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1-0 MICHAEL FRANTZ

Michael Frantz, son of Elder Michael Frantz, was born in Germany in 1725. He came with his father to America when two years old-Sept. 30, 1727.

During boyhood days he lived in Cocalico township of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Close neighbors was the Ulrich Zug family. Young Michael married the oldest daughter, Magdalena, on June 12, 1748. In 1752 the young couple were granted a Proprietary Patent from Thomas and Richard Penn for 154 acres in Cocalico township.

Michael and Magdalena had eight sons and one daughter. We have found no author who has given the name of this daughter, much to our disappointment. All the children were born in Lancaster County and lived there until about 1780 when they sold their property and moved to Botetourt County of Virginia.

"On June 13, 1777, the Legislature of Pennsylvania made it a duty for every citizen to surrender allegiance to the King of England and to take an oath of allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania. Although they were loyal to Pa. and to America it was against their principles and beliefs to take an oath so many of the German Baptist Brethren decided to give up their homes and property and to seek refuge where they would have more freedom." 7

Michael Frantz's youngest son David lived most of his life in Botetourt County, Va. It almost seems ironic that his grandfather had been on the list of those the Dutch Mennonites helped in April of 1727 to come to America and settle in Pa. Then, too, the issue had been religious freedom.

The Statute of Religious Freedom of 1785 written by Thomas Jefferson opened the way for German families. This document divorced Church and State in Virginia.

We find a petition addressed to Speaker and Members of Legislature of the State of Virginia asking for public duty service rather than military duty. Among the signatures were a Michael, Christian, and Jacob-sons of Patriarch Michael Frantz II

The petition read: "Inhabitants of the County of Botetourt known by the name of German Baptists respectfully represents...That the members of our Church have at all times and in all countries, been forbid by their conscience to take up arms against their fellow-men. Observing as we trust we do, a conduct void of offense toward all men we are by the same principles all legal strife and contention...When differences arise among us they are settled by the rulers of our Church. We support our own poor and suffer none of them to become burdensome to any but to ourselves...To live in this peaceable and inoffensive manner, we consider among our first duties...Notwithstanding laws have at various times been passed to compel a departure from these religious opinions, they have in no instance produced other effects than fines...we humbly hope that in this our country, the boast of which is the uninterrupted enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, no part of the community will be impoverished by perpetual fines for refraining to do an act which their consciences adhor...In allowing us to commute our labor for public service, instead of military duty, or granting such other relief to your petitioners as their case requires...Dec. 13, 1799...Signatures"

\*\*\*\*\*From "A Seed-Bed of the Republic"

7 + 8 by Robert Stoner...pages 381, 387, 388



1-0 MICHAEL FRANTZ, Son of Elder Michael Frantz, The Immigrant

"In his proposals for universal schooling, Thomas Jefferson was concerned to supply all persons with the basic tools of intelligent citizenship, and with the means whereby they could carry on their own education throughