

## GERBER

For Joseph Gerber and Anna Farni family see Gascho Book

Gerber is a very common name in Switzerland, as well as in Alsace and Lorraine, France. "Gerber" in German means tanner. The Gerbers in Canada, no doubt, are descendants of the Anabaptist Gerbers from Langnau in the Emmental, Canton Bern, Switzerland.

A Peter Gerber appeared on the Anabaptist lists of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in Alsace in the late 1600s and early 1700s. He may be the ancestor of the Canadian Gerbers, although there may have been more than one Anabaptist Gerber who left Switzerland.

The earliest Amish-Mennonite Gerber immigrants who came to America were Madeleine (Magdalena) Gerber and three of her children in 1834. For some time, we have known that Magdalena was born a Gerber and her husband was Jean/John Gerber, but we had found little trace of them. After finding John Gerber, unmarried, John and Elizabeth (Jantzi) Gerber, Catherine and Joseph Farney along with widow Magdalena Gerber on an 1834 ship passenger list, we felt we knew at least something about this Gerber family - part of which eventually settled in Wilmot Township, Canada.

We finally found a marriage record for Catherine Gerber and Joseph Farney, which indicated both of Catherine's parents' names, but it didn't lead us much further. Recently, a genealogical publication was published in France, citing many familiar names, and has added to the information on many of these families - the Gerbers among them. (1) (See notes on page 7) From this information we are able to add another generation to our family outline, including additional information on the family, although it is still not complete. We may, however have sufficient clues to help us find the rest of the family. The family lived at several places but probably always in the Department of Moselle, part of Lorraine.

### THE JOHN AND MAGDALENA (GERBER) GERBER FAMILY

Jean/John Gerber, son of Jean Gerber, (son of Michael) and Catherine Guingerich, residents at the farm Roderhoff at Insviller, Moselle, France at the time of their son Jean's marriage in 1793.

b. ca 1769

d. 19 July 1822, Albestroff, Moselle

m. 1 July 1793, Insviller

Madeleine/Magdalena Gerber, dau. Of Jean Gerber and Barbe Guingrich

Of Vitiersbourg, Moselle

b. ca. 1771, probably at Hoste-Haute, Moselle

d. 20 Aug. 1859, Wilmot Township

1) Catherine Gerber, b. 12 Feb 1796, La Valette, Hoste-Haut, Moselle

d. 25 Mar 1849, New Bremen, N.Y.

m. 20 Apr 1816, Farebersviller, Moselle

Joseph Farney, son of Jean/John Farny (d. 17 Sep 1830 at Barst)  
and Marie Schertz

b. 26 Apr 1795, Henriville? Moselle

d. 18 Apr 1873, New Bremen, N.Y.

This family remained in Lewis County, N.Y. (2)

2) Elizabeth Gerber, b. 2 Jan. 1806, Hoste-Haut

d. 25 Jun 1890, bu. Amish Menn. Society Cem., Wilmot

m. 10 Jun 1832, Valette, Hoste-Haut, Moselle

John Jantzi, son of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny  
b. 24 Mar 1806, Farm Belgrad, Bistroff, Moselle  
d. 12 Dec 1881, bu. Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery  
This family migrated to America in 1834 and to Canada in 1839.(3)

3) John Gerber, b. 4 Apr 1809, France  
John married Magdalena Nafziger in Lewis County, N.Y.,  
and migrated to Canada in 1839.  
Their story is told in detail in the following pages.

It is likely there were additional children.

## THE GERBERS IN LEWIS COUNTY AND CANADA

Magdalena Gerber and her children left Le Havre, France, on the Ship *Groton*, arriving in New York on June 4, 1834.(5) They went to Lewis County, New York, where members of the Jantzi family had gone in 1833. About 1835, John Gerber married Magdalena Nafziger, daughter of Christian Nafziger and Marie Jantzi. Magdalena was a niece of John Jantzi, brother-in-law of John Gerber.

In 1837, the entire Amish-Mennonite community in Lewis County contemplated leaving New York and moving to Canada.(6) That mass migration did not materialize, but John and Magdalena Gerber and John and Elizabeth Jantzi, as well as a number of other families, did make the change. According to his naturalization record, John and his family arrived in Canada in April, 1839.

The story is told that one of the grandmothers, who was already blind, wondered why the family wanted to move again. Someone took her outdoors to one of the big boulders on the farm and had her feel it. "This is the reason we want to move," she was told. No doubt, this grandmother was Magdalena Gerber.

By the late 1830s, the central part of Wilmot Township (known as the German Block) where the Amish Mennonites had first settled was taken up; so the Gerber and Jantzi families and Christian and Magdalena (Jantzi) Kennel and Michael Zehr took up lots in the northwestern part of Wilmot. Magdalena (Jantzi) Kennel was a sister to John Jantzi, and Michael Zehr, whose mother was Anna Jantzi, was their nephew. Christian Kennel chose Lots 13 & 14, Concession IV.

All of Lot 14 (200 acres) was available in Concession III, but only the north half of Lot 13 (100 acres). According to family tradition, the two brothers-in-law, John Gerber and John Jantzi, drew lots to determine who would get which lot. The 100-acre lot fell to John Gerber. Michael Zehr eventually became the owner of 100 acres of Lot 15 and 200 acres of Lot 16 -- all in Concession III. These people purchased their land from the Canada Company. Because of the concentration of Amish Mennonites in this part of the Township, it became known as the Amish Settlement. The short road between Concessions III and IV, has been named Settlement Road.

John Gerber took out the lease on the north half of Lot 13, Concession III in Block B, Wilmot Township in 1839 and obtained the deed from the Canada Company in 1840. Magdalena gave birth to her third child (Maria) in March 1840. The date of Magdalena's death is not known, but it was within a year of Maria's birth. Since the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery on Lot 15, Concession III, was not yet designated as a burial ground, and the burial grounds in the German Block were at a distance, she was buried on the farm at the corner of the garden on the family farm.

About 1842, John married Veronica Oesch, daughter of Bishop John Oesch and his wife Barbara Schultz. Veronica was born in Bavaria and accompanied her parents to Canada in 1824. They were living on the lot now occupied by Castle Kilbride in Baden.

At the time of the 1851 census, Widow Magdalena Gerber was living with the John Jantzi family. She was then 80 years old. Grandson Christian G. Jantzi reported that his grandmother died on August 20, 1859. No doubt, Magdalena Gerber was this grandmother. By this time she would have been 88 years old. Although there is no marker, we presume she is buried in the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery on Lot 15 in the Amish Settlement.

In 1859, the Amish Mennonites of Canada organized a third congregation for north Wilmot and Wellesley (the second one was South Easthope-East Zorra). John Jantzi, who had been ordained a minister in 1834 (according to L. J. Burkholder's history)(7) or 1843 (according to family records), was then ordained to the office of bishop. John Gerber was ordained deacon. In the 1850s John and Veronica Gerber had a large, modified Georgian-style, stone house built. By the time of the 1861 census, John was listed as a widower, but we do not know the date of Veronica's death.

John Gerber had listed his children's names and birthdates (except the two oldest daughters of the first marriage) in his family Bible.(8) Some of his dates do not match with those from some other presumably reliable sources. Two children from the second marriage were mentally retarded. In his Will, John had taken great care to provide for these who would not be able to care for themselves. The family preserved the notebooks in which these records were kept.(9) John died in August of 1889. We assume John and Veronica were buried in the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery although there are no tombstones. John's farm was passed on to his son Christian and is still in the Gerber family (2010), although not in the Gerber name.

THE FAMILY OF JOHN AND MAGDALENA (NAFZIGER) AND VERONICA (OESCH) GERBER

Also include one-page chart of this family (find in scans)

John Gerber, b. 4 Apr 1809 , perhaps at Hoste-Haut, Moselle, Lorraine, France

d. 18 Aug 1889, Wilmot Township

1m. ca.1835, Lewis Co., N.Y.

2m. ca.1842, Wilmot

Magdalena Nafziger, dau. of Christian Nafziger and Marie Jantzi

b. 21 May 1819, Bistroff, Moselle, Lorraine, France

d. 1840/41, Wilmot Township

Veronica Oesch, dau. of John Oesch and Barbara Schultz

b. 8 July 1822, Rothsee, near Weilheim, Bavaria, Germany

d. before 1861, Wilmot

Children to first marriage:

1) Magdalena Gerber

b. 25 Jan 1836 LewisCo.

d. 5 Jan 1913 Morning.

m. 17 Nov 1861 Wilmot

Nicholas L. Kuepfer

b. 22 Oct 1835 Wilmot

d. 12 Mar 1893 Morning.

son of Jacob Kuepfer

Mary Kuepfer (1862-1938) m. Christian W. Kipfer

John G. Kuepfer (1864-1947) m. Mary

Schwartzentruber

Leah Kuepfer (1865-1939) m. Jacob S. Zehr

Magdalena Kuepfer (1867-1954) m. Joseph W. Kipfer

Annie Kuepfer (1868-1952) m. John S. Jantzi

Fannie Kuepfer (1870-1914) m. Daniel S. Jantzi

Rachel Kuepfer (1872)

Rebecca Kuepfer (1873-1958) m. Jacob W. Schmidt

Jacob G. Keupfer (1876)

and Maria Lichti

Daniel G. Kuepfer (1877-1944) m. Susan Jantzi

2) Joseph Gerber  
b. 4 May 1838 LewisCo.  
d. 10 Jan 1910 WBra.MI  
m. 17 Feb 1861 Wilmot  
Magdalena Brenneman  
b. 15 Mar 1836 Wilmot  
d. 18 Nov 1921 WBran.MK  
dau. of John Brenneman  
& Magdalena Schultz

Mattie Gerber (1861-1902) m. John Nafziger  
John Gerber (1863-1928) m. Anna Jantzi  
Peter Gerber (1865-1886)  
Mary Gerber (1867-1941) m. Solomon K. Jantzi  
Joseph Gerber II (1869-1940) m. Magdalena Kropf  
Daniel Gerber (1871-1944) m. Katie Jantzi  
2m. Rachel Ropp  
Jacob B. Gerber (1873-1943) m. Mattie Jantzi  
Christian B. Gerber (1876-1957) m. Fannie Jantzi  
Veronica Gerber (1878-1966) m. Menno K. Jantzi  
Samuel Gerber (1880-1882)

3) Maria Gerber  
b. 10 Mar 1840 Wilmot  
d. 15 May 1916 Morn.  
m. 22 Jan 1865 Wilmot  
John S. Kipfer  
b. 1842 Wilmot  
d. 1 Oct 1925 Morn.  
son of Christian  
Kipfer & Barbara  
Schmidt

Christian G Kipfer (1866-1930) m Magdalena Schlegel  
Magdalena Kipfer (1867-1901) m. David  
Schwartzentruber  
John G. Kipfer (1868-1941) m. Catherine Jantzi  
Nicholas G. Kipfer (1870-1908) m Magdalena Albrecht  
Menno Kipfer (1871-1899)  
Anna Kipfer (1872-1965) m. Joseph Albrecht  
Mary G. Kipfer (1876-1959)  
Solomon G. Kipfer (1878-1963) m. Nancy Nafziger  
2m. Catherine Jutzi  
Abraham Kipfer (1880-1930) m. Veronica Roth  
Rachel Kipfer (1885-1920)

Children born to second marriage:

4) John Gerber  
b. 25 Aug 1843 Wilmot  
d. 1920s Wellesley?

