

## KROPF

### ORIGINS

No doubt the Kropf family who came to Canada has its origins in Switzerland where the name is still found today. Christian Kropf married to Verena Zimmermann, Anthony Kropf married to Anna Stegmann, and Andreas Kropf and wife Anna Haldemann appeared in the records of Steffisburg, just north of Thun, Switzerland, in the early 1690s. The children of the above were born between the late 1660s and the 1680s. During the next few years these couples were found in France -- near Montbeliard, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, and Durrenzen in the valley of the Rhine River, respectively.(1) (See Notes on page 9)

The father of Jacob Kropf, the immigrant to Canada, was Christian Kropf, born about 1736. One would suppose that he was a descendant of one of the above couples, but the connection has not yet been found. Jacob's mother was Elisabeth Goldschmidt; so one supposes a relationship between Jacob Kropf and Joseph Goldschmidt, another immigrant to Canada. The fact that they claimed lots beside each other in Wilmot Township would tend to confirm this assumption. Although we do not know the ancestry of Christian Kropf and Elisabeth Goldschmidt, we have found what may be a complete list of their children. Verify the Goldschmidt connection with Mary Louise Bowers MFH April 2015. (This paragraph will need to be rewritten  
Jan 2020 I doubt what Mary Bowers wrote  
SEE Article in MFH July 2001

### THE FAMILY OF CHRISTIAN KROPF AND ELISABETH GOLDSCHMIDT (2)

Christian Kropf, son of Christian Kropf (ca.1736-1802)

b. ca. 1736

d. 16 Nov 1802, Epfig, Canton Barr, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace)

m.

Elisabeth Goldschmidt, d. after 1811 (was still living when son Jacob married)

Jacob Kropf's mother was Elizabeth Goldschmidt, and although we have no documentation to prove it, one suspects that Jacob Kropf and Joseph Goldschmidt were cousins -- either first or second. We have second-hand information which says that Elizabeth (Goldschmidt) Kropf was a half-sister to Joseph Goldschmidt's grandfather, Jacob Goldschmidt (1722-1771), which would make Jacob Kropf a first cousin to Conrad Goldschmidt, Joseph's father. (26)

This couple resided at Bernardsviller, Bas-Rhin in 1767, in Hattstatt, Haut-Rhin in 1776, in Rouffach, Haut-Rhin in 1778, and in the spring of 1779 leased the Gollweilerhof (which no longer exists )at Epfig, Bas-Rhin, where they lived until sometime after the turn of the century.

Their Children were as follows: (See Appendix I at end of this Introduction for an expanded list) (Immigrants in Canada in bold print)

1) Joseph Kropf (1767- ) 1m. Maria Anna Rothacker (1780-1820)

2m. Maria Dettweiler Erb

Dau. **Barbara Kropf**, m. **Peter Gerber**, emigrated to Canada

2) Christian Kropf (1768-1837) 1m. Barbara Fritz (1773-1823)

2m. Katharina Wagler (ca.1797-after 1846)

Son Christian emigrated to Iowa

- 3) Henri Kropf (1772-1853) m. Veronique Schlatter (1789-1867)
- 4) Anna Maria Kropf (1776-1809) m. Christian Sommer (1768-before 1849)
- 5) Magdalena Kropf (1778-1840) m. Joseph Sommer (1767-1827)  
Dau. **Anna Maria Sommer Eicher**, 2m. **Joseph Ramseyer**, immigrated to Canada
- 6) Barbara Kropf (1780/81- ) m. Joseph Riss/Rees, son of Melchior Rees  
and Elizabeth Gerig  
m. Apr 12, 1802 in Epfig, Bas-Rhin  
6 children see Rees Article in MFH Jan. 2000, scans in Roes file  
English marriage document for this couple on page 22 of MFH Jan. 2000
- 7) **Jacob Kropf** (1784-1875) m. **Magdalena Rothacker** (1786-1878)  
Emigrated to America in 1819 and to Waterloo, Upper Canada in 1823.  
(their story begins on page 2)
- 8) Elisabeth Kropf (1787/88- )  
A presumed daughter born on May 23, 1810, at Strasbourg, France (born out-of-wedlock)(2a)

#### JACOB KROPF AND MAGDALENA ROTHACKER, IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA

Jacob Kropf married Magdalena Rothacker in 1811 in Epfig, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace), France. Magdalena was the daughter of David Rothacker and Magdalena Boshart, residents at Strasbourg. Jacob and Magdalena's oldest son Jacob was born in Epfig in 1812. It is not known where the second son, Christian, was born, but Henry was born in Baldenheim, also in Lower Alsace, in 1817.

In February of 1819 the Jacob Kropf family along with six single men, including Joseph "Rothaker" who we presume was Magdalena's brother, petitioned for permission to leave France. In the petition Jacob gave his residence as Baldenheim. On March 3, permission was given by the Minister of the Interior in Paris to issue passports, but a warning to the local official that too many people were leaving his area and instructed him to discourage them from doing so. (3)

The Kropfs left France on the Ship *Montgomery* in the company of others travelling with Christian Augspurger, bound for Butler County, Ohio, on April 30, 1819. (4) Perhaps the Kropfs and Christian and John Erb had seen enough of travel by the time they got to Pennsylvania and defected from the group. We do not know what happened to Joseph Rothaker. Christian and Peter Miller who came to Canada most certainly came from Germany. The identity of the Christian and Peter Miller travelling with the Jacob Kropf family is uncertain.

At any rate, one can probably assume that the Kropf family was in Pennsylvania by the time Catherine was born in October, 1819. In the early 1820s, Christian Miller in Leacock Township, Pa. recorded in his "daybook" that Jacob Kropf worked for him "in the corn." (5) Daughter Elizabeth was born in 1822; so her birthplace was probably Leacock Township, Lancaster County.

According to the naturalization records, the Kropfs arrived in Canada in October of 1823. They were accompanied by the Johannes Brenneman family and perhaps others. In 1824, Jacob was ordained a deacon for the Amish Mennonite congregation which was being established in Canada.(6) David, the youngest son, was also born in 1824 -- probably in Waterloo Township. Jacob and his family were listed in the 1827 census of Woolwich Township. In 1828 the Kropfs and the Joseph Zehr family were located on Lots 9 and 10, on the southeast side of the Conestogo River just west of the present village of St. Jacobs.

Although Jacob Kropf had claimed Lot 13, North Snyder's Road in the German Block of Wilmot Township, he had not made any progress in clearing land or building a house by 1830. That, of course, was due to the fact that he was living in Woolwich. There was a question then as to whether he would have the right to the front 50 acres free and the right to buy the remainder at the reduced price of 12 shillings and 6 pence per acre. Jacob sent a petition explaining his progress and his preparations for building a house, and in May of 1831 the government council reviewed his petition, granting him a favourable reply.(7)

When Joseph Goldschmidt decided to leave his claim and move to Ohio, Jacob Kropf bought the front 50 acres of Lot 14 from Goldschmidt and declared his intention to purchase the rest of the lot as well. Goldschmidt had built a sawmill, which the Kropf family continued to operate for many years. Part of the village of Baden now occupies the southern edge of the Kropf property.

When Christian Stucky, across the newly cleared roadway from Joseph Goldschmidt, died in late 1830, it is quite likely that Jacob Kropf provided a place of burial on his claim -- near the southeast corner of Lot 13. It is believed that all the early Kropf burials took place there although no markers remain. The earliest reference to a burial ground at this location is the sale of 22 acres at the southeast corner of the lot by Jacob Jr. and his wife Jacobena to Nicholas Klein in 1845. One half acre was reserved for a burial ground and the location of the school house. In 1858, Jacob Kropf Sr. deeded an additional 96 perches to the trustees of School Section No. 13. In this document the burial ground "to be for the use of all denominations of Christians" was also mentioned. During the early part of the 20th century, this cemetery was badly neglected and vandalized. It was eventually maintained by the municipality, with the remaining tombstones are piled in the middle. No Kropf stones are among them. See the KROPF/BADEN Cemetery file and the brochure at the end of this file for the most recent developments concerning this burial ground.

In 1837 Jacob and Magdalena's oldest son Jacob made a trip to see his uncle John Glick. He wrote back to his uncle and aunt on October 3. The letter does not give an address for the Glicks, but it may have been Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. Since Jacob's mother sent special greetings, it may be assumed that they were related through the Rothackers and not through the Kropfs. Jacob reported that [Joseph] Goldschmidt and Benedict King were here, and they paid Goldschmidt in full.(8)

Jacob Kropf seemed to have a thriving business at the northeast edge of what is now the village of Baden, but he and Magdalena also had many trials. The first one was probably the death of their 20-year-old daughter Catherine in 1840. (See pages 5 and 6 for a list of Jacob and Magdalena's children.)

Next was the death of Jacob Jr. in 1848. He was married to Jacobena Bender, who we assume was a sister to Jacob Bender, the 1832 immigrant. Jacob and Jacobena were located on Lot 13. In April of 1853, death struck again, and daughter Elizabeth who was married to John L. Lichti died, leaving seven children. By

the time of the 1861 census, John was remarried to Barbara Gerber, daughter of Elizabeth's cousin Barbara married to Peter Gerber.

The next tragedy came when the Kropf sawmill burned in November of 1853. The story, as translated from German in *Der Deutsche Canadier*, the newspaper printed in Berlin (now Kitchener) was as follows:

"Fire: We learn to our sorrow that the sawmill of Mr. Jacob Kropf in the Township of Wilmot last Friday night about 10 o'clock was completely destroyed by fire. About 8 o'clock the people left the mill thinking that everything was safe. About half an hour later somebody who went by saw fire in a lower part of the building, but since he supposed it came from a light, he took no further action on it. However, about 10 o'clock the mill stood in flames, but Mr. Kropf noticed it too late to try to put it out or to save anything. As he wanted to open the mill race in order to let the water run over the wheel, he found that a piece of lumber had fallen in and held back the water; as a result the wheel was also destroyed; or it could at least have been saved. The sawmill, as already announced, is totally destroyed as well as a large quantity of lumber and logs. The loss is considerable, and Mr. Kropf has no insurance.

A number of workers are ready to put up the building again at once so that in a short time the mill should be in operation again."(9)

One notices that Jacob Kropf did not have insurance. That was probably a matter of principle with him and not one of neglect. A few Amish Mennonites bought fire insurance policies but were usually criticized for doing so by their fellow church members. It is also interesting to note that an alms book kept by Michael Swartz in Pennsylvania contained the following note: "July 10, 1854, I paid to Jacob Kropf from the 'poor money' the sum of a hundred dollars for the congregation in Canada."(10) Since Jacob was the deacon of the Canadian congregation, it was appropriate for him to receive this donation, but one suspects it may have been earmarked for Jacob himself since it was made only a few months after the fire.

According to land records, the sawmill was rebuilt and the younger Kropfs began to get possession of their father's 400-acre estate. Jacob Kropf, the elder, purchased the rear 150 acres of Lot 14 from the University of Toronto in 1855, and David Kropf purchased the rear part of Lot 13 from the University the same year. In 1858, Jacob sold 113 acres of Lot 14 to son Christian and a smaller acreage at the rear of the lot to Henry. Henry purchased some land from Amos Cressman and Jacob Anthes across the line fence in the South Erb's Road concession. The Kropfs sold some smaller acreages along the front to craftsmen, because a village which would be called Baden, was in the making. In 1855, the Grand Trunk Railway was purchasing a right of way through the Kropf lots.

It was also in 1855 that Henry Kropf died, leaving his wife Anna, born Nafziger, with seven young children and another one not yet born. Their oldest son Jacob was already 14 years old, and, according to the 1861 census, Anna kept her family together and continued to farm. Their son Christian, married to Magdalena Jutzi, farmed here until they moved to Hay Township in 1876/77.

Christian Kropf, Jacob and Magdalena's second son, married Mary King in 1838. Her identity will be discussed on page 6. David Kropf, the youngest in the family, married his next door neighbour, Magdalena Oesch, in 1847. She was the daughter of bishop John Oesch and Barbara Schultz- living west of the Kropfs.

Evidently David Kropf continued to run the sawmill. In 1854 he negotiated a deal with Henry Schmidt, a blacksmith, residing on the south side of the road, allowing him access to the stream running through Schmidt's property. The document indicated that the stream on which David's sawmill was built was known as Kropf's Creek (also known as Spring Creek). It continued on its way through Henry Schmidt's property. Schmidt sold to Kropf "the free, unhindered and unobstructed passage, flow, and run of the said Stream of Water called Kropf's Creek" for two pounds, ten shillings, promising not to do damage to the property.

Perhaps the expense of building a new mill or an economic slump caused both David and Christian to consider leaving their aging parents to seek their fortunes elsewhere. David sold his last pieces of land in Wilmot in 1862 and Christian in 1864. Christian's and David's stories will be continued on pages 6 and 8.

Jacob and Magdalena Kropf lived to a ripe old age. In the 1871 census they were living with the Joseph Ramseyer family on Bleam's Road. Joseph and his second wife, Anne Marie (known as Mary) (Sommer) Eicher, came to Canada with several of their children at the time of the Civil War in the United States and purchased Lot 19, North Bleam's Road from William Scott in 1866. Mary Ramseyer was a niece of Jacob Kropf (12) and seems to have taken the responsibility to take care of the aged couple.

In December, 1874, shortly after his 90th birthday, Jacob suffered a stroke which left him paralyzed and speechless. Magdalena was then 88. Four of their children had been laid to rest at the corner of the family farm, and the other two lived hundreds of miles away. Jacob's obituary stated that he served the Amish church as deacon for about 50 years and during that time his seat at services was seldom vacant. (13)

On May 28, 1878, Magdalena, then age 91, also died. She had stood by her husband for 64 years, 54 of those in the service of the founding Amish Mennonite congregation in Canada. Jacob Jr., in his 1837 letter, had reported that his mother was too feeble to travel. She lived for another 40 years! Since Ramseyers had sold their Wilmot property in 1877, it is not certain where Magdalena died. Her death was reported by Bishop John Gascho, who lived a short distance east of the Kropf property and the burial ground. Perhaps it was the Gaschos who took care of her.

#### THE FAMILY OF JACOB AND MAGDALENA (ROTHACKER) KROPF

Jacob Kropf, b. 3 Dec 1784, Epfig, Canton Barr, Bas Rhin (Alsace) France  
d. 29 Jan 1875, Wilmot Township, Waterloo County, Ontario, Canada  
m. 15 Apr 1811, Epfig, France  
son of Christian Kropf and Elizabeth Goldschmidt  
Magdalena Rothacker, b. 7 Aug 1786, Friesenheim(13), Bas-Rhin  
d. 24 May 1878, Wilmot, Ontario  
dau. of David Rothacker and Magdalena Boshart

Children:

Grandchildren:

1) Jacob Kropf

b. 14 Jun 1812 Epfig,FR

d. 31 Dec 1848 Wilmot

Jacob's will referred to a child, but no

m. 4 Oct 1838 Wilmot  
Jacobena Bender  
b. ? Germany  
d. 1854-57  
dau. of Jacob Bender?

record of a child has been found.

2m. to Conrad Dotzert

- 2) Christian Kropf(14)  
b. 10 Jan 1815 Friesenhm.  
d. 1 July 1898 Lanc.,MO  
m. 7 Jan 1838 Wilmot  
Mary Koenig/King  
b. 5 Apr 1815\* France  
d. 25 Apr 1891 Lanc.,MO  
dau. of Benedict König and  
Maria Magdalena Reidiger
- Magdalena Kropf (1838-1909) m. Peter Gingerich  
Elizabeth Kropf (1840- ) m. Jacob Sommers  
Barbara Kropf (1841-1934) m. Daniel Gingerich  
David Kropf (1843-1926) m. Leah Aeschliman  
Jonathan Kropf (1844-1908) m. Mathilda Hostetler  
2m. Leah Gabel  
Jacobina Kropf (1846-1913) m. Christian Gardner  
Solomon Kropf (1849-1852)  
Mary Kropf (1852-1930) m. Jonathan Aeschliman
- 3) Henry Kropf  
b. 28 Sep 1817 Baldenhm.  
d. 16 Nov 1855 Wilmot  
m. 13 Dec 1840 Wilmot  
Anna Nafziger  
b. 21 Mar 1821 Wahlbach  
d. 8 Apr 1900 Hay Twp.  
dau. of Pierre Nafziger  
and Barbara Liechty
- Jacob N. Kropf (1841-1889\*) m. Susanna Mayer  
Christian N. Kropf (1842-1921) m. Magdalena Jutzi  
David N. Kropf (1843-1893) m. Magdalena F. Lichti  
Henry N. Kropf (1845-1875) m. Barbara F. Lichti  
Peter Kropf (1849-1871)  
Joel N. Kropf (1850-1896) m. Veronica Roth  
Solomon N. Kropf (1852-1889) m. Mary F. Lichti  
Magdalena Kropf (1856-1944) m. Menno Baechler  
\*1884 in Petersheim genealogy  
1889 in civil registration
- 4) Catherine Kropf  
b. Oct 1819 Penn.  
d. 10 Feb 1840 Wilmot
- 5) Elizabeth Kropf  
b. 22 Jan 1822 Penn.  
d. 10 Apr 1853 Wilmot  
m. 23 Feb 1840 Wilmot  
John L. Lichti  
b. 24 Sep 1817 France  
d. 16 Jan 1866 Wilmot  
son of Christian Lichti  
& Magdalena Litwiller  
John 2m. Barbara Gerber
- Magdalena Lichti (1841-1869) m. Peter Gerber  
Barbara Lichti (1843-1931) m. Joel S. Erb  
Christian K. Lichti (1845-1915) m. Leah Erb  
Elizabeth Lichti (1847-1865)  
Catherine Lichti (1845-1865)  
Jacob K. Lichti (1850-1865)  
Maria Lichti (1852-1914) m. Henry S. Eicher
- 6) David Kropf  
b. 24 Mar 1824 Waterloo  
d. 18 Dec 1909 Missouri  
m. 3/7 Jan 1847 Wilmot  
Magdalena Oesch  
b. 9 Feb 1827 Waterloo  
d. 18 July 1887 Missouri  
dau. of John Oesch  
and Barbara Schultz
- Barbara Kropf (1848-1921) m. Henry Resz  
Catherine Kropf (1849-1922) m. Karl Shore  
John Kropf (1850-1912) m. Charity Ann King  
Jacob Kropf (1852-1920) m. Elizabeth Hostetler  
Magdelene Kropf (1854-after 1861)  
Leah Kropf (1855-after 1861)  
Rachel Kropf (1856-1939) m. Daniel Schrock  
David O. Kropf (1857-1929) m. Catherine Mayer  
Josephine Magd. Kropf (1859-1928) m. Israel Yoder  
Daniel J. Kropf (1861-1927) m. Anna Hostetler  
Christian J. Kropf (1863-1940)m. Elizabeth Miller  
Mary Kropf (1864-1948) m. Daniel Hershberger

Nancy Kropf (1866-1934) m. Joseph Hostetler

#### THE SCATTERING OF THE JACOB AND MAGDALENA KROPF FAMILY

**Jacob Kropf Jr.**, the first and only child born in his father's native Epfig, was married in 1838 to Jacobena Bender in Wilmot Township. We do not know whether it was accident or illness which caused Jacob's death in 1849, but he had time to compose a Will. The estate (after the debts were paid) was to be divided between his wife and child. Since he did not name or even state the child's sex, one supposes that the child was not yet born. If the child died without heirs, his/her share was to revert back to Jacob's brothers and sister. He appointed his brother Henry and his brother-in-law John Lichti to be the guardians of his wife and child. If the land was sold or leased, his wife should reserve an acre or two and build a house. If the wife married again, the guardians should take care of the child's property. Jacob Kropf, the Elder and Jacob Gordner witnessed the Will.

No record of any child, born to Jacobena, has been found; so he/she certainly did not survive. Jacobena probably married Conrad Dotzert in 1853 or 1854, because in 1854 Jacob's executors transferred her property to David Kropf. A separate transfer document was drafted for "Jacobena formerly Kropf, now wife of Conrad Dotzert" to sign. In 1857, Conrad Dotzert (who we presume was the same person previously married to Jacobena) married Katherine Yost. Again, there is no evidence that Jacobena had a child by Conrad Dotzert either.

It is assumed that Jacob Kropf Jr. was buried in the burial plot near the southeast corner of the Kropf land holdings -- now at the eastern end of Baden. Jacobena's place of death and burial is not known.

**Christian Kropf** married Maria/Mary Koenig/King in Wilmot in January, 1838. As has already been mentioned, she may have been the daughter of Benedict King of Ohio, but no one has been able to confirm that. In the summer of 2007 a study of a Reidiger family listed Maria (born in 1815) as the 9<sup>th</sup> child of Maria Magdalena Reidiger and Benedict König, residents of Baden, Germany. Benedict served as elder of the Hochburg Amish Mennonite congregation for a time. After the death of Mother Maria Magdalena in 1826, Benedict, with several of his children migrated to Butler County, Ohio and served the Amish Mennonite congregation there. About 1940, Benedict is supposed to have moved to Fulton County, Ohio, where he died in the late 1850s. (16)

Benedict was reported to have visited Canada in 1837, (17) I suspect daughter Maria/Mary may have accompanied him, because her marriage to Christian Kropf took place in January of 1838. (18) Christian and Mary probably remained on the Kropf property. It was not until 1858, however, that they gained ownership of about 113 acres of Lot 14, next to the property on which Castle Kilbride is now located. In 1864 they sold this property to brother-in-law John L. Lichti, and probably departed for the United States at that time.

According to family tradition, the Christian and Mary Kropf family left Canada for Indiana, then went to Ohio (to visit Mary's relatives?), then to Iowa and finally to Missouri. Mary died in 1891, Christian in 1898, in Schuyler County, Missouri. Both are buried in the Darby Cemetery at Lancaster.

Their daughters Magdalena and Barbara were already married -- Magdalena to Peter Gingerich in 1858 and Barbara to Daniel Gingerich in 1861 -- before the

departure of the family for the U.S. Peter and Daniel were sons of Peter S. Gingerich and Lena Miller. The Gingerich family moved to Stiles, Iowa. Whether Magdalena and Barbara and their spouses accompanied the Gingerichs or the Kropfs is not known. Another daughter, Elizabeth, married Jacob Sommer. He may have briefly owned 17 acres of Lot 13, North Snyder's Road. (19)

I had always assumed that all of the Christian Kropf family had moved south of the border, and that there would be no descendants in Canada. I had run across birth records of children born to Jonathan Kropf and Mathilda Hostetler and had noted them because of my interest in Hostetler. I assumed that Jonathan was the descendant of a Mennonite Kropf family who also lived in Wilmot. What a surprise when Jamie Kropf of Kitchener called me one day and identified himself as a descendant Jonathan and Mathilda, with the evidence that Jonathan was the son of Christian Kropf and Maria Koenig. This may have been the Jonathan "Grub," age 25, who was a carpenter in the home of Simon Shantz in Wilmot in the 1871 census. Christian and Mary do, indeed, have descendants in Canada, and they were alive and active in the Baden-New Hamburg area for a long time! (20)

**Henry Kropf** was born in Baldenheim, Alsace, from which place his parents applied for permission to emigrate two years later. Henry married Anna Nafziger in 1840. She had immigrated to Canada with her sister and brother-in-law, also from Alsace. Henry and Anna settled close to home, gaining ownership of the first 31 acres of the north part of Lot 14 in 1855. They also purchased some land from their neighbours whose property abutted theirs on the South Erb's Road concession. Their buildings were built on the latter property.

Unfortunately, Henry died the same year (1855) that they gained ownership of their land, but Anna continued to operate the farm. She and her family appeared intact in the 1861 census, and the 1861 Tremain map identified their property as "H. Kropf Est." In 1866, Anna had also purchased the John L. Lichti property, but sold it again in 1872 to son Christian N. Kropf married to Magdalena Jutzi.

Henry, no doubt, was buried in the family burial plot at the southeast corner of Lot 13, but Anna, who died in 1900, was living with her daughter in Hay Township and was buried in the Blake Amish Mennonite Cemetery. See Appendix II for more details on the Henry Kropf family.

**Catherine Kropf**, born to Magdalena and Jacob shortly after their arrival in the United States (in Pennsylvania, no doubt), died February 10, 1840, at the age of 20. Johannes Brenneman had the funeral sermon and Johannes Oesch, the closing. The announcement of her death in the newspaper included the following verse, translated from the German: "Softly she rests, covered with earth, until united with Christ she awakes from death." (21)

**Elizabeth Kropf**, also born in Pennsylvania, was married to **John L. Lichti** in 1840 -- 13 days after her sister's death. John was the son of Christian Lichti and Magdalena Litwiller, living on Erb's Road. In 1845, they purchased Lot 8, Concession I, Block B, Wilmot Township. This property was on the first road north of Erb's Road. In 1853, Elizabeth died, and in 1855 John married Barbara Gerber, but no children were born to that union. In 1854 and 1855 John purchased Lot 7 on the same concession and Lot 11, Concession II. In 1865, three of Elizabeth and John's children died, but I have not been able to discover the cause. Then, in 1866, John also met his demise. Evidently, Christian K. Lichti, the only surviving son, continued to manage the property, selling Lots 7 and 11 in 1879 and 1874. He and his wife Leah (nee Erb) did not get title to the homestead until 1896, eight years before granting title to



their son Christian E. Lichti. No doubt, Elizabeth and John L. Lichti were buried in the St. Agatha Mennonite Cemetery although there are no tombstones. For a more detailed outline of the family, see Appendix III.

**David Kropf**, the youngest of the Jacob and Magdalena Kropf family, was born in Canada -- probably in Waterloo Township. He married Magdalena Oesch, his next-door neighbour, in 1847. Her father was Bishop John Oesch, but they were married by Bishop Rudolph Roth. The marriage, accompanied by a poem written by an anonymous friend, was announced in the local newspaper. (22)

David seems to have been the one to carry on the sawmilling business, and their land holdings and sawmill activities have been described above. After selling out in 1862(23), David and Magdalena left for the United States. Since the Civil War was in progress, they remained in Ohio only a year and then returned to Hay Township in Huron County where most of Magdalena's family was by then residing. In 1867 they left for the United States again and located in Hickory County, Missouri, later moving to Cass County. They were members of the Sycamore Grove (Amish) Mennonite Church, near Garden City, and are buried in the Clearfork Cemetery. (24)

#### ADDITIONAL KROPFS IN CANADA

#### BARBARA AND ANNA MARIA (MARY), NIECES OF JACOB AND MAGDALENA KROPF

**Barbara Kropf** was the daughter of Joseph, Jacob's older brother, and Magdalena's sister Maria Anna. Barbara married **Peter Gerber** and lived at Strasbourg. They immigrated to Canada in 1852 or 1854. For more details on this family, see the GERBER file.

**Anna Maria** (known as **Mary**) **Sommer** was the daughter of Jacob's sister married to Joseph Sommer. Mary married **Jacob Eicher**, migrated to Ohio, and after Jacob Eicher's death, she married **Joseph Ramseyer**. The Ramseyer family migrated to Canada in the early 1860s. Jacob and Magdalena Kropf were cared for in the Ramseyer home in their old age. For more details on the Eicher and Ramseyer families, see the EICHER and RAMSEYER files.

#### THE ANDREW KROP FAMILY(25)

Andrew Kropf, son of Pierre Krop and Suzanne Ringenberger  
b. 1802, Hartzviller, France; d. 1864/5, Pekin, IL  
1m. to Elisabeth Roppe (1791-1828) (3 children died in infancy)  
2m. to Magdalena Beller (1796-1838) (4 children survived childhood)  
3m. to Marie/Mary Schweitzer (1824-1873) (1 son died in infancy)  
Brother Joseph Schweitzer (1794-1867) emigrated to Canada in 1849.

Andrew and Mary and their four living children emigrated to Canada about 1842 but by 1850 they had settled near Pekin, Tazewell County, Illinois.

Children: 1) Andrew Krop/Grubb/Grub (1830-1867) m. Barbara Maurer  
2) Elisabeth/Louisa Kropf (1833-1894) m. John Forney  
John Forney Jr. 1867-1944) m. Magdalena/Mattie Kropf (1872-1904)  
dau. of David N. and Magdalena (Lichti) Kropf, Milverton, ON

(Magdalena Lichti's mother was a sister of John Forney Sr.)  
John Forney Jr. 2m. Fannie Zehr/Sears (1874-1964)

3) Joseph Krop/Krob (1835-1913) m. Mary Wenger (1829-1912)

4) Veronica Krop (1837-1867) m. Christian Summers (1831-1892)

Notes:

1) "From Steffisburg to Ste. Marie-aux-Mines: The Exodus of Those Who Would Become Amish" by Robert Baecher in *Mennonite Family History*, Volume XXIII, No. 1, January 2004. The Kropf families are found on pages 15 and 16.

2) This family outline is based on "French Records About the Kropf Family of Epfig, Bas-Rhin" by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine in *Mennonite Family History*. Volume XX, No. 3, July 2001.

