

LITWILLER

ORIGINS

The original Swiss form of the name is probably Leutwiler or Leutwyler, meaning a resident of the village called Leutwil in the Canton of Aargau in northern Switzerland.(1) (See Notes on page 6) In 1973, Leutwil celebrated the 700th anniversary of the village's founding. Nelson Litwiller obtained a copy of the booklet published to celebrate that event. Although there were no Leutwyler/Litwiller residents living in Leutwill at that time, they were issued a hearty welcome to the celebration.(2)

Litwillers were probably among the Anabaptist refugees fleeing persecution in Switzerland, because in 1685 a Hans Leutwyler appeared on a census list of Mennonites on the Ibersheimer Hof in the Palatinate.(3)

Whether Jacob Litwiller, the ancestor of the family who migrated to Canada, was a descendant of the Hans Leutweyler who was in the Palatinate in 1685, we do not know, but it most certainly is a possibility. According to his death record, Jacob was born about 1759 near Schupfholz, near Freiburg in Baden, Germany — more on possible Litwiller family connections on page 2. Jacob was married to Anna Maria (sometimes known only as Maria) Maurer, probably in Alsace. Jacob and Maria were found in various places in both Upper and Lower Alsace as well as in Lorraine, France, during the time they were raising their family.

THE LITWILLERS IN FRANCE

When the first Litwiller genealogy was compiled in 1981, little was known of the Litwiller family in Europe. Research in Alsace and Lorraine since then has turned up many records of birth, marriage and death, and through them we have been able to get a more complete outline of the family and where they lived. According to her marriage record, Catherine, Jacob and Maria's oldest daughter, was born in Staffelfelden, northwest of Mulhouse, which is in Upper Alsace. During the 1790s, several children were born to Jacob and Maria at La Petite Pierre and Litzelstein, which is in Lower Alsace. According to family tradition Maria was born at "Imshel." In Lower Alsace there is an area called Imsthal, and it was suggested that one might look at La Petite Pierre, a town in this area. Sure enough, there was Maria's birth record, and that of several more children.

A French Mennonite historian suggested that the Litwillers were also found at Illfurth, a small town between Mulhouse and Altkirch in Upper Alsace. A search at Illfurth resulted in the discovery of Peter's birth record in 1809, as well as the births and deaths of a few of his siblings.

It was considerably later, while searching for the Baechlers in Hattigny, that Veronica's birth record in 1801, was discovered in that village. Hattigny is located in Lorraine. Veronica was registered as "Freni." A son John, who had been born at La Petite Pierre, died in Hattigny.

Peter's birth in 1809 was the last Litwiller record found in Illfurth. A second Barbara was born in Tagsdorf, a short distance southeast of Illfurth, and Jacob died there in 1814.

A Jean/John Litwiller, born in 1764 and married to Françoise/Freni Zehr, was also found — mostly in Lorraine — during the time Jacob and Marie were moving around Alsace, including a short sojourn in Lorraine. John and Freni both died at Repaix, but a number of their descendants emigrated to Illinois. It is likely that John and Jacob were related — perhaps brothers. A brief outline of this family will be found at the end of this Introduction.

A PROBABLE LITWILLER FAMILY

The following three persons with the Litwiller family name can be considered probable siblings since they were contemporaries in the same areas in France. Further research is needed to confirm the accuracy of this proposal.

Parents Unknown

1. **Jacob Litwiller**, b. ca. 1759,
native of Schlupfholz, near Freiburg, Baden, Germany
d. 19 Feb 1814, Tagsdorf, Upper Alsace
m. before 1786
(Anna) Maria Maurer, dau. of Jean/John Maurer and Madeleine/Magdalena Conte
b. ca. 1767
d. 22 Sept 1836, Wilmot Township
2. **Maria Elisabeth Litwiller**, born 1762,
native of the Schupfholz estate in Breisgau near Emmendingen, Baden.
1m. _____ Hochstettler
2m. Johann Conrad Schweitzer of Ostheim, Alsace
3. **John Litwiller**, b. 1764
d. 29 Jan 1822 at Repaix, Lorraine, France
Freni Zehr, dau. of Christian Zehr, and Frenni Martin,
b. 1766
d. 9 Aug. 1819, Repaix

JACOB LITWILLER AND ANNE MARIE (MAURER) LITWILLER

From his age given in other records, we estimate that Jacob was born about 1759, but no records have divulged the names of his parents. His death record, gives his place of birth as Schupfholtz, in Breisgau. (see map on opposite page). From a Maurer family outline – nothing to do with Anne Marie Maurer - we find a Maria Elisabeth Litwiller, born 1762, native of the Schupfholz estate in Breisgau near Emmendingen, Baden. She was first married to a Hochstettler, then to Johann Conrad Schweitzer of Ostheim, Alsace. (4) Again, Maria Elisabeth's parents are also not indicated, but with both of these Litwillers born on the Schupfholz estate – one in 1759, the other in 1762 – they are most likely to be brother and sister.

When Jacob Litwiller married Anna Maria (also known as Maria) Maurer is not known. Their first known child was born in 1786. Maria's parents were Jean/John Maurer and Madeleine/Magdalena "Conte." It is not certain what that name is or should be. When we published the first edition of the Litwiller genealogy we had spelled Maria's name "Muree," before we were able to figure out from various other records that her name should be Maurer.(5)

We have already suggested that Jacob and Maria moved around a great deal. When Catherine was born in 1786, they were in Staffelfelden, northwest of Mulhouse in Upper Alsace. It is important to note that Upper Alsace is in the south and Lower Alsace is in the north -- the "Upper" and "Lower" are determined by the flow of the Rhine River from the south to the north.

By 1793, they were in the Imstal in Lower Alsace, some distance northwest of Strasbourg. The last birth recorded there (at La Petite-Pierre) was Anne Marie (Maria), born in 1797. By the time of the death of three-year-old John in 1798, they were at Hattigny, west of Strasbourg and across the Vosges Mountains in

Lorraine. Freni was born there in 1801. The following year, Jacob served as a witness for Maria Maurer's sister Barbe who married Christian Roth, an older brother of Rudolph who would later marry Jacob and Maria's daughter Maria.

During their sojourn in Lorraine, Jacob was ordained to preach ("Diener des Wortes"). In 1805, when Jacob took his family back to Upper Alsace, he carried with him a letter, certifying his ordination. It was signed by the ministers of a scattered congregation, namely: Christen Lehmann, Christ Engel, Joseph Wurckler, Christ Gerber, Hans Gingrich, Christ Roth, and Christ Naffziger. This letter was received by the Neuneich-Birkenhof congregation, which is now known as Altkirch-Birkenhof, with two meeting places in southern Alsace.(6)

Illfurt, where the Jacob Litwiller family resided during this time is located between Mulhouse and Altkirch. Son Christian, age 15, died at Illfurt in the fall of 1805 and 7-year-old Barbara in 1807. Elisabeth was born in 1807 and Peter in 1809. In January of 1811, Jacob Litwiller witnessed the marriage of a Jakob PeterSchmidt to Maria Ernst at Ueberstrass, haut-Rhin. Litwiller's residence was given as Schlierbach (spelling uncertain) (7). Another Barbara was born in Tagsdorf in 1812, and Jacob died there in 1814.

After Jacob's death, it is believed that Widow Maria and the younger children went to live with daughter Magdalena after her marriage to Christian Lichti at Largitzen for Elisabeth died there in 1819. (8) Elisabeth's death leaves all of the Jacob and Maria Litwiller family accounted for except Joseph, born at La Petite-Pierre in 1793. We had hoped to find Joseph among the Illinois immigrants, but he did not fit into that picture. Whether he married and stayed in Europe or whether he died at "Schlierbach," mentioned above, we do not know, but he was not on the 1827 passenger list when Widow Maria Litwiller and her family landed in New York.

THE JACOB LITWILLER AND ANNA MARIA MAURER FAMILY

Jacob Litwiller, b. ca.1759, native of Schlupfholz, near Freiburg, Baden, Ger.
 d. 19 Feb 1814, Tagsdorf, Upper Alsace
 m. before 1786

(Anna) Maria Maurer, dau. of Jean/John Maurer and Madeleine/Magdalena Conte
 b. ca. 1767
 d. 22 Sept 1836, Wilmot Township

Children:

Grandchildren:

<p>1) Catherine Litwiller b. 10 Apr 1786 Staffelfelden d. 11 Apr 1873 Wilmot m. 24 Jun 1813 Luemschwiller</p> <p>Christian Boshart b. 1786 Tagsdorf d. 20 Nov 1850 Wilmot son of John Boshart and Anna Maria Müller</p>	<p>John Boshart (1814) Maria Boshart (1815-1853) m. Michael Jantzi Catherine Boshart (1817-1894) m. Joseph Jantzi 2m. Christian Riser</p> <p>Veronica Boshart (1820) Barbara Boshart (1822-1904) m. Michael Zehr Christian Boshart (1824-) m Elizabeth Ulner Joseph Boshart (1830-1897) m. Catherine Kaufman</p>
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2) Christian Litwiller
 b. ca. 1789 Alsace
 d. 30 Oct 1805 Illfurt

3) Joseph Litwiller
 b. 9 Oct 1793 La Petite Pierre (no further record)

4) John Litwiller
 b. ca. 1795 La Petite Pierre
 d. 25 Mar 1798 Hattigny

5) Magdalena Litwiller
 b. ca. 1796 Litzelstein
 d. 1862-69 Wilmot
 m. 3 Dec 1816 Hirtzbach

Christian Lichti
 b. 12 Mar 1796 Friesen
 d. 6 Sept 1865 Wilmot
 son of John Lichti and
 Magdalena Joder

{ John L. Lichti (1817-1866) m. Elizabeth Kropf
 2m. Barbara Gerber
 Maria Lichti (1819-1900) m. Joseph Zehr
 Christian Lichti (1821-) d. in France
 Joseph L. Lichti (1824-1890) m. Magdalena Farney
 Catherine Lichti (1826-1910) m. Christian N. Roth
 Magdalena Lichti (1827-1893) m. Joseph R. Ropp
 Barbara Lichti (1830-)
 Veronica Lichti (1833-1907) m. John B. Jantzi

