

## NAFZIGER

See Nafziger article in July 214 in MFH by Marjorie Gautsche

### ORIGIN

The name Nafziger (or some variation thereof) may derive from "nefzer" -- one who dozes or naps. The Nafziger *Heimat* (place of citizenship) was Uetendorf, near Thun, Canton Bern, Switzerland.(1) (See Notes on page 9) Nafzigers are not found in Swiss Anabaptist records, indicating that they may have converted to Anabaptism after emigrating to Germany. Hermann Guth, a researcher from Saarbrücken, Germany, claimed to have found a Zacharias "Nafzger" from Württemberg who settled at Thun in 1621 and since Nefzers or Nefzgers are still found in Württemberg, he concluded that the Nafzgers may have been German in origin.(2) In her research, Charlan Graff, found the Nafziger name at Thierachern, Switzerland, as early as 1598. She does not deny that Zacharias Nafzger may have come to Thun from Württemberg, but as a returnee, not a first-time immigrant.(3)

\*\*\*\*\*There were 2 similar new files with almost the same information. The part in blue is on one of the sets of file pages. Choose whatever you want!!! Neither is dated.

### Origin

It is believed that the Nafzigers originally came from Württemberg, Germany, where the name is still found as Nefzer, or Nefzger. Zacharias Nafzger, a smith settled in Thun, Switzerland, in 1621. (Guth, p. 208)

Christian Nafziger appeared as a leaseholder in Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, in 1707, It belonged to Zweibrücken, Germany at the time. Ulrich Nafziger appeared on the Barbelsgteinerhof near Erlenbach, Germany. Hermann Guth supposes they were brothers. They may have become Anabaptists after leaving Switzerland, because there is no evidence that they were banished from their native country. The family of Ulrich Nafziger is well documented, but that of Christian has been pieced together from Guth's research. (Guth, pp.201-214)

### THE NAFZIGERS IN CANADA

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER, HIS IDENTITY

According to Guth's research, Christian Nafziger, the first Nafziger immigrant to Canada was a great grandson of Ulrich, through the oldest son Stefan. Christian's parents were Christian Nafziger and Magdalena Güngerich. At the time of immigrant Christian's death the newspaper reported that he was born in 1776 in *Rheinbayern* (the Palatinate) (See the "PALATINATE" found elsewhere in this book for an explanation of why it was called, "*Rheinbayern*." Christian and Magdalena had a son whom they called Christian in 1776, but when another son was born, they named him Christian also, indicating the one born in 1776 did not survive. (Guth letter, Sept. 5, 1998) The only Christian Nafziger found in Hermann Guth's research in the Palatinate in the 1770s is the one born in 1778 on the Geilweilerhof, near Siebeldingen, to Christian and Magdalena (Güngerich) Nafziger.

Christian Nafziger Nafziger married Maria Stalter - date and place is not known. In 1814 he addressed a letter to the King of Bavaria, reminding him that he had promised his father-in-law, Heinrich Stalter that he would help his children

find farms to lease. Christian was now casting himself at his "Highness' feet" asking for assistance. In a separate attachment he indicated that he would like either Fürstenried or Schönbrunn - two of the most prestigious estate farms in Bavaria! A note written on the application, "May he try his luck with others in a public sale' indicates he received no special favour.

In his letter Christian mentioned his master, the Baron von Gören. He was the administrator of the Edensberg estate. No doubt, this is what is meant by "County of Ebersburgh" in Christian's story recorded on his visit to government headquarters in Upper Canada on September 4, 1822. Edersberg is found just west of Reichertshausen, north of Munich - almost halfway between Munich and Ingolstadt. This is likely to have been the residence of Christian and Maria during most of their sojourn in Bavaria.

#### NAFZIGERS IN FRANCE AND GERMANY

Whatever their origin, the Anabaptist Nafziger family became a large extended family in Alsace and Lorraine, France, and in the Palatinate, Germany, with some going to Bavaria after 1800. Many immigrants to Canada and the United States are descended from this extended family with a variety of spellings -- Nafzger, Nafziger, Nofziger, Nofzinger, Nofsier -- to name a few.

Christian Nafziger appeared as a leaseholder in Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, in 1707. It belonged to Zweibrücken, Germany, at the time. Ulrich Nafziger appeared on the Barbelsteinerhof near Erlenbach, Germany. Hermann Guth supposes they were brothers, sons of Christian Nafziger, born 1657, who left Uetendorf, Switzerland, and settled in Lower Alsace in 1707. Whether or not they were Anabaptists when they left Switzerland is not known. The family of Ulrich Nafziger is well documented, but that of Christian has been pieced together from Guth's research and is subject to revision.(4)

#### NAFZIGER IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA

Christian Nafziger, an Amish Mennonite, who left his home in Bavaria and travelled to America in search of a place for his family and other co-religionists to settle was the first Nafziger to set foot in Canada, and that was in September of 1822. He returned with his family in 1826 and several other settlers including Elder (bishop) Peter Nafziger and his family and Peter's sister Barbara married to Peter Danner/Donner and her family.

Several Nafziger individuals or families from France appeared in Canada between the late 1830s and 1860s. Some of them managed to get into a census record or someone's business daybook, but others we heard about only through descendants whose records included Canada on their journey to places farther west. Barbara (Nafziger) Oesch and her husband Christian Oesch and their family arrived in 1857 and remained in Canada. Nineteen-year-old Samuel Nafziger arrived in 1849, married Anna Kipfer, and remained in Canada. Their family is the only one carrying on the Nafziger name in Canada.

In 1996, I attempted to sort through the maze of Nafzigers who had ever put in an appearance in Canada in my article "Putting Together the Canadian Nafziger Puzzle" published in *Mennonite Family History*.<sup>(5)</sup> Research in the Canada Company records since then has shed some light but has also added some confusion concerning the identity of some of these folks. We shall attempt to retell the story to the best of our knowledge in the following pages.

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER (1776/78-1836), HIS IDENTITY

According to Guth's research, Christian Nafziger, the first Nafziger immigrant to Canada was a great grandson of Ulrich, through the oldest son Stefan. At the time of immigrant Christian's death the newspaper reported that he was born in 1776 in *Rheinbayern* (the Palatinate). Christian and Magdalena (Güngerich) had a son whom they named Christian in 1776, but when another son was born, they named him Christian also, indicating the one born in 1776 did not survive.(6) The only Christian Nafziger found in Hermann Guth's research in the Palatinate in the 1770s is the one born to Christian and Magdalena Nafziger in 1778 on the Geilweilerhof, near Siebeldingen in the Palatinate.

Christian Nafziger married Maria Stalter -- date and place are not known. In 1814 he addressed a letter to the King of Bavaria, reminding him that he (the King) had promised his father-in-law, Heinrich Stalter, that he would help his children find farms to lease. Christian was now casting himself at his "Highness's feet," asking for assistance. In a separate attachment he indicated that he would like either Fürstenried or Schönbrunn -- two of the most prestigious estate farms in Bavaria! A note written on the application, "May he try his luck with others in a public sale" indicates he received no special favour.(7) Had, the king honoured his request, the Amish-Mennonite story in Canada would, no doubt, be quite different.

In his letter Christian mentioned his master the Baron von Gohren, who was the administrator of the Edersberg estate. No doubt, this is what is meant by "the County of Ebersburgh" in Christian's story recorded on his visit to government headquarters in Upper Canada on September 4, 1822.(8) Edersberg is found just west of Reichertshausen, north of Munich -- almost halfway between Munich and Ingolstadt. This is likely to have been the residence of Christian and Maria during the latter part of their sojourn in Bavaria.

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER'S SCOUTING TRIP TO CANADA

Sometime late in 1821, Christian Nafziger left his wife and children and made his way to Amsterdam. The Dutch Mennonites were well known for the assistance they gave their Swiss Brethren to relocate in Germany, Alsace, or Holland as well as in America. In the report of Nafziger's death, Mr. von Eeghen was named as the person who furnished him with a voucher on the Vincent Nolte and Company of New Orleans. The von Eeghens were known to be a pious Mennonite family, who were merchants and bankers, carrying on an active trade with the United States after the Declaration of Independence.(9)

Although Nafziger had intended to go to Philadelphia, the Vincent Nolte Company took him to New Orleans. He travelled up the Mississippi to Cincinnati -- whether on foot or river boat we are not told. Since Peter Nafziger later complained that Christian Nafziger did not tell the "pure truth" about the area around Butler County, Ohio,(10) he must have visited that settlement which had been established a few years earlier.

From Cincinnati Nafziger could follow the Ohio River to Wheeling, West Virginia, and the National Road which led all the way to Baltimore. This road passed through the Amish Mennonite settlements in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and Garret County, Maryland. He continued on to Lancaster County, where he

conferred with the Mennonites and/or Amish Mennonites who had been living there a century or more.

Many Mennonites were moving out of the more crowded older settlements, and a number of them had gone and were still going to Canada. Two Amishmen, Christian Stoltzfus and Christian König/King had invested in land in Block 3 of the German Company Tract (now Woolwich Township), but none had moved there to develop these lots. Brothers Christian and John Troyer from Somerset County, Pennsylvania, had gone up to the shores of Lake Erie, and Christian had moved on to Vaughan Township north of the town of York (now Toronto), but they had failed to establish an Amish congregation.

Nafziger was advised to go to Upper Canada and was given a horse to make the trip. Since the road to Canada was well travelled during those years, he and his horse probably had company.

In Waterloo the Mennonites gave Nafziger a good reception and used the opportunity to renew their petition to the government to survey more land and open it for settlement. A number of persons accompanied him to Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) where the government was temporarily meeting. Nafziger met with Sir Peregrine Maitland, the lieutenant governor who explained to him the arrangements for settlement. They would be settled on 50-acre lots, and after complying with their settlement duties -- clearing the roadway, building a house of sufficient dimensions and clearing a designated amount of land -- they would be issued a patent. Seven year's residence to comply with the terms of naturalization would also be required.

Maitland handed Nafziger some letters for the secretary in the Colonial Office in London.(11) No doubt, Nafziger returned to Pennsylvania somewhat jubilant over his success, although there is no indication that he had received any confirmation of land in writing as he had requested. Several individuals and families who had arrived in Pennsylvania in recent years, such as the Kropfs and Brennemans, set out for Canada the following year.

Nafziger proceeded to London and was assured by the Colonial Office or by "His Royal Highness" -- whether King George himself or his brother, the Duke of York -- that there would be land available for him and others. At the time of his death, the newspaper reported that he had an audience with the King and that he pressed some gold coins into his hands, wishing him a good journey. In an earlier communication, John Goessman, a surveyor and advocate for the settlers in Wilmot, indicated that Nafziger had met with the Duke of York.(12)

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER, THE SETTLER

Early in 1823, Nafziger arrived back in Bavaria with his resources depleted. The Mennonites in Waterloo assured him that they would send his passage money to Philadelphia. The Nafziger family made preparations to go to Canada, and gathered a group of others to accompany them, but it was not until the summer of 1826 that they set out on the Ship *Nimrod*, again leaving from Amsterdam. This time the destination was Philadelphia where they arrived on August 18.(13)

The other Amish Mennonite settlers who were also headed for Canada were Elder Peter Nafziger and his family, Minister Christian Steinman, his family and his father, and Peter Danner, whose wife was a sister to Peter Nafziger. Peter Beck and Benjamin Goldschmidt were also on the ship and seem to have spent enough time in Canada to get their names on some lists. Christian and Maria's family

consisted of three sons and two daughters. Four males -- two of them named Johannes -- were listed with them. Nineteen-year-old Johannes was probably a relative or friend. We have found no evidence of him in Canada.

From a letter by Jacob Moyer of "The Twenty" [the Vineland area], to his friends in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, we assume that the Mennonites in Canada had paid the Nafziger family's passage through these people, who then also helped the travelling party obtain the necessary equipment to make the trip to Canada. Moyer reported that the Nafzigers and Steinmans arrived on Sunday, the 1st of October. "Their horses were good and their health did not suffer. They said that their travelling money would hold out until they got to Waterloo and that perhaps they would have a little left over! They told me everything that you had done for them, and were so thankful for the love that you had showed to them, and for the leading of God that it moved my heart to tears. They also asked me to convey greetings from all of them and their heartfelt thanks for the things you have done for them. They don't know how they can ever repay you but they hope that God will repay you." Moyer also reported that they (the Nafziger party) arrived safely in Waterloo on Wednesday. (14)

On their arrival in Wilmot, Christian Nafziger chose Lot 6, North Bleam's Road, and began building a cabin and clearing the land. The land had been surveyed along three parallel roads with 200 acres in each lot. The front 50 acres were to be granted to the settlers free (except for the surveyor's and patent fees) for clearing the road way, building a house, and clearing at least ten acres of land. The remaining 150 acres could be purchased at a reasonable price as soon as the settlers could afford it.

Unknown to the settlers, the land on which they had laid their claims was deeded to King's College, the forerunner of the University of Toronto, as part of its endowment in January of 1828. Several months later, the College president and registrar informed the settlers of the new policies under the new owners. Rents were to be payable retroactive to the time when they first took up the land, and the purchase price was to be \$4.00 per acre -- almost double the price the settlers had expected to pay.

The settlers immediately petitioned the government for a relaxation of these policies or threatened to leave. Christian Nafziger who was acting as an agent for the settlers coming from Europe found himself in the thick of this confrontation. It is from the letters and petitions written by and on behalf of Nafziger and the settlers that we learn a great deal about this early settlement. Some of the settlers, including Elder Peter Nafziger left for Ohio, but others remained. Through negotiation at least some of their objections were addressed.

Christian Nafziger wrote three letters -- dated November, 1831, February, 1832, and December, 1833 -- in which he requested that he be given land in exchange for bringing settlers to this country. He crossed the ocean three times and incurred many debts. In the first letter Christian stated he had some children married and others wanting to marry. In the second letter he described himself as a widower with a large family. In this letter he also threatened not to leave York (now Toronto) until he had the deeds.

Sir John Colborne, then lieutenant governor, ordered that Nafziger be issued a deed for the front 50 acres "free of expense." Unless he was not charged the usual fee for the patent, this was no more than all the other settlers received. Colborne suggested that he might be given the remaining lot free if the college consented to the arrangement, upon receiving an equivalent in land.

Nafziger tried once more at the close of 1833, specifically requesting a free deed for the remaining 150 acres. On February 19, 1834, a note from the Crown Lands office stated that Nafziger had been issued a deed for the 50 acres, and that the remainder had been transferred to King's College. By applying to Colonel Wells, the registrar of the college, the petitioner would be acquainted with the terms under which he could obtain the 150 acres.(15)

How Christian Nafziger was informed of the decision not to grant him any additional land is not known, but he is never heard from again. Perhaps he went to live with one of his daughters, because in the 1834 census he was replaced by Joseph H. Unzicker on Lot 6, North Bleam's Road. At the Wilmot Town Meeting held in October, 1834, he was replaced as agent of the settlers without any explanation.

Christian Nafziger died on April 13, 1836. The editor of the *Canada Museum*, a German paper published in Berlin (now Kitchener), printed Christian's story in the May 5 issue. For over a century this story was the only source of knowledge about Christian Nafziger's life and family. People were fascinated by the story, and it was reprinted in whole or in part in many publications.(16)

The executors of Christian Nafziger's estate (Christian Miller, son-in-law, and George Jutzi, neighbour) sold the front 50 acres to Conrad Schaeffer in September 1843. In 1851 the University of Toronto sold the rear 150 acres to Benjamin Johnson. The Christian Nafziger homestead was now out of the family.

#### THE FAMILY OF CHRISTIAN AND MARIA (STALTER) NAFZIGER

The newspaper story indicated that Christian Nafziger's family on his arrival in Canada in 1826 consisted of a wife, three sons and two daughters. Jacob R. Bender identified one of the daughters as Catherine, the wife of Christian Miller (Burkholder, p. 222)

When we obtained a copy of the ship passenger list, we learned the first names of Christian's wife and the children and their ages in 1826. Although there are many Nafzigers in Ontario, none traced their ancestry back to Christian and Maria. A few Nafziger families were found in the 1851 census records, but then they disappeared. What happened to them?

Catherine, the oldest, has already been mentioned. She married Christian Miller in 1829, and they settled on Lot 7, North Bleam's Road, across the sideroad from the Nafziger homestead. Christian was ordained to the ministry about the time of their marriage. Several of the children married in Canada, but either they or their children migrated to the U.S.A., leaving few, if any, descendants in Canada.

In an 1831 letter it was reported that a daughter of Christian Nafziger married Michael Miller. (John S. Schwartzentruber) This had to be Jacobena (also known as Phoebe). They appeared in the 1851 census of Wilmot Township. From other sources we have learned that this Miller family left for Davis County, Iowa, where they were listed in the 1860 Prairie Township census. (Byler, Graff, and Fiedler)

Christian and Joseph Nafziger purchased part of Lot 10, North Bleams Road, in 1841, but sold it again in 1849. Christian, who was married to Catherine Blum,

spent some time in Woolwich Township and then settled in North Easthope Township, Perth County. Christian was usually identified as a sawmiller or carpenter. Christian and Catherine's daughter Magdalena married John Koch/Cook. They also lived in North Easthope. These Nafziger and Cook families joined the Reformed Mennonite Church and are buried in the North Easthope Reformed Mennonite Cemetery. The Nafziger/Cook descendants are the only known descendants of Christian and Maria Nafziger living in Canada.

Joh Nafziger's activities in Canada are very difficult to establish. He evidently was married and had a son Moses and a daughter Leah by that marriage. Moses was living with his aunt and uncle Jacobena and Michael Miller in the 1851 census and accompanied them to Iowa. John is to have led a group of settlers to Iowa in the early 1850s, but he went on to Dakota City, Nebraska. His second wife was Larinda Pachard. Hohn became a leading figure in this pioneer settlement. (Fiedler)

Joseph Nafziger, who had purchased some land on Bleam's Road along with his brother Christian, married Jacobina Nafziger, daughter of John and Catherine (Gingerich) Nafziger, immigrants from France. This family left Canada before the 1851 census and settled in Hickory County, Missouri. Joseph and perhaps Jacobina are buried in the Gerber Cemetery, Hickory County.

#### CHRISTIAN AND MARIA (STALTER) NAFZIGER FAMILY OUTLINE

Christian Nafziger, presumed son of Christian Nafziger and Magdalena Güngerich  
b. 1776/78, Geilweilerhof, Siebeldingen, Palatinate  
d. 13 Apr 1836, Wilmot Township  
m. 1814 in Bavaria

Maria Stalter, dau. of Heinrich Stalter and Katharina Imhof  
b. ca.1781, probably in Lorraine, France  
d. 1831/32, Wilmot, Canada

In 1814, Christian and Maria were living on the Edersberg estate farm near Reichertshausen, northwest of Munich, and were likely still there at the time of their migration to Canada. All of their children may have been born there.

#### Children:

#### Grandchildren:

1)  
Catherine Nafziger  
b. ca.1812 Bavaria  
d. 1851-61 Wilmot?  
m. 1829 Wilmot?  
Christian Miller  
b. 1806 Switzerland?  
d. 10 Mar 1850 Wilmot

{ John Miller (ca.1830-ca.1860) m. Barbara Helmuth  
Magdalena Miller (ca.1832-1857?) m. Jacob Bender?  
Mary Miller (1833-1913) m. Samuel Bender  
2m. John N. Roth  
Catherine Miller (1834-1857) m. John Buerge  
Lydia Miller (1835-1873) m. David Bender  
Jacobena Miller (1839-1860) m. Christian Gardner  
Elizabeth Miller (1842-1864) m. Jacob M. Bender  
Christian Miller (1845-1925) m. Barbara Stauffer  
Anna Miller (1846-1864)  
Barbara Miller (1847-1918)

(See the MILLER file for further details on this family)

2)  
Jacobena/Phoebe Nafziger  
b. ca.1813 Bavaria  
d. 3 Jul 1879 Pulaski, IA

{ Anna/Nancy Miller (1832-1894 ) m. Christian Zehr  
Magdalena Miller (1835-1912 )m Daniel S. Christner  
Marie/Mary Miller (1836-1925)m. Christian Stevig  
2m Daniel Kinsinger

m. 1829 Wilmot?

Michael G. Miller  
b. ca.1808,Germany  
d.1 Oct 1883 Pulaski,IA  
son of Simon Miller

Elizabeth Miller (ca.1837- ?) m. \_Kinsinger  
Catherine Miller (ca.1840- ? )m. Peter Kinsinger  
Barbara Miller (1842-1917)m.Christian E.Augsburger  
David Miller (ca.1844- ?  
Lydia Miller (1846-1916) m. David Bender,previously  
m. to Lydia Miller, dau. of Catherine and Christian

Moses Nafziger, son of John,  
(#4 on next page)lived with his aunt and uncle in his youth.  
(Also see the MILLER file)

(Additional information from  
William H.Auspurger in the MILLER,  
Documents, Notes file

3)

Christian Nafziger

b. ca.1814 Bavaria

d. 22 May 1886 NEastHope Barbara Nafziger (1839-1841)

m. Jan 1836 Wilmot Magdalena Nafziger (1841-1885) m. John Koch/Cook

Catherine Blum

b. ca.1815 Woolwich?

d. 29 Mar 1896 NEastHope

dau. of Jacob Blum

Since Magdalena Nafziger and John Cook's family are the only Christian Nafziger descendants residing in Canada. Their family will be listed here:(17)

Magdalena (also called Martha) Nafziger, b. June 1841, Woolwich Twp.?

d. 24 June 1885, bu. North Easthope Reformed Mennonite Cemetery

m. 16 Mar 1858, Waterloo Co. by Rev. F. W. Bindemann

John Koch/Cook, son of Henry Koch and Anna Maria Hermann

b. ca.1830, Germany

d. 2 Mar 1894, bu. N. Easthope Reformed Mennonite Cemetery

a) John N. Cook (1852-1923) m. Katherine Dotzert

b) Jacob Cook (1868-1882)

c) Catherine Cook (1871-1962) m. David Dotzert

d) David N. Cook (1873-1963) m. Melinda Cook?

e) Magdalena Cook (1875-1885)

f) Lydia Cook (1877-1885)

(The *Yost Genealogy* [compiled by Lyle E. and Erma Yost et al.,  
Hesston, Kans., 1982] is the source for the Dotzert family)

4)

John Naffziger

b. May 1816 Bavaria

d. 8 Jan 1903 Dakota  
City,NE

1m. Rachel Baer?

2m. 1858

Lurinda Packard

b. ca.1830 Plainfield,MA

d. 2 Jul 1891 D.City,NE

to 1st marriage:

Leah Naffziger (ca.1843- ? ) m. John Daglish

Moses Naffziger (1847-1896) m. Harriet Stover

to 2nd marriage:

William H. Naffziger (1858-1939) m. Emma J. Castle

Harriet Elina Naffziger m. Louis Warnholtz

John **Franklin** Naffziger

Laura Naffziger m. Henry Niebuhr

Mary Naffziger m. George Niebuhr

Flora Bell Naffziger m. John Dewitt

In Naffziger by Anita Fiedler, 1995, Anita discusses her difficulties in trying to identify Jhn Naffziger. According to family tradition he accompanied the



Christian Nafziger family to Canada, some saying he was a son, others a nephew. The discrepancies in the ages given would make it possible for him to have been either the 19-year-old "Johanas" or the 9-year-old "Johannas" on the ship passenger list. Whether son or nephew, he was certainly connected to Christian Nafziger, and until disproved, we will consider him the son.

According to the Gingrich genealogy and Ezra Eby's book, a Rachel Baer married a Samuel Nafziger, and they had two children, Leah and Moses. Was Rachel's husband incorrectly called Samuel, or were there two Nafziger families with children named Leah and Moses? We won't attempt to explain that puzzle.

5)

Joseph S. Naffziger	{	Catherine Naffziger (1841-1919) m. Jacob J. Stuckey
b. 20 Jun 1820 Bavaria		John J. Nafziger (1843-1918)
d. 8 Aug 1891 HickoryCo.MO		Christian Nafziger (1845-1900) m. Mary Rich
m. 22 Dec 1840 Wilmot		David Nafziger (1846-1907) m. Lou Goldsmith
Jacobina Nafziger		Daniel Nafziger (1848-1912)
b. 20 Dec 1819 France		Samuel Nafziger (1850-1875), killed by Dick Rogers
d. 12 Apr 1891 Hick.Co.MO		Anna Nafziger (1853-1855)
dau. of John Nafziger		Benjamin Nafziger (1856-1929)
and Catherine Gingerich		Mary Nafziger (1858-1905)

#### THE FAMILY OF CHRISTIAN AND MARIA (STALTER) NAFZIGER FIND THEIR OWN NICHE IN THE WORLD

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In his history of "The Amish Mennonites in Canada," Jacob R. Bender identified one of the daughters as **Catherine**, the wife of **Christian Miller**. (18) She married Christian Miller in 1829, and they settled on Lot 7, North Bleam's Road, across the sideroad from the Nafziger homestead. Christian was ordained to the ministry about the time of their marriage. Several of the children married in Canada, but either they or their children migrated to the U.S.A., leaving few, if any, descendants in Canada.

In an 1831 letter it was reported that a daughter of Christian Nafziger married **Michael Miller**. (19) This had to be **Jacobena** (also known as Phoebe). They appeared in the 1851 census of Wilmot Township. From other sources we have learned that this Miller family left for Davis County, Iowa, where they were listed in the 1860 Prairie Township census. (20)

In 1840, **Christian Nafziger** leased Lot 16, Concession VI in North Easthope Township in the Huron District from the Canada Company. Christian was married to Catherine Blum. They appeared in the 1842 and 1843 census, but in September, 1843, the lease was transferred to Benjamin Erb, and Christian Nafziger and Joseph Nafziger (presumably his brother) purchased the front 100 acres of Lot 10, North Bleam's Road, Wilmot Township, from Benjamin Erb. In June they had already purchased 23 acres of Lot 12, also North Bleam's Road. In 1848, Christian sold his shares in these properties to Joseph. The document of sale, indicated Christian and Catherine were residents of Woolwich Township at that

time. In 1860 Christian purchased about 25 acres of the rear part of Lot 11, South Bleam's road. In 1858, their daughter Magdalena (then a resident of Wilmot) married John Cook of North Easthope. In 1869, Christian and Catherine sold their property in Wilmot and purchased a five-acre lot just west of the crossroad known as Amulree. Christian was usually identified as a sawmiller or carpenter. This Nafziger/Cook family joined the Reformed Mennonite Church and are buried in the North Easthope Reformed Mennonite Cemetery. The Nafziger/Cook descendants are the only known descendants of Christian and Maria Nafziger living in Canada.

Joseph Nafziger who became known as **Joseph S. Nafziger** married in 1840 to Jacobina Nafziger, daughter of John and Catherine (Gingerich) Nafziger, immigrants from France. The initial S. helps to distinguish him from Jacobena's brother Joseph. In some cases that will help to identify which Joseph lived where. It is probably safe to assume that the Joseph who purchased land in Wilmot along with Christian described above, was also the son of Christian and Maria. Joseph sold most of the properties he and Christian had purchased in 1849 but purchased another three-acre parcel of Lot 12, North Bleam's Road, only to sell it the following year. Early in 1851, Joseph advertised a sale, but left for Lee County, Iowa, before the census enumerator made his rounds for the 1851 census. In 1859, the family moved to Hickory County Missouri where 25-year-old Samuel died in 1875. His tombstone says he was killed by Dick Rogers. Joseph and Jacobena (Josephine on the tombstone) and Samuel were buried in what is known as the Gerber Cemetery, near Wheatland, Missouri. (21)

Then there were the two John Nafzigers who were listed with Christian and Maria on the passenger list -- one age nineteen, the other nine. It is assumed that the older one was another relative, not a son, and that he never appeared in the Canadian land records. But the John, born about 1815, is almost as elusive. To complicate the John Nafziger puzzle, the patriarch of the family who immigrated from France, but was in Canada a relatively short time, was also named John. The latter family will be discussed later.

We found a **John Nafziger** who leased Lot 15, Concession VIII in North Easthope Township in 1843 from the Canada Company. The lease was transferred in 1854. Canada Company records do not divulge any genealogical information; so we can only speculate on his identity. He is recorded as making payments between 1843 and 1854, but he does not appear in the census records taken in that township in the 1840s and in 1851. He may have used this property as an investment, but does not seem to have resided there. This assumption fits rather well with the life style which John Nafziger, son of Christian, seems to have been living at that time.

The whereabouts of one of the Johns who accompanied Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger to Canada in 1826 was finally revealed when one of his descendants, Anita Fiedler, then of Indianapolis, Indiana, posted a query on the internet. Mark Yantzi saw the query and put us in touch. There is conflicting information in the family tradition. Was he a nephew or a son of Christian? Was he born in 1807 or 1817?

