

MAURER

ORIGINS

Maurer is the German word for bricklayer or mason. In Canada, the name Maurer is not found among Amish Mennonite descendants, although there are many with Maurer ancestry. These all came from Alsace or Lorraine, France.

MAURERS IN CANADA

There were a few Maurers in Canada. The widowed mother of Peter Litwiller and his sisters was Anne Marie (known as Maria) Maurer, and she came to Canada with her children in 1827. The other one was Joseph Maurer whose wife's name was Barbara.

If Barbara Maurer was a Wagler by birth, she had a sister and brother who also migrated to Canada: Catherine married to Joseph Schweitzer, and John married to Sophie Valentin. Joseph Maurer, born at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, was the son of Jacob Maurer and Elisabeth Eymann. The only record we have of the presence of Joseph and Barbara is the 1861 Wilmot Township census where they are called "Morer." Joseph's occupation was that of weaver, and the ages given correspond exactly with their dates of birth. There were no children with them, nor do any other "Morerers" appear in the census.

No death record for Joseph and Barbara Maurer has been found; so it is not known whether they died in Canada or whether they went elsewhere.

The Alsace emigration index lists a Joseph Maurer age 63, wife age 52, a son age 22 and a daughter age 17, with a passport dated October 30, 1855. Joseph was a native of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, was a farmer, and was living at Liepvre. The destination was New Orleans. The age of Joseph corresponds with Joseph "Morer"'s but the age of the wife does not correspond with Barbara Wagler's. If the destination of Joseph (age 63) was New Orleans, this family group was likely heading for Illinois, not Canada.(1)

THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND BARBARA (WAGLER) MAURER(2)

Joseph Maurer, son of Jacob Maurer, d. 26 Dec 1805 at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines
and Elisabeth Eymann

b. 28 Jan 1793, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines

d. ? may have been in Canada in 1861 census

m. 11 Dec 1823, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines

Barbara Wagler, dau. of Jean/John Wagler and Catherine Liechti

b. 22 Mar 1799, Ribeauvillé

d. ? may have been in Canada in 1861 census

Children: 1) Jacob Maurer, b. 25 Jul 1826, Bilsteintal, Ribeauvillé

2) Barbara Maurer, b. 9 May 1828, "

3) Magdalena Maurer, b. 1 May 1831 "

d. 8 Oct 1834 "

4) Katharina Maurer, b. 14 Oct 1833 "

m. 7 Jan 1827, Landser, Haut-Rhin
Catherine Nafziger, dau. of Peter Nafziger and Barbara Lichty
b. 11 Aug 1805, Berenzwiller, Haut-Rhin
d. before 1871, Wilmot

See the ROTH file for more details on this family.

MAURER/WAGLER DESCENDANTS IN CANADA

Although Joseph and Barbara (Wagler) Maurer, who are believed to have been in Canada in 1861, probably have no descendants in Canada, there are other numerous Wagners with Maurer ancestry in Canada.

Anna Maria Wagler and her husband Christian Wagler came to Canada with their family and Christian's parents in 1848. Anna Maria (also known as Maria) was the daughter of Jacob Wagler and Maria Sommer. Maria Sommer's parents were Christian Sommer and Anne Maurer. Her connection to the other Maurers mentioned above is not known.

The Jacob Wagler and Maria Sommer Family are as follows:

Jacques/Jacob Wagler, son of Isaac Wagler and Barbe Eymann
b. 25 Feb 1769, Muesbach, Ribeauvillé, Haut-Rhin
d. 16 Jan 1846 "
m. 14 Nov 1804, Ribeauvillé
Anne Marie/Maria Sommer, dau. of Christian Sommer and Anne Maurer
Anne d. 23 July 1796, Bollwiller, Haut-Rhin
b. 4 Sept 1779, Richwiller, Haut-Rhin
d. 17 Nov 1839, Muesbach

- A. Jacob Wagler, b. 29 Apr 1806, Muesbach
d. 1872, Livingston Co., Ill.
m. 1830, Marckolsheim, Bas-Rhin
Madeleine Roeschle, dau. of Jean/John Roeschle and Elisabeth Wagler
(Reshley) b. 3 Nov 1803, Mussig, Bas-Rhin
- B. Anne Marie Wagler, b. 27 Jan; d. 26 Feb 1809, Muesbach
- C. John Baptist Wagler, b. 20 Jun 1810, Muesbach
d. 7 Mar 1869, South Easthope Township, Canada
m. 5 Oct 1837, Ribeauvillé
Barbara Wagler, dau. of Christian Wagler and Maria Sommer
- D. Stillborn son, b. & d. 8 Oct 1813, Muesbach
- E. Anne Marie/Maria Wagler, b. 8 Dec 1815, Muesbach
d. Feb 1855, Wilmot Township, Canada
m. 5 Oct 1837, Ribeauvillé