6) (Anne) Maria Litwiller
 b. 28 Oct 1797 Petite-Pierre
 d. 4 Sep 1863 Wilmot

Rudolph Roth
 b. 22 Jan 1799 Hattigny
 d. 1 Jun 1853 Wilmot
 son of John Roth and
 Mary Lehman

{ John Roth (1824-1826)
 Maria Roth (1826-1891) m. Christian S. Miller
 Veronica Roth (1828-1916) m. John Honderich
 Catherine Roth (1832-1883) m Christian Honderich
 Barbara Roth (1836)
 Joseph Roth (1839-1906) m. Elizabeth Richter
 2m. Sarah Beam
 Magdalena Roth (1842-1903) m. John E. Schultz
 2m. Christian Hostetler

(continued)

7) Barbara Litwiller
 b. ca. 1800 France
 d. 12 Aug 1807 Illfurth,FR

8) Veronica Litwiller
 b. 6 Dec 1801 Hattigny
 d. ca. 1868 Wilmot
 m. 1828 Wilmot
 Jacob W. Gingerich
 b. ca. 1798 Germany
 d. 21 Nov 1869 Wilmot

Peter L. Gingerich (1829-1878) m. Anna Erb
 Christian L. Gingerich (1831-1910) m. Barbara
 Helmuth Miller 2m. Veronica Mayer
 Jacob L. Gingerich (1833-1890) m Maria Brenneman
 Maria Gingerich (ca.1836-ca.1852)
 Joseph L. Gingerich (1837-1888) m. Magdalena Lebold
 Barbara Gingerich (1840-1872) m. John Brenneman
 Rudolph Gingerich (1842-1918) m. Mary Zehr
 Daniel Gingerich (ca.1844-1889)

9) Elisabeth Litwiller
 b. 24 Sep 1805 Illfurth
 d. 20 May 1819 Largetzen

10)
 Peter Litwiller
 b. 8 Jan 1809 Illfurth
 d. 7 Jul 1878 Wilmot
 m. 1830 Wilmot
 Elizabeth Lichti
 b. 3 Oct 1807 Hirtzbach,FR
 d. 25 Feb 1882 Wilmot
 dau. of John Lichti
 and Magdalena Joder

Magdalena Litwiller (1831-1916) m. John P. Mayer
 Anna Maria Litwiller (1832-1911) m. Christian
 S. Erb
 Catherine Litwiller (1833-1915) m John E Schultz
 Jacob L Litwiller (1835-1918) m Elizabeth Buerge
 Barbara Litwiller (1837-1871) m Daniel Brenneman
 Veronica Litwiller (1839-1932) m Joseph Schultz
 John Litwiller (1842-1927) m. Catherine Jantzi
 Peter L. Litwiller (1844-1904) m. Leah Roth
 Elizabeth Litwiller (1846-1927) m Menno Schultz
 Christian Litwiller (1848-1924) m. Maria Miller
 Anna Litwiller (1850-1915) m. Peter K. Ramseyer

11)
 Barbara Litwiller
 b. 20 Jun 1812 Tagsdorf,FR
 d. 21 Jan 1861 Wilmot
 m. 11 Sep 1831 Wilmot
 Jacob Gardner
 b. ca.1801 Germany
 d. 25 Aug. 1887 Wilmot

Foster children:
 Maria Christner (1834-1911) m. George Nicklas
 Lydia Kipfer (ca.1838-after 1851)
 Christian Kipfer (1839-1928) m. Barbara Wagler
 Marie Loth? (ca.1839)
 Maria Kuepfer (1839/40-1848)d. in Gardner home
 Barbara Ruby (twin) (1846-1920)m. Henry Loth
 2m David Merklinger
 Anna Ruby (twin)(1846-1918) m. John Megli
 2m. Magdalena (Boshart) Christopher Rau (ca.1856-1934) m. Bertha Liersch
 Sommer Magdalena Gardner (1857-1920) m. Frank Dietsch

Most of the villages mentioned in the above list are located in Upper Alsace, and their records are found at Colmar. La Petite Pierre, also known as Lutzstein, or even Imsthal is in Lower Alsace, with records at Strasbourg. Hattigny is in Lorraine with its records at Metz.

For more details on the Litwiller women, see the following files:

The BOSHAART file for Catherine Litwiller and Christine Boshart

The LICHTI file for Catherine Litwiller and Christine Lichti
The Roth file for Anne Marie Litwiller and Rudolph Roth
The GINGERICH file for Veronica Litwiller and Jacob W. Gingrich
The GARDNER file for Barbara Litwiller and Sarah Gardner

THE LITWILLERS COME TO CANADA

Maria (Maurer) Litwiller and her entire family (except Joseph, if he was still living) sailed from Le Havre, France on the Brig *Abby Jones* and arrived in New York on July 12, 1827. Catherine was married to Christian Boshart, Magdalena to Christian Lichti, and Anne Marie, or Maria, to Rudolph Roth. These couples and their children and Veronica, Peter and Barbara were all on the same ship. The scribe who recorded their names, did such a poor job of spelling the names that they probably would have been missed if he had not indicated they were going to Canada. Roth was spelled "Rhode," Litwiller was "Lidwell," and Lichti was something like "Leacti." "Bossard" was the most recognizable.(9)

Peter Litwiller, still a teenager and the Litwiller women and their spouses all claimed lots on Erb's Road in Wilmot Township, west of the crossroads which is now St. Agatha -- Peter, Lot 7 on the north side, Christian and Catherine Boshart, Lot 9 on the north side, and Rudolph and Maria Roth, Lot 9 on the south side, and Christian and Magdalena Lichti, Lot 10 on the south side.

When S. S. Wilmot made his report of the settlement in Wilmot in 1830, Peter had not cleared his roadway nor had he built a house.(10) No doubt, he had to help his married sisters and brothers-in-law with their work before he could begin on his own. The others all qualified to receive their patents for their front 50 acres. Veronica married Jacob W. Gingrich who had claimed Lot 15, North Bleam's Road. The Gingerichs had also done enough work to qualify for their patent. Barbara, who was only 15 at the time of immigration, married Jacob Gardner, an immigrant from Germany, and they settled on the north part of Lot 24, South Bleam's Road.

Maria Litwiller, the mother of the Litwiller clan, died in 1836. Her death was announced in the *Canada Museum*, a German-language newspaper published in Berlin (now Kitchener).(11) One would suppose she had been living with one of her daughters -- in the 1831 census it would appear she was with her daughter Maria, in the household of Rudolph Roth. No doubt, she was buried in what is now the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery. A burial ground was set aside on the Lichti farm, beside the northeast corner of the Rudolph Roth farm, in the 1830s. No tombstone, if there was one, has survived.

Peter married Elizabeth Lichti, daughter of John Lichti and Magdalena Joder, in 1830. She was a sister to Christian who had married Peter's sister Magdalena. The Lichti parents and unmarried children had arrived in Canada in 1825. Peter set to work after his marriage and also managed to obtain his patent to the front 50 acres in 1835 -- the same time as his sisters and their spouses. Peter and Elizabeth's story will be continued in more detail on page 7.

Notes:

- 1) *Was Isch Dini Nahme? What Is Your Name?* by Delbert Gratz, Masthof Press, 1995, page 14
- 2) Nelson Litwiller donated this booklet, *Jubilaums-Schrift, 1273-1973, 700 Jahre Leutwil*, to Orland and Alvin Gingerich, Amish Mennonite historians. Photocopies of the cover and a few pages of this booklet are found in the LITWILLER, Documents, Etc. file.
- 3) *Palatine Mennonite Census Lists, 1664-1793*, by Hermann and Gertrud Guth and J. Lemar and Lois Ann Mast, 1987, page 15.
- 4) Marie Elisabeth Litwiller's information is found in "The Vordemwalk Brother's Maurer Inlaws (In Brief)" by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. XXVI, No. 2, April 2007, Page 83.
- 5) For more details on the Maurer family, see the MAURER File.
- 6) This information was received by Milton Litwiller from Pierre Sommer of Grand-Charmont, France, probably in 1987, and a copy was passed on to Lorraine Roth. Unfortunately, we failed to note it in the 1998 issue of the Litwiller genealogy. Pierre Sommer had found the Jacob Litwiller family in Illfurt where Peter was born, but lost their trail after 1811.
- 7) This record was found by Joe Springer, Curator of the Mennonite Historical Library at Goshen College, (Indiana) and reported to Lorraine Roth in a letter dated Dec. 5, 2005.
- 8) In this record – also reported by Joe Springer - the name was spelled "lutvickler," but she was identified as the daughter of deceased Jacob "lutvickler" and Marie Anne Maurer his widow.
- 9) National Archives, Washington D.C., Microfilm Series M-237, Roll #10. The part of the passenger list with the names of the extended Litwiller family was reproduced in the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy on page 11, with a transcription on page 10. Copies are also found in the LITWILLER, Documents, Etc. File.
- 10) For a detailed description of the early settlement of Wilmot Township, see *The Amish and Their Neighbours, The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1822-1860* by Lorraine Roth. Waterloo, Ontario: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, 1998.
- 11) Maria's death was reported in the October 6th and October 20th issues of *Canada Museum*, published in Berlin, (now Kitchener) in the 1830s.

Peter Litwiller was born on January 8, 1809, in Illfurth, Upper Alsace – the tenth child of eleven, born to Anna Marie (usually known as Maria) Maurer and Jacob Litwiller. Peter was five years old when his father Jacob died at Tagsdorf, southeast of Illfurth. He would have had few memories of Jacob as father and even fewer of him as minister in the Anabaptist congregation of upper Alsace.

After Jacob and Maria's daughter Magdalena married Christian Lichti, Mother Maria probably accompanied them to Largizen, southwest of Altkirch, where 14-year-old Elisabeth died in 1819.

When Maria decided to leave France, the surviving children numbered six (unless son Joseph was still living). Peter, the second youngest and only male was 18. On the arrival of this extended family at New York on the Brig *Abby Jones* on July 12, 1827, Peter's name appeared as Peter "Lidwell" on the passenger list.