According to tradition, he was married and had a daughter Leah, born in 1843, and a son Moses, born in 1847. About 1850, John is to have led a group of settlers to Davis County, Iowa. Son Moses appeared in his aunt and uncle Jacobena and Michael Miller's home in the 1851 census and accompanied them to Davis County, Iowa, where they appeared in the 1860 census. He was still with them in 1871. Leah and her mother, Rachel Nafziger show up in the South

Waterloo census in 1861. The story is complicated by Rachel's side of the family calling her husband Samuel instead of John. Were their two Nafziger families with children named Leah and Moses, born about the same time?(22)

After having led a group of settlers to Iowa, John went on to Dakota City, Nebraska, in 1856, although at that time there was not yet a "Dakota City." Dakota County, Nebraska, was not organized until 1855. John married Larinda Packard who had travelled west from her native Massachusetts and served as a teacher in the new settlement. John set up a store in what would become Dakota City and later also farmed. He became a leading figure in this pioneer settlement.(23)

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER, LEGEND OR HERO

Christian Nafziger's story has captured the imagination of many, both on the American and European continents, and wherever the history of the Amish Mennonites in Canada is referred to, this story is repeated.(24)

The Amish are not prone to grant anyone the status of a hero, and Christian Nafziger's leaving his wife and children for such a long period of time (his journey took about a year and a half) even for a good cause was considered irresponsible. According to one historian, Christian was referred to as a "*Luftling*." This term is not found in the dictionary, but the verb "*luften*" in a figurative sense might be used in the same way as our English "flying by the seat of one's pants." (25)

Whatever status we accord to Christian Nafziger, personally, or as a leader, the order of events and his place in it is definitely a foundation piece of the Amish Mennonite settlement in Canada. The Amish would have come to America, irregardless of Christian Nafziger's part in the story, but where they would have settled without his leadership is a question to which we do not know the answer. The Mennonites in Waterloo would have attracted settlers, but how and who is also not known.

Christian was not well paid for his efforts. Had his petition to the King of Bavaria been granted, Christian would not likely have come to Canada. Had he been better paid in Canada for his endeavours, his family would not likely have looked for greener pastures elsewhere. The "what-ifs" in the decisions made by individuals are always far-reaching, especially for one's posterity, but in the case of Christian Nafziger's life-changing decisions, they were crucial for a whole community. Whether we grant him the status of a hero or not, he was a prime mover in the Amish-Mennonite settlement in Canada as we know it.

#### Notes:

1) *Was Isch Dini Nahme? What Is Your Name?* by Delbert L. Gratz. Morgantown, Pa.: Masthof Press, 1995, page 20.

2) *Amish Mennonites In Germany . . .* by Hermann Guth. Metamora Ill.: Illinois Mennonite Historical Society and Morgantown, PA.: Masthof Press, 1995, page 208.

3) Letter from Charlan Graff, from Lincoln, Nebraska, March 6, 1999.

4) Guth, pages 202-214. A nine-page summary of the extended Nafziger family, indicating those who are known to have emigrated to America, is found after this introductory summary.

5) "Putting Together the Canadian Nafziger Puzzle" by Lorraine Roth in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. XV, No. 3, July 1996. Copies of the article are found in the "Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscripts" file.

6) Postscript to Gertrud Guth's letter of September 5, 1998

7) Hermann Guth published and commented on this letter in "Mennoniten in der Gunst eines Fursten" in *Mennonitische Geschichtsblätter*, Neue Folge Nr.31, 1979, page 77 (Bayr. Hauptstaatsarchiv Munchen, MF 493). A copy of this article and an English version are found in the "Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscripts" file.

8) An account of this meeting and a record made by G. Hillier (Chief Justice and Presiding Councillor) is found on page [9] of *The Amish And Their Neighbours, The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1855-1860* by Lorraine Roth. Waterloo, Ontario: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, 1998.

9) See "Eeghen, van," *Mennonite Encyclopedia*, Vol. II, pages 158-161 and "Why the Dutch Were the First Mennonites to Send Missionaries Overseas" by Alle Hoekema in *The Conrad Grebel Review*, Winter/Spring 1997, pages 30-33.

10) Peter Nafziger, letter to Johannes Gungerich, July 25, 1829 -- Original letter in Archives of the Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society, Metamora, Illinois; translation by Joe Springer, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. (Copy of published translation in the NAFZIGER Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No. I)

11) *The Amish and Their Neighbours* . . . , page 10.

12) In an addendum to a translation of a letter, dated November 16, 1828, signed by Peter Nafziger, Joseph Goldschmidt and Christian Erb, Goessman included this comment about Nafziger making application to "His Royal Highness the Duke of York." (National Archives of Canada, RG5, A1, Vol. 91, pages 50557-60, Film #C-6866)

The story of Nafziger's audience with the king is treated at length in "Christian Nafziger and the 'King'" in the Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscript file.

13) National Archives, Washington D.C., passenger lists for arrivals at Philadelphia, Microfilm Series M-425, Roll #39.

14) Jacob Meyer/Moyer letter, dated 9 Oct 1826, to Christian Gross or Heinrich Honsberger, quoted in *Maintaining the Right Fellowship* . . . by John L. Ruth. Scottdale, Penna.: Herald Press, 1984, page 205. The original letter is found in the Archives of the Mennonite Church, Goshen College, Goshen, Ind. in the Hist. Mss. 1-10, Early Mennonite Correspondence and Papers Collection, Box 1, File 12. Copies of the original letter and transcription have been obtained and are found in the Christian Nafziger - Related Manuscripts, etc. file, along with a translation of the Nafziger/Steinmann reference.

15) This correspondence is found in the University of Toronto Archives, A68-0010/050, File Unit 3.

16) See the "Christian Nafziger Bibliography," a list of reprints of and references to the newspaper story of Christian Nafziger (with photocopies of some of them) at the end of the Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscripts file.

17) See "Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger Descendants in Canada" in the "Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscripts" file for an expanded family list.

18) "The Amish Mennonites in Canada" by Jacob R. Bender in *A Brief History of the Mennonites in Ontario* . . . by L. J. Burkholder, Markham, Ont., c. Mennonite Conference of Ontario, 1935, page 222.

19) John S. Schwartzentruber letter, dated Sept. 11, 1831, to Johannes Gungerich, translated by Joe Springer, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen, Indiana. An earlier translation by George Unger appeared in *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*, June 1988.

20) *Amish Immigrants of Waldeck and Hesse* by John M. Byler, Belleville, Ohio, 1993, page 102. Notes and correspondence with Charlan Graff and Anita Fiedler also provided information. There are separate files for the correspondence of both Graff and Fiedler.

21) It was Charlan Graff of Lincoln, Nebraska who first alerted me to the marriage between the two Nafzigers. The Joseph S. Nafziger story is found in *History of Hickory, Polk, Cedar, Dade and Barton Counties, Missouri*, 1889, pages 602,603 (Contributed by K. Snow <roots2me@yahoo.com> in the USGenWeb Archives). Copies of quotes from this history are found in the MISSOURI file. Anita Fiedler quotes some information on this family from a "History of the Nafzger Family in America" by Glea Brown Richer -- in "Three Wills," included in her 1996 correspondence.

22) See "The John Naffziger Puzzle" for my attempt at sorting out this puzzle in the "Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscripts" file.

23) Anita Fiedler published her story on John Nafziger in "The Grandparents, Chapter One, NAFFZIGER" in 1995. John's obituary is transcribed on page 29. A copy is found following the "Christian Nafziger-Related Manuscripts" file.

24) See Note #16.

25) This tradition was maintained by the late Alvin Gingerich.

For a continuation of the summary, continue on NAFZIGER3

The following is not included in the above summary:

Primary sources giving details of Christian Nafziger's life, travels, and negotiations:

Minute in Council describing Nafziger and his trip to Canada, made on his visit to government headquarters on September 4, 1822. (Copy on p. [9] in *The Amish and Their Neighbours*)

Petition signed by Peter Nafziger, Christian Bosiger, Christian Erb and Christian Nafziger, probably to King's College, because the University of

Toronto has the original German letter, gives some of Christian Nafziger's understandings with the British Government -- petition dated 25 August 1828. (Copy and translation on p. 16 in *The Amish and Their Neighbours*)

An undated letter, probably composed shortly after the one of August 25, 1828, and signed by Christian Erb and Christian Nafziger, described Nafziger's meeting with Lt-Governor Maitland on September 9, 1822, and the understandings for settlement. (University of Toronto Archives, A68-0010/050, File Unit 1)

John Goessman added a lengthy explanation to a letter dated November 16, 1828 and signed by Peter Nafziger, Joseph Goldschmidt and Christian Erb, in which he identified "His Royal Highness" as the Duke of York, brother to King George IV. (National Archives of Canada, RG5, A1, Vol. 91, pp. 50557-60, Film #C-6866)

In his petition for a further land grant, dated November 10, 1831, Nafziger, stated that Maitland had given him letters for the secretary of the Colonial Department in London. (Copy on p. [25] in *The Amish and Their Neighbours*)

#### References:

*Amish Mennonites In Germany, Their Congregations, The Estates Where They Lived, Their Families* by Hermann Guth. (Morgantown, PA: Illinois Mennonite Historical Society and Masthof Press, c1995)

Nafziger Genealogies, pp. 202-214

Appendix IX, translation of report of Nafziger's death in *Canada Museum*, May 5, 1836

"The Kirschbacher Hof Estate and the Stalters" in *Mennonite Family history*, July 1988, page 98. Maria appears on page 98

"Mennoniten in der Gunst eines Fursten" by Hermann Guth in *Mennonitische Geschichtsblätter*, Neue Folge Nr.31, 1979, pp. 70-79

"Putting Together the Canadian Nafziger Puzzle" by Lorraine Roth in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. XV, No. 3, July 1996

*The Amish and Their Neighbours: The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1822-1860* by Lorraine Roth. (Waterloo, ON: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, c1998), pp. 2,3, 9-14, 47

Letters to Lorraine Roth from Gertrud and Hermann Guth, dated January 13 and February 8, 1998

*The Nafzger Heritage News*, edited by Clair Naftzger et al, Grafton, Ohio. I received several issues of this newsletter in the early 1980s. See the list of issues in my files.

CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER - related manuscripts, Published Accounts of his Story, etc.

"Primary sources giving details of Christian Nafziger's life, travels, and negotiations" (a list)

A list of Christian Nafziger's correspondence with the government re his request for and additional land grant.

"Christian Nafziger, Immigrant Leader (1776/78-1836)"

"Christian Nafziger" (a presentation prepared for Nithview Seniors, 1996)

"Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger Descendants in Canada

"Putting together the Canadian Nafziger Puzzle" (next to final draft and photocopy of article published in *Mennonite Family History*, 1996

Christian Nafziger's letter to the king of Bavaria (photocopy of original and translation)

Copy of "Mennoniten in der Gunst eines Fürsten „ by Hermann Guth in *Mennonitischen Geschichtsblätter*, Neue Folge No. 31, 1979

„Mennonites in the favour of a sovereign“- an English version of the above.

Map showing Edersburg, residence of Christian Nafziger at the time he wrote to the king and at the time of emigration.

"Christian Nafziger and 'King;" (- the king of England)

"The John Naffziger Puzzle" (son of Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger)

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER BIBLIOGRAPHY

Following his death, Christian Nafziger's story was published in the *Canada Museum*, the German newspaper printed in Berlin (now Kitchener) on May 5, 1836.

The following is a list of publications in which the newspaper story was either quoted in full or referred to at length:

"Herr Christian Naffziger, " *Canada Museum*, story reproduced in Gottlieb Leibbrandt's Little Paradise;. . . (followed by an enlarged copy.

Letter of Jacob Meyer (1826) to Christian Gross or Heinrich Honsberger re Nafziger and Steinmann visit enroute to the Waterloo settlement (photocopy of original, transcriptions, and translation)

"An Account of the Amish Mennonites in Canada," an English translation of a publication written and published by Benjamin Eby (1841) (photocopy)

The Christian Nafziger story by Christian Ropp (also an immigrant to Canada, who had moved on to Ohio then Illinois (a photocopy)  
Translation by George Unger, both supplied by Steven Estes

"The Amishman," published *Papers and Records* by the Ontario Historical Society, 1919 (photocopy: Christian Nafziger and others mentioned on p. 41)

"Death of Christian Nafziger," a summary of the 1836 *Canada Museum* story, in the Kitchener Daily Record, (1926) (photocopy supplied by David Luthy, Aylmer

"Nafziger" articles, including "Nafziger, Christian" in *Mennonite Encyclopedia* (photocopy)

"Nafziger, Christian" by Orland Gingerich in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Volume VII, 1836-1850 (photocopy)

--a second printing of the OnLine copy of dictionary article

"Biography of Christian Nafziger Who Died in 1836 in Ontario, Canada." in *Amish Mennonites in Germany* . . . by Hermann Guth , Appendix IX (photocopy)

"Gold Coins for the Journey" in *No Permanent City*. . . by Harry Loewen (photocopy)

"Mr. Christian Naffziger," Exhibit C.p. 41 in the *Amish and Neighbours* . . . by Lorraine Roth (typed copy of *Canada Museum* story)

(A more detailed version of the above list is found at the beginning of the Bibliography part of the file.)

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER BIBLIOGRAPHY

Following his death, Christian Nafziger's story was published in the *Canada Museum*, the German newspaper printed in Berlin (now Kitchener) on May 5, 1836.

The following is a list of publications in which the newspaper story was either quoted in full or referred to at length:

Facsimile reproduction in:

*Little Paradies: aus Geschichte und Leben der Deutschkanadier in der County Waterloo, Ontario, 1800-1975* by Gottlieb Leibbrandt. Kitchener, Ont.: private publication, 1997. "Herr Christian Naffziger," photocopy of newspaper article of May 5, 1836, page 25 (photocopy in Christian Nafziger -- Related Manuscripts, Published Accounts of his Story, etc. file)

English edition of the above: *Little Paradise: the saga of the German Canadians of Waterloo County, Ontario, 1800-1975*, published in 1980. The newspaper story is not translated. A summary of the story mentions King George IV. This is probably taken from *The Amish of Canada* by Orland Gingerich who is cited in the notes.

Jacob Meyer/Moyer of "The Twenty" wrote to Christian Gross or Henrich Honsberger [in eastern Pennsylvania], October 9, 1826 [that Christian Nafziger and his company had passed through on their way to Waterloo, transcription by Elizabeth Horsch Bender, Archives of the Mennonite Church].

The above was quoted in *Maintaining the Right Fellowship* . . . by John L. Ruth. Scottdale, PA & Kitchener, ON: Herald Press, 1984, page 205, footnotes #29, #30. This letter is found in the AMC, Goshen, IN in Hist. Mss. 1-10, Early Mennonite Correspondence and Papers Collection, in Box 1, File 12.

A photocopy (3 copies) of the 3-page letter and the 5 pages of transcription have been received from the Archives, and are filed in the above-named file, along with a translation of the story concerning the Nafziger party.

A full translation of the letter, perhaps by Isaac Horst, is included.

*Kurzgefasste Kirchen Geschichte und Glaubenslehre der Taufgesinnten-Christen oder Mennoniten* by Benjamin Eby. Berlin, Canada: Heinrich Eby, 1841.

"Nachricht von den Amischen Mennoniten in Canada," pages 157-159.

The following English edition of the above contains the story on pages 96-98:

"An Account of the Amish Mennonites in Canada" in *A Concise Ecclesiastical History and Doctrinal Theology of the Baptists or Mennonites* . . . by Benjamin



Eby. Elkhart, Ind.: Mennonite Publishing Co., 1901. (photocopy in the above-named file)

Christian Ropp, immigrant to Canada, who eventually settled in Illinois penned the story almost verbatim in an undated manuscript, now housed with the Christian Ropp Papers, Collection 7, Illinois Mennonite Archives, Metamora, IL A copy and translation by George Unger, 1982, were received from Steve Estes in 1995. (photocopy in the above-named file)

Ezra E. Eby told the story, including Nafziger's visit to King George IV in England in his *A Biographical History of . . . Waterloo Township, 1895 & 1896*. The story appears on page 13 in the 1971 edition by Eldon D. Weber. On page 11, he also tells the story of Andrew Groff meeting up with "Jacob Nachtsinger" -- most surely Christian Nafziger -- and riding with him to "The Twenty," where they again parted.

"The Amishman" by Judge George Smith in *Ontario Historical Society, Papers and Records*, Vol. XVII. Toronto: Published by the Society, 1919. Christian "Nafziger" gets one paragraph (on page 41) in this very concise article on the Quakers, Menonites and Amish. (photocopy in the above-named file)  
Christian Nafziger's story printed in English in *Kitchener Daily Record*, 1926? (a photocopy furnished by David Luthy, Alymer, Ont.-- in the above-named file)

*Hannes Schneider and is wife Catharine Haus Schneider, Their Descendants and Times, 1534-1939*. Published by Miriam Helen Snyder, Kitchener, Ontario (Preface, 1937). Christian Nafziger and his story are mentioned on pages 23, 42A, 74.

"Nafziger, Christian" in *Mennonitisches Lexicon*, Begonnen von Christian Hege und Christian Neff, fortgefuhrt von Harold S. Bender und Ernst Crous, Dritter, Band, Druck und Verlag von Heinrich Schneider, Karlsruhe (Baden) 1958, page 197 (photocopy in above-named file)

"Nafziger, Christian (1776-1836)" by Christian Hege in *Mennonite Encyclopedia*, Vol. III, Mennonite Publishing House, c1957, 2nd Printing 1973, page 806 (footnotes to the article are L.J. Burkholder, *A Brief History of the Mennonites in Ontario* and Heinz Lehmann, *Das Deutschtum in Ostkanada* (Stuttgart, 1931) and *Mennonitisches Lexicon* III, 197)

*150 Years, Sesquicentennial of the Amish Mennonites of Ontario* [history] by Lorraine Roth. [Waterloo, Ont.]: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario and Western Ontario Mennonite Conference, 1972. The Christian Nafziger story is told under "In Quest of Land," page 15.

Orland Gingerich reports Christian Nafziger's story on pages 27-29 in *The Amish of Canada*. Waterloo, Ont.: Conrad Press, 1972

The *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* Online,  
<http://www.biographi.ca/EN/ShowBioPrintable.asp?BioId=37698>, 2005-11-15  
(copy in above-named file)

In *Frontier Community to Urban Congregation, First Mennonite Church, Kitchener 1813-1988* E. Reginald Good used this story, along with his own research, on pages 41-43, in Chapter 4, "'Swarming In,' Amish-Mennonite Immigration to the Waterloo District." Published by First Mennonite Church, 1988.

Hermann Guth printed the newspaper story and further commentary on Christian Nafziger as No. IX in the "Anhang: Briefe und Dokumente" of his *300 Jahre Amische Teilung, 1693-1993 Amische Mennoniten in Deutschland, Ihre Gemeinden, Ihre Hofe, Ihre Familien*. Privately published, 1992.

The above was revised and translated into English as *Amish Mennonites in Germany*. . . and published by the Illinois Mennonite Press, Morgantown, PA., 1995.

Christian Nafziger's story (translation by Anne Augspurger Schmidt-Lange - an earlier translation by Getrud Guth) appears as Appendix IX on pages 212, 213 (photocopy in above-named file)

"Gold Coins for the Journey" in Harry Loewen's *No Permanent City, Stories from Mennonite History and Life*, . Waterloo, ON and Scottdale, PA: Herald Press, 1993, pages 72-74 (photocopy in above-named file)

*The Amish and Their Neighbours, The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1822-1860* by Lorraine Roth. Waterloo Ont.: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, 1998. Christian Nafziger's story is told under Exhibit C, page 41 (copy in above-named file)

E. Reginald Good reported on a letter to Royal Archives, London and the response that there was no record of Christian Nafziger's audience with King George IV.

The following in red is not in new file or one part is retyped because I could not find it when I wanted it!

NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No. I

"Nafziger Land Holdings"

"Samuel Nafziger Family Land Holdings"

North Easthope Township History: Samuel Nafziger family, pp. 563, 564 (copy)

North Easthope Township History: John Nafziger, Joseph Nafziger, p. 432 (copy)

Joseph Naffziger/Barbara Jantzi (package)

- 1) Joseph Naffziger and Barbara Jantzi marriage certificate, transcription and translation
- 2) Joseph Naffziger and Barbara Jantzi family register (copy of original German, transcription, and translation)
- 3) miscellaneous death, marriage, census, obituary records

Naffziger, Joseph & Barbara (Jantzi) (package)  
Materials collected by Bessie Filmore

"Immigrant Joseph Nafziger From France to Ontario to Iowa to Kansas" by John H. Zornes in *¶Mennonite Family History¶*, April 1985 (photocopy)

Nafziger entries in *¶Strangers and Pilgrims¶* by Arlene Yousey (photocopy)

Nafziger outline from *¶300 Jahre Amische Teilung, 1693-1993¶* by Hermann Guth, pp. 155-164 (German) (photocopy)

"Die Nafziger vom Steinbacherhof" by Hermann Guth, rec'd in 1988

A draft Nafziger outline of Christian Nafziger of Birlenbach by Hermann Guth  
My comments and questions to the above  
My abbreviated draft of the above outline and notes concerning marriage of  
Christian Nafziger (435) to Marie Jantzi

"An Outline Showing the Relationships of the Various Nafziger Immigrants"  
(very tentative)

"Fruhe Nafziger in Deutschland" by Hermann Guth, received via Dale Nofsinger

"Letter From Peter Naffziger to Johannes Gingerich, July 25, 1829" translation  
from German by Joe Springer in *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*, June 1998  
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"Rev. Peter Naffziger," p. 27, W. H. Grubb's *History of Mennonites in Butler  
County*, published in 1916. (on p. 20 of the 2001 Republished Edition)

"Rev. Peter Naffziger (1787-1885)" in *History of the Central Conference  
Mennonite Church* by William B. Weaver, Danvers, IL, 1926, p. 203 (photocopy)

"Peter Nafziger, From Germany to Canada" and "Peter Naffziger, 'The Apostle' in  
Ohio" by Lorraine Roth Roth, 2005 (copy sent to Carl and Ruth? Jantzen)

Marriage record of Pierre Nafziger and Anne "Abbersol" (Ebersol) at Gondrexange  
in 1807 and birth record of son Christian in 1812 -- notes in English by Bradley  
Arthaud

Death record of Michel "Nafzger" at Heimersdorff, 1825 (father of Peter  
Nafziger, immigrant) (no translation)  
(over)

Death record of Jean Nafzger at Heimersdorff, 1822, son of Michel Nafzger and  
Madeleine Ganss (no translation)

"Vom Segen der Vater" by Erna Guth in *Mennonitische Geschichtsblätter* . . .  
*Mennonitischen Geschichtsverein*, 16. Jahrgang, Neue Folge / Nr.11, 1959  
(photocopy)

"NAFZIGER" (draft) (version sent to Anita Fiedler)

"IMMIGRANT SAMUEL NAFZIGER" (draft) (version sent to Lorna?)

"More detailed notes on Peter and Barbara Roth Nafziger" (1 page)

Pierre Naffziger and Barbara Liechty family outline and notes sent to Joe  
Springer (2 pages)

Peter Nafziger family from Lembach from N.A. Stuckey Levine  
Family of Andre Nafziger and Marie Muller sent to N.A. Stuckey Levine

Notes on Nafziger entries in Peter Litwiller's *Notizbuch  
re Gemeinden, Ihre Hofe, Ihre Familien*. Privately published, 1992  
The above was revised and translated into English as *Amish Mennonites in Germany*  
. . . and published by the Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical  
Society, Metamora, Illinois, and Masthof Press, Morgantown, PA, 1995. Christian  
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Nafziger outline from *¶300 Jahre Amische Teiling, 1693-1993¶* by Hermann Guth, pp. 155-164 (German) (photocopy)

"Die Nafziger vom Steinbacherhof" by Hermann Guth, rec'd in 1988

A draft Nafziger outline of Christian Nafziger of Birlenbach by Hermann Guth  
My comments and questions to the above

My abbreviated draft of the above outline and notes concerning marriage of Christian Nafziger (435) to Marie Jantzi

"An Outline Showing the Relationships of the Various Nafziger Immigrants"  
(very tentative)

"Fruehe Nafziger in Deutschland" by Hermann Guth, received via Dale Nofsinger

"Letter From Peter Naffziger to Johannes Gingerich, July 25, 1829" translation from German by Joe Springer in *¶Illinois Mennonite Heritage¶*, June 1998 (photocopy)

"Rev. Peter Naffziger," p. 27, W. H. Grubb's History of Mennonites in Butler County, published in 1916. (on p. 20 of the 2001 Republished Edition)

"Rev. Peter Naffziger (1787-1885)" in [History of the Central Conference Mennonite Church] by William B. Weaver, Danvers, IL, 1926, p. 203 (photocopy)

"Peter Nafziger, From Germany to Canada" and "Peter Naffziger, 'The Apostle' in Ohio" by Lorraine Roth Roth, 2005 (copy sent to Carl and Ruth? Jantzen)

Marriage record of Pierre Nafziger and Anne "Abbersol" (Ebersol) at Gondrexange in 1807 and birth record of son Christian in 1812 -- notes in English by Bradley Arthaud

Death record of Michel "Nafzger" at Heimersdorff, 1825 (father of Peter Nafziger, immigrant) (no translation)  
(over)

Death record of Jean Nafzger at Heimersdorff, 1822, son of Michel Nafzger and Madeleine Ganss (no translation)

"Vom Segen der Vater" by Erna Guth in [Mennonitische Geschichtsblätter] . . . Mennonitischen Geschichtsverein, 16. Jahrgang, Neue Folge / Nr.11, 1959 (photocopy)

"NAFZIGER" (draft) (version sent to Anita Fiedler)

"IMMIGRANT SAMUEL NAFZIGER" (draft) (version sent to Lorna?)

"More detailed notes on Peter and Barbara Roth Nafziger" (1 page)

Pierre Naffziger and Barbara Liechty family outline and notes sent to Joe Springer (2 pages)

Peter Nafziger family from Lembach from N.A. Stuckey Levine  
Family of Andre Nafziger and Marie Muller sent to N.A. Stuckey Levine

Notes on Nafziger entries in Peter Litwiller's [Notizbuch]

#### NAFZIGER IMMIGRANTS FROM FRANCE

Before pursuing the French immigrants, we will pause to give a brief outline of how those from Germany (which we have just discussed) and those from France might be related.

#### THE RELATIONSHIPS OF THE VARIOUS NAFZIGER IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA (An Abbreviated List)

Persons highlighted emigrated to Canada and/or the U.S.

The following outline is selective, highlighting those who came to Canada (and some to Lewis County, New York). The numbers, however, have been retained; so

if a number is missing, that person's descendants did not emigrate.(1) (See Notes on page 15)

This outline has been extracted from the research done primarily by Hermann Guth of Saarbrücken, Germany. Charlan Graff from Lincoln, Nebraska, questions some of his conclusions, but has not come up with an alternative list. I will use this list, but with the understanding to that it may need revisions.(2)

Christian Nafziger and Anna Schnyder, residents of Uetendorf, Switzerland, may be the ancestors of all known Anabaptist Nafzigers.

Possible sons are:

- I. Christian Nafziger, b. 1675, probably Uetendorf, Switzerland  
leaseholder in Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, 1707  
wife's name not known
- II. Ulrich Nafziger, b. 1686, Uetendorf  
m. Magdalena (probably dau. of Hans Güngerich)  
d. 1759 in Essingen, Germany  
Ulrich migrated to U.S.A. and married again there  
d. 1754 in Leacock Twp., Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania

\*\*\*\*\*

- I. Christian Nafziger, b. 1675, living at Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, in 1707

- A. Christian Nafziger, b. ca.1705  
Some descendants migrated to Ohio.
  - B. Valentin Nafziger?, b. ca.1707  
Some descendants migrated to Ohio.
  - C. Pierre/Peter Nafziger, b. ca.1709  
Resided at the Fleckensteinerhof, Lembach, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace)
2. Peter Nafziger?, b. ca.1730
- b. Valentin Nafziger (1763/5-1800)
    - m. Magdalena Spring
    - 2m. Valentin Nafziger (from Ulrich's line)
    - All the children to the 1m. migrated to the U.S.A.,  
only the two who came to Canada are listed here.
  - b3. **Peter Nafziger**, b. 23 Feb 1787, Frankish-Grumbach, Germany  
former tenant at Hochheim near Worms  
m. 8 Mar 1812, on manorial estate Wolferhof  
**Barbara Beck**, dau. of Christian Beck and Barbara Danner  
b. 1790, Wolferhof, Germany
- Marriage registered in the Parish register of Sandbach, near Neustadt in the Odenwald(3)  
Migrated to Canada in 1826; to Ohio in 1829
- b5. **Barbara Nafziger**, b. 13 Nov 1794, Hochheim, Germany  
m. **Peter Danner/Donner**, b. 1790, Muhlhofen, Germany  
Migrated to Canada in 1826; then to U.S.A.

D. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b.ca.1715, known as "der Alte vom Steinbacherhof"  
The Steinbacherhof is near Durstel in Lower Alsace. Durstel is about  
midway between La Petite Pierre and Sarre-Union. The two sons Christian  
and Valentin resided at the Steinbacherhof for a number of years and then  
Valentin moved to the Schottenof near Sarralbe, some distance northwest  
of Sarre-Union. The places straddle the boundary between Lorraine and  
Alsace. Sarralbe is in the Department of Moselle (Lorraine); all  
the others are in Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace).

1. Christian Nafziger (ca.1740-1807)

1st wife's name not known, but they were the paternal ancestors of  
Jeanne Nafziger of Sarrebourg, France.(4)

Born to 2m. to Barbe Schertz (1765-1840)

a. Pierre Nafziger, b. ca.1891

d. 24 Oct 1819, Imling, Moselle

m. 28 Dec 1811, Gondrexange, Moselle(5)

Anne Abersol/Ebersol, dau. of Christian Abersol & Anne Mer/Maurer?

b. 30 Sept 1792

d. 18 Dec 1845, Landange, Moselle

2m. **Pierre/Peter Steinman**

Peter Steinman and his children migrated to Canada about 1850.

a2. **Anne Nafziger**, b. 22 Sep 1813, Gondrexange

m. 1840, at or near St. Mihiel, Meuse

**Peter Sommer**, b. 29 Sep 1814

Family migrated to Canada in 1862; to Illinois in 1866(6)

a4. **Barbe/Barbara Nafziger**, b. 11 Sep 1817, Imling, Moselle

m. 5 Mar 1848, St. Mihiel, Meuse

**John Oesch**, b. 16 Jan 1821, Ernestviller, Moselle

(i) **Jean/John N. Oesch**, b. 30 Aug 1849, St. Mihiel, Meuse

(ii) **Barbe/Barbara Oesch**, b. 4 Mar 1851, St. Mihiel

(iii) **Anne Oesch**, b. 22 Nov 1855, St. Mihiel

This family migrated to Canada in 1857.

2. Jean/John Nafziger, "der Junge vom Steinbacherhof"

m. Madeleine Güngerich

a. **Jean/John Naffziger**, b. 1775, Palatinate

m. 27 Jul 1796, Gros-Rederching, Moselle

**Catherine Gingerich**, b. 1779

Parents resided on Brandelfingerhof, east of Sarregemines

(This family migrated to Canada with their unmarried children about  
1834, and will be given in more detail on pages 16-22)

a1. **Christian Naffziger**, b. 1802, France

a2. **Madeleine/Magdalena Naffziger**, b. 21 Mar 1806, Brandelfing

a3. **Joseph Nafziger**, b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle

m. 19 Mar 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle

**Barbe/Barbara Jantzi**, dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser

i. **Catherine Nafziger**, b. 21 Apr 1834  
ii. **Madeleine Nafziger**, b. 10 Jan 1836  
iii. **Michel Nafziger**, b. 6 Jan 1838  
The family migrated to Canada in 1840; to Lee County, Iowa,  
in 1850, and later to Kansas.

a4. **Catherine Nafziger**, b. ca.1810, Weidesheim  
m. 10 Jul 1830, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser  
b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle  
d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle  
The widow and her children migrated to Canada in 1849.  
She and the younger children left for the U.S.A. in 1850.

a5. **John Nafziger**, b. ca.1818, France  
m. Canada  
Catherine Miller, b. ca.1828, Wilmot Twp., Canada

a6. **Jacobena Nafziger**, b. 20 Dec 1819, France  
m. 22 Dec 1840, Canada  
**Joseph S. Naffziger**, son of Christian Nafziger & Maria Stalter  
b. 20 Jun 1820, Bavaria  
(family listed on page 19)

4. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1747, Untersulzbach  
d. 2 Apr 1807, Steinbacherhof  
1m. to Madeleine Maurer, d. 19 May 1793, Schottenhof  
2m. 19 Aug 1793, at Schottenhof, to Susanne Sommer, b. 1757  
dau. of André Sommer & Catherine Schertz

Children to 1st marriage:

a. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1776; d. 21 Feb 1793

b. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b. 10 Aug 1781, Steinbach  
m. Barbe Oesch, b. 1789  
dau. of Christian Oesch & Barbe Zehr

b2. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b. 7 May 1818, Maizeroy, Moselle  
d. 5 Apr 1885  
m. Madeline Bachman (1821-1891)  
moved to Liesem, Eifel, Germany, ca.1863

i. Jean/David Nafziger, b. 1847; d. 1903, Jaegershof, Merzig  
m. Marie Oesch (1853-1919)

ii. Joseph Nafziger, b. 1851; d. 1940  
m. Barbe Nafziger, b. 1859, Oppen, Ger.  
lived in Hirschland, Alsace d. 1922  
(maternal grandparents of Jeanne Nafziger)

iii. Barbara Nafziger, b. 1854; d. 1911  
m. Nicolas Oesch, b. 1841, Luxembourg

iv. Catherine Nafziger, b. 1856; d. 1887  
m. Andre Oesch, b. 1842, Luxembourg

v. Pierre Nafziger, b. 1858; d. 1944, Luxembourg  
m. Madeleine Nafziger, b. 1865, Oppen

vi. **Chrétien/Christian Nafziger**, b. 1861



m. 1886 to Anna Moser

m. Marie Schertz, Liesem, Germany

c. Madeleine Nafziger, b. 9 Sept 1787, Steinbacherhof  
 d. 16 Apr 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin  
 m. Pierre Keller, d. 1854  
 2m. 1823 to Barbe Schrag

Andre migrated to Canada, 1845 or earlier

f1. **Jean Nafziger**, b. 20 Oct 1827, Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurte-et-Moselle  
Migrated to Canada, 1845 or earlier  
d. ca.1849 in an accident with a horse

f2. **Samuel Nafziger**, b. 2 Apr 1830, Cirey-sur-Vezouze  
Migrated to Canada with the Michel Jantzi family in 1849  
m. Anna Kipfer and raised a family in Canada  
All Nafzigers in Canada are descended from Samuel and Anna.  
(See pages 23-28 for Samuel's family)

Marie (Müller )Nafziger had three children; after the departure of her husband, André for America.

i. Joseph Nafziger, b. 16 Nov 1799

\* \* \* \*

II. Ulrich Nafziger (1686-1754) born in Uetendorf, Switzerland

B. Stefan Nafziger (1715/16-1755) died in Steinseltz, Bas-Rhin, France

3. Christian Nafziger, b. 1749, Steinseltz  
m. Magdalena Güngerich

d. **Christian Nafziger**, b. 1778 on Geilweilerhof  
near Siebeldingen, Palatinate, Germany  
This Christian Nafziger is believed to have married **Maria Stalter**,  
lived in Bavaria, made an exploratory trip to Canada looking for  
land in 1822, and in 1826 brought his family to settle here.  
(See pages 2-10)

#### Notes:

1) A more complete Nafziger extended family list is found at the end of this  
NAFZIGER : Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No 1.

2) Hermann Guth's latest publication which includes his Nafziger research is  
*Amish Mennonites in Germany* . . . Metamora, Ill.: Illinois Mennonite Historical  
and Genealogical Society; Morgantown, PA.: Masthof Press, pages 202-214.

3) A photocopy of the marriage record is found in *The Nafzger Heritage News*,  
Summer, 1983, p. 7, and in NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Correspondence, etc.,  
file No. II.

4) Jeanne Nafziger of Sarrebourg has been one of our principal resources for the  
Nafziger family of France. Her correspondence is found in NAFZIGER: . . file  
No. II

5) A copy of this marriage record is found in NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc., file No. I

6) *Genealogical Record of the Family of GUERBERT or GARBER*, Appendix B, "The Sommer Family," by Lee O. Garber, pages 63,64. (location of this item has not been found as of May, 2008)

7) The Christian Nafziger/Marie Jantzi family is found in "Amish Connections" by Nettie Schwartzentruber. It contains many more details than this bried outline. Unfortunately, it contains many errors. A copy is found in a paket among the NAFZIGER files.

8) Transcriptions of ship passenger list in NAFZIGER: Miscellllaneous Notes, Documents, etc file No. 1.

JOHN AND CATHERINE (GINGERICH) NAFFZIGER(1)  
(See Notes on page 21)

We will now turn our attention to the family of Jean/John Nafziger (D.2.a. on page 12), his wife Catherine Gingerich, and their family. John and Catherine were married at Gros-Rederching, Department of Moselle, in 1796. The marriage records indicated that John was born in the Palatinate. Catherine's father was deceased, but had lived on the Brandelfingerhof, near Gros-Réderching. The record was not clear as to the name of Catherine's mother, but from additional records, it appears her name was Anna Rubi. The only child born to John and Catherine at Brandelfing was Magdalena -- in 1806. According to son Joseph and daughter Catherine's marriage records, they were born at Weidesheim, southwest of Gros-Réderching and perhaps the others were born there too.

Catherine married Michel Jantzi in 1830 and Joseph married Barbara Jantzi in 1834. Michel and Barbara Jantzi were children of Michel Jantzi and Barbara Neuhauser. Both marriages took place at Hombourg-Haut, 20 or more kilometers from Brandelfing where John and Catherine Nafziger were living at the time. John was identified as a miller. They attended neither marriage, but sent letters of parental consent.

It must have been sometime after the last wedding that John and Catherine, with their unmarried children -- Christian, Magdalena and John -- set out for Canada. Where John and Catherine located in Canada, however, is not known. There were household census records for Wilmot Township for most years during the 1830s,

including 1840, but John's household did not appear. Where were they holding out?

Things began looking up in the 1840s. In 1842, a John "Naufsicker" signed a lease contract with the Canada Company for Lot 15, Concession VIII in North Easthope Township in the Huron District, but no John Nafziger appeared in the 1842 census, nor in succeeding censuses. But, John made payments from 1843 to 1854 when the lease was transferred to another party. Did the census enumerator by-pass the John Nafziger family, or they did not reside on their lease? Without the census, indicating the make-up of the household we also do not know which John Nafziger had the lease, but John, immigrant from France, and married to Catherine Gingerich was a possible candidate.

According to family tradition, Joseph and Barbara (Jantzi) Nafziger arrived in Canada with four children in 1840. They did appear in the 1842 and 1843 census. In 1849, Catherine (the widow of Michel Jantzi) and her family -- children and step-children -- arrived in Canada. Both of these families will be discussed later in greater detail.

Evidently, the members of the family already in Canada were making plans to move on to the mid-western United States, and in 1850, at least some of them departed and took Catherine and the younger children with them. The three oldest step-sons, two of them already married, remained in Canada.

It is likely that this Nafziger clan accompanied John Nafziger, son of Christian, the first Nafziger immigrant to Canada, who is said to have led a contingent of settlers to Iowa. It seems, however, that some of them were dropped off in Illinois unless they returned to Illinois from Iowa. At any rate, most of widow Catherine (Nafziger) Jantzi's family ended up in Illinois. The parents, John and Catherine, however, died in Davis County, Iowa -- John at the age of 91 in 1866, and Catherine at the age of 91 in 1870. Except for Catherine (Nafziger) Jantzi's step-sons, this Nafziger family left no descendants in Canada.

#### THE JOHN AND CATHERINE (GINGERICH) NAFFZIGER FAMILY

John Naffziger, son of Jean Naffziger Junior and Madeleine Gingerich  
of the Steinbacherhof

b. 1775, Palatinate  
d. 1866, Davis Co., Iowa  
m. 27 July 1796, Gros-Réderching, Moselle, France

Catherine Gingerich, dau. of Joseph Gingerich, former resident of Brandelfing  
and Anna Rubi

b. 1779, perhaps Brandelfing, Gros-Rederching  
d. 1870, Davis Co., Iowa

Known Children:

1) Christian Naffziger, b. 1802, France  
d. 24 Nov 1887, Pulaski, IA  
m.  
m. Nancy \_\_\_\_\_, b. ca.1818  
d. 17 Jan 1882, Pulaski, IA

No children.

2) Madeleine (Lena) Naffziger, b. 21 Mar 1806, Brandelfing

d. before 1887, Peoria Co., IL  
m. \_\_\_\_\_ Somers  
Names of children not known.

- 3) Joseph Naffziger, b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle  
d. 1882, Melvern, Osage Co., Kans.  
m. 19 Mar 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
Barbara Jantzi, dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbara Neuhauser  
b. 7 Oct 1804, Picard, Germany  
d. 1870-80, Melvern, Kans.
- a) Catherine Naffziger, b. 21 Apr 1834, France  
d. 9 Jan 1923, Melvern, KS  
m. 24 Jan 1859 to Jacob Roakey/Rocke
- b) Magdalena Naffziger, b. 10 Jan 1836, France  
d. 23 Feb 1920, Orofino, Clearwater, Idaho  
m. 4 Nov 1862 to Jacob Kauffman
- c) Michel Naffziger, b. 6 Feb/Jan 1838, France  
d. young of typhoid fever
- d) John Naffziger, b. 20 May/Mar 1840 at sea  
d.  
m. 2 May 1869 to Mary Roth
- e) Jacobena Naffziger, b. 18 Mar 1842, Canada  
d. 28 Sept 1917, Kootnai, Idaho  
m. 23 Feb 1864 to Joseph Wiedrich
- f) Christian Naffziger, b. 30 Oct 1843/4, Canada  
d. 16 Nov 1936, Pullman, Wash.  
m. 14 Nov 1889 to Paulina Fordemwalt
- g) Barbara Naffziger, b. 18 Mar 1846, Canada  
d. 6 Dec 1913, Iowa  
m. 21 Mar 1867 to Joseph M. Wagner/Wagler
- h) Joseph F. Naffziger, b. 3 Apr 1848, Canada  
d. 3 Apr 1933, Guy Cemetery, Whitman Co., Wash.  
m. 2 Sep 1876 to Caroline Mosier  
2m. 1904 to Eleanor Inman
- 4) Catherine Naffziger, b. ca.1810, Weidesheim, Moselle  
d. 1 Feb 1866, Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill.  
m. 10 Jul 1830, Hombourg Haut  
Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbara Neuhauser  
b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle  
d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle  
previously m. to Barbe Beller
- Step-children: Peter, Michael, Joseph (remained in Canada)  
Barbara, b. 1 Jun 1829; d. 23 Aug 1912  
m. Henry Brecher, Peoria, Ill.
- Children:
- a) Katherine Jantzi, b. 14 July 1831, France  
d. Washington, Ill.?

m. Wm. Fred Roehm, Peoria, Ill.

b) John Jantzi, b. 6 May 1833, Hombourg Haut  
d. of illness in Civil War

c) Magdalena Jantzi, b. 11 Feb 1835, Hombourg Haut  
d. Washington, Ill.?  
m. Enoch Freedon, Peoria, Ill.

d) Jacobena Jantzi, b. 1 Aug 1837, Macheren  
d. after 1917, Orange, Calif.  
m. Henry Lageschulte

e) Susana Jantzi, b. 26 June 1839, France  
d. 10 Mar 1904, Washington, Ill.?  
m. John Gingerich, Iowa

f) Christian Jantzi, b. 12 May 1842, France  
d. as a boy, Peoria, Ill.

g) Anna Jantzi, b. 25 Jun 1844, France  
d. 28 Dec 1928, Hickman, Neb.  
m. Jacob Erismann, Illinois

h) Maria Jantzi, b. 10 Aug 1846, France  
d. 23 Nov 1935

5) John Naffziger, b. ca.1818, France  
d. Pulaski, IA?  
m. ca.1845/46, Wilmot Township, Canada  
m. Catherine Miller, dau. of Peter and Anna Miller  
b. ca.1828, Wilmot Township  
d. Pulaski, IA?

Children: Samuel Nafziger, b. ca.1847, Wilmot Township, Canada  
Hanna/Nancy Nafziger, b. ca.1849 " "  
Christian Nafziger, b. ca.1851 " "  
Mary Nafziger, b. ca.1854, Grove Township, Davis County, Iowa  
Catherine Nafziger, b. ca.1856 " " "

Children listed in 1870 Grove Twp. census: Christian, Nancy, Martha (16),  
Catherine, John, Mary, Daniel (7), and Lydia (4).  
(The numbers in brackets indicate the ages of the children)

6) Jacobina Naffziger, b. 20 Oct/Dec 1819, France  
(or Josephine) d. 12 Apr 1891, bu. Gerber Cemetery, Hickory Co., MO  
m. 22 Dec 1840, Canada

Joseph S. Naffziger, son of Christian Nafziger and Maria Stalter  
b. 20 Jun 1820, Bavaria  
d. 8 Aug 1891, bu. Gerber Cemetery

Children:

a) Catherine Naffziger (1841-1919) m. Jacob J. Stuckey  
both died in Cass Co., MO

b) John J. Naffziger (1843-1918) m. \_\_\_\_\_  
farmer in New Mexico

- c) Christian Naffziger (1845-1900) m. Mary Rich  
farmer in Hickory Co., zinc miner in Jasper Co., milling company in  
Hickory Co.
- d) David Naffziger (1846-1907) m. Lou Goldsmith  
saddler and harness maker, Wheatland, MO
- e) Daniel Naffziger (1848-1912) m. \_\_\_\_\_  
farmer in New Mexico
- f) Samuel Naffziger (1850-1875), killed by Dick Rogers , bu. Wheatland, MO
- g) Anna Naffziger (1853-1855)
- h) Benjamin Naffziger (1856-1929)  
merchant at El Dorado Springs, MO
- i) Mary Naffziger (1858-1905)  
single and at home in 1889

#### THE DISPERSION OF THE JOHN AND CATHERINE (GINGERICH) NAFFZIGER FAMILY

**Christian Naffziger** did not really show up in any records that I have seen until he made his will 14 days before his death on November 24, 1887. It was also through this will that we were finally able to construct, with some amount of certainty, his parents' family list. He and his wife Nancy (maiden name not known) are buried in the KP Cemetery, at Pulaski, Iowa. Since, Christian willed his property to his nieces and nephews, they obviously had no family who survived them.(2)

**Madeleine (Lena) Naffziger** was born on the Brandelfing farm at Gros-Rederching. We also did not find her in subsequent records until her brother Christian made his will. Christian identified her as Lena **Somers**, late of Peoria County, Illinois. According to the will she had children, but they are not known to us.

**Joseph Naffziger** and Barbara Jantzi were married at Hombourg-Haut, a Jantzi family residence. The fact that Barbara and Joseph secured a Certificate of their marriage in April of 1834 may indicate that they were also thinking of migrating with Joseph's parents, but either changed their minds or had them changed by circumstances.(3) Joseph and Barbara had three children before setting out for Canada in 1840. Their fourth child, John, was born at sea. Four more children were born in Canada. According to tradition, they lived near Toronto, which may be why we have difficulty locating them!

There was a J. G. Naffziger who had a lease on the north half of Lot 9, Concession I, Block A in Wilmot Township, sometime between 1840 (the date of a previous lease) and 1859 (date of the deed to yet another party), but the dates for the Naffziger lease are not given. The initial "G." would indicate it may have been either Joseph or John who was on this location for an unspecified amount of time. Perhaps the initial has no significance, and it was the father who located here.

Records of the Canada Company leases for Hay Township, bordering on Lake Huron, contain three leases contracted by Joseph Naffziger -- one seems to have been identified as Joseph Jr. and one was called "Josh." It may be that these are all the same person. Two contracts were signed on January 22, 1849, and "Josh"

Naffziger's was signed on February 3, 1849. One was cancelled in 1850, one was transferred in 1851 and the third one in 1854. That might indicate that the one which was cancelled in 1850 was the one contracted by Joseph Naffziger married to Barbara Jantzi. It is possible that the Naffzigers had "squatted" on these properties before signing contracts, but it is more likely that the uncleared land and the prospects of the American frontier, promoted by John Naffziger, son of Christian, that caused them to abandon the Canadian wilderness before they even took up the axe.

The lease transfers after 1850 may also have been made after the Naffzigers left. Transfers were made by the Canada Company, not by the leaseholder who may have abandoned his lease at an earlier date. So what does all this mean? Obviously, this Naffziger family -- that of John and Catherine and Joseph and Barbara -- were somewhere in Canada -- somewhere between Toronto and Lake Huron, but they left only scattered evidence of their having been here! (4)

Joseph and Barbara eventually settled at Melvern, Kansas where they died. Their children were spread over various states. (5)

In 1849, Widow **Catherine (Naffziger Jantzi)** and her family -- children and step-children sailed from Le Havre, France, on the Ship **Seine**, arriving in New York on September 17. It was the custom in France for women to retain their maiden names; so when Catherine gave her surname, the scribe wrote "Naszeyer" and dittoed all the unmarried children under the same name. It took some time to discover that only Catherine and her 19-year-old cousin Samuel were Naffzigers, the others were all Jantzis. The married Jantzis' names were spelled "Juntz"! (6)

We assume that **John Naffziger** arrived in Canada with his parents around 1834. He married Catherine Miller, daughter of Peter and Anna Miller of Wilmot Township. John and Catherine appeared in the 1851 Wilmot census with three children -- Samuel age 4 and the youngest born in 1851; so they must have married about 1845/46. Catherine (Miller) Naffziger's parents left Canada in 1853 and purchased land in Bloomfield Township, Davis County, Iowa, in 1854. One would suppose that John and Catherine accompanied them. At the time of the 1856 census, they were living in Grove Township, Davis County, with three children born in Canada and two in Iowa. They were still in Grove Township in 1887 when their 35-year-old son Christian died, bequeathing all of his property to his parents. (7) Christian was buried in KP Cemetery at Pulaski, Iowa, and perhaps John and Catherine were buried there also.

Daughter **Jacobina** married **Joseph S. Naffziger**, son of Christian and Maria (Stalter) Naffziger -- already mentioned in the Christian Naffziger family (pages 6 & 7). They had owned property for a few years in Wilmot Township. Joseph advertised a sale in Wilmot in March of 1851 after which the family must have emigrated because they do not appear in the 1851 census. No doubt, Jacobina and Joseph accompanied Joseph's brother John or left soon after for Lee County, Iowa. In 1859, they moved to Hickory County, Missouri, where they are said to have been among the earliest pioneer Mennonite settlers. In addition to farming, Joseph also established a mill which was carried on in the family at least another generation.

Jacobina, who seems to have been known as Josephine in Hickory County, and Joseph are buried in the Gerber Cemetery, southwest of Wheatland, Missouri. According to Jacobina's brother Christian's will, she had died before he made his will late in 1887. Josephine's tombstone gives her date of death as April



12, 1891. Perhaps the tombstone was incorrectly transcribed -- 1891 is also the year of Joseph's death.(8)

Notes:

1) The John and Catherine (Gingerich) Naffziger family has been constructed from a family register and from John H. Zornes' list in "Immigrant Joseph Nafziger From France to Ontario to Iowa to Kansas" in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. IV, No. 2, April 1985. Dates vary in these lists in a few cases, and I have included both. Copies of both the family register and the article are found in the NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No. I.

2) The Will is quoted in "Three Wills. Who were all these people?" by Anita Fiedler, in September 1995 correspondence (in the Anita Fiedler file). Also commented on in a letter from Charlan Graff, dated November 30, 1995 (in the Charlan Graff file).

3) A copy of the Certificate of this marriage along with a translation is found in the NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No. I.

4) "Nafziger Land Holdings" is a list of land purchases and leases contracted by Nafzigers in Canada and is found in the NAFZIGER: . . . file No. I. It gives the details of the lots and concessions where they were located and the time they were purchased or leased and sold or transferred.

5) Zornes' article on the Joseph Naffziger family gives more details on where the members of this family settled. See Note #1 for the full reference to this article.

6) The Ship *Seine*, sailing from Le Havre, France, arrived in New York on September 17, 1849, National Archives, Washington D.C., Microfilm Series M-237, Roll #83.

7) The census lists of 1851 for Wilmot and 1856, 1860 and 1870 for Grove Township, Davis County, Iowa, are our principal sources of information on this family. Also see Note #2 for the reference to son Christian's will.

8) See "Nafziger Land Holdings" in NAFZIGER: . . . file No. I. Anita Fiedler refers to a "History of the Nafzger Family in America" by Richer in her "Three Wills. Who were all these people?" Anita quotes some of the information given on page 119 of Richer's history concerning Joseph and Jacobena (along with 1996 correspondence in Anita Fiedler's file). Joseph S. and Jacobena's story is also told in *History of Hickory, Polk, Cedar, Dade and Barton Counties, Missouri*, 1889. Published by Goodspeed, pages 602,603. This story, along with some segments of maps and a transcription of the Gerber Cemetery are in the MISSOURI file.

Joseph S. and Jacobena's story is also told in *History of Hickory, Polk, Cedar, Dade and Barton Counties, Missouri*, 1889. Published by Goodspeed, pages 602,603. This story, along with some segments of maps and a transcription of the Gerber Cemetery are in the MISSOURI file - not part of the NAFZIGER group of

## IMMIGRANT SAMUEL NAFZIGER

Samuel Nafziger, the 18-year-old who accompanied Widow Catherine (Nafziger) Jantzi to Canada in 1849, is the ancestor of all persons bearing the Nafziger name in Canada. Samuel's parents were André Nafziger and Marie Müller. See page 10 for his parental family outline.

Samuel's father Andrew and his brother John migrated to Canada sometime before 1845 -- whether separately or at the same time is not known. John Nafziger appeared in Peter Litwiller's *Notizbuch* (business journal) from August 1845 to 1847. In 1845, John Nafziger "came for 7 dollars a month and for a year for 85 dollars and also clothes." Andrew had only two entries -- the last one in 1850.

"Andreas Naffziger" reported the loss of his "*Doctor Buch*" in *Der Deutsche Canadier*, a local German newspaper, on June 12, 1845. He appeared in a list of persons having letters in the Petersburg Post Office in the same paper on May 13, 1847. On March 23, 1849 it was reported that there were letters for both "André" Nafziger and John Nafziger at Lewiston, N.Y., destined for Petersburg. Were these letters from Samuel, trying to contact his father and brother before coming to Canada? The letters may have been held at the border because postage had not been paid.

As has already been mentioned, Samuel Nafziger arrived in Canada in 1849 along with the Jantzi/Yantzi family. Widow Catherine Nafziger Jantzi and Samuel were second cousins. According to family tradition, Samuel was looking forward to meeting his brother when he got to Canada, and when he arrived, the brother had recently died, due to an accident with a horse. To date, a record of that accident has not been found.

According to family tradition, Andrew Nafziger went to live in Philadelphia where he taught school. The date of his death and place of burial have not been found. It is thought that perhaps he was shunned in the Amish community because he had left his wife in France; so he went to Philadelphia.

To find the birthplace of Samuel was not easy. According to family tradition, he was born in the vicinity of Trebo, France.<sup>(1)</sup> (See Notes on page 28) Having the specific name of a place I thought would make it simple to find, but there was no such place as "Trebo!" Neither could anyone in France tell me what other name it might be similar to.

In correspondence with Charlan Graff concerning the Jantzi family with whom Samuel came to America, she alerted me to the birth of Samuel at Cirey-sur-Vezouze. How does one get "Trebo" out of Cirey-sur-Vezouze? Then I learned that in the late 1700s a small group of houses called "Les Tripots" belonged to the district of Cirey. This little settlement along with another one called "la Vendee" is now known as les Harcholins.<sup>(2)</sup> This little community sometimes belonged to one district and sometimes to another, but when Samuel was born, his birth was registered at Cirey-sur-Vezouze. The family had made "Trebo" out of "Tripots" - sometimes also spelled "Trepot."

Samuel Nafziger found work among the settlers already established in Wilmot and neighbouring townships. In 1855 he was married to Anna Kipfer by Bishop Peter Litwiller. Anna was the daughter of Christian Kipfer and Barbara Schmidt. In 1857, Samuel leased Lot 26, Concession XIV in North Easthope Township from the Canada Company, purchasing it in 1866.<sup>(3)</sup> This farm is not far from the hamlet of Topping. Samuel also purchased Lot 26 in Concession XIII and sold it to son John, married to Mattie Gerber. The homestead was sold to son Joseph, married

to Magdalena Jantzi, in 1891. Samuel and Anna are buried in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery (Poole West).