5) Christian Gerber  
b. 28 Oct 1845 Wilmot  
d. 28 Jan 1928 Wilmot  
m. 30 Jun 1868  
Anna Reschly  
b. 8 May 1850 France  
d. 10 Sep 1930 Wilmot  
dau. of Joseph Reschly  
and Anna Schweitzer

Mary Gerber (1869-1945) m. Daniel L. Wagler  
John R. Gerber (1872-1948) m. Catherine Wagler  
Joseph R. Gerber (1875-1958) m. Mary Wagler  
Daniel R. Gerber (1877-1961) m. Catherine Erb  
Solomon R. Gerber (1879-1959) m. Laura Leis  
Catharine Gerber (1881)  
Christian R. Gerber (1883-1966) m. Katherine  
Nafziger  
Magdalena Gerber (1885-1955) m. Moses Gingerich  
Nancy Gerber (1888-1980) m. Daniel S. Erb

6) Daniel Gerber  
b. 10 Apr 1847 Wilmot  
d. 1 July 1899 Welles.  
m. 19 Jan 1869 Wilmot  
  
Anna Zehr  
b. 3 Sept 1849 Wilmot  
d. 28 Nov 1934 Welles.  
dau. of Michael Zehr

Michael Gerber (1874-1943) m. Veronica Jantzi  
Barbara Gerber (1883-1921) m. Michael Jantzi  
  
Magdalena Gerber (1885-1980) m. James Birmingham  
Christian Z. Gerber (1890-1969) m. Lena Lichti  
Daniel Z. Gerber (1892-1976) m. Kate Leis

and Barbara Boshart

7) Menno Gerber  
b. 29 Aug 1848 Wilmot  
disappeared ca.1868

8) Leah Gerber  
b. 7 June 1850 Wilmot  
d. 26 Mar 1901 Wilmot

9) Barbara Gerber  
b. 26 Jan 1852 Wilmot  
d. 9 July 1908 Pigeon,MI  
m. 31 Jan 1868 Wilmot  
John B. Zehr  
b. 22 Nov 1848 LewisCo.  
d. 23 Jul 1923 Pigeon,MI  
son of Christian Zehr  
and Anna Beller

Anna Zehr (1870-1941) m. Michael S. Zehr  
Leah Zehr (1872-1876)  
John G. Zehr (1873-1876)  
Menno Zehr (1878-1885)

10) Valentine Gerber  
b. 23 Feb 1853 Wilmot  
d. 23 Sep 1928 HayTwp.  
m. 11 Feb 1873 Morn.  
Catharine Kennel  
b. 4 Jan 1854 Welles.  
d. 13 Mar 1934 HayTwp.  
dau. of John Kennel &  
Magdalena Schweitzer

Magdalena Gerber (1876-1960) m. Michael B. Jantzi  
Rachel Gerber (1879-1954) m. Moses S. Jantzi  
John Gerber (1880-1940) m. Barbara Yoder  
Valentine Gerber (1883-1969) m. Emma Gingerich  
Moses K. Gerber (1886-1960) m. Mary Ann Gingerich  
Veronica Gerber (1889-1973) m. Aaron Erb

#### THE JOHN GERBER FAMILY ESTABLISH HOMES OF THEIR OWN

**Magdalena Gerber** married **Nicholas L. Kuepfer** in 1861. The following year, Nicholas purchased the east half of Lot 5, Concession VII, Mornington Township. Magdalena's father purchased the north quarter of Lot 5, Concession VI, Mornington, from the Crown, selling it to Nicholas and Magdalena in 1882. After Nicholas died, the estate sold both properties to son John G. Kuepfer and his wife Mary (nee Schwartzentruber). Nicholas and Magdalena had built a small house on the farm where they lived after John bought the farm. They are buried in the Amish Cemetery on the 7th Line, also known as Edgcombe.(10)

**Joseph Gerber**, born in Lewis County, New York, less than a year before the family moved to Canada, married Magdalena Brenneman of Wilmot Centre, in 1861. Joseph's father purchased the north half of Lot 10, Concession III, Mornington, from the Crown the same year. No doubt, Joseph and Magdalena cleared this land and put up farm buildings.

In 1865, Joseph was ordained a minister in the North Wilmot-Wellesley Amish Mennonite congregation which also included the members who were moving into Mornington. In 1874, they organized the Mornington congregation. Joseph was ordained bishop in 1875.

In 1893, Joseph and Magdalena and most of their children (some already married) joined several other Canadian Amish Mennonite families who had settled at Wilmont, Nobles County, Minnesota. There seemed to be dissatisfaction in the settlement, and people did not stay. The Joseph Gerber family and several others left Minnesota in 1908 and relocated at West Branch, Michigan. Joseph suffered a stroke there shortly after and died in 1910. Joseph and Magdalena were buried in the Amish Cemetery on Rau Road.(11) Several of their children eventually returned to the Mornington area in Canada but others went to Fairview - north of West Branch.

**Maria Gerber** was born in Wilmot in 1840 and married **John S. Kipfer** in 1865. They settled on the west half of Lot 11, Concession III, Mornington Township, next to Maria's brother Joseph, purchasing the property in 1877. In 1882, they also purchased the east half. They sold these properties in 1890 and 1904 and purchased some lots on the south side of the road for the planned expansion of the village of Poole, west of the present hamlet by that name. After Maria's death, John purchased a half acre of Lot 15, Concession II. After his death it was sold to his unmarried daughter Mary.

John S. Kipfer was ordained deacon in 1873, a year before the organization of the Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation. This congregation lost several of its leaders through the Old Order division, through Bishop Joseph Gerber's emigration and then the division of the "Nafziger Church," now known as Mornington Amish Mennonite. In the early 1900s, John was the only ordained leader left in the Mornington congregation until Peter Boshart was ordained in 1903 and Christian Schultz in 1905. Maria and John are buried in the Poole Mennonite Cemetery (north of the hamlet).(12)

**John Gerber**, the first child born to John and Veronica (Oesch) Gerber, was mentally handicapped. Father John made provisions for both John and Leah in his will (he died in 1889) and, according to the family, John Jr. lived to be about 80. His date of death has not yet been found, but in the 1881 census, he was living (at age 37) with his widowed father and brother Christian and his family, and in 1891 he was with his brother Daniel's family.(13)

**Christian Gerber** married Anna Reschly, an immigrant from France, in 1868. Since John was a widower, Anna and Christian remained on the homestead, purchasing it in 1882. In 1889, Christian and Anna also purchased lots 13 and 14, Concession IV, across Settlement Road, from Joseph Kennel. In 1906, they sold the former Kennel property to son Solomon, married to Laura (nee Leis), and in 1911, they sold the homestead to son Christian married to Katherine (nee Nafziger). The Gerber homestead remained in this family until Gary Jantzi purchased it in 1993. Gary is also a Gerber descendant through both his parents -- Delmar and Eleanor (Gerber) Jantzi. Christian and Anna are buried in the Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Cemetery.(14)

**Daniel Gerber** married Anna Zehr from the Amish Settlement in 1869. Daniel's father had purchased the east half of Lot 11, Concession V, West Section, Wellesley Township in 1869, and the west half from the Crown in 1871. Daniel and Anna purchased the east half from John about 1882. According to the 1871 census they were living in Wellesley Township; so it was probably on this property. In 1890, Daniel and Anna purchased the west half of Lot 10 in the same concession from Anna's father. These properties are not far from Crosshill. After Daniel's death, the estate sold Lot 10 to Joseph Y. Zehr in 1901 and Lot 11 to Moses Bast in 1914. Daniel and Anna are buried in the Maple View Mennonite Cemetery.

**Menno Gerber** was in his late teens or early 20s when he disappeared from his bed one night and was never heard from again.

**Leah Gerber** was also mentally handicapped and also provided for in her father's will. She lived to the age of 50. She may have been buried in the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery in the Amish Settlement.

**Barbara Gerber** married **John B. Zehr**. They lived in Lewis County, New York, a number of years where their daughter Anna was born and married to Michael S. Zehr. The family eventually moved to Pigeon,

Michigan, where Michael was a minister in the Pigeon River Conservative Mennonite Church. Barbara, John, Anna and Michael are all buried in the Pigeon River Cemetery.(15)

**Valentine Gerber** (known as Feldy Gerber), the youngest of the John Gerber family, married Catherine Kennel in 1873. In 1882, they purchased the west half of Lot 11, Concession VI, West Section, Wellesley Township, from Valentine's father, but sold it again two years later and left, with four children, for O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska. Valentine was ordained to the ministry in Holt County.

In 1894, the family (now with six children) moved to Nobles County, Minnesota, back to Holt County in 1896, and back to Nobles County in January, 1900. One wonders how they could possibly move that often but, no doubt, correspondence in *The Budget*(14) will bear witness.

In 1910, Valentine and Catharine brought the family back to Canada and joined the group who had moved to Canboro Township in Haldimand, County, Ontario. When that settlement disbanded by 1915, they moved to Hay Township, Huron County. Valentine served as minister in the Amish Mennonite congregation at Blake, but while living there also served the Nafziger Church at Poole for a period of time. Valentine and Catharine spent the last years of their life with their son Moses and his wife Mary Ann (nee Gingerich). (17). They are buried in the Blake Amish Mennonite Cemetery in Hay Township - now known as the Blake Mennonite Cemetery.

Notes:

1) *Histoire et genealogy, Les Mennonites du pays de Sarrebourg*, by Robert Boehm, Sarregourg, 2005, pages 64, 65

2) The Catherine (Gerber) and Joseph Farney family are found in Volume I, pages [21]-636, with the index in Volume II, of the following:  
*Genealogies of Three Large Families of Lewis County, New York . . . Farney . . . Virkler . . . Zehr* by Mrs. Ira G. Farney, Julius Farney, and Mrs. Urban Karcher. Castorland, New York, [2nd Edition] 1989.

3) The Elizabeth (Gerber) and John Jantzi genealogy has been published as follows:  
*Family History and Genealogy of John Jantzi and Elizabeth Gerber* by Mrs. Menno W. Kuepfer and Lorraine Roth. Millbank and Shakespeare, Ontario, 1974.

4) This information was given by researcher Jean Fleury of France to Lorraine Roth in a letter dated Jan. 3, 1994 on my accompanying list of immigrants from Lorraine, France, to Canada. This would change the surname of Simon Herschy's wife in Arlene Yousey's *Strangers and pilgrims*....,1987, page 279.

5) National Archives, Washington, D.C., microfilm series M-237, Roll #22.

6) Michael Zehr and Johannes Jantzi represented the Lewis County Amish Mennonite constituency ("a number of German families . . . from German Lorraine, near Metz, in France") in a letter written to Sir Francis Bond Head, Governor of Upper Canada, dated at Berlin, Waterloo Township, June 15, 1837, requesting Crown Lands, adjoining Woolwich Township, on which to settle, inquiring as to price and when the township would be surveyed.

(Archives of Canada, Ministry of Revenue File, MG 19, Vol. 4447)

(A photocopy of Zehr and Jantzi's letter is in NEW YORK file.)

There is no record that they received a reply – either positive or negative to their request.

7) "The Amish Mennonites in Canada" by Jacob R. Bender in *A Brief History of the Mennonites in Ontario* by L. J. Burkholder. Mennonite Conference of Ontario, Markham, Ontario, 1935, page 231.

It is difficult to assess which of these dates is the correct one. It looks like the numbers were transposed -- 1834/1843 -- but who made the error? If 1834 is correct, then John was ordained in Lewis County the same year he arrived (and that is what Jacob R. Bender says in his history). This may have been unlikely, but not impossible. If the date was 1843, it is somewhat surprising that the resources available to Jacob R. Bender did not indicate he was ordained in Canada.

8) The John Gerber family Bible had been passed on to daughter Barbara, married to John B. Zehr. Their grand-daughter, married to Jacob Esch, became the final owner. When the Jacob Esch family had to dispose of the Esch estate, they returned the Bible from Harrisonburg, Virginia, to Canada, and it has been deposited in the Mennonite Archives at Conrad Grebel University College. A photocopy of the family record is found in the GERBER Document file.

9) These records were in the possession of Nancy Erb, Christian's daughter when the Veronica Oesch and John Gerber genealogy was published in 1969.

10) *The Magdalena Gerber and Nicholas L. Kuepfer family is found in the Family History and Genealogy of Jacob and Marie (Lichti) Kuepfer*, by Mrs. Menno W. Kuepfer, et al. Kitchener, Ontario 1976, pages 112-143.

11) The following articles included some interesting information concerning the Gerber family at West Branch Michigan: "Our Amish Neighbors, The Dan Gerbers of Edwards Township - Ogemaw County" and "Our Amish Neighbors - Part II" by Florence Munn of West Branch, in *Wilderness Chronicle* No. 15 and 16.

Photocopies of the foregoing articles had been preserved by Lloyd Gascho in the Erb Reunion files. They are now found in the GERBER, Joseph file, along with the Joseph and Magdalena (Brenneman) gerber family list.

12) See *John S. and Maria (Gerber) Kipfer, Ancestors and Descendants*, by Alfred Kipfer and Lorraine Roth. Kitchener, Ontario, 1983

13) *John and Barbara (Schultz) Oesch Family History and Genealogy; Section B: Family History and Genealogy of Veronica Oesch and John Gerber*, by Lorraine Roth. Kitchener, Ontario, 1969

This genealogy named John's children to his first marriage, but did not give their families. The genealogies of all of Veronica's children (as far as they were available) are included in this genealogy.

14) The Christian and Anna (Reschly) Gerber family has been up-dated in the *Joseph Reschly and Anna Schweitzer Family History and Genealogy*, Second Edition, by Elizabeth (Betty Bast) and Irwin Steckly. Stratford, Ontario, 2003, pages 103-252.

15) Descendants of Anna and Michael Zehr took the 1854 edition of the Gerber Bible with the family records with them to Virginia, and from there it was returned to Canada and deposited in the Mennonite Archives at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo.

16) *The Amish in America: Settlements That Failed, 1840-1960* by David Luthy. Pathway Publishers, Aylmer, Ontario - Lagrange, Indiana, 1986, page 211. No doubt, David Luthy used the correspondence in



*The Budget*, a newspaper printed in Ohio, catering to the Amish and other Plain people, to come up with this order of events.

17) The Valentine Gerber story is told in great detail in the Gerber Genealogy cited in Note #13, pages 61-63.

**Photo of John Gerber Homestead \*\*\*\*\***

John Gerber and his wife Magdalena (born Nafziger) arrived in Canada from Lewis County , New York, with two children in late 1838 or early 1839. In July 1839, John signed a lease contract with the Canada Company for the north half of lot 13, Concession III, Block B in Wilmot Township. The following year he paid the full price and received his deed.