PETER LITWILLER AND ELIZABETH LICHTY BEGIN A HOME IN CANADA

It is presumed that this group of immigrants made their way directly to Canada. The parents and siblings of Christian Lichti, married to Magdalena Litwiller, had preceded them in 1825. By 1829, young Peter had put a claim on Lot 7, North Erb's Eoad in the newly surveyed portion of Wilmot Township. In his report on the settlers in November 1829, John Goessman's comment about Peter was "too poor to make progress." (1) It might have been more appropriate to describe him as "too young to make progress." He was only 20! No doubt, he was helping his married siblings build their cabins and do their clearing.

[This explanation not in new files.](#)

The settlers were required to pay a share of the cost of the survey. Upon completion of a suitable dwelling, the clearing of the roadway in front of their lot, and the clearing of a certain number of acres for planting crops, and after a residence in the country of seven years (the time required to become naturalized) the settlers were promised a patent (deed) for the front 50 acres free -- except for the patent fee. They would then be eligible to purchase the remaining 150 acres whenever they had the resources to do so. Under these circumstances, this group of immigrants began making their selections and set to work.

While this travelling group were leaving their homes in France, crossing the ocean, and making their way to Wilmot Township, some momentous decisions were made in London, England. Bishop John Strachan was commissioned by the Executive Council of the government of Upper Canada to secure a charter for a university and the exchange of unproductive lands for lands being settled to provide funds for the university. He was successful in both, and the effects of the latter would soon be felt by the settlers in Wilmot.

The calendar page had barely been turned to 1828 when the government deeded the rear acreages of the lots on either side of the three roads traversing Wilmot Township to King's College, the new university which later became the University of Toronto. The following summer, the bursar of King's College addressed a letter to the settlers outlining the new policies under which the settlers would be able to purchase the rear of the lots on which they were making their improvements -- in some cases they had actually built their cabins on the rear of the lot! One of the main problems was the high price -- almost double that which the settlers were expecting to pay.

The settlers were greatly distressed by the new policies and voiced their displeasure to both the college and the government with haste, threatening to leave if there was no relief. Letters were written by or signed by leaders such as Christian Nafziger who had made the initial contact with the Mennonites and the government about this settlement, Bishop Peter Nafziger, and Minister Joseph Goldschmidt. Within the next few years some left (Peter Nafziger and Goldschmidt included) but others kept negotiating and stayed.

In 1830, Peter married Elizabeth Lichti, daughter of John and Magdalena (Joder) Lichti, who had arrived in Canada in 1825. When S. S. Wilmot made his official report on the Wilmot settlers in 1830, Peter's situation had not changed. He had not yet built a cabin and had done little or no clearing on the roadway. However, he now had the backing of extended family – both Litwiller and Lichti – and progress began in earnest.

By the time of the 1831 assessment record, Peter had cleared seven acres, and they had two oxen and one cow, and a daughter. Each year the number of cleared acres slowly increased.(2) Evidently, he had completed his settling duties by 1835, because that year he received his patent to the front 50 acres. In 1837, the cleared acreage was 35, and for the first time Peter had a horse. They also had two oxen, four cows, and two horned cattle. The 1840 assessment still did not include the permanent two-storey log house. The Litwiller two-storey hewed-log house was reported in the 1851 census; so it must have been built during the 1840s. The barn, identical in construction to one built on Snyder's Road in 1861,(on the Peter J. /Elmer/Earl/Duane Litwiller farm) was probably built in the early 1860s. Surrounded by the present Village of St. Agatha, the barn, used only for storage, burned in June, 2004. The log house, kept in good condition and modernized is still in use by Litwiller descendants in 2008.

In 1847, Peter and Elizabeth sold the southeast corner of their lot to Peter Tschirhart, a tailor. Tschirhart built a three-storey brick, multiple-use building at the corner which has become one of the oldest landmarks of St. Agatha. Additional lots were sold to others who established businesses along Erb's Road.

Early in 1853, Peter sent what he thought was the last payment for his lot to the University of Toronto, but they claimed that due to an error in calculating interest, he still owed 17 pounds (British currency). J. H. Barrett, writing on behalf of Litwiller, claimed there was no error and asked for a complete statement. At the end of the year, however, Barrett counselled Litwiller to send the asked-for payment, and Peter finally received his deed in 1854.(3)

In 1877, the year before his death, Peter divided his lot, selling the north part to son Christian, married to Maria Miller, and the south part with the homestead buildings to Peter, married to Leah Roth. Peter Sr. had also purchased some land in Wellesley Township, but 1877, all of it had been disposed of as well.

PETER LITWILLER AS BUSINESS MAN

In 1838 Peter had invested in a little notebook which he called his "*Notizbuch*." It illustrates the settlers' system of bartering goods and services. The account book was necessary to keep track of the many transactions. Cash was in short supply; so things were seldom paid in full when purchased. Peter frequently hired persons by the day or to do certain tasks. This may have been the labourer's only way to get a little needed cash as much as Peter's need for assistance.

A study of the names appearing in Litwiller's notebook indicates that new Amish-Mennonite arrivals in Canada frequently found work or help with Peter Litwiller. The notebook is sometimes a good source to check the arrival time of some immigrants. Peter also had dealings with his non-Amish neighbours, many of whom were Roman Catholic. The last entry in the notebook was made in 1874 with a faltering hand.

THE MINISTRY OF PETER LITWILLER

German, of course, was still the language of the Amish-Mennonite settlers, and would continue to be the language used in church during the first century in Canada. The leaders of their congregations were chosen by vote of the congregation and were known as "*Diener*" (servants). In English, the three ministerial offices were called bishop, minister, and deacon.

The first Amish-Mennonite ministers to be ordained to serve the settlement in Wilmot Township were Joseph Goldschmidt and John Brenneman as ministers and Jacob Kropf as deacon in 1824. Although Goldschmidt left for Ohio, some ordained persons arrived from Europe and others were ordained here.

In 1835, Rudolph Roth, Peter Litwiller's brother-in-law was ordained minister, and bishop in 1843. In 1845, both Peter and his brother-in-law Jacob Gardner were ordained to the ministry. In 1837, a congregation had been organized in South –Easthope-East Zorra, but was served by the bishops of Wilmot until 1853..

By 1850, the congregation in Wilmot was very large. According to the census, the number of Amish Mennonites in Wilmot, including children, was over 600. The congregation in South Easthope-East Zorra was also quite numerous. Although settlement in Wellesley Township was delayed because of the Clergy Reserve issue, there was a relatively large settlement in the northwest part of Wilmot and people were moving into Wellesley. Early in 1850, there was a substantial number of ministers serving this large constituency. But then the ministerial scene changed very quickly.

By 1849, Bishop John Oesch had moved to Hay Township, and in March, 1850, he died. Bishop Christian Miller in Wilmot died the same month. Rudolph Roth joined the Reformed Mennonites, and the date given is 1850. That left the aged Christian Wagler as the only bishop. Peter Litwiller was ordained bishop in 1850, but neither the precise date nor who was the presiding bishop is known. Both Oesch and Miller died early in 1850, and Oesch's was a sudden death. Perhaps Miller had time to think about ordaining a successor. Under the circumstances Rudolph Roth probably did not ordain Peter as his replacement. Was it the aged Bishop Wagler who ordained Peter? Wagler died in 1851; so that left Peter as the only bishop for the entire Amish-Mennonite community from Wilmot to Lake Huron. It was not until 1853 that Joseph Ruby was ordained as bishop in South Easthope-East Zorra.

In 1853, Rudolph Roth, Peter's brother-in-law, and former bishop of the Wilmot congregation, died. How Peter and Rudolph worked on their differences is not known. It is also not certain exactly what the issues were that attracted Rudolph and Maria, as well as sisters Veronica (but not her husband Jacob Gingerich) and Barbara, as with her husband Jacob Gardner, to the Reformed Mennonite Church. Perhaps it was a more evangelical preaching or a stricter discipline, or both. Did Rudolph believe in "tough love," while Peter advocated patience? From other sources, it seems that Peter was gentle, loving and patient. Knowing that both groups, the Amish and the Reformed Mennonites practiced shunning, this must have been a source of sadness for Peter because it involved three of his five sisters. Rudolph's early demise in 1853 removed him from any conflict which Peter might have had with him.

A congregation for North Wilmot and Wellesley was organized in 1859 and John Jantzi was ordained bishop. No bishop was ordained in Hay Township until 102 years after the death of John Oesch when Ephraim Gingerich was ordained to that office 1952. In the intervening years, bishops from "down east," usually East Zorra or Wilmot, served the Hay congregation with its meetinghouse near Blake after 1886.

Until the 1860s, the Amish congregations in North America were developing some differences which threatened the fellowship, and conferences which they called "*Dienerversammlungen*" were called between 1862 and 1878 in an effort to come to unity on some of the more divisive issues. Although Peter Litwiller never attended any of these conferences, some of his colleagues did on occasion. In 1863 they responded to the questions being raised at that conference by letter.

One of the issues at that time was whether baptism should be conducted in a stream of running water rather than pouring or sprinkling in a house. To this question, the Canadians responded that it was their custom to baptize by sprinkling in homes, wherever it was most appropriate. Baptism in the Spirit was the most important, and whether water baptism took place in or out of water was not an issue. It would become an issue only if anyone made a law that it had to be "out of water." The letter was signed by Peter Litwiller, Johannes Gascho, and Christian Wagler. Whether Peter composed it or whether his signature comes first because of his status as bishop is not known. (5)

Whether it was due to Peter's aging or whether he simply wished to see his successor in place before his own demise, John Gascho, who had been ordained as minister in 1854, was ordained to the office of bishop in 1872. Peter died in 1878. It would be John Gascho that would see the congregation through the building of two meetinghouses for the congregation in Wilmot, but also the division of the Amish community with the Old Order continuing to worship in their homes.