2a) For Elizabeth (Goldschmidt) Kropf, there is a note *filie supposée* [supposed daughter] and citation of author Robert Baecher's article in 2001 - probably the original source. Someone added infos from a Kropf sketch written by NASL [Neil Ann Stucky Levine], about a daughter Elisabeth of Christian and Elisabeth (Goldschmidt) Kropf giving birth to a daughter, May 23, 1810 at Strasbourg. The original record (let me know if you want to have it) says the mother is 22y of age, unmarried daughter of Christian Kropf and Catharina Goldschmidt. (this info from Researcher Helmut Gingerich, Bavaria)

3) The single men besides Joseph Rothacher were Christian and John Erb, Christian Sommer, and Christian and Peter Miller. This list and the letter were obtained in the Departmental Archives, Colmar, France, by the late William Diener of Bremen, Indiana. Photocopies of the list and letter and their translations are found in the KROPF, Documents, etc. file.

4) "At Last! . . . That Elusive 1819 Ship "List" Surfaces" by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. XXIII, No. 3, July 2004. The Kropfs are mentioned on page 100.

5) From a letter from David Petersheim, Bird-in-Hand, Pa., Jan. 25, 1990. David indicated that Christian Miller was married to Franey/Fannie Petersheim. It is doubtful that he was one of the 1819 immigrants who accompanied the Jacob Kropf family to America.

6) See "Goldsmith, Brenneman, Kropf: First Amish Ordinations in Canada" by Lorraine Roth in *Mennogesprach*, Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, Sept. 1984, Vol. 2, No. 2.

7) A transcription of Jacob Kropf's petition is found in the "Kropf Document file." (National Archives of Canada: Upper Canada Land Petitions: RG1, L1, Land Book "O", Film #C-105, p. 449)

For more details on the settlement in Wilmot Township, see *The Amish and Their Neighbours, The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1822-1860* by Lorraine Roth. Waterloo, Ont.: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, 1998.

8) A photocopy of Jacob Kropf Jr.'s letter and a translation was received from David Luthy, Aylmer, Ontario, in 1996. Jacob Kropf's letter was found in a Zook Bible from Mifflin County, Pa. Glicks also lived in that settlement; so it is likely that "Uncle John Glick" lived there. A photocopy and a translation of the letter are found in the "KROPF, Documents file."

9) *Der Deutsche Canadier*, Nov. 3, 1853

10) Quoted in a letter from David Petersheim to Lorraine Roth, Jan. 2, 1990.

11) The government had given the land in the GERMAN BLOCK- the central part of Wilmot Township where the Amish Mennonites had begun to settle, and without warning or consultation the Amish found themselves dealing with the University of Toronto to make their land claims and purchases. In 1972 we celebrated 150 Years in Canada without remembering this history.

12) Eicher genealogists had given Mary's mother's name as Miller. In Levine's July 2001 article, Anne Marie Sommer (page 161) is listed as a daughter of Magdalena Kropf and Joseph Sommer (page 158), with Magdalena a sister to Jacob, the subject of this story. (page 162)

13) Obituary in *Herald of Truth* 1875.12.46. Transcription found in KROPF, Documents file. The obituary in the local newspaper indicated that Jacob died at Ramseyers.

14) According to the marriage record Magdalena Rothacker, wife of Jacob, was born at Strasbourg. According to a census record, it was Friesenheim, some distance south of Strasbourg.

15) Information on the Christian Kropf/Mary King family was initially received from Kay Weede of Tuscon, Arizona. According to her information, Christian Kropf was married to Eva Cowles. In *The Descendants of Jacob Kropf & Magdalena Rothaker* [Kitchener, Ont.] 2001, Jamie Kropf features some Jacob Kropf family history and genealogy, with special interest in son Christian and Marie Kropf and their son Jonathan. Jamie Kropf published a second edition in 2010.

16) "Old World Genealogy of Sebastian Reidiger (1720-1791) of Ottenweierhof in Baden" (Germany), by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine in *Illinois Mennonite heritage Quarterly*, Summer 2007. (Photocopy in KOENIG/KING file)

17) Benedict King's visit to Canada is referred to in Jacob Kropf Jr.'s letter - - see Note #8.

18) The marriage was announced in the January 20, 1838 issue of *Canada Museum*, the German newspaper published in Berlin (now Kitchener). A translation of a poem written for the couple and published along with the announcement of the marriage is found in KROPF, Documents file.

19) Jacob Sommer's property was part of what had been Lot 13, NSR, formerly owned by the Kropf family. Sommer owned it only about six months, selling it in January 1863.

20) The announcement previously received was that Jonathon was married to Eva Cowles, but no particulars as to dates. Since Jonathon did not marry Mathilda Hostetler until he was 31, there is a possibility that he had accompanied the family to the U.S. and that he have been married to Eva Cowles. In the marriage

record, however, Jonathon was identified as a bachelor, making this suggestion less plausible.

21) The announcement of Catherine's death appeared in *Canada Museum*, newspaper published in Berlin (now Kitchener), on February 15, 1840.

22) The announcement of David and Magdalena's marriage appeared in *Der Deutsche Canadier*, newspaper published in Berlin (now Kitchener), on January 14, 1847. A translation of the poem is found in the KROPF, Documents file.

23) Henry M. Brubacher eventually purchased what had been the Kropf mill and changed it to a woollen mill in 1878. (Waterloo Historical Society, *Sixth Annual Report, Nineteen-Eighteen*, "Water Courses, Water Powers and Original Industries: No. 63, page 28)

24) The genealogy of the David Kropf family was published in the *John and Barbara (Schultz) Oesch Family History and Genealogy*, Volume I, by Lorraine Roth, in the Section "Family History and Genealogy of Magdalena Oesch and David Kropf." Kitchener, Ont., 1969.

25) "Andre Kropf and Nicolas Grubb" by Ardys Serpette in *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*, Vol. XXX, No. 3, Fall 2003.

26) Ancestry of Elizabeth Goldschmidt from p 94 of *Mennonite Family History*, April 2015 issue (I give this information, but I have not seen documentation. BWJ)

Sources of Information (not mentioned in Notes):

Ruth Thayer - Henry Kropf and Elizabeth (Kropf) Lichti families (to 3rd gen.)

Don Krupp - Henry Kropf Family (to 3rd generation)

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock Ontario  
revised November, 2011

KROPF LAND HOLDINGS

Wilmot Township, German Block

Christian Kropf, Lot 14, North Snyder's Road  
(Mary King) -- 1858 -- 113 acres, from Jacob Kropf Sr.  
-- 1864 -- " sold to John L. Lichti (a mortgage?)  
(Lichti est. sold to Anna Kropf, 1866)

Christian [N.] Kropf, Lot 14, North Snyder's Road  
(Magdalena Jutzi) -- 1872 -- 113 acres, purchased from Anna Kropf  
-- 1876 -- " sold to Jacob Boshart

David Kropf, Lot 13, North Snyder's Road  
(Magdalena -- 1854 -- rear 3/4 -- transfer from executors of Jacob Kropf Jr.  
Oesch) -- 1855 -- " -- from University of Toronto  
-- 1857 -- 17 ac. of front -- from Jacob Kropf Sr.  
-- " -- 30 ac. -- sold to Henry S. Schmitt  
-- " -- 12 ac. of rear -- sold to Henry Kropf  
-- " -- 92 ac. -- sold to Nicholas Klein  
Lot 14, South Snyder's Road  
-- 1854 -- free use of water for sawmill, from Henry Schmidt  
-- 1856 -- 30 acres, from Peter Erb  
                    (did not note sale date)  
Lot 12, South Snyder's Road  
-- 1854 -- 90 ac. S. part, from John Brubacher  
-- 1857 -- 10 ac. " from Nicholas Klein  
-- 1864 -- 100 ac. " sold to James Crombie

Henry Kropf, Lot 14, North Snyder's Road  
(Anna -- 1855 -- 31 ac, of rear, from Jacob Kropf Sr.  
Nafziger) -- 1866 -- 113 acres, to Anna Kropf from John L. Lichti estate  
-- 1872 -- " , Anna sold to Christian Kropf  
Lot 13, North Snyder's Road  
-- 1857 -- 12 ac. of rear, to Henry (Anna?) Kropf  
                    (the sale of these 12 acres may be included in the sale  
                    registered on Lot 14)  
Lot 14, South Erb's Road  
-- 1855 -- 70 ac. of rear, purchased from Amos Cressman  
-- " -- Will Probate (also indicates that Henry Kropf had  
                    part of Lot 13 -- SW angle according to 1861 map)

Jacob Kropf, Lot 13, North Snyder's Road  
(Magdalena -- 1830 -- claimed but no improvements (living in Woolwich)  
Rothacker) -- 1831 -- petitioned government to grant him same terms as  
                    other settlers -- granted  
-- 1835 -- Crown to Jacob Kropf (must be to Jacob Sr.-- see below)  
                    (The front and rear seem to have been appropriated by Jacob Jr.,  
                    without proper transfers, but after his death, the property was  
                    dealt with by Jacob Sr. as executor.)  
-- 1855 -- 4 18/100 ac., to Railway Co.  
-- 1857 -- 17 ac. of front, to David Kropf  
-- 1858 -- 96 perches of front, to Trustees of School Sec. No. 13  
-- 1866 -- " " Trustees & Jacob Kropf Sr. to  
                    Trustees of Burial Ground

Lot 14, North Snyder's Road  
-- 1831 -- front 50 acres, from Joseph Goldschmidt  
-- 1835 -- rear 3/4, intent to purchase from King's College  
-- 1837 -- SE corner, sold to George Weis, carpenter

Jacob Kropf, Lot 14, NSR, German Block  
(cont'd) -- 1841 -- NE corner, sold to Hohn Heist/Haist, jobber  
-- 1845 -- 80 perches, sold to John Baptist Clom, shoemaker  
-- 1855 -- railway deed  
-- 1855 -- rear 3/4, from University of Toronto  
-- 1855 -- 31 ac. of rear, to Henry Kropf  
-- 1858 -- 113 acres, to Christian Kropf  
-- 1862 -- 29 acres, to John L. Lichti (son-in-law)

Jacob Kropf Sr. was executor for Christian Stuckey, Lot 14, S. Snyder's Road

and was involved in acquiring deed to front in 1835 and land sales until 1850.

Jacob Kropf Jr., Lot 13, North Snyder's Road

(Jacobena Bender) - 1835 -- rear 3/4 -- intent to purchase from King's College  
(Since Jacob Jr. did not marry until 1838, this is somewhat suspect)  
-- 1845 -- 22 ac. of front except burial ground & school house  
sold to Nicholas Klein  
(in this transaction Jacob Jr. assumed ownership)  
-- 1849 -- Will Probate  
-- 1854 -- rear 3/4 -- transfer, executors of Jacob Jr.  
to David Kropf  
-- " " -- transfer, Jacobena formerly Kropf, now  
wife of Conrad Dotzert to David Kropf

Jacob [N.] Kropf, Lot 11, South Snyder's Road

(Susanna Mayer) -- 1866 -- S 1/2 & right of way (97 ac.)  
from Christian Mayer  
-- 1888 -- A. Kaufman (assign.) & Susanna Kropf to Jacob Seip

#### Wellesley Township, West Section

Joel [N.] Kropf	1879	W-IV	8	S 1/2	100 ac.	purch.	Menno D. Shantz
(Veronica Roth)	1886	"	"	"	"	sale	Henry Hostetler

#### Wellesley Township, East Section

John R. Kropf	1921	E-VII	9	S 1/2	79 1/2 ac.	purch.	?
	1948	"	"	"	1 ac.	sale	S.S. No.1
	1950	"	"	"	78 1/2 ac.	"	Mervin Kropf

#### Mornington Township

David [L.] Kropf (son of David N. Kropf and Magdalena F. Lichti)  
m. to Lydia Elizabeth Hammer  
Lot 13 NW 1/2, Con. III and town lots in Poole

David N. Kropf (son of Henry Kropf & Anna Nafziger) (died in 1893)  
m. 1869 to Magdalena Lichti  
dau. of Joseph L. Lichti & Magdalena Farney  
Lot 18, W 1/2, Con. III, 1870-1915

Joseph Kropf (and Magdalena Kropf, widow)  
I can't find a Joseph Kropf with a wife Magdalena; so this may be  
Joseph L. Kropf and his widowed mother.  
Lot 17, not clear, Con. II, 1899- (not clear)

#### Mornington (cont'd)

Joseph [L.] Kropf (probably son of David N. Kropf and Magdalena F. Lichti)  
1m. Rebecca Mank  
Lot 13, E 1/2, Con. V, 1909-1943 (from Maria Mank, widow of Charles)

Solomon [N.] Kropf (son of Henry Kropf & Anna Nafziger)

m. 1873 to Mary Lichti  
 dau. of Joseph L. Lichti & Magdalena Farney  
 Lot 16, 100 ac., Con. III, 1886-1894  
 (sold 1/2 ac. to Poole Mennonite Cemetery in 1894)  
 Solomon died in 1889. His widow married Joseph K. Yantzi in East Zorra

Hay Township

Christian [N.] Kropf, Lot 27, south part (70 ac.), Concession XII  
 (Magdalena Jutzi) -- 1877-1892 -- from Andrew and Rachel Kuepfer

Menno Baechler, Lot 11, Concession X  
 (Magdalena Kropf) -- 1900-1914 -- from Christian and Barbara Baechler

South Easthope Township

Christian [N.] Kropf, Lot 26, Concession I  
 (Magdalena Jutzi) -- 1892-1901 (dau. Lydia died here in 1899)  
 Lot 25, Concession I, north of railway (39 acres)

North Easthope Township

Christian D. Roth (son of Nicholas L. Roth and Anna Diener)  
 m. 1894 to Anna/Nancy Kropf  
 dau. of Christian N. Kropf and Magdalena Jutzi  
 Lot 3, Con. II, 1901-1908  
 Christian and Nancy had just returned from a few years in Virginia.  
 In 1908 they went to East Zorra to take over the Kropf farm after  
 the death of Nancy's brother.