The Gerbers became part of a small Amish Mennonite settlement in the northwest part of the township. Several of the settlers (Jantzi, Kennel, and Zehr) had also come from New York. It became known as the Amish Settlement, and the road between the third and fourth concessions has been named Settlement Road.

In 1840 Magdalena Gerber died following the birth of her third child. They were far from the older settlement in the centre of the township; so they her on the family farm. (An X on the back shows the supposed location of this burial.) The settlement later established its own cemetery on the northwest corner of Lot 15 (Michael Zehr's property). In 1842, John Gerber married Veronica Oesch, daughter of Bishop John Oesch and Barbara Schultz.

In the mid-1850's , the three settlers in the third concession all built large stone houses – one each year. The date stone on the Michael Zehr house (occupied by Ernie and Marion Roth in 2000) gives the date for that one as 1856. John Jantzi (farm occupied by Peter and Beatrice Petrovic in 2000) and John Gerber built their houses before or after 1856. The north wing of the house (summer kitchen, woodshed, etc.) has been replaced with an entrance and garage. The detached ice house on the right is still there.

The aerial view of the farm above was probably taken in the 1960's. Roy and Irma Gerber gave a copy of the photo to Lorraine Roth in 1969. Roy was a descendant of Christian , married to Anna Reschly. When Gary and Leanne Jantzi bought the farm in 1993, it was no longer in the Gerber name, but still in the Gerber family. Gary's father, Delmar Jantzi, is also a descendant of Christian and Anna (Reschly) through John Gerber's second marriage, and his mother Eleanor, (nee Gerber) through John's first marriage.

## JOSEPH AND ANNA (FARNI) GERBER

The second Gerber family to arrive in Canada was that of Joseph and Anna (Farni) Gerber. Some sources give her name as Barbara, but that is probably in error. When Anna's death was reported, Lorraine, France, was given as her place of birth. This is the only indication we have of the origin of this couple.

Daughter Barbara's death record indicated she was born near Rome, New York, in 1839. No doubt the family was enroute to Canada when her birth took place. Since the Erie Canal passes through Rome, New York, it is supposed this was their route and mode of transportation.

In 1843, Joseph Gerber appeared on a Wellesley Township settler list on Lot 9, Concession II, with 25 acres "well cleared."<sup>(1)</sup>(see Notes on page 11) By the time of the census in 1851, the Joseph Gerber family was living in Wellesley Township in a one-and-a-half storey log house. In 1856, they purchased the west half of Lot 9, Concession II in the East Section of the township from the Crown. No doubt, this is where they had been living already by 1843 and where they built a two-story brick house in 1859. In 1865, Joseph also purchased the west quarter of Lot 9, Concession III, next to the property on Concession II.

Then in 1869 Joseph purchased the west 100 acres of Lot 4, Concession III, in the West Section of Wellesley Township from the Crown. No doubt, Joseph was investing in property for his sons, although 28-year-old son Joseph died shortly after this purchase was made.

Anna (Farni) Gerber died in 1871 and in August of 1874, Joseph sold the homestead in the East Section to his son Peter (not yet married) and the property in the West Section to son John. In October John died. His widow, Susanna (nee Gascho), married Daniel Streicher in 1879, and in 1880 the farm was deeded over to Streicher.

Joseph died in 1877. It is presumed Joseph and Anna are buried in the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery in the Amish Settlement, not far from their homestead. There are no surviving descendants with the name Gerber in this family.

### THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND ANNA (FARNI) GERBER

Joseph Gerber, b. ca. 1795, \_\_\_\_\_ France  
d. 8 Dec 1877, Wellesley Township  
m. before 1839, \_\_\_\_\_ France  
Anna Farni, b. ca.1807, \_\_\_\_\_ Lorraine, France  
d. 9 Aug 1871, Wellesley Township

Children:

- 1) Barbara Gerber, b. ca.1839, near Rome, N.Y. (from death record)  
d. 9 May 1870, Wilmot Township  
m. 26 Feb 1867, Wellesley Township  
David Gascho, son of Christian Gascho and Christina Petersheim  
b. 7 Mar 1841, Somerset County, PA  
d. 19 Sept 1893. bu. Maple View Mennonite Cemetery, Wellesley  
2m. 27 Jan 1871 to Barbara Ramseyer

Children next page:

- a) Joseph G. Gascho (1867-1966) m. Katherine Leis
- b) Christena Gascho (1869-after 1891)

David and Barbara purchased the Gascho homestead in Wilmot Township, across the sideroad from the Steinmann Mennonite Church, although the first meetinghouse was not built here until 1884. Barbara died of "consumption," probably T.B. and may have been buried in what is now the Steinmann Mennonite Cemetery, across the intersection from their home, although there is no tombstone. After David's marriage to Barbara Ramseyer, they moved to Wellesley Township.(2)

- 2) Joseph Gerber, b. ca.1840, likely in Canada  
d. 14 June 1869, Wellesley Township

Joseph appeared with his parents Joseph and Anna in both the 1851 and 1861 Wellesley census. His death was reported in Bishop John Jantzi's congregational record book. The cause of his death was "auszerung," probably tuberculosis. It is likely that he was buried in the Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery in the Amish Settlement.

3) Catherine Gerber, b. 26 July 1843, Wellesley Township  
d. 18 Sept 1924, Wellesley  
m. 29 Feb 1876, Wilmot Township

Jacob Lebold, son of Jacob Lebold and Magdalena Blank

b. 25 May 1843, Wilmot  
d. 15 July 1930, Wellesley

a) Joseph Lebold (1876-1960) m. Barbara Boshart

b) Simon Lebold (1878-1927) m. Maria Boshart

In 1877, Jacob and Catherine purchased the east half of Lot 5, Concession V, and the southeast quarter of Lot 5, Concession VI, West Section, Wellesley Township. In 1901, they also purchased the west half of Lot 5, Concession V. In 1904, they divided the two properties between their sons Joseph and Simon, with Joseph receiving the homestead buildings. This farm has continued to be passed down in the Lebold family. Catherine and Jacob are buried in the Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Cemetery, Wellesley.(3)

4) John Gerber, b. 5 June 1846, Wellesley Township

d. 3 Oct 1874, Wellesley

m. 18 Apr 1871, Wilmot Township

Susanna Gascho, dau. of Christian Gascho and Christina Petersheim

b. 16 June 1846, Somerset Co., PA

d. 2 Feb 1892, Wellesley

2m. 18 Nov 1879 to Daniel Streicher

a) Christena Gerber (1872-1938) m. Michael M. Zehr

John and Susanna purchased the west half of Lot 4, Concession III, West Section, Wellesley Township from John's father. After his death and Susanna's marriage to Daniel Streicher, the farm was deeded in Daniel's name. After Susanna's death in 1892, Daniel married Susanna Jausi, sold the farm, and probably left for Lewis County, N.Y., at that time. It is believed that John and Susanna were buried in the Maple View Mennonite Cemetery although there are no tombstones.(4)

Peter F. Gerber b. ca. 1848, Wellesley Township

d. 20 July, 1931, Wellesley

m. 22 Feb. 1877, Wellesley

Magdalena Bast dau. Og George Bast and Magdalena Ernst

b. Sept. 1859, Wellesley

d. 20 Nov. 1919, Wellesley

a) Son, born 4 November; d. November 1881, of congenital defect

b) Leah Gerber (1882- 1953) m. John L. Steinmann

c) Catherine Gerber (1885- 1971) m. Moses L. Steinmann

In 1874, Peter purchased the Joseph Gerber homestead and the additional 50 acres on Concession III, both in the East Section of Wellesley Township, from his father, and in 1877, he married Magdalena Bast. According to family tradition, two sons died of diphtheria, but the record of only one infant son has been found. Their daughters Leah and Catherine both married sons of Deacon Daniel Steinmann of Wilmot. (5).

6) Christian Gerber, b. ca. 1850, Wellesley Township

Christian, age 19 was still listed with his parents in the 1871 Wellesley census. No further record has been found.

Notes:

1) "Schedule of Improvements in the Township of Wellesley" (Section not indicated), dated 5 Sept 1843, Provincial Archives of Ontario, RG1, Series A-I-7, Vol. 5, envelop 5 (found and copy supplied by Reg Good, filed in WELLESLEY file)

2) *Descendants and History of Georg Petersheim Family*, by Petersheim Descendants. Gordonville, Penna., 1979.

For the Barbara Gerber and David Gascho family, see pages 497-498.

3) *The Jacob Lebold and Magdalena Blank Family . . .*, by Lorraine Roth and John Bradley Arthaud. Waterloo, Ontario, 1994.

For the Catherine Gerber and Jacob Lebold family, see pages 24-38.

4) *Georg Petersheim Family*, see Note #2 for full reference.

For the family of John and Susanna (Gascho) Gerber, see pages 505-508.

5) *The Family History and Genealogy of Christian Steinman(n) and Veronica Eyer*, by the Christian Steinman(n) Family Book Committee. Baden, Ontario, 1990.

For the family of Leah Gerber and John L. Steinmann, see pages 345-348 and for the family of Catherine Gerber and Moses L. Steinmann, see pages 357-361.

#### PETER AND BARBARA (KROPF) GERBER

Peter Gerber was born in 1801 at the Bildhauerhof, near Rosheim, southwest of Strasbourg, France. His parents were Joseph Gerber and Magdalena Fritz. A few years later Peter's parents moved to a farm called Wangenhart near Gresswiller, a short distance northwest of Rosheim. Peter's mother died there in 1823.

In 1830, Peter married Barbara Kropf in Rosenwiller, between Wangenhart and Rosheim. Barbara was the daughter of Joseph Kropf and Maria Anna Rothacker, and a niece of both Jacob Kropf and his wife Magdalena Rothacker, who arrived in Canada in 1823.

Peter and Barbara went to live at Strasbourg after their marriage where four children were born to them -- the first three at Tuilerie du Rhin and Magdalena at #15 outside the Porte d'Austerlitz. This was probably one of the city gates when Strasbourg was enclosed within a wall. By the time the Gerbers were living there, the walls were still there, but the growing population had spilled outside the walls.

Peter and Barbara probably had only four children because no additional births were recorded and they continued to appear in the census at Strasbourg.(1) (see Notes page 16) No doubt, Peter's father Joseph lived with them for sometime, but died in Oberhaslach, near their former residence in 1848 at the age of 81. At the time of his death, his place of residence was still given as Strasbourg.

Daughter Elizabeth's obituary gives 1852 as the year of their immigration to Canada. Daughter Magdalena's family has preserved her birth certificate which was issued in 1854. This would be a strong indication that the family left France in 1854, perhaps requesting birth certificates for each member of the family. Only Magdalena's, in possession of her granddaughter Melinda (Stere) Roth, has been brought to my attention. Peter Gerber born in 1836, left le Havre, France, on the Samuel M. Fox, arriving in New York on April 10, 1854. (2)

This Gerber family, including the parents and son Peter, appeared in the 1861 and 1871 Wilmot census in the northern part of the township. Evidently, they did not purchase any land for they do not appear in the land records. Peter Sr. died in 1872. Barbara, age 77, was listed with her daughter Barbara and husband Menno Erb in the 1881 census -- somewhere in the St. Agatha area. Her death date and place of burial and that of Peter have not been found. They may have been buried in the Amish Society Cemetery or perhaps in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.

A brief outline of Peter Gerber's extended family is given next with the family of Peter and Barbara following that.

## THE PETER GERBER AND ANNA GUENGERICH FAMILY

**GBA Peter Gerber** (1731-1809) dairyman and lease-manager of the Gensbourg Farm married **Anna Guengerich** (d. before 1797).

Peter was a dairyman and lease-manager of the Gensbourg Farm near Oberhaslach in Alsace. Peter died there on October 20, 1809. Peter and Anna had five known sons, all born at Gensbourg.

(Peter and Anna were the grand parents of Peter Gerber, the immigrant to Ontario and grandparents of his following children:

Barbara (1831-1908),  
Elizabeth (1833- ? ),  
Peter (1836-1876),  
Magdalena (1839-1917)

### Children and Grandchildren of Peter Gerber and Anna Guengerich

**GBA 1 Christian Gerber** (ca.1766-1854) \* main character of book *The Shepherd of Salm R&S* married Anna Kupferschmidt, daughter of Jacob Kupferschmidt and Susanna Eymann.

Jacob was the elder of the Anabaptist congregation at Salm, and Christian was his successor. Christian and Anna lived and died at Salm where their two infant sons and three daughters were born.

Children:

1. Peter Gerber (1792-1799) died at Salm at age 7
2. Elizabeth Gerber (1796-1818) m. 1816 to Joseph Bächer (1789-1821) *1 child*
3. Peter Gerber (1801-1803) died at Salm
4. Barbara Gerber (b. 1803) m. 1821 Johannes Güngerich (*They lived in Salm until 1840, when they emigrated to Illinois; They had 12 children*)
5. Magdalena Gerber (1806-1896) m. 1828 Nicholas Augsburg (i) (*They lived in Salm in the Kupferschmidt house. Nicholas became the elder of Anabaptist congregation of Salm*)

**GBA 2 Joseph Gerber** (ca.1766-1848)

married Magdalena Fritz (1770/71-1823),

daughter of Joseph Fritz (1742/43-1815) and Anna Schantz (1753/54-1814).