PETER LITWILLER IN THE COMMUNITY

The Amish-Mennonite settlers on Erb's Road established a school as early as 1834. Peter's children were still too young to go to school, but he had some nieces and nephews who were school age. According to tradition, the Amish built a log school house on Nicholas Lichti's property on the south side of Erb's Road in 1834. Nicholas was Peter's brother-in-law. The Lichti's lived about a mile west of the intersection which would become St. Agatha. The Lutherans built another school east of the intersection, and between them they hired a teacher who alternated between the two schools -- two weeks in one location, then two weeks in the other. Located between the two, the Catholics also had their own school by 1834.

In 1845, the location at Lichti's was formalized when Nicholas sold a small parcel to the school trustees, Peter Litwiller, John Lichti, and Nicholas Lichti "for a school house and burial ground of our denomination." By that time Peter and Elizabeth had six school-age children, although 14-year-old Magdalena was probably needed at home.

The Amish and Lutheran schools were discontinued in 1865 and a common (public) school was begun in a stone building at the east end of St. Agatha. Churches eventually replaced the log school houses beside the cemeteries at the previous Amish and Lutheran school sites. The Catholics continued to maintain their own school in accordance with the Canadian Separate School system.

The Catholics had a succession of itinerant priests make their headquarters at St. Agatha from 1834 to 1857. A frame church was built at the location of the present church (on the former Peter Kipfer property). In July, 1857, a dedicated young man by the name of Eugene Funcken arrived in St. Agatha to serve in the Congregation of the Resurrection. Father Funcken was full of zeal and energy and set to work establishing a vibrant community. Among his projects was the establishing of an orphanage and a seminary.

So, here was a young, energetic, celibate Catholic cleric living across the road from a middle-aged Amish farmer-bishop with a family of eleven children and a few grandchildren. They might have had good reasons to ignore each other, at best, or engage in a running feud at worst, but they did neither. According to family tradition, they met with each other regularly to discuss topics of a religious nature. They set the stage for a peaceful community, rather than one where various factions are in conflict.

A number of years ago I (Lorraine Roth) attended a historical society meeting at the St. Agatha church and was impressed that I did not find any crucifixes in the sanctuary. Now – in August, 2007 - the Congregation of the Resurrection of St. Agatha is celebrating its 150th anniversary. (6) It was in 1857 that the Rev. Eugence Funcken – the first Resurrectionist priest in North America - arrived in St. Agatha. Did this emphasis on the resurrection of this Catholic priest and his congregation have anything to do with the two church leaders' understanding of each other?

It is said that when Peter Litwiller's funeral cortege passed the Catholic Church on its way to the Amish cemetery, Father Funcken had the bells tolled. A broadside printed at the time of his death is also attributed to him. In it he extolled the bishop's character and his ministry. An excerpt: "His mild friendly manner, his patience with everyone and especially his love for peace won him many hearts...His daily walk coincided with his sermons and his speech was consistent at all times. (7)

Peter Litwiller died on July 7, 1878, at the age of 69 years. The funeral was the largest one ever witnessed in the district. Extra hay was brought in and spread in the field for the horses. There were 200 carriages besides many pedestrians. His daughter Barbara and her husband Daniel Brenneman had preceded him in death, but ten children, their spouses, and 49 grandchildren survived him, as did his wife Elizabeth. She followed him in death on February 25, 1882. They were buried in what is now the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.

THE PETER AND ELIZABETH (LICHTI) LITWILLER FAMILY

Peter Litwiller, b. 8 Jan 1809, Illfurth, Haut-Rhin (Upper Alsace)

d. 7 July 1878, Wilmot Township

m. 1830, Wilmot

Elizabeth Lichti, dau. of John Lichti and Magdalena Joder

b. 2 Oct 1808, Hirtzbach, Haut-Rhin

d. 25 Feb 1882, Wilmot

Children:

Grandchildren:

1) Magdalena Litwiller

b. 18 Jan 1831 Wilmot

d. 31 May 1916 " Christian Mayer (1855-1921) m. Barbara Spenler

m. 4 Oct 1853 " John L. Mayer (1858-1931) m. Mary Jutzi

John P. Mayer Peter Mayer (1859-1932) m. Mary Ann Reeve

b. 11 Apr 1834 Wilmot Elizabeth Mayer (1862-1922) m. Christian Honderich

d. 31 Mar 1868 "

son of Christian Mayer

and Magdalena Petersheim

2) Anna Maria Litwiller Menno L. Erb (1857-1915) m. Magdalena Kennel

b. 16 Aug 1832 Wilmot Veronica Erb (1860-1861)

d. 1 Aug 1911 Wellesley John L. Erb (1862-1929) m. Barbara Oesch

m. 4 Mar 1856 Wilmot Peter L. Erb (1864-1941) m. Mary Ropp

Christian S. Erb Christian L. Erb (1866-1950) m. Elizabeth Oesch

b. 14 Feb 1833 Wilmot Elizabeth Erb (1868-1955) m. John Albrecht

d. 7 Jan 1909 Wellesley Magdalena Erb (1870-1954) m. Daniel Leis

son of John Erb and Barbara Erb (1871-1922) m. Daniel

Veronica Schwartzentruber

Schwartzentruber

3) Catherine Litwiller

b. 20 Dec 1833 Wilmot

d. 11 Jun 1915 "

m. 30 Jan 1855 " John Schultz (ca. 1856-1934) m. Catherine Boshart

John E. Schultz Magdalena Schultz (1857-1910) m. Joseph

b. 7 Apr 1833 Wilmot

Schwartzentruber

d. 25 Sep 1903 "

son of George Schultz

and Magdalena Erb

4) Jacob L. Litwiller Peter B. Litwiller (1858-1906) m. Hattie Bates
 b. 22 Aug 1835 Wilmot Elizabeth Litwiller (1860-1883) m. John Peters
 d. 18 Sep 1918 Mich. Jacob B. Litwiller (1862-1953) m. Lydia G. Iutzi
 m. 27 Jan 1856 Wilmot Catherine Litwiller (1864-1943) m. Frank Haynes
 Elizabeth Buerge 2m. Lamont Freeman
 b. 26 May 1834 Wilmot Lydia Litwiller (1866-1951) m. Samuel H. Eicher
 d. 3 Apr 1907 Mich. Leah Litwiller (1869-1956) m. Frederick C. Fricke
 dau. of Jacob Buerge Veronica Litwiller (1870-1959) m. August R Peters
 and Elizabeth Grieser John B. Litwiller (1874-1957) m. Anna May Iutzi

5) Barbara Litwiller
 b. 1837/8 Wilmot
 d. 8 Aug 1871 " Catherine Brenneman (30 May - 18 Oct 1859)
 m. 5 Jan 1858 " Peter Brenneman (1861-1936) m. Leah Oesch
 Daniel Brenneman Elizabeth Brenneman (1862-1947) m. Joel
 b. 25 May 1835 Wilmot Schwartzentruber
 d. 28 Dec 1866 " Daniel Brenneman (1865-1928) m. Catherine Oesch
 son of Daniel Brenneman
 and Catherine Sommer

Magdalena Schultz (1862-1938) m. Levi O Schlabach
 6) Veronica Litwiller Menno Schultz (1864-1934) m. Catherine Brenneman
 b. 1839 Wilmot Mary Schultz (1865-1937) m. John Gascho
 d. 8 Jan 1932 Mich. Nancy Schultz (1867-1921) m. John B. Jantzi
 m. 29 May 1860 Wilmot Christian Schultz (1869-1938) m Katherine Gardner
 Joseph Schultz Daniel L. Schultz (1871-1942) m Lydia Ann Hallmam
 b. 19 Sep 1838 Wilmot Samuel L. Schultz (1873-1945) m. Matilda
 d. 18 Jul 1913 Mich. Kreuziger
 son of George Schultz Elizabeth Schultz (1877-1914) m. Noah S.
 and Magdalena Erb Rosenberger
 Leah Schultz (1880-1953) m. John Eisinger

7) John Litwiller
 b. 25 Sep 1842 Wilmot
 d. 27 Aug 1927 " Peter J. Litwiller (1969-1930) m. Elizabeth
 m. 2 Jun 1868 " Schwartzentruber
 Catherine Jantzi Michael Litwiller (1871-1874)
 b. 7 July 1847 Wilmot Catherine Litwiller (1876-1959) m. Isaac Wagler
 d. 29 Dec 1936 " John J. Litwiller (1878-1916) m. Delila
 dau. of Michael Jantzi Swartzendruber
 and Maria Boshart

8) Peter L. Litwiller
 b. 23 Nov 1844 Wilmot John R. Litwiller (1871-1942) m. Magdalena
 d. 14 Aug 1904 " Schwartzentruber
 m. 14 Feb 1870 " Elizabeth Litwiller (1873-1929) m. Jacob E.
 Leah Roth Schwartzentruber
 b. 8 Mar 1850 Wilmot Christian Litwiller (1874-1931) m Catherine Kropf
 d. 7 Feb 1907 " Catherine Litwiller (1876-1954)
 dau. of John Roth and Leah Litwiller (1879-1948) m. Aaron Wagler
 Catherine Boshart

Nancy Schultz (1867-1936) m. Peter Boshart

- 9) Elizabeth Litwiller Christian L. Schultz (1869-1952) m. Catherine Oesch
b. 5 Oct 1846 Wilmot Menno L. Schultz (1870-1929) m. Anna R. Zehr
d. 2 Dec 1927 Perth Co. Elizabeth Schultz (1873-1887)
m. 22 May 1866 Wilmot Peter Schultz (1875-1936) m. Catherine Baechler
Menno Schultz John L. Schultz (1877-1964) m. Barbara Zehr
b. 22 Oct 1841 Wilmot Enos Schultz (1879-1964) m. Mary Jutzi
d. 6 Jul 1920 Perth Co. Magdalena Schultz (1881-1943) m. Daniel B. Zehr
son of George Schultz Samuel L. Schultz (1883-1966) m. Annie Leis
and Magdalena Erb George Schultz (died at age 2)
Philip Schultz (1888)

