

# **The Palatine Immigrant**

Researching German-Speaking Ancestry

**Volume XLIX No. 2**

**Spring 2024**

# Palatines to America

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# From Garman to Germann – Discovering Ancestors of a Swiss Germann Family

*By Susan Richards PhD, MBA*

*Dr. Richards considers genealogy to be her primary hobby and extensively researches her Swiss and Southern German ancestry.*

## Introduction

In 1920, when Heinrich Beda Germann arrived in America from Switzerland, he anglicized his name to Beda Henry Garman. Family lore says that he did not want to be perceived as “being from Germany.” While his caution was understandable in the context of being so shortly after the end of World War I, the origin of the Germann surname has nothing to do with Germany.

Indeed, there are two interpretations of this Swiss surname: (1) the person who lives on a triangular piece of land [Geere]; and (2) the man who carries a spear [Ger].<sup>1</sup> I set out to investigate whether the family’s origin was of the more agrarian or bellicose nature. This endeavor turned out to be far more complex than I anticipated. An in-depth search through church records, censuses, family registers, and court records tracked the Germann family eventually. Further, this research brought to light some seemingly forgotten events that had bellicose moments, but which all took place in an agrarian setting.

## An illegitimate birth

Beda Henry Garman knew his grandfather Heinrich Germann to be a much respected and successful man in Zürich, Switzerland. Well known to his immediate family was the fact that Heinrich Germann was born on 15 January 1850 in Weinfeld, Thurgau, Switzerland.<sup>2</sup> According to the Weinfeld family registry, and unbeknownst to his grandchildren, Heinrich Germann was the illegitimate son of Maria Magdalena Keller and Johann Jakob Germann.<sup>3</sup> Shortly after the 1850 birth, Johann Jakob Germann completely disappeared from the canton of Thurgau, leaving no additional information in either tax, marriage, or death records. Therefore, Johann Jakob Germann made for a big unknown.

## In search of Johann Jakob Germann

Initially, only two facts were evident for the great grandfather, Johann Jakob Germann:

- (1) Citizenship Graltshausen: It is customary in Switzerland that a father passes on his citizenship to his children. Heinrich Germann was clearly documented to hold citizenship in Graltshausen. Therefore, Heinrich’s father Johann Jakob Germann also had to be from Graltshausen.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Viktor Schobinger et al, *Zürcher Familiennamen – Entstehung, Verbreitung und Bedeutung*, Zürcher Kantonalbank, p. 70, Zürich (1994)

<sup>2</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Weinfeld (Weinfeld, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1760-1876*, p. 338, Johann Keller; FHL microfilm 957921, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>3</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>4</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Alterswilen (Alterswilen, Thurgau, Switzerland), Familienregister, EKG 3.1., B 5.6.3/12, No. 58, Heinrich Germann; copy from Staatsarchiv Kanton Thurgau.

(2) Location of the great-great grandparents: In the court records about the paternity issue, Johann Jakob Germann was described “to be from Istighofen where his parents lived.”<sup>5</sup>

The first research focus was on the location. Graltshausen is a small and remote farming village in the canton of Thurgau, Switzerland. Red and white painted timber-framed houses enrich the rural character of the village. In 1850, there were only 153 inhabitants.<sup>6</sup> As Graltshausen was too small to have its own church, it belonged to the larger parish of Alterswilten. With so few people and families living there, it seemed reasonable that the 1831 Graltshausen citizen registry should clearly identify the sought-after great grandfather, Johann Jakob Germann, as a child or adult. However, there was only a Jakob Germann. Hence, the question was whether this Jakob Germann, the son of Johann Germann and Anna Maria Schönholzer, born 9 April 1826, was the father of Heinrich Germann.<sup>7</sup>



Aerial photograph of Graltshausen<sup>8</sup>

In 1826, there is no baptism for a Jakob Germann in the Alterswilten church records. However, in Sulgen, only five miles south of Graltshausen, there was a baptism for Johann Jakob Germann on 9 April 1826.<sup>9</sup> His father is described “to be from Graltshausen but living in Istighofen.” Following this lead, the 1832 family registry of Istighofen confirms that Johann Germann from Graltshausen and Anna Maria Schönholzer had a son named Johann Jakob Germann born on 9 April 1826.<sup>10</sup> Thus, the parents were clearly identified for Johann Jakob Germann. The only outlier is an 1849 court record stating that

<sup>5</sup> Weinfeldten, Stillstand, Pflegekommission, Armenpflege, Protokolle 1832-1851, EKGW 4111/1832, p. 111-112, Jacob Germann und Johannes Keller Töchter, 1 July 1849; Staatsarchiv Thurgau, Frauenfeld, Switzerland.

<sup>6</sup> Verena Rothenbühler, *Graltshausen*; online database, *Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz* (HLS), version 28 Nov 2006 (<https://hls-dhs-dss.ch/de/articles/001999/2006-11-28/>; accessed 8 October 2023)

<sup>7</sup> Evangelisch Reformierte Kirche Alterswilten (Alterswilten, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1831*, p. 181, Johannes Germann; FHL microfilm 958121, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>8</sup> Photography by Werner Friedli, 17 August 1964, free accessibility from Sammlung der ETH-Bibliothek, published on Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0 (<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php>; accessed 8 October 2023).

<sup>9</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Sulgen (Sulgen, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Taufen, 1802-1865*, Johann Jakob Germann, 9 April 1826; FHL microfilm 958115, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>10</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Bussnang (Bussnang – Istighofen, Thurgau, Switzerland, *Familienbuch 1820-1974*, p. 137, Johannes Germann; FHL microfilm 958739, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Johann Jakob Germann's parents lived in Istighofen.<sup>11</sup> While this fact was correct in 1832, Johann Germann died on 6 June 1834, and Anna Maria Schönholzer remarried and was still alive when the court proceedings took place in 1849/50. The court personnel were likely unaware of the changed circumstance and assumed that both of Johann Jakob Germann's parents were still alive.

#### The court case and its consequences

Having established Johann Jakob Germann's parents, the next focus was to uncover more about the man himself. In 1849, Johann Jakob Germann was a smith working in Weinfeld in Johannes Keller's forge. At the same time, the household of Johannes Keller and his wife Susanna Keller included three adult children, Susanna Keller (b. 22 February 1819), Johannes Heinrich Keller (b. 12 October 1822) and their youngest daughter Maria Magdalena Keller (b. 6 November 1827).<sup>12</sup>

In February 1849 with her father's permission, Maria Magdalena Keller was engaged to Johann Jakob Germann. Whether the son, Johannes Heinrich Keller, had no interest in being a smith like his father, or whether there were pressing financial reasons, the 68-year-old Johannes Keller also then sold his forge to Johann Jakob Germann for the considerable sum of 3,200 francs in anticipation of the young man marrying into his family.

Living under the same roof the engaged couple had prenuptial relations; however, it appears that in parallel, Johann Jakob Germann also made advances towards the older sister, Susanna Keller, and promised her marriage as well. When this duplicity was detected, there was a big scandal.

In June 1849, a mere four months after the engagement, Johannes Keller went to court and asked that the young Germann be immediately expelled from his premises for improper behavior.<sup>13</sup> Johannes Keller also sought in court to reverse the sale of his forge. As the court documents show, Germann admitted that he had slept with both daughters but was unwilling to leave the house as he felt that he had acquired the rights to live there. In a next step, and as part of the court narrative, the local clergyman sent an official letter to the perceived irresponsible Germann demanding that he instantaneously leave the Keller home. The young man complied initially but Johann Jakob Germann returned three days later.

At the same time, the older sister Susanna departed without delay from her parents' home. She moved to Wattwil, St. Gallen to be close to distant relatives where the local pastor apparently questioned her lewd behavior.<sup>14</sup> What punishment, if any, she received from the church in Wattwil is unknown.

In June–July 1849, neither Maria Magdalena nor Susanna Keller showed visible evidence of a pregnancy and no further court action took place. By August, Maria Magdalena Keller, the betrayed bride-to-be, was clearly pregnant. Since there was no written marriage contract, Maria Magdalena Keller firmly rejected any further relationship with Johann Jakob Germann, despite the pregnancy.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Weinfeld, Stillstand, Pflegekommission, Armenpflege, Protokolle 1832-1851, EKGW 4111/1832, p. 111-112, Jacob Germann und Johannes Keller Töchter, 1 July 1849; Staatsarchiv Thurgau, Frauenfeld, Switzerland.