Christian Wagler, son of Christian Wagler and Maria Sommer

F. Christian Wagler, b. 11 Nov 1822; d. 15 Jan 1823, Muesbach

G. Joseph Wagler, b. 11 Nov 1822; d. 18 Jan 1823, Muesbach
See the WAGLER file for more details.

MAURER/ROPP DESCENDANTS IN CANADA

The Joseph M. Ropp family is still another family with Maurer ancestry in Canada. Joseph M. was the son of Joseph Ropp and Elisabeth Maurer (called "Murer" in the Ropp genealogy). (4)

THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND ELISABETH (MAURER) ROPP

Joseph Ropp, b. 1761, Luemswiller?, Haut Rhin
d. 8 Feb 1820, Luemswiller (1813 in Ropp genealogy)
m. France

Elisabeth Maurer, b. 1768, France?
d. 17 Dec 1845, Luemswiller?

A) Anna Marie Ropp, b. 18 Feb 1792, Luemswiller
d. 23 Aug 1864, Ruederbach, Haut-Rhin
m. 8 Sept 1813, Luemswiller (Bollweiler in genealogy)
Christian Hirschy, b. 3 Jan 1793, Sigolsheim, Haut-Rhin
d. Jun 1862, Ruederbach (19 May 1864 in Ropp genealogy)
Both buried in Birkenhof Cemetery, south of Altkirch
Children not known.

B) Magdalena Ropp, b. 21 Apr 1796, Raedersheim, Haut-Rhin; d. ?

C) Johannes M. Ropp (twin), b. 23 Jun 1798, Raedersheim
d. 8 Oct 1859, Luemswiller

D) Joseph M. Ropp (twin), b. 23 Jun 1798, Raedersheim
d. 5 May 1877, Mornington Township, Canada
m. in France
Magdalena Richard, b. 18 Dec 1805, France
d. 11 Jan 1891, Mornington Township

Children: 1) Joseph R. Ropp (1825-1902) m. Magdalena Lichti
2) Madeleine Ropp (1827)
3) Catherine Ropp (1828-1895) m. Christian S.C. Gingerich

- 4) Christian Ropp (1831-1832)
- 5) Elisabeth Ropp (1833)
- 6) Peter R. Ropp (1834-1898) m. Anna Rupp
- 7) John R. Ropp (1837-1907) m. Magdalena Gingerich
2m. Elizabeth Harris
- 8) Christian R. Ropp (1840-1929) m. Mary Kauffman
- 9) Anne Marie (Mary) Ropp (1843-)
- 10) Fannie R. Ropp (1846-1920) m. John M. Ropp

This family immigrated to Canada in 1853.
See the ROPP file for more details.

E. Christian M. Ropp, b. 9 Oct 1803, Luemschwiller
d. 7 Jul 1837 "
m. 29 Dec 1828 "
Franziska/Veronica Stauffer, b. 9 Mar 1800, France
(Taufner in genealogy) d. 15 Apr 1888 "

- Children: 1) Jean/John Gaspard Stauffer/Ropp (1826-1848)
(born Stauffer, adopted by Christian Ropp)
- 2) Joseph Ropp (1829-) m. Josephine Eicher
 - 3) Catherine Ropp (1830-1943)
 - 4) Christian Ropp (1834-1836)
 - 5) Anne Marie Ropp (1837-1873) m. Christian Richard

(continued)

F. Catherine M. Ropp, b. 10 Nov 1808, Luemschwiller
d. 13 Feb 1866, East Zorra Township, Oxford County
m. France
Pierre/Peter Eicher, son of Christian Eicher and Anne Rich
b. 7 Mar 1804, Aux Gouttes, Montbeliard, Doubs
d. 4 Sep 1851, Luemschwiller

- Children: 1) Christian Eicher (1833-1886) m. Adeline (Ruby) Miller
- 2) Catherine Eicher (1835-1890s) m. Joseph Springer
2m. Christian Lengacher
 - 3) Peter Eicher (1836-1912) m. Veronica Stocky/Stuckey
 - 4) Joseph Eicher (1838-1915) m. Catherine Springer
 - 5) Anne Maria Eicher (1840-1911) m. Michael Schrag

Widow Catherine (Ropp) Eicher and her family immigrated to Canada in May of 1861. All of her children except Maria later emigrated to the United States. Joseph's son Christian, however, returned to Canada. Maria (Eicher) and her husband Michael Schrag are buried in the 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra.