- 10) Christian Litwiller Barbara Litwiller (1872-1936)
b. 13 Sep 1848 Wilmot Jacob Litwiller (1874-1928) m. Rachel Jantzi
d. 27 Aug 1924 " Moses Litwiller (1876-1916) m. Lydia Brenneman
m. 27 Sep 1870 Wilmot Annie Litwiller (1878-1968) m. Moses O. Jantzi
Maria Miller Samuel Litwiller (1881-1955) m. Veronica Schrag
b. 13 Dec 1851 Wilmot Mary Litwiller (1882-1953) m. Jacob Musselman
d. 30 Aug 1921 " Veronica Litwiller (1885-1920) m. Joseph Salzman
dau. of Christian S. Lydia Litwiller (1889-1932) m. Irvon Block
Miller and Maria Roth David Litwiller (1895-1959) m. Nellie N. Hilborn

- Elizabeth Ramseyer (1868-1954) m. Andrew Herford
11) Anna Litwiller John L. Ramseyer (1870-1956) m. Mary Eicher
b. 26 May 1850 Wilmot 2m. Mary Ann (Schenk) Knechtel
d. 11 Jul 1915 Mich. Joseph L. Ramseyer (1871-1930) m. Magdalena
m. 24 Sep 1867 Wilmot Gingerich; 2m. Mary Roth
Peter K. Ramseyer Mary Ramseyer (1873-1962) m. Joseph L. Eicher
b. Jan 1840 Ohio Moses Ramseyer (1876-1959) m. Barbara Herford
d. Mar 1922 Mich. Leah Ramseyer (1879-1927) m. Amasa Keller
son of Joseph Ramseyer Emma Ramseyer (1881-1931) m. Jacob L. Eicher
& Barbara Klopfenstein Lydia Ramseyer (1884-1923) m. Samuel Krause

Note: The 1981 edition of the Litwiller genealogy listed Michael Litwiller as a son of Peter and Elizabeth. No dates of birth or death were recorded, but he was said to have been buried in the Wilhelm Cemetery, some distance west of St. Agatha. It seems likely that Michael Litwiller, son of John and Catherine (Jantzi) Litwiller may have been erroneously taken to be the son of Peter and Elizabeth. John and Catherine lived north of Baden. They had a son Michael who died in 1874, and it is likely that he was buried in the Wilhelm Cemetery.

THE CHILDREN OF PETER & ELIZABETH (LICHTI) LITWILLER ESTABLISH THEIR OWN HOMES

Magdalena (Mattie) Litwiller married **John P. Mayer**, son of Christian Mayer and Magdalena Petersheim, in 1853. The same year, they purchased Lot 8, Concession II, Block B, Wilmot Township, northwest of St. Agatha. Mattie and John had four children when John died in 1868 at the age of 32. Christian, the oldest, was only 13, but Mattie carried on the farm operations for many years, selling it to son John, married to

Mary Jutzi, in 1890. In 1909, however, John and Mary, perhaps already living at Pigeon, Michigan, sold the farm to John's cousin Catherine and her husband Isaac Wagler.

Mattie died in 1916 at the age of 85. Her death card gave her place of death as Berlin (now Kitchener). Both Mattie and John are buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.(8)

Anna Maria (Mary) Litwiller and **Christian S. Erb**, son of John (known as Hans) Erb and Veronica Schwartzentruber, were married in 1856. In 1858, Christian took out a lease contract for the west half of Lot 10, Concession II in the West Section of Wellesley Township, and in the same year they built a house of hewn logs. In 1868, after making the last lease payment, they acquired the Crown Patent. In 1875, they purchased the south half of Lot 6, Concession II. In 1895, they sold both properties - the homestead to son John L. and his wife Barbara Oesch, and the other one to Daniel L. Ropp. The homestead was still farmed by Mary and Christian's descendants in 1998.

Christian died in 1909 and Mary in 1811. They are buried in the Maple View Mennonite Cemetery, on the east side of their farm.(9)

Catherine Litwiller married **John E. Schultz**, son of George Schultz and Magdalena Erb, in 1855. John had already purchased the east half of the Schultz homestead (Lot 9, North Snyder's Road, Wilmot) from his mother and the executors of his deceased father's estate, in 1854. Catherine and John sold the farm to their son John, married to Catherine Boshart, in 1898. John L. and Catherine sold the farm to Seegmillers in 1912. John E. Schultz died in 1903 and Catherine in 1915. They are buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.(10)

Jacob L. Litwiller and Elizabeth Buerge were married in 1856. Elizabeth was the daughter of Jacob Buerge and Elizabeth Grieser. Jacob and Elizabeth Litwiller purchased the east half of Lot 8, North Erb's Road -- next to Father Peter's property. In 1866, however, they sold this farm to Nicholas Lichti across the road, and probably went to live with Elizabeth's widowed mother. They purchased the east half of the Buerge property (Lot 21, North Bleam's Road) from the Buerge estate, in 1868. The Buerges (at least the males) were beginning to move to Michigan. In 1872, Jacob and Elizabeth sold the Buerge homestead, and took their family and Widow Elizabeth Buerge to Osceola County, settling near Reed City, Michigan.

The Buerges and a few other families had been influenced by the preaching of John Holdeman, a Mennonite from Ohio. He stressed the new birth and the baptism of the Holy Spirit as well as a strict discipline. Most of those interested in his teachings decided to move elsewhere to begin new congregations rather than divide the church in Canada. The Litwiller family later moved to Ithaca in Gratiot County. Jacob Litwiller was ordained a minister in the Church of God in Christ Mennonite, as the church was eventually named. Elizabeth died in 1907 and Jacob in 1818 in the home of his daughter Lydia Eicher at Ithaca. Jacob is buried in Naldrett Cemetery and probably Elizabeth is buried there too.(11)

Barbara Litwiller married **Daniel Brenneman**, son of Daniel Brenneman and Catherine Sommer, in 1858. Daniel Brenneman Sr. had purchased the west half of Lot 32, Concession XVIII in East Zorra Township, Oxford County in 1856. It is supposed that Barbara and Daniel farmed here, at least until Daniel became too ill. Bishop Joseph Ruby recorded the births of the children, including a daughter Catherine, who was born in May and died in October of 1859. It seems the family had forgotten about her, and she was not listed in either of the published genealogies.

Both Barbara and Daniel contracted tuberculosis. After Daniel's death in 1866, Barbara returned to her parents' home with her children. After her death in 1871, son Peter remained with his Litwiller grandparents while Elizabeth was taken into the home of her aunt Catherine and John E. Schultz and Daniel into the home of his aunt Elizabeth and Menno Schultz. Since we have found no tombstones, the burial place of Barbara and Daniel is uncertain.(12)

Veronica (Fannie) Litwiller and **Joseph Schultz**, brother to Catherine's husband John E. Schultz, were married in 1860. Joseph and Fannie purchased the west half of the Schultz property (Lot 9, North Snyder's Road), from Joseph's mother and the executors of his father's Will. In 1893, they sold the farm and moved to near Pigeon, Michigan.

Joseph Schultz and Minister Peter Ropp were instrumental in establishing the Berne Mennonite Church, now known as the Michigan Avenue Mennonite Church. Joseph died in 1913, and Fannie in 1932, at the age of 93. Both are believed to be buried in the Pigeon River Conservative Mennonite Cemetery.(13)

John (Hans) Litwiller married Catherine (Katie) Jantzi, daughter of Michael Jantzi and Maria Boshart, in 1868. In 1869, Peter Litwiller purchased the west half of Lot 11, Concession I, Block B, Wilmot Township, but no doubt it was Hans and Katie who took up farming here, because they purchased it from John's father's estate in 1886. In 1906, they sold the farm to daughter Catherine and son-in-law Isaac Wagler. Hans died in 1927, at the age of 84, and Katie in 1936, at the age of 89. They are buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.(14)

Peter L. Litwiller married Leah Roth in 1870. She was the daughter of John and Catherine (Boshart) Roth. In the 1871 census, Peter and Elizabeth (the parents) and their children Christian, Mary and Widow Barbara and her children, and Peter and Leah were all living in one cluster at the Litwiller homestead. Perhaps some were using the old log cabin.

In 1877, Peter L. and Leah purchased the south part of the homestead - including the buildings from Peter and Elizabeth. In 1901, they sold the farm to daughter Catherine married to Jacob E. Schwartzentruber. Catherine and Jacob sold the farm to their son Clarence, who in turn sold it to daughter Helen and her husband Andrew Sararas. So, the farm is still in the Litwiller family, but has changed names a few times.

Peter L. died in 1904, at the age of 60 His death was reported in *The Budget*, a newspaper published in Ohio, popular with Amish Mennonite readers throughout the United States and Canada. His death was the result of a missgtep near the smithy of Mr. Dietrich in St. Agatha.(15). Leah died in 1907, at the age of 55. They are buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery. (16)

Elizabeth Litwiller married **Menno Schultz** in 1866. Elizabeth was the third of the Litwiller girls to marry a son of George and Magdalena (Erb) Schultz. Menno and Elizabeth purchased Lot 21, Concession XII in North Easthope Township in 1866. In 1873, they purchased the east half of Lot 28, Concession XIV, and the adjoining Lot 29 - a 48-acre triangular lot along No. 19 Highway, in 1884. The last two properties are the northwestern tip of North Easthope Township, with Mornington Township on the north and Ellice Township on the west, and the hamlet of Topping where the three townships meet.

Menno built and ran a sawmill business, purchasing considerable Crown land in Ellice Township, some of which he sold (probably after removing much of the forest for lumber) to new settlers and to his own children. Lot 21 in North Easthope was sold to their son Christian, married to Catherine Oesch, in 1895, and the homestead to daughter Magdalena (Mattie) and son-in-law Daniel B. Zehr in 1912. Menno died in 1920 and Elizabeth in 1927. They are buried in the Poole Mennonite Cemetery (Poole North).(17)

Christian Litwiller married Maria Miller, daughter of Christian and Maria (Roth) Miller in 1870. They remained on the home farm and also appeared in the family cluster in the 1871 census. No doubt, they soon built a house and barn on the north end of Peter and Elizabeth's lot (No. 7, North Erb's Road) during the next few years, and in 1877, Peter divided the lot into two, deeding the north part to Christian and the south part (with the homestead buildings) to Peter Jr.