East Zorra Township

Christian [N] Kropf	1901	XVI	23	100 ac. S 1/2	purch.	B. Elliott
(Magdalena Jutzi)	1904	"	"	?	mort.	Joseph Kropf estate
	1914	"	"	100 ac. S 1/2	sale	Noah L. Brenneman
	1901	XVI	22	100 ac. N 1/2	mort.	B. Elliott
	1908	"	"	" "	sale	Christian D. Roth
Christian R. Kropf	1904	XVIII	35	50 ac. SW 1/4	purch.	James Vance
(Catherine	1913	"	"	" "	sale	Solomon R. Bender
Habermehl?)						
Joseph Kropf Estate	1918	XVI	28	96 ac. E 1/2	purch.	Bollert
(Elizabeth Roth)	1928	"	"	" "	sale	Ezra Kropf

East Zorra (cont'd)

Christian D. Roth 1901-1908, Lot 3, Con. II, N. Easthope  
 (Nancy Kropf) 1908 XVI 22 100 ac. N 1/2 purch. Christian [N] Kropf

1935	"	"	"	"	sale	Elam Roth
1928	XVI	25	5/8 ac.	SW pt	purch.	Jacob Lebold
"	"	24	1 ac.	NW pt	"	" "
1949	XVI	25	5/8 ac.	SW pt	sale	Kaufman
"	"	24	1 ac.	NW pt	"	"

(The acreages on Lots 25 & 24 were probably adjoining & formed one homestead.)

Shakespeare

Idella (Kropf) Leis was born in Shakespeare in 1915

-- precise location not known

She was the daughter of John R. and Mary Ann (Lichti) Kropf

John R. Kropf's name does not show up in the South Easthope history book; so they must have been renting.

Not in in new files

Old draft

⌈ \$ ⌈ KROPF

⌈ ⌈

ORIGINS

No doubt the Kropf family who came to Canada has its origins in Switzerland where the name is still found today. Although it is not known under what circumstances the first Kropfs got to France, the name was represented in the Anabaptist lists taken in Ste. Marie-aux-Mines between 1697 and 1708. The following Kropfs appeared on the lists as follows:

1697	1703	1704	1708
Kropf, Antoni	Kropf, Christen	Kropf, Christen	Kropf, Antoni
Kropf, Christen	Kropf, Christen	Kropf, Christen	Kropf, Christen
Kropf, Christen			Kropf, David

"Christen" is the Swiss form of Christian. The two Christians in the various lists may well be father and son, but both would have been heads of households. In 1712, King Louis XIV issued an edict expelling the Anabaptists from all French territory. This included the Valley of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. Many of them left, but a few remained. It is not known what happened to the Kropfs at that time, but those who came to Canada belonged to the family who lived at Epfig, near Barr, some distance northeast of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines. They are recorded as being there by 1779. The village of Epfig is almost midway between Ste. Marie-aux-Mines and Strasbourg. Gollweiler (also appearing as Kollweiler) was a farm occupied by the Kropf family for several decades but, I was told, is no longer in existence.

The father of Jacob Kropf, the immigrant to Canada, was Christian Kropf, born about 1749; so he could not have been any of the Christians listed above, but with a name like Christian he must surely be a descendant of one of them. Jacob's mother was Elisabeth Goldschmidt; so one supposes a relationship between Jacob Kropf and Joseph Goldschmidt, another immigrant to Canada. The fact that they claimed lots beside each other in Wilmot Township would tend to confirm this assumption.

APPENDIX I

THE FAMILY OF CHRISTIAN KROPF AND ELISABETH GOLDSCHMIDT



Christian Kropf, b. ca. 1736  
d. 16 Nov 1802, Epfig, Canton Barr, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace)  
m.

Elisabeth Goldschmidt, d. after 1811 (and the marriage of son Jacob)  
daughter of Conrad Goldschmidt and Catherine Koenig

This couple resided at Bernardsviller, Bas-Rhin in 1767, in Hattstatt, Haut-Rhin in 1776, in Rouffach, Haut-Rhin in 1778, and in the spring of 1779 leased the Gollweilerhof at Epfig, Bas-Rhin, where they lived until sometime after the turn of the century.

Their Children were as follows:

- 1) Joseph Kropf, b. 18 Mar 1767 at Boehmstein, Bernardswiller, farmer  
1m. 20 Nov 1798 in Barr, Bas-Rhin  
Maria Anna Rothacker, b. 1780 at Sigolsheim, Haut Rhin  
d. 27 Mar 1820 at Epfig, Bas-Rhin  
dau. of David Rothacker and Barbara Wittner (1st wife)  
residents at Murhof, Strasbourg  
2m. 1825 to Maria Dettweiler Erb, b. at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines  
dau. of Jacob Dettweiler and Maria Rothacker  
widow of Christian Erb  
Seven children born to Joseph and Maria Anna, all at Epfig.  
Daughter Barbara, b. 1804, married to peter Gerber, emigrated to Canada
  - 2) Christian Kropf, b. 1768, residing at Gollweiler, Epfig, farmer  
1m. 7 Oct 1793 in Rosheim, Bas-Rhin  
Barbara Fritz, b. 1773, dau. of Joseph Fritz and Anna Schantz  
of Bildauerhof, Rosheim  
d. 8 Jun 1823 on estate Wangenhart in Gresswiller, Bas-Rhin  
2m. 1823/24 to Katharina Wagler, b. ca.1797, parents not known  
d. after 1846  
Five children born to 2nd m. at Gresswiller; one at Rosheim  
Fourth son Christian Kropf (1829-1905) emigrated to Ohio in 1848, to Lee  
Co. Iowa, in 1849 and to Davis Co., Iowa, in 1854.  
Ordained minister and bishop in Davis Co. Amish congregation.  
Served the Pulaski Apostolic Church after the schism of 1864.
  - 3) Henri Kropf, b. 1772, residing at Gollweiler, Epfig  
m. 6 Dec 1806 in Epfig  
Veronique Schlatter (1789-1867) dau. of Daniel Schlatter  
and Katharina Hunsinger of Voegtlinshofen, Haut-Rhin  
Seven children born in Staffelfelden, Haut-Rhin  
Son Henry Kropf (m. to dau. of #5) applied to emigrate to New York in 1841.
  - 4) Anna Maria Kropf, b. 1776 at Hattstatt, Haut-Rhin  
d. 1 Nov 1809, at Ribeauville, Haut-Rhin  
m. before 1793 to Christian Sommer (1768-before 1849)  
son of Johannes Christian Sommer and Barbara Gerber  
Christian Sommer 2m. 20 July 1811 at Ribeauville, to Magdalena Goldschmidt  
Four known children: first born at Schnellenbuhl, near Selestat  
third and fourth born at Gollweilerhof, Epfig
- The following not in new file
- 5) Magdalena Kropf, b. 1778 at Rouffach, Haut-Rhin  
d. 16 Dec 1840 at Riedmuhle, Illhausern, Haut-Rhin  
m. 10 Dec 1798 at Selestat, Bas-Rhin

Joseph Sommer, b. 1767; d. 15 Nov 1827, probably at Schnellenbuhl  
Two children born in Epfig, nine at Schnellenbuhl, registered at Selestat  
Son Henry Sommer, b. 1802; m. 25 Nov 1829 to Anna Maria Riess/Rees  
and shortly after emigrated to America  
Daughter Anna Maria Sommer, b. 1814, m. 1843 to Jacob Eicher  
The family emigrated to Stark Co., Ohio, and after Jacob's death,  
Anna Maria m. Joseph Ramseyer. They migrated to Canada in 1865/66.  
Cared for Anna Maria's uncle Jacob (#7) in his old age in Canada.

- 6) Barbara Kropf, b. 1780/81; m. 1802 Joseph Riss/Rees in Epfig  
Six children born in Ostheim, Haut-Rhin.  
The extended Rees family emigrated to America after November 1829.
- 7) Jacob Kropf, b. Feb 1784 at Gollweiler, Epfig  
d. 29 Jan 1875 in Wilmot Twp., Canada  
m. 15 Apr 1811 at Epfig  
Magdalena Rothacker, b. 7 Aug 1786 at Friesenheim\*, Bas-Rhin  
dau. of David Rothacker and Magdalena Boshart (2nd wife)  
residents at Strasbourg  
Children: Jacob Kropf, b. 14 June 1812 at Epfig  
Christian Kropf, b. 10 Jan 1815 at Friesenheim  
Henry Kropf, b. 28 Sep 1817 at Baldenheim  
Catherine Kropf, b. Oct 1819 in Pennsylvania  
Elizabeth Kropf, b. 22 Jan 1822, Leacock Twp., Penn.  
David Kropf, b. 24 Mar 1824, Waterloo, Canada  
Emigrated to America in 1819 and to Waterloo Co. Upper Canada in 1823.  
More details on this family follow.
- 8) Elisabeth Kropf, b. 1787/88  
Gave birth to a daughter in 1810 at Strasbourg  
No further record.

Notes:

The above outline is based on "French Records About the Kropf Family of Epfig, Bas-Rhin" by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine in Journal of Mennonite Family History. Vol. XX, No. 3, July 2001.

Where persons are known not to have migrated to America, the most common spellings of their names in the French documents have been retained. Others have been changed to the English form.

The family of Barbara Kropf and Joseph Riss/Rees (and other various spellings in France) have come to spell their name Rees in America. In Canada, the family by that name came to spell it Roes, but in the dialect pronounced in "Rees." In English it is pronounced "Rose."

Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo, Ontario  
January 2003

A P P E N D I X I

HENRY KROPF AND ANNA NAFZIGER

Henry Kropf was the third son of Jacob Kropf and Magdalena Rothacker. He was born in 1817 at Baldenheim, between Colmar and Strasbourg in Alsace, France. Two years later the family crossed the Atlantic and settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1823, the Kropfs and a few other Amish Mennonites made their way to Upper Canada (now Ontario).

After spending a few years in Woolwich Township, Jacob Kropf moved the family to Wilmot where they claimed two 400-acre lots on the north side of Snyder's Road at the east end of what would become the village of Baden.

In 1840 Henry married Anna Nafziger who had arrived in Canada the year before with her sister and brother-in-law, Catherine and Christian Roth. Anna, the daughter of Pierre (Peter) Nafziger and Barbara Leichty, was born in 1821 in Wahlbach, south of Mulhouse, also in Alsace.

Henry and Anna farmed the south portion of Lot 14, South Erb's Road and smaller portions of the south part of Lot 13, South Erb's and parts of Lots 13 and 14, North Snyder's Road (part of his father's property). These portions came together at the rear of the lots forming a 113-acre farm. According to the land records, Henry did not get title to some of this land in his lifetime -- he died in December, 1855. An 1861 map shows it to be the property of the H. Kropf Estate.

In his Will, Henry stipulated that Anna should continue to farm until the oldest son reached the age of 21. Then the farm should be appraised, and the eldest son should be given his legacy. The same should be done as each son reached the age of 21, until the youngest son reached that age. If Anna was unable to pay the son his legacy, then he should be given the opportunity to take over the farm and pay to each -- his mother and siblings equal shares. If the oldest son did not take the farm, then each son in turn should be given the chance. If none of the sons took the farm, it should be sold and his wife and all living children should receive equal shares. As soon as one of the sons took the farm, the executors were to take out an acre or two and build a house for his wife, for her use as long as she lived. David Kropf and John Gascho were appointed executors. The Will was dated 8 November 1855.

Henry and Anna's oldest son was 14 when Henry died. In the 1861 census Anna, a widow, was called the "farmer." By that time Jacob was 19, and the next two sons were both said to be 15. Since Anna's only daughter was only five, Anna had hired Elizabeth Zimmerman, age 17, as a "servant."

It is likely that the second son Christian took over the farm when he married Magdalena Jutzi in 1868. At any rate, they purchased it from Anna in 1872. In 1876, however, they sold it to Jacob Boshart and moved to Hay Township. It is likely that they took Anna and Magdalena (age 20) along to Hay, for in 1877 Magdalena married Menno Baechler and settled on a farm of their own. Christian and Magdalena did not stay in Hay, but moved to South Easthope in 1892 and later to East Zorra.

Henry's father Jacob had buried several members of the family as well as neighbours near the southeast corner of Lot 13. A 20-year-old daughter had died

in 1840 and the oldest son Jacob Jr. had died in 1848 at the age of 36. No doubt, Henry was buried here too although no Kropf tombstones remain.

Anna and Henry's children married and settled in various townships, including Hay Township, Huron County. No doubt, Anna lived with her youngest and only daughter Magdalena, married to Menno Baechler, at the time of her death.

#### THE HENRY KROPF AND ANNA NAFZIGER FAMILY

Henry Kropf, b. 28 Sep 1817, Baldenheim, Bas-Rhin (Alsace) France  
d. 16 Nov 1855, probably bu. on family farm, east end of Baden  
m. 13 Dec 1840, Wilmot

Anna Nafziger, dau. of Pierre Nafziger and Barbe Liechty  
b. 21 Mar 1821 (family record)  
b. 10/22 May 1821, Wahlbach, Haut-Rhin (Alsace) France  
d. 8 Apr 1900, bu. Blake Mennonite Cemetery, Hay Twp.