<sup>12</sup> Evangelisch-Reformierte Kirche Weinfeld (Weinfeld, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1760-1876*, p. 338, Johann Keller; FHL microfilm 957921, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>13</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>14</sup> Weinfeld, Protokoll der Verhör-Kommission 1828-1857, EKGW 4112/1828, Magdalena Keller gegen Jakob Germann, 6 August 1849; Staatsarchiv Thurgau, Frauenfeld, Switzerland.

<sup>15</sup> Ibidem.

Maria Magdalena Keller remained in Weinfelden where Heinrich Germann was born on 15 January 1850. The baby was baptized three days later in the protestant church of Weinfelden. However, the commotion around the scandal had confused the local pastor so much that he incorrectly wrote Susanna Keller (the older sister) as the mother of Heinrich Germann on the baptism record.<sup>16</sup> Since the official citizen registry and all future documents state that Maria Magdalena Keller was indeed the mother, the baptism record is reasonably assumed to be incorrect.

On 4 June 1850, the judge ruled that Johann Jakob Germann was responsible for the paternity of Heinrich Germann. He was convicted to pay a fine to Graltshausen, his home community, for his behavior and a sustenance (“child support”) payment for Heinrich Germann until the boy was 12 years old.<sup>17</sup> On 3 August 1850, feeling very wronged, Johann Jakob Germann then sued the Keller family for the incurred expenses for his eviction and loss of business—a sum of 88 Gulden.<sup>18</sup> Whether he was granted that money is unclear.

The scandal was clearly devastating to the Keller family. In addition to the older sister leaving home, the father Johann Keller died on 25 January 1850, only ten days after the birth of his illegitimate grandson. Shortly thereafter, Maria Magdalena Keller moved away to Wattwil, St. Gallen with her young son, and on 21 June 1853 married the recently widowed Johann Jakob Kaufmann.

### The life of Heinrich Germann

Growing up in the Kaufmann family must have been hard for Heinrich Germann. He was surrounded by people named Kaufmann and *stood out* as the sole Germann. He had two older stepsiblings Jakob and Barbara Kaufmann and a younger half-brother Johann Jakob Kaufmann. In all official documents, he was always singled out as a Germann, making it visible that he was not born a Kaufmann.<sup>19</sup> Even his 1867 confirmation record states his illegitimacy.<sup>20</sup>

Having turned 21, Heinrich Germann started his own family. On 11 April 1871, he married the four-months pregnant Lisette Dütschler.<sup>21</sup> In contrast to his parents, he ensured that no stigma of illegitimacy would affect his children. This marriage seems to have been a promising turning point for Heinrich Germann. As a young man he had trained to become a mechanic, the same profession as his stepfather; however, he had more ambitious plans and moved his family to the big city of Zürich. Having shed the shackles of a small town, Heinrich Germann started an impressive career.

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<sup>16</sup> Evangelisch-Reformierte Kirche Weinfelden (Weinfelden, Thurgau, Switzerland). Taufen, 1780-1875; FHL microfilm 957920, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>17</sup> Weinfelden, Stillstand, Pflegekommission, Armenpflege, Protokolle 1832-1851, EKGW 4111/1832, p. 115, Jacob Germann und J. Kellers, 11 June 1850; Staatsarchiv Thurgau, Frauenfeld, Switzerland.

<sup>18</sup> Weinfelden, Protokoll der Verhör-Kommission 1828-1857, EKGW 4112/1828, entry Jacob Germann, 25 July 1850; Staatsarchiv Thurgau, Frauenfeld, Switzerland.

<sup>19</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Wattwil (Wattwil, St. Gallen, Switzerland) *Familienbuch 1850-*, Bd 3, p. 791, ZVA 12.1005.03

<sup>20</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Wattwil (Wattwil, St. Gallen, Switzerland). Konfirmationen, 1840-1894; FHL microfilm 957668, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>21</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Wattwil (Wattwil, St. Gallen, Switzerland). Heiraten, 1840-1874; FHL microfilm 957666, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.



By 1879, Heinrich Germann was a detective in the cantonal police force of Zürich.<sup>22</sup> Three years later, he was the city secretary of criminal cases in Zürich [Sekretär des Stadthalteramtes, Abteilung Strafsachen].<sup>23</sup> In 1886, he had advanced to the grade level of senior officer in the police force [Adjunkt des Polizeikommissärs].<sup>24</sup>



1895 Heinrich Germann in his dress uniform



Sabers carried by Heinrich Germann

There are additional important highlights demonstrating Heinrich Germann's ascent. In 1890, Heinrich Germann and his family obtained the citizenship of the city of Zürich [Bürgerrecht].<sup>25</sup> In 1899, Heinrich Germann bought his own house at Stapferstrasse 1, a multistory building with multiple apartments for the large sum of 44,000 Swiss francs.<sup>26</sup>



Street view of Stapferstrasse 1 (the four-story house on the left): in 1907<sup>1</sup> and in 2023<sup>1</sup>

<sup>22</sup> *Adressbuch der Stadt Zürich für 1880*, Orell Füssli (Zürich, 1880), p. 69, Germann Heinr.; digital image, Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Zurich Open Platform (<https://doi.org/10.20384/zop-93>; accessed 8 October 2023)

<sup>23</sup> *Adressbuch der Stadt Zürich für 1882*, Orell Füssli (Zürich, 1882), p. 78, Germann Heinr.; digital image, Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Zurich Open Platform (<https://doi.org/10.20384/zop-99>; accessed 8 October 2023)

<sup>24</sup> *Adressbuch der Stadt Zürich für 1887*, Orell Füssli (Zürich, 1887), p. 113, Germann Heinr.; digital image, Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Zurich Open Platform (<https://doi.org/10.20384/zop-105>; accessed 8 October 2023)

<sup>25</sup> Protokoll des Stadtrates von Zürich, Nr. B. 121 vom 11. September 1890; Akten: II. B., Nr. 226 f.

<sup>26</sup> *Brandassekuranzbuch Oberstrasse*, Baugeschichtliches Archiv der Stadt Zürich, p. 272, Nr. Os 207, Stapferstrasse 1

At the heart of Heinrich Germann's success was his love for family and close friends. Heinrich Germann and his wife had seven children of whom four survived to adulthood. He ensured that all his children grew up to be successful. His daughter Hulda received a well-rounded education, including learning French, which was very progressive in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century. All his sons learned a trade. Beda and Emil both became successful mechanics. Walter pursued a long and successful career in the Swiss watch industry, whose 40-year contribution and loyalty at Cyma Watch Co S.A. is in the *L'impartial* newspaper.<sup>27</sup> Heinrich German also honored his friends. For example, he named his son Beda, the father of Beda Henry Garman, after his best friend Beda Buchegger.

Family ties were visibly strong. During Heinrich Germann's lifetime his children stayed geographically very close. When his only daughter married Johann Leu on 9 Apr 1896 in Zürich, the newlywed couple moved to Nelkenstrasse 11, only two buildings away from the parental house. When his sons Beda and Emil married, they both began their family life in the same house—Stapferstrasse 1.



1896 Family portrait

*Left to right:* Emil Germann, Hulda Germann, Beda Germann, Lisette *Dütschler* Germann, Heinrich Germann, Heinrich Walter Germann

Heinrich Germann died a widower on 12 Oct 1918 in Zürich. After his death the close family ties among the family members continued. Hulda Germann and her husband bought a house close by, at Blümlisalpstrasse 58, and Beda and Emil both lived in a house at Sonneggstrasse 38 in Zürich. Only Heinrich Walter Germann moved with his wife to the French-speaking part of Switzerland, to La Chaux-de-Fonds, Neuenburg, a move supported by his career in the watch industry.