Christian was ordained in 1877, first as a deacon, then as a minister in the Wilmot Amish Mennonite congregation, serving at both meetinghouses -- Steinmann and St. Agatha after they were built in 1884 and 1885 respectively. In 1914, Christian and Maria sold the farm to daughter Veronica, married to Joseph

Salzman and purchased a house across from the school on Snyder's Road at Petersburg. Maria died in 1921 and Christian in 1924. Both are buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.(18)

Anna Litwiller married **Peter K. Ramseyer** in 1867. Although she was the youngest in the family, she was not the last to marry. Peter Ramseyer was born to Joseph K. Ramseyer and Barbara Klopfenstein in Ohio, but immigrated to Canada in the early 1860s. In 1869, Peter and Anna Ramseyer purchased the west half of Lot 20, South Snyder's Road, at the S curves between Baden and New Hamburg. In 1899, they sold the farm to son Joseph, married to Magdalena Gingerich.

A number of Anna and Peter's children were moving to Michigan. Peter's nephew, Joseph E. Ramseyer had founded a more evangelical-minded church (known today as the Missionary Church) at Elkton, Michigan, and probably all the Michigan Ramseyers became members of this church. Anna and Peter followed their family to Michigan – only son Joseph's family remained in Canada. Anna died in 1915 and Peter in 1922. They are buried in Riverside Cemetery, south of Elkton. (18)

Notes:

1) National Archives of Canada, RG5, A1, Vol. 114, pp. 64162, Film #C-6874 and RG1, L3, Vol. 208(a), G/15, No. 42pp-[ww], Film #C-2032

2) "Peter Litwiller in the Early Census/Assessment Records" is a list of these records for Peter Litwiller for the years 1831 to 1840 and is found in the LITWILLER Documents file.

3) "Peter Litwiller Correspondence with University of Toronto" is a summary of notes found in the University of Toronto Archives. A copy of these notes is found in the LITWILLER, Documents, etc. file.

4) Peter Litwiller's *Notizbuch* is in the Conrad Grebel University College Collection: Hist. Miss. 1.59.1. The cover has been reproduced on page 15 of the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy. Select notes (hand-written), comments on the book in general, and an alphabetical listing of persons recorded in the book is found in the LITWILLER, Documents, etc. file.

5) *Proceedings of the Amish Minister's Meetings, 1862-1878*, by Paton Yoder and Steven R. Estes. Goshen, Ind.: Mennonite Historical Society, 1999. This is an annotated translation of the records/minutes of these meetings. A translation of the 1863 letter was printed on pages 33-35. A photocopy is found in the LITWILLER Document file.

6) "Solid roots in Waterloo Region," an article in the *The Record*, August 4, 2007, features the 150 -year history of the Congregation of the Resurrection at St. Agatha (copy in LITWILLER, Documents, etc. file)

I ordered a copy of the book *In the Hope of Resurrection*, by Rev. James Wahl, commemorating this history, I had hoped it would speak to the philosophy of the Congregation of the Resurrection, but it mostly described the various locations and activities of the priests who served, both in Waterloo, Kentucky and beyond.

7) An original copy of the broadside entitled "Bischof Litwiller gestorben" was found in Bishop Daniel Steinman's Bible. It has been reproduced, along with a translation, in the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy, page 19. (Copies of this broadside are found in the LITWILLER, Documents, etc. file.

8) For a complete Litwiller genealogy and more stories and copies of documents, see the two Litwiller genealogies, namely: *Peter Litwiller and Elizabeth Lichti*

Family History and Genealogy by Mary and Earl Litwiller, Petersburg, Ontario, 1981 and *Peter Litwiller and Elizabeth Lichti Family History and Genealogy*, 2nd Edition, by Mary and Earl Litwiller, Petersburg, Ontario, 1998

See the above genealogies for more on the family of Magdalena and John P. Mayer -- pages 12-21 in the 1981 edition, pages 22-39 in the 1998 edition.

9) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Mary and Christian S. Erb -- pages 22-71 in the 1981 edition, pages 40-145 in the 1998 edition.

10) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Catherine and John E. Schultz -- pages 72-79 in the 1981 edition, pages 146-158 in the 1998 edition.

11) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Jacob L. and Elizabeth (Buerge) Litwiller -- pages 80-139 in the 1981 edition, pages 159-313 in the 1998 edition.

12) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Barbara and Daniel Brenneman -- pages 140-155 in the 1981 edition, pages 314-339 in the 1998 edition. Also see *Family Tree of Daniel and Barbara Brenneman up to June 1979* by Lily Mae Yantzi, Glen Allen, Ont.

13) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Veronica and Joseph Schultz -- pages 156-182 in the 1981 edition, pages 340-384 in the 1998 edition.

14) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of John and Catherine (Jantzi) Litwiller -- pages 183-197 in the 1981 edition, pages 385-414 in the 1998 edition.

15) *The Budget* clipping, along with a translation is found in the LITWILLER, Documents, Etc. file

16) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Peter L. and Leah (Roth) Litwiller -- pages 198-217 in the 1981 edition, pages 416-450 in the 1998 edition.

17) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Elizabeth and Menno Schultz -- pages 218-234 in the 1981 edition, pages 451-485 in the 1998 edition.

18) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Christian and Maria (Miller) Litwiller -- pages 235-261 in the 1981 edition, pages 486-532 in the 1998 edition.

19) See the genealogies cited in Note #8 for more on the family of Anna and Peter K. Ramseyer -- pages 262-285 in the 1981 edition, pages 533-576 in the 1998 edition.

Additional Items in LITWILLER INTRODUCTION file:

Litwiller photos and maps – master copies and laser copies) in packet)

LITWILLER, Documents, etc. file (contents)

PETER LITWILLER (1809-1878) (biography – long form)

LITWILLER FAMILY LAND HOLDINGS

Litwiller-related death cards (in packet)

THE JEAN/JOHN AND FRANCOISE/FRENI SERRE/ZEHR LITWILLER FAMILY IN LORRAINE

(a 2 page outline of their family.
-three of their children emigrated to Illinois)

LITWILL DIRECTORY: Contents – a list of Litwiller computer files

Additional LITWILLER files:

LITWILLER, Documents, etc.

LITWILLER Correspondence & miscellaneous re publication of the 1998 LITWILLER genealogy

LITWILLER/SWARTZENTRUBER Celebration and Publication

-A celebration commemorating the 60th anniversary of the leaving of Nelson and Ada (Ramseyer) Litwiller and Amos and Edna (Litwiller) Swartzentruber's for the mission field in South America was held in 1984. A commemorative booklet *pilgerleben, pilgrims, peregrinos, Sixty years of Vision and Ministry, Amos and Edna Swartzentruber, Nelson and Ada Litwiller*, edited by John Bender, was published for that celebration.

Lorraine Roth
Tavistock , Ontario
March, 2010

***A page with photos of Peter and Elisabeth (Lichty) Litwiller farm follows

LITWILLER FAMILY LAND HOLDINGS

Wilmot Township

Christian Boshart Lot 9, North Erb's Road, German Block
(Catherine Litwiller) -- 1835 -- rec'd Crown Patent to front 50 acres
-- 1846 -- transferred rear 150 acres to Michael Jantzi
-- 1847 -- sold front 50 acres to Michael Jantzi
(Michael Jantzi rec'd deed from Univ. of Toronto in 1855
sold to Rudolph B. Jantzi
-- from Jantzi, to Nafziger, sold out of family in 1986)

Christian Lichti Lot 10, South Erb's Road, German Block
(Magdalena Litwiller) -- 1835 -- rec'd Crown Patent to front 50 acres
-- 1847 -- deed from King's College for 150 acres
-- 1862 -- Christian Lichti Will
-- 1880 -- Exec. of Christian Lichti to John B. Jantzi
(in Jantzi family (through Moses) until 1973)

Rudolph Roth Lot 9, South Erb's Road, German Block
(Maria Litwiller) -- 1835 -- rec'd Crown Patent to front 50 acres
-- 1845 -- deed from King's College for 150 acres
-- 1853 -- Rudolph Roth Will
-- 1864 -- Exec. of Rudolph Roth to Christian L. Roth
(Christian L. to David L. to Allan Roth, sold out of family in 1959)

Jacob W. Gingerich Lot 15, North Bleam's Road, German Block
(Veronica Litwiller) -- 1835 -- rec'd Crown Patent to front 50 acres
(this patent was erroneously made out to Jacob S.
Gingerich, and not resolved until 1854)
-- 1847 -- Sheriff's order to "take" Jacob Gingerich
(owed payments)
-- 1856 -- deed from University of Toronto for 150 acres
-- 1870 -- Exec. of Jacob Gingerich to Rudolph Gingerich
(Rudolph to John Z., to Alvin, to Sam Gingerich, still in family)

Peter Litwiller Lot 7, North Erb's Road, German Block
(Elizabeth Lichti) -- 1835 -- rec'd Crown Patent to front 50 acres
-- 1847 -- sold SE angle to Peter Tschirhart
-- 1858/59/65 -- sold other small parcels of front
-- 1854 -- deed from University of Toronto
-- 1877 -- sold north part to Christian Litwiller
(sold 1914 to Joseph Salzman)
-- 1877 -- sold south part & buildings to Peter L. Litwiller
(S pt. to Jacob E. Schwartzenruber (1901)
to Sararus, still in family)

Jacob Gardner Lot 24, South Bleam's Road, German Block
(Barbara Litwiller) -- 1835 -- rec'd Crown Patent to front 50 acres
-- 1846 -- Agreement with William Scott -- water rights
-- 1857 -- deed from University of Toronto for 150 acres
-- 1860 -- sold south part to George Nicklaus
-- 1864 -- sold N pt to John Schultz (16 ac.)
and to George Koch (53 ac.)

end of Jacob and Maria Litwiller family

Wilmot (cont'd)

Christian Litwiller, Lot 7 (N part), North Erb's Road, German Block
(Maria Miller) -- 1877 -- purchased from father Peter Litwiller
-- 1914 -- sold to Joseph Salzman (son-in-law)

Jacob Litwiller, Lot 8 (E 1/2), North Erb's Road, German Block
(Elizabeth -- 1857 -- purchased from Joseph Meyer