#### FAMILY OF SAMUEL AND ANNA (KIPFER) NAFZIGER

Samuel Nafziger, son of André/Andrew Nafziger and Marie Müller  
b. 2 Apr 1830, les Tripots, Cirey-sur-Vezouze,  
Dept. of Meurthe-et-Moselle, France  
d. 24 Dec 1905, North Easthope Township  
m. 10 Apr 1855, Wilmot Township  
Anna Kipfer, dau. of Christian Kipfer and Barbara Schmidt.  
b. Aug 1835, Wilmot  
d. 3 Mar 1914, North Easthope

#### Children:

#### Grandchildren

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1)<br>John/Hans Nafziger<br>b. 12 May 1856 NEhope<br>d. 20 Jul 1910 "<br>m. 25 Feb 1879 Morning.<br>Magdalena/Mattie Gerber<br>b. 1 Dec 1861 Morning.?<br>d. 20 Jan 1902 NEhope<br>dau. of Joseph Gerber<br>& Magdalena Brenneman  | { | Nancy Nafziger (1880-1930) m. Solomon Kipfer<br>Joseph Nafziger (1881-1948) m. Rachel Jantzi<br>Samuel Nafziger (1884-1974) m. Katie Kipfer<br>Peter Nafziger (1886-1969) m. Christina Jantzi<br>2m. Elizabeth Jutzi<br>Mary Nafziger (1888-1977) m. Joseph R. Erb<br>Mattie Nafziger (1889-1930) m. Amos Brunk, 2m.<br>Mary Gerber<br>Jonathan Nafziger (1891-1957)<br>Noah Nafziger (1894-1911)<br>Clara Nafziger (1896-1962) m. Christian Streicher |
| 2)<br>Christian Nafziger<br>b. 16 Feb 1858 NEhope<br>d. 19 Aug 1942 Morning.<br>m. 22 Jan 1880 EZorra?<br>Magdalena Reschly<br>b. 31 Jan 1856 Morning.<br>d. 10 Dec 1934 "<br>dau. of Joseph Reschly<br>and Anna Schweitzer  | { | Annie Nafziger (1880-1955) m. Noah Schultz<br>Mary Nafziger (1882-1883)<br>Katherine (Katie) Nafziger (1885-1926) m. John<br>Boshart 2m. Sarah Nafziger<br>Noah Nafziger (1886-1889)<br>Sarah Nafziger (1887-1968) m. John Boshart<br>Enos R. Nafziger (1892-1979) m. Elizabeth Erb<br>2m. Clara Snider<br>3m. Elva Snider<br>David R. Nafziger (1895-1981) m. Katherine Jantzi  |
| 3)<br>Samuel Nafziger<br>b. 19 Apr 1863 NEhope<br>d. 17 Dec 1923 Morning.<br>m. 19 Jan 1886 Wilmot<br>2m. 7 Jan 1897 "<br>Veronica Steinman<br>b. 10 Apr 1862 Wilmot<br>d. 23 Jul 1896 Morning.<br>Leah Steinman<br>b. 1 Feb 1869 Wilmot<br>d. 4 Mar 1945 Morning.<br>daus. of Christian | { | Susan Nafziger (1887-1948) m. Menno Jantzi<br>Rachel Nafziger (1888-1948) m. Jonas Jantzi<br>Nancy Nafziger (1890-1995) m. Eli Roes<br>Christian Nafziger (1891-1902)<br>Mary Nafziger (1893-1963) m. John R. Lichty<br>Moses Nafziger (1894-1970) m. Ellen Schwartzentruber<br>Infant son (1896)<br>Gideon Nafziger (1898-1899)<br>Lena Nafziger (1901-1980) m. Samuel Roes<br>Emma Nafziger (1912-2002) m. Jonas Jantzi<br>1m. Rachel Nafziger       |

Steinman & Maria Honderich

- 4)  
Andrew Nafziger  
b. 13 Jan 1860 NEhope  
d. 22 Sep 1928 Ellice?  
m. 2 May 1880 Morning.  
Catherine Schweitzer  
b. 4 Jul 1862 Morning.  
d. 9 Jan 1934 Ellice?  
dau. of Jacob Schweitzer  
and Barbara Jantzi
- { Elia Nafziger (1885-1964) m. Magdeline Boshart  
Ezra A. Nafziger (1891-1979) m. Mary Wagler  
2m. Mary E. Stoltzfus; 3m. Salome Beachy  
Aaron Nafziger (1895-1985) m. Elizabeth Golitis  
Sarah Nafziger (1898-1964) m. David R. Gerber, 2m.  
Susanna Wagler  
Rudy Nafziger (1900-1993) m. Elizabeth Gerber  
John Nafziger (1901-1989) m. Nancy (Wagler) Erb  
2m. Nancy (Wagler) Lichti  
Elizabeth Nafziger (1902-1976) m. Christian Gascho  
Valentine Nafziger (1904-1994) m. Christina Lichti  
Christian Nafziger (1907-1978) m. Amanda Brenneman  
2m. Mary Gerig  
3m. Mabel L. Detweiler
- 5)  
Nicholas Nafziger  
b. 6 Mar 1866 NEhope  
d. 11 Jul 1944 Morning.  
m. 22 Feb 1887 Wilmot  
Mary Steinman  
b. 20 Jul 1867 Wilmot  
d. 9 Dec 1947 Morning.  
dau. of Christian Stein-  
man & Maria Honderich
- { Daniel Nafziger (1888-1976) m. Nancy Erb  
Katherine Nafziger (1891-1967) m. Christian R. Gerber  
Christian Nafziger (1893-1894)  
Samuel S. Nafziger (1895-1976) m. Emma Erb  
Joseph Nafziger (1897)  
John Nafziger (1898)  
Amos Nafziger (1899-1990) m. Nancy Gerber  
Mary Nafziger (1901-1997)  
Solomon Nafziger (1904-1991) m. Mabel Hall  
Menno Nafziger (1906-1987) m. Madeline Jantzi
- 6)  
Joseph Nafziger  
b. 4 May 1868 NEhope  
d. 13 Jan 1947  
m. 25 Mar 1890  
Magdalena Jantzi  
b. 30 Mar 1868 Wilmot  
d. 8 Mar 1924 NEhope  
dau. of Michael G.  
Jantzi & Lydia Brenneman
- { Lydia Nafziger (1891-1942) m. Daniel L. Jantzi  
Annie Nafziger (1896-1985) m. Moses L. Jantzi  
Joseph's 2m. 1924 to Mary Schmidt (1867-1940)  
3m. 1945 to Susan (Jantzi) Kuepfer (1867-1961)
- 7)  
Mary Nafziger  
b. 30 May 1870 NEhope  
d. 21 Jan 1934 Morning.  
m. 16 Dec 1890 Morning.  
John Roes  
b. 7 Oct 1867 EZorra  
d. 26 Feb 1958 Morning.  
son of John Roes  
and Polly Yoder
- { Emma Roes (1894-1981) m. John Ropp  
David Roes (1897-1971) m. Katie Gerber  
Annie Roes (1899-2001) m. Joseph Gerber  
Samuel Roes (1904-1989) m. Mary Gascho  
Noah Roes (1907-1987) m. Lydia Lichti

8)

Barbara Nafziger

b. 14 Oct 1878 NEhope

d. 26 May 1937 Wellesley?

m. 20 Feb 1900 Poole

John Schultz                      no children

b. 30 May 1874 Wellesley

d. 10 Mar 1947 Wellesley?

son of John S. Schultz

and Barbara Schultz

THE SAMUEL AND ANNA (KIPFER) NAFZIGER FAMILY ESTABLISH HOMES OF THEIR OWN

**John (Hans) Nafziger** married Magdalena (Mattie) Gerber, daughter of Joseph and Magdalena (Brenneman) Gerber, in 1879. In 1870 and 1878, Samuel had purchased Lot 26 in Concession XIII in North Easthope and, no doubt, this is where Hans and Mattie took up farming after their marriage, obtaining ownership in 1887. In 1911, after the death of Hans in 1910, it was sold to Hans's brother Joseph. Mattie died in 1902 and was buried in what is now known as the Poole Mennonite Cemetery, north of the hamlet. By the time Hans died, the congregation had divided, and Hans (who had been ordained minister in 1892) joined the group which built another meetinghouse west of Poole, and he is buried in that cemetery, now known as Mornington Amish Mennonite or Poole West.(4)

**Christian Nafziger** married Magdalena (known as Lena) Reschly in 1880. She was the daughter of Joseph and Anna (Schweitzer) Reschly. The same year they purchased the southeast part of Lot 16, and the south half of Lot 17, Concession I, Mornington Township, from Jacob Schweitzer who was moving to Nebraska. This property was just west of the hamlet of Topping. In 1917, Christian and Lena sold the farm to son David married to Katherine Jantzi, and moved into a house at Topping. They are buried in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery (Poole West).(5)

**Samuel Nafziger** married Veronica Steinman in 1886. She was the daughter of Christian and Maria (Honderich) Steinman of Wilmot. In 1887, they purchased Lots 11 in both the 5th and 6th Concessions of Ellice Township. This land was still wooded and perhaps somewhat marshy; so in 1900, they purchased the southeast part and in 1907, the southwest part of Lot 14, Concession I, in Mornington Township. When Samuel's brother Andrew and his family returned from Nebraska, Samuel sold him part of the Ellice property and the remainder at later dates.

Veronica died in 1896, and the following year, Samuel married her sister Leah. Samuel died in 1923, and in 1924, his executors sold the Mornington farm to son Moses, married to Ellen Schwartzentruber. Veronica had been buried in what is now the Poole Mennonite Cemetery (Poole North), but when the congregation divided in the early 1900s, Christian and Leah joined the congregation which built another meetinghouse west of Poole, now known as the Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation. Samuel and Leah are buried in the cemetery adjoining that church.(6)

**Andrew Nafziger** and Catherine Schweitzer were married in 1880. Catherine was the daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Jantzi) Schweitzer. Jacob and Barbara and most of their family, including the newly married Catherine and Andrew Nafziger, left for Milford (Seward County), Nebraska. A few years later, they moved further north to Holt County. They were there for ten years, and during eight

of those there was no rain. Andrew and Catherine and their two children returned to Canada. They found Andrew's brother Samuel willing to give up some of his uncleared land in Ellice Township. They purchased part of Lot 11, Concession XV in 1894, Lot 11, Concession XVI in 1900 and the remainder of the first lot in 1921. The south part of Lot 11, Concession XV was sold to son Rudy, married to Elizabeth Gerber, in 1926. The north part of this lot and Lot 11, Concession XVI was sold by the estate to daughter Elizabeth and her husband Christian S. Gascho in 1939. Andrew and Catherine became members of the Mornington Amish Mennonite Congregation and are buried in that church cemetery, west of Poole.(7)

**Nicholas Nafziger** married Mary Steinman in 1887. She was a sister to Veronica and Leah who had married Nicholas's brother Samuel. In 1892 and 1895, they purchased parts of Lot 15, Concession I, Mornington Township. In 1906, however, they sold this property to Nicholas's sister Mary and her husband John Roes. They then purchased the east half of Lot 11, Concession I, also in Mornington. In 1829, Nicholas and Mary sold the farm to son Samuel S. Nafziger, married to Emma Erb.

In 1891, Nicholas was ordained minister, and bishop in 1896 in what was then known as the Mornington Amish Mennonite Congregation, with a meetinghouse north of Poole. In the early 1900s, the congregation suffered a division, and a group, including bishop Nicholas Nafziger, built another meetinghouse west of Poole. That congregation dates its beginning to 1903. The former congregation is now known as the Poole Mennonite Church (sometimes referred to as Poole North) and the newer congregation now uses the name Mornington Amish Mennonite (sometimes referred to as Poole West). Although Nicholas identified with the more conservative wing of the Poole congregation, in 1905 he enrolled in the Bible correspondence course at Goshen College in Goshen, Indiana.(8) Nicholas and Mary are buried in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery.(9)

**Joseph Nafziger** married Magdalena Jantzi in 1890. She was the daughter of Michael G. and Lydia (Brenneman) Jantzi of the Amish Settlement, Wilmot Township. The following year, they purchased the Nafziger homestead (Lot 26, Concession XIV, North Easthope) from Joseph's parents. In 1911, they also purchased Joseph's brother Hans's farm (Lot 26, Concession XIII, North Easthope). No doubt, this was for their daughter Lydia and her husband, Daniel L. Jantzi, who obtained the ownership in 1916. The homestead was sold to daughter Annie and her husband Moses L. Jantzi in 1925. It is likely that Joseph and his second wife, Mary Schmidt moved to Wellesley Township at that time. Mary died in 1940, and Joseph married a third time -- to Susan (Jantzi) Kuepfer, widow of Old Order Bishop Daniel G. Kuepfer, in 1945. Joseph Nafziger died two years later. Magdalena had been buried at the Mornington Amish Mennonite Cemetery (Poole West), but Joseph, Mary and Susan were buried in the Wellesley Old Order Cemetery, 7th Line, Wellesley Township.(10)

**Mary Nafziger** married **John Roes**, son of John and Polly (Yoder) Roes, in 1890. The following year, they purchased 1/5th of an acre of Lot 11, Concession XVI in Ellice Township and later added another 2/5th acre of the same lot, selling both in 1903. In 1906, they purchased part of Lot 15, Concession I, Mornington Township from Mary's brother Nicholas. Their son Noah, married to Lydia Lichti took over the farm, acquiring ownership in 1930. At that time, John and Mary

built an addition to the house for themselves. They are buried in the Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery.(11)

**Barbara Nafziger** and **John Schultz**, son of John S. and Barbara (Schultz) Schultz, were married in 1900. Barbara and John had no children. They probably lived in Wellesley Township, but they have not been found in the land records. They are buried in the Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Cemetery, Wellesley Township.(12)

Notes:

1) *Nafziger Family History, 1830-1966*, by Ezra A. Nafziger, Intercourse, Pa., 1967, page 3.

2) This little community is described in the article "Les Harcholins, Fief Anabaptiste au Debut du XIXeme Siecle" by C. Koffel, M. Klotz and J.C. Koffel, in *Souvenance anabaptiste mennonitisches gedächtnis*, No. 16 - 1997. This is an annual publication of the Mennonite Historical Society of France.

3) A brief story of the Samuel Nafziger farm is told in *The Hills of Home; North Easthope Township History, 1827-1997*. Published by the North Easthope History Book Committee: Writer-Editor Dean Robinson, pages [563] and 564. A photocopy of these pages is found in the NAFZIGER<Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No. 1.

4) John and Magdalena (Gerber) Nafziger's family is found on pages 5-[16] of the *Nafziger Family History*. All of the other families are now found in more recent publications; so the genealogies in which they are found will be cited.

5) Christian and Magdalena (Reschly) Nafziger's family is found on pages 279-317 of the *Joseph Reschly and Anna Schweitzer Genealogy*, 2nd Edition, by Elizabeth (Betty Bast) and Irwin Steckly, Stratford, Ontario, 2003.

6) The family of Samuel and Veronica (Steinman) and Leah (Steinman) Nafziger is found on pages 105-127 and 147-155 in *The Family History and Genealogy of Christian Steinman(n) and Veronica Eyer*, compiled and published by the Christian Steinman(n) Family Book Committee, Baden, Ontario, 1990.

7) The family of Andrew and Catherine (Schweitzer) Nafziger family is found on pages 131-153 in *The Family History and Genealogy of Joseph and Catherine (Boshart) Jantzi . . .*, compiled and published by Ruth Yantzi Ryan and Lorraine Roth, Kitchener, Ontario, 1982.

8) Nicholas Nafziger was listed as a non-grad Bible Correspondence student in the *Goshen College Bulletin XLV*, No. 6 (Golden Anniversary Alumni Directory [Apr. 1951]) by John Umble.

9) Nicholas and Mary (Steinman) Nafziger's family is found on pages 129-145 in the Steinman genealogy. See Note #6 for the full reference.

10) For the family of Joseph and Magdalena (Jantzi) Nafziger, see pages 173-180 in the *Family History and Genealogy of John Jantzi and Elizabeth Gerber*, by Mrs. Menno W. Kuepfer and Lorraine Roth, Millbank and Shakespeare, Ontario, 1974.

11) For the family of Mary (Roes) and John Nafziger, see pages 101-136 of *Where have all the Roeses gone?*, Update 2000 by Marion Roes, Waterloo, Ontario, 2001.

12) Barbara (Nafziger) and John Schultz are found on page [66] (the end) of *Nafziger Family History*.

For the locations of the family farms also see "Samuel Nafziger Land Holdings" in the NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No.I.

#### THE PETER AND BARBARA (ROTH) NAFZIGER FAMILY

There was still one more Nafziger family from southern Alsace -- with no known connections to any other Nafziger immigrants to Canada -- who also appeared -- first in Wilmot Township and later in Hay.

What is known of Peter's birth family is as follows.

Jean/John Nafziger and Madeleine Zimmerman (grandparents of Peter)

Michel Nafziger, b. ca. 1770, Rougement, District of Belfort  
d. 20 Jan. 1825, Heimersdorf, Haut-Rhin  
m. Madeleine Gens/Gans, d. 14 ZDec. 1835, Aspach, near Altkirch, Haut-Rhin

1) Peter Nafziger, b. 23 Feb. 1806, Walheim, Haut-Rhin  
m. Barbara Roth  
(immigrants to Canada)

2) Jean Nafziger, b. 16 July 1817, Illfurt, Haut-Rhin  
d. 28 Apr. 1822, Heimersdorf

Peter Nafziger and Barbara Roth were married in the fall of 1840. Barbara was the daughter of Michel Roth and Anne Müller, both deceased. When they applied to emigrate, they were residing at Galfinque, Haut-Rhin., and indicated they wished to go to New York. The emigration date was given as March 1, 1841.

(1) (See Notes on page 31)

References to Peter and Barbara are found in Peter Litwiller's "Notizbuch" in 1841 and 1842. Perhaps the Nafzigers and the Litwillers knew each other in Alsace, because they were from the same area. At any rate, Peter and Barbara found some work and perhaps a home with the Litwillers until they could become established.



By the time of the 1851 census Peter and Barbara were living at what is now known as Baden and had five children. From 1860 to 1862 they owned one acre of Lot 14, South Snyder's Road.

In 1862 Peter Nafziger contracted a lease with the Canada Company for the south half of Lot 19, Concession XIV, in Hay Township. The lease was cancelled in 1869, and Peter died in 1872. Barbara died in 1888 and was buried in the United Church Cemetery on the Bronson Line, south of the Zurich Road. No doubt, Peter is buried there too, but no tombstone has survived.

#### THE FAMILY OF PETER AND BARBARA (ROTH) NAFZIGER

Peter Nafziger, son of Michel Nafziger and Madaleine Gens/Gans

b. 23 Feb 1806, Walheim, Haut-Rhin

d. 15 Apr. 1872, Hay Township, Huron County, Ontario

m. 7 Oct 1840, Galfingue, Haut-Rhin

(Marie) Barbara Roth, dau. of Michel Roth, d. 19 Aug. 1840, Illzach, Haut-Rhin

and Anne Müller, d. 24 June 1814, Ste. Croix/Mines

b. 7 Dec. 1811/17, Ste. Croix-aux-Mines

d. 29 Dec. 1888, Hay Township

Children: Christian Nafziger, b. 3 Sept 1842, Wilmot Township (at Baden )

d. 1910

Nicholaus Naffziger, b. 25 Feb 1844 , Wilmot Township

d. 12 Jan. 1914, hay Township

m. 2 Apr. 1875, Hay

Elizabeth Schenk, b. ca. 1850

d. 20 AUg. 1918

a) Jacob Naffzinger, d. 4 Feb.10,1905 (age 28 y,9m,18 d) Hay Township

Anna Nafziger, b. 10 Oct 1846, Wilmot

d. 1905, Hay

m. \_\_\_\_\_ Schoch(2)

Barbara Nafziger, b. 15 Jul 1848 Wilmot

d. 1936

m. \_\_\_\_\_ Derby

Magdalena Nafziger, b. 30 Apr 1850 Wilmot

d. Feb. 1942, Hay

m. 9 July 1873, Hay

Jacob "Lindenfelder," son of Charles Lindenfield

b. 10 Mar. 1842

d. 10 Jan.1931, Hay

a) Barbara Anna Lindenfield, b. 10 Feb. 1874; d. 2 June 1951

m. Cyrus Schoch

b) Adeline Lindenfield,b. 14 June 1876; d. 20 June 1946

m. 4 Dec. 1895, Hensall, Osborne Ywp.

James Wm. Johnson, widower, b. 1856

d. 1934

c) William Henry Lindenfield, b. 17 Nov. 1878; d. 7 Feb. 1944?

m. Kitty Pierson

d) Israel Lindenfield, b. 23 Dec. 1880

e) Walter Lindenfield, b. 11 Oct. 1883

f) Edward Lindenfield, b. 25 Dec. 1886

#### THE DESTINY OF THE CHILDREN OF PETER AND BARBARA (ROTH) NAFZIGER

Information on the genealogy and history of the children of Peter and Barbara (Roth) Nafziger is very incomplete.

Family research gives the date of **Christian Nafziger's** death but nothing further!

**Nicholas Nafziger** was a 16-year-old labourer in the John Honderich home in Wilmot in the 1861 census. He married in Hay Township in 1875. There is a tombstone in the Calvary United Cemetery (Dashwood) south of Zurich for Nicholas "Naffzinger," his wife Elizabeth and their son Jacob. They probably had no surviving children.

**Anna Nafziger** married a **Schoch**. Probably his name was Christian and they probably also lived in Hay Township, but more research needs to be done to sort out the various Schochs.

Nothing is known of **Barbara Nafziger** except she was married to a man by the name of **Derby**. From family research we also have the year of her death.

Descendants for the Peter Nafziger family have been found through the youngest daughter, **Magdalena** married to **Jacob Lindenfeld**. From 1873 to 1897, Jacob and Magdalena owned 15 acres of the west part of Lot 17, Concession XV, Hay Township. They had six children. Jacob and Magdalena are buried in the Hensall Union Cemetery, south of Hensall, in Usborne Township.(3)

#### Notes:

1) Alsace Emigration List, LDS film #1125005

2) It is quite certain that Anna Nafziger's husband given name was Christian, but there were two Christian Schocks in Hay Township who were contemporaries, and it has not been determined which one was Anna's husband.

3) The Peter and Barbara Nafziger family was initially located through the efforts of Sharon Cook of London, descendant of Magdalena Nafziger and Jacob Lindenfield through Adeline (Lindenfield) Johnson. Research by Lorraine Roth and Joe Springer of the Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen, Indiana, has provided the details on the origins of the family in France.

#### ADDITIONAL NAFZIGERS WITH DESCENDANTS IN CANADA

A number of Nafziger women immigrants have added to the population of Nafziger descendants in Canada. The descendants of John Cook and Magdalena Nafziger, granddaughter of Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger have already been mentioned. ( see page 6)

Barbara Nafziger, daughter of Pierre/Peter Nafziger and Anne Abersol/Ebersol (see page 12, #a4), along with her husband Joh Oesch became permanent settlers in Canada. Barbara and John migrated to Canada with three children in 1857. (For more details on this family, see the ESCH/OESCH file)

#### THE FAMILY OF PIERRE/PETER NAFZGER AND BARBE LIECHTY

Three sisters, daughters of Pierre/Peter Naffzger and Barbe Liechty, were immigrants from southern Alsace. A partial listing of this family has been found as follows:

Pierre Naffziger (ages given, place his birth between 1776 and 1783)  
probably died in Ohio between 1840 and 1856)

and Barbe Liechty

In 1810 their address was given as No. 64, rue (street) Spillplace, Section A.,

In 1818, as No 74, rue Spihlwed, Section A, both in Wahlbach Alsace.

Known children:

- 1) Catherine Nafziger, b. 11 Aug. 1805, Berenzwiller, Haut-Rhin (Upper Alsace)  
d. after 1851, Wellesley Township, Canada  
m. 7 Jan. 1827, Landser, Haut-Rhin

Christian Roth, son of Christian Roth and Barbe/Elisabeth Maurer (Lorraine)  
b. 5 Oct. 1803, Hof Zufall, Lorquin, Moselle, (Lorraine)  
d. before 1851, Wellesley Township, Canada

This family with four children and Catherine's sister emigrated in 1839.

Children: a) Christian N. Roth (1828-1869) m. Catherine Lichti  
b) Katherine Roth (1830-1901) m. A William K. Yost  
c) Barbara Roth (1833-1901) m. Daniel Oesch  
d) Anna Roth (1836- ) on passenger list, but no further record  
e) maria/Mary Roth (1839-1887) m. Joseph M. Jutzi/Iutzi  
f) Veronica Roth (1842-1903) m. Peter B. Schwartzentruber  
(See the ROTH file for further information on this family)

- 2) Pierre Nafziger, b. ca. 1807; d. 2 June 1810, Wahlbach, Haut-Rhin

- 3) Barbara Nafziger, b. 24 Mar. 1811, Wahlbach ( no further record)

- 4) Magdalena Nafziger, b. 24 Apr/May 1813, Wahlbach  
d. 23 Feb. 1880, Wilmot Township, Canada  
m. Apr. 1835

John Roth, son of John Roth and Veronica Mosiman

b. 5 Dec. 1798, Hattigny, Moselle

d. by 1856, probably in Ohio

Magdalena Nafziger, 2m. Feb. 1858 in Wilmot Township

Christian Wagler, b. 4 Oct. 1810, Muesbach, Ribeauvillé, Haut-Rhin

d. 1 Oct. 1887, Wilmot Township

The John Roth family immigrated to Ohio in 1840, taking with them Magdalena's father. Both Pierre Nafziger and John Roth may have died there, because they do not show up in the records in Canada. Magdalena and her children were in Canada by 1857 when she married Christian Wagler.

Children: a) John N. Roth (1837-1904) m. Mary (Miller) Bender  
b) Veronica Roth (1839-1912) m. Daniel Bender  
c) Barbara Roth (1840-1922) m. Christian Lebold  
d) Magdalena Roth (1842-1927) m. Joel Mayer  
e) Christian Roth (?- ?) died in Indiana  
f) Anna wagler (1860-1861)  
(See the ROTH and WAGLER files for more details on this family)

5) Pierre Nafziger, b. 12 Aug. 1817; d. 14 June 1818, Wahlbach

6) Anna Nafziger, b. 10 May 1821, Wahlbach, (21 mar. on tombstone)  
d. 8 Apr. 1900, bu. Blake Mennonite Cemetery , hay Twp. Canada  
m. 13 Dec. 1840, AWilmot Twp.

Henry Kropf, son of Jacob Kropf and Magdalena Rothacker  
b. 28 Sept. 1817, Baldenheim, Haut-Rhin  
d. 16 Nov. 1855, bu. on family farm in Baden, Canada

Anna Nafziger is probably the "sister-in-law" who immigrated to Canada with  
Christian and Catherine (Nafziger) Roth in 1839.

Children a) Jacob N. Kropf (1841-1844/9) m. Susanna Mayer  
b) Christian N. Kropf (1843-1921) m. Magdalena Jutzi  
c) David N. Kropf (1843-1893) m. Magdalena F. Lichti  
d) Henry N. Kropf (1845-1875) m. Barbara F. Lichty  
e) Peter Kropf (1849-1871)  
f) Joel N. Kropf (1850-1896) m. Veronica Roth  
g) Solomon N. Kropf (1852- 1889) m. Mary F. Lichti  
h) Magdalena Kropf (a856-1944) m. Menno baechler

(See the KROPF file for more details on this family)

Research notes on the Pierre Nafziger family by Lorraine Roth , 119185-1992 and  
Joe Springer, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen, Indiana.

Lorraine Roth  
Tavistock, Ontario  
March, 2010

CHRISTIAN AND MARIA (STALTER) NAFZIGER FAMILY OUTLINE    this was done previously  
from another file.

Christian Nafziger, presumed son of Christian Nafziger and Magdalena Gungerich  
b. 1778, Geilweilshof, Siebeldingen, Palatinate, Germany  
m. date and place not known  
d.

Maria Stalter, dau. of Heinrich Stalter and Katharina Imhof  
b. ca.1781, probably in Lorraine, France  
d. 1831/32, Wilmot Twp., Canada

In 1814, Christian and Maria were probably living on the Edersberg estate farm  
near Reichertshausen, northwest of Munich, and they were likely still there at

the time of their migration to Canada. All of their children may have been born there.

1)	John Miller (ca.1830-ca.1860) m. Barbara Helmuth
Catherine Nafziger	Magdalena Miller (ca.1832-1857?) m. Jacob Bender?
b. ca.1812 Bavaria	Mary Miller (1833-1913) m. Samuel Bender
d. 1851-61 Wilmot?	2m. John N. Roth
m. 1829 Wilmot?	Catherine Miller (1834-1857) m. John Buerge
Christian Miller	Lydia Miller (1835-1873) m. David Bender
b. 1806 Switzerland?	Jacobena Miller (1839-1860) m. Christian Gardner
d. 10 Mar 1850 Wilmot	Elizabeth Miller (1842-1864) m. Jacob M. Bender
	Christian Miller (1845-1925) m. Barbara Stauffer
	Anna Miller (ca.1846- ? )
	Barbara Miller (ca.1848-1918?)

(See MILLER for further details on this family)

2)	Anna/Nancy? Miller (ca.1831- ? ) m. Christian Zehr
Jacobena/Phoebe Nafziger	Magdalena Miller (ca.1834- ? )
b. ca.1814 Bavaria	Marie/Mary Miller (1836-1925) m. Daniel Kinsinger
d. Pulaski, IA?	Elizabeth Miller (ca.1837- ? )
m. Sep 1831 Wilmot	Catherine Miller (ca.1839- ? )
Michael Miller	Barbara Miller (ca.1841- ? )
b. ca.1808 Germany	David Miller (ca.1848- ? )
d. Pulaski, IA?	Lydia Miller (1846-1916) m. David Bender, previously
son of Simon Miller	m. to Lydia Miller, dau. of Catherine and Christian
	Moses Nafziger, son of John, lived with his aunt and uncle.