G. Pierre M. Ropp, b. 28 Jul 1812, France
d. 5 Aug 1873 "
m. "
Anna Marie Muller, b. 1 Feb 1816, Chavanatte
d. 17 Jun 1864, Luemschwiller

- Children: 1) Anne Marie Ropp (1840)
- 2) Joseph M. Ropp (1841-1910) m. Elisabeth Gehman
 - 3) Pierre Ropp (1843-1847)
 - 4) Jacques Ropp (1845)
 - 5) Anne Marie Ropp (1846-1851)
 - 6) Anna Ropp (1849-1919) m. Daniel Gehman
 - 7) John M. Ropp (1852-1918) m. Fannie R. Ropp

Only the youngest son of this family emigrated to Canada -- in 1871. He married his cousin Fannie, daughter of Joseph M. and Magdalena (Richard) Ropp.

Notes:

1) The Alsace Emigration Index containing the information on this Joseph Maurer family is found on the LDS film #1125005.

My Roth ancestors also gave their destination as New Orleans, but landed at New York and came to Canada. Either the "New Orleans" was an error or there was a change of mind. The Illinois records claim a Bishop Joseph Maurer arrived in 1855, probably eliminating this particular family unit as being the Joseph Maurer married to Barbara Wagler and the ones found in Canada in 1861.

2) Much of the Joseph Maurer family outline was obtained from the article "Isaac Wagler Revisited" by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. XXI, No. 3, July 2002, page 99. This family is also featured from the Eymann side of the family in her article "My Eymanns in Alsace, Part IIA: The family of Peter Eymann (1721-1794), *MFH*, Vol. XXII, No. 1, January 2003, page 17.

3) Reported in Canada Museum in October 6th and October 20th issues.

4) *First to Seventh Generation of Joseph Ropp and Anna Murer, 1761-1940*, printed in Albany, Oregon, [ca.1940].

HOW MANY JOSEPH MAURERS WERE THERE?

1) In *To the descendants of JOSEPH and ANNA (SCHWEITZER) ROESCHLY*, page 1, we find that Joseph Roeschly and Anna Schweitzer were married 25 Dec 1847 by Bishop Joseph "Muhrrer," which is probably "Maurer." This would have taken place in France.

2) The Alsace emigration index lists a Joseph Maurer age 63 [hence b. ca.1792], wife age 52, a son age 22 and a daughter age 17, with a passport dated October 30, 1855. Joseph was a native of Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, was a farmer, and was living at Lièpvre. The destination was New Orleans.

3) In my Alsace research I find the following Joseph Maurer:

Joseph Maurer, son of Jacob Maurer, d. 26 Dec 1805 Ste. Marie-aux-Mines
and Elisabeth Eyman

b. 28 Jan 1793, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, Haut-Rhin

d. ? Canada?

m. 11 Dec 1823, Ste. Marie-aux-Mines

Barbe Wagler, dau. of Jean Wagler and Catherine Liechti

b. 22 Mar 1799, Ribeauvillé, Haut-Rhin

d. ? Canada?

Listed in 1861 census in Wilmot as "Morer"

-- weaver, no children listed (perhaps with Christian Schlabach family)

4) *From Centennial History of the Mennonites of Illinois, 1829-1929*, by Harry F. Weber, p. 614,615

"Joseph Maurer (-1867)

Joseph Maurer, a bishop from Alsace, emigrated to New Orleans in 1855. The next year he came to the Partridge congregation and served as one of four bishops in

that community, the other three also being immigrants from Europe. He died while on his way to New Orleans and was buried along the banks of the Mississippi in an unknown grave." [His death must have taken place on a return trip to new Orleans.]

Comments:

It would seem to me that probably there were two Joseph Maurers. Nos. 1, 2), and 4) may very well be the same person. Is Illinois Joseph Maurer's approximate date of birth not known from his age on a census record or his age at time of death?

Still another Maurer/Wagler marriage:

Elizabeth Maurer (1816-1904)
m. Christian Wagler (1815-1905)
son of Anna Wagler

1. Son Joseph Wagler ("Black Joe"), b. 28 Jan 1841 (came to America at age 17)
m. 21 Mar 1867, Fort Madison, IA
Barbara Nafziger, dau. of Joseph Naffziger and Barbara Jantzi/Yancie
b. 23 Mar 1846, Canada
d. 6 Dec 1913, Iowa

From Carmyn E. Miller, 104 1/2 East Poplar, #12, Bloomfield, IA 52537

Lorraine Roth
Tavistock, Ontario
April, 2008

Same as above: not in new file
put into Wagler file

m. Christian Wagler (1815-1905) son of Anna Wagler
m. Elizabeth Maurer (1816-1904)

1. [Joseph Wagler] ("Black Joe"), b. 28 Jan 1841 (came to America at age 17)
m. 21 Mar 1867, Fort Madison, IA
Barbara Nafziger, dau. of Joseph Naffziger and Barbara Hjantzi/Yancie
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