

36. GINGER

Two GINGER families are found in the Wilmot Township documents. We assume that they were part of the Amish Mennonite community. We know very little about the Ginger families as to their roots and to where their descendants are today. The surname *Ginger*, more often spelled *Gienger*, exists in Germany. Neither of these forms of the name is listed in Swiss Surname Registers. Perhaps we have a misspelling of their family name, perhaps it is Gingerich, but the records we have, give the spelling as Ginger.

This Ginger Family Genealogical Introduction will be divided into two sections;

1. Daniel and Catherine Ginger Family
2. The Daniel Gardner and Elizabeth Ginger Family

DANIEL AND CATHERINE GINGER FAMILY

When I (Lorraine Roth) first ran across the name Ginger in the Wilmot census of 1851, I thought it was probably supposed to be Gingerich. Daniel Ginger, age 53, was born in Switzerland, his wife Catherine, age 40, in France. The following children were probably all born in Canada. These are their estimated years of birth. The whereabouts of this family is unknown to us. We hope other researchers will inform us of their findings concerning this family.

1851 Census of Wilmot Township (Waterloo County, Upper Canada)

Daniel Ginger, age 53, born in Switzerland,
wife Catherine, age 40, born in France.

Fanny - 1833

John - 1835

Catherine - 1836

David - 1839

Nancy - 1840

Leah - 1842

Mary - 1844

Barbara - 1846

Peter - 1848

The family was identified as Mennonite.

When, in my genealogical network, I found a John Ginger, I was hoping I had located a descendant of the Daniel Ginger family, since Daniel had a son John born in 1835. But John Ginger I found did not claim them as his ancestry; so their whereabouts is still a mystery. They appeared in the Wilmot census in 1851 only.

DANIEL GARDNER AND ELIZABETH GINGER

When searching for the Gardner family in the archival records for Lehrbach, Germany, I ran across the name Ginger again. Anna Barbara Gardner was born to Daniel Gardner and his "second wife Elsa Ginger" in 1811. Daniel, born ca.1771, and Elizabeth, his wife, born ca.1772, left Bremen, Germany, and arrived in New York on the Ship *Juno* on November 14, 1831. Several family members were with them. On the same

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ship were some Nahrgangs, who were from the same village as the Gardners. Other Amish Mennonites, such as the Benders, were on the same voyage. (1) (see note below)

Since the birth of only one Gardner child was found at Lehrbach, it is not known whether the older Gardner children were born to Elizabeth Ginger or not. Daniel's death was reported in *Canada Museum*, a German newspaper published in Berlin (now Kitchener) in 1838, but we do not know when and where Elizabeth died. Since the publication of the newspaper did not begin until the summer of 1835, her death would not have been reported if she died before that time.

DANIEL GARDNER, b. Mar 23, 1767

d. July 1, 1838 Wilmot Township (3)

1m. _____

2m. **ELISABETH GINGER**, b. ca. 1772

Elizabeth, however, may have been the step-mother of most of the children who married and had families.

Children:

1) Jacob Gardner

b. ca.1801 Hesse, Germany

d. 25 Aug 1887 Wilmot

1m. 11 Sep 1831 Wilmot

Barbara Litwiller

b. 20 June 1812 France

d. 21 Jan. 1861 Wilmot

dau. of Jacob Litwiller

and Maria Maurer

2m. 23 Jul 1865 New Hamburg

Magdalena (Boshart) Sommer

Widow of Peter Sommer

Grandchildren:

Foster children:

Maria Christner (1834-1911) m. George Nicklas

Lydia Kipfer (ca.1838-after 1851)

Christian Kipfer (1839-1928) m. Barbara Wagler

Marie Loth? (ca.1838-)

Maria Kuepfer (1839/40/-1848) d. in Gardner home

Barbara Ruby (twin) (1846-1920) 1m. Henry Loth

2m. David Merklinger

Anna Ruby (twin) (1846-1918) m. John Megli

Christopher Rau (ca.1856-1934) m. Barbara Liersch

Magdalena Gardner (4) (ca.1857-1920) m. Frank Dietrich

2) Michael Gardner

b. May 1803 Hesse, Germany

d. 23 Aug 1885

m. Germany

Maria Stutzman (5)

(or Gingerich)

b. 1 Jan 1807 Hesse

d. 6 Aug 1873 Wilmot

Elizabeth Gardner (1832-1865) m. Daniel Steinmann

Barbara Gardner (ca.1833-)

Christian Gardner (1835-1895) 1m. Jacobina Miller

2m. Mary Gingerich

3m. Jacobina Kropf

Daniel Gardner (1837-1886) m. Leah Schwartzentruber

Jacobina Gardner (1839- 1914) m. John S. Erb

Magdalena Gardner (1841-1862) m. Jacob Wagler

Jacob 2m. Barbara Lebold

Jacob Gordner (1845-1908) m. Rachel Roth

Maria Gardner (1846-) m. Nicholas C. Roth

Catharine Gardner (1849-1883) m. Jacob B. Roth

3) Peter Gardner

b. May 1807 Lehrbach, Germany

d. 21 Aug 1882 Wilmot

1m. 1833 Canada

Elizabeth Brenneman

1m/ no children

b. 23 Mar 1800 Germany

d. 23 Dec 1844 Wilmot

dau. of John Brenneman

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Peter Gardner

2m. 1847

Maria Schwartzentruber

b. 6 Nov 1819 Germany

d. Sep 1868 Wilmot

dau. of Michael Schwartzentruber and Barbara Oswald

Michael Gardner (ca.1851-1926)

Maria Gardner (1854-1886) m. William Battler

(called Veronica in 1861 census) William 2m. Martha Weber

Margaret Gardner (ca.1858-/59-1891) m. Charles /Carl Witmer

4) Christian Gardner

b. ca.1809 Hesse, Germany

d. Iowa

1m. Canada

Anna Roth

b. 6 Oct 1811 Dornach, France

d. 24 Sep 1848 Wilmot

dau. of Nicholas Roth and Anna Schantz

2m. ca.1849 to

Jacobina Roth

b. 1819 France

d. 2 Sep 1896 Iowa

Benedict Gardner (1838-1914) m. Nancy/Anna Roth

Barbara Gardner (1840-)

Peter Gardner (1842-1916) m. Sarah Duttweiler

Jacob Gardner (1843-1894) m. Anna C. Duttweiler

Nicholas Gardner (1847-)

Daniel Gardner (1848-1917) m. Catherine Knipfel

Katherine Gardner (1848-) m. _____ McDermit

Anna Gardner (1850-)

Mary Gardner (1851-1939) m. Christian J. Bender

Magdalena Gardner (1857-1920) m. Frank Dietsch

5) Anna Barbara Gardner

b. 24 Sept 1811 Lehrbach

Perhaps these two are the same person

6) Maria Gardner

b. ca.1811 (on ship list only)

7) Barbara (perhaps Bena) Gardner

b. ca.1815 (on ship list only)

See Phillipina/Wilhelmina Gordner/Gardner

8) Barbara Gardner

b. ca.1820 (on ship list only)

For more on the Daniel Gardner family, see the GARDNER Family Genealogical Introduction

Note:

- 1) This passenger list is found in the National Archives Washington, D.C., Microfilm series M-237, Roll #15. A transcription of the Gardner family list is found in the GARDNER/GORDNER file.

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~ Reformatted by Bruce W. Jantzi, October 2020