Joseph was a farmer at the Bildhauerhof near Rosheim, but moved to another farm called

**Wangenhart**

near Gresswiller, Bas Rhin. They had four known children all born in Rosheim:

Children:

1. Barbara Gerber, b. 27 April 1798
2. Magdalena Gerber, b. 23 Apr; 1800 d. 3 May 1800, near Rosheim
3. Peter Gerber, b. 7 May 1801, Bildauerhof, Rosheim  
m. 8 Dec 1830 to Barbara Kropf, b. 31 Oct 1804 Gollweilerhof, Epfig, Bas-Rhin  
dau. of Joseph Kropf and Maria Anna Rothacker  
*(Peter and Barbara Gerber are the immigrants to Canada -- probably in 1854)*  
*(Their story is given in more detail below. Their family of 4 children is also expanded in a list below.)*
4. Maria Gerber, b. 2 May 1803 (destiny not known)

**GBA 3 Nicholas Gerber** (b. 1771)

married Magdalena Baecher.

They lived at Gensbourg where Nicholas was the farmer and dairyman. Their ten known children were all registered at Oberhaslach.

Children:

1. Peter Gerber b. 6 Dec 1793  
m. 1813 to Magdalena Güngerich b. 1795, dau. of Christian Güngerich and Katharina Wagler  
*Peter and Magdalena also farmed at Gensbourg and their nine children were born there. (3)*
2. Joseph Gerber (1795-1795)
3. Magdalena Gerber b. 30 Mar 1796  
m. 1813 to Peter Güngerich b. 1792, son of Christian Güngerich and Katharina Wagler  
*They lived at Kutzenhausen, Bas-Rhin. Five children born here.*
4. Katharina Gerber (1798-1802)
5. Elizabeth Gerber (1799-1828)  
m. 1818 to Joseph Bächer (1789-1821) son of Joseph Bächer and Magdalena Gerig  
*Joseph was first married to another Elizabeth Gerber. The two Elizabeths were first cousins.(see above)*
6. Barbara Gerber b. 26/27 Mar 1804
7. Anna Gerber b. 30 July 1807
8. Barbara Gerber (1809-1816)
9. Christian Gerber b. 18 Apr 1814
10. Johannes Gerber (1817-1817)

**GBA 4 Michael Gerber** (b. 1774)

married 1794 to Elisabeth Guengerich, b. 1775, of Kutzenhausen, some distance north of Strasbourg.

dau. of Peter Guengerich and Barbara (also born Guengerich).

Michael and Elisabeth farmed at Kutzenhausen where their three known children were born. (3)

1. Magdalena Gerber b. 24 Sep 1795  
m. 1813 to Jacob Wagler (1790-1813) son of Christian Wagler and Jacobina Güngerich
2. Jacobina Gerber b. 11 Nov 1800  
m. 1821 to Joseph Oesch, b. 15 Jun 1799, son of Joseph Oesch and Magdalena Nafziger
3. Peter Gerber, b. 13 Jul 1812  
m. 1838 to Maria Roggy b. 1820, dau. of Johannes Roggy and Barbara Nafziger

**GBA 5 Ulrich Gerber (1776-1803)**

married in 1797 to Katharina Mueller (1744-1814),  
daughter of Christian Mueller and Marie "Keir/Knoerr."

Ulrich was also a dairyman and they first lived outside Porte Blanche at Strasbourg. When the second child was born in 1799, they were at Jardin d'Angleterre, Bischheim-au-Saum, just north of Strasbourg. By 1803 they were living at Eckbolsheim on the west side of Strasbourg where Ulrich died in December 1803. Having borne four children to Ulrich Gerber, Katharina then married Johannes Egly and bore him five more before she died in 1814, also at Eckbolsheim. (3)

Children:

1. Christian Gerber (1797-1797)
2. Anna Maria Gerber (1799-1826)  
m. 1821 to Joseph Ulrich (1799-1829), son of Johannes Ulrich and Anna Eymann (*3 children*)  
Joseph remarried in 1827 to Katharina Schmidt Ulrich Schaub (1803-1870) (*one more child*)
3. Peter Gerber, b. 21 Mar 1801, a keeper of cows
4. Johannes Gerber, b. 17 Nov 1802  
m. 1825 to Maria Augsburg, b. 6 May 1806, dau. of Johannes Augsburg & Katharina Bellsley

Note: The surname Gerber is frequently spelled Karber or Karbre in documents written by French bureaucrats.

[See book Shepherd of Salm](#)

**THE FAMILY OF PETER AND BARBARA (KROPF) GERBER (3)**

**Peter Gerber**, son Joseph Gerber and Magdalena Fritz

grandson of Peter Gerber (1731-1809) and Anna Guengerich

- b. 7 May 1801, Bildhauerhof, Rosheim, Bas-Rhin
- d. 22 Sept 1872, Wilmot Township
- m. 8 Dec 1830, Rosenwiller, Bas-Rhin

**Barbara Kropf**, dau. of Joseph Kropf and Maria Anna Rothacker

- b. 31 Oct 1804, Gollweilerhof, Epfig, Bas-Rhin
- d. after 1881 in Canada

Children and Grandchildren:

- 1) **Barbara Gerber**, b. 11 Mar 1831, Tuilerie du Rhin, Strasbourg, Bas-Rhin  
(10 May 1831 family record?)  
d. 19 Dec 1908, Wilmot Township?

1m. 27 Feb 1855, Wilmot

John L. Lichti, son of Christian Lichti and Magdalena Litwiller

- b. 24 Sep 1817, Largitzen, Haut-Rhin
- d. 16 Jan 1866, Wilmot Township

1m. 23 Feb 1840 to Elizabeth Kropf

2m. 8 Sept 1868, Wilmot

Menno S. Erb, son of John Erb and Veronica Schwartzentruber

- b. 29 Apr 1844, Wilmot Township
- d. 13 Jan 1922, Wilmot?

Barbara's step-children:

- a) Magdalena Lichti (1841-1869) m. Peter Gerber (brother to Barbara)
- b) Barbara Lichti (1843-1931) m. Joel S. Erb
- c) Christian K. Lichti (1845-1915) m. Leah Erb
- d) Maria Lichti (1852-1914) m. Henry S. Eicher

Barbara Gerber and Menno Erb raised:



Barbara Erb (1861-1932), dau. of Joseph Erb and Magdalena Gerber (sister to Barbara)  
m. Joseph F. Lichti

Barbara Gerber and John L. Lichti lived on Lot 8, Concession I, Block B, Wilmot Township, north of St. Agatha. After John's death, she married Menno S. Erb in 1868. In 1869, they purchased the south part of Lot 7, Concession III, Block B from Christian and Elizabeth Schlabach -- Elizabeth was Barbara's sister. In 1873, however, they sold it. They were in Wilmot at the time of the 1881 census, but the exact location is not known. Their place of burial also is not known.

**2) Elizabeth Gerber**, b. 10 Apr 1833, #88 Tuilerie du Rhin, Strasbourg

d. 31 Jan 1918, near Roanoke, Ill.

m. 9 Dec 1855, Wilmot Township by Peter Litwiller

Christian Schlabach, b. 29 Dec 1829, Hesse Darmstadt

d. 14 Dec 1921, near Roanoke, Ill.

Children:

a) Barbara Schlabach, b. ca.1856, East Zorra Township?

b) Magdalena Schlabach, b. ca.1857, East Zorra?

c) Peter Schlabach, b. 7 Aug 1858; d. 23 Apr 1859, East Zorra(4)

d) Catherine Schlabach, b. 3 Feb 1860, Wilmot Township(5)

Christian and Elizabeth's obituaries in the *Gospel Herald* report that they had eleven children, but only four outlived their parents: Mrs. John Miller, Chris of Metamora, Mrs. Will Zimmerman, and John.

It is not known where Elizabeth and Christian lived immediately after their marriage. A son Peter was reported to have been born and died in East Zorra Township, Oxford County in 1858 and 1859. Daughter Catherine's birth was reported in Wilmot Township.

Elizabeth and Christian acquired a lease for part of Lot 7, Concession III, Block B, Wilmot Township, about 1864 (date not clear) and a deed from the Canada Company in 1869. They sold it the same year to Elizabeth's sister Barbara and Menno S. Erb. They probably left Canada at that time for Woodford County, Illinois. Elizabeth and Christian were buried in the Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery.

**3) Peter Gerber**, b. 29 Jan 1836, #88 Tuilerie du Rhin, Strasbourg

d. 9 Jan 1876, Wilmot Township

m. 18 Sep 1860, Wilmot

Magdalena Lichti, dau. of John L. Lichti and Elizabeth Kropf

b. 25 Mar 1841, Wilmot Township

d. 10 Nov 1869, Wilmot

Children:

a) Barbara Gerber, b. 27 Apr 1861; d. 21 Dec 1952; m. John Baechler

b) John Gerber, b. 20 Nov 1865; d. 24 Nov 1928; m. Barbara Schwartzentruber

c) Magdalena Gerber, (1868-1959) m. Jonas Boshart

Peter Gerber [Jr.], a sawmill labourer, with his wife Magdalena, and Peter Gerber, [Sr.], no occupation given, and his wife Barbara were listed in the same household in the northern part of Block B, in Wilmot Township, in the 1861 census. In the 1871 census, they were still listed side by side, but Peter Jr. was a widower with three children.

Peter and Magdalena's children Barbara and John, found spouses in Hay Township and settled there -- Barbara married John Bechler and John Gerber married Barbara Schwartzentruber. John Bechler was a pump maker in the hamlet of Blake. Their family became quite scattered throughout the Canadian west and the United States. John and Barbara Bechler are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery, south of Zurich.

John Gerber was ordained deacon in the Blake Amish Mennonite Church, and that is where they are buried. John and Barbara had no children, thus the Peter Gerber family also is without descendants that carry the Gerber name.

Peter and Magdalena's daughter Magdalena married Jonas Boshart. They farmed in the East Section of Wellesley Township and are buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery.

**4) Magdalena Gerber, b. 21 Feb 1839, #15, outside Gate Austerlitz, Strasbourg**

- d. 15 Dec 1916/7, East Zorra Township
  - 1m. 12 Mar 1861, at Berlin, by F.W. Bindeman  
Joseph Erb, son of Christian H. Erb and Maria Miller
    - b. \_\_\_\_ 1838, Wilmot Township
    - d. \_\_\_\_ 1867, Wilmot?
  - 2m. 10 Oct 1876, in Michael Kennel home, Wilmot  
Joseph Stere, b. \_\_\_\_ 1820, Luneville?, France
    - d. 1 Apr 1895/6, East Zorra Township
- Children:
- a) Barbara Erb (1861-1932) m. Joseph F. Lichti (9)
  - b) Rebecca Erb (1863-1949) m. Charles Alexander
  - c) Mary Erb (1865-1888) m. David Widrick
  - d) John Stere (1878-1966) m. Leah Erb (10)

In the 1861 census, Magdalena Gerber was a "labourer" in the home of John P. and Magdalena Mayer, near neighbours of the Gerber family. In March of that year, Magdalena married Joseph Erb. Magdalena was from Wilmot, but Joseph Erb's family was in East Zorra at that time. We do not know where Magdalena and Joseph lived, but in 1867 Joseph died. In the 1871 census, Magdalena and her three daughters and Albert Springer, a labourer, age 25, were living next to her parents in Wilmot.

In 1876, Magdalena married Joseph Stere, a widower from Lewis County, N.Y. The same year, they purchased part of Lot 33, Concession XVIII, on the 19th Line, East Zorra. In 1878, they had a son John. In the 1881 census, Rebecca, age 18, was still with them.

It is said that Barbara was "raised" by her aunt Barbara and Menno S. Erb, but in 1871, she was still with her widowed mother and in 1880 she married Joseph F. Lichti. No doubt, she lived with Barbara and Menno at least part of the time during that interval. It is not known where Mary was and how and when she got to Lewis County where she married David Widrick in 1886.

Son John Stere married Leah Erb, a descendant of Hans Erb. They built a new house on the family farm in East Zorra, and Mother Magdalena continued to live with them until her death in 1917. Magdalena and Joseph Stere are buried in the 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra, a short distance north of the Stere homestead. (11

Notes:

- 1) Census information from researcher Maurice Hebert of Nancy, France.
- 2) Name of ship and date of arrival received from Joe Springer, letter, Sept. 22, 2010.
- 3) This extended Gerber family has been researched by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine.

A more detailed outline (dated Oct 25, 2002) is found in the GERBER Document file. Stuckey Levine has published the story and Gerber family list in April 2011 *Mennonite Family History*, pages 92-109 ( the first 109 pages) This article is more comprehensive. I tend to concentrate on those who migrated to Canada.