<sup>27</sup> *L'impartial*, *La Chaux-de-Fonds: Jubilé de travail*, 3 May 1948, p. 5, column 4; digital image, *e-newspaperarchives.ch* ([www.e-newspaperarchives.ch/?a=d&d=IMP19480503-01.2.25](http://www.e-newspaperarchives.ch/?a=d&d=IMP19480503-01.2.25) : accessed 8 October 2023)

## Germann – descriptive of landownership or spear-carrying?

Researching the Germann family back to 1630<sup>28</sup>, I found that the name was always spelled as Geermann in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century. While this is not a definitive proof, it does suggest that the name originally refers to a *Geere* [triangular piece of land] and not a *Ger* [spear]. Nevertheless, having read about some very bellicose moments provoked by Johann Jakob Germann in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and seeing the photos of the saber-carrying Heinrich Germann, I am also inclined to believe that there is an element of *spear carrying* in the Germanns.

## Conclusion

Genealogical brick walls force more in depth searching and can be opportunities to bring to light forgotten lives, struggles, and successes. In this case, consulting the court records around an illegitimate birth was key to successfully identifying the father of Heinrich Germann and his agrarian ancestors. The research also revealed a story that family lore had been suppressed and hence forgotten.

## Genealogical summary

All locations are in the canton of Thurgau, Switzerland unless indicated differently.

### Generation 1

**JOHANNES GERMAN**, son of JOHANNES GEERMANN (b. 3 November 1774 in Graltshausen, d. 11 Dec 1847 in Städeli, Bussnang) and BARBARA OSCHWALD (b. 8 December 1776 in Graltshausen, d. 2 August 1809 in Graltshausen), was baptized on 23 October 1803 in Graltshausen.<sup>29</sup> He died on 15 June 1834 in Istighofen.<sup>30</sup>

**ANNA MARIA SCHÖNHOLZER** was the daughter of HANS GEORG SCHÖNHOLZER von Moos (b. 26 January 1769 in Istighofen) and SUSANNA OSCHWALD (b. 21. November 1756 in Bussnang, d. 28 April 1831 in Istighofen). She was baptized on 12 March 1800 in Bürglen.<sup>31</sup>

**JOHANNES GERMAN** married **ANNA MARIA SCHÖNHOLZER** on 15 January 1824 in Bussnang. They baptized eight children in various places (indicated where known):<sup>32</sup>

- I. ANNA KATHERINA GERMAN was baptized 2 January 1825.
- II. **JOHANNES JACOB GERMAN** was baptized 9 April 1826 in Sulgen.
- III. MARIA GERMAN was baptized 29 April 1827.
- IV. JOHANNES GERMAN was baptized 26 May 1828.
- V. SUSANNA GERMAN was baptized 6 February 1830; died on 3 June 1867.
- VI. ANNA ELISABETH GERMAN was baptized on 22 May 1831.

<sup>28</sup> The oldest record for the Germann family found to date is the marriage of Jörg Geermann from Mühlebach and Ursula Allenspach from Engishofen on 11 April 1630 in Amriswil, Thurgau.

Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Amriswil (Amriswil, Thurgau, Switzerland), Heiraten, 1630, no page number, Jörg Geermann & Ursula Allenspach; FHL microfilm 958959, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>29</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Alterswilen (Alterswilen, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1793*, Graltshausen, p. 70; Johannes Geermann; FHL microfilm 958121, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>30</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Bussnang (Bussnang - Istighofen, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1832*, p. 137b, Johannes Germann; FHL microfilm 958737, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>31</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Bussnang (Bussnang - Istighofen, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1832*, p. 129, Hs Jörg Schönholzer; FHL microfilm 958737, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>32</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Bussnang (Bussnang - Istighofen, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1832*, p. 137b, Johannes Germann; FHL microfilm 958737, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

- VII. WIBERTHA GERMANN was baptized 9 August 1833 in Bussnang; died on 20 March 1837.  
 VIII. JOHANN GEORG GERMANN was baptized 24 December 1834 in Bussnang.

### Generation 2

**JOHANN JAKOB GERMANN** was baptized on 9 Apr 1826 in Sulgen, Thurgau. He was the son of JOHANNES GERMANN and ANNA MARIA SCHÖNHOLZER.<sup>33</sup>

**MARIA MAGDALENA KELLER** was baptized on 6 Nov 1827 in Weinfelden, Thurgau. She was the daughter of JOHANNES KELLER (b. 27 Dec 1781, d. 25 Jan 1850) and SUSANNA KELLER (b. 16 Aug 1793, d. 5 Aug 1853). She had an illegitimate son with JOHANN JAKOB GERMANN.<sup>34</sup>

- I. **HEINRICH GERMANN** was born on 15 Jan 1850 in Weinfelden, Thurgau, Switzerland. He died on 12 Oct 1918 in Zürich, Zürich.<sup>35</sup>

MARIA MAGDALENA KELLER married JOHANN JAKOB KAUFMANN, son of VALENTIN KAUFMANN and SUSANNA BARBARA ANDEREGG on 21 Jun 1853 in Wattwil, St. Gallen. He was born on 10 Oct 1809 in Wattwil. He died on 7 April 1879 in Wattwil.<sup>36</sup> They had one son:

- II. **JOHANN JAKOB KAUFMANN** was born on 11 Jun 1854 in Wattwil, St. Gallen. He died on 16 Oct. 1918 in Wattwil.

### Generation 3

**HEINRICH GERMANN**, the son of JOHANN JAKOB GERMANN and MARIA MAGDALENA KELLER was born on 15 Jan 1850 in Weinfelden. He died on 12 Oct 1918 in the city of Zürich, Zürich.

**LISETTE DÜTSCHLER**, the daughter OF JEREMIAS DÜTSCHLER (b. 16 Aug 1818 in Oberhelfenschwil, St. Gallen, d. 25 Mar 1874) and CHRISTINA BRUNNER (b. 27 Jun 1819 in St. Peterzell, St. Gallen) was born on 8 Feb 1846 in Oberhelfenschwil, St. Gallen. She died on 24 Jan 1916 in the city of Zürich, Zürich.

**HEINRICH GERMANN** married **LISETTE DÜTSCHLER** on 11 Apr 1871 in Wattwil, St. Gallen. The couple baptized seven children:<sup>37</sup>

- I. **EMIL GERMANN** was born on 22 Sep 1871. He died on 11 Feb 1879.  
 II. **IDA GERMANN** was born on 20 Oct 1873. She died on 17 Dec 1873.  
 III. **HULDA GERMANN** was born on 16 Sep 1875 in Zürich. She died on 9 Apr 1954 in Zürich, Zürich. She married Johannes Leu, son of Johannes Leu and Elisabetha Schmid on 9 Apr

<sup>33</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Sulgen (Sulgen, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Taufen 1802-1865*, p. na, Johannes Germann, 9 April 1826; FHL microfilm 958115, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>34</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Weinfelden (Weinfelden, Thurgau, Switzerland), *Familienbuch 1834*, p. 338, Joh. Keller family; FHL microfilm 958112, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>35</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Alterswil (Alterswil, Thurgau, Switzerland), Familienregister, EKG 3.1., B 5.6.3/12, No. 58, Heinrich Germann; copy from Staatsarchiv Kanton Thurgau.

<sup>36</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Wattwil (Wattwil, St. Gallen, Switzerland), Familienbuch, Bd III (601-900b), 1881-1937, nr. 791, Johann Jakob Kaufmann; digital image, Digitaler Lesesaal Kirchbücher und Bürgerregister St. Gallen

([https://dls.staatsarchiv.sg.ch/records/1505873/CH-000090-5:aip-01-0001505873-0001%2FCH-000090-5:aip-01-0001505873-0001%2Fprimaerdaten%2FZVA\\_12\\_1005\\_03.xml/preview](https://dls.staatsarchiv.sg.ch/records/1505873/CH-000090-5:aip-01-0001505873-0001%2FCH-000090-5:aip-01-0001505873-0001%2Fprimaerdaten%2FZVA_12_1005_03.xml/preview); accessed 8 October 2023)

<sup>37</sup> Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Alterswil (Alterswil, Thurgau, Switzerland), Familienregister, EKG 3.1., B 5.6.3/12, No. 58, Heinrich Germann; copy from Staatsarchiv Kanton Thurgau.