#### Children:

1) Jacob N. Kropf  
b. 1841 Baden  
d. 27 Oct 1884/9(1) Baden  
m. 15 Mar 1864 Wilmot  
Susanna Mayer  
b. Jun 1843 Wilmot  
d. 5 Sep 1916 Baden  
dau. of Christian Mayer  
and Magdalena Petersheim  
Susanna 2m. John Mast

#### Grandchildren:

Christian M. Krupp (1865-1945) m. Annie Schuster  
Jacob M. Kropf (1867-1919) m. Barbara Oesch  
Joseph Krupp (1870-1961) (2) m. Elizabeth Wurtz  
Gideon Kropf (1872-1877)  
Magdalene Kropf (1877-1964) m. John Corbett  
Noah/Noe M. Krupp (1882-1972) m. Rose King

2) Christian N. Kropf  
b. 1843 Baden  
d. 1921 E.Zorra  
m. 24 Nov 1868 Wilmot  
Magdalena Jutzi  
b. 1847 Wilmot  
d. 1926 E.Zorra  
dau. of Joseph Jutzi  
and Marie Bender

Joseph Kropf (1869-1904) m. Elizabeth Roth  
Anna/Nancy Kropf (1871-1972) m. Christian D Roth  
Mary Kropf (1873-1954) m. Noah Brenneman  
Daniel Kropf (1875)  
Samuel Kropf (1877-1931) m. Nettie May Richards  
Noah Kropf (1878-1933)  
Catherine Kropf (1880-1976) m. Joseph J. Bender  
Magdalena Kropf (1884-1917)  
Leah Kropf (1887-1890)  
Lydia Kropf (1890-1899)

3) David N. Kropf  
b. 1843 Baden  
d. 28 Nov 1893 Poole  
m. 28 Dec 1869 Wilmot  
Magdalena F. Lichti  
b. 16 Oct 1851 Wilmot  
d. 23 May 1924 Poole  
dau. of Joseph L. Lichti  
and Magdalena Farney

Anna Kropf (1870-1945) m. John E. Lichty  
Magdalena Kropf (1872-1904) m. John Forney Jr.  
Joseph L. Kropf (1874-1968) 1m. Rebecca Mank  
2m. Mary Lichty; 3m. Nancy Leis  
Mary Kropf (1876- ) (3)  
Catherine Kropf (ca.1878- )  
David L. Kropf (1881-1972) m. Lydia E. Hammer  
Veronica Kropf (1884-1977) m. Christian Brunk  
Peter Kropf (1886- ) m. Sarah Gingerich  
Christian L. Kropf (1888-1961) m. Barbara R.  
Habermehl

4) Henry N. Kropf  
b. 1845 Baden

Leah Kropf (1893-1986) m. Joseph L. Ropp  
2m. George Poole

- d. 9 Mar 1875 Mornington  
m. 26 Mar 1872 Wilmot     Magdalena Kropf (1873-    )  
Barbara F. Lichti  
b. 21 Dec 1848 Wilmot  
d. 23 Jun 1876 Mornington  
dau. of Joseph L. Lichti     (Henry and Barbara died of consumption -- T.B.)  
and Magdalena Farney
- 5) Peter Kropf  
b. 7 Feb 1849 Baden  
d. 9 Jun 1871 Baden
- 6) Joel N. Kropf  
b. 31 Oct 1850 Baden  
d. 18 May 1896 Wellesley  
m. 18 Mar 1873 Wellesley  
Veronica Roth  
b. 29 Jul 1853 Wellesley  
d. 8 Mar 1925 Wellesley  
dau. of Christian N. Roth  
and Catherine Lichti
- 7) Solomon N. Kropf  
b.            1852 Wilmot  
d. 30 Mar 1889 Mornington  
m. 11 Nov 1873 Wilmot  
Mary F. Lichti  
b. 10 Nov 1852 Wilmot  
d. 9 Sep 1894 E.Zorra  
dau. of Joseph L. Lichti  
and Magdalena Farney  
Mary 2m. Joseph K. Yantzi
- 8) Magdalena Kropf  
b.            1856 Baden  
d. 22 May 1944 Blake  
m. 17 Apr 1877  
Menno Baechler  
b. 29 Oct 1853 Hay  
d. 5 May 1936 Hay  
son of Christian Baechler  
and Barbara Oesch
- { Catherine Kropf (1874-1956) m. Christian  
  R. Litwiller  
Simon Kropf (1875-1932) m. Barbara Albrecht  
Rudolph Kropf (1879-1938) m. Catherine Lichti  
Christian R. Kropf (1881-1950) m. Katie Roth  
Annie Kropf (1883-1953)  
David R. Kropf (1884-1952) m. Barbara Lichti  
  2m. Nancy Leis  
John R. Kropf (1887-1974) m. Mary Ann Lichti  
Mattie Kropf (1891-1957)  
Lydia Kropf (1894-1950) m. Moses B. Leis  
Veronica Kropf (1895-1896)
- { Magdalena Kropf (1875-1940) m. Joseph Gerber  
Sarah Kropf (1878-1969) m. Simon L. Jantzi  
Joseph Kropf (1880-1970) Lovina Yoder  
Solomon Kropf (1883-1954) m. Magdalena Boshart,  
  2m. Leah (Jantzi) Jutzi; 3m Mattie Gerber  
Mary Kropf (1885-     )(3) m. Frank Bass?
- { Mary Baechler (1878-1940) m. Henry Eichler  
Anna Baechler (1880-1971) m. Christian B.  
  Gingerich  
Solomon Baechler (1884-1963) m. Leah  
  Schwartzentruber  
Alvina Baechler (1895-1955) m. Samuel Ropp

Notes:

1) Family record says Jacob N. Kropf died 1884, civil registration, 1889

2) The birth in 1870 of this Joseph Kropf was found in the civil registrations, but no death was found. The family had given his date of birth as 1873 which I suspect was incorrect.

3) See the "JOSEPH AND ELIZABETH (ROTH) KROPF FAMILY BIBLE" description of contents, and family register, at the end of APPENDIX II.

- 4) a) See expanded version of this family on page 4.  
b) "Research on Solomon N. Kropf Family" by Wendy Wild.  
c) *Minnesota Meanderings...*, published 2010, pages \_\_\_\_\_ - and 2 Minnesota files with notes in preparation for Minnesota Meanderings.

5) Mary Kropf was married to Frank Bass. According to the *Joseph Ropp and Elizabeth Schweitzwer Family Record* (page 71), Mary and Frank's daughter Clara was adopted by Simon/Simeon and Sarah (Kropf) Jantzi after Mary's death. Sarah was a daughter of Solomon, and hence Mary's aunt. In Ruth Ryan's Joseph Jantzi genealogy (page 34), Clara is reported to be the daughter of Simeon and Sarah (Kropf) Jantzi, without indicating that she was adopted.

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock, Ontario  
July, 2010

#### The Family of Solomon N. Kropf and Mary F. Lichti

Solomon N. Kropf (1852-1889) bu. at Poole Mennonite Cemetery  
m. Nov. 11, 1973( **should this be 1873??**)  
Mary F. Lichti, dau. of Joseph L. Lichti and Magdalena Farney  
b. Nov. 10, 1852; d. 9 Sept. 1894, bu. East Zorra?  
2m. Nov. 10, 1891 to Joseph K. Yantzi

#### Children:

- 1) Henry (listed in 1881 Mornington Twp., census, age 7)  
- not listed in the family record,; so may have been a boarder or foster child, and not remembered by the family.
- 2) Magdalena Kropf, b. July 31, 1875  
d. Aug. 22, 1952, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery  
m. Nov. 17, 1892, (Wellesley church book)  
Joseph Gerber II, son of Bishop Joseph Gerber I  
b. July 3, 1869  
d. Oct. 30, 1940, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery  
Moved to Reading, Minnesota in 1893  
to West Branch, Michigan in 1908  
to Ellice Twp., Ont. in 1940
- 3) Sarah Kropf, b. Apr. 10, 1878  
d. July 13, 1969, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery  
m. Mar. 11, 1902, probably in Minnesota  
Simon Jantzi, son of Nicholas Jantzi and Veronica Lichti]  
(or Simeon) b. Jan. 5, 1881  
d. Apr. 23, 1956, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery
- 4) Joseph Kropf, b. Aug. 14, 1880, Poole ON  
d. Oct. 10, 1970, bu. Clinton Brick Cemetery , Goshen, IN  
m. Nov. 5, 1902, Minnesota (Joseph Gerber record)  
Sept. 4, 1902 (family record)  
Lovina Yoder, dau. of Jacob Yoder and Mattie Borotrager  
(or Lovena) b. Oct. 9, 1884, Reno Co., KS  
d. Dec. 31, 1967, bu. Clinton Brick , Goshen, IN

According to daughter Lovina Nisley (Mrs. Ervin, of Goshen, IN), they lived in Minnesota, then Kansas, then West Branch , MI, then Indiana

- 5) Solomon Kropf Sr. b. Nov. 24, 1883, Wilmot Twp., Ont.  
d. Aug. 13, 1954, Millbank, Ont.,  
bu. Pigeon River Mennonite Cem., Mich.  
m. Sept. 20, 1903? probably in Minnesota  
Magdalena Boshart, dau. of Menno Boshart and Catherine Schwartzentruber  
(1885-1927) ( 3 children to this marriage - only son  
Solomon Jr. survived)  
2m. Apr. 7, 1928  
Leah (Jantzi) Jutzi , dau. of Joseph Jantzi and Magdalena Boshart  
b. Dec. 2, 1875, Waterloo, Co., Ont.  
d. May 22, 1947, Pigeon, Mich.  
(Leah previously married to Jacob B. Jutzi and lived at Pigeon , MI)  
3m. to Mattie Gerber (1904-1995), daughter of Jacob B.  
Gerber and Magdalena /Mattie Jantzi
- 8) Maria/ Mary Kropf b. Sept. 19, 1885  
d. Dec. 1911  
m. \_\_\_-Frank Boss, b. 2 Mar. 1885  
d. 19 Dec. 1952  
Son Raymond; Dau. Clara, b. Sept. 1911, m. Amos Gerber

#### APPENDIX III

#### THE FAMILY OF JOHN L. AND ELIZABETH (KROPF) AND BARBARA (GERBER) LICHTI

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

b. 24 Sept. 1817, France  
d. 16 Jan. 1866, Wilmot Township, Canada  
m. 23 Feb. 1840, Wilmot Township, Canada  
2m. 27 Feb. 1855, Wilmot Township, Canada

Elizabeth Kropf , dau. of Jacob Kropf and Magdalena Rothacker

b. 22 Jan. 1822, Leacock Twp., Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania  
d. 10 Apr. 1853, Wilmot Township

Barbara Gerber, dau. of Peter Gerber and Barbara Kropf

b. 11 Mar. 1831, Strasbourg, France  
10 May, 1831, (family record)  
d. 19 Dec. 1908, Wilmot

Barbara 2m. 8 Sept. 1868 to Menno S. Erb

Children:

Grandchildren;

1) Magdalena Lichti

b. 25 Mar. 1841 Wilmot  
d. 10 Nov. 1869 Wilmot  
m. 18 Sept. 1859 Wilmot  
Peter Gerber  
b. 29 Jan. 1836 Strasbourg  
d. 18 Sept. 1860 Wilmot  
son of Peter Gerber  
and Barbara Kropf

Barbara Gerber (1861-1952) m. John Baechler  
John Gerber (1865-1928) m. Barbara  
Schwartzentruber  
Magdalena Gerber (1868-1959) m. Jonas Boshart

2) Barbara Lichti

b. 14 Dec. 1843 Wilmot

John Erb (12 May 1863-19 Mar. 1865)  
Barbara Erb (1865-1949) m. Joseph Gascho  
Mary Erb (1866-1898) m. John Steckley  
2m. John H. Albrecht

d. 30 Nov. 1931 Wilmot  
m. 20 Nov. 1861 Wilmot  
Joel S. Erb  
b. 4 June 1835 Wilmot  
d. 25 Aug. 1933 Wilmot

son of John/Hans Erb  
and Veronica  
Schwartzentruber

Veronica Erb (1869-1950) m. David Widrick  
2m. John N. Widrick  
Joel L. Erb (1871-1942) m. Barbara Brenneman  
Menno L. Erb (1874-1954) m. Anna Boshart  
Solomon Erb (5May 1876-24 Aug.1876)  
Christian L. Erb (1877-1965) m. Leah Mayer  
2m. Mary Mayer ; 3m. Barbara Bender  
Leah Erb (1880-1953) m. John Stere  
Mattie Erb (1882/3-1942) m. Michael Jantzi  
2m. Jacob Gingerich  
Catherine Erb (1885-1982) m. Albert Kennel  
Noah Erb (1890-1955)

3) Christian K. Lichti  
b. 19 Sept.1845 Wilmot  
d. 3 Aug. 1915 Wilmot  
m. 11 June 1867 Wilmot  
Leah Erb  
b. 24 May 1843 Wilmot  
d. 18 Dec.1936 Wilmot  
dau. of Christian Erb  
and Maria Miller

John E. Lichti (1868-1936) m. Annie Kropf  
Christian E. Lichti (1870-1952) m. Anna Roth  
Joel E. Lichti (1873-1949) m. Barbara Roth  
Barbara Lichti (1875-1942)m Benedict S. Roth  
Mary Lichti (25 July 1878-18 May 1941)  
Menno E. Lichti (1881-1916) m. Mary Roth  
Mary 2m. Daniel Ruby; 3m. Nicholas Lichti

4) Elizabeth Lichti  
b. 10 Jan. 1847 Wilmot  
d. 12 Nov. 1865 Wilmot

5) Catherine Lichti  
b. 17 Sept.1848 Wilmot  
d. 1865 Wilmot

6) Jacob Lichti  
b. 3 Apr. 1850  
d. 10 Sept./Dec 1865 Wilmot

7) Maria Lichti  
b. 6 June 1852 Wilmot  
d. 24 Oct. 1914 Michigan  
m. 8 Oct. 1858  
Henry S. Eicher Wilmot  
b. 5 Dec. 1845 France  
d. 11 May 1908 Michigan  
son of Jacob Eicher  
and Anna Maria Sommer  
Ramseyer

Joseph Eicher (1869-1943) m. Mary Ramseyer  
Mary Eicher (1871-1947) m. John L. Ramseyer  
John Eicher (1873-1943) m. Barbara  
Schwartzentruber  
Jacob Eicher (1875-1963) m. Emma Ramseyer  
Christian L. Eicher (1877-1945) m. Susan  
Kennedy  
Barbara Eicher (1879-1959) m. Herbert H. Cox  
Peter L. Eicher (1881-1965) m. Mary Rupp  
2m. Helen Rennie  
Daniel L. Eicher (1884-1958) m. Salinda  
Scheifele; 2m. Mildred Powell  
Henry L. Eicher (1886-1955)m. Edna Scheifele  
2m. Nita Kinney  
Anna Eicher (1888-1973)m. William Yauch  
Simon L. Eicher(1890-1963)m. Mabel Scheifele  
Benjamin L. Eicher (1893-1976) m. Violet



This outline was drafted by Ruth Eicher Neesz Thayer, then of Bad Axe, Michigan, with some details added from the *Family History and Genealogy of Benjamin S. and Barbara (Lichti) Roth*...by Mrs. Olivia Roth and Mrs. Verdella Harloff, New Hamburg, Ontario, 1984, pages 9 and 10.

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock, Ontario  
March, 2008

The following not in new files.

APPENDIX III (on LichtiJo file)

DOC +- d--

OB< LIST OF NAMES APPLYING FOR PERMISSION TO LEAVE FRANCE, 22 February 1819

name	first name	occupation	residence	wife	children	total
Kropf	Jaques	day-laborer	Baldenheim	1	3	5
Rothaker	Joseph	farm-hand	"			1
Erb	Chretien	"	Selestat			1
Muller	Chretien	"	"			1
Erb	Jean	"	"			1
Sommer	Chretien	"	"			1
Muller	Pierre	"	"			1
					total	<u>11</u>

(names were left in original spelling)

Notes concerning persons in this list:

Joseph Rothaker may be a brother to Magdalena, wife of Jacob Kropf. Thus far I have found no trace of him in America.

Christian Erb and John Erb are probably the two brothers who came to America. John married Veronica Schwartzentruer in Pennsylvania and Christian married Maria Miller (probably also in Pennsylvania). They arrived in Canada before 1830.

Christian Sommer may be Jacob Kropf's nephew, son of his older sister, Anna

Maria. A Christian Sommer appears in the early Ontario records but then either died or emigrated. We have no further record of him.

