Sept. 1782. Mary Wurtenberger and Henry Frentzler were sponsors at the baptism of Wilhelm Wurtenberger 1 May 1785 at St. John's Reformed Church in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Wilhelm was the son of Adam Wurtenberger and wife. (Judged to be Adam, Jr.) No further record for Mary Rosina has been found, but it is noted that a Frederick Fensler was one of the executors of Adam Wattenberger's will, 1825, Washington County, Tennessee.

(Note: An asterisk (\*) beside a number in () means that more data will be found for that person as the number comes up in the manuscript.)

The baptismal dates for John Jacob, John George and Anna Maria were recorded at Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading, Pennsylvania. It is presumed the other two known children were born while the family attended the same church.

Another record found at Trinity Church was that for Ludwig Wüertemberger, single sponsor at the baptism of Elizabeth Neuhard on 11 November 1760. One might wonder if Elizabeth's mother was a sister to Ludwig. It is not known what relationship Ludwig was to John Adam, Sr. Suggested possibilities include an older son, a younger brother, or cousin. Ludwig served in John Leshner's Company of Col. Patton's Battalion, Berks County, Pennsylvania Militia in 1776.

There is record of a Ludwig Wertenberger having taken the oath of allegiance at Baltimore, Maryland during the period 1777-1778. This was likely the same Ludwig Wertenberger who was one of the signers of the Constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, Baltimore, Maryland, 10 June 1769. (A History of the Zion Church of the City of Baltimore, 1755-1897 by Pastor Julius Hofman, 1905). The records of the Zion Church show the names of Eliza and William Wirtenberger, and the death, on 6 Aug. 1794, of Ludwig Wirtenberg, age 57. This indicates he was born about 1737, signed the Church Constitution at age 32 and took the oath of allegiance at age 40 or 41. Whether or not this was the same Ludwig as the one in the Reading, Pennsylvania area is not known.

- (148)\* 3. Catharine - b. ca. 1836 Stark Co., Ohio
- (149)\* 4. Hannah - b. ca. 1838 Stark Co., Ohio
- (150) 5. John - b. ca. 1841 Stark Co., Ohio (?). Living in 1884. He was, no doubt, the John Wertenberger who married Mary Ellen Mummert on 30 Oct. 1862, Stark Co., Ohio, by S.S. Geib, J.P. According to deed records, John Wertenberger of Kosciusko Co., Indiana purchased 30 acres from Alfred Humble in Kosciusko Co., Ind. on 4 July 1868 and John and Mary Ellen Wertenberger, residents of Stark Co., Ohio, sold this land to Ben. Strickler, 16 April 1869.
- (151)\* 6. Rachel - b. ca. 1843 Stark Co., Ohio (?)
- (152)\* 7. Jacob, Jr. - b. ca. 1845 Stark Co., Ohio (?)
- (153)\* 8. Daniel - b. 30 Sept. 1847 (age 3 in 1850, however, the date of birth on his tombstone is 1845).
- (154) 9. Elias - b. Jan. 1852, probably in Portage Co., Ohio and d. 1900. (1852-1900 were the dates on his stone in Hartville New Cemetery, located on the west edge of Hartville, Ohio.) He married Valina Lilly in 1873 (1900 census data). She was b. 1851 and d. 1904 according to tombstone data from her stone in New Hartville Cemetery. She was the daughter of Peter Lilly, b. ca. 1829 Ohio (1870 census data). A Peter Lilly was reported to have been one of the earliest settlers in Lake Twp., Stark Co., Ohio. He came from Pennsylvania. It is not known if this Peter Lilly was her father or grandfather. Probably her grandfather.

According to 1870 census data, Eli Wertenberger was a farm laborer, age 18, living in the household of S.S. Geib, Lake Twp., Stark County. In 1880, same county and township, he was a mail-carrier, age 28, with wife, Valina, age 29. The 1900 census for Lake Twp., Stark Co., Ohio gives his birth as Jan. 1852, b. Ohio. His wife, Valina, was b. July 1851. They had been married 27 years and had never had any children.