Buerge) -- 1866 -- sold to Nicolaus Lichti
Lot 21 (E 1/2), North Bleam's Road, German Block

-- 1868 -- from exec. of Jacob Buerge
-- 1872 -- Jacob Litwiller to F. Merner
(moved to Michigan)

John Litwiller Lot 11 (W 1/2), Concession I, Block B
(Catherine Jantzi) -- 1869 -- Peter Litwiller purchased this property
-- 1886 -- John purchased it from the Peter Litwiller estate
-- 1906 -- John sold to Isaac Wagler

Peter J. Litwiller, Lot 9 (50 ac. of east pt.), North Erb's Road
(Elizabeth (Joseph Bast purch. from Rudolph Jantzi (1907)
Schwartzentruber) sold to Peter J. Litwiller (1915)

Peter L. Litwiller, Lot 7 (S part), North Erb's Road, German Block
(Leah Roth) -- 1877 -- purchased from father Peter Litwiller
-- 1901 -- sold to Jacob E. Schwartzentruber (son-in-law)

(Wilmot, Block B)

John P. Mayer 1853 B-II 8 S 1/2 100 ac. purch. Chris. Shantz
(Magdalena Litwiller)
Estate 1890 " " " " convey. John L. Mayer

John E. Schultz Lot 9 (E 1/2), North Snyder's Road, German Block
(Catherine 1854 -- from exec. of George Schultz
Litwiller) 1898 -- John E. Schultz to John L. Schultz
1912 -- John L. Schultz to Seegmillers

Joseph [E.] Schultz Lot 9 (W 1/2), North Snyder's Road, German Block
(Veronica 1866 -- from exec. & widow of George Schultz
Litwiller) 1893 -- Joseph Schultz to Daniel Boshart
(moved to Michigan)

Peter K. Ramseyer Lot 20 (W 1/2), South Snyder's Road, German Block
(Anna Litwiller) 1869 -- purchased from John Steckly
1899 -- sold to Joseph Ramseyer
1900 -- sold 3/4 acre to S.S.No.12 School Trustees
1930 -- exec. & widow of Joseph Ramseyer sold to Elmer
Schwartzentruber

Wellesley Township

Christian S. Erb 1861 census (1858 hewen log house) ¶ (Wellesley, W Section)

" " " 1858 lease contract, Lot 10, W 1/2, Con. II

¶ Christian S. Erb 1868 W-II 10 W 1/2 100 ac. patent Crown

(Anna Maria 1895 " " " " sale John L. Erb

Litwiller) 1875 W-II 6 S 1/2 100 ac. purch. George Bast

1895 " " " " sale Daniel L. Ropp

East Zorra Township

Daniel Brenneman Lot 32 (W 1/2), Concession XVIII
(res. of Wilmot) 1856 -- purchased from Christian [O.] Gingerich

(It is supposed that son Daniel & Barbara (Litwiller)
lived here until Daniel was too ill to farm)
1870 -- sold to Nicholas [K.] Roth whose first wife was
Barbara Brenneman

North Easthope Township

Menno Schultz (Elizabeth Litwiller)

Lot 21, Con. XII, 1866-1889 (sold to Charles Brunk)

1889-1891 (from " ")

1891-1895 (sold to son Christian L. Schultz)

Lot 28, E 1/2, Con. XIV, 1873-1912 (sold to son-in-law Daniel Zehr)

" NW corner, " 1895-1927 " " " " "

Lot 29, 48 ac., Con. XIV (along Ellice boundary -- Highway #19)

1884-1912 (sold to son-in-law Daniel B. Zehr)

Menno Schultz also purchased several acreages in Ellice Township in the late 1800s and early 1900s, selling some to sons and sons-in-law.

Not in new files

▯ Peter Litwiller Correspondence with University of Toronto▯

Re: Lot 7, North Erb's Road
Letters addressed to University of Toronto

- 1) 10 June 1851, per Julius Meyer, Waterloo
 - sends 9 pounds, wants to know how much is owing, hopes to pay whole in fallUniversity of Torono Arhives: No. A68-0010, Box No. 003, File L 1851 (1)

- 2) 4 March 1853, per J. H. Barrett, Waterloo
 - acknowledges receipt for 11 pounds 15 shillings paid on interest
 - this was to be payment in full on rear of lot
 - University states there was an error of 17 pounds in calculating interest -- Barrett can find no error
 - Litwiller has note for that amount
 - if there is such an error Litwiller will want a statemnt of the whole from beginning to presentUTA: No. A68-0010, Box 012 B 1853, File Jan - Jul (3)

- 3) 8 December 1853, per J. H. Barrett, Waterloo
 - encloses 19 pounds, payment in full on rear of lot
 - Litwiller still thinks previous payment was full payment
 - letter from Buchan on 8 March indicated balanace of 17.7.4, owing to a mistake at some early date
 - Barrett prevailed on Litwiller to send payment
 - requests deed as early as possibleUTA: No. A68-0010, Box 012 B 1853, File Aug - Dec (4)

▯

Not in new files (but keep scrolling down!)

LITWILLER DOCUMENTS

The following copies of documents, memorabilia, photographs, etc. are found in the LITWILLER Documents file. In the cases where they have been reproduced in either of the two editions of the Litwiller genealogy, the page numbers are given. (No. 1 begins at the end of the file)

1) Photocopies of the cover and a few pages of *Jubilaums-schrift, 700 Jahre Leutwil* , 1273-1973, the publication of the town of Leutwil at their 700th anniversary celebration. (secured and submitted by Nelson Litwiller)

2) Photocopy (3 copies) of birth record of "Pierre Lidwiller" (Peter Litwiller) at Illfurt in 1809 and translation. This record and translation have been reproduced in the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy on pages 8 and 9.

3) Photocopy of the birth record of Barbe Litwiller, 1812, at Tagsdorf

4) Photocopy of death record of "Jaque Lutwullr" (Jacob Litwiller) at Tagsdorf in 1814.

- 5) Photocopy of death record of Elisabeth "lutvickler" (Peter Litwiller's sister) at Largitzen in 1819. (copy secured by Joe Springer, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen)
- 6) Copy of section of map of Upper Alsace, highlighting the places where the Litwiller and related families were located.
- 7) Photocopy of ship passenger list of Litwiller family group with transcription. There is also a list of the names as spelled on the passenger list along with the names as they should be spelled. A copy of the passenger list and a transcription were reproduced in the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy on pages 10 and 11.
- 8) "Peter Litwiller in the early census/assessment records" is a list of information abstracted from the early Wilmot Township census and assessment records (1831-1840) concerning Peter Litwiller, his progress in clearing his land and acquiring farm animals, as well as the number of people in the family -- no names, however, except for the head of the household.
- 9) The cover of Peter Litwiller's "¶ Notizbuch¶", his business record, was reproduced on page 15 of the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy. The LITWILLER Documents file contains several pages of notes abstracted from the book. "Peter Litwiller's ¶ Notizbuch¶" is a one-page description with comments of this book. There is also an alphabetical list of persons mentioned in the book -- dates, transactions and page numbers on which they are found -- all in the Documents file.
- 10) Peter Litwiller Correspondence with the University of Toronto, 1851-53 -- notes
- 11) Photocopy of Certification of Peter Litwiller to solemnize marriages, 1853. The original is in the Peter Litwiller Collection in the Mennonite Church USA Archives, Goshen, Ind., Hist. MSS. 1-38, SC - Long Box.
- 12) Handwritten transcription of a German letter from John and Anna Neuhauser [Pennsylvania] to Peter Litwiller, 1858. John writes about some kind of irregularity with Michael Shantz (Schwartz?) and sends greetings to relatives and various other persons.

(continued)

- 13) A copy of the letter written by Peter Litwiller, John Gascho and Christian Wagler, dated May 8, 1863, to the Conference of the "¶ Dienerversammlung¶" held near Belleville, Miffling County, Pennsylvania, the 25th to the 27th May, 1863, as it was printed (in translation from German) in ¶ Proceedings of the Amish Ministers' Meetings, 1862-1878¶, by Paton Yoder and Steven R. Estes, Mennonite Historical Society, Goshen, Indiana, 1999, pages 33-35.
- 14) Peter Litwiller's Bible (a 1744 Froschauer Bible) has been deposited in the Archives of the Mennonite Church USA, Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. The inscription on the flyleaf has been reproduced on page 14 of the 1998 edition of the Litwiller genealogy. Copies of the inscription and translation are also found in the Documents file. The Bible did not contain a family register.

A list of scripture readings and songs for the year 1877 is found in the Bible. This list was probably made by Peter's son Christian, ordained in 1877, and heir of the Bible. The Bible was passed down through Christian's daughter Annie who was married to Moses O. Jantzi, ordained bishop of the Wilmot Amish Mennonite congregation in 1936. Mose gave the Bible to Annie's nephew Nelson Litwiller.

- 15) "Bischof Litwiller gestorben" ("Bishop Litwiller died"), a printed broadside, believed to have been written by the Catholic Priest Eugene Funcken of St. Agatha at the time of Peter Litwiller's death. An original copy was preserved in the Bible of Bishop Daniel Steinman. It has been reproduced, with

translations, in both the 1981 Litwiller genealogy (page 7) and the 1998 edition (page 19). (2 copies -- 2 different printings)

16) Photocopies of the family records in the Peter B. Litwiller Bible, son of Jacob L. and Elizabeth (Buerge) Litwiller. His marriage to Hattie J. Bates took place in Gratiot Co., Mich. The register contains the names of both Peter's and Hattie's brothers and sisters (no dates). The marriage record and list of Peter's brothers and sisters are in the Gothic German script. The Bates brother and sister and Peter's death in 1906 were recorded in English. These photocopies were received from Wendy Wild, then of Calgary, Alberta. She also sent copies of obituaries relating to the Litwiller family from ¶ The Messenger of Truth¶ , the publication of the Church of God in Christ Mennonites.

17) Transcription and translation of a fragment of a letter written by Barbara Ebersol [of Pennsylvania] to Lydia Brenneman -- written between 1892 (marriage of Magdalena Gingerich to Joseph Ramseyer) and 1900 (marriage of Lydia Brenneman to Moses Litwiller). The original was deposited in the Mennonite Archives at Conrad Grebel University College by Doris Litwiller of Kitchener.