- 1896 in Zürich, Zürich. He was born on 18 Dec 1867 in Benken, Zürich. He died on 22 Feb 1945 in Zürich, Zürich.
- IV. BEDA GERMANN was born on 29 Oct 1878 in Zürich, Zürich. He married Pauline Katharina Kurer on 28 Mar 1901. She was born in 1878 in Riesbach, Zürich. She died in Jul 1969 in Zürich, Zürich. BEDA and KATHARINA GERMANN are the parents of **HEINRICH BEDA GERMANN [BEDA HENRY GARMAN]**, born 12 August 1901 in Zürich, Zürich.<sup>38</sup>
- V. BERTHA LINA GERMANN was born on 15 Feb 1880 in Zürich, Zürich. She died on 17 Jun 1892.
- VI. EMIL GERMANN was born on 11 Aug 1882 in Zürich, Zürich. He died in 1910. He married Antonia Emilie Etter on 12 Oct 1907. She was born in 1887 in Appenzell.
- VII. HEINRICH WALTER GERMANN was born on 18 Apr 1887 in Zürich, Zürich. He married Louisa Oehler on 7 Sep 1925. She was born in 1885 in Baden, Germany. She died 21 Feb 1978 in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Neuenburg.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> U.S. World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, California, Gabor-Gary, Order Number 10,372, Beda Henry Garman: digital image, *ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/18744339:2238> : accessed 8 October 2023); enter Beda Garman.

<sup>39</sup> Avis Mortuaires, L'Impartial, 23 Feb 1978, p. 31, column 5, Louise Germann; digital image, *e-newspaperarchives.ch* ([www.e-newspaperarchives.ch/?a=d&d=IMP19780223-01.2.136.2](http://www.e-newspaperarchives.ch/?a=d&d=IMP19780223-01.2.136.2) : access 8 October 2023)

## NOTABLE GERMAN-AMERICANS

### Albert Jaegers (1868-1925), German-American Sculptor and Creator of German Heritage Monuments

*By Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann*

A history of American art, according to Rudolf Cronau, would be incomplete “without giving credit to a large number of German painters, sculptors and architects who made the United States their home or were born here from German parents.” Many of them are discussed in his classic work *German Achievements in America* (1916), which was based on his lengthier work *Drei Jahrhunderte deutschen Lebens in Amerika* (1909). One of the foremost German-American sculptors that Cronau described was Albert Jaegers (1868-1925).<sup>(1)</sup> He was a member of the Century Club, the National Sculpture Society, and the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

Jaegers was born in Elberfeld in what is today North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, and came to the U.S. with his parents as a child. His family settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, and he apprenticed with his father who was a wood carver for churches in the area. He studied at the Cincinnati Art Academy and thereafter took a practical course of study at an architectural office before launching his career as a sculptor. In 1889, he moved to New York, and a year later married Matilda Holdt (1872-1949) who had been a fellow student at the Art Academy and was the daughter of Dr. Georg Holdt (1829-81), a prominent doctor in Cincinnati.

The sculptures that Jaegers created were monumental in size, and several focused on German-American history. His obituary in the *New York Times* noted: “Mr. Jaegers won various competitions by decision of the National Sculpture Society and his rise to prominence became so rapid that he soon was executing many works for the United States Government, among them were statuary for the Buffalo and St. Louis Expositions, the new Custom House in New York City, and the Baron von Steuben statue for Washington, D.C. He also executed the Germantown monument and was commissioned to interpret several subjects in marble for the Fine Arts Building in St. Louis.”<sup>(2)</sup>

The Steuben Monument is prominently displayed in Lafayette Park across from the White House in Washington, D.C. Almost 20,000 attended its dedication on 7 December 1910, and heard speeches by President William H. Taft; Count Johann Heinrich von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the U.S.; and



Albert Jaegers  
Wikipedia

Dr. Charles J. Hexamer, President of the German-American Alliance. The monument was created by an Act of Congress (1903), based on a bill submitted by Richard Bartholdi (1855-1932), a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri. A Steuben Monument Commission was appointed, and in 1907 Jaegers was selected as the artist for the project.<sup>(3)</sup> He created an eleven-foot bronze statue that stands atop a much larger pedestal depicting Steuben inspecting troops at Valley Forge in 1778.

Steuben “is clothed in the uniform of a Major General of the Continental Army with a cocked hat and heavy cloak draped around his shoulders. On the northeast face of the pedestal, a seated warrior teaches a youth to handle a sword, symbolizing von Steuben’s contribution to the American fight for Independence. On the southwest face, a woman assisted by a child grafts his foreign stock onto the tree of American life as she recounts his heroic deeds. On the southeast face, a bronze relief portrait medallion honors von Steuben’s aides-de-camp, Colonel William North and Major Benjamin Walker.”<sup>(4)</sup>



The Steuben Monument in  
Washington, DC  
Wikipedia Commons

On 4 December 2010, the Steuben Monument Centennial Symposium was held in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Steuben Society of America, and included a wreath-laying ceremony at the monument.<sup>(5)</sup> During the rioting that took place in 2020, the monument was besmirched with graffiti, but fortunately was cleaned up soon thereafter. Replicas of the Steuben statue also can be found in Germany.

In 1911, the U.S. Congress presented a replica to Germany, and it was displayed at the Stadtschloss in Potsdam. During World War II, it was knocked off its base, and in 1950 it was melted down by the East German regime. In 1987, a copy was unveiled at the U.S. Military Headquarters in West Berlin, and in 1994 another replica was dedicated in Potsdam at the site of its original location. In 2005, it was rededicated for the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of von Steuben’s birth.<sup>(6)</sup>

In 1907, at the fourth biennial convention of the National German-American Alliance, which was formed in Philadelphia on 6 October 1901, Rudolf Cronau submitted a proposal that a monument be erected honoring Franz Daniel Pastorius and the small group of German immigrants who landed with him in Philadelphia on 6 October 1683.<sup>(7)</sup> They founded Germantown, now a neighborhood of Philadelphia, the first permanent German settlement in America. It became an early destination for German immigrants and developed into an important German-American cultural center. Germantown’s bicentennial was celebrated on 6 October 1883, and that date was subsequently celebrated annually across the country as German Day, or German-American Day.<sup>(8)</sup>

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The Alliance approved Cronau's proposal and appointed him Chairman of the German Memorial Monument Commission. Funds for the monument came the Alliance, as well as from the U.S. Congress, which also had supported the Steuben Monument. Due to his successful completion of the Steuben Monument, Jaegers was unanimously selected as the artist to create it. He designed the monument with several informative reliefs on its sides. According to Cronau, "In the one physical labor is shown as the fundamental principle upon which art and science arise. Another shows the war volunteer, who freely sheds his blood for the independence and union of his country. The last one commemorates the protest against slavery made by the inhabitants of Germantown in 1688."<sup>(9)</sup> The front of the monument has an inscription: "In Commemoration of the landing of the German Colonists, October 6, 1683." This is followed by the name of Pastorius and the other German immigrants who came with him.<sup>(10)</sup>

Much symbolism can be found on this monument. "The seated female allegorical figure at the top, with a lamp in her right hand, represents 'Light Bearing Civilization.' At the middle level we see a young settler couple, dressed in pilgrim attire and looking into the future with confidence and determination. This man is holding a large axe in his right hand; this suggests the hard work which was needed to build homes and farms and to establish a community. Behind the couple a male figure represents the spirit of music and joy."<sup>(11)</sup>



Front relief of the Pastorius Monument

*Deutsch-Amerika: Cincinnati Freie Presse*. Vol. II: 15. (1916): 1.

After the dedication of the Steuben Monument, Jaegers began work on the Pastorius Monument, which was scheduled for completion by 6 October 1914, but was delayed due to the outbreak of World War I. Work resumed two years later, and was finally completed in 1917, a fateful year that marked U.S. entrance into World War I. Due to the anti-German hysteria, the monument was enclosed in a large wooden box to protect it from vandalism, and its dedication was postponed until 1920.

In 1925, a replica of the front relief of the monument titled "German Pioneers" was acquired by the State of Minnesota to honor the state's German heritage, and in 1959 was placed in the north entrance vestibule of the Minnesota State Capitol. On 6 October 2008, the 325<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Germantown was celebrated with a symposium in Philadelphia, and a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the monument.<sup>(12)</sup> In 2018, the monument underwent a thorough restoration project, which gave it a careful cleaning to rid it of



graffiti, and the granite steps it sits upon were repointed.

Jaegers created other noteworthy statues, friezes, and monuments. The Pastorius Monument was not his only work adversely affected by World War I. In 1907, he created a statue that represented Germany that was located above the main cornice of the New York Custom House in New York City, but after U.S. entrance into World War I, it became a target. Secretary of State William G. McAdoo (1863-1941) requested that it be renamed “Belgium” to represent a wartime ally of the U.S. Jaegers objected to this decision, stating that it was impossible to change the statue by “a little camouflage with a relabel.”<sup>(13)</sup> He called the change “a dubious honor.”<sup>(14)</sup> An article in the *New York Times* reported that the statue “was erected at the time the Custom House was completed. Germania, along with the eleven other statues, represented the nations of ancient and modern times which have had an important commerce at sea.” It explained: “At present Germania bears upon her breastplate the emblem of the German eagle and on a shield at the side of the figure is carved the word ‘Kiel’ and the initials ‘W.II’ in the form of a monogram. The insignia are scarcely noticeable from the street, but Secretary McAdoo decided the statue out of place on a federal building. . . . The statue will not be removed, but the word ‘Kiel’ and the initials ‘W.II’ now appearing on the shield will be taken off. The Belgian lion will be substituted upon the shield.”<sup>(15)</sup> Kiel was one of Germany’s major maritime centers, and the initials referred to Kaiser Wilhelm II.

Fortunately, many of the works of Jaegers are still extant, but a catalog of all of them has yet to be compiled. However, the Steuben and Pastorius monuments were unquestionably his masterpieces. Hans Pohlsander has commented on the significance of these and other monuments relating to the German heritage, stating: “The greater need today is for maintaining and protecting existing monuments and for educating the public about their meaning and value. This is part of a larger effort by scholars and educators to encourage public awareness of the German-American contributions to American society – a contribution only too often ignored.”<sup>(16)</sup>



Alexander Hamilton U.S. Customer House, Wikimedia Commons



“Seafaring Nations, Belgium,” Library of Congress

## Notes

1. Rudolf Cronau, *German Achievements in America: Rudolf Cronau's Survey History*. Edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann. (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, Inc., 1995), pp. 183, 200-02. For information about Cronau, see: Don Heinrich Tolzmann, "Remembering Rudolf Cronau (1855-1939): Writer, Historian, Artist, and Co-founder of the Steuben Society of America," in: Don Heinrich Tolzmann, *German Heritage Explorations*. (Indianapolis: NCSA Literatur, 2019), pp. 163-69.
2. "Albert Jaegers, Sculptor Dies," *New York Times*. (23 July 1925). Jaegers is buried at the Airmont Lutheran Cemetery in Airmont, New York.
3. See: George H. Carter, ed., *Proceedings upon the Unveiling of the Statue of Baron von Steuben, Major General and Inspector General in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War in Washington, D.C., December 7, 1910, and upon the Presentation of the Replica to His Majesty the German Emperor and the German Nation in Potsdam, September 2, 1911, Erected by the Congress of the United States*. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913).
4. See: "Baron von Steuben Monument" at: <https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/572>
5. The author spoke at this symposium, and his paper appeared as: "Baron von Steuben (1730-94): From Prussian Soldier of Fortune to Inspector General," *The Palatine Immigrant*. 36:1 (2010): 26-32. This subsequently appeared in: Tolzmann, *German Heritage Explorations*, pp. 14-19.
6. Hans Pohlsander, *German Monuments in the Americas: Bonds across the Atlantic*. Oxford, England: Peter Lang, 2010), p. 30.
7. "German-Americans' Plans. Alliance Discussed Recognition of German Influence in our History," *New York Times*. (6 October 1907).
8. "German-American Day: Celebrating the Memory of Pioneers of Germantown," *New York Times*. (7 October 1890). After U.S. entrance into World War I, the celebration of German-American Day was discontinued, and subsequently celebrated sporadically here and there, but not to the degree of pre-war times. This changed in 1987 when President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation based on a resolution passed by Congress, declaring the 6<sup>th</sup> of October as German-American Day. Regarding its reemergence, see the author's "Germany and America: 400 Years of German-American Relations," in: Don Heinrich Tolzmann, *German-Americana: Selected Essays*. (Milford, Ohio: Little Miami Publishing Co., 2009), pp. 3-7.
9. Cronau, *German Achievements*, p. 202. At a meeting of the German-American Alliance, Cronau had suggested that a monument be erected in honor of the German settlers at Germantown. Thereafter, he was appointed Chairman of the Alliance's German Memorial Monument Commission, which subsequently selected Jaegers as the sculptor for the project. See: Don Heinrich Tolzmann, "Notable German-Americans: Rudolf Cronau (1855-1939), German-American Artist, Author, and Historian," *The Palatine Immigrant*. 47:4 (2022): 13-16.

10. Pohlsander, *German Monuments*, p. 5.
11. Ibid.
12. The author spoke at this symposium, and his paper appeared as: “The First German Settlement in America, 325<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1683-2008,” in: Tolzmann, *German-Americana: Selected Essays*, pp. 19-23.
13. “Albert Jaegers, Sculptor Dies,” *New York Times* 23 July 1925.
14. “Albert Jaegers Dead: Was Noted Sculptor,” *Washington Post*. (24 July 1925). According to this obituary, Jaegers died “from heart disease.” Considering the fact that he was only 57 when he died, one wonders if his condition was caused by the stress endured during the anti-German hysteria of World War I.
15. “To Change Teuton Statue: Germania on the Custom House will become Belgium,” *New York Times*. (13 September 1918).
16. Pohlsander, *German Monuments*, p. 137.



Albert Jaegers and Matilda Holdt, buried at Airmont Lutheran Cemetery in Suffern, Rockland County, New York. Credit: Rich H., Find a Grave ID 45489213

## IAR: Immigrant Ancestor Register

*The Immigrant Ancestor Register (IAR) is a compilation of German-heritage ancestors who emigrated that have been submitted by Palatines to America members. This information is maintained in order to share genealogical research and to establish a record for future reference. The IAR form provides information that is similar to a family group sheet, but also asks for additional details such as date, ship, and ports of arrival and embarkation; dates and places of declaration of intent and naturalization; foreign and American residences; occupation; religion; and a listing of sources. **Submitters are requested to complete as much of the requested information as known and mail to P.O. Box 141260, Columbus OH 43214 or email it to [info@palam.org](mailto:info@palam.org).***

*Once submitted, key information is extracted from the submitted IAR and printed in The Palatine Immigrant with an indication of the submitter by membership number. A .pdf copy of the IAR with all the information provided by the submitter about the immigrant's family is placed in the Members Only section of the PalAm website ([www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org)) with the submitter's membership number. The online index is created from the indicated immigrant ancestor on each submitted IAR.*

### BERG

John, b. 18 Jan 1829, Lieser, Bernkastel-Wittlich, Rhineland-Palatinate, German, d. 18 Mar 1898, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, son of Jacob Berg and Anna Catherine Hower

MARR: Abt. 1856, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

SPOUSE: Maria Anna Nuerenberg, b. 3 Mar 1835, Germany, d. 12 Feb 1911, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, daughter of William Nuerenberg and Catherine

ARR: 15 Dec 1854

NAT: 1864, Cook County, Illinois

OCC: Merchant, Justice of the Peace

REL: Catholic

CHILDREN: Mary A. Berg m. Peter Gart, Anna Katherine Berg m. Carl August Goelz, Theresa Berg m. (1) Matthias Schummer (2) Edward R. Munz, Katherine Berg m. (1) Joseph Ditke/Ditja (2) John P Samak, William Berg m. Elizabeth Penning, Peter Berg m. Jennie Brown, Andrew Berg (twin of Peter Berg) m. Helen Miller, Anna Berg, John Adam Berg (twin of Anna Berg) m. Alvina M. Sengstock, Susan Berg m. Elmer Eugene Clark

Submitted by R0832

### BEUTEL

Charlotte Christine, b. 1 May 1812, Prenzlau, Brandenburg, Prussia, son of August Friedrich Beutel and Sophie Friederike Gartner, d. 12 Sep 1876, Sheboygan, Wisconsin