Whether Christian and Peter Miller were brothers is not known. Christian probably remained in Pennsylvania and married Franey Petersheim. A Christian and a Peter Miller appeared in Canada by 1830, but they probably were not from France.

Jaques = Jacob  
Chretien = Christian  
Jean = John  
Pierre = Peter

The response to the local official who sent this list to Paris is translated as follows:

Minister of the Interior  
No. 2215

Paris, the 3 March 1819

Sir, I have received with your letter of 22 February the application for those named Jacob Kropf, Joseph Rothaker, Christian Erb, Christian and Peter Miller, John Erb and Christian Sommer, all farmers, living in the district of Selestat, to go to America.

Since the reproof of the authority has not been able to divert them from their plan I can only authorize you to grant them that which they desire.

It would be good, however, before issuing the passports to make them reconsider under the most vivid colours all the imprudence of this step.

Remind them how much their resources will be uncertain in a strange country and at such a great distance from their homeland; remark to what dangers they will expose themselves and their family if their expectations are mistaken; mention the example of their fellow-countrymen who almost all have been victims of emigration; do not neglect anything in other words that might make them renounce this spirit of immigration which unfortunately is making altogether too much progress in your department.

Receive, sir, the assurance  
of my distinguished consideration

(signature not legible)

Original list and letters from Departmental Archives, Colmar France  
Supplied by William Diener

Translation and Notes by  
Lorraine Roth  
Kitchener, Ontario  
February, 1987

□

□ □ □ The Mairie (Town Hall) at Epfig  
□ □ □ where the Kropf family records were registered  
□ □

☐☐ ☐ Another street scene in Epfig  
☐☐ ☐ (photo credits: Verna Schwartzentruber, 1992)  
☐ ☐☐

DOC ☐+-☐d--

OB< ☐ From the records found in France, with some additional details found by other researchers (i.e. Neil Ann Stuckey Levine), I have reconstructed the family of Christian Kropf and Elisabeth Goldschmidt as follows:

CHRISTIAN KROPF b. ca. 1749  
m.

ELISABETH GOLDSCHMIDT b. ca. 1736; d. 16 Nov 1802 at Epfig, Canton Barr,  
Bas Rhin (lower Alsace) France  
(there was some abiguity as to whether  
this was Christian or Elisabeth)

CHILDREN:

1) Magdalena Kropf  
b. ca. 1773 Rouffach  
d. 16 Dec 1840 Illhaeusern  
m. 6/10 Dec 1798 Epfig/  
Joseph Sommer Selestat  
b. ca. 1767 Steinthal  
d. 15 Nov 1827 Illhaeusern  
son of Jacob Sommer  
and Barbara Gerig

2) Anna Maria Kropf  
b. ca. 1776 Hattstatt  
d. 10 Nov 1809 Ribeauville  
Christian Sommer  
b. ca. 1769

GRANDCHILDREN:

Christian Sommer b. 1800 Epfig  
m. 27 Apr 1835 Magdalena Peterschmidt  
Heinrich Sommer b. 1802 Epfig  
m. 25 Nov 1829 Anna Maria Riess  
Jacob Sommer b. 9 Mar 1808 Schnellenbuhl  
m. 27 Apr 1840 Veronika Eicher  
Magdalena Sommer b. 1809 Selestat  
m. 30 Oct 1830 Christian Muller  
Anna Maria Sommer b. 25 Jul 1814 Selestat  
m. 15 May 1843 Jacob Eicher  
Elisabeth Sommer b. 27 May 1816 Schnellenbuhl  
m. 17 Dec 1839 Heinrich Kropf  
Catherine Sommer b. 19 Feb 1821 Selestat  
m. 13 Oct 1845 Peter Eicher

Barbara Sommer b. ca. 1800  
d. 10 Apr 1804 Epfig  
Christian Sommer b. 4 June 1805 Epfig  
Anna Maria Kropf b. 25 Aug 1799 Epfig

- d. 11 May 1801       "
- Joseph Kropf b. 3 Apr 1801 Epfig  
 Elisabeth Kropf b. 2 June 1802 Epfig  
                       d. 19 Apr 1804       "
- 3) Joseph Kropf  
 b. 1777 Boemstein, Epfig  
 m. 3/4 Nov 1798 Epfig  
 Anna Maria Rothacker\*  
 b. 1780 Diebolsheim?  
 dau. of David Rothacker  
 & Barbara Wittner  
 (1st wife)
- Barbe Kropf b. 31 Oct 1804 Epfig  
                       d. 1853 bu. at Schneckenbusch,  
   Lorraine
- m. Andre Schertz  
 Madelaine Kropf b. 3 Jan 1811 Epfig  
                       m. 28 Apr 1830 Bollwiller  
                           Chretien Schirch
- Catherine Kropf b. 28 Aug 1811 Epfig  
 Elisabeth Kropf b. 26 June 1814
- Elisabeth Kropf b. 30 June 1808 Epfig  
 Joseph Kropf b. 13 Aug 1810       "
- 4) Henri Kropf  
 b. ca. 1778  
 m. 6 Dec 1806 Epfig  
 Veronique Schlatter  
 b. ca. 1789
- Henri Kropf b. 9 Sept 1812       "  
 Anne Marie Kropf b. 28 Nov 1814       "  
 Barbe Kropf b. 3 June 1816       "  
                       d. 2 May 1822       "  
 Chretien Kropf b. 21 Oct 1818       "  
                       d. 7 Nov 1818       "  
 Chretien Kropf b. 28 June 1822       "
- 5) Barbara Kropf  
 b. ca. 1781 Epfig  
 m. 12 Apr 1802 Epfig  
 Joseph Riss  
 b. ca. 1773
- descendants not known
- (continued)
- 6) Jacob Kropf  
 b. Feb 1784 Epfig  
 d. 29 Jan 1875 Wilmot  
 m. 15 Apr 1811 Epfig  
 Magdalena Rothacker  
 b. 7 Aug 1786 Strasbourg\*  
 d. 23 May 1878 Wilmot  
 dau. of David Rothacker &  
 Magdalena Boshart (2nd wife)
- Jacob Kropf b. 14 June 1812 Epfig  
 Christian Kropf b. 10 Jan 1815 Friesenheim  
 Henry Kropf b. 28 Sept 1817 Baldenheim  
 Catherine Kropf b. Oct 1819 Pennsylvania  
 Elisabeth Kropf b. 22 Jan 1822 Leacock Twp.  
 David Kropf b. 24 Mar 1824 Waterloo

(From the European records I saw, I have no proof that the following Christian Kropf belongs to this family. However, Dr. M. C. Kropf of Orrville, Ohio, a descendant of this Christian was told that Christian's brother migrated to Canada. I am tentatively putting him here.)

- 7) Christian Kropf  
 b.  
 d. 12 Feb 1843 Thann  
 m.  
 Barbara Sommer  
 b. ca. 1787  
 res. at Soultz in 1869
- Christian Kropf b. 26 July 1831 Zellwiller  
                       m. 7 Aug 1869 Guebwiller  
 Catherine Stokey b. 31 July 1835  
                           Balgau, Haut Rhin  
 dau. of Joseph Stokey and Elise Specht
- 1) Catherine Kropf, b. 4 Feb 1870  
 2) Christian Kropf, b. 16 Nov 1871,  
   Guebwiller

Note:

\*According to the marriage record Magdalena Rothacker, wife of Jacob, was born at Strasbourg. According to a census record, it was Friesenheim, some distance south of Strasbourg. Magdalena was five years old when the family moved from Friesenheim to Strasbourg.

Note: Where persons are not known to have migrated to America, the most common spellings of their names in the French documents have been retained. Others have been changed to the English form.

The above list is now superseded by the list in "French Records About the Kropf Family of Epfig, Bas-Rhin" by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine in *¶Mennonite Family History¶*, Vol. XX, No. 3, July 2002, pp. 155-163.

Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo, Ontario  
December 2002

#### Miscellaneous notes:

The land on which the Amish Mennonites were settling in Wilmot Township had been granted to King's College, the forerunner of the University of Toronto, as an endowment. Since Jacob Kropf had gone to Woolwich Township instead of working on his claim in Wilmot Township, there was some question as to whether he would qualify to purchase the property in Wilmot at the same price the rest of the settlers were paying. Evidently he sent a petition to the College which was dealt with in the following record of the Council's deliberation:

Jacob Kropf 5 May 1831

(probably date when his petition was dealt with in Council)

Setting forth: that he is a native of Germany and came into this Province about eight Years since, for the purpose of Settling on one of the Roads laid out through the Township of Willmott, under Mr. Jacob Erb. that he has improved fifteen Acres on Lot No. 13 on the North Side of the Middle Road, now called Snyder's Street, in the said Township of Willmott, which are now in crop and Grass; and he has chopped ten acres more - that Eight Acres of the above were cleared, fenced, and in wheat when Mr. Wilmot examined the Lots on said Road in February 1830, but no House built, which was owing to his having rented, when he first came in, a piece of ground in Woolwich. that in the same month of February he rented, and removed to a House on the Lot adjoining his improvements, has remained there ever since, and has now Timber prepared to build a House on the Lot (No 13, before mentioned) he has cleared upon. And praying that he may be Confirmed in the Location of the front fifty Acres of the south said Lot No 13,

on the same terms as Locations have been allowed to other Settlers on the Said Road.

Recommended that the Petitioner be allowed to purchase at twelve Shillings and Six Pence per Acre.

(National Archives of Canada: Upper Canada Land Petitions: RG1, L1, Land Book "O", p. 449, Film #C-105)

#### Story of Fire at Sawmill

(From [Der Deutsche Canadier] -- Nov. 3, 1853)

"Fire: We learn to our sorrow that the sawmill of Mr. Jacob Kropf in the Township of Wilmot last Friday night about 10 o'clock was completely destroyed by fire. About 8 o'clock the people left the mill thinking that everything was safe. About half an hour later somebody who went by saw fire in a lower part of the building, but since he supposed it came from a light, he took no further action on it. However, about 10 o'clock the mill stood in flames, but Mr. Kropf noticed it too late to try to put it out or to save anything. As he wanted to open the mill race in order to let the water run over the wheel, he found that a piece of lumber had fallen in and held back the water; as a result the wheel was also destroyed; or it could at least have been saved. The sawmill, as already announced, is totally destroyed as well as a large quantity of lumber and logs. The loss is considerable, and Mr. Kropf has no insurance.

A number of workers are ready to put up the building again at once so that in a short time the mill should be in operation again.

Translations by  
Lorraine Roth

(transcript of German)

Feuer: Wir erfahren zu unserm bedauern dass die Sagemuhle des Herrn Jacob Kropf im Township von Wilmot letzten Freitag Nachts -- 10 Uhr ganz durch Feuer zerstort wurde. Gegen 8 Uhr haben die Leute die Sagemuhle verlassen in der Meinung dass Alles sicher sei. ungefahr eine halbe Stunde spater bemerkte Jemand der voruber ging, Feuer in einem unteren Theile des Gebauder; da er aber vermuthete es fuhre von einem Licht her, ach\_\_\_ er nicht weiter darauf. Um 10 Uhr jedoch stand die Muhle in Flammen, aber Hr. Kropf bemerkte es zu spate, um einen Loschversuch zu machen oder etwas zu resten. Als er den Muhlgraben offenen wollte, um das Wasser auf das Rad fallen zu lassen, fand er, dass ein Stuck Bauholz Hineingefallen war, was den Wasserlauf bemnte; in Folge davon wurde auch dass Rad zerstort; sont wurde dies wenigstens gerested worden sein. Die Sagemuhle ist, wie schon gemeldet, ganzlich zerstort, ausserdem eine grosse Menge Bauholz und Stamme. Der Verlust ist bedeutend, und Hr. Kropf hat nichts versichert.

Eine Anzahl Arbeiter sind bereits angenommen, das Gebaude sogleich wieder herzustellen, so dass in kurzer Zeit die Muhle wider im gang sein wird.

Translation of poem printed in *Der Deutsche Canadier* (14 January 1847) along with announcement of marriage between David Kropf and Magdalena Oesch by Bishop Rudolph Roth:

Yes -- wedded love, holy union,  
Always far from misfortune  
I wish you with heart and mouth  
Pure joy -- true happiness, --  
Live, David, in the new status  
As Tobias godly and pure;  
With Magdalena in the Pilgrim land  
Prepare for yourselves the way to Zion,  
Where forever sounds David's harp  
And everything sings holy! holy!  
The Lamb, thus sits on the throne  
Of the *Singefleischten* God's Son; --  
This is wished you from a full heart,  
Openly and in the silence



Your well known friend,  
Who is always sincere with you. --

Note: The underlined word has not been translated. The word fleisch within the larger word may refer to God's Son made flesh, but putting it together with Singe is too awkward for me to render a proper translation.

Translated by Lorraine Roth

HoT obit. 1875.12.46 "Kropf, Jacob (Pre.) d. Jan. 29, 1875, Waterloo Co., b. Dec. 3, 1784 . . . Bro. Jacob Kropf [died] at the advanced age of 90 years, 1 month and 26 days. He enjoyed remarkably good health up to the 26th of December, 1874, when he had a stroke of palsy, whereby his right side and also his tongue became paralyzed. He served as deacon in the Amish Church in Canada about 50 years, during which time his seat was seldom vacant when he was able to go. He leaves an aged widow, about two years his junior, with whom he lived in matrimony 64 years."

translation of Henry Kropf birth record:

Kropf [in left margin]  
(Henry)  
born the 28 September  
1817

Declaration made at the town hall at Baldenheim, Department of Bas-Rhin, before the officer of the civil register, at four o'clock in the evening, the thirtieth of September, one thousand eight hundred seventeen, of the birth of a child of the masculine sex, born of legitimate marriage, the twenty-eighth of the current month at midnight, and named Henry.

Names and surname of the declarer Jacob Kropf  
Age thirty-three years, residing at Baldenheim

Nature of profession    [ day-laborer ]

Father of the child, names, surname, profession and residence,    [ the declarer ]

Mother of the child, names, surname and residence,    [ Magdalene Rothaker ]  
[ wife of the said declarer ]

The confinement took place at the house no.    [ 38 ]

First witness: names, surname, age and profession,    [ John Robetin [?], metal ]  
[ worker [?], age forty-nine years ]

Second witness: names, surname, age and profession,    [ Philip Hurst [?], cobbler, ]  
[ age thirty-two years ]

[ Both ] witnesses resident in this town.

After reading [ the above document ] was made, the officer of the civil register signed along with the presenters.