- (155) 10. Anna C. - b. May 1855 (probably in Portage Co.) and d. 1906. She married John F. Cochlin in 1873. (According to the 1900 census they had been married 27 years.) John F. was b. May 1849 in Ohio and d. 1925. Their stones in St. Jacob's Evangelical Cemetery, Lake Twp., Stark Co., Ohio, gives only the year of their birth and death.

In 1880, John F. and Anna C. Cochlin lived in Lake Twp., Stark Co., Ohio, but by 1900 they were in Plain Twp., Stark County.

Their five children were born in Ohio, and from census data they were: Emma, b. ca. 1874; Anthony, b. ca. 1877; Erma, b. March 1886; Bina, b. Feb. 1889; and Zebulon, b. Nov. 1897. Anna stated in the 1900 census that she was the mother of 5 children, with all 5 still living. Since Emma and Anthony were not listed in the household of their parents in 1900 it is presumed they had married and established homes of their own.

(37)

PHILIP WERTENBERGER (son of # 4)

Born: 1 June 1810 Stark Co., Ohio

Died: 6 April 1873 Laketon, Wabash Co., Ind. (age 62-10-24). Philip and his two wives were buried in the old part of Laketon Cemetery, sometimes known as the Ijamsville Cemetery.

Wife: # 1 Susanna Harter

Born: 1 April 1812 (according to tombstone data), other sources say she was b. 31 March 1811. and baptized 11 Aug. 1811 in Franklin Co., Pennsylvania.

Married: 19 April 1832 Stark Co., Ohio by Rev. John Jacob Fast, Lutheran.

Died: 17 Feb. 1848 Laketon, Wabash Co., Ind. (age 35-10-16 according to tombstone data).

Her parents were Christian Harter, b. ca. 1775 Penn. - d. prior to 23 Aug. 1828 Franklin Co., Penn., and his first wife, Elizabeth Musser. Elizabeth was the daughter of Adam Musser of Cocalico Twp., Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania.

Philip and Susanna were first cousins, his mother and her father having been brother and sister. They moved to Wabash Co., Ind. in 1837 according to the Wabash County, Indiana History, 1884 by T.B. Helm, but between 1843 and 1846 as judged by the recorded birth place of some of their children. They were charter members of Zion Lutheran Church in North Manchester, Indiana 28 May 1846.

Philip owned 160 acres, the southwest quarter of Section 2, just north of the town of Laketon, the second town established in the county. The old home and barn on this property were in use

in 1981.

Philip was one of the first Trustees of Pleasant Township, and the first school house near Laketon is said to have been built on the property line between Philip and his brother, George.

Children: 6

Surname: Wertenberger

- (156)\* 1. Isaac - b. 6 May 1833 Stark Co., Ohio  
(157) 2. Mary Ann - b. 28 Aug. 1835 - d. 28 Aug. 1857  
(age 22). Buried in the old part of Laketon Cemetery.  
(158)\* 3. Lydia - b. 7 July 1838 Stark Co., Ohio  
(159)\* 4. William - b. 19 June 1840 Stark Co., Ohio  
(160) 5. Levi - b. 30 March 1843 Stark Co., Ohio. He  
enrolled in the Third Indiana Light Artillery at Wabash, Indiana  
11 Aug. 1862 for a period of three years. Mustered in 22 Aug.  
1862 at Indianapolis, Indiana. Age, 19; eyes, dark; hair, dark;  
complexion, fair; height, 5' 9"; nativity, Stark Co., Ohio;  
occupation, farmer. He was discharged 24 July 1865 at Selma,  
Alabama.

In 1880 Levi lived in the home of John Blunt, Ijamsville, Indiana, as a sawmill laborer. In 1900 he was in Pleasant Twp., Wabash County, in the home of his sister and husband, Thomas and Eliza (Wertenberger) Gamble. According to the obituary of his brother, John, he was living in 1920. It is said he was murdered in Knoxville, Tennessee for his pension check. He was unmarried.