MARR: 29 Oct 1833, Sternhagen, Prenzlau, Brandenburg, Prussia

ARR: 1852 into New York City from Prussia

SPOUSE: Friedrich Johann Bechly, b. 21 Jan 1807, Prenzlau, Brandenburg, Prussia, d. 26 Jan 1892, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, son of Friedrich Georg Bechly and Christina Krummery

OCC: Homemaker

REL: Protestant

CHILDREN: Freiderich August Bechly m. (1) Hepzibah Dumville, (2) Lydia Weesher; Ferdinand Carl Bechly m. Elizabeth Steitz; Amelia Bechly m. Heinrich August Look; Charles Heinrich Bechly m. Sophie Keffel; Bertha Charlotte Bechly m. Andrew Higby; Frank (Franz) Bechly

Submitted by B1538

**BRUDY / BRUDI**

Christian, b. 31 Dec 1831, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany, d. 28 Jan 1893, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

MARR: 6 Aug 1853, Jefferson County, Kentucky

SPOUSE: Euphrosine Roseanne Sauer

ARR: 31 Mar 1852, aboard *Elizabeth*, into the port of New Orleans, Louisiana from Le Havre, France

NAT: 1868, Cook County, Illinois

OCC: Gardener, Saloon Keeper, Grocer

REL: Catholic

CHILDREN: Frank Brudy m. Katherine C. Scherer, Mary Magdalene Brudy m. John Jacobs, Louisa Brudy m. William J. Goelz, Mary Brudy, Barbara Brudy m. Anthony John Iten, Sr., Jacob Brudy m. Minnie Pasch

Submitted by R0832

**CORDES / CORS**

Johann Gerhard, b. 27 Jan 1811, Jardinghausen, Hannover, Germany, son of Johann Heinrich Cordes and Margarete Adelheit Ohrdes, d. 10 Jan 1884, Sunman, Ripley, Indiana

MARR: 10 May 1839, Vilsen, Hannover, Germany

SPOUSE: Maria Sophia Landwehr, b. 2 Feb 1812, Berxen, Hannover, Germany, d. 14 Mar 1891, Sunman, Ripley, Indiana, daughter of Claus Heinrich Landwehr and Margarethe Bolta

ARR: 30 Jun 1843 aboard the ship *Edwina*, to the port of Baltimore from Bremen

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN: Johann Hinrich Cors m. Mary Margaret Martin; Anna Margarete Cors m. Frederick Wm. Westermann; Anna Cathrina Maria Cors m. John Wulber; William Cors m. (1) Sophia Margretha Albers, (2) Catherine Steinfort; John Fredrick George Cors m. Mary Clara Engelking; George Henry Cors m. Wilhelmina Louisa Sophia Eschmeier

Submitted by R0832

**CRAFT**

Charlotte Barbara, b. 24 May 1805, Minden, Germany, d. 8 Jul 1871, Dearborn County, Indiana

MARR: 31 Jul 1825, Minden, Germany

SPOUSE: Friedrich Wilhelm Reinhard Kaiser, b. 31 Aug 1810, Maden, Schwalm-Eder-Kreis, Hessen, Germany, d. 1854, Germany

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN: Engel Charlotte Christine Amalie Kaiser m. Johann Heinrich Christian Wilhelm Mehrhoff; Friedrich Wilhelm Kaiser m. Marie Sophie Louise Reinking; Heinrich Christian Friedrich Wilhelm Kaiser m. Marie Margaretha Reuling Winkelmeier; Caroline Charlotte Christine Kaiser m. Frank John Brandt

Submitted by R0832

**ENGELBRECHT / ENGELBRIGHT / ENGLEBRIGHT**

Karl (Charles) Ludwig, b. 1 May 1822, Unterlubbe, Lippe, Germany, d. 21 Feb 1907, White County, Illinois, son of Carl Diedrich Johann Ernst Engelbrecht and Anne Sophie Christine Rohmanns  
 MARR: (1) 3 Oct 1847, Bergkirchen, Westfalen, Preussen; (2) 1 Nov 1857, Bergkirchen, Westfalen, Preussen

SPOUSE (1): Karoline Marie Huks, b. 19 Oct 1823, Lippe, Germany, d. 7 Jul 1857, Germany, daughter of Johann Conrad Huks and Catherina Maria Gerling;

SPOUSE (2): Maria Caroline Christena Finke, b. 23 Aug 1829, Germany, d. 12 Sep 1917, Delaware, Ripley County, Indiana, daughter of Johann Christian Finke and Marie Elizabeth von Behren

ARR: 28 Jun 1860, aboard *Herzogin Von Brabant*, into the port of New York from Bremen

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN (1): Frederice Caroline Louise Engelbrecht; Ernst Friedrich Engelbrecht; Carl (Charles) Frederick Engelbrecht m. Samantha Gwaltney; Friedrich Wilhelm Ernst Engelbrecht; Friedrich Wilhelm (William) Engelbrecht m. Karoline Mehrhoff

CHILDREN (2): Henry H. Englebright m. Etta Maude Smith; Anna Maria Sophia Louise (Mary) Engelbrecht m. Frederick R. Papenhaus; Carl Ludwig (Charles) Engelbrecht

Submitted by R0832

**ENGLEBRIGHT / ENGELBRIGHT / ENGELBRECHT**

(child of Karl Ludwig Engelbrecht)

Fredrick Wilhelm, b. 8 May 1854, Wulferdingsen, Hanover, Germany, d. 8 Aug 1922, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, son of Karl (Charles) Ludwig Engelbrecht and Karoline Marie Huks

MARR: 11 Mar 1877, Lawrenceburg, Marion County, Indiana

ARR: 1860

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

SPOUSE: Karoline Mehrhoff, b. 14 Jun 1852, d. 25 Feb 1932, daughter of Johann Heinrich Christian Wilhelm Mehrhoff and Engel Charlotte Christine Amalie Kaiser

CHILDREN: Emmert William Englebright m. Ethel L. Wallace; Sara Karoline Christine Louise Englebright, Amelia Mary Englebright m. Lewis Henry George Cors; Flora Rosina Englebright; William Albert Englebright m. Minnie C. Horman

Submitted by R0832

**ENGELKING**

Johann Heinrich Christian, b. 7 Aug 1825, Lower Saxony, Niedersachsen, Germany, d. 11 Sep 1905, Manchester, Dearborn County, Indiana, son of Johann Conrad Engelking and Anna Margaretha Christina Maria Elisabet Hormann

MARR (1): 8 May 1855, Franklin County, Indiana;

MARR (2): 2 May 1867, Manchester, Dearborn County, Indiana

SPOUSE (1): Sophia Catherina Wulber, b. 1 Mar 1839, Franklin County, Indiana, d. 21 Mar 1867, Dearborn County, Indiana, daughter of C. Heinrich Wulber and Clara Maria Barker;

SPOUSE (2): Johanna Wilhelmina Busse, b. 14 Mar 1831, Germany, d. 15 Dec 1890, Dearborn County, Indiana, daughter of Gerd Heinrich Friedrich Busse and Ilse Margrethe Christine Dorothea Poos

ARR: 13 Jul 1846, aboard the bark *Iris*, into the port of Philadelphia

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN (1): Mary Clara Engelking m. John Fredrick George Cors; Lowiece Louisa Christina Engelking m. Friedrich Wilhelm Beckenholdt; Johann Heinrich Conrad Engelking m. Charlotte Kruse; Caroline Engelking m. J. Heinrich Beckenholdt; Anna Margaretha Frederike Engelking m. Henry Lewis Gesell; Cathrina Kate Elisebeth Engelking m. Heinrich Henry A. Hiller

CHILDREN (2): Heinrich Friedrich Christian Fred Engelking m. Anna Maria Hiller; Clare Johanna Engelking, Heinrich Friedrich Henry Engelking m. Wilhelmina Margretha Adelheid Bockhorst

Submitted by R0832

**GOELZ**

William Ludwig, 18 Nov 1819, Boll, Goppingen, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany, d. 24 Sep 1901, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, son of Jakob Adam Johannes Goelz and Maria Magdalene Geiger