[ signatures ]

[ Jacob Kropf ]

[ Johannes Robetin ] [ ? ]

[ Phillipp Hurst ]

[ Eschez ]

Mayor, acting officer of the civil register

A note from Michael Swartz's alms book kept by him from 1848 to 1858:

" July 10 1854 hab ich bezalt an Jacob Kropf von dem armen gelt the sum von ein hundert thaler fur the gemein in Canada " (quoted in a letter from David Petersheim to Lorraine Roth, Jan. 2, 1990)

Jacob Kropf, of course, was the deacon in Canada, but one wonders whether this alms money was not for Jacob himself who had lost his mill by fire the previous November and did not have insurance.

Transcript and translation by Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo, 1988 and 1990

KROPF (in 1851 Wilmot census)

Kropf, David, age 27, born in Canada, farmer, Mennonite, 1 storey log house  
"    Magdalena, 25,    "    "    "  
"    Barbara, 4    "    "    "  
"    Catherina, 2    "    "    "  
"    John, 1    "    "    "  
"    Philip Laufer, 26, born in France, labourer, Lutheran  
"    Magdalena Zenyer, 23, "    "    Switzerland, servant, "

Kropf, Jacob, age 68, born in France, retired, Mennonite, 1 storey frame house

" Magdalena, 68, " " "

Kropf, Christian, age 38, born in France, farmer, Mennonite, 2 storey log house  
 " Mary, 38, born in France  
 " Magdalena, 14, born in Canada  
 " Elizabeth, 12, " " "  
 " Barbara, 11, " " "  
 " David, 10, " " "  
 " Jonathan, 8 " " "  
 " Jacobina, 6 " " "  
 " Solomon, 3 " " "  
 Christian Schlarbach, 21, born in Germany, labourer, Mennonite

KROPF (in 1861 Wilmot census)

Kropf, David, age 37, born in Canada, miller, 1 storey frame house built in  
 " Magdalena, 34, " " " 1857  
 " Barbara, 13  
 " Catherine, 12 (in school)  
 " John, 11 " "  
 " Jacob, 9 " "  
 " Magdalena, 7 " "  
 " Leah, 6 " "  
 " Rachel, 5  
 " David, 4  
 " Phillipine, 2  
 Jacob Kropf, 77, born in France  
 Magdalena Kropf, wife, born in France  
 George Skene, 32, born in Scotland, miller, Anglican  
 Fred Voight, 23, " " Germany, servant, Lutheran  
 Jacob Oesch, 20, " " Canada, " Mennonite  
 William Wald, 21 " " Germany, labourer, Lutheran

Kropf, Christian, age 47, born in France, Yeoman, Mennonite, 1 storey frame  
 " Marie, 47, born in France house built in 1840  
 " Barbara, 19  
 " David, 18  
 " Jonathan, 17  
 " Jacobina, 15  
 " Marie, 9 (in school)  
 Fred Mosser, 24, Lutheran

NOTES: KROPF

(Archives Departmental a Strasbourg)  
 EPFIG

N 8 fruc 7 KROPF, Anna Maria, filla de Joseph Kropf et Anne Marie Rothacker  
 D 21 flor 9

N 3 avr 1801 KROPF, Joseph, fils de " " " " "

N 2 juin 1802 KROPF, Elisabetha, filla de " " " " "

N 7 sept 1804 KROPF, Barbe, filla de " " " " "  
ou 31 oct

N 5 juin 1805 Christian Sommer, fils de Christian Sommer, 36  
et Anna Maria KROPF

N 20 juin 1808 KROPF, Elisabeth, filla de Henri Kropf et Veronique Schlatter

N 13 aout 1810 KROPF, Joseph, fils de " " " "

N 2 jan 1811 KROPF, Madelaine, filla de Joseph Kropf et Anna Maria Rothacker

N 28 aout 1811 KROPF, Catherine, " " " " "  
ou sept

N 14 juin 1812 KROPF, Jacques, fils de Jaques Kropf et Madeleine Rothacker  
a Collviller

N 9 sept 1812 KROPF, Henri, fils de Henri Kropf et Veronique Schlatter

N 28 nov 1814 KROPFF, Anne Marie, filla " " " "

N 26 juin 1814 KROPFF, Elisabeth, filla de Joseph Kropf et A. Maria Rothacker

N 3 juin 1816 KROPFF, Barbe, filla de Henri Kropf et Veronique Schlatter  
D 2 mai 1822

N 21 oct 1818 KROPFF, Chretien, fils de " " " "  
D 7 nov 1818

N 28 juin 1822 KROPFF, Chretien, fils de " " " "

M 20 nov 1798 KROPF, Joseph, 21, ne a Beynstein  
fils de Christian Kropf et Elisabetha Goldschmidt?  
Anna Maria Rothacker, 18, nee a Singolsheim  
filla de Paris? Rothacker et feu Barbara Wittmar?  
(enfants nes a Kollweiler)

M 12 avr 1802 Joseph Riss, 29, fils de Melcheor? Riss et Elisabetha Gerich?  
Barbara KROPF, 21?  
filla de Christian Kropf et Elisabetha Goldschmitt

M 6 dec 1798 Joseph Sommer, 21, ne a Sommerhof  
fils de feu Jacob Sommer et Barbara Berig?  
Magdalena KROPF, 19, nee a Hombergerstein?  
filla de Christian Kropf et Elisabetha Goldschmidt

EFIG

M 6 dec 1806 KROPF, Henri, 34  
fils de Christian Kropf et Elisabeth Goldschmitt  
Veronique Schlatter, 17

filla de feu Daniel Schlatter et Catherine  
Hundsinger, de Vogtlingshof, Haut Rhin  
(enfants nes a #407 quartier Kollweiler)

M 15 avr? 1811 KROPF, Jaques, 27, ne a Epfig, laboureur, resident Epfig  
pere: Chretien Kropf, vivant, laboureur, res. Epfig  
mere: Elisabeth Goldschmitt  
Madeleine Rothacker, 24, nee a Strasbourg, res. Epfig  
pere: David Rothacker, vivant, cultivateur  
resident a Strasbourg  
mere: Madeleine Boshard

D 16 nov 1802 KROPF, Chretien, age 66 (dans le texte c'est Elisabeth,  
l'epouse qui est morte)

D 19 avr 1804 KROPF, Elisabeth, a Gallweiler

#### ZELLWILLER

N 26 juil 1831 KROPF, Chretien

#### SAULXURES

N 1802 KROPPE, Anne, filla de Jean Kropf et Anne Miller  
D 15 jours signe Johannes Kropf

N 1803 KROPF, Jean Joseph, fils de Jean Kropf et Anne Miller  
D ? mois

#### BOURG-BRUCHE

D 28 juin 1814 KROPF, Catherine, filla de Jean Kropf, 38 et Anne Miller

(Archive Departmental a Metz)  
GROS-REDERCHING

N 8 oct 1817 Jean Riesser, fils de Jean Riesser, 26  
(a Singling) (fils de Jean Riesser et Marie KROPF)  
et Veronika Bergmann, 23

(Archive Departmental a Colmar)  
RIBEAUVILLE

D 10 nov 1809 KROPF, Anne Marie, 33, epouse de Chretien Sommer  
filla de Chretien Kropf et Elisabetha Goldschmidt

#### ALTKIRCH

M 22 aout 1819 KROPF (ou Kopff) Jean et Anne Marie Braun

#### STE. MARIE-AUX-MINES

N 25 flor 1793 KROPF, Madeleine  
N 19 fruc 3 KROPF, Joseph  
N 26 brum 3 KROPF, Caroline  
N 6 therm 3 KROPF, Andre  
N 26 frim 6 KROPF, Caroline  
N 11 prair 6 KROPF, Jean Jacques  
N 11 niv 8 KROPF, Marie  
N 15 pluv 9 KROPF, Marie Susanne  
N 5 vend 10 KROPF, Marie Magd[alei]ne  
N 21 frim 10 KROPF, Catherine  
N 12 vent 11 KROPF, Abraham  
N 16 fruct 11 KROPF, Joseph George  
N 1812 KROPF, Anne Marie, filla de Michel Kropf et Elisabeth Kueny?  
N 19 juin 1813 KROPF, Chretien, fils d'Antoine Kropf et Marie Becker  
N 19 juin 1813 KROPF, Chretien  
N 27 jan 1814 KROPF, Michel  
N 24 avr 1814 KROPF, Charles  
N 13 oct 1815 KROPF, Salome  
N 30 avr 1816 KROPF, Caroline  
N 19 juil 1816 KROPF, Caroline  
N 25 aout 1820 KROPF, Marie Louise  
N 13 fev 1821 KROPF, Chretien  
N 26 mars 1825 KROPF, Jacques  
  
N 18 avr 1825 KROPF, Jean  
N 27 sept 1826 KROPF, Joseph  
N 1827 KROPF, Barbe, filla de Jacob Kropf, 28, et Barbe Paira?  
N 14 oct 1828 KROPF, Edouard  
N 1828 KROPF, Michel, fils d'Abraham Kropf, 25, et Marguerite Cletty

N 1834 KROPF, Joseph, " " " " "

STE. MARIE-AUX-MINES

N 1834 David Farney, fils de David Farney et Catherine KROPF

N 24 dec 1836 KROPF, Caroline

N 1837 Philippine Farney, filla de David Farney et Catherine KROPF

N 1838 KROPF, Caroline, filla d'Abraham Kropf et Marguerite Cletty

N 2 aout 1856 KROPF, Emile

M 10 mess 2 KROPF, Jean Jacques et Caroline Redelsperger

M 12 therm 3 KROPF, Joseph et Susanne Bridt

M 25 fev 1793 KROPF, Ant[oine] et Marie Becker

M 24 sept 1811 KROPF, Michel et Elisabeth Kuhny?

M 9 oct 1823 Jacob Redelsperger et Anne Barbe KROPF, nee 1804  
filla de Jacques Kropf et Charlotte Redelsperger

M 13 jan 1825 KROPF, Abraham, 21, fils de Joseph Kropf et Susanne Brith  
et Marguerite Gletty

M 22 fev 1831 David Farny et Catherine KROPF

M 18 dec 1834 David Benoit et Marie Anne KROPF

M 13 jan 1835 Fr. Xav. Marchal et Salome KROPF

M 28 sept 1846 Florent Braun et Marie Madelaine KROPF

D 22 mess 4 KROPF, Jean David?

D 6 frim 5 KROPF, Andre

D 7 vent 6 KROPF, Chretien

D 4 fruc 8 KROPF, Cristhiann

D 25 germ 9 KROPF, Abraham

D 2 prair 10 KROPF, Simon

D 1 avr 1814 KROPF, G[eor]ge

D 21 juil 1817 KROPF, Jacob

D 14 aout 1821 KROPF, Chretien

D 19 ? 1825 KROPF, Abraham

D 8 juil 1826 KROPF, Jacques

D 12 sept 1827 KROPF, Jean

STE. MARIE-AUX-MINES

D 27 jan 1832 KROPF, Michel

D 10 nov 1834 KROPF, Jacques

D 28 fev 1837 KROPF, Caroline

D 26 avr 1837 KROPF, Anne Marie

D 18 fev 1839 KROPF, Marie

D 25 sept 1841 KROPF, Susanne

D 7 juil 1843 KROPF, Caroline

D 28 fev 1847 KROPF, Elisabeth

D 16 mai 1847 KROPF, Jean

D 11 nov 1847 KROPF, Joseph

D 8 avr 1848 KROPF, Barbe

D 4 jan 1851 KROPF, Marie Louise

ST. CROIX-AUX-MINES

D 10 pluv. 5 KROPF, Catherine, 71, veuve de Pierre Eyman  
signe par Jean Vagler, d'Henan  
Jacob Goldshmid, de Ste. Marie, 54 (beau-freres)  
Jean Eyman, d'Aubure, 42

ASPACH-LE-BAS

N 23 dec 1827 KROPF, Jos.

STAFFELFELDEN

D 22 mai 1837 KROPF, Joseph

GUEBWILLER

N 11 mai 1863 KROPF, Josephine

N 14 jan 1869 KROPF, Joseph, fils de Henri Kropf et Elisabeth Eymann

N 4 fev 1870 KROPF, Catherine, filla de Cretien Kropf, 39, domestique,  
ne a Zellwiller et Catherine Stocky, 34

N 21 juil 1870 KROPF, Jacques, fils de Henri Kropf, 41, fondateur, ne a



N 17 sept 1871 KROPF, Chretien, fils de Chretien Kropf et Catherine Stoky  
BOLLWILLER

M 28 avr 1830 Chretien Schirch, 50, veuf de Barbara Roth, dec. 3 jan 1830  
Madlein KROPF, ne 3 jan 1811 a Epfig  
filla de Joseph Kropf et Anne Marie Rothacker  
res. Nasswiller?, Canton Rossheim

]

DOC [+-] D--

OB< [ THE MAPLES HOME FOR SENIORS I MADE SOME CHANGES HERE WHICH SHOULD  
NOT

94 WILLIAM ST. S., P.O. BOX 400 HAVE BEEN MADE ON THIS VERIONS.  
TAVISTOCK, ON CANADA N0B 2R0  
AUGUST 7, 2009

STRISKAYA STREET 51-A  
CHERNOVTSI  
UKRAINE 58004

DEAR BRUCE.

I AM NOT SURE WHAT DATE SHARON GERBER BROUGHT ME THE PACKET ADDRESSED TO EARL MEYERS AND MERVYN ERB LAST FEBRUARY. THE VARIOUS GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION CAME TO US IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER FROM BOSHART TO SCHLABACH, ON 56 UNNUMBERED PAGES. FEARING THAT THE PAGES MIGHT GET MIXED UP, I NUMBERED THEM LIGHTLY IN PENCIL AT THE BOTTOM LEFT-HAND CORNER.

THIS STUDY HAS BEEN CHECKED BY SHARON, MYSELF (LORRAINE) AND FRIEDA JUTZI, AND WE HAVE MADE OUR comments and corrections directly in the text. Sharon has tended to do hers lightly in pencil, Lorraine in blue ink for additions, revisions, corrections and pencil for suggestions. Frieda has used a black pen. I also tend to put a check mark where it is clearly seen, because some corrections and additions are not very obvious and might be missed.

On page 19, you started the family list of Joseph Gerber II, and you did say "List continued on next page, but that will be very confusing for the reader. I don't know what it will do to your pagination if you begin the list on the next page, but that would take care of the confusion.

The Christian B. and Anna Jantzi story on p. 30 is probably a matter of where one puts the emphasis. Either they had a very short sojourn or a very long visit -- three years. Christian's purchasing of land was for his son -- not for himself. Unfortunately, I did not give the source of my information for Christian's death, but it must have been an obituary. The fact that there is no tombstone makes it difficult to verify.