- (161)\* 6. Eliza J. - b. 1 Sept. 1847 Wabash Co., Ind.

Wife: # 2 Mrs. Elizabeth (Petree) Bowers

Born: 5 April 1820 Penn.

Married: 17 Oct. 1848 Wabash Co., Ind. (Bk. A, p. 89)

Died: 5 May 1897 (age 77 yrs. and 1 mo.). Buried in the old part of Laketon Cemetery. Her father was Samuel Petree, age 78 in 1880, a hatter living in Laketon, Indiana.

Children: 5 (all b. Wabash Co., Ind.)

Surname: Wertenberger

- (162)\* 7. Abi - b. 12 May 1850  
(163)\* 8. Benjamin - b. 15 Sept. 1851  
(164)\* 9. John - b. 3 March 1853

(165) 10. Sarah C. - b. 23 Feb. 1855 - d. 26 April 1857  
(age 2-2-3). Buried in the old part of Laketon Cemetery.

(166) 11. Philip. Jr. - b. 20 Oct. 1859. He was living in  
1920 according to the obituary of his brother, John.

Philip, Jr. was employed in the accounting department of the  
Chicago Terminal Transfer Railroad Company in 1903. He is said  
to have died in Canada.

Philip, Jr. married twice and by his first wife had two known  
children. They were: Howard, living in Chicago in 1955 as  
Howard Wertenberg (no er on the end of the name); and Ethel M.,  
daughter of P. and E. Wertenberger, d. 3 Sept. 1884 (age 11 mo.  
and 3 days). Buried in Laketon Cemetery.

Philip, Jr. married (#2) Eunice (\_\_\_\_\_) and had one  
daughter, name unknown.

The History of Wabash County, Indiana 1884, p. 446, states  
that Philip and Elizabeth Wertenberger were proprietors of  
Wertemberger's Addition of Ijamsville (South Laketon), located  
north of the original plat in Section 14, Twp., 29, Range 6. This  
consisted of 28 lots with new streets east and west. Acknowledged  
12 May 1882 and recorded 17 May 1882. If true, the addition  
appears not to have been developed.

(38)

SARAH (SALLY) WERTENBERGER (dau. of # 4)

Born: 10 Dec. 1812 Stark Co., Ohio

Married: 12 July 1832 Stark Co., Ohio by Rev. John Jacob  
Fast, Lutheran.

Died: 15 March 1878 (age 65-3-5)

Husband: Daniel Werner

Born: 10 Oct. 1810 Penn.

Died: 31 July 1892 (age 81-9-22). They were buried in  
Werner Chapel Cemetery, located one and one-half miles northeast  
of Middlebranch, Nimishillen Twp., Stark Co., Ohio.

Daniel's parents were Henry Werner, Sr., b. 29 March 1778  
Penn. - d. 7 Nov. 1861 Stark Co., Ohio; and his wife, Susanna  
Shaffer, b. 12 Oct. 1784 Germany - d. 15 Dec. 1860. She came to  
the United States (America) in 1795 (age 11).

Their two children were: Mary Inez, b. 28 Jan. 1898 - d. 7 Sept. 1898. Buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery; and Hazel Eve, b. 17 Feb. 1900 - d. 30 Oct. 1976. Hazel married first, Lloyd Flitcraft (1892-1929) on 9 May 1918. They were parents of eight children: (1) Lloyd Allen, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, who supplied partial data on the family; (2) Mable, (3) Mary, (4) Mildred, and (5) Jesse Leroy all died young; (6) Myrtle; (7) Walter Robert; and (8) Edith, wife of Frederick Jacobsen, Roann, Ind..

Hazel Eve Wertenberger Flitcraft married second, Ralph R. Rhodes in 1938. No issue. Hazel did extensive research on the Wertenberger family and contributed much to this publication. Her unpublished notes are in the possession of her son, Allen Flitcraft of Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

(557) 2. John - b. 1870 - d. 1924. Unmarried. Buried in Silver Lake Cemetery, Kosciusko Co., Ind.