3)	
Christian Nafziger	
b. ca.1814 Bavaria	
d. 22 May 1886 NEHope	Barbara Nafziger (1839-1941)
m.	Magdalena Nafziger (ca.1841-1885) m. John Koch/Cook
Catherine Blum	
b. ca.1815 Woolwich?	
d. 29 Mar 1896 NEHope	
dau. of Jacob Blum?	

Since Magdalena Nafziger and John Cook's family are the only Christian Nafziger descendants residing in Canada. Their family will be listed here:

Magdalena (also called Martha) Nafziger, b. ca.1841, Wilmot Twp.?  
d. 24 June 1885, bu. N. Easthope Reformed Mennonite Cemetery  
m. 16 Mar 1858, Waterloo Co. by Rev. F. W. Bindemann  
John Koch/Cook, son of Henry Koch and Anna Maria Hermann  
b. ca.1830, Germany  
d. 2 Mar 1894, bu. N. Easthope Reformed Mennonite Cemetery

a) John N. Cook (1852-1923) m. Katherine Dotzert  
b) Jacob Cook (1868-1882)  
c) Catherine Cook (1871-1962) m. David Dotzert  
d) David N. Cook (1873-1963) m. Melinda Cook?  
e) Magdalena Cook (1875-1885)  
f) Lydia Cook (1877-1885)  
(The Yost Genealogy [compiled by Lyle E. and Erma Yost et al.,  
Hesston, Kans., 1982] is the source for the Dotzert family)

4) to 1st marriage:

John Naffziger	Leah Naffziger (ca.1843- ? ) m. _____ Daglish
b. May 1816 Bavaria	Moses Naffziger (1847-1896) m. Harriet Stover
d. 8 Jan 1903 Dakota	to 2nd marriage:
City,Ne	William H. Naffziger (1858-1939) m. Emma J. Castle
1m. unknown	Harriet Elina Naffziger m. Louis Warnholtz
2m. 1858	J. Frank Naffziger
Lurinda Packard	Laura Faffziger, m. Henry Niebuhr
b. ca.1830 Plainfield,MA	Mary Naffziger m. George Niebuhr
d. 2 Jul 1891 D.City,NE	Flora Bell Naffziger m. John Dewitt

In [Naffziger] by Anita Fiedler, 1995, Anita discusses her difficulties in trying to identify John Naffziger. According to family tradition he accompanied the Christian Nafziger family to Canada, some saying he was a son, others a nephew. The discrepancies in the ages given would make it possible for him to have been either the 19-year-old "Johanas" or the 9-year-old "Johannas" on the ship passenger list. Whether son or nephew, he was certainly connected to Christian Nafziger, and until it is disproved, we will consider him the son.

According to the Gingrich genealogy and Ezra Eby's book, a Rachel Baer married a Samuel Nafziger, and they had two children, Leah and Moses. Was Rachel's husband incorrectly called Samuel, or were there two Nafziger families with children named Leah and Moses? We won't attempt to explain that puzzle.

5)

Joseph S. Nafziger	Catherine Nafziger
b. 20 Jun 1820 Bavaria	John Nafziger
d. 8 Aug 1891 Missouri	Christian Nafziger (1845-1900)
m. 1840 Wilmot?	David Nafziger
Jacobina Nafziger	Daniel Nafziger
b. 20 Oct 1819 France	Samuel Nafziger (1850-1875), killed by Dick Rogers
d. Missouri	Anna Nafziger
dau. of John Nafziger	Benjamin Nafziger
and Catherine Gingerich	Mary Nafziger

Joseph S. Nafziger and probably Jacobina lie buried in the Gerber Cemetery in Hickory County, Missouri. (It was Charlan Graff of Lincoln, NE, who first alerted me to this Nafziger intermarriage and to the outline of the family which soon follows.)

#### OTHER EARLY NAFZIGERS IN CANADA

In addition to Christian Nafziger's, four other lots were claimed by Nafzigers in Wilmot Township in 1830 -- two by Peter and one each by Daniel and Jacob. It is supposed that Peter, who has already been mentioned, laid claim to two lots and that there were not two Peters. All of these, including Peter, had made no improvements on their lots. Daniel and Jacob do not appear in the Waterloo Township census records, nor they appear again in Wilmot. We do not know from whence they came nor whither they went.

#### References:

*Amish Mennonites In Germany, Their Congregations, The Estates Where They Lived, Their Families* by Hermann Guth. (Morgantown, PA: Illinois Mennonite Historical Society and Masthof Press, c1995)  
 Nafziger Genealogies, pp. 202-214

Appendix IX, translation of report of Nafziger's death in *Canada Museum*, May 5, 1836

"Mennonite in der Gunst eines Fursten" by Hermann Guth in *Mennonitische Geschichtsblätter*, Neue Folge Nr. 31, 1979, pp. 70-79

"Putting Together the Canadian Nafziger Puzzle" by Lorraine Roth in *Mennonite Family History*, Vol. XV, No. 3, July 1996

*The Amish and Their Neighbours: The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1822-1860* by Lorraine Roth. (Waterloo, ON: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, c1998), pp. 2,3, 9-14, 47

Letters to Lorraine Roth from Gertrud and Hermann Guth, dated January 13 and February 8, 1998

*The Nafzger Heritage News*, edited by Clair Naftzger et al, Grafton, Ohio. I received several issues of this newsletter in the early 1980s. Perhaps it is still being published.

Primary sources giving details of Christian Nafziger's life, travels, and negotiations:

Minutes in Council describing Nafziger and his trip to Canada, made on his visit to government headquarters on September 4, 1822.

Petition signed by Peter Nafziger, Christian Bösiger, Christian Erb and Christian Nafziger, probably to King's College, because the University of Toronto has the original German letter, gives some of Christian Nafziger's understandings with the British Government -- petition dated 25 August 1828.

An undated letter, probably composed shortly after the one of August 25, 1828, and signed by Christian Erb and Christian Nafziger, described Nafziger's meeting with Lt-Governor Maitland on September 9, 1822, and the understandings for settlement.

John Goessman added a lengthy explanation to a letter dated November 16, 1828 and signed by Peter Nafziger, Joseph Goldschmidt and Christian Erb, in which he identified "His Royal Highness" as the Duke of York, brother to King George IV.

In his petition for a further land grant, dated November 10, 1831, Nafziger, stated that Maitland had given him letters for the secretary of the Colonial Department in London.

#### Other References:

"The Amish Mennonites in Canada" in *A Brief History of the Mennonites in Ontario* by L. J. Burkholder. (Markham, Ont.: Mennonite Conference of Ontario, 1935)

National Archives USA, Ship Passenger Lists, Philadelphia arrivals, Series M-360

Letter from Johannes Schwartzentruber, Waterloo Twp., Upper Canada, to Johannes Gungerich, Sept. 11, 1831. Copy and translation received from Joe Springer, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen College, Goshen, Ind. Partially published by the Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society in *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*, June 1988.

*Amish Immigrants of Waldeck and Hesse* by John M. Byler, Bellville, Ohio, 1993

Correspondence with Anita Fieder, 1995-1997

Re information on John Naffziger and Michael and Jacobena (Nafziger) Miller

AN OUTLINE SHOWING THE RELATIONSHIPS OF THE VARIOUS NAFZIGER IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA (It may include all those who migrated to Lewis County, N.Y., but not those who went to Ohio and elsewhere.)

The following outline is selective, highlighting those who came to Canada (and some to Lewis County). The numbers, however, have been retained; so if a number is missing, that person's descendants did not emigrate.

This outline has been extracted from the research done primarily by Hermann Guth of Saarbrücken, Germany. Charlan Graff from Lincoln, Nebraska, questions some of his conclusions, but has not come up with an alternative list. I will use this list, but with the understanding to that it may need revisions.

Christian Nafziger and Anna Schnyder, residents of Uetendorf, Switzerland, may be the ancestors of all known Anabaptist Nafzigers. Possible sons are:

- I. Christian Nafziger, b. 1675, probably Uetendorf  
    leaseholder in Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, 1707  
    wife's name not known
- II. Ulrich Nafziger, b. 1686, Uetendorf  
    m. Magdalena (probably dau. of Hans Gungerich)  
        d. 1759 in Essingen  
    migrated to U.S.A. and married again there  
    d. 1754 in Leacock Twp., Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania

\* \* \* \*



I. Christian Nafziger, b. 1675, living at Birlenbach in 1707

A. Christian Nafziger, b. ca.1705

Some descendants migrated to Ohio.

B. Valentin Nafziger, b. ca.1707

Some descendants migrated to Ohio.

C. Pierre/Peter Nafziger, b. ca.1709

Resided at Fleckensteinerhof, Lembach, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace)

2. Peter Nafziger, b. ca.1730

b. Valentin Nafziger (1763/5-1800)

m. Magdalena Spring

2m. Valentin Nafziger (from Ulrich's line)

All the children to the 1m. migrated to the U.S.A.,

only the two who came to Canada are listed here.

b2. **Peter Nafziger**, b. 23 Feb 1787, Frankish-Grumbach, Germany

former tenant at Hochheim near Worms

m. 8 Mar 1812, on manorial estate Wolferhof

**Barbara Beck**, dau. of Christian Beck and Barbara Danner

b. 1790, Wolferhof, Germany

Marriage registered in the Parish register of Sandbach, near

Neustadt in the Odenwald (photocopy in *The Nafzger Heritage* //

*News*, Summer, 1983)

Migrated to Canada in 1826; to Ohio in 1829

b4. **Barbara Nafziger**, b. 13 Nov 1794, Hochheim, Germany

m. **Peter Danner/Donner**, b. 1790, Muhlhofen, Germany

Migrated to Canada in 1826; then to U.S.A.

D. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b.ca.1715, known as "der Alte vom Steinbacherhof"

The Steinbacherhof is near Durstel in Lower Alsace. Durstel is about midway between La Petite Pierre and Sarre-Union. The two sons Christian and Valentin resided at the Steinbacherhof for a number of years and then Valentin moved to the Schottenhof near Sarralbe, some distance northwest of Sarre-Union. Sarralbe is in the Department of Moselle (Lorraine); all the others in Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace).

1. Christian Nafziger (ca.1740-1807)

1st wife's name not known, but they were the paternal ancestors of Jeanne Nafziger of Sarrebourg, France

Born to 2m. to Barbe Schertz (1765-1840)

a. Pierre Nafziger, b. ca.1891

d. 24 Oct 1819, Imling, Moselle

m. 28 Dec 1811?, Gondrexange, Moselle

Anne Abersol/Ebersol, dau. of Christian Abersol & Anne Mer/Maurer?

b. 30 Sept 1792

d. 18 Dec 1845, Landange, Moselle

2m. Pierre/Peter Steinman

Peter and the Steinman children migrated to Canada.

a2. **Anne Nafziger**, b. 22 Sep 1813, Gondrexange

m. 1840, at or near St. Mihiel, Meuse

**Peter Sommer**, b. 29 Sep 1814  
Family migrated to Canada in 1862; to Illinois in 1866  
(*Genealogical Record of the Family of GUERBERT or GARBER*,  
Appendix B, "The Sommer Family," pp. 63,64, by Lee O. Garber)

- a4. **Barbe/Barbara Nafziger**, b. 11 Sep 1816, Imling  
m. 1848

**Christian Oesch**, b. 16 Jun 1821

- (i) **Jean/John Oesch**, b. 30 Aug 1849, St. Mihiel, Meuse  
(ii) **Barbe/Barbara Oesch**, b. 4 Mar 1851, St. Mihiel  
(iii) **Anne Oesch**, b. 22 Nov 1855, St. Mihiel  
This family migrated to Canada in 1857.

2. Jean Nafziger, "der Junge vom Steinbacherhof"

- a. Jean Nafziger, b. 1775; m. 1796 to Katharina Gungerich  
Resided on Brandelfingerhof, east of Sarregemines

- a1. **Joseph Nafziger**, b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle  
m. 19 Mr 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
**Barbe/Barbara Jantzi**, dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser

- (i) **Catherine Nafziger**, b. 21 Apr 1834  
(ii) **Madeleine Nafzige**, b. 10 Jan 1836  
(iii) **Michel Nafziger**, b. 6 Jan 1838  
The family migrated to Canada in 1840; to the U.S.A. in 1850.

- a2. **Catherine Nafziger**, b. ca.1810, Weidesheim  
m. 10 Jul 1830, Hombourg Haut  
Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser  
b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle  
d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle  
The widow and her children migrated to Canada in 1849.  
She and the younger children left for the U.S.A. in 1850.  
(Further details on this family will be found under JANTZI)

3. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1747, Untersulzbach  
d. 2 Apr 1807  
1m. to Madeleine Maurer, d. 19 May 1793, Schottenhof  
2m. 19 Sept 1793 to Susanne Sommer, b. 1757  
dau. of André Sommer & Catherine Schertz

Children to 1st marriage:

- a. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1776; d. 21 Feb 1793
- b. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b. 10 Aug 1781  
m. Barbe Oesch, b. 1789  
dau. of Christian Oesch & Barbe Zehr
- b.1 Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b. 7 May 1818, Maizeroy, Moselle  
d. 5 Apr 1885  
m. Madeline Bachman (1821-1891)

moved to Liesem, Eifel, Germany, ca.1863

- (i) Jean/David Nafziger, b. 1847; d. 1903, Jaegershof, Merzig  
m. Marie Oesch (1853-1919)
  - (ii) Joseph Nafziger, b. 1851; d. 1940  
m. Barbe Naziger, b. 1859, Oppen, Germany  
lived in Hirschland, Alsace d. 1922  
(maternal grandparents of Jeanne Nafziger)
  - (iii) Barbara Nafziger, b. 1854; d. 1911  
m. Nicolas Oesch, b. 1841, Luxembourg
  - (iv) Catherine Nafziger, b. 1856; d. 1887  
m. Andre Oesch, b. 1842, Luxembourg
  - (v) Pierre Nafziger, b. 1858; d. 1944, Luxembourg  
m. Madeleine Nafziger, b. 1865, Oppen
  - (vi) **Chrétien/Christian Nafziger**, b. 1861  
emigrated to U.S.A. in 1883; m. 1886 to Anna Moser
  - (vii) Nicholas Nafziger, b. 1865; d. 1958  
m. Marie Schertz, Liesem, Germany
  - (viii) Magdalena Nafziger, d. at age 17
- c. Barbara Nafziger, b. 5 Aug 1777, Steinbacherhof  
m. 1812 to Joseph Schertz, d. before 1817
- d. Madeleine Nafziger, b. 1787/8, Steinbacherhof  
d. 16 Apr 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin  
m. Pierre Keller, d. 1854  
2m. 1823 to Barbe Schrag
- e. **Chrétien/Christian Nafziger**, b. 2 Sept 1791  
m. 14 May 1817, Bistroff, Moselle  
Marie Jantzi, dau. of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny  
This family migrated to Lewis Co., N.Y. in 1833.  
The descendants may all use the spelling Noftsier.
- e.1 **Madaleine Nafziger**, b. 21 May 1819, Bistroff
  - e.2 **Catherine Nafziger**, b. 16 July 1820, Bistroff
  - e.3 **Jacobee Nafziger**, b. ca.1822
  - e.4 **Marie Nafziger**, b. ca.1824
  - e.5 **Susanna Nafziger**, b. 31 Jul 1826
  - e.6 **Jean/John Nafziger**, b. 6 May? 1828
  - e.7 **Frederic Nafziger**, b. ca.1831 (on ship passenger list)
  - e.8 Joseph Nafziger, b. July 1833/4, Utica, NY
  - e.9 Christian Nafziger, b. Lewis Co., NY
- f. **André Nafziger**, b. 3 Jul 1797, Schottenhoff, Sarralbe, Moselle  
m. 15 Nov 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin  
d. believed to have died in Philadelphia  
Marie Muller, dau. of Samuel Muller and Magdaleine Eymann  
b. 27 Nov 1808, Liepvre  
Andre migrated to Canada, 1845 or earlier
- f1. Jean Nafziger, b. 20 Oct 1827, Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurte-et-Moselle  
Migrated to Canada, 1845 or earlier  
d. 1849 in an accident with a horse
- f2. Samuel Nafziger, b. 2 Apr 1830, Cirey-sur-Vezouze  
Migrated to Canada with the Michel Jantzi family in 1849

m. Anna Kipfer and raised a family in Canada  
All Nafzigers in Canada are descended from Samuel and Anna.

II. Ulrich Nafziger (1686-1754) born in Uetendorf, Switzerland

A. Stefan Nafziger (1715/16-1755) died in Steinseltz, Bas-Rhin, France

3. Christian Nafziger, b. 1749, Steinseltz  
m. Magdalena Gungerich

c. Christian Nafziger, b. 1778 on Geilweilerhof  
near Siebeldingen, Palatinate, Germany

This Christian Nafziger is believed to have married Maria Stalter,  
lived in Bavaria, made an exploratory trip to Canada looking for  
land in 1822, and in 1826 brought his family to settle here.

Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo, Ontario  
April, 2001  
[]

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OB< [] NAFZIGER FILES

CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER-RELATED MANUSCRIPTS, Published Accounts of his Story, etc.  
file)

NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Documents, etc. file No. I

NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Correspondence, etc. file No. II

NAFZIGER (Anita Fiedler) (correspondence and notes, etc.)

[] NAFFZIGER[] by Anita Fiedler, 1995 (coil binding)

NAFZIGER - NOTES (Sharon Cook correspondence and notes)

The following files contain much correspondence on Nafzigers, but also other  
concerns. Since they have been inactive for several years, they have been  
transferred to the Mennonite Archives at Conrad Grebel College:

Graff, Charlan (correspondence and notes -- some Brenneman interests also)

Dale Nofzinger (correspondence, notes, lists, etc. -- also other Ohio families)

CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER-RELATED MANUSCRIPTS, Published Accounts of his Story, etc.

"Primary sources giving details of Christian Nafziger's life, travels, and negotiations" (a list)

A list of Christian Nafziger's correspondence with the government re his request for and additional land grant.

"Christian Nafziger, Immigrant Leader (1776/78-1836)"

"Christian Nafziger" (a presentation prepared for Nithview Seniors, 1996)

"Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger Descendants in Canada"

"Putting Together the Canadian Nafziger Puzzle" (next to final draft and photocopy of article published in *¶Mennonite Family History¶*, 1996)

Christian Nafziger's letter to the king of Bavaria (photocopy of original and translation)

Copy of "Mennoniten in der Gunst eines Fursten" by Hermann Guth in *¶Mennonitischen Geschichtsblatter¶*, Neue Folge No.31, 1979

"Mennonites in the favour of a sovereign" -- an English version of the above Map showing Edersburg, residence of Christian Nafziger at the time he wrote to the king and at the time of emigration.

"Christian Nafziger and the 'King'" (-- the King of England)

"The John Naffziger Puzzle" (son of Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger)

#### CHRISTIAN NAFZIGER BIBLIOGRAPHY

Following his death, Christian Nafziger's story was published in the [Canada Museum], the German newspaper printed in Berlin (now Kitchener) on May 5, 1836.

The following is a list of publications in which the newspaper story was either quoted in full or referred to at length:

"Herr Christian Naffziger," Canada Museum, story reproduced in Gottlieb Leibbrandt's Little Paradies; . . . . (followed by an enlarged copy)

Letter of Jacob Meyer (1826) to Christian Gross or Heinrich Honsberger re Nafziger and Steinmann visit enroute to the Waterloo settlement (photocopy of original, transcriptions, and translation)

"An Account of the Amish Mennonites in Canada," an English translation of a publication written and published by Benjamin Eby (1841) (photocopy)

The Christian Nafziger story by Christian Ropp (also an immigrant to Canada, who had moved on to Ohio then Illinois (a photocopy)

Translation by George Unger, both supplied by Steven Estes

"The Amishman," published [Papers and Records] by the Ontario Historical Society, 1919 (photocopy: Christian Nafziger and others mentioned on p.41)

"Death of Christian Nafziger," a summary of the 1836 Canada Museum story, in the Kitchener Daily Record (1926) (photocopy supplied by David Luthy, Aylmer)

"Nafziger, Christian" in Mennonitisches Lexicon by Hege, followed by "Nafziger, Johannes" of Essingen in the Palatinate (photocopy)

(over)

"Nafziger" articles, including "Nafziger, Christian" in Mennonite Encyclopedia (photocopy)

"Nafziger, Christian" by Orland Gingerich in Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Volume VII, 1836-1850) (photocopy)

-- a second pringing of the OnLine copy of dictionary article

"Biography of Christian Nafziger Who Died in 1836 in Ontario, Canada," in Amish Mennonites in Germany, . . . ., by Hermann Guth, Appendix IX (photocopy)

"Gold Coins for the Journey" in No Permaent City, . . . ., by Harry Loewen (photocopy)

"Mr. Christian Naffziger," Exhibit C, p. 41 in The Amish and Their Neighbours . . . ., by Lorraine Roth (typed copy of Canada Museum story)

(A more detailed version of the above list is found at the beginning of the Bibliography part of the file.)



NAFZIGER: Miscellaneous Notes, Correspondence, etc. file No. II

Correspondence and Notes with Jeanne Nafziger, Sarrebourg, France, 1991-2004

"Nafzger Heritage News" -- a summary of issues received and the articles of interest

Correspondence with Clair E. Naftzger

Copies of various articles in "The Nafzger Heritage News"

Miscellaneous correspondence and notes

Photo of house on Christian Nafziger homestead, taken about 1904

Form requesting "Nimrod" passenger list



Letter: Jacob Meyer, written in Upper Canada, October 9, 1826

(other letters written by Meyer also included Clinton Taunship -- the Niagara district)

to Christian Gross or Henrich Honsberger

-- copy of original in German, 3 pages (3 copies)

-- copy of transcription, 5 pages

-- translation of reference to Nafziger's company, 1 page

After a lengthy discourse on the lack of love and worldliness in the church (I almost thought I had been sent the wrong letter), Jacob Meyer finally got to the reason for his writing in the first place at the end of the second page.

Translation as follows:

"My reason for writing was actually concerning the Germans who were with you, Nafziger, and Steinmann. They arrived safely at my place on Sunday, the first of October and on Wednesday they were safely in Waterloo. So they were about 3 weeks on the journey from your [place] to Waterloo. They asked me to write you that they got away safely and well. Their horses were all good and held up well and their board money was also sufficient until Waterloo as they told me and maybe a little left over. They told me much good that you showed them and seemed so thankful for the love that you showed them and the leading of God that it moved my heart to tears, with a heartfelt wish that the Lord would show you and your children mercy in time of need. Further, they asked me [to convey to you] their greetings together with their heartfelt thanks for all the good shown to them. They say they don't know that they can repay you. They hope the Lord will recompense you. Further, I think there probably will be some [who] wonder whether they didn't collect more than necessary, as far as I have learned from others, and what we have been able to learn from Nafziger, when he was with us

before, we believe it is as he told you. I have not found any unfaithfulness (dishonesty) in him."

Meyer then follows with closing personal remarks.

#### Comments:

Gross and Honsberger were leaders in the Franconia Mennonite Conference in eastern Pennsylvania -- just north of Philadelphia. They had evidently assured Christian Nafziger that they would pay his passage, and from this excerpt they probably kept their word and had also outfitted the immigrants accompanying him with horses, wagons, and livelihood for the journey to Waterloo.

Christian Nafziger's family group comprised eight persons, Bishop Peter Nafziger's four, Christian Steinmann's five, Peter Danner's six, with Peter Back/Beck and Benjamin Goldschmit as single men, for a total of 25 persons. It is not known whether they all travelled together or not.

The first stop of the Nafzigers and Steinmanns -- and perhaps the rest of this travelling group -- in Canada was at the "Twenty" (Vineland) -- after the arduous trip from eastern Pennsylvania.

#### Translation and comments

by Lorraine Roth

December 2005

#### NAFZIGER LAND HOLDINGS

(Information on leases are from Canada Company records, but references to land records found in the Registry Offices were also used. A few were also accessed through the Rare Book Room at the University of Waterloo)

#### Wilmot Township (German Block):

Lot 6, North Bleam's Road: (RBR #70, B. No.340, reg. 3 Nov 1843, p. 553)  
20 Feb 1832 -- Crown to Christian Naffzieger, Patent to front 50 acres  
27 Sep 1843 -- Exec. to Christian Naffziger to Conrad Schaeffer, front 50 ac.  
24 Apr 1851 -- Indenture, King's College to Benjamin Johnson, rear 150 acres

#### Lot 7, North Bleam's Road:

17 Sept 1835 -- Crown to Christian Miller, Patent to front 50 acres  
(wife: Catherine Nafziger)  
1 May 1855 -- Deed Poll, University of Toronto to Christian Miller, rear 150 ac  
8 Feb 1859 -- Bond, Heirs of Christian Miller to George Jutzi, 200 acres

#### Lot 10, North Bleam's Road: (RBR #70, B. No.490, reg. 23 Feb 1844, pp. 640,641)

29 Aug 1843 -- B & S, Benjamin Erb to Jos. & Christn. Naffziger, front 100 ac.  
12 Jun 1848 -- " Christian Naffziger to Joseph Naffziger "  
1 Feb 1849 -- " Joseph Naffziger to Christoph Schmitt, front 50 acres  
6 Feb 1850 -- " " " to Anton Geiger, 25 ac., SE pt of

rear 3/4, excepting a road 1 rod wide  
(25 acres not accounted for)

Lot 12, North Bleam's Road: (RBR #70, B. No.484, reg. 23 Feb 1844, p. 636)  
24 Jun 1843 -- B & S, Peter Gordner to Jos. & Christn Naffziger, 23 ac. [front]  
12 Jun 1848 -- " Christian Naffziger to Joseph Naffziger "  
11 Dec 1849 -- " Peter Gordner to Joseph Naffziger, 3/2/29 ac., SW pt  
29 Aug 1850 -- " Joseph Naffziger to George Yutzi, 21/1/32 ac.  
30 Aug 1850 -- " " " to Michael Gingerich, 6/0/26, N pt  
6 Sept 1850 -- " " " to Jeremiah Cole, 0/0/72 [perches]  
(I don't know whether these bits and pieces add up or not!)

Lot 11, South Bleam's Road:  
28 Apr 1855 -- B & S, Cornelius Gabel to Christn Naffziger, 25/1/0 acres,  
N pt of rear  
31? May 1869 -- " Christn Naffziger to Henry Gabel, 25/1/0, pt rear 3/4  
0/3/23, pt 1/4  
(no explanation for extra 0/3/23)

#### CANADA COMPANY NAFZIGER LEASES/SALES

##### Wilmot Township (Block A):

###### Lease agreement:

Feb 12, 1840 -- Edmund Hall, Con.1, Lot 9 N 1/2, 100 ac. @20/	022 372
total price 100 pds	#3694
-- to J. G. Naffziger	
-- to L. & G. Klein } Jan	
-- to Jos. Zehr } 1859	
-- Commuted to lease No. 3302 Jan 1859	

##### North Easthope Township:

###### Agreement date:

Nov 1, 1840 -- Christn Naffzinger, Con.6, Lot 16, 100 ac.	019 216
Total price: 67.10.0, 5 payments	#1597
-- to Benj. Erb and Chrs Allis, Sept 1843	
-- to Henry Koch, Apr 1853	
-- Deed issued 31 May 1853	
Nov 24, 1840 -- Jos. Naffzinger, Con.8, Lot 16, 100 ac.	019 223
Total price: 62.10, 5 payments of 10.0.0	#1647
-- To James Dallas 1844	
-- Deed issued 4 May 1854	
[NEH History includes description of early Nafziger buildings]	
Aug 29, 1842 -- John Naufsicker, Con.8, Lot 15, 100 ac.	029 023
total price: 110 pds, payments between 1843 & 1854	#89
-- to James Dallas June 1854	
-- to John Lindner Apr 1854	
-- Deed issued 23 June 1854	

Date of Lease:

Aug 12, 1857 -- Saml Vafzitker(sic), Con.14, Lot 26 032 134  
-- Cancelled October 1866 #5891

date of sale:

Oct 9, 1866 -- Samuel Naftzier, Con.14, Lot 26, 73 ac. @ 75/4 021 193  
total price: 275.0.0 #7895  
-- Formerly leased No. 5891

June 24, 1870 -- Saml Nafziger, Con.13, N 1/2 Lot 26, 50 ac., @ 90/ 021 226  
total price: 225 pds #8325  
[no lease mentioned]

Christian Nafziger, Lot 17 (5 ac., pt of N 1/2 of S 1/2), Concession VII  
1869-1875

CENSUS RECORDS for North Easthope Township:

1842 -- Joseph Nafcher, Lot 14, Conc. 7 -- parents, 2 male, 2 female children

-- Christian Nafcher, Lot 15, Conc. 9 -- parents, 1 female child

1843 -- Joseph Nafeger, Lot 14, Conc. 7 -- parents, 2 male, 3 female children  
(The family configuration fits that of Joseph and Barbara (Jantzi) Nafziger)

-- Christian Nafeger, Lot 5, Conc. 9, parents, 1 female child  
(The family configuration fits that of Christian and Catherine (Blum) Nafziger)

There was no census in 1844, and in 1845 the Nafzigers no longer appeared.