18) "Jacob E. Schwartzentruber (author of diary/journal)" This brief family outline and comments was prepared for the Archives on receipt of Jacob E. Schwartzentruber's diary or journal in 1999. I do not know who the donor of the diary was.

19) Photos and "Peter and Elizabeth (Lichti) Litwiller Farm" photographs (laser copies), master copy of captions, and a rough diagram of Erb's Road and St. Agatha, showing Litwiller and Lichti homesteads.

20) "Litwiller Reunion, June 24, 2000" an introduction to the Litwiller family in the form of a skit (2 copies)

21) Litwiller Family Land Holdings

LITWILL DIRECTORY: Contents (Deskmate program)

CAPTIONS: captions for 1998 Litwiller genealogy, corrections for Kaylors

CENSUS: early Peter Litwiller census (1 page)

INDEX,1,2,3,4,5: 1998 genealogy

INVOICE: 1998 genealogy

LITNOTE: ¶ Mennonite Family History¶ article, April 1987
Litwiller Civil Registration notes, France

LITPETE: Peter Litwiller story (7 pages)

LITSUM: Litwiller Summary, pages 1-8
Litwiller Family Land Holdings
Peter Litwiller Correspondence with University of Toronto

LITSUM2: Litwiller Summary, pages 9-19
Litwiller Documents file contents
Litwill Directory contents

LITWILL2: Family of Jean Litwiller and Francoise Zehr
and notes of birth and death

LITWILL3: plan for and first pages of 1998 edition of Litwiller genealogy
including Peter Litwiller family
Translation of birth record of Peter Litwiller
"The Search for La Ville Litwiller"
Jubilee Book
Transcription of ship passenger list
Notes on house, barn, [] Notizbuch[] , Bible and contents

LITWILL4: Genealogy Introduction
Stories and lists of children for Magdalena Mayor, Anna Maria Erb,
Catherine Schultz, Jacob, Barbara Brenneman, Veronica Schultz

LITWILL5: Stories and lists of children for John, Peter L., Elizabeth Schultz,
Christian, John Roes

LITWILL6: Story and list of children for Anna Ramseyer

LITWILLE: early genealogy pages including Peter's birth record and Leutwil
(probably revised in LITWILL3)
copy prepared for Carolyn Wallace

LITWILNO: On Peter Litwiller's [] Notizbuch[] (8 pages)

REUNION: Introduction of cast and script for skit (4 pages)

[]

THE JOHN AND FRENI (ZEHR) LITWILLER FAMILY

THE JEAN/JOHN AND FRANCOISE/FRENI SERRE/ZEHR LITWILLER FAMILY IN LORRAINE

Another Litwiller family was living in France - mostly in Lorraine – during the same time that Jacob and Maria were moving around between Alsace and Lorraine. Jean/John Litwiller was born in 1764, and one would suppose that Jacob and John were brothers, although we have found no documentation to prove it. John and his wife, Françoise/Freni Zehr both died at Repaix, Lorraine.

Sons of John and Freni's children stayed in France. Sons Joseph and Peter, and Veronica, married to Joseph Oyer, migrated to America, eventually settling in Illinois. An article published in *Mennonite Family History*, trying to discover whether the Illinois Litwillers were descended from Jacob Litwiller, prompted a number of responses, which brought this family to light. The Illinois Litwillers are descended from John and Freni, and whether John and Jacob were brothers or cousins has not been determined.

The following is a list of John and Freni Litwiller's family as we have been able to piece them together from various sources. change text colour in format

Jean/John Litwiller, b. 1764
d. 29 Jan 1822 at Repaix, Lorraine, France

Françoise/Freni Zehr , dau. of Christian Zehr, d. at Neuwiller-les-Savernes
and Frenni Martin, d. 4 Apr. 1806 at Nitting
b. 1766
d. 9 Aug.1819, Repaix

CHILDREN:

- 1) Jean Litwiller b. 1786 at Diane-Capelle, Lorraine
d. 13 May 1851 at Repaix
Marie Mosimann b. ca.1791 at Charmille?, St. Quirin, Lorraine
d. 19 Mar 1855 at Repaix

Children: a) Jean Litwiller (1817-1823)
b) Joseph Litwiller (1819-1823)
c) Marie Litwiller (1820-) m. Nicolas Springer
d) Anne Litwiller (1823-) m. Christoph Mosimann
e) Joseph Litwiller (1827-1830)
f) Jean Litwiller (1830-) m. Marie Litwiller,
dau. of Christian Litwiller and Elisabeth Sommer
g) Elisabeth Litwiller (1832-1851) m. Joseph Fongond (von Gunten)

- 2) Christian Litwiller b. 13 Apr 1791 at Diane-Capelle
m. 1 Dec 1814 at Repaix
Elisabeth Sommer b. 2 Nov 1799
resided on Hof Chamois?, near Badonviller, Meurthe-et-Moselle

Children: a) Joseph Litwiller (1819-)
b) Elisabeth Litwiller 1821-)
c) Christian Litwiller (1824-) m. Marie Zehr
e) Jean Litwiller m. Marie Bacher
f) Marie Litwiller m. Jean Litwiller, son of Jean Litwiller
and Marie Mosimann
g) a daughter married a Zehr

- 3) Catherine Litwiller b. 10 Mar 1796 at Diane-Capelle

- 4) Joseph Litwiller b. 29 Mar 1799 at Diane-Capelle
d. 27 May 1844 in Tazewell Co., Ill.
m. 19 Sep 1829 at Hirsingue,,Haut-Rhin(Upper Alsace)
Barbara Ulrich dau. of Pierre(Peter) Ulrich and Catherine Lauber
b. 20 Mar 1804, Walheim, Haut Rhin
d. 29 Dec 1847 in Butler Co., Ohio
Immigrated to Butler County, OH, in 1831; later to Tazwell County, IL

Children: a) Peter Litwiller, b. 11 June 1830, Hirsingue;d. 1830 in infancy
b) Barbara Litwiller (1831-1899) m. George Zehr
c) Joseph (1833) d. in infancy
d) Kathryn Litwiller (1834-) m. Nick Martin
e) Christian Litwiller (1835-) m. Magdalena Springer
f) Joseph Litwiller 1836-1914) m. Katherine Birkey
g) Faronica Litwiller (1838) died in infancy

- g) Peter Litwiller (1839-) m. Anna Ehresman
- h) John Litwiller (1841-1922) m. Fannie Birkey
- i) Magdalena Litwiller (1844) d. in infancy

5) Magdalena Litwiller b. 30 Mar 1801 at Kerprich-aux-Bois, Moselle
 d. ca.1860 in Illinois
 m. 20 Nov 1823 at Niderhoff, Lorraine

Joseph Oyer b. 1774 at Hemersberg, Palatinate, Germany
 d. 184?_ in Tazewell Co., Ill.
 previously married to Catherine Schrag

Children: a) Barbara Oyer (1824-1881) m. Benjamin Rediger page 2
 b) Andrew Oyer (1826-1913) m. Elizabeth Birkey
 c) Elizabeth Oyer (1828-1896) m. Peter Zehr
 d) David Oyer (1831-1891) m. Susan Farni
 e) Fannie Oyer (1834-1872) m. Joseph Rediger
 f) Phoebe Oyer (1838-1929) m. Christian Sommer

6) Peter Litwiller b. ca.1808 France
 d. Tazewell Co., Ill.
 m.

Mary Mosiman b. 1808 in France
 d. in Tazewell Co., Ill.

Children: a) Katherine Litwiller (1832-1870) m. Andrew Birkey
 b) Mary Litwiller m. Sam Gerber
 d) Fannie Litwiller m. David Schertz
 e) Joseph Litwiller (1837-1902) m. Mary Ropp
 f) Peter Litwiller (1839-1900) m. Josephine Ropp
 g) Barbara Litwiller, d. at age 12

Note: "The Litwiller Family in Canada" by Lorraine Roth was published in Mennonite Family history, Vol. VI, No. 2, April, 1987.

The John and Freni Litwiller family was pieced together from the FAMILY OF JEAN (JOHN) LITWILLER sent by Verle Oyer, the notes of Pierre Sommer of Charmont, France and the notes taken in the archives at Nancy and Metz in France by Lorraine Roth in 1985. From both my notes and those of Pierre Sommer

I could carry the families of Jean and Marie Litwiller and Christian and Elisabeth Litwiller to the next generation. Those were the families that stayed on in France. The correspondence concerning the Illinois Litwillers and related materials is found in the LITWILLER, Correspondence file.

Not in new files

The French records give some very interesting spellings at times. For your interest, I will reproduce those pertaining to your branch of the family below.

Died 9 Aug. 1819 at Repaix, Françoise Serre, age 53, wife of Jean Lithviller
 signed Johannes Litwiller, age 55

Died 29 Jan 1822 at Repaix, Jean Littwiller, age 58, widower of Françoise Serre

signed by son Hans, age 21

Died 13 May 1851 at Repaix, Jean Lidviller, age 65, son of deceased Jean
Lidviller and Francoise Zer
born at Diane-Capelle, husband of Marie Moziman, age 63
signed by Joseph Moziman, age 23, nephew

Died 19 Mar 1855 at Repaix, Marie Moziman, age 64, widow of Jean Lidviller
dau. of Michel Moziman and Suzanne Preschepiller (Breckbill?)
born at Charmille?, parish of St. Quirin
signed by Jean Lidviller, age 24, son

Born 2 Apr 1801 (date of registration) at Kerprich-aux-Bois, Magdeleine Lutville
dau. of Jean Lutville and Freine _____?

Born 10 Mar 1796 at Diane-Capelle, Catherine Luwiller
dau. of Jean Luwiller and Frene _____?

Born 29 Mar 1799 at Diane-Capelle, Joseph Luwiller
son of Jean Luwiller and Frene _____?

Married 20 Nov 1823 at Niderhoff, Joseph Oyer and Madeleine Lutviller

Note: The records for Repaix are found in the Departmental Archives at Nancy;
all the others are found in Metz.

▯