4) Michele Deloye of Chevreuse, France, a Jausi descendant, sent me photos (taken in 1997) of the Gensbourg Farm and a street scene in Oberhaslach, showing the town hall where birth, marriage and death records are recorded and where they can still be found. It would appear that the Jausis were contemporaries of the Nicholaus Gerber family on the Gensbourg farm. **A copy of a photo page** of the Gensbourg Farm follows this Introduction. **Copies of sections of maps** in the Gerber Documents file help to locate the places where some of these Gerbers lived.

5) Joseph Ruby, bishop of the South Easthope-East Zorra Amish Mennonite congregation recorded the dates of birth and death of Peter.

6) Bishop Peter Litwiller of the Wilmot congregation recorded Catherine's birth.

7) *The Stere Family*, (n.n.,n.p. ca. 2003) by Susan Yates. Susan suggests that Magdalena was buried with her first husband, although her name appears on Joseph's tombstone which was installed in recent years.

8) This is the date given by Susan Yates, According to Joseph's age as reported at the time of his death, he was born in 1826, but I consider the 1824 date more reliable, because it fits his age as reported in his marriage record.

9) See [Our Family Tree](#) [by Carol Miles, 1992]

The Joseph F. and Barbara (Erb) Lichti story begins on page 30 and the genealogy on page 51.

10) See Note #7, which suggests Magdalena was buried with her first husband.

#### ADDITIONAL GERBERS IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

The report of the death of Johannes Gerber, age 14, son of Johannes Gerber on February 16, 1848, in a March issue of the *Deutscher Canadier* (published in Berlin -- now Kitchener) at first made me think this was the son of John Gerber of the Amish Settlement. However, John's son would have been only four in 1848. It is obvious that John's son John lived much longer than 1848, although we have not found the date of his death. Who, then, was the other John Gerber in Wilmot Township at that time?

In the 1851 Wilmot census, one finds Peter and Barbara Gerber, identified as Lutheran. Peter was a shingle maker and they were living in the area of Shingletown. Their ages were similar to the ages of Peter and Barbara (Kropf) Gerber, but they had a different family: Christian, age 16, born in France, Catherine, age 13, and Annie, age 10, both born in the U.S. Peter and Barbara (Kropf) Gerber probably did not arrive in Canada before 1854. But who was this Peter and Barbara Gerber family? I never ran across them again.

Additional Items Included in this Introduction:

1) The John Gerber Family ( a 3 –generation chart published in the John S. Kipfer and Maria Gerber genealogy , page 13) - several copies

2) “An Extended Gerber Family”

Photo page: Town Hall, (upper left) in OBERHSLACH where residents of GENSBourg FARM were registered.

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock, ON  
May 2011

Photo of Gensbourg farm follows\*\*\*\*\*

This paragraph not in new files

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OB< ¶ GERBER Documents, Notes, Etc.:

- 1) Outline map of France and surrounding countries and section of a detailed map, showing some locations of the John Gerber family.
- 2) Section of map showing Strasbourg and other locations of the Peter Gerber extended family.
- 3) Photographs of Oberhaslach and the Gensbourg farm, residence of Peter Gerber's ancestors. (2 laser copies)
- 4) Photocopies of title page and family records of John Gerber family Bible.
- 5) Working copy of lists of various Gerber families.
- 6) The John Gerber Family as published in the ¶ John S. Kipfer¶ genealogy.
- 7) 1861 map of Wilmot Township, showing the John Gerber farm at the extreme north end.
- 8) Photo of John Gerber homestead and descriptive history.
- 9) A map of Wellesley Township, showing the Joseph and Anna (Farni) Gerber farm.
- 10) Various Census Notes
- 11) "Gerber Land Holdings"
- 12) Correspondence and family outline on the Peter and Barbara (Kropf) Gerber family.
- 13) A chart showing intermarriages between Erbs, Lichtis and Gerbers.
- 14) Correspondence

GERBER LAND HOLDINGS

Wilmot Township, Block B

Christian Gerber	1882	B-III	13	N 1/2	100 ac.	purch.	John
Gerber							
(Anna Reschly)	1911	"	"	"	"	sale	Chris R.
Gerber							
Kennel	1889	B-IV	13,14	80 3/4	ac.	purch.	Joseph
Gerber	1906	"	"	"	"	sale	Solomon
John Gerber	<b>1839</b>	<b>B-III</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>N 1/2</b>	<b>100 ac.</b>	<b>lease</b>	<b>Canada</b>
<b>Co.</b>							
(1m. Magdalena	1840	"	"	"	"	deed	" "
Nafziger	1882	"	"	"	"	sale	Christian
Gerber							
2m. Veronica Oesch)							
Christian Schlabach	1864?	B-III	7	N 1/2 of S pt		lease/trans.	
Jones							
(Elizabeth Gerber)	1869	"	"	"	"	deed	Canada
Co.							
	"	"	"	"	"	sale	Menno
Erb.							
Menno [S.] Erb	1869	B-III	7	S pt	50 ac.	purch.	Chr.
Schlabach							
(Barbara (Gerber)	1870	"	"	1/2 ac. SE cor		sale	J. Lorenz
Lichti)	1873	"	"	S pt	50 ac.	sale	C. Knapp

Wellesley Township, East Section

Christian Gerber	1881	E-II	9	E pt	17 ac.	purch.	John
Gerber							
(Anna Reschly)	1910	"	"	"	8 ac.	sale	Chris. R.
Gerber							
(res. of Wilmot)							
Daniel Gerber	1882	E-VII	11	SW pt	1/4 ac.	purch.	J. Frame
(Anna Zehr)	1887	"	"	"	"	sale	M.
Hiller							
John Gerber	1855	E-II	9	E 1/2	117 ac.	patent	Crown

(res. of Wilmot) Gerber	1881	"	"	E pt 17 ac.	sale	Chris.
(patent entered Wagner as Joseph)	"	"	"	E pt 100 ac.	"	C.
John R. Gerber Hill	1908	E-I	12	114 ac.	purch.	John
(Catherine Wagler)	(former Christian E. Boshart property)					
Gerber	1941	E-I	12	109 ac.	sale	Jos. W.
<b>Joseph Garber</b>	<b>1851</b>	<b>census</b>	<b>(1 1/2-storey log house)</b>			
" "	<b>1861</b>	<b>census</b>	<b>(1859 2-storey brick house)</b>			
Joseph Gerber	1856	E-II	9	W 1/2 117 ac.	patent	Crown
(Anna Farni)	1874	"	"	" "	sale	Peter F.
Gerber						
	1865	E-III	9	W 1/4 50 ac.	purch.	C.
Straus						
	1874	"	"	" "	sale	Peter F.
Gerber						
Peter F. Gerber	1874	E-II	9	W 1/2 117 ac.	purch.	Joseph
Gerber						
(Magdalena Bast)	1906	"	"	" "	sale	Moses
Steinmann						
	1874	E-III	9	W 1/4 50 ac.	purch.	Joseph
Gerber						
	1876	"	"	" "	sale	Jacob
Lebold						

Wellesley Township, West Section

Christian Gerber	1896	W-II	10	E 1/2 99 ac.	purch.	Freeborn
(res. of Wilmot)	1897	"	"	" "	sale	John R.
Gerber						
Daniel Gerber	1882?	W-VI	11	E 1/2 100 ac.	purch.	John
Gerber						
(Anna Zehr) Estate	1914	"	"	" "	sale	Moses Bast
	1890	W-VI	10	W 1/2 100 ac.	purch.	Michael
Zehr						
Estate	1901	"	"	" "	sale	Joseph Y.
Zehr						
Daniel R. Gerber	1903	W-V	6	W pt 100 ac.	purch.	Bivour

(Catherine Erb) Lichti	1920	"	"	"	"	sale	Chris. Z.
John Gerber Est.	1869	W-VI	11	E 1/2	100 ac.	purch.	J. Funk
(res. of Wilmot)	1871	"	"	W 1/2	"	patent	Crown
Gerber	1882	"	"	"	"	sale	Valentine
Gerber	1882?	"	"	E 1/2	"	"	Daniel
John Gerber Gerber	1874	W-III	4	W 1/2	99 ac.	purch.	Joseph
(Susanna Gascho) Streicher Estate	1880	"	"	"	"	sale	Daniel
	(via John Gascho)						
John R. Gerber Gerber	1897	W-II	10	E 1/2	99 ac.	purch.	Christian
(Catherine Wagler) Lebold	1908	"	"	"	"	sale	Christian
Joseph Gerber (Anna Farni) Gerber	1869	W-III	4	W 1/2	100 ac.	patent	Crown
	1874	"	"	"	99 ac.	sale	John
Joseph R. Gerber Wagler	1901	W-V	6	S pt	100 ac.	purch.	Jacob
(Mary Wagler) Ropp	1943	"	"	"	"	sale	Emanuel
Valentine Gerber Gerber	1882	W-VI	11	W 1/2	100 ac.	purch.	John
(Catharine Kennel) Kroetsch	1884	"	"	"	"	sale	T.

#### Hay Township

John L. Gerber, son of Peter and Magdalena (Lichti) Gerber, of Wilmot Township married Barbara Schwartzentruber, daughter of Leah Oesch and Christian Schwartzentruber. In 1895 he purchased a number of parcels of Lot 28, Concession XI and Lots 27 and 28, Concession XII. This land was in the same neighbourhood as Barbara's parents. In 1936 these properties were sold to Roy Gingerich.

John L. Gerber had two sisters. Barbara married John Bechler, and Magdalena may have remained single.

John L. Gerber Baechler	1895	XI	28	SW cor.	8 ac.	purch.	Christian
(executors) Gingerich	1936	"	"	"	"	sale	Roy

Baechler	1895	XII	27	N pt 30 ac.	purch. Christian
(executors)	1936	"	"	"	sale Roy
Gingerich					
Baechler	1895	XII	28	S pt 35 ac.	purch. Christian
(executors)	1936	"	"	"	sale Roy
Gingerich					

Mornington Township

John Gerber (1st wife Magdalena Nafziger, 2nd wife Veronica Oesch)  
resident of Wilmot  
Lot 10, N 1/2, Con. III, 1861-1881 (from Crown; sold to son  
Joseph)  
Lot 5, NW 1/4, Con. VI, 1863-1882 (from Crown,  
sold to Nicholas L. Kuepfer, son-  
in-law)

Joseph Gerber (son of John Gerber & Magdalena Nafziger)  
m. 1861 to Magdalena Brenneman,  
dau. of John Brenneman & Magdalena Schultz  
Lot 10, N 1/2, Con. III, 1881-1893 (Crown to John Gerber, 1861)  
Lot 9, E 1/2 Con. III, 1882/3-1893 (Crown to John Hamiltom,  
1862)  
The Joseph Gerber family emigrated to Minnesota in 1893.

North Easthope Township

John Gerber (son of John Gerber and Magdalena Gerber)  
2m. ca. 1842 to Veronica Oesch  
dau. of John Oesch and Barbara Schultz  
Lot 27, W 1/2, Con. XIII, 1880-1891 (purchased from Joseph L.  
Lichti;  
Gerber est. sold to Joseph S.  
Schweitzer)  
John Gerber was a resident of Wilmot. It is not known which of  
his  
children might have resided on this property.



Note re location of Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery:

The 1861 Tremain map of Wilmot Township indicates a Mennonite church on the western edge of Lot 14. A school house was located near the road, with the cemetery several rods in from the road. According to the land records, however, these were located on the eastern edge of Lot 15, not on Lot 14.

Wellesley and Wilmot Amish Mennonite Cemeteries: Wilmot Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery and Wellesley Amish Cemetery, by Waterloo Wellington Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society. Kitchener, 1992

Caption for photo of farmstead:

□ □ THE JOHN GERBER HOMESTEAD  
□ □

The following in RED not in new files

John Gerber and his wife Magdalena (born Nafziger) arrived in Canada from Lewis County, New York, with two children in late 1838 or early 1839. In July 1839, John signed a lease contract with the Canada Company for the north half of Lot 13, Concession III, Block B in Wilmot Township. The following year he paid the full price and received his deed.

The Gerbers became part of a small Amish Mennonite settlement in the northwest part of the township. Several of the settlers (Jantzi, Kennel and Zehr) had also come from New York. It became known as the Amish Settlement, and the road between the third and fourth concessions has been named Settlement Road.

In 1840 Magdalena Gerber died following the birth of her third child. They were far from the older settlement in the centre of the township; so they buried her on the family farm. (An X on the back shows the supposed location of this burial.) The settlement later established its own cemetery on the northwest corner of Lot 15 (Michael Zehr's property). In 1842, John Gerber married Veronica Oesch, daughter of Bishop John Oesch and Barbara Schultz.

In the mid-1850s, the three settlers in the third concession all built large stone houses -- one each year. The date stone on the Michael Zehr house (occupied by Ernie and Marion Roth in 2000) gives the date for that one as 1856. John Jantzi (farm occupied by Peter and Beatrice Petrovic in 2000) and John Gerber built their houses before or after 1856. The north wing of the house (summer kitchen, woodshed, etc.) has been replaced with an entrance and garage. The detached ice house on the right is still there.