MARR: 19 Jan 1847, Gmund, Jagslkreis, Wurttemberg, Germany

SPOUSE: Josephine (Catherina Josepha) Eger, b. 18 Jul 1816, Schnittingen, Donaukreis, Wurttemberg, Germany, d. 18 Apr 1886, Lincolnwood, Cook County, Illinois, daughter of Joseph Eger and Rosina Dorothy Geller

ARR: 15 Jun 1849, aboard *Noemie*, into the port of New York, from Le Havre, France

OCC: Doctor

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN: William J. Goelz m. Louisa Brudy, Carl August Goelz m. Anna Katherine Berg, Dorothea Fredrika Goelz m. John August Grossman

Submitted by R0832

**GOELZ**

William J. (son of William Ludwig Goelz), b. 7 Aug 1848, Unterbeltringen, Jagslkreis, Wurttemberg, Germany, d. 30 Dec 1909, son of William Ludwig Goelz and Josephine (Catherina Josepha) Eger

MARR: 28 Apr 1877, Cook County, Illinois

SPOUSE: Louisa Brudy, b. 11 Dec 1859, Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky, d. 30 Nov 1931, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, daughter of Christian Brudy and Euphrosina Sauer

ARR: 15 Jun 1849, aboard *Noemie*, into the port of New York, from Le Havre, France

OCC: Doctor

CHILDREN: William Frank Goelz m. Minnie Heicher, Bernard Julius Goelz m. Barbara K. Nusbaum, Clarence August Goelz m. Jennie Anna Sauter, Talitha Goelz, Leroy Anthony Goelz m. Anna Mary Lubner, Roswell F. Jacob Goelz m. Eleanor Anna V. Nickel, Alice Louise Goelz m. Samuel Frank Schupp, Mayme Goelz m. Raymond Richard Kreller

Submitted by R0832

**GROSSMANN**

John August, b. 28 Oct 1852, Germany, d. 22 Jul 1917, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

ARR: 1881

NAT: Mar 16, 1891, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

OCC: Saloon Keeper, Farmer, Florist

MARR: 6 Oct 1886, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

SPOUSE: Dorothea Fredrika Goelz, b. 5 Nov 1861, Bowmanville, Cook County, Illinois, d. 18 Feb 1923, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, daughter of William Ludwig Goelz m. Josephine Eger

CHILDREN: Herman John August Grossman m. Majel Banta, Josephine Mary Grossman m. Jacob Pfeiffer, Dora C. Grossman

Submitted by R0832

**MEHRHOFF**

Johann Heinrich Christian Wilhelm, b. 10 Dec 1819, Hahlen, Westfalen, Germany, d. 27 Aug 1880, Lawrenceburg, Dearborn County, Indiana, son of Kord Heinrich Wilhelm Mehrhoff and Anne Sophie Christine Rohlfing

MARR: 24 Mar 1844, Minden Stadt, Westfalen, Germany

SPOUSE: Engel Charlotte Christine Amalie Kaiser, b. 26 Oct 1826, Minden, Germany, d. 29 Dec 1888, Indiana, daughter of Friedrich Wilhelm Reinhard Kaiser and Charlotte Barbara Craft

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN: Caroline Christine Louise Mehrhoff; Karoline Mehrhoff m. Friedrich Wilhelm Englebright; Louisa Mehrhoff m. Wilhelm Christian Albert Behlmer; Sarah A. Mehrhoff m. Henry J. Silas Jaquet; Rosa Emma Mehrhoff m. Charles Carl Dietz; William Henry Mehrhoff m. Lena M. Probst; Flora Ann Mehrhoff m. Edward Grapy

Submitted by R0832



**MEHRHOFF**

Johann Heinrich "Henry", b. 14 Dec 1831, Minden, Germany, d. 24 Oct 1911, Great Bend, Barton County, Kansas, son of Kord Heinrich Wilhelm Mehrhoff and Anne Sophia Christing Rolwing

MARR: 19 Sep 1852, Minden Stadt, Westfalen, Germany

SPOUSE: Caroline Christine Catharine Margarete Rohlfing, b. 23 Jun 1824, Minden, Germany, d. 30 Jul 1916, Barton, Kansas

AR: 1852

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN: Heinrich Friedrich Wilhelm "Henry" Mehrhoff; Caroline Mehrhoff m. Carl Heinrich Christian Ludwig Lampe; William H. Mehrhoff m. Christine Wilhelmina Burmeister; Emma Christine Anna Mehrhoff m. Ernest D.W. Panne; Christina Mehrhoff m. Wilhelm F. Henning; Fredrick Wilhelm Mehrhoff

Submitted by R0832

**MILLER / MÜLLER**

Peter, b. Germany, d. 5 Sep 1778, Pine Bush, New York

MARR: 1 Nov 1761, Kingston, Old Dutch Church (entry #1412)

SPOUSE: Margriet Schercherin

CHILDREN: Maria Miller m. Cornelius Bush, Henry Miller m. Maria Krom, Andrew Miller m.

Elizabeth Everett

Submitted by M1338

**NUERENBERG / NEURENBERG**

William, b. 1811, Prussia, d. aft. 1880, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

SPOUSE: Catharine, b. 1811, Prussia, d. 16 Feb 1879

ARR: 15 Dec 1854, aboard *Duckwitz*, into the port of New York from Bremen, Germany

NAT: Oct 22, 1894, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

OCC: Day Laborer

REL: Catholic

CHILDREN: Maria Anna Nuerenberg m. John Berg, Catharina Nuerenberg, Wilhelmine Nuerenberg

Submitted by R0832

**ROHR**

John Peter, b. 9 Apr 1877, Trier, Stadtkreis, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany, d. 11 Feb 1971, Niles, Cook County, Illinois, son of Mattias Rohr and Marie Stockhausen

MARR: 27 Jun 1900, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

SPOUSE: Anna C. Penning, b. 14 Feb 1880, Lincolnwood, Cook County, Illinois, d. 18 Jul 1962, daughter of John D. Penning and Anna May Bauer

ARR: 10 Dec 1883, aboard *Nederland*, into the port of New York from Antwerp, Belgium

NAT: Before 1910

OCC: Clerk, Traffic Manager, Foreman

REL: Catholic

CHILDREN: Mae Helen Rohr, m. Matthias Joseph Riedl, Helen Ida Rohr m. Alexander John Falk, John William Rohr m. Lois Jennie Noyes

Submitted by R0832

**TRAUB**

Johann Georg, b. 3 Jun 1818, Scheppach, Neckarkreis, Württemberg, son of Georg Heinrich Traub and Elisabetha Magdalena Häker, d. 24 Jun 1886, Morgan County, Indiana

MARR: (1) 30 Jan 1842, Waldbach, Neckarkreis, Württemberg;

MARR: (2) 22 May 1856, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana

SPOUSE: (1) Catharina Rosina Weinstok nee Braun, b. 2 Jan 1812, Berg, Neckarkreis, Württemberg, d. 14 Apr 1852, Rappach, Neckarkreis, Württemberg, daughter of Johann Michael Braun and Christina Rosina Scheuermann;

SPOUSE: (2) Maria Magthlena Schüssele, b. 27 Aug 1830, Gundelfingen, Freiburg, Baden, d. 10 Mar 1868, Morgan County, Indiana, daughter of Friedrich Schüssele and Catharina Elisabetha Lenz

ARR: 23 May 1854, aboard *Pauline*, into the port of New York from Le Havre, France

OCC: Farmer

REL: Lutheran

CHILDREN: (1) Anonymous Traub; Johann Heinrich Traub; Johanna Catharina Traub; Rosina Johanna Traub m. Nelson Wythe Scott; Christina Elisabetha Traub; Rosina Carolina Traub

CHILDREN: (2) Elisabetha Maria Traub m. (2) Joseph Marion Stine, (2) Andrew J. Egbert; Louis Traub m. Augusta E. Scott; Theodore Christian Traub; Karl (Charles) Traub m. Mary Elizabeth Miles; Johann Traub

Submitted by R0722

**WAGER**

Michael, b 6 Dec 1842, Dautmergen, Württemberg, son of Frank Joseph Wager and Paula Karler, d. 1915, Cohocton, Steuben County, New York