The North Easthope history book credits Joseph Nafziger with putting up a house-barn building, described as follows: "It was Joseph Nafziger who put up the first building of any note on this lot. It was a 30-by-60-foot house-barn combination on a fieldstone foundation set into the side of a hill. The lower section on the south side was at ground level. Entrance to the second floor on the north side was from a bank.

"The living quarters, 16 by 30 feet, were in the east part of the building, separated from the barn by a stone wall. Those quarters included a kitchen and living area to the south and two bedrooms to the north. The walls were plastered, the ceiling plaster and lath over rough logs, which were the floor of the shed above. That shed was used to store implements and feed."

*The Hills of Home; North Easthope Township History, 1827-1997.* Published by the North Easthope History Book Committee, Writer-Editor Dean Robinson, p. 432.

Comments: The writer of the above does not indicate his source of information, but I find it quite unlikely that the Nafzigers accomplished that building feat in four years in the forest of North Easthope. The author of the history of the Lot 9 skips James Dallas and begins with the next owner who purchased the farm in 1855. The Nafzigers owned it only four years and Dallas owned it eleven

years and much more likely to have built something permanent. Perhaps the author had some source for his information, such as a date stone, but he does not indicate any clue.

Note: The census records and the Canada Company records do not agree on the lots that these Nafziger families occupied. I suppose we chose the Canada Company records as being the most authentic.

### **Hay Township:**

Agreement date

Jan 22, 1849 -- Joseph Naffziger Jr.?, Con.13, Lots 13,14, 200 ac.	030 468
-- Lot 13 to Wm. Bassenberger Feb 1859	#2327
-- converted to Sale No. 6158 Feb 1859	
-- Lot 14 cancelled Oct 1851 or 1857	
-- re-leased No. 4552	
Jan 22, 1849 -- Joseph Naffziger, Con.18, Lots 23,24, 200 ac.	030 468
no price given	#2328
-- Cancelled July 1850	
-- re-leased Nos. 3279,3280	
Jan 24, 1849 -- Chn Naffziger, Con.13, Lot 25, 100 ac.,	030 470
price: 16.17.6	#2335
-- to Geo. W. Eby Jan 1851	
-- to P. Becker Apr 1851	
-- to B. Johnson Mar 1853	
-- Converted to Sale No. 3780, Feb 1854	
Feb 3, 1849 -- Josh Naffziger, LRF, Lot 12, 150 ac., price: 67.10.0	030 487
-- to M. Michaels Feb 1854	#2421
-- to __ Heycook     "     "	
-- Converted to Sale No. 6136, Feb 1859	

### **SAMUEL NAFZIGER FAMILY LAND HOLDINGS**

#### **North Easthope Township**

John Nafziger (son of Samuel Nafziger and Anna Kipfer)  
    m. 1879 to Magdalena Gerber  
        dau. of Joseph Gerber and Magdalena Brenneman  
    Lot 26, Con. XIII, 1887-1911 (sold to bro. Joseph Nafziger)

Joseph Nafziger (son of Samuel Nafziger and Anna Kipfer)  
    1m. 1890 to Mattie Jantzi  
    2m. 1926 to Mary Schmidt  
    Lot 26, 73 ac., Con. XIV, 1891-1925 (from father Samuel  
        to son-in-law Moses L. Jantzi)  
    Lot 26, Con. XIII, 1911-1916) (from bro. John Nafziger  
        to son-in-law Daniel L. Jantzi)

Samuel Nafziger (son of Andrew Nafziger and Marie Muller)  
m. 1855 to Anna Kipfer  
dau. of Christian Kipfer and Barbara Schmidt  
Lot 26, 73 ac., Con. XIV, 1857-1891 (lease in 1857, deed from Canada  
Co. in 1866) (sold to son Joseph Nafziger)  
Lot 26, N 1/2, Con. XIII, 1870-1887 (deed from Canada Co.)  
S 1/2, " 1878-1887 (sold all to son John Nafziger)

### **Mornington Township**

Christian Nafziger (son of Samuel Nafziger & Anna Kipfer)  
m. 1880 to Magdalena Reschly  
dau. of Joseph Reschly & Anna Schweitzer  
Lot 16, SE pt, Con. I, 1880-1917 [50 ac.] (both sold to son David  
Lot 17, S pt, Con. I, 1880-1917, 104 acres Nafziger)

Nicholas Nafziger (son of Samuel Nafziger & Anna Kipfer )  
m. 1887 to Mary Steinman  
dau. of Christian Steinman & Maria Honderich  
Lot 11, E 1/2, Con. I, 1906-29 (sold to son Samuel S. Nafziger)  
Lot 15, SW 1/4 & pt NW 1/4, Con. I, 1892/95-1906  
(sold to bro.-in-law John Roes)

Samuel Nafziger (son of Samuel Nafziger & Anna Kipfer)  
m. 1886 to Fanny Steinman; m. 1897 to Leah Steinman  
daus. of Christian Steinman & Maria Honderich  
Lot 14, SE pt, Con. I, 1900-24 (120 ac.)  
SW pt. " 1907-24 (32 ac.)

John Roes (m. to Mary Nafziger)  
Lot 15, SW 1/4 & pt NW 1/4, Con. I, 1906-1930 (from Nicholas Nafziger  
to son Noah Roes)

### **Ellice Township**

NAFZIGER, Andrew (son of Samuel Nafziger and Anna Kipfer)  
Lot 11, S pt, Con. XV, 1894-1926 (from bro. Samuel Jr., to son Rudy)  
" N pt, " 1921-1939 (from bro. Samuel,  
to bro.-in-law Christia S. Gascho)  
Lot 11, Con. XVI, 1921-1929 (deed in Catherine's name after Andrew's death  
1929-1939 (Catherine to son-in-law Christian S. Gascho)

(continued)

A hand-written note states that Andrew Nafziger built a small barn, and the family lived in the upper level. Then he built a house and a large barn, and the upper level (presumably of the small barn) was used as a granary. (do not know source of this information, but it must apply to this Andrew Nafziger)

NAFZIGER, Samuel Jr. (son of Samuel Nafziger and Anna Kipfer)  
1m. 1886 to Veronica Steinman} both daus. of  
2m. 1897 to Leah Steinman} Christian Steinman  
and Maria Honderich  
Lot 11, Con. XV, 1887-1894/21 (sold to Andrew Nafziger; S pt in 1894  
and N pt in 1921)  
Lot 11, Con. XVI, 1887-1900 (house built during Smith ownership;  
purchased by Andrew Nafziger in 1921)

#### PETER NAFZIGER, FROM GERMANY TO CANADA

Peter Nafziger was born in 1787/89 in Germany. He married Barbara Beck in 1812.(1) Peter was ordained to the ministry and that of "full ministry" for which office the term bishop came to be used in America. The date and place of this ordination is not known.

Peter and Barbara left Amsterdam with six children in the company of several other Amish Mennonite families and individuals, arriving in Philadelphia on the Ship *Nimrod* on August 18, 1826.(2) Among the group was Christian Nafziger who had been on a scouting trip to find land on which to settle in 1822, and now he was returning with his family, bound for Canada. Others in the group were Peter and Barbara (sister to Peter Nafziger) Danner and four children, Peter Back/Beck (likely Barbara Beck Nafziger's brother), Christian and Veronica (Eyer) Steinman, two children, and Christian's father Jacob, and Benjamin Goldschmit (probably Joseph Goldschmit's brother). All of these turned up in Canada although not all of them settled here.

By the time of the arrival of this group in Canada, the central portion of Wilmot Townshp to the west of the Mennonite settlement in Waterloo, had been surveyed and Amish-Mennonite settlers from Europe as well as Mennonites from Waterloo were claiming lots and beginning to clear the roadways and the land.

All of the heads of households in the above list claimed lots. Peter Nafziger claimed Lot 24, North Bleam's Road.(3) Christian Nafziger, Peter Danner, and Christian Steinman set to work immediately clearing their roadways, clearing land to plant crops and building substantial log cabins. Perhaps Peter Nafziger was helping his brother-in-law, Peter Danner, with his property, and was neglecting his own. He also seems to have done some additional scouting.

In January of 1828, unknown to the settlers in Wilmot, the government gave the newly chartered university, called King's College, the rear 150 acres of the land being settled as an endowment. Whether the settlers paid the government or the college for their land would not have made a great deal of difference, but the college proposed a new set of policies, including a considerable price hike. The settlers had come to Canada with little or no money, and there was no hope of securing money in the near future. Once they were able to raise more crops than were needed to feed their own families, they had no markets for selling their surplus.

In early August, 1828, the settlers were made aware of the change in landlord and the new policies. They were very distressed and let both the college and the government know. Christian Nafziger immediately penned a letter to the college expressing his distress.(4) A flurry of negotiations began between the government, the college, and the settlers in Wilmot. Peter Nafziger, representing the community as its elder, and Joseph Goldschmidt wrote another letter to John Goessman, who had done the surveying of the settlement, asking him to translate their letter and act as their agent with the government. This he did, adding his own explanations and comments, saying that the settlers "were making preparations in a body to evacuate."(5)

Like all of the other settlers, Peter Nafziger was dismayed at the turn of events in the new settlement, but he was dissatisfied about other matters as well. It would seem that he had, in the meantime, visited the Augspurger settlement in Butler County, just north Cincinnati, where the Ohio met the Mississippi, and provided a ready market for farm produce, providing the farmers with cash -- something hard to find in Waterloo, and much less in Wilmot! In July, 1829, Peter was back in Waterloo after a trip to Cincinnati and reported on it in a letter to his fellow minister Johannes Gungerich in "the Glades" (Somerset County, Pennsylvania).

Excerpts from his letter: "At Pentecost, church was at Christian Augspurger's and I met many good friends there. It pleased me such in that area that, if we stay healthy, I hope with the help of God to move there with my family this fall yet."

"Recently I have written two letters to Germany to say that our dear friends should no longer move to Canada, but instead to Cincinnati where Augspurger lives. There are still others here who are waiting to go there. . . We do not learn the pure truth about the area where Augspurger lives through our friend Christian Naffziger or else not as many people would have moved to Canada as there are here. There everything that one sells is hard cash and it is a big trade city. . . Since leaving Germany I have not seen as beautiful wheat and German clover fields as across the Great Miami River where Augspurger lives." (6) Not a word about the problems with the government and the college!

In spite of the problems in the Wilmot settlement, more leaders were ordained to the ministry in 1829. Christian Farni and John Oesch were ordained in February -- by Bishop Peter Nafziger, no doubt. In September John was ordained to "full ministry" (bishop), and we assume that Peter took care of this ordination before leaving permanently for Butler County, Ohio. (7)

#### PETER NAFFZIGER, "THE APOSTLE" IN OHIO

When Peter arrived in Butler County, Ohio as a settler (8), the only congregation of the Mennonite faith was that of Christian Augspurger of Alsace, which we now designate Amish Mennonite. When a group of Mennonites arrived from Hesse, Germany in 1831, they joined the Augspurger congregation. The group soon found a number of their views incompatible, and decided to part ways in 1835. Peter Naffziger became the minister of the Hessian group.

Peter was fond of travelling and visiting churches in outlying areas. He is said to have made trips to Kentucky and Illinois on horseback and on foot to New Orleans to minister to a small congregation there. One would surely think he would have found transportation on a Mississippi River boat, but perhaps that was too expensive. His itinerant ministry earned him the title "the Apostle" or "Apostle Peter." (9)

Several of Peter and Barbara Naffziger's children married in Butler County, but in 1844, the family moved once more, settling in Woodford County, Illinois. When I checked the Illinois Mennonite history books, I was surprised to find very little mention of him. The *Mennonite Encyclopedia* mentions him under "Nafziger," calling him a "prominent bishop" in Butler County, but does not indicate that he moved to Illinois. (10) Evidently, he never became a pastor of a congregation in Illinois, although he may have continued to travel for some time. Byler indicates he became "somewhat inactive in church matters, coupled



with domestic troubles."(11) Peter died at Congerville, Illinois in 1885 and is buried in the Imhoff Cemetery.

THE FAMILY OF PETER AND BARBARA (BECK) NAFFZIGER(12)

Peter Naffziger, son of Valentine Nafziger and Magdalena Spring (Guth & Byler)  
b. 23 Feb 1787, Kirchheim-Boland, Germany (Grubb)  
23 Feb 1789, Gauerheim (Byler)  
1789, probably at Frankisch-Crumbach, Germany (Guth)  
d. 15/16 Sep 1885, Congerville, IL (Byler)  
m. 8 Mar 1812, Wolferhof near Neustadt, Hesse-Darmstadt (Byler)

(continued)

Barbara Beck, dau. of Christian Beck and Barbara Danner (Byler)  
b. 1 Jun 1790, Wolferhof (Guth)  
b. 1796 (Byler)  
d. 4 Sep 1865, Delavan, IL (Byler)

Children of Peter and Barbara (Beck) Nafziger:

- 1) Elizabeth Nafziger (1813-1882) born Hesse, Germany; died Olivers Grove, MO  
m. John Michael Kistler (1808-1876) ord. in Hessian church, Butler Co., OH  
moved to Rock Creek, IL, then to Graden City, MO  
13 children
- 2) Jacob Nafziger (1815-1868)  
m. Magdalena Rhogie (both buried in Amish Cemetery, Hopedale, IL)  
no known children
- 3) John Nafziger, b. & d. 10 Oct 1816, Germany
- 4) Magdalena Nafziger (1818-1895) bu. in Imhoff Cemetery, Congerville, IL  
m. 12 Nov 1837, Butler Co., OH by Peter Nafziger  
Michael Kinsinger (1814-1895) bu. in Imhoff Cemetery  
ord. in 1862 and served in South Danvers Church  
11 children
- 5) Barbara Nafziger (1820-1912)  
m. Nov 1838, Butler Co., OH by Ben King  
Daniel Otto (1816-1894) bu. Park Lawn Cemetery, Danvers Twp., McLean Co., IL  
moved from Butler Co., OH, to Danvers, IL, in 1853  
11 children
- 6) Jacobina/Phoebe Nafziger (1822-1875)  
m. 4 Aug 1847, Butler Co., OH, by Rev. Miller  
Christian Schoettler (1823-1931)  
lived near Princeton, IL  
8 children
- 7) Peter R. Nafziger (1824-1898) bu. Imhoff Cemetery  
m. 26 Jan/Jun 1851, Woodford Co., IL, by John Nafziger  
Magdalena Engel (1826-1907) bu. Imhoff Cemetery  
10 children
- 8) Katharina Nafziger (1826-1919) born on sea, not listed in passenger list  
m. 20 Apr 1845, Ohio

Michael Zimmerman (1820-1913) died near Congerville, IL  
moved to Tazewell Co., IL in 1848/49  
served as Apostolic minister and lived near Slabtown, IL  
12 children

- 9) Valentine F. Nafziger (1828-1886) born in Canada; died near Delavan, IL  
m. 25 Dec 1859, Steustone, KY  
Elizabeth Steiger (1837-1921) both bu. in Amish Cemetery near Hopedale, IL  
8 children
- 10) Christian Nafziger, b. 30 Mar 1830, Butler Co., OH; died young
- 11) John Nafziger, b. 17 Nov 1832, Butler Co., OH; died young

Notes:

1) Sources do not quite agree on the date nor the place of birth of Peter. The History of the Mennonites of Butler County, Ohio, by Rev. W. H. Grubb, 1916. Republished by the Friends of Chrisholm in 2001 gives his birth as 1787 at Kirchheim-Bolanden [northwest of Worms], Germany, page 20. Hermann Guth, in Amish Mennonites in Germany, Their Congregations, the Estates Where They Lived, Their Families. Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society, Metamora, IL. Copyright 1995: Masthof Press, Morgantown, PA, page 205, gives the date as 1789 at Frankisch-Crumbach, northeast of Worms. John M. Byler, in Amish Immigrants of Waldeck and Hesse . . . Bellville, OH, 1993, page 107 cites both dates and the place as Gauersheim, Germany. Gauersheim is a short distance east of Kirchheim-Bolanden. Byler cites a handwritten copy of descendants in the Illinois Mennonite Heritage Archives at Metamore, Ill. as his main source.

2) National Archives, Washington, D.C., Microfilm Series for ships landing in Philadelphia.

3) The Amish and Their Neighbours, The German Block, Wilmot Township, 1822-1860, by Lorraine Roth. Waterloo, Ontario: Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, 1998. A map of the settlement on page 22 shows the locations of the claims of these settlers in 1830.

4) This letter, dated August 25, 1828, has been reproduced and translated in The Amish and Their Neighbours, page 16.

5) This letter was submitted to the Lieutenant Governor, John Colborne on December 5, 1828. National Archives of Canada, RG5, A1, Vol.91, pp.50555-56, Film #C-6866

6) This letter, dated July 25, 1829, in Waterloo Township, Upper Canada, was published in translation by Illinois Mennonite Heritage, June 1998. Translation and explanatory comments by Joe Springer.

7) The history books -- "The Amish Mennonites in Canada" by Jacob R. Bender in A Brief History of the Mennonites in Ontario by L. J. Burkholder. Mennonite Conference of Ontario, Markham, Ont., 1935, page 222, and The Amish of Canada by Orland Gingerich. Waterloo, Ontario: Conrad Press, 1972, page 204, give 1834

as the date of ordination of John Oesch as bishop. In his family Bible, however, John had recorded the dates of his ordinations -- the first one in February, the second one in September of 1829, but he did not indicate who ordained him.

8) Grubb dated Nafziger's arrival in Butler County as 1828. This date may be correct depending on which trip to the county one considers as the important one.

9) Grubb, page 20 and Byler, page 108.

10) The Mennonite Encyclopedia, Vol. III, I-N, c1956 Mennonite Publishing House, Scottdale, PA, 2nd Printing 1972, page 806.

11) Byler, page 108.

12) Byler, family list on pages 107-109. Byler uses the spelling "Naffziger," but all other sources spell the name with only one "f." Perhaps Byler's source used the double "ff."

Lorraine Roth, Waterloo, Ontario, July 2005

REFERENCES TO SETTLERS LEAVING CANADA FOR BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO  
in The Amish and their Neighbours . . .

Chapter 3, p.13, middle of 2nd column

-- arrival in Philadelphia of Peter Nafziger and family and Peter Danner and family in 1826 (later transferred to Butler County)

Chapter 4, p.[15], middle of 2nd column:

-- settlers threatened to abandon the land (no indication where they would go)  
p.16, 4th paragraph of letter, 25 Aug 1828:

-- quotation re abandoning the land

p.17, middle of 2nd column:

-- Peter Nafziger composed letter, also signed by Joseph Goldschmidt, to John Goessman, asking them to be their agent. Goessman translated the letter, added his own comments, and submitted it to Lt.-Gov. John Colborne, Dec. 5, 1828

p.18, 1st column, near bottom:

-- Goessman claimed settlers "were making preparations in a body to evacuate" (no indication where to). He advised them not to leave -- confident the government would hear their grievances.

2nd column, near the top:

-- those who left made the decision late in 1828 or the first half of 1829

last paragraph -- Daniel Unzicker and others send a petition to Lt.-Governor

-- Joseph Goldschmidt & others write to Canada Company concerning price of land  
p.20, bottom of 1st column, top of 2nd column:

-- Christian Nafziger letter of Jan 16, 1830 to Lt.-Gov. Colborne asked for a definite price on the land or his neighbours would leave for Ohio.

p.22, map showing locations of settlers in 1830

-- Peter Nafziger was on Lot 24, North Bleam's Street

p.23, lower middle of 2nd column:

-- In April 1830, Goessman reported that several families were "preparing to evacuate the land, going to Ohio."

Chapter 5, p.[25], 1st column:

-- Joseph Goldschmidt obtained his patent to the front 50 acres in 1831, sold it to Jacob Kropf and left for Ohio

p.26, 1st column, lower middle:

-- Christian Farni and Andrew Ropp received their patents in 1833. (It is said that Farni went to Butler County, but that sojourn must have been very short, because they are said to have migrated to Illinois in 1834.) (According to the Ropp story, some of the family had gone to Butler County already in 1831 and 1832. They also remained in Ohio long enough to bury the mother of the family in 1834 before moving on to Illinois.)

-- Joseph Cushman received patents to Lots 23 and 24, replacing Peter Nafziger on Lot 24. Cushman was an immigrant from Germany. His story continues on p.[87].

Chapter 5, p.[47], middle of 2nd column:

-- Peter Nafziger was unhappy with conditions in Canada (see letter of Peter Nafziger to Johannes Gungerich, translation of excerpt in Footnote #10 for Chapter 1 (page [107])

Chapter 9, p.75, near top of 2nd column:

-- Two ministers and a deacon had been ordained in the Wilmot settlement. The arrival of Peter Nafziger as a "full minister" (bishop) in 1826, provided a full complement of leaders to the Amish-Mennonite congregation.

(over)

Chapter 10, p.[87], bottom of 1st column:

-- Both Lots 23 and Peter Nafziger's Lot 24, North Bleam's Road, provided mill sites on Smith's Creek (now called the Nith River). Cushman received patents to both lots with the understanding that he would build mills. By 1834 he had a grist mill in operation, but cholera hit the family that same year, and all of them died except a son and son-in-law -- perhaps his wife also survived. Someone else took up the cause and mills have operated at this site since then.

Chapter 11, p.[99], middle of 1st column:

-- more on Peter Nafziger's displeasure with the settlement

References to Peter Nafziger "the Apostle" in Hermann Guth's "Amish Mennonites in Germany . . ."

p.29: Peter Nafziger, son of Valentin Nafziger and Magdalena Spring  
b. 1789, m. Barbara Beck  
"Peter the Apostle" to U.S.A

p.43: Peter Nafziger marriage to Barbara Beck

p.205, #3221: Peter Nafziger, called "the Apostle"  
b. 1789 in Frankisch-Crumbach  
m. Barbara Beck of Wolferhof, near Rimhorn in Odenwald  
(all of these places are southeast of Darmstadt)  
emigrated to U.S.A. in 1826

411-65 Westmount Rd. N.  
Waterloo, Ontario  
Canada N2L 5G6  
July 7, 2005

Anne & Carl Jantzen  
218 West Elkton, Box 276  
Seven Mille, OH 45062

Dear Anne and Carl,

Greetings from Waterloo, Ontario!

I have now gathered together a number items to send you concerning persons or families who were in Canada and then left for Butler County, Ohio.

I am sending you a copy of "The Amish and Their Neighbours . . ." in which I told the story of the early Amish-Mennonite settlement in Wilmot Township. It includes the story which I briefly tried to tell you over our dessert. Section I (chapters 2 to 5) will be of the most interest to you, and those contains more detail than you may wish for. I have made a list of the pages which contain specific references of interest which I am enclosing -- "References to Settlers Leaving Canada for Butler County, Ohio." It may help you focus on your interests.

Then I am enclosing copies of the relative files I have developed over the years, telling the stories of the Amish Mennonite families who settled in Canada

-- some of whom then moved on. In the case of those going to Butler County, most of them left very early; so my files on them are not very extensive, but I do follow them to their final destination if I can find that information.

The ones I am sending you may also not have stayed very long in Butler County, and you may not even be aware of them. You may not be aware of the Birkelbach (by various spellings) family, but John Birkelbach's wife was Maria Schwartzentruber, sister to Joseph Goldsmith's wife. Evidently John died in Butler County.

I did not send the Christian Farni file, because they must simply have slept a few nights in Butler County before moving on to Illinois! If you are aware of their presence there, please let me know, and I will still send it.

The Ropp family also just passed through Butler County, but they did bury the mother of the family there before moving on.

John S. Schwartzenruber left Canada a few years later than most of the others, and he is also the only one who returned to Canada.

The Unzickers were probably there longer than any of them and may still have descendants living there. The persons with whom I corresponded sent me all kinds of clippings. I don't know whether their addresses are current. I have dated the period of correspondence (page 9); so you can see how long it's been since I heard from them.

Peter Nafziger's sojourn in Butler County may be one of the most interesting ones, but he seems to have slipped into oblivion when he got to Illinois, although he lived to a ripe old age. I am also enclosing a translation of his 1829 letter which contains some interesting comparisons between Canada and Butler County -- "Letter from Peter Naffziger to Johannes Gungerich, July 25, 1829." (over)  
page 2

I am not asking for payment for these materials. Accept them as a gift to "Friends of Chrisholm Historic Farmstead" and the work of interpretation you are doing.

We have had a reprieve from the heat and humidity for about a week. We hope we get a few more of these throughout the summer.

With Best Wishes,

Lorraine Roth

Notes, comments and question's on the "Versuch einer Stammfolge des Christian Nafziger von Birlenbach" by Hermann Guth:

1121 Christian Nafziger, b. 1776

m. Catherine Schantz

(from Dale Nofsinger I have the information that their oldest son Christian was married to Susan Jantzi. I suppose he has asked you for information on this marriage. She could be the dau. of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny. They had a daughter who was registered as Catherine in 1808, but they called her Susanna in the family Bible. I found no record of her beyond her birth. Any further information?)

\* \* \*

322 Valentin Nafziger's daughter Barbara was also married -- as follows:

Barbara Nafziger, b. 13 Nov 1794, Hochheim

d. 19 Sep 1881, Woodford Co., Ill.

m. Peter Danner, b. 1790, Muhlhofen, Ger.  
d. 18 Feb 1866, Danvers, Ill.  
(This information from The Peter Donner and Barbara Naffziger

Donner Family by Russell Gingrich Harris. Has he corresponded  
with you?)

\* \* \*

4211 Joseph Nafziger, b. 2 Apr 1898  
m. Barbe Jantzi, dau. of Michel Jantzi and  
Barbe Neuhauser  
(This family has had an article in MFH, and I have nothing new.)

4212 Catherine Nafziger, b. ca. 1810, Weidesheim (dau. of Jean, miller,  
age 54, res. of Brandelfing, and Catherine Gingerich)  
m. 10 July 1830 at Hombourg Haut  
to Michel Jantzi, 35, miller at Poulvermuhl  
widower of Barbe Beller  
(After Michel's death, Catherine migrated with children and step-children  
in 1849 to Canada. She and some children moved on to Illinois in 1850.)

\* \* \*

431 Andreas, m. 1825 in Keskastel (is that between Sarralbe and Sarre-Union?)  
to Marie Muller  
(Recently someone found the births of two children at Cirey-sur-Vezouze,  
namely, Jean, b. 20 Oct 1827  
Samuel, b. 2 Apr 1830  
This Samuel must be the immigrant to Canada -- birthdate is exact. He is  
the one who it was said was from "Trebo," France. Since I couldn't find  
Trebo, I had no where to look! Samuel was in the same immigrant group as  
Catherine Nafziger Jantzi (#4212) and her children in 1849.)

432 Christian Nafziger, m. 1817 in Bistroff to Marie Jantzi  
(Both my notes and yours of their marriage record give Christian's mother's  
name as Susanna Maurer. I see the names of the two wives of Valentin  
combined here. Was this an error in the marriage record? They were  
married at Bistroff.)

□

#### Notes:

1) The marriage record for Peter and Barbara gives the death dates and locations  
for their parents as follows:

Michel Nafziger, d. 20 Jan 1825 at Heimersdorf, Haut-Rhin

Madaleine Gens, d. 14 Dec 1835 at Aspach, near Altkirch, Haut-Rhin

□ Michel Roth, d. 19 Aug 1840 at Illzach, Haut-Rhin

Anne Muller, d. 24 Jun 1814 at Ste. Croix-aux-Mines, Haut-Rhin

(Civil Registration film #0732725)

2) The Alsace Emigration list gives the following data for Pierre Nafziger: age  
25, "Goumalier" (probably "journalier" -- day labourer), origin Walheim,



residence Galvingue, destination New York, emigration date 1 March 1841, with wife age 24. (Alsace Emigration list, film #1125005)

- 3) Nicolus Naffziger, age 30, resident of Hay Twp., b. Canada, farmer  
son of Nicolus and Barbara Naffziger  
groom: Evangelical Association; bride: none  
(Ontario Civil Registration film #1862895 (marriages 1875))
- 4) Jacob Lindenfelder, age 30 resident of Hay Town, b. Germany, Methodist  
m. July 9, 1873 at Hay Town, by G. Kraun, license  
Magdalina Naffzitjer, age 23, resident of Hay Town, b. Canada, Evang. Assoc.  
dau. of Barbara Naffziger  
witnesses: Nicolas Naffziger, Hay  
Maria Turnner? "  
(Ontario Civil Registration film #1862699 & #1862701, Item #006132)  
(Resource person for the Peter and Barbara (Roth) Nafziger family has been Sharon Cook, London, ON, a Nafziger/Lindenfelder descendant.)