The aerial view of the farm above was probably taken in the 1960s. Roy and Irma Gerber gave a copy of the photo to Lorraine Roth in 1969. Roy was a descendant of Christian, married to Anna Reschly. When Gary and Leanne Jantzi bought the farm in 1993, it was no longer in the Gerber name, but still in the Gerber family. Gary's father is also a

descendant of Christian and Anna (Reschly) through John Gerber's second marriage, and his mother Eleanor (nee Gerber) through John's first marriage.

#### Census Notes

#### Notes:

1851 Wilmot census, probably living on Bleam's Rd  
Peter Gerber, b. ca.1800, France, Shingle maker, Lutheran  
Barbara " b. ca.1801  
Christian b. ca.1835 France  
Catherine b. ca.1838 U.S.A.  
Annie b. ca.1841 "

This family is probably not the Amish Mennonite Peter Kropf family

1861 Wilmot census, probably in Amish Settlement  
Peter Gerber, b. ca.1837, France, sawmill labourer, Mennonite  
Magdalena b. ca.1841, Canada  
Peter Gerber, b. ca.1800, France, Mennonite, living with Peter Jr.  
Barbara b. ca.1803 "

This family fits!

1871 Wilmot census, District 4 (Settlement and Erb's Road)  
Peter Gerber, b. ca.1838, France, farmer, Amish [widower]  
Barbara b. ca.1861  
John b. ca.1865  
Magdalena b. ca.1868  
Peter Gerber, b. ca.1800, France, Amish  
Barbara b. ca.1804 "  
Magdalena Erb, b. ca.1841, France, widow, Amish  
Barbara b. ca.1860  
Rebecca b. ca.1861  
Mary b. ca.1866  
Albert Springer, age 15, Canada, labourer  
The above groups were probably in different houses

]

DOC [ + ] d--

OB< [ made this listing for gathering needed information:

- 1) Barbara Gerber, b. ca.1839, near Rome, N.Y. (from death record)
  - d. 9 May 1870, Wilmot Township
  - m. 26 Feb 1867, Wellesley TownshipDavid Gascho, son of Christian Gascho and Christina Petersheim
  - b. 7 Mar 1841, Somerset County, PA
  - d. 19 Sept 1893. bu. Maple View Mennonite Cemetery, Wellesley
  - 2m. 27 Jan 1871 to Barbara Ramseyer

Children next page:

- a) Joseph G. Gascho (1867-1966) m. Katherine Leis
  - b) Christena Gascho (1869-after 1891)
- 4) Magdalena Gerber, b. 21 Feb 1839, #15, outside Gate Austerlitz, Strasbourg
    - d. 15 Dec 1916/7, East Zorra Township
    - 1m. 12 Mar 1861, at Berlin, by F.W. Bindeman
    - 2m. 10 Oct 1876, in Michael Kennel home, WilmotJoseph Erb, son of Christian H. Erb and Maria Miller
    - b. \_\_\_\_ 1838, Wilmot Township
    - d. \_\_\_\_ 1867, Wilmot?Joseph Stere, b. \_\_\_\_ 1820, Luneville?, France
    - d. 1 Apr 1895/6, East Zorra Township
- a) Barbara Erb (1861-1932) m. Joseph F. Lichti(6)
  - b) Rebecca Erb (1863-1949) m. Charles Alexander
  - c) Mary Erb (1865-1888) m. David Widrick
  - d) John Stere (1878-1966) m. Leah Erb(7)

[

#### JOSEPH AND MAGDALENA (BRENNEMAN) GERBER

Joseph Gerber was born on May 4, 1838 in Lewis County, New York, to John Gerber and Magdalena Nafziger.(1) (see Notes on page 5) Two months later, John signed a lease contract with the Canada Company for the north half of Lot 13, Block B, Wilmot Township. It may be that John came to negotiate for land and that he did not bring the family until the following year.

Joseph's older sister Magdalena was born in 1836 and in March 1840, his sister Maria was born in the new settlement. Either later that year or in 1841, mother Magdalena died and, since the designated Amish-Mennonite burial grounds were quite a distance from this new settlement, she was buried in the corner of the garden.

About 1842, John married Veronica Oesch, daughter of Bishop John Oesch, who was living with his family in Wilmot, on the lot now occupied by Castle Kilbride in Baden. Veronica would have been the only mother that Joseph and Maria would have known. Perhaps Magdalena had some memory of her birth mother. Seven more children were born to John and Veronica.

In February 1861 Joseph married Magdalena Brenneman, daughter of John Brenneman and Magdalena Schultz. Magdalena grew up on the farm at the northeast corner of which one now finds the Wilmot Centre School and the Wilmot Centre Cemetery.(2)

The same year (1861) John Gerber, Joseph's father, purchased the north half of Lot 10, Concession III in Mornington Township from the Crown. No doubt, this is where Joseph and Magdalena settled, clearing land and building farm buildings. They bought the land from Joseph's father in 1881. John Gerber also purchased property on Concession VI, where Joseph's sister Magdalena and her husband Nicholas L. Kuepfer settled.

In the 1860s and early 1870s, the Mornington Township settlers were still part of the North Wilmot-Wellesley Amish Mennonite congregation. In 1865, Joseph was ordained a minister. John Jantzi, his uncle living beside the Gerber homestead in Wilmot, was the bishop and Joseph's father was a deacon. In 1874, the Mornington congregation was organized and Joseph was ordained its bishop the following year.

During the latter part of the 1880s, the Mornington congregation suffered a division when the majority decided to build a meetinghouse -- as all the other Amish Mennonite congregations in Canada were doing. Not everyone was in favour, including some of the ordained persons. The Mornington and Wellesley members who did not wish to go along with this change continued to hold services in their homes. The division became permanent when bishops from Holmes County, Ohio, came and ordained Christian L. Kuepfer as bishop of the Mornington and Wellesley Old Order groups in 1891.

Perhaps it was this turmoil in the Mornington congregation which prompted Joseph to join a new settlement in Minnesota. In 1893, Joseph and Magdalena and most of their children (some already married) joined several other Canadian Amish-Mennonite families who had settled at Wilmont, Nobles County, Minnesota. Several more of their children were married while in Minnesota.

This settlement, however, did not last very long. Those who came from Ontario did not necessarily come to get away from the meetinghouse, but for others that was probably an issue. The lack of unity on this issue may have been one of the causes for the failure of the settlement. There seems to be no indication that they left the county because the land was not good for farming.(3)

Bishop Joseph Gerber and 14 other families (including several of his children) left Minnesota in 1908 and relocated at West Branch, Ogemaw County, Michigan. They did not build a meetinghouse, thus identifying with the Old Order. Again, most of Joseph and Magdalena's family accompanied them to West Branch where Joseph suffered a stroke shortly after settling there and died in 1910 -- Magdalena in 1921. They are buried in the Amish Cemetery on Rau Road.

Another Old Order group was settled to the north of West Branch in Oscoda County with whom there was fellowship. Jacob Gascho, who had also been in Minnesota and was now in Oscoda County, Michigan, and had been ordained bishop there came and performed several ordinations at West Branch and moved there himself in 1923.



THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND MAGDALENA (BRENNEMAN) GERBER

Joseph Gerber, son of John Gerber and Magdalena Nafziger

b. 4 May 1838, Lewis Co., NY  
 d. 10 Jan 1910, West Branch, Ogemaw Co., MI  
 m. 17 Feb 1861, Wilmot Township, Canada

Magdalena Brenneman, dau. of John Brenneman Jr. and Magdalena Schultz

b. 15 Mar 1836, Wilmot Township  
 d. 18 Nov 1921, West Branch

Children:

Grandchildren:

1) Magdalena/Mattie Gerber

b. 1 Dec 1861\*  
 d. 20 Jan 1902 PooleM  
 m. 25 Feb 1879 Morn.  
 John/Hans Nafziger  
 b. 12 May 1856  
 d. 20 Jul 1910 PooleAM  
 son of Samuel Nafziger  
 and Anna Kipfer

Nancy Nafziger (1880-1930) m. Solomon Kipfer  
 Joseph Nafziger (1881-1948) m. Rachel Jantzi  
 Samuel Nafziger (1884- ) m. Katie Kipfer  
 Peter Nafziger (1886-1969) m. Christina Jantzi  
 2m. Elizabeth Jutzi  
 Mary Nafziger (1888- ) m. Joseph R. Erb  
 Mattie Nafziger (1889-1930) m. Amos Brunk  
 m. Amos Brunk 2m. Mary Gerber  
 Jonathan Nafziger (1891-1957)  
 Noah Nafziger (1894-1911)  
 Clara Nafziger ((1896-1962) m. Christian Streicher  
 Christian Streicher 2m. Lucina Jantzi Lichti

2) John Gerber

b. 1 Nov 1863  
 d. Apr 1928/9 PooleAM  
 m. 12 Jan 1886 Morn.  
 Anna Jantzi  
 b. 14 Jun 1886 Welles.  
 d. 24 Apr 1951 PooleAM  
 dau. of Christian B. Jantzi  
 and Anna Lichti

Fannie Gerber (1897-1957) m. Christian S. Roth  
 Anna Gerber (1902-1982) m. John S. Gascho

3) Peter Gerber

b. 17 Sep 1865 Mornington  
 d. 24 Feb 1886 "

4) Mary Gerber

b. 17 Jun 1867 Morn.  
 d. 11 Nov 1941 PooleAM  
 m. 3 Oct 1889 Morn.  
 Solomon K. Jantzi  
 b. 10 Jun 1869 Morn.  
 d. 4 Mar 1935 Poole AM  
 son of Michael Jantzi  
 and Magdalena Kuepfer

Jonas G. Jantzi (1891-1964) m. Rachel Nafziger  
 2m. Emma Nafziger  
 Joseph G. Jantzi ( - ) died in infancy  
 Ezra G. Jantzi (1896-1970) m. Dorothy L. Jantzi  
 Aaron G. Jantzi (1903-1978) m. Fannie Stoltzfus  
 Mary Jantzi (1905- ) m. Nicholas K. Jantzi  
 Madeline/Mattie Jantzi (1907-2005 ) m. Isaac Roes

5) Joseph Gerber II

Amos K. Gerber (1894-1920)  
 Peter K. Gerber (1896- ) m. Annie Albrecht  
 Sarah Gerber (1898-1954) m. Emanuel Kennel  
 Mattie Gerber (1900- 1960 ) m. Christian R. Erb  
 Mary Gerber (1901-1957) m. Amos Brunk

- b. 3 Jul 1869 Morn.  
d. 30 Oct 1940 Poole AM  
m. 17 Nov 1892 Morn.  
Magdalena/Mattie Kropf  
b. 31 Jul 1875 Morn.  
d. 22 Aug 1952 PooleAM  
dau. of Solomon Kropf  
and Maria Lichti
- Amos Brunk 1m. Mattie Nafziger  
Catherine/Katie Gerber (1902-1977) m. David Roes  
Joseph K. Gerber (1904-1967) m. Annie Roes  
Amanda Gerber (1905-1974) m. Ben M. Slaubaugh  
Anna Gerber (1907-1976) m. Levi Helmuth  
John K. Gerber (1908-1976) m. Anna Yoder  
Solomon K. Gerber (1910-1965) m. Kate Weaver  
Clara Gerber (1912- ) m. Samuel A. Weaver  
Aaron K. Gerber (1914- ) m. Emma Weaver  
Raymond K. Gerber (1915-1975) m. Emma Lavina Roes  
Emma 2m. Amos Steckly  
Elmer K. Gerber (1917- ) m. Fannie Kauffman  
Emanuel K. Gerber (1918- ) m. Amanda Jantzi
- 6) Daniel Gerber  
b. 25 Jun 1871 Morn.  
d. 10 Jan 1929 PooleAM  
m. 26 Oct 1893 Minn.  
2m. 19 Feb 1895 Minn.  
Catherine/Katie Jantzi no children to 1m.  
b. 18 Apr 1871 Morn,  
d. 18 Jul 1894 Minn.  
dau. of Michael Jantzi  
and Magdalena Kuepfer  
Rachel Ropp  
b. 17 Feb 1877 Morn.  
d. 24 Sep 1945 PooleAM  
dau. of Joseph U. Ropp  
& Elizabeth Schweitzer
- David R. Gerber (1896- ) m. Sarah Nafziger  
Moses R. Gerber (1898-1963) m. Rachel Jantzi  
Elizabeth Gerber (1903- ) Rudy Nafziger  
Daniel R. Gerber (1905-1980) m. Idella Zehr  
Amos Gerber (1911- ) m. Clara Helen Jantzi  
Solomon R. Gerber (1913-1999 ) m. Edna Yantzi
- 7) Jacob B. Gerber  
b. 26 Apr 1873 Morn.  
d. 12 Sep 1943 PooleAM  
m. 15 Jan 1895 Minn.  
Magdalena/Mattie Jantzi  
b. 1 Nov 1873 Welles.  
d. 8 Aug 1938 PooleAM  
dau. of Joseph BS Jantzi  
and Magdalena Boshart
- Mary Gerber (died in infancy)  
Joseph J. Gerber (1899-1965) m. Violet Jantzi  
Emanuel J Gerber (1902- ) m Elizabeth Stoltzfus  
Mattie Gerber (1904- ) m. Solomon Kropf  
Jacob J. Gerber (1906- ) m. Sylvia K. Leis  
Ida Gerber (1916- ) m. Calvin Woolner
- 8) Christian B. Gerber  
b. 5 Dec 1876 Morn.  
d. 5 Feb 1957 PooleAM  
m. 18 Mar 1897 Minn.  
Veronica/Fannie Jantzi  
b. 1 Nov 1877 Welles.  
d. 14 Nov 1954 PooleAM  
dau. of Joseph BS Jantzi  
and Magdalena Boshart
- Aaron Gerber (1898)  
Eli Gerber (1899-1923)  
Daniel J. Gerber (1902-1964 ) m. Susie Lichti  
2m. Elizabeth Wagler  
Christian J. Gerber (1903-1985) m. Mary Lichti  
Fannie Gerber (1908- ) m. Peter Steckly  
Mattie Gerber (1910- ) m. Clayton Leis  
John J. Gerber (1914- ) m. Ethel Smith
- 9) Veronica/Fannie Gerber  
b. 6 Aug 1878 Morn.  
d. 8 Oct 1966 PooleAM  
m. 19 Sep 1895 Minn.  
Menno K. Jantzi  
b. 19 Jul 1873 Morn.
- Amos G. Jantzi (1896-1947)  
Emma Jantzi (1899- ) m. Solomon Lichti  
Clara Jantzi (1903-1964) m. William K. Zehr  
William K. Zehr 2m. Edna Jantzi  
Fannie Jantzi (1905-1972)



d. 17 Jan 1944 PooleAM  
son of Michael Jantzi  
and Magdalena Kuepfer

Madeline Jantzi (1908-1989) m. Menno Nafziger  
Edna Jantzi (1912-1983) m. William K. Zehr

- 10) Samuel Gerber  
b. Jan 1881 Morn.  
d. 12 Sep 1882 Morn.