(558) 3. Sarah Elizabeth - b. 3 Aug. 1872 - d. 22 March 1958 at Glennic, Michigan. She married first, \_\_\_\_\_ Adams; and married second, Samuel Rickle (lived in Arkansas in 1975). Her two sons were: Ralph - (last name uncertain); and Everett Adams.

(559)\* 4. Albert Winters - b. 17 Oct. 1875.

(161)

ELIZA J. WERTENBERGER (dau. of # 37)

Born: 1 Sept. 1847

Died: 1919 (tombstone record). Buried in South Pleasant Cemetery, Wabash Co., Ind.

Husband: # 1 Steven Hill, Vet. 61-65

Born: 8 Aug. 1836. Died 30 May 1878, Everett Farm Cem.

Married: 17 Jan. 1866 Wabash Co., Ind.

Children: 4

Surname: Hill

(560) 1. Elsworth - b. 1866 - d. 1947. Married Alice Yates (1865-1924). Lived in Stratford, Texas.

(561) 2. Philip T. - b. 10 Oct. 1868 - d. 1942. Married Norah F. Lambert (1876-1945).

(562) 3. Titus M. (Rev.) - b. 1873 - d. 1924. Married Maud S. \_\_\_\_\_ (1882-1963). Dau., Virginia m. Russell Culp.

(563) 4. Florence Adella, 1877-1960. Married Cain C. Weimer (1876-1945). Cain was a carpenter, designer of production equipment and owner of a canning factory in North Manchester, Indiana.

Their children were: Meriam Ruth, 1905-1907; Harry Raymond, 1906-1970, head of the Science Department and Professor of Chemistry, Manchester College, married Orpha Florence Jackson; Albert John, b. 1908, living in 1982; Mildred Lula, 1911-1916; Ruby May, 1913-1915; Mabel Lois, b. 1916, living in 1982 and Paul Eugene, b. 1920, graduate of Purdue University, married Elsie McCarey, living in Richmond Va., in 1982.

Husband: #2 Thomas J. Gamble, 1840-1922, South Pleasant Cemetery.

Children: 5. Surname: Gamble

(564) Lula M. b. 1879 - D. 1963. Unmarried.

(565) 6. Orville H. 1890-1951

(566) 7. Ross -

(567) 8. Rozella 1890-1963, unmarried.

(567a) 9. Ovid, died 7 Feb. 1872, age 0-1-12.

(162)

ABI WERTENBERGER (dau. of # 37)

Born: 12 May 1850 Wabash Co., Ind.

Married: 24 Dec. 1871 Wabash Co., Ind.

Died: 6 July 1903

Husband: Jacob Strouse (Strauss)

Born: 15 July 1844 Stark Co., Ohio

Died: 31 Oct. 1926

Jacob and Abi were buried in the old part of Laketon, Cemetery, Wabash Co., Ind., near her parents.

Jacob Strauss was one of seven children born to Peter and Phebe (Hines) Strauss, natives of Germany. Jacob had a common school education. He enlisted in 1862 in the 107th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served 11 months. He participated in a skirmish at Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was discharged because of failing health.

Jacob came to Wabash County, Ind. in 1869, where he owned a mill on the Eel River, south of Laketon in Pleasant Township.

(From: History of Wabash County, Indiana, 1884 p. 464)



Jacob was Township Trustee in Pleasant Twp., in 1883.

According to Ephraim F. Wertenberger (#149), his parents, William and Mary (#120), lived across the road from the Philip Wertenberger family (#37) when Ephraim was a child. The dates are uncertain, but it was probably in the late 1850's or early 1860's. Abi (Wertenberger) Strouse and Ephraim Wertenberger were born the same year (1850).