(ask Sharon for the preferred spelling: Lindenfelder/Lindenfield/Lindenfeldt ?  
-- also for dates from tombstones)

Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo  
October 1998, Peter revised July 2000

DOC 1 +-1 d--

OB< 111 1 NAFZIGER IMMIGRANTS FROM FRANCE

1 1

The remaining Nafziger immigrants to Canada arrived from France, and, according to Guth's research were probably descended from Christian Nafziger, resident of Birlenbach, Lower Alsace. Elder/Bishop Peter Nafziger, who has already been mentioned, is believed to have been a great-grandson of Peter Nafziger, a presumed son of Christian of Birlenbach. This family outline is as follows:

Pierre/Peter Nafziger, b. ca.1709  
Resided at Fleckensteinerhof, Lembach, Lower Alsace

2. Peter Nafziger, b. ca.1730

b. Valentin Nafziger (1763/5-1800)

m. Magdalena Spring

2m. Valenin Nafziger (from Ulrich's line)

All the children to the 1m. migrated to the U.S.A., only the two who came to Canada are listed here.

b2. 1 Peter Nafziger1, b. 23 Feb 1787, Frankish-Grumbach, Germany  
former tenant at Hochheim near Worms

m. 8 Mar 1812, on manorial estate Wolferhof  
[Barbara Beck], dau. of Christian Beck and Barbara Danner  
b. 1790, Wolferhof, Germany  
Marriage registered in the Parish register of Sandbach, near Neustadt  
in the Odenwald (photocopy in [The Nafziger Heritage News],  
Summer, 1983)

Migrated to Canada in 1826; to Ohio in 1829

- b4. [Barbara Nafziger], b. 13 Nov 1794, Hochheim, Germany  
m. [Peter Danner/Donner], b. 1790, Muhlhofen, Germany  
Migrated to Canada in 1826; then to U.S.A.

John (Jean/Johannes) Nafziger, presumed to be another son of Christian of  
Birlenbach. A number of his descendants migrated to Canada -- some of them left  
again for the U.S., but a few stayed, included Samuel, the progenitor of those  
bearing the Nafziger name. A selective outline of that family follows:

Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b.ca.1715, known as "der Alte vom Steinbacherhof"

1. Christian Nafziger (ca.1740-1807)

1st wife's name not known, but they were the paternal ancestors of Jeanne  
Nafziger of Sarrebourg, France

Born to 2m. to Barbe Schertz (1765-1840)

a. Pierre Nafziger, b. ca.1891

d. 24 Oct 1819, Imling, Moselle

m. 28 Dec 1811?, Gondrexange, Moselle

Anne Abersol/Ebersol, dau. of Christian Abersol & Anne Mer/Maurer?

b. 30 Sept 1792

d. 18 Dec 1845, Landange, Moselle

2m. [Pierre/Peter Steinman]

Peter and the Steinman children migrated to Canada.

a2. [Anne Nafziger], b. 22 Sep 1813, Gondrexange

m. 1840, at or near St. Mihiel, Meuse

[Peter Sommer], b. 29 Sep 1814

Family migrated to Canada in 1862; to Illinois in 1866

([Genealogical Record of the Family of GUERBERT or GARBER],

Appendix B, "The Sommer Family," pp. 63, 64, by Lee O. Garber)

a4. [Barbe/Barbara Nafziger], b. 11 Sep 1816, Imling

m. 1848

[Christian Oesch], b. 16 Jun 1821

(i) [Jean/John Oesch], b. 30 Aug 1849, St. Mihiel, Meuse

(ii) [Barbe/Barbara Oesch], b. 4 Mar 1851, St. Mihiel

(iii) [Anne Oesch], b. 22 Nov 1855, St. Mihiel

The family migrated to Canada in 1857.

2. Jean Nafziger, "der Junge vom Steinbacherhof"

a. [Jean/John Nafziger], b. 1775; m. 1796 to [Catherine Gingerich]  
Resided on Brandelfingerhof

a1. [Joseph Nafziger], b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle

m. 19 Mr 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle

[Barbe/Barbara Jantzi], dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser

- (i) ¶ Catherine Nafziger, b. 21 Apr 1834
  - (ii) ¶ Madeleine Nafziger, b. 10 Jan 1836
  - (iii) ¶ Michel Nafziger, b. 6 Jan 1838
- The family migrated to Canada in 1840; to the U.S.A. in 1850.

- a2. ¶ Catherine Nafziger, b. ca.1810, Weidesheim
  - m. 10 Jul 1830, Hombourg Haut
 Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser
  - b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle
  - d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle
 The widow and her children migrated to Canada in 1849.  
 She and the younger children left for the U.S.A. in 1850.

- 3. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1745/57, Untersulzbach
  - 1m. to Madeleine Maurer
  - 2m. to Susanna Sommer

- d. Chretien/Christian Nafziger, 2 Sept 1791 (to first marriage)
  - m. Marie Jantzi, dau. of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny
 This family migrated to Lewis Co., N.Y. in 1833.

- f. ¶ Andre Nafziger, b. 3 Jul 1797, Schottenhoff, Sarralbe, Moselle
  - m. 15 Nov 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin
  - d. believed to have died in Philadelphia
 Marie Muller, dau. of Samuel Muller and Magdaleine Eymann
  - b. 27 Nov 1808, Liepvre
  - d. 5 Jan 1870, Abreschwiler?
 Andre migrated to Canada ca. ?

- f1. ¶ Jean Nafziger, b. 20 Oct 1827, Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurte-et-Moselle  
 Migrated to Canada ca. ?

- f2. ¶ Samuel Nafziger, b. 2 Apr 1830, Cirey-sur-Vezouze  
 Migrated to Canada with Catherine (Nafziger) Jantzi's family in 1849

- f3. Joseph Nafziger, b. 14 Nov 1832, Abreschwiler, Moselle  
 m. 1860 to Marie Goubler

In the above outline, the immigrants to Canada are underlined. They will be discussed in the order of their arrival in Canada rather than their order in the outline.

Charlan Graff claims that John Nafziger and his wife Catherine Gingerich were in Canada from the 1830s to 1850. To date no evidence of their presence has been found. Their son Joseph was married to Barbara Jantzi and, according to family traditon, they migrated to Canada with their family about 1840 and lived near Toronto until they left for the U.S. in 1850. Since there are few census records for the decade of the 1840s, there was not much hope of finding their whereabouts. When Hay Township published its history in 1996, a list of settlers leasing or purchasing from the Canada Company was included. Two Joseph Naffzigers appeared on this list -- rather far from Toronto. (check whether they appear in Registry Office and make further comments accordingly)

Son John Nafziger married Catherine Miller, daughter of Peter and Anna Miller who were residents of Wilmot Township, and they appeared in the 1851 Wilmot census. Daughter Jacobina married Joseph S. Naffziger, son of Christian and

Maria (Stalter) Nafziger -- already mentioned in the Christian Nafziger family. They had owned property for a few years in Wilmot Township but left before the 1851 census.

Another daughter, Catherine, was the second wife of Michel Jantzi, sister to her brother Joseph's wife. Michel had died in Macheren, France, in 1848. Catherine and her children and step-children arrived in New York on the Ship "Seme" on May 7, 1849. As was the custom, Catherine gave her maiden name, and the person recording the names called them all "Naszeyer," his interpretation of the name. Only the married sons, who gave their own names were called "Junz," the scribe's interpretation of Jantzi. It took a little studying to discover who this family really was. Samuel Nafziger also accompanied this group. Peter, Michel and Joseph Jantzi, Catherine's step-sons remained in Canada, but the others joined the family headed for Iowa. Perhaps they were part of the migration led by Christian Nafziger's son John.

Two other children, Christian and Lena, were members of the John and Catherine (Gingerich) Nafziger family. Although Christian had been married, he must not have had any children for he willed his estate to his brothers and sisters or their children. It is from his will that we were able to reconstruct an outline of this family.

#### JOHN AND CATHERINE (GINGERICH) NAFZIGER FAMILY OUTLINE

John Nafziger, b. 1775; d. 1866 (age 91) Davis Co., Iowa  
m. 1796, Gros-Rederching, Moselle, France  
Catherine Gingerich, b. 1779; d. 1870 (age 91) Davis Co., Iowa

1) Christian Naffziger, b. 1802; d. 24 Nov 1887, Pulaski, Iowa  
m. Nancy \_\_\_\_\_, b. ca.1818; d. 17 Jan 1882

2) Joseph Naffziger, b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle  
d. 1882, Melvern, Osage Co., Kans.  
m. 19 Mar 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
Barbara Jantzi, dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbara Neuhauser  
b. 7 Oct 1804, Picard, Germany  
d. 1870-80, Melvern, Kans.

Three children were born to this family in France, one on the Atlantic Ocean and four in Canada. In 1850 they migrated to Lee County, Iowa.

(See "Immigrant Joseph Nafziger From France to Ontario to Iowa to Kansas" by John H. Zornes, in "Mennonite Family History", Vol. IV, No. 2, April 1985)

3) Catherine Nafziger, b. 1807, Weidesheim, Moselle  
d. 1 Feb 1866, Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill.  
m. 10 July 1830, Hombourg Haut  
Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbara Neuhauser  
b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle  
d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle

4) John Nafziger, b. ca.1818, France  
living in Davis Co., Iowa in 1887 (brother Christian's will)

m. Catherine Miller, dau. of Peter and Anna Miller  
b. ca.1828, Wilmot Twp.

The census lists of 1851 for Wilmot and 1860 and 1870 for Grove Township, Davis County, Iowa, are our principal sources of information on this family. They had at least six children. Their son Christian died in 1887 at the age of 35 -- the same year as his uncle.

- 5) Jacobina Nafziger, b. 20 Dec 1819, France  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ bu. Gerber Cemetery, Hickory Co., MO \*  
m. 22 Dec 1840, Canada

Joseph S. Naffziger, probably son of Christian Nafziger and Maria Stalter  
b. 20 Jun 1820, Bavaria  
d. 8 Aug 1891, bu. Gerber Cemetery

Joseph advertised a sale in Wilmot in March of 1851 after which the family must have emigrated because they do not appear in the 1851 census.

\*A Josephine Nafziger, who died 12 Apr 1891, was buried in the Gerber Cemetery. One might suppose this was Jacobena, but according to Christian's will "Bena" died in Hickory Co. before 1887.

(Gerber Cemetery list provided by David Luthy, Aylmer, ON)

- 6) Lena Naffziger, m. \_\_\_\_\_ Somers; d. before 1887, Peoria Co., Ill.  
The only information we have on Lena is that which is furnished by the will of her brother Christian. Accordng to the will she had children.

This Nafziger family from France did not leave any permanent residents in Canada.

## II IMMIGRANT SAMUEL NAFZIGER I

Samuel Nafziger, an 1849 immigrant, is the ancestor of all persons known to bear the Nafziger name in Canada. Samuel's parents were Andre Nafziger and Marie Muller. See page \_\_\_ for his parental family outline.

Andrew and his son John Nafziger migrated to Canada sometime before 1845 -- whether separately or at the same time is not known. Perhaps Andrew came as early as 1840. (check reference for John in Litwiller book) Andreas Nafziger reported the loss of his "¶ Doctor Buch¶" in ¶ Der Deutsche Canadier¶ on June 12, 1845. Andrew Naffziger appeared in a list of persons having letters in the Petersburg Post Office in the same paper on May 13, 1847. On March 23, 1849 it was reported that there were letters for both Andre Nafziger and John Nafziger at Lewiston, N.Y., destined for Petersburg. Were these letters from Samuel, trying to contact his father and brother before coming to Canada? The letters may have been held at the border because postage had not been paid.

As has already been mentioned, Samuel Nafziger arrived in Canada in 1849 along with the Jantzi/Yantzi family. Widow Catherine Nafziger Jantzi and Samuel were second cousins. According to family tradition, Samuel was looking forward to meeting his brother when he got to Canada, and when he arrived, the brother had recently died, due to an accident with a horse. To date, a record of that incident has not been found.

According to family tradition, Andrew Nafziger went to live in Philadelphia where he taught school. The date of his death and place of burial have not been found. It is thought that perhaps he was shunned in the Amish community because he had left his wife in France; so he went to Philadelphia.

To find the birthplace of Samuel was not easy! According to family tradition, he was born in the vicinity of Trebo, France. Having the specific name of a place, I thought would make it simple to find. But there was no such place as "Trebo!" Neither could anyone in France tell me what other name it might be similar to.

In correspondence with Charlan Graff concerning the Jantzi family with whom Samuel came to America, she alerted me to the birth of Samuel at Cirey-sur-Vezouze -- how does one get "Trebo" out of Cirey-sur-Vezouze? Now I learn that in the late 1700s a small group of houses called "Les Tripots" belonged to the district of Cirey. This little settlement along with another one called "la Vendee" is now known as les Harcholins. (AFHAM, No. 16, 1997) This little community sometimes belonged to one district and sometimes to another, but when Samuel was born, his birth was registered at Cirey-sur-Vezouze. The family had made "Trebo" out of "Tripots."

Samuel Nafziger found work among the settlers already established in Wilmot and neighbouring townships. In 1855 he was married to Anna Kipfer by Bishop Peter Litwiller. Anna was the daughter of Christian Kipfer and Barbara Schmidt. Samuel and Anna purchased a farm in North Easthope Township, near the hamlet of Topping.

#### FAMILY OF SAMUEL AND ANNA (KIPFER) NAFZIGER

Samuel Nafziger, b. 2 Apr 1830, les Tripots, Cirey-sur-Vezouze  
 d. 24 Dec 1905, bu. Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery  
 m. 10 Apr 1855, Wilmot Twp.

Anna Kipfer, b. Aug 1835, Wilmot Twp.  
 d. 3 Mar 1914, bu. Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery

1)	Nancy Nafziger (1880-1930) m. Solomon Kipfer
John (Hans) Nafziger	Joseph Nafziger (1881-1948) m. Rachel Jantzi
b. 12 May 1856 NEH	Samuel Nafziger (1884- ) m. Katie Kipfer
d. 20 Jul 1910 Poole AM	Peter Nafziger (1886- ) m. Christina Jantzi
m. 25 Feb 1879	2m. Elizabeth Jutzi
Mattie Gerber	Mary Nafziger (1888- ) m. Joseph R. Erb
b. 1 Dec 1861	Mattie Nafziger (1889-1930) m. Amos Brunk, 2m.
d. 20 Jan 1902 Poole Men	Mary Gerber
dau. of Joseph Gerber	Jonathan Nafziger (1891-1957)
& Magdalena Brenneman	Noah Nafziger (1894-1911)
Annie Schweitzer	Clara Nafziger (1896-1962) m. Christian Streicher

2)	Annie Nafziger (1880-1955) m. Noah Schultz
Christian Nafziger	Katie Nafziger (1885-1926) m. John Boshart 2m.
b. 16 Feb 1858 NEH	Sarah Nafziger
d. 19 Aug 1942 Poole AM	Sarah Nafziger (1887- ) m. John Boshart
m. 22 Jan 1880	Enos R. Nafziger (1892- ) m. Elizabeth Erm
Magdalena Reschly	2m. Clara Snider
b. 31 Jan 1856	3m. Elva Snider
d. 10 Dec 1934 Poole AM	David R. Nafziger (1895- ) m. Katherine Jantzi
dau. of Joseph Reschly	
and Anna Schweitzer	

3)	Susan Nafziger (1887-1948) m. Menno Jantzi
Samuel Nafziger	Rachel Nafziger (1888-1948) m. Jonas Jantzi
b. 19 Apr 1863 NEH	

d. 17 Dec 1923 Poole AM Nancy Nafziger (1890-1995) m. Eli Roes  
 m. 19 Jan 1886 Christian Nafziger (1891-1902)  
 2m. 7 Jan 1897 Mary Nafziger (1893-1963) m. John R. Lichty  
 Veronica Steinman Moses Nafziger (1894-1970) m. Ellen Schwartzentruber  
 b. 10 Apr 1862 Wilmot Infant son (1896)  
 d. 23 Jul 1896 Poole Men  
 Leah Steinman Gideon Nafziger (1898-1899)  
 b. 1 Feb 1869 Wilmot Lena Nafziger (1901-1980) m. Samuel Roes  
 d. 4 Mar 1945 Poole AM Emma Nafziger (1912- ) m. Jonas Jantzi  
 daus. of Christian 1m. Rachel Nafziger  
 Steinman & Maria Honderich

4) Elia Nafziger (1885-1964) m. Magdeline Boshart  
 Ezra A. Nafziger (1891-1979) m. Mary Wagler  
 Andrew Nafziger 2m. Mary E. Stoltzfus; 3m. Salome Beachy  
 b. 13 Jan 1860 NEH Aaron Nafziger (1895-1985) m. Elizabeth Golitis  
 d. 22 Sep 1928 Poole AM Sarah Nafziger (1898-1964) m. David R. Gerber, 2m.  
 m. 2 May 1880 Morn. Susanna Wagler  
 Catherine Schweitzer Rudy Nafziger (1900- ) m. Elizabeth Gerber  
 b. 4 Jul 1862 Morn. John Nafziger (1901- ) m. Nancy (Wagler) Erb  
 d. 9 Jan 1934 Poole AM 2m. Nancy (Wagler) Lichti  
 dau. of Jacob Schweitzer Elizabeth Nafziger (1902-1976) m. Christian Gascho  
 and Barbara Jantzi Valentine Nafziger (1904- ) m. Christina Lichti  
 Christian Nafziger (1907-1978) m. Amanda Brenneman  
 2m. Mary Gerig  
 3m. Mabel L. Detweiler

5) Daniel Nafziger (1888-1976) m. Nancy Erb  
 Nicholas Nafziger Katherine Nafziger (1891-1967) m. Christian R. Gerber  
 b. 6 Mar 1866 NEH Christian Nafziger (1893-1894)  
 d. 11 Jul 1944 Poole AM Samuel Nafziger (1895-1976) m. Emma Erb  
 m. 22 Feb 1887 Wilmot Joseph Nafziger (1897)  
 Mary Steinman John Nafziger (1898)  
 b. 20 Jul 1867 Wilmot Amos Nafziger (1899-1990) m. Nancy Gerber  
 d. 9 Dec 1947 Poole AM Mary Nafziger (1901- )  
 dau. of Christian Stein- Solomon Nafziger (1904- ) m. Mabel Hall  
 man & Maria Honderich Menno Nafziger (1906-1987) m. Madeline Jantzi

6) Joseph Nafziger  
 b. 4 May 1868 NEH  
 d. 13 Jan 1947 Lydia Nafziger (1891-1942) m. Daniel L. Jantzi  
 m. 25 Mar 1890 Annie Nafziger (1896- ) m. Moses L. Jantzi  
 Magdalena Jantzi  
 b. 30 Mar 1868 Wilmot  
 d. 8 Mar 1924 Poole AM  
 dau. of Michael G. Joseph's 2m. 1924 to Mary Schmidt  
 Jantzi & Lydia Brenneman 3m. 1945 to Susan (Jantzi) Kuepfer

7) Mary Nafziger  
 b. 30 May 1870 NEH  
 d. 21 Jan 1934 Poole AM Emma Roes (1894- ) m. John Ropp  
 m. 16 Dec 1890 David Roes (1897- ) m. Katie Gerber  
 John Roes Annie Roes (1899- ) m. Joseph Gerber

b. 7 Oct 1867                      Samuel Roes (1904-        ) m. Mary Gascho  
d. 26 Feb 1958 Poole AM    Noah Roes (1907-        ) m. Lydia Lichti  
son of John Roes  
and Polly Yoder

8)

Barbara Nafziger

b. 14 Oct 1878    NEH  
d. 26 May 1937  
m. 20 Feb 1900                      (are they buried at Cedar Grove?)  
John Schultz                      no children  
b. 30 May 1874  
d. 10 Mar 1947  
son of John S. Schultz  
and Barbara Schultz

#### References:

See [Nafziger Family History, 1830-1966], by Ezra A. Nafziger, Intercourse, Pa., 1967

Also see RESCHLY, STEINMAN, SCHWEITZER, JANTZI and ROES for more up-to-date references.

#### ADDITIONAL NAFZIGERS WITH DESCENDANTS IN CANADA

A number of Nafziger women immigrants have added to the population of Nafziger descendants in Canada. The descendants of John Cook and Magdalena Nafziger, granddaughter of Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger have already been mentioned.

Barbara Nafziger, daughter of Pierre/Peter Nafziger and Anne Abersol/Ebersol (see family list at beginning of Nafziger discussion), along with her husband John Oesch became permanent settlers in Canada. Barbara was born in Imling, a village with a large Anabaptist -- as well as Jewish -- population. Barbara and John migrated to Canada with their three children in 1857.  
(For more details on this family, see ESCH / OESCH)

Three sisters, daughters of Pierre/Peter Naffzger and Barbe Liechty, were immigrants from southern Alsace. A partial listing of this family has been found as follows:



Pierre Naffziger (ages given, place his birth between 1776 and 1783)  
and Barbara Liechty (age not given)

Known children:

- 1) Catherine Nafziger, b. 11 Aug 1805, Berenzwiller, Haut-Rhin  
d. after 1851, Wellesley Twp., Canada  
m. 7 Jan 1827, Landser, Haut-Rhin  
Christian Roth, son of Chistian Roth and Barbe/Elisabeth Maurer  
b. 5 Oct 1803, Hof Zuffall, Lorquin, Moselle  
d. before 1851, Wellesley Twp., Canada

The family with four children and Christian's sister-in-law emigrated in 1839.

Notes: The PM at Landser gave Berentzwiller as the birthplace and the date of Catherine and Walbach as her place of residence as well as the parents. I probably checked Walbach but didn't find them, because of the incorrect spelling. I do not believe I checked Berenzwiller, and I don't know why not. I had found the date of marriage in the TD, but for some reason did not find the actual marriage record.

- 2) Pierre Nafziger, b. ca.1807; d. 2 Jun 1810, Wahlbach, Haut-Rhin
- 3) Barbara Nafziger, b. 24 Mar 1811, Wahlbach (no further record)
- 4) Magdalena Nafziger, b. 24 Apr/May 1813, Wahlbach  
d. 23 Feb 1880, Wilmot Twp., Canada  
m. Apr 1835  
John Roth, son of John Roth and Veronica Mosimann  
b. 5 Dec 1798, Hattigny, Moselle  
d. perhaps in Ohio  
Magdalena Nafziger, 2m. Feb 1857 in Wilmot Twp.  
Christian Wagler, b. 4 Oct 1810, Muesbach, Ribeauville, Haut-Rhin  
d. 1 Oct 1887, Wilmot Twp.

Notes: I found the PM for Magdalena and John only at Landser. It did not give as much information as that for Catherine in 1826. The family emigrated in 1840 with three children and John's father-in-law. A child, Magdalena was reported to have been born in Butler County, Ohio, in 1842. A son Christian (dates not known) may have been born after that. It is not known whether John brought the family to Canada, or whether widow Magdalena came after his death to join her sisters in Canada. The date or place of death of her father also is not known.

- 5) Pierre Nafziger, b. 12 Aug 1817; d. 14 Jun 1818, Wahlbach
- 6) Anna Nafziger, b. 10 May, 1821, Wahlbach  
d. 8 Apr 1900, bu. Blake Mennonite Cemetery, Hay Twp., Canada  
m. 13 Dec 1840, Wilmot Twp.  
Henry Kropf, son of Jacob Kropf and Magdalena Rothacker  
b. 28 Sep 1817, Baldenheim, Haut-Rhin  
d. 16 Nov 1855, bu. on family farm at Baden, Canada

Note: I had Anna's date of birth as 21 March. Anna, no doubt, was the "sister-in-law" included in the Christian and Catherine (Nafziger) Roth family who emigrated to Canada in 1839.

Research notes by Lorraine Roth, 1985-1992  
and Joe Springer, 2002.

Pre 2002 comments:

To my knowledge, no one has ever included these Nafzigers in any extended family outline. The publication of marriage record gives the birthplace of one of these women as "Altsschwiller," Switzerland. This may be Allschwil, between Basel and the French/Swiss border.

Two of these women married Roth cousins. Catherine Nafziger married Christian Roth, and they migrated to Canada in 1839, bringing with them Christian's sister-in-law, who was probably Anna. Magdalena Nafziger married John Roth in 1835, and they migrated in 1840, bringing with them John's father-in-law. They first went to Ohio, where John and Peter may have died.

(For more details on these two families, see ROTH)

Anna Nafziger, likely the sister-in-law who accompanied the Christian Roth family to Canada, married Henry Kropf, son of Jacob and Magdalena (Rothacker) Kropf. They lived in the Baden area where Henry died an early death. Anna died in Hay Township where she had gone to live with one of her children.

(See KROPF for more details on Anna's family)

II    IMMIGRANT SAMUEL NAFZIGER  
I    I

Samuel Nafziger, an 1849 immigrant, is the ancestor of all persons known to bear the Nafziger name in Canada. Samuel's parents were Andre/Andrew Nafziger and Marie Muller. See the attached Nafziger extended family outline.

Andrew and his son John Nafziger migrated to Canada sometime before 1845 -- whether separately or at the same time is not known. Perhaps Andrew came as early as 1840. Andreas Nafziger reported the loss of his "Doctor Buch" in *Der Deutsche Canadier* on June 12, 1845. Peter Litwiller, who later became a bishop in the Amish Mennonite Congregation in Wilmot, mentioned "Johannes" Nafziger a number of times in his *Notizbuch* (a journal in which he recorded financial transactions with neighbours and friends). He reported that John came on August 25, 1845 and worked for a year for 85 dollars and also clothes.

Andrew Naffziger appeared in a list of persons having letters in the Petersburg Post Office on May 13, 1847, in the same paper mentioned above. On March 23, 1849 it was reported that there were letters for both Andre Nafziger and John Nafziger at Lewiston, N.Y., destined for Petersburg. Were these letters from Samuel, trying to contact his father and brother before coming to Canada? The letters may have been held at the border because postage had not been paid.

As has already been mentioned, Samuel Nafziger arrived in Canada in 1849 along with the Jantzi/Yantzi family which included widow Catherine (Nafziger) Jantzi. Catherine and Samuel were second cousins. According to family tradition, Samuel was looking forward to meeting his brother when he got to Canada, and when he arrived, the brother had recently died, due to an accident with a horse. To date, a record of that incident has not been found.

According to family tradition, Andrew Nafziger went to live in Philadelphia where he taught school. The date of his death and place of burial have not been found. It is thought that perhaps he was shunned in the Amish community because he had left his wife in France; so he went to Philadelphia.

To find the birthplace of Samuel was not easy! According to family tradition, he was born in the vicinity of Trebo, France. Having the specific name of a place, I thought would make it simple to find. But there was no such place as "Trebo!" Neither could anyone in France tell me what other name it might be similar to.

In correspondence with Charlan Graff of Lincoln, Nebraska, concerning the Jantzi family with whom Samuel came to America, she alerted me to the birth of Samuel at Cirey-sur-Vezouze -- how does one get "Trebo" out of Cirey-sur- Vezouze? Then I learned that in the late 1700s a small group of houses called "les Tripots" belonged to the district of Cirey. This little settlement along with another one called "la Vendee" is now known as les Harcholins. This little community sometimes belonged to one district and sometimes to another, but when Samuel was born, his birth was registered at Cirey-sur-Vezouze. The family had made "Trebo" out of "Tripots."

Samuel Nafziger found work among the settlers already established in Wilmot and neighbouring townships. In 1855 he was married to Anna Kipfer by Bishop Peter Litwiler. Anna was the daughter of Christian Kipfer and Barbara Schmidt. Samuel and Anna purchased a farm in North Easthope Township, near the hamlet of Topping.

00 00 FAMILY OF SAMUEL AND ANNA (KIPFER) NAFZIGER  
00 00

Samuel Nafziger, b. 2 Apr 1830, les Tripots, Cirey-sur-Vezouze  
d. 24 Dec 1905, bu. Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery  
m. 10 Apr 1855, Wilmot Twp.