The Kropf Family begins on p. 43. I suggest the following simplified version of the last paragraph on that page: "Henry and Anna Kropf carved a farm of 113 acres from the north part of Lot 14 of his father Jacob's property on Snyder's

Road and portions of the south part of Lots 13 and 14 of the South Erb's Road concession. Henry died a premature death in 1855. Anna and her family eventually moved elsewhere."

Now we come to the family of Solomon N. Kropf on p. 44. I think in our earlier submission (in March of this year) on the Kropf family I had indicated that I favoured deleting Henry -- the 7-year-old child in the 1881 census, but indicated that Frieda might be less inclined. Now seeing him in the list as Henry Kropf and underlined, I strongly object, and I gather Frieda is quite agreed. Henry was not named "Kropf" and he certainly was not in Minnesota! For your purposes, I think he should be completely deleted and the rest of the children renumbered. If you leave him in the list on p. 46 but without the Kropf name, and footnoted as you have it, we do not object.

We have made several corrections directly on p. 46. Please note the extensive revisions to Mary Kropf, married to Frank Boss (spelling used by family today). Please note that I no longer wonder to which Kropf family Mary belonged. I have put Barbara Oesch's name at the bottom of this page, and have deleted p. 47, which was then blank.

(over)

I think the John J. Kuepfer family notes are clear. I will simply point out my "A Brief Kuepfer Sojourn in Minnesota," which is found between pages 49 and 50.

I don't think I have any further comments on "The Schlabach Family" besides those on the text.

One might place the "Pioneering and Migrations of Valentine Gerber" at the end of the Gerber section. However, one can also make the case for putting this detailed story of pioneering and migrations in the west at the end.

Some general comments which help to explain some of the terms and names (of churches or cemeteries, etc.) used:

At the time of the building of meetinghouses in the 1880s, there was a division in the Amish Mennonite community. Those who continued to worship in homes were known to the rest of us as "Old Order" -- "Amish" understood. In the early 1920s the meetinghouse congregations formed a conference, known as the Amish Mennonite Conference of Ontario. In 1963/64 the conference dropped the term "Amish" and changed the name to Western Ontario Mennonite Conference. Finally, in the late 1980s, the various Mennonite conferences, including the former Amish Mennonite, but not the Mennonite Brethren, joined to call themselves the Mennonite Conference of Eastern Canada (includes Quebec and a few congregations in the eastern provinces).

Following the divisions in the Wellesley (the "Lichti Church") and Poole (the "Nafziger Church") congregations, just before and after the turn of the century (1800 to 1900), there were a series of name changes in which these churches, along with their cemeteries, have finally become "Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite" in Wellesley Township and "Mornington Amish Mennonite" in Mornington Township. The cemetery should be called Mornington A.M. Cemetery. It was probably the Mornington group that was most affected by this study, although even East Zorra is found -- at least in the Boshart family. Since there are three cemeteries where East Zorra folks were buried, I suggest the name should indicate which one. In this study, I think it will be only the East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery, 16th Line.

I don't think it is necessary to make the above explanation in this study, but as a guide for those who are doing the writing. I think the text of this study reflects what I have just described above but gives a rationale for it.

After doing some more checking with Frieda, we realize that our last Kropf information was sent to you in March. No wonder you still had "old stuff" in your lists that were received here in February. I don't know why it has taken so long for it to get to us. We just hope this makes it back to you as soon as possible.

Best wishes to you in all your endeavours,

Lorraine Roth

94 William St. S., P.O. Box 400  
Tavistock, ON Canada N0B 2R0  
August 10, 2009

Striskaya Street 51-A  
Chernovtsi  
Ukraine 58004

Dear Bruce, Ruthann, and family,

Greetings from sunny Tavistock with pleasant but cool temperatures until the last two days -- with lots of rain!

Frieda Jutzi and I have gone through the genealogical chapter of the Minnesota manuscript with a fine-toothed comb. After a while Frieda and I realized that our last Kropf information was sent to you in March. No wonder you still had "old stuff" in your lists that were received here in February. I don't know why it has taken so long for it to get to us. We just hope this makes it back to you as soon as possible.

I am not sure what date Sharon Gerber brought me the packet addressed to Earl Meyers and Mervyn Erb last February. The various family information came to us in alphabetical order from BOSHART to SCHLABACH, on 56 unnumbered pages. Fearing that the pages might get mixed up, I numbered them lightly in pencil at the bottom left-hand corner.

This study has been checked by Sharon, myself (Lorraine) and Frieda (Gerber) Jutzi, and we have made our comments and corrections directly in the text. Sharon has tended to do hers lightly in pencil, Lorraine in blue ink for additions, revisions, corrections and pencil for suggestions. Frieda has used a black pen. I also tend to put a check mark where it is clearly seen, because some corrections and additions are not very obvious and might be missed.

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Ruthann, Raphael and Regina, I'm sorry this epistle will probably not be of much interest you, but you are in my thoughts and prayers anyway. Diane Yantzi faithfully brings me copies of your "Chernovtzi Chronicles." Perhaps Michael is doing the computer work on the Minnesota project. Keep up the good work!

Sharon Gerber came to pick up the packet this evening. She will probably mail it registered mail. I thought I would send you what is basically a copy of my letter included in the packet by separate mail. I'm including 4 pages of the Kropf family material which we had sent in March -- with a few additions and or corrections.

God's blessing on all of you in your work in Ukraine and in this project,

Lorraine Roth  
□

DOC □ + - □ d --

OB < □ 1 THE FAMILY OF SOLOMON N. KROPF AND MARY F. LICHTI

Solomon N. Kropf (1852-1889) bu. at Poole Mennonite Cemetery  
m. Nov 11, 1873 to  
Mary F. Lichti, dau. of Joseph L. Lichti and Magdalena Farney  
b. Nov 10, 1852; d. Sept 9, 1894 bu. at East Zorra?  
2m. Nov 10, 1891 to Joseph K. Yantzi

Children born to Solomon and Mary:

- ? Henry Kropf (listed in 1881 Mornington Twp. census, age 7)  
(may not have been named Kropf, and may have been with Solomon  
and Mary only a short time  
-- for the Minnesota story he could be left out
- 1) Magdalena Kropf, b. July 31, 1875  
d. Aug 22, 1952, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery  
m. Nov 17, 1892 (Wellesley church book)  
Joseph Gerber, son of Bishop Joseph Gerber  
b. July 3, 1869  
d. Oct 30, 1940, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery  
moved to Reading, Minnesota in 1893  
to West Branch, Michigan in 1908

to Ellice Twp., Ont. in 1940  
Although Magdalena was only 17, they got married so that she  
could accompany the Gerber family to Minnesota.  
A genealogy of this family is found in [The Gerber Family Tree]  
By Raymond and Olive Gerber, printed after 1968

- 2) Sarah Kropf, b. Apr 10, 1878, Poole, ON  
d. July 13, 1969, bu. Poole A.M. Cemetery  
m. Mar 11, 1902, probably in Minnesota  
Simon Jantzi, son of Nicholas Jantzi and Veronica Lichti  
(or Simeon) b. Jan 5, 1881, Wellesley Twp.  
d. Apr 23, 1956, bu. Poole A.M. Cem.
- a) Nicholas K. Jantzi, b. 17 Aug 1903, Wilmont, MN  
d. 18 Oct 1977, bu. Poole A.M. Cem.  
m. 26 Nov 1925, West Branch, MI  
Mary Jantzi, dau. of Solomon Jantzi and Mary Gerber  
b. 10 July 1905, West Branch, MI  
d. ?
- b) Infant Son, b. & d. 22 May 1907, West Branch, MI
- c) Clara May (Boss) Jantzi (adopted), b. 2 Oct 1911, Port Huron  
(See story on last page) d. 26 Jun 2001  
m. 12 Jan 1934, Poole, ON  
Amos Gerber, son of Daniel Gerber and Rachel Ropp  
b. 11 Feb 1911  
d. 27 Mar 1995  
Four children: Kenneth, Franklin, Doris, and Sharon
- 3) Joseph Kropf, b. Aug 14, 1880, Poole, ON  
d. Oct 20, 1970, bu. Clinton Brick, Goshen, IN  
m. Nov 5, 1902, Minnesota (Joseph Gerber record)  
Sep 4, 1902 (family record)  
Lovina Yoder, dau. of Jacob Yoder and Mattie Borntreger  
b. Oct 9, 1884, Reno Co., KS  
d. Dec 31, 1967, bu. Clinton Brick, Goshen, IN  
(continued on next page)
- 2 Seven children: Jacob, Sarah, Magdalena/Mattie (twin), Solomon/  
Sollie (twin), Joseph, Lovina (Mrs. Ervin Nisley)  
(Sollie manufactured KROPF Cruiser Trailers)  
They lived in Minnesota, Kansas, West Branch, MI, Indiana
- 4) Solomon Kropf, b. Nov 24, 1883  
d. 1954, bu. Pigeon River Menn. Cem. Mich.  
m. Sept 20, 1903?, probably in Minnesota  
Magdalena Boshart, dau. of Menno Boshart and Catherine  
(1885-1927) Schwartzentruber  
bu. Pigeon River Menn. Cem.  
2m. 7 Apr 7, 1928  
Leah (Jantzi) Jutzi, dau. of Joseph Jantzi and Magdalena Boshart  
b. 2 Dec 1875  
d. 22 May 1947, Pigeon, MI  
(Leah previously married to Jacob B. Jutzi; lived at Pigeon  
3m. ? Mattie Gerber (1904-1995)  
dau. of Jacob B. Gerber & Magdalena Jantzi  
Son Solomon Kropf born to 2nd marriage; m. Hattie \_\_\_\_\_

Lived in Pigeon area, Michigan  
Four children: Doris, Donald, Willard, Harold

5) Maria/Mary Kropf, b. 19 Sept 1885 (see story on last page)  
(Note #1 below) d. Dec 1911

m. ?

Frank Boss, b. 7 Mar 1885  
(Note 2) d. 19 Dec 1952

a) Raymond Boss, b. 2 Aug 1908; d. 23 Oct 1963  
m. 2 Aug 1930?

Stella King, b. 14 Aug 1911; d. 4 Aug 1952  
one child: Geraldine

b) Clara May Boss Jantzi, b. 2 Oct 1911, Port Huron, MI  
(story on page 3) d. 26 June 2001, Elmira, ON  
bu. Poole Mennonite Cemetery  
m. 12 Jan 1934, Poole, ON

Amos Gerber, son of Daniel Gerber and Rachel Ropp  
b. 11 Feb 1911; d. 27 Mar 1995

Resided at Hepworth, ON

four children: Kenneth, Franklin, Doris, Sharon

(Note #3)

Note #1: A note in the Joseph K. Yantzi Bible says: "Mary travelled to Minnesota in the year 1895, the 22nd July."

Note #2: One finds other spellings for the name Boss in the records, but this is the one the family is using.

Note #3: In the Joseph Jantzi genealogy (page 34), Clara and her family were listed as part of the Simeon and Sarah (Kropf)

Jantzi family without indicating that she was adopted.

Mary (Maria in German) Kropf (1885-1911) was the sixth child of Solomon N. Kropf and Mary F. Lichti. Mary's father died in 1889, and in 1891, her mother married Joseph K. Yantzi of South Easthope. In 1895, Mary went to Minnesota in order to be with her sisters and brothers. When the rest of the Minnesota people moved to West Branch, Michigan, she did too. As a teenager, she worked for wealthy people in Bay City, Michigan. She met and married Frank Boss.

In 1908, Mary gave birth to a son named Raymond, and in October of 1911 to a daughter named Clara May. Two months later, Mary died of typhoid fever. They were living in Port Huron, Michigan, when Clara was born.

Clara was raised and adopted by her aunt Sarah Kropf married to Simon/Simeon Jantzi. They had one son Nicholas born in Wilmont, Minnesota in 1903 and an infant son in 1907 who was born and died the same day in West Branch, Michigan.

Clara was taken into Aunt Sarah's home and was adopted by the Jantzis. There is an "Adoption Picture" of Clara approximately one year old, wearing a pretty lace dress and holding flowers. Mary Kropf Boss' son Raymond was raised by the Boss family. The Boss family came to visit Simon and Sarah Jantzi when Clara was eight years old and introduced Ray to his sister Clara. Clara didn't know she was adopted -- so was quite shocked!

In 1934 Clara married Amos Gerber, son of Daniel and Rachel (Ropp) Gerber. They lived in the Milverton area and retired at Hepworth, northwest of Owen Sound. They had two sons and two daughters -- Kenneth, Franklin, Doris and Sharon. Doris, married to Ralph Bast, keeps in touch with their Boss "cousins."

4

Printed and Written Pieces in this family Collection (photocopies):

THE KROPF FAMILY

Entry in ¶Mennonite Cyclopedic Dictionary¶,

[by] Kauffman, 1937

Immigrant to Canada Jacob Kropf, with  
descendants in Indiana, Missouri, Oregon  
grandson (not son) Christian ordained in  
Hay Township and moved to Tavistock  
relationship of Kropf family in Ohio to  
those above -- not yet known



▯ Familien-Register. ▯  
Salomon Kropf und Maria Lichty  
family list

Obituary (hand-written in German) with Jantzi, Kropf, Gerber notes  
for Magdalena Kropf, born Lichty photocopied on right  
b. 15 Oct 1850, Waterloo Co. written by Nancy (Miller) Mrs. Seth Troyer  
d. 23 May 1925, near Milverton  
m. 28 Dec 1869 to David Kropf

Certificate of Marriage  
fourth September 1902\*  
Joseph L. Kropf and Lovina B. Yoder  
Nobles County, Minnesota by Joseph Gerber  
(\*Joseph Gerber's record gives date as Nov. 5)

Certificate of Membership, 1917  
of Joseph L. Kropf of Old Amish Mennonite Church  
in congregation in Horton & Edwards Township  
claiming exemption from military service  
signed by ministers, Nicolaus Jantzi and  
John Gerber, both of West Branch, Mich.

"deaths" newspaper clipping  
Clara May Gerber, June 26, 2001, Elmira  
daughter of Frank and Mary (Kropf) Boss  
adopted by Simon and Sarah (Kropf) Jantzi  
member of Poole Mennonite Church  
wife of Amos R. Gerber, d. March 23, 1995  
children: Ken and Lucille, Port Ritchie, Florida  
Frank and Joan, Port Elgin  
Doris and Ralph Bast, St. Jacobs  
Sharon and James Lebold, Bayfield  
brothers: Raymond and Stella Boss  
Nicholas and Mary Jantzi  
bu. Poole Mennonite Cemetery  
▯