Children:

Surname: Strouse

- (570) 1. Clarence - d. 17 Sept. 1874 (age - less than one month). Buried in the old part of Laketon Cemetery.
- (571) 2. Ora Devona - b. 23 Sept. 1875 - d. 9 Dec. 1959. Married George F. Ogden (1864-1957). They lived in Laketon, Indiana, where he, for a time, operated a bank. He was Township Trustee from 1916 to 1924. Their children were: Mark Ogden, living in Sanoma, California; Luke Ogden (1907-1931), unmarried; and Sumner Ogden, b. ca. 1909 - d. (?), unmarried.
- (572) 3. Leslie -
- (573) 4. Herman -
- (574) 5. Elizabeth - married first, \_\_\_\_\_, married second, Edward Holman. They were married after 1922.

In the History of Wabash County, Indiana, 1884, the name is spelled Strouse and also Strauss. In cemetery records it is spelled Strouse.

(163)

BENJAMIN WERTENBERGER (son of # 37)

Born: 15 Sept. 1851 Laketon, Wabash Co., Ind.

Married: 4 Feb. 1881 Wabash Co., Ind.

Died: 1931 (age 80)

Wife: Mary Ann Rantz

Born: 1858 Wabash Co., Ind.

Died: 1939

Benjamin and Mary Ann were buried in the new part of Laketon Cemetery, Wabash Co., Ind.

Mary Ann was the daughter of Jacob Rantz (Rensz) (b. 11 April 1795 -d. 17 Dec. 1879 - age 84-8-6), and his third wife, Sarah Robinson. Jacob Rantz was one of the earliest settlers in Pleasant Twp., Wabash Co., Ind.

Benjamin was a harness maker and a farmer, living in Laketon, Ind. in 1875, later on a farm three miles west of Laketon. For several years he operated a horse drawn school hack, transporting children to the Laketon school.

Children: 7 (b. Wabash Co., Ind.)      Surname: Wertenberger

(575)\*      1.      Trula - b. 12 Jan. 1882

(576)      2.      John B. - b. 1884 - d. Oct. 1940. Married Ethel May Bruner (b. 1888 - d. 7 Jan. 1916 - age 28, buried in Falls Cemetery, Wabash Co., Ind.) Their three children were: Jim, b. 1910, married Virginia \_\_\_\_\_; Sally; and Jack Wertenberger.

Wabash County Probate Court records of Sept. 1907 show that in the case of Ethel May Wertenberger, nee Bruner, with John B. Wertenberger as guardian, was awarded \$375.00, as was her sister, Laura Bruner, and that their mother was Gusta Bruner.

(577)      3.      Leslie M. - d. 15 Aug. 1886 (age 0-9-12). Buried in Shiloh Cemetery, Wabash Co., Ind.

(578)\*      4.      Calvin Leroy (Roy) - b. 24 Aug. 1888.

(579)\*      5.      Mildred Pauline - b. 30 March 1901

(580)      6.      Lela E. - d. Oct. 1892 (age 0-4-17). Buried in Shiloh Cemetery, Wabash Co., Ind.

(581)      7.      Robert Harold (Bob) - b. 24 April 1903 - d. 1954. He is buried at Auburn, Indiana. Married Mable Rogers. She was living in Auburn in 1980. Their two children were: Susan, married \_\_\_\_\_ Emmenhiser; and Roger Wertenberger, Auburn, Indiana.

(164)

JOHN WERTENBERGER (son of # 37)

Born: 3 March 1853 Wabash Co., Ind.

Died: 12 March 1920 Wabash Co., Ind.

Wife: # 1 Jennie Ogden

Born: 17 Sept. 1858

Married: 9 July 1874

Died: 15 Sept. 1946. She is buried in Laketon Cemetery but no marker was found. She was the daughter of Henry (b. 17 Dec. 1824 Maryland - d. 27 May 1911 - age 87-5-10, and his wife, Margaret (Whitmire) Ogden (b. 23 Nov. 1827, Penn. - d. 14 Jan. 1897, age 70-2-22). Henry Ogden came to Wabash County in 1839 and settled in Pleasant Township. He married Margaret Whitmire 11 July 1846. They were parents of three children.