Anna Kipfer, dau. of Christian Kipfer and Barbara Schmidt  
b. Aug 1835, Wilmot Twp.  
d. 3 Mar 1914, bu. Poole Amish Mennonite Cemetery

1)	Nancy Nafziger (1880-1930) m. Solomon Kipfer
John (Hans) Nafziger	Joseph Nafziger (1881-1948) m. Rachel Jantzi
b. 12 May 1856 NEH	Samuel Nafziger (1884- ) m. Katie Kipfer
d. 20 Jul 1910 Poole AM	Peter Nafziger (1886-1969) m. Christina Jantzi
m. 25 Feb 1879	2m. Elizabeth Jutzi
Mattie Gerber	Mary Nafziger (1888-1977) m. Joseph R. Erb
b. 1 Dec 1861	Mattie Nafziger (1889-1930) m. Amos Brunk, 2m.
d. 20 Jan 1902 Poole Men	Mary Gerber
dau. of Joseph Gerber	Jonathan Nafziger (1891-1957)
& Magdalena Brenneman	Noah Nafziger (1894-1911)
Annie Schweitzer	Clara Nafziger (1896-1962) m. Christian Streicher

2)  
Christian Nafziger                  Annie Nafziger (1880-1955) m. Noah Schultz  
  b. 16 Feb 1858     NEH       Katie Nafziger (1885-1926) m. John Boshart 2m.  
  d. 19 Aug 1942     Poole AM      Sarah Nafziger  
  m. 22 Jan 1880                  Sarah Nafziger (1887-1968) m. John Boshart

Magdalena Reschly	Enos R. Nafziger (1892-1979) m. Elizabeth Erm
b. 31 Jan 1856	2m. Clara Snider
d. 10 Dec 1934 Poole AM	3m. Elva Snider
dau. of Joseph Reschly	David R. Nafziger (1895-1981) m. Katherine Jantzi
and Anna Schweitzer	

3)

Samuel Nafziger	Susan Nafziger (1887-1948) m. Menno Jantzi
b. 19 Apr 1863 NEH	Rachel Nafziger (1888-1948) m. Jonas Jantzi
d. 17 Dec 1923 Poole AM	Nancy Nafziger (1890-1995) m. Eli Roes
m. 19 Jan 1886	Christian Nafziger (1891-1902)
2m. 7 Jan 1897	Mary Nafziger (1893-1963) m. John R. Lichty
Veronica Steinman	Moses Nafziger (1894-1970) m. Ellen Schwartzentruber
b. 10 Apr 1862 Wilmot	Infant son (1896)
d. 23 Jul 1896 Poole Men	
Leah Steinman	Gideon Nafziger (1898-1899)
b. 1 Feb 1869 Wilmot	Lena Nafziger (1901-1980) m. Samuel Roes
d. 4 Mar 1945 Poole AM	Emma Nafziger (1912- ) m. Jonas Jantzi
daus. of Christian Stein-	1m. Rachel Nafziger
and Maria Honderich	

4)

Andrew Nafziger	Elia Nafziger (1885-1964) m. Magdeline Boshart
b. 13 Jan 1860 NEH	Ezra A. Nafziger (1891-1979) m. Mary Wagler
d. 22 Sep 1928 Poole AM	2m. Mary E. Stoltzfus; 3m. Salome Beachy
m. 2 May 1880 Morn.	Aaron Nafziger (1895-1985) m. Elizabeth Golitis
Catherine Schweitzer	Sarah Nafziger (1898-1964) m. David R. Gerber, 2m.
b. 4 Jul 1862 Morn.	Susanna Wagler
d. 9 Jan 1934 Poole AM	Rudy Nafziger (1900-1993) m. Elizabeth Gerber
dau. of Jacob Schweitzer	John S. Nafziger (1901-1989) m. Nancy (Wagler) Erb
and Barbara Jantzi	2m. Nancy (Wagler) Lichti
	Elizabeth Nafziger (1902-1976) m. Christian Gascho
	Valentine Nafziger (1904-1994) m. Christina Lichti
	Christian Nafziger (1907-1978) m. Amanda Brennehan
	2m. Mary Gerig
	3m. Mabel L. Detweiler

(continued)

5)

Nicholas Nafziger	Daniel Nafziger (1888-1976) m. Nancy Erb
b. 6 Mar 1866 NEH	Katherine Nafziger (1891-1967) m. Christian R. Gerber
d. 11 Jul 1944 Poole AM	Christian Nafziger (1893-1894)
m. 22 Feb 1887 Wilmot	Samuel Nafziger (1895-1976) m. Emma Erb
Mary Steinman	Joseph Nafziger (1897)
b. 20 Jul 1867 Wilmot	John Nafziger (1898)
d. 9 Dec 1947 Poole AM	Amos Nafziger (1899-1990) m. Nancy Gerber
dau. of Christian Stein-	Mary Nafziger (1901-1997)
man & Maria Honderich	Solomon Nafziger (1904- ) m. Mabel Hall
	Menno Nafziger (1906-1987) m. Madeline Jantzi

6)

Joseph Nafziger	
b. 4 May 1868 NEH	
d. 13 Jan 1947	Lydia Nafziger (1891-1942) m. Daniel L. Jantzi
m. 25 Mar 1890	Annie Nafziger (1896- ) m. Moses L. Jantzi
Magdalena Jantzi	
b. 30 Mar 1868 Wilmot	
d. 8 Mar 1924 Poole AM	
dau. of Michael G.	Joseph's 2m. 1924 to Mary Schmidt
Jantzi & Lydia Brennehan	3m. 1945 to Susan (Jantzi) Kuepfer

7)

Mary Nafziger

b. 30 May 1870 NEH

d. 21 Jan 1934 Poole AM Emma Roes (1894-1981) m. John Ropp

m. 16 Dec 1890 David Roes (1897-1971) m. Katie Gerber

John Roes Annie Roes (1899-2001) m. Joseph Gerber

b. 7 Oct 1867 Samuel Roes (1904-1989) m. Mary Gascho

d. 26 Feb 1958 Poole AM Noah Roes (1907-1987) m. Lydia Lichti

son of John Roes

and Polly Yoder

8)

Barbara Nafziger

b. 14 Oct 1878 NEH

d. 26 May 1937 CedarGrove?

m. 20 Feb 1900

John Schultz no children

b. 30 May 1874

d. 10 Mar 1947 CedarGrove?

son of John S. Schultz

and Barbara Schultz

#### References:

¶ Nafziger Family History, 1830-1966¶, by Ezra A. Nafziger, Intercourse, Pa., 1967

#### ¶¶ ¶ AN EXTENDED NAFZIGER FAMILY

¶ ¶

This is a selective outline. Only the lines which include persons who came to Canada are featured. The numbers of the full outline have been retained -- hence some numbers of the full outline are left out of this version. Persons who immigrated to Canada are underlined.

Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b.ca.1715, known as "der Alte vom Steinbacherhof"

#### 1. Christian Nafziger (ca.1740-1807)

Born to 2m. to Barbe Schertz (1765-1840)

a. Pierre Nafziger, b. ca.1891

d. 24 Oct 1819, Imling, Moselle

m. 28 Dec 1811?, Gondrexange, Moselle

Anne Abersol/Ebersol, dau. of Christian Abersol & Anne Mer/Maurer?

b. 30 Sept 1792

d. 18 Dec 1845, Landange, Moselle

2m. ¶ Pierre/Peter Steinman¶

Peter and the Steinman children migrated to Canada.

a2. [Anne Nafziger], b. 22 Sep 1813, Gondrexange  
m. 1840, at or near St. Mihiel, Meuse  
[Peter Sommer], b. 29 Sep 1814  
Family migrated to Canada in 1862; to Illinois in 1866  
([Genealogical Record of the Family of GUERBERT or GARBER],  
Appendix B, "The Sommer Family," pp. 63,64, by Lee O. Garber)

a4. [Barbe/Barbara Nafziger], b. 11 Sep 1816, Imling  
m. 1848  
[Christian Oesch], b. 16 Jun 1821

(i) [Jean/John Oesch], b. 30 Aug 1849, St. Mihiel, Meuse  
(ii) [Barbe/Barbara Oesch], b. 4 Mar 1851, St. Mihiel  
(iii) [Anne Oesch], b. 22 Nov 1855, St. Mihiel  
The family migrated to Canada in 1857.

## 2. Jean Nafziger, "der Junge vom Steinbacherhof"

a. [Jean/John Nafziger], b. 1775; m. 1796 to [Catherine Gingerich]  
Resided on Brandelfingerhof

a1. [Joseph Nafziger], b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle  
m. 19 Mr 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
[Barbe/Barbara Jantzi], dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser

(i) [Catherine Nafziger], b. 21 Apr 1834  
(ii) [Madeleine Nafziger], b. 10 Jan 1836  
(iii) [Michel Nafziger], b. 6 Jan 1838  
The family migrated to Canada in 1840; to the U.S.A. in 1850.

a2. [Catherine Nafziger], b. ca.1810, Weidesheim  
m. 10 Jul 1830, Hombourg Haut  
Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser  
b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle  
d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle  
The widow and her children migrated to Canada in 1849.  
She and the younger children left for the U.S.A. in 1850.

## 3. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1745/57, Untersulzbach

1m. to Madeleine Maurer  
2m. to Susanna Sommer

d. Chretien/Christian Nafziger, 2 Sept 1791 (to first marriage)  
m. Marie Jantzi, dau. of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny  
This family migrated to Lewis Co., N.Y. in 1833.

f. [Andre Nafziger], b. 3 Jul 1797, Schottenhoff, Sarralbe, Moselle  
m. 15 Nov 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin  
d. believed to have died in Philadelphia  
Marie Muller, dau. of Samuel Muller and Magdaleine Eymann  
b. 27 Nov 1808, Liepvre  
d. 5 Jan 1870, Abreschwiler?  
Andre migrated to Canada before or in 1845

- f1. [Jean Nafziger], b. 20 Oct 1827, Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurte-et-Moselle  
Migrated to Canada no later than 1845
- f2. [Samuel Nafziger], b. 2 Apr 1830, Cirey-sur-Vezouze  
Migrated to Canada with Catherine (Nafziger) Jantzi's family in 1849
- f3. Joseph Nafziger, b. 14 Nov 1832, Abreschwiler, Moselle  
m. 1860 to Marie Goubler

Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo, Ontario  
July 2002

re the location of "Trebo"  
(AFHAM, No. 16, 1997)  
[



(This is an Abbreviated List) (1)

The following outline is selective, highlighting those who came to Canada (and some to Lewis County, New York). The numbers, however, have been retained; so if a number is missing, that person's descendants did not emigrate.

This outline has been extracted from the research done primarily by Hermann Guth of Saarbrücken, Germany. Charlan Graff from Lincoln, Nebraska, questions some of his conclusions, but has not come up with an alternative list. I will use this list, but with the understanding to that it may need revisions. (2)

Christian Nafziger and Anna Schnyder, residents of Uetendorf, Switzerland, may be the ancestors of all known Anabaptist Nafzigers.

Possible sons are:

- I. Christian Nafziger, b. 1675, probably Uetendorf, Switzerland  
leaseholder in Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, 1707  
wife's name not known
- II. Ulrich Nafziger, b. 1686, Uetendorf  
m. Magdalena (probably dau. of Hans Gungerich)  
d. 1759 in Essingen, Germany  
Ulrich migrated to U.S.A. and married again there  
d. 1754 in Leacock Twp., Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania

□ " □ \* \* \* \* \*

I. Christian Nafziger, b. 1675, living at Birlenbach, Lower Alsace, in 1707

- A. Christian Nafziger, b. ca.1705  
Some descendants migrated to Ohio.
- B. Valentin Nafziger?, b. ca.1707  
Some descendants migrated to Ohio.
- C. Pierre/Peter Nafziger, b. ca.1709  
Resided at the Fleckensteinerhof, Lembach, Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace)

2. Peter Nafziger?, b. ca.1730

- b. Valentin Nafziger (1763/5-1800)  
m. Magdalena Spring  
2m. Valentin Nafziger (from Ulrich's line)  
All the children to the 1m. migrated to the U.S.A.,  
only the two who came to Canada are listed here.

- b3. □ Peter Nafziger□, b. 23 Feb 1787, Frankish-Grumbach, Germany  
former tenant at Hochheim near Worms  
m. 8 Mar 1812, on manorial estate Wolferhof  
□ Barbara Beck□, dau. of Christian Beck and Barbara Danner  
b. 1790, Wolferhof, Germany

(continued)

Marriage registered in the Parish register of Sandbach, near  
Neustadt in the Odenwald(3)

Migrated to Canada in 1826; to Ohio in 1829

(continued)

- b5. ♂ Barbara Nafziger, b. 13 Nov 1794, Hochheim, Germany  
m. ♂ Peter Danner/Donner, b. 1790, Muhlhofen, Germany  
Migrated to Canada in 1826; then to U.S.A.

D. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b.ca.1715, known as "der Alte vom Steinbacherhof"  
The Steinbacherhof is near Durstel in Lower Alsace. Durstel is about  
midway between La Petite Pierre and Sarre-Union. The two sons Christian  
and Valentin resided at the Steinbacherhof for a number of years and then  
Valentin moved to the Schottenof near Sarralbe, some distance northwest  
of Sarre-Union. The places straddle the boundary between Lorraine and  
Alsace. Sarralbe is in the Department of Moselle (Lorraine); all  
the others are in Bas-Rhin (Lower Alsace).

1. Christian Nafziger (ca.1740-1807)

1st wife's name not known, but they were the paternal ancestors of  
Jeanne Nafziger of Sarrebourg, France.(4)

Born to 2m. to Barbe Schertz (1765-1840)

a. Pierre Nafziger, b. ca.1891

d. 24 Oct 1819, Imling, Moselle

m. 28 Dec 1811, Gondrexange, Moselle(5)

Anne Abersol/Ebersol, dau. of Christian Abersol & Anne Mer/Maurer?

b. 30 Sept 1792

d. 18 Dec 1845, Landange, Moselle

2m. ♂ Pierre/Peter Steinman

Peter Steinman and his children migrated to Canada about 1850.

Peter and his son John settled in the Tavistock area.

a2. ♂ Anne Nafziger, b. 22 Sep 1813, Gondrexange

m. 1840, at or near St. Mihiel, Meuse

♂ Peter Sommer, b. 29 Sep 1814

Family migrated to Canada in 1862; to Illinois in 1866

a4. ♂ Barbe/Barbara Nafziger, b. 11 Sep 1817, Imling, Moselle

m. 5 Mar 1848, St. Mihiel, Meuse

♂ John Oesch, b. 16 Jan 1821, Ernestviller, Moselle

(i) ♂ Jean/John N. Oesch, b. 30 Aug 1849, St. Mihiel, Meuse

(ii) ♂ Barbe/Barbara Oesch, b. 4 Mar 1851, St. Mihiel

(iii) ♂ Anne Oesch, b. 22 Nov 1855, St. Mihiel

This family migrated to Canada in 1857.

2. Jean/John Nafziger, "der Junge vom Steinbacherhof"

m. Madeleine Gungerich

a. ♂ Jean/John Naffziger, b. 1775, Palatinate

m. 27 Jul 1796, Gros-Rederching, Moselle

♂ Catherine Gingerich, b. 1779

Parents resided on Brandelfingerhof, east of Sarregemines

(This family migrated to Canada with their unmarried children about  
1834 but later left for the U.S.A.)

a1. ♂ Christian Naffziger, b. 1802, France

a2. [Madleine/Magdalena Naffziger], b. 21 Mar 1806, Brandelfing

(continued)

a3. [Joseph Nafziger], b. 2 Apr 1808, Weidesheim, Moselle  
m. 19 Mar 1834, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
[Barbe/Barbara Jantzi], dau. of Michel Jantzi and Barbe

Neuhauser

i. [Catherine Nafziger], b. 21 Apr 1834  
ii. [Madeleine Nafziger], b. 10 Jan 1836  
iii. [Michel Nafziger], b. 6 Jan 1838  
The family migrated to Canada in 1840; to Lee County, Iowa,  
in 1850, and later to Kansas.

a4. [Catherine Nafziger], b. ca.1810, Weidesheim  
m. 10 Jul 1830, Hombourg Haut, Moselle  
Michel Jantzi, son of Michel Jantzi and Barbe Neuhauser  
b. 10 Apr 1795, Valmont, Moselle  
d. 31 Aug 1848, Macheren, Moselle  
The widow and her children migrated to Canada in 1849.  
She and the younger children left for the U.S.A. in 1850.  
The Jantzis remained in Canada and spell their name Yantzi.

a5. [John Nafziger], b. ca.1818, France  
m. Canada  
Catherine Miller, b. ca.1828, Wilmot Twp., Canada

a6. [Jacobena Nafziger], b. 20 Dec 1819, France  
m. 22 Dec 1840, Canada  
[Joseph S. Naffziger], son of Christian Nafziger & Maria Stalter  
b. 20 Jun 1820, Bavaria

4. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1747, Untersulzbach  
d. 2 Apr 1807, Steinbacherhof  
1m. to Madeleine Maurer, d. 19 May 1793, Schottenhof  
2m. 19 Aug 1793, at Schottenhof, to Susanne Sommer, b. 1757  
dau. of Andre Sommer & Catherine Schertz

Children to 1st marriage:

a. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1776; d. 21 Feb 1793

b. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b. 10 Aug 1781, Steinbach  
m. Barbe Oesch, b. 1789  
dau. of Christian Oesch & Barbe Zehr

b2. Jean/Johannes Nafziger, b. 7 May 1818, Maizeroy, Moselle  
d. 5 Apr 1885  
m. Madeline Bachman (1821-1891)  
moved to Liesem, Eifel, Germany, ca.1863

i. Jean/David Nafziger, b. 1847; d. 1903, Jaegershof, Merzig  
m. Marie Oesch (1853-1919)

ii. Joseph Nafziger, b. 1851; d. 1940

- m. Barbe Nafziger, b. 1859, Oppen, Ger.
    - lived in Hirschland, Alsace d. 1922
    - (maternal grandparents of Jeanne Nafziger)
  - iii. Barbara Nafziger, b. 1854; d. 1911
    - m. Nicolas Oesch, b. 1841, Luxembourg
  - iv. Catherine Nafziger, b. 1856; d. 1887
    - m. Andre Oesch, b. 1842, Luxembourg
  - v. Pierre Nafziger, b. 1858; d. 1944, Luxembourg
    - m. Madeleine Nafziger, b. 1865, Oppen

(continued)

- vi. ¶ Chretien/Christian Nafziger¶, b. 1861
    - emigrated to Lewis Co., N.Y., in 1883
    - m. 1886 to Anna Moser
  - vii. Nicholas Nafziger, b. 1865; d. 1958
    - m. Marie Schertz, Liesem, Germany
  - viii. Magdalena Nafziger, d. at age 17

- c. Madeleine Nafziger, b. 9 Sept 1787, Steinbacherhof
  - d. 16 Apr 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin
  - m. Pierre Keller, d. 1854
  - 2m. 1823 to Barbe Schrag

- d. ¶ Chretien/Christian Nafziger¶, b. 2 Sept 1791, Steinbach
  - m. 14 May 1817, Bistroff, Moselle
 ¶ Marie Jantzi¶, dau. of Christian Jantzi and Anne Farny  
 This family migrated to Lewis Co., N.Y. in 1833.  
 The descendants may all use the spelling Noftsier.

- d1. ¶ Madaleine Nafziger¶, b. 21 May 1819, Bistroff
- d2. ¶ Catherine Nafziger¶, b. 16 July 1820, Bistroff
- d3. ¶ Jacobee Nafziger¶, b. ca.1822
- d4. ¶ Marie Nafziger¶, b. ca.1824
- d5. ¶ Susanna Nafziger¶, b. 31 Jul 1826
- d6. ¶ Jean/John Nafziger¶, b. 6 May? 1828
- d7. ¶ Frederic Nafziger¶, b. ca.1831 (on ship passenger list

only)

- d8. Joseph Nafziger, b. July 1833, Utica, NY
- d9. Christian Nafziger, b. Lewis Co., NY

Children to 2nd marriage:

- f. Valentin Nafziger, b. 1794
- g. Andre Nafziger, b. & d. 1795 (age 13 days) at Schottenhof
- h. ¶ Andre Nafziger¶, b. 3 Jul 1797, Schottenhoff, Sarralbe, Moselle
  - m. 15 Nov 1825, Keskastel, Bas-Rhin
  - d. believed to have died in Philadelphia
 Marie Muller, dau. of Samuel Muller and Magdaleine Eymann  
 b. 27 Nov 1808, Liepvre; d. 5 Jan 1870  
 Andre migrated to Canada, 1845 or earlier
- f1. ¶ Jean Nafziger¶, b. 20 Oct 1827, Cirey-sur-Vezouze, Meurte-et-Moselle
  - Migrated to Canada, 1845 or earlier
  - d. ca.1849 in an accident with a horse
- f2. ¶ Samuel Nafziger¶, b. 2 Apr 1830, Cirey-sur-Vezouze

Migrated to Canada with the Michel Jantzi family in 1849  
m. Anna Kipfer and raised a family in Canada  
All Nafzigers in Canada are descended from Samuel and Anna.

i. Joseph Nafziger, b. 16 Nov 1799

□ " □ \* \* \* \* \*  
□ □

II. Ulrich Nafziger (1686-1754) born in Uetendorf, Switzerland

B. Stefan Nafziger (1715/16-1755) died in Steinseltz, Bas-Rhin, France

3. Christian Nafziger, b. 1749, Steinseltz  
m. Magdalena Gungerich

d. □ Christian Nafziger□, b. 1778 on Geilweilerhof  
near Siebeldingen, Palatinate, Germany

This Christian Nafziger is believed to have married □ Maria  
Stalter□,  
lived in Bavaria, made an exploratory trip to Canada looking for  
land in 1822, and in 1826 brought his family to settle here.

#### Notes:

1) A more complete Nafziger extended family list is available.

2) Hermann Guth's latest publication which includes his Nafziger research is  
□ Amish Mennonites in Germany . . .□ Metamora, Ill.: Illinois Mennonite  
Historical and Genealogical Society; Morgantown, PA.: Masthof Press, pages 202-  
214.

3) A photocopy of the marriage record is found in □ The Nafzger Heritage News□,  
Summer, 1983, p. 7.

4) Jeanne Nafziger of Sarrebourg has been one of our principal resources for the  
Nafziger family of France.

5) A copy of this marriage record is available.

Lorraine Roth  
Waterloo, Ontario

June 2006

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(not included in new files)

Other References:

"The Amish Mennonites in Canada" in [A Brief History of the Mennonites in Ontario] by L. J. Burkholder. (Markham, Ont.: Mennonite Conference of Ontario, 1935)

National Archives USA, Ship Passenger Lists, Philadelphia arrivals, Series M-360

Letter from Johannes Schwartzentruber, Waterloo Twp., Upper Canada, to Johannes Gungerich, Sept. 11, 1831. Copy and translation received from Joe Springer, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen College, Goshen, Ind. Partially published by the Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society in [Illinois Mennonite Heritage], June 1988.

[Amish Immigrants of Waldeck and Hesse] by John M. Byler, Bellville, Ohio, 1993

Correspondence with Anita Fieder, 1995-1997

Re information on John Naffziger and Michael and Jacobena (Nafziger) Miller

## THE JOHN NAFFZIGER PUZZLE

There were three known immigrants to Canada by the name of John Nafziger/Naffziger. Two of them arrived with Christian and Maria (Stalter) Nafziger in 1826. One was age 19, the other 9. We assume that the 19-year-old was not a son but likely a relative. We also assume that he was never heard of again, and may, indeed, not have come all the way to Canada. We also assume that the 9-year-old was the son of Christian and Maria.

The third John Naffziger was married to Catherine Gingerich, and they immigrated from France to Canada, perhaps in the late 1830s. They left Canada in 1850, leaving a scant paper trail.

In this study we are trying to zero in on John Naffziger, the son of Christian and Maria, although his records are also contradictory. Family tradition had him coming to Canada in 1826 with Christian Nafziger, but not certain whether he was a nephew or a son. According to the census records, his age would identify him as the son -- assuming that the 9-year-old on the passenger list was the son rather than the 19-year-old. His obituary, however, gave his age as 96 at the time of his death in 1903, giving him 1807 as the year of his birth, placing him as the 19-year-old in 1826. The obituary contained some other errors, but how could they miss his age so badly, unless it was a type-setting error? We have chosen to use his age as given in the census, because it was consistent throughout the years and was given by John himself.

The next problem is John's first marriage. Family tradition did not have a name for her, but they knew of two children. Moses was pictured with two of his half brothers. He was married to Harriet Stover, and they lived at Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa. Moses died in 1896 and Harriet in 1926. They and three children (one who died at age 17) are buried in the IOOF Cemetery in Bloomfield. Moses was deceased by the time his father died in 1903.

Daughter Leah was married to John Daglish (some variations in spelling) and lived in Missouri. She was said to be living at Sedalia, Missouri, in her father's obituary.

But who was the children's mother and what happened to her? It was obvious to everybody that she had died. When Moses "Nossinger," age 12 appeared with the Michael and Jacobena/Phoebe (Nafziger) Miller family in the 1860 census of Prairie Township, Davis County, Iowa, we became aware that the Moses, age 5, in the 1851 census in Wilmot Township, Canada, was already living with his aunt and uncle at that time, although he was not identified as Nafziger. A search in the 1851 Waterloo Township census did not locate Leah, but we did find a Rachel "Nofziger" living with Elias and "Sarah" Bergey and their family. The Bergeys had three children, but why did Rachel not have her children with her?

Who was Rachel Nofziger? Rachel Bear, daughter of Martin Bear and Catharine Gingrich was said to be married to Samuel "Nafzieger." She had a sister "Salome" who was married to Elias Bergey. Rachel was reported to have had two children -- Moses who lived in Iowa and Leah in Kansas City.(1) Who was this "Samuel Nafzieger?" I suspect that no one knew his first name, asked some Nafzigers for the name of their ancestor, and was given the name Samuel. In Ontario today all persons with the name Nafziger are descended from Samuel, born in France in 1830, migrated to Canada in 1849, and married a woman by the name of Anna Kipfer. If, indeed, Rachel was married to a Samuel Nafziger, both his identity, his coming to Canada, and his disappearance are mysteries.

Was it possible to have two families in Canada at the same period who had children named Leah and Moses? Possible, perhaps, but probable? Let us continue the search. In the 1861 Waterloo census, Rachel, age 36, and Leah, age 18, appeared in the same household. Evidently, mother and daughter were now together, although Moses had gone with the Millers to Iowa.

Fast forward to the 1880 census in Montgomery Township, Hickory County, Missouri. There we find John Daglish (spelling not clear), age 49, born in Scotland. His wife Leah, age 34 was born in Canada. The children -- George, John and Minnie, ages 19, 18 and 10 were all born in New York -- were probably from a previous marriage -- at least the boys. With them was Rachel Naffziger, age 56, born in Canada. On an 1880 Montgomery Township map, J. "Dalgish" was located south of Quincy.(2) Rachel Naffziger (1823-1908) was buried at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Quincy.(3)

When John Nafziger died in 1903, Leah was reported to be living at Sedalia, some distance north of Quincy. She may have been living in or nearer Sedalia, but they may also have named the larger, better-known centre. The Nafzigers were notorious for naming large urban centres even though they were more than a hundred miles away. Eby's book had given the place of Rachel and her daughter Leah as Kansas City!

One might conclude that there were two Nafziger families in Canada with children named Leah and Moses, but Leah married to Daglish and her mother living with her in Missouri is probably not coincidence -- whether the place in Missouri was Quincey, Sedalia, or Kansas City!

No doubt, it is obvious by now that I tend to think that Rachel Baer was John Nafziger's first wife -- Eby's claim that her husband was Samuel Nafziger notwithstanding. That, of course, leaves us with the problem that John Naffziger was outlived by two wives. Were John and Rachel divorced? Perhaps. No divorce document has been found, but not looked for either. It was probably



relatively easy to leave one marriage, move on to another frontier community and contract another marriage without too many questions asked.

I would like to propose the following scenario. Since Rachel Nafziger was living with a sister's family in 1851 without her children, I would like to suggest that she may have been either physically or emotionally incapable of looking after her children. Her condition may have been among the causes of her husband's leaving Canada. Or, his leaving and seemingly abandoning her was partly the cause of her state of health. Legal divorce or not, this separation became permanent. Whatever the state of Rachel's health in 1851, she and her daughter Leah (now age 18) were able to be together in 1861.

Now for the question of Leah Nafziger and her marriage to John Daglish. In the 1880 census of Hickory County, Missouri, John and Leah's children were said to have been born in New York. The two oldest were most certainly not Leah's children. The eight years between the 18-year-old boy and the 10-year-old girl may indicate that the girl was Leah's, and we might question whether she was, indeed, born in New York.

How John Daglish, a Scotsman, living in New York, and Leah Nafziger got together, and what took them to Missouri, I will not attempt to outline. People did get around in those days and not all marriage alliances were formed between identical ethnic and religious partners. However, the two got together and ended up in Missouri, and they included Leah's mother in the family unit.

I am leaving the reader to form his own resolutions to this puzzle.

#### Notes:

- 1) ¶ A Biographical History . . . in Waterloo Township¶ by Ezra E. Eby, 1895 & 1896. 1871 Edition by Eldon D. Weber, pages. 46 and 58.
- 2) Copy supplied by Ronald G. Diener -- in MISSOURI file.
- 3) Terry Lawson letter, Moore, Okla., 1 Jan 1001.

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October 2004