#### LOCATIONS OF THE RESIDENCES OF THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND MAGDALENA GERBER

**Mattie Gerber** was married in 1879 to **John Nafziger**. The Nafziger homestead was on Lot 26, Concession XIV in North Easthope Township. In the 1870s John's father Samuel also purchased Lot 26 in Concession XIII. No doubt, this is where John and Mattie settled after their marriage, gaining ownership in 1887. Mattie was the only member of the Joseph Gerber family who did migrate to Minnesota.

John Nafziger was ordained minister in 1892 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation. Mattie died in 1902, leaving John and nine children between the ages of six and twenty-two. At this time the Mornington congregation was experiencing another division, and in 1903, John, his brother Nicholas (bishop) and others left the congregation to form their own. They built a meetinghouse west of the hamlet of Poole and became known as the Nafziger congregation. Since the congregation meeting north of Poole became the Poole Mennonite Church, the Nafziger congregation has taken on the name Mornington Amish Mennonite, sometimes also called Poole West. John died in 1910 and is buried at Poole West. Since this cemetery was not yet in existence when Mattie died, it is assumed she is buried in the Poole Mennonite Cemetery, but there is no tombstone to mark her grave.

**John Gerber** married Anna Jantzi in 1886. Where they lived in Canada before leaving for Minnesota has not been established. Both the Gerber and Jantzi parents migrated, the Jantzis in 1891 and the Gerbers in 1893. John and Anna are said to have joined them in 1894. In 1908 they left Minnesota for West Branch, Michigan, and in 1824, they returned to Canada. John died four or five years later. Both John and Anna are buried in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery.(Poole West)

**Mary Gerber** married **Solomon K. Jantzi** in 1889 and probably accompanied her parents to Minnesota in 1893. They also moved to West Branch, Michigan, where Solomon was ordained deacon in 1914. In 1928 they returned to Canada. Solomon died in 1935 and Mary in 1941. They are buried in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery.

**Joseph Gerber II** married Magdalena Kropf on November 17, 1893., and the following year they accompanied his parents to Nobles County, Minnesota. Nine children were born during their 15 years in Minnesota. In 1908 they joined the exodus to West Branch, Michigan, where another seven were born. All members of this large family suffered from the flu which swept much of the world between 1918 and 1920. All of them survived except their oldest son Amos who died in 1920 at the age of 26.(4) The date of Joseph and Magdalena's return to Canada is not known, but they died in 1940 and 1952, respectively, and are buried in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery. Many of their children married Canadian spouses and resided (a few are still living in 2002) in Canada. A few are still living in 2002. A few married American spouses and are scattered in several different states and Canada.

**Daniel Gerber** accompanied his parents to Minnesota in 1893. Katie Jantzi and Menno Jantzi and their brother Solomon who was married to Mary Gerber were in the same group. Daniel and Katie were married later that same year. Evidently Katie suffered from a severe case of homesickness and died nine months after their marriage. Daniel married the following year to Rachel Ropp. Evidently, the marriage took place in Minnesota, but it is not known with whom Rachel had travelled to Minnesota.

Daniel and Rachel accompanied the extended Gerber family to West Branch, Michigan. Daniel and Rachel settled on a portion of Section 26 in Edwards Township, Ogemaw County. Their children attended Edwards School on Greenwood Road. They moved back to Canada where Daniel died in 1929 and Rachel in 1945. They are buried in the Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery.(Poole West)

**Jacob B. Gerber** and Mattie Jantzi, daughter of Joseph B.S. and Magdalena (Boshart) Jantzi were married in Minnesota in 1895. Christian B. Jantzi, Joseph B.S. Jantzi and Michael Jantzi whose children married the Joseph Gerber children were brothers. Hence, all these Jantzi spouses were either siblings or cousins. Jacob and Mattie's oldest daughter Mary died in February, 1898, and was buried in the Amish Cemetery in Nobles County. The Jacob B. Gerber family also joined the extended family in West Branch, Michigan, probably in 1908. It is not known when they returned to the Millbank area in Ontario, but Mattie died there in 1938 and Jacob in 1943. They are buried in the Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery. (Poole West)

**Christian B. Gerber** was married in 1897 in Minnesota to Fannie Jantzi, sister to Mattie, married to Daniel B. Gerber. The rest of their story reads much like that of Daniel and Mattie's. They also lost their oldest child (Aaron) as an infant in Minnesota. Their second son Eli died at West Branch, Michigan, in 1923 at the age of 23. They also returned to Millbank and are buried in the Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery.(Poole West)

**Fannie Gerber** and **Menno K. Jantzi** were married in Minnesota in 1895. At least four of their six children were born there, and by 1909 they were also at West Branch, Michigan. In 1922 they moved back to Brunner, Ontario. They purchased Lot 6, Concession XVI, Ellice Township, selling it in 1941, three years before Menno's death in 1944. Fannie lived until 1966. They are buried in the Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery.

Notes:

- 1) For more details on Joseph's family background, see the GERBER file.
- 2) For more details on Magdalena Brenneman's family, see the BRENNEMAN file.
- 3) The Minnesota and Michigan settlements are described in *The Amish in America: Settlements that Failed, 1840-1960* by David Luthy. Pathway Publishers, Aylmer, Ontario - Lagrange, Indiana, 1986; Minnesota, pages 211-213, West Branch, Michigan, pages 193-196.  
List of the Minnesota history to be published in 2009.
- 4) "Our Amish Neighbors, the Dan Gerbers of Edwards Township, Ogemaw County" Parts I and II, in *Wilderness Chronicle*, No. 14, pages 33-37 & No. 15, pages 46-49, by Florence Andrew Munn of West Branch [no date]  
(Photocopies in GERBER, Joseph file)

References:

The following publications contain the genealogies of the various members of the Joseph and Magdalena (Brenneman) Gerber family:

*The Gerber Family Tree* ( compiled by Raymond and Olive Gerber, Mio, Michigan, in 1968/69.  
A brief introduction to Joseph Gerber, pages i, ii  
Joseph Gerber, Jr. and Magdalena Kropf family, pages 1-14 (the remainder of the booklet) (copy in GERBER, Joseph file)

*Nafziger Family History, 1830-1966*, by Ezra A. Nafziger. Intercourse, Pa., 1967. Mattie Gerber and John Nafziger family, pages 5-[16].

*Christian B. Jantzi and Anna Lichty*, [by Daniel Jantzi, Nelson Litwiller,] and Fannie (Mrs. Joe) Eash. Goshen, Ind., ca.1972.

John Gerber and Anna Jantzi family, pages 105-107.

*Family History and Genealogy of Jacob and Marie (Lichti) Kuepfer*, by Mrs. Menno W. Kuepfer, Alvin N. Roth, Lorraine Roth. Kitchener, Ont., 1976.

Mary Gerber and Solomon K. Jantzi family, pages 95,104-108.

Daniel Gerber and Catherine/Katie Jantzi, pages 95, 108.

Veronica Gerber and Menno K. Jantzi family, pages 108-111.

*Joseph Ropp and Elizabeth Schweitzer Family Record*, by Christina Miller. Kalona, Iowa, 1969. Daniel Gerber and Rachel Ropp family, pages 68-73.

*Family History of Joseph B. S. Jantzi and Magdalena Boshart*, by Mrs. Seth S. Troyer. Middlebury, Ind., 1967.

Jacob B. Gerber and Magdalena/Mattie Jantzi family, pages 11, 12.

Christian B. Gerber and Veronica/Fannie Jantzi family, pages 13-16.

Joseph Gerber's marriage record and other miscellaneous records. Transcriptions, Translations, Explanations in GERBER, Joseph file.

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock, Ontario  
April 2009

( the following not in OLD files so I copied it from new files)

#### AN EXTENDED GERBER FAMILY

GERBER?GUERBER/ KERBER. This surname appeared in 1747 at Ste, Narue-aux-Mines.. It originates in Langnau, Bern, and Steffisburg, Switzerland. The English meaning of the name is "tanner."

Michael Gerber and Christine Blanck

Son: Jean/John Gerber    b. ca. 1748  
                                  d. 24 Dec. 1799, Insviller, Moselle (Lorraine) France  
                                  m. 26 Sept. 1765, Schirmeck, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace) France  
Catherine Guingerich, dau. Of Valentin Guingerich and Ve'ronique Blanck  
                                  b. ca. 1744, Ste.-Marie-aux-Mines, Haut-Rhin, Upper Alsace  
                                  d. 4 mar. 1805, Rhodes, Moselle

Farmed at the farm Roderhoff at Insiller

Children            1) Elisabeth Gerber, b. ca. 1765, m. 1792 Pierre Farny  
                          2) Christian Gerber (1) (See Notes at end)

- b. ca. 1765, Insviller, m. Catherine Springer
- 3) Joseph Gerber, b. ca. 1767 m. Barbe Abresol/Ebersol
- \*4) Jean/John Gerber, b. ca. 1769, M. Madeleine Guerber (2)
- 5) Marie Gerber (3) m. Ulrich Sommer
- 6) Madeleine Gerber b. ca. 1771, m. Jean Gerber (2)
- 7) Ann Marie Gerber b. Ca. 1773, Pfalzweyer, Bas-Rhin  
m. Jean Bachmann
- 8) Valentin Gerber b. 22 Apr. 1774, Saverne, Bas-Rhin  
m. Anne Hirschy
- 9) Marguerite Madeleine Gerber, b. 4 Apr., 1775, Saverne  
m. 1 July 1793, Insviller to Jean Gerber, son of Jean Gerber and Catherine Guingerich (4)
- 10) Pierre Gerber, b. 4 Feb. 1780, Kreutzfelden/Saverne, Bas-Rhin  
m. Barbe Schertz
- 11) Marie Gerber (3), b. ca. 1781, Saverne  
m. 16 June 1805, Dolving, Moselle, to Pierre Stroub  
son of Christian Stroub and Anne Gunden  
widower of Madeleine Abresol
- 12) Ve'ronique/Veronica Gerber, 28 Feb. 1881, Saverne  
m. 5 May 1893, Gros-Tenquin, Moselle, Joseph Schmitt
- 13) Christian Gerber (1), b. ca 1784,  
m. 6 Feb 1807, Hoff (5) Catherine Springer of Sarrebourg  
dau. Of George Springer & Madeleine Werckler
- \*Jean/John Gerber, b. ca. 1769  
d. 19, July 1822, Albestroff, Moselle  
m. 1 July 1793, Insviller  
to Madeleine Gerber, b. ca. 1771  
d. 25 June 1890, Wilmot Twp. Canada  
dau. Of Jean/John and Barbe Guingerich, of Vittersbourg, Moselle

#### Known Children

- 1) Catherine Gerber, b. 12 Feb. 1796, Valette, Hoste-Haut, Moselle  
d. 25 mar. 1849, New Bremen, NY.  
m. 20 Apr. 1816, Fare'bersviller, Moselle  
Joseph Farny, son of Jean/John Farny (d. 17 Sept. 1830 at Barst) and Marie Shertz  
b. 26 Apr. 1795, Henrville? Moselle  
d. 18 Apr. 1873, New Bremen, NY  
This family emigrated to and remained in Lewis County, NY (6)
- 2) Elisabeth Gerber, b. 2 Jan. 1896, Hoste-Haut  
d. 24 June 1890, bu. Amish Menn. Society Cem., Wilmot  
m. 4/10 June 1832, Valette, Hoste-Haut  
Jean/John Jantzi, son of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny  
b. 24 Mar. 1806, Farm, Belgrad, Bisroff, Moselle  
d. 12 Dec. 1881, bu. Amish Mennonite Society Cemetery  
This family migrated to America in 1834 and to Canada in 1839 (7).
- 3) John Gerber, b. 4 Apr. 1809, probably at Hoste-Haut  
d. 18 Aug. 1889, Wilmot township  
m. ca. 1835, Lewis County, NY.  
Magdalena Nafziger, dau. Of Christian Nafziger and Marie Jantzi  
b. 21 May 1819, Bistroff, Moselle  
d. 1840/41, Wilmot Township

John Gerber, 2m. ca. 1842, Wilmot/Wellesley Township  
Veronica Oesch, dau. Of John Oesch and Barbara Schultz  
b. 8 July 1822, Rothsee, near Weilheim, Bavaria, germany  
d. before 1861, Wilmot Township  
John emigrated to America in 1834 and to Canada with his family in 1839. (8)

4) Marguerite/Madeleine may have married at Hoste-Haut, 13 May 1823 to Simon  
Hirsch/Hirschy (info. Jean Fleury)

There may have been a total of 7 children.