MARR: 1867, Wayland, Steuben County, New York

SPOUSE: Margaret Shults, b. 1842, Prussia, daughter of John Shults and Mary Anna Brill

ARR: 1867

DEC: 7 Jun 1870, Bath, Steuben County, New York

NAT: 8 Oct 1872, Bath, Steuben County, New York

OCC: Farmer

REL: Roman Catholic

Accompanied by his brother, Eugene Wager

CHILDREN: Mary Magdalene Wager, Clara Catherine Wager m. Martin John Kimmel II, Frank Eugene Wager m. Margaret Magdelene Kiefer, George Cornelius Wager m. Catherine Ellen Marks, Elizabeth Mary Wager m. William H. Maichle, John William Wager m. Mabel J. Smart, Joseph Conrad Wager m. Elizabeth Ida Rothaug, Eleanor Johanna Wager m. Harry T. Fero

Submitted by S1359

**WULBER / WOLBER**

C. Heinrich, b. 19 Oct 1810, Germany, d. 28 Mar 1889, Ripley County, Indiana

ARR: 1832, into the port of Baltimore, Maryland

NAT: 1832-1839, Franklin County, Indiana

SPOUSE: Clara Maria Barker, b. 23 Dec 1811, Germany, d. 29 Aug 1897, Ripley County, Indiana

CHILDREN: John Wolber m. Anna Cathrina Maria Cors; Sophia Catherine Wolber m. Johann Heinrich Christian Engelking; Catharine Margaret Wolber m. Johann Heinrich Hannebaum; Louisa Catherine Wolber m. Frederick H. Minneman; Mary Clara Wolber m. Ernst Henry Frederick Reinking; Herman Fredrick Wolber m. Susannah Minneman

Submitted by R0832

**IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR REGISTER**



Office use only:

Common Spelling of Surname

Original Spelling of Surname

<b>Return to:</b> Palatines to America Immigrant Ancestor Registrar PO Box 121460 Columbus, Ohio 43214	<b>Submitter Membership #:</b>	
	<b>Submitter Name:</b>	
	<b>Address:</b>	
	<b>E-Mail:</b>	
	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>

<b>IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR NAME:</b>			
Other spellings of Surname:			
<b>Date of Birth and Place:</b>			
Or			
<b>Baptism Date and Place:</b>			
<b>His/Her Father's Name:</b>			
<b>His/Her Mother's Maiden Name:</b>			
<b>Immigrant's Date of Death &amp; Place:</b>			
<b>Marriage Date &amp; Place:</b>			
<b>Marriage Date &amp; Place:</b>			
<b>Immigrant Arrived:</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SHIP</b>	<b>PORT</b>
<b>Port of Embarkation:</b>			
<b>Declaration of Intent:</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>PLACE</b>	
<b>Naturalized:</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>PLACE</b>	
<b>Foreign and American Residences:</b>			
<b>Immigrant's Occupation:</b>		<b>Religion/Church Affiliation:</b>	
<b>Came to Join:</b>			
<b>List all references and source of your information:</b>			

**IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>SPOUSE: (if more than one marriage - list on separate sheet)</b>				
Maiden Name if Female:				
Spouse Date of Birth/Baptism & Place:				
Spouse Date of Death & Place:				
His/Her Father's Name:				
His/Her Mother's Maiden Name:				
List references and sources of information:				
<b>CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR:</b> at least one child must be listed. (List only children born of Immigrant Ancestor and Spouse listed above, USE MAIDEN NAMES FOR ALL FEMALE SPOUSES LISTED) Any other children from other marriages list separately.				
NAME OF CHILD	BIRTH DATE & PLACE	DEATH DATE & PLACE	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE DATE & PLACE
List references and sources of information:				

I certify that the immigrant is my ancestor and that all information and sources listed is correct to the best of my knowledge. I grant PALATINES TO AMERICA permission to publish the information, for non-commercial use, using my membership number.

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Member Signature Date

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR REGISTER  
FORM FOR PALATINES TO AMERICA**

**PURPOSE:**

The Immigrant Ancestor Register (IAR) is maintained in order to contribute to genealogical research and to establish a record for future reference. Submitted forms are filed in the National PalAm Headquarters where they are available for review after data has been extracted and published in *The Palatine Immigrant*. The IAR maintains a record of all registered immigrants and of spouses whose names are known.

**FORM:**

The form published in the *Immigrant* may be copied for submission or an interactive form may be downloaded from the PalAm web site, [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org). Must have Word software to use.

**IN GENERAL:**

You must be a member of PalAm to register an ancestor. Type or print legibly. Give name spellings of the ancestor who is as close as possible to the original German-speaking ancestor. The ancestor will be filed under the most common spelling found in the Library of Congress. Your Immigrant Ancestor must have been born in a German-speaking country.

The wife of an Immigrant Ancestor, arriving with her husband, is not considered to be an immigrant ancestor. The children of the immigrant ancestor, arriving together, are not considered to be immigrants. Complete the form as much as possible. At a minimum, give one firm date and place in America and evidence of foreign birth. Name at least one child of the immigrant. The source for each name, date, event and place must be given. You may use the same source for several different events. Indicate unverified data with a question mark. Be sure all cities, towns, etc. are spelled correctly.

You may not register the ancestors of another using your membership number, address, phone number or e-mail address. If two people in a household plan to submit immigrant ancestors, a family membership must be indicated on the membership line of the form.

**CITE YOUR SOURCES:**

Be specific when noting your sources. Others should be able to locate your source easily. See the book *Genealogical Evidence*, authored by Noel Stevenson. Source information must be actual, not contradictory information. While oral, written and published family traditions are not acceptable proof, they may be shared if they are labeled as such.

If submitted material needs clarification, you will be contacted prior to publication. Submission of this form implies that you grant permission for copies to be made by other researchers for non-commercial purposes.

To learn if your immigrant ancestor has been previously registered, you can check the Members section of our web site and look under the list of surnames. All forms are scanned and published on the web site after submitter information is eliminated.



# PALATINES TO AMERICA

## *German Genealogy Society*



### **FAMILYSEARCH LIBRARY RESEARCH TRIP SEPTEMBER 8 – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

Includes 7 nights at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel (Sun. thru Sat.) – adjacent to the FamilySearch Library.  
Travel to and from Salt Lake City is at each registrant's arrangement and expense.

**LIBRARY HOURS:** Monday, Friday, & Saturday: 9 AM – 6 PM; Tuesday – Thursday: closes @ 8 PM  
The International Desk has a staff of experts in German genealogy who can assist with reading  
microfilmed or digitized German records.

Orientation, FSL classes as scheduled, sharing with group members, and more.

Ability to digitize many kinds of media at no charge

Nearby restaurants, large shopping mall, specialty shops, historic sites, Temple Square, et. al.

**Early bird registration with a \$100 deposit BEFORE June 1, 2024:**

Deluxe Double Queen: \$490 per person [includes taxes]

Deluxe Double Queen as a Single: \$925 [includes taxes]

Standard King: \$835 [includes taxes]

**Registration AFTER June 1, 2024:**

Deluxe Double Queen: \$515 per person [includes taxes]

Deluxe Double Queen as a Single: \$950 [includes taxes]

Standard King: \$860 [includes taxes]

**\*Non-members of PalAm: add \$50 per person to ALL above rates\***

**Hotel block of rooms is limited; first come, first served.**

**Deposits refunded in full until July 1, 2024; \$25 service fee afterwards.**

**Balance due July 31, 2024.** Fees do not include parking at the hotel, meals, or transportation costs.

Written confirmation, with additional information will be sent to registrants.

Questions? Contact Tour Organizer, Kent Robinson at [neker0@aol.com](mailto:neker0@aol.com)

Make checks payable to **Palatines to America**.

Mail to: Gary Martzolf, Treasurer; 3971 Lindbergh Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44718-2869

-----Enclose form below with deposit or full payment-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Room type (please circle): Deluxe Dbl Queen —or— Standard King

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**The Palatine Immigrant**

Volume XLIX No. 2

ISSN 0884-5735

**The Quarterly Publication of**

**Palatines to America**

**P.O. Box 531096**

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