The main source of this information is *Histoire et Ge'ne'alogy,, Les Mennonites du Pays de Sarrebourg* by  
Robert Boehm, Sarrebourg, 2005

I have also made minor changes- from French to English or spellings of places according to my French atlas  
and maps.

Notes:

1) Both #2 and #3 are named Christian.

2) Both #5 and #11 are named Marie

3) How can both Jeans/Johns in #4 and in #9 be the sons of Jean/John Gerber and Catherine  
Guingerich?

4) Are there two couples by the same names?

5) I do not know the meaning of "Hoff" in this context.

6) The Farney family is found in *Genealogies of Three Large Families of Lewis County, New  
york...Farney...Virkler...Zehr*, by Mrs. Ira G. Farney, Julius Farney, and Mrs. Urban Karcher, Castorland,  
New York, 1989, Volume I, pages (21)- 752.

7) The Elisabeth and John Jantzi family genealogy was published in *Family History and Genealogy of John  
Jantzi  
and Elizabeth Gerber*, by Mrs. Mrs. Menno W. Kuepfer, R.1, Millbank, Ont. And Lorraine Roth, R1,  
Shakespeare,  
Ont., 1974.

8) The John Gerber family to his second marriage was published in the *John and Barbara (Schultz) Oesch  
Family History and Genealogy*; Section B: *Family History and Genealogy of Veronica Oesch and John  
Gerber* by Lorraine Roth, Kitchener Ontario, 1969.

The problems found in the above family outline indicate that Boehm's research is not totally reliable. It  
should  
not be copied and reproduced, but used as a guide for one's own research.

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock, Ontario  
May, 2011

Not in new files

JOSEPH GERBER RECORDS -- Transcriptions, Translations, Explanations

Photocopy  
sheet number

1. First Register Leaf (page) Number

Magdalena	page	2
Johannes		5
Maria		9
Joseph		17
Daniel		24
Jacob		32
Veronika		38
Christian		45

2. Mornington July 5th 1891

Ministers chosen in the vineyard

Peter Spenler . . . . . (dots seem to represent number of votes)

Nicolaus Nafziger . . . . .

Johannes Albrecht . . . . .

Mornington January 1, 1893

Minister chosen in the vineyard

Johannes Nafziger . . . . .

Ministers chosen in the vineyard

Minisoda (Minnesota) November 19th 1893

"zum Buch" (minister) Jacob Gascho

votes . . . . .

Joseph Jantzi "zu den Ahrmen" (deacon)

chosen . . . . .

3. & 4. This seems to be the list of persons who bought something at the  
sale along with the payment each made.

\$ C

Rabertert (Robert) Henri	6
Joseph Bast	29 50
Nicolaus Brenneman	30 50
Peter Spenler	75 75
Robert Armstrong	67 35
Wiliam Gibson	24 30
Johannes Witni (Whitney)	21 50
Frieterig (Frederich) Segmieler	75 50
J. M. Schantz	65
Heinrig (Henry) Buck	45
Joseph Wagler	28 50
Johannes Kehler	28

Heinrig (Henry) Albrecht	16	28
Jacob Zehr	36	10
Michael Jantzi	7	35
Jacob Stekli (Steckly)	20	
Christian Kropf	78	50
Wilhelm Oper	13	
Ja Schmith	16	
Peter Wiederholt	69	
Menno Schultz	160	30
Joseph L. Ropp	15	85
Nicolaus K. Lichti	11	
Noa Rupp	12	
Christian Schweizer	12	50

(continued)

Johannes Elacott	18	
Peter Jacob	8	
Dafit (David) Schwarzentruer	41	
Johannes S. Kipfer	61	
Nicolaus Nafziger	25	

This is from the sale

December 20th	1893	
---------------	------	--

I received money from the sale  
41

5. Minisoda April 1896

I gave Mose Schlabach \$  
wheat 26 bushel  
for 50 cents a bushel this makes 13

6. This is the Will of Joseph Gerber

side 1: Warsaw [seal] I the undersigned Joseph Gerber,

resident in Sumet Bek Township, Nobles County, Minnesota,  
United States, have in mind herewith to make my last Will  
and Testament as follows:

First it is my will that all my debts be paid out of my assets  
and all my claims be collected by my executors.

Second my wife Magdalena shall have this residence as long as she  
lives and shall go to eat with Christian for \$70 a year as  
it suits, as my executors see best.

Third to Daniel who lost the 40 acres, my executors shall pay to  
Daniel \$300 from my assets, and should Joseph also lose the  
forty acres, then he shall also have \$300 from my assets.

Fourth my wife shall have the right to go to whichever child she  
wishes, wherever she likes.

side 2:

Fifth after the death of my wife the assets which are left shall be  
divided equally among my children so that one receives as the  
other.

So I choose my son John Gerber and my son-in-law Solomon Jantzi for  
my executors and give them full power to give and read "Matgetgest".

Thus ordered by me, the undersigned. This day, the thirteenth June  
one thousand nine hundred and five.

Joseph Gerber

Witnesses (no signatures)

7.	left side	right side
	November 12th 1893	September 18 1892
	Minister	December
	Jacob Gascho //////////////	Samuel Nafziger ////
	Nicolaus Jantzi ////	Jakob Zehr ////
	Johannes Gerber /	Johannes Albrecht ///
		Joseph Rupp ///
	Deacon	Johannes Nafziger //
	Johannes Gerber /	Christian Nafziger //
	Michael Jantzi //	David Schwartzentruber ///
	Nicolaus Jantzi //	
	Salamon Jantzi /	
	Joseph Gerber /	
	Jacob Gascho ///	
	Joseph Jantzi ///	

(continued)

8.	July 5 1891	
	Minister	Deacon
	Johan Nafziger //	Nicolaus Nafziger ///
	Peter Spenler //	Jacob Bossart ///
	Nicolaus Nafziger ///	Johannes Albrecht ///
	Dafit (David) Schwartzentruber ///	Sem Nafziger //
	Christian Nafziger ///	Johannes Lichti ///
	Johannes Lichti ///	
	Jacob Bossart /	
	Christian Maier //	

\* \* \*

Topping March 1894

Received from Joseph Gerber  
a hundred and fifty dollars which  
is from the money he promised me  
before (or when) he went to Minnesota  
Johannes Nafziger

9. May 26 1900

Christian Gerber paid  
\$100 Dollars on his note.

[on same slip but in different writing]

Today is the 12th March  
it is now one month that  
he died and is  
in the good rest



our good Doddy.

\* \* \*

Mornington  
June 26th 1865  
Here [on this date] I was elected [or chosen]  
a servant of the book [minister]

Mornington July 11th 1875  
I was given the charge of the high office [bishop]

10. left side

January 6th 1900  
Christian Gerber's effects [inventory]

2 horses	\$80
1 wagon	35
1 binder	30
1 mower	10
1 horse's harness	10
1 hay rake	10
1 "Ek vor egen"(r?)	2
1 disc	12
1 sleigh	8
1 corn plow	15
1 plow	4
(continued)	216
1 seed drill	12
	228

These two hundred and twenty-eight dollars  
shall be figured to the notes.

right side  
Wilmot

September 2nd 1889  
One day to Berlin [Kitchener]  
One day for figuring  
One day to Berlin [Kitchener]  
One day for settling  
One day for settling  
One day for settling 1890

[The executor probably kept a record of the time he  
spent in settling the estate (probably Christian Gerber's)]

11. A letter dated Oct 2, 1908 from the Cashier, G. E. Briggs  
of the First National Bank of Wilmont, Minnesota to  
S. K. Jantzi, West Branch, Michigan

Evidently Solomon Jantzi left his bank book in Wilmont, Minn.  
to be balanced and closed when he left for West Branch, Mich. After

everything was balanced, Solomon still had \$592.00 coming to him, Mr. Briggs enclosed a draft for that amount. It seems the bank was a little slow in getting this to Solomon; so he had written to the bank. No doubt he was a bit worried. The amount he was to receive would have been a sizeable amount for 1908, and settling into a new home would have required all the resources he could muster.

\* \* \*

[The following is a list of Joseph Gerber's children, the amount each had received and whether they still had some to get or some to give back.]

John Gerber has	\$20.85
he has to get yet	\$ 2.82
-----	
Solomon Jantzi has	\$63.16
he has to give yet	\$39.43
-----	
Joe Gerber has	\$ 6.85
he has to get yet	\$16.82
-----	
D Gerber has	\$ 8.65
he has to get yet	\$15.02
-----	
Jacob Gerber	\$22.06
he has to get yet	\$ 1.61
-----	
Menno Jantzi has	\$13.25
he has to get yet	\$10.42
-----	
Christ Gerber has	\$30.95
he has to give yet	\$ 7.28

one share is \$23.67

12. page 1. [This list of names and amounts corresponds with the list on pages 3. & 4. The English writing helps to interpret some of the names on pages 3. & 4.]

Nicholas K. Lichty	\$ 11 C
Noah Rupp	12
Christian Schweitzer	12 50
Joh C. Ellacot	18
Peter Jacob	8
David Schwartzentruber	41
John S. Kipfer	61
Nicholas Nafziger	25
Robert Henry	6
Joseph Bast	29 50
Nich Brennemann	30 50
Peter Spenler	7 75
Robert Amrstrong	67 35
William Gibson	24 30

John C. Whitney	21	50
Fred G. Seegmiller	75	50
J. M. Schantz	65	
Henry Buck	45	
Joseph Wagler	28	50
John Koehler	23	
Henry Albrecht	16	28
Jacob S. Zehr	36	10
Michael L. Jantzi	7	35
	\$672	13

page 2.

Jacob Steckly	20	
Christian Kropf	78	50
William Opper	13	
J. H. Schmidt	16	
Peter Weiderhold	69	
Meno Schultz	160	30
Joseph L. Rupp	15	85
	372	65
	672	13
total amount of notes	1044	78

sent the first time	41	
	155	
	400	
	159	
what [illegible] shall keep	150	
not yet paid J. M. Schantz	65	
check	54	
our trouble and what it	20	72
has cost us until now	1044	78

J. M. Schantz wants to pay his note in May when he sells his fat cattle.

Transcription of Will:

Warsaw [seal] Ich der underzeichnete Joseph Gerber,

wohnhaft in Sumet Bek Taunschiph Nobles Caunti Minisoda, zu Neided Stets, getenke hiemit meinen letzten Willen und Testament zu machen wie folgt:

Erstens ist mein Willen das alle meine Schulden sollen bezalt werden aus meine hinterlassenen Vermogen, und alle meine forderungen eincollektirt durch meine Testaments vollstrecker

Zweitens sol mein Weib Magdalena diese wonung haben so lang sie lebt und sol beim Christian in die kost gehen vor \$70 Daler das Jahr, so wie es sig tun lest, wes[?] Meine Testament volstreker es vor gut ansehen

Dritens sol der Daniel wo die 40 Aker verloren hat dan sollen Meine Tes[t]ament  
vol streker dem Daniel \$300 bezalen von meinem vermegen, sol der Joseph  
auch die virzig aker verlieren dan sol er auch \$300 h[a]ben von meine  
vermegen

Firtens hat vein Weib recht hin zu gen zu welchem Kind wo sie wil wo es ihr  
gefallen tut

Finftens Nach Meinem weib Ihrem Dot sol f. Mein hindersasenen wermegen under  
Meine Kinder in gleige teilen vervteilt werten so das eins bekommt wie  
das andre,

so erwele ich Mein Son Johannes Gerber und Mein tochter Mann Salamon Jantzi vor mein Testament Vol  
streker und gebe ihnen volle Macht Matgetgest zu geben und zu lesen, So werortnet durch mig, dan den  
Unterzeichneten, Diesen Tag, den treizenten Juni Ein tausent Nein hundert und finf

Joseph Gerber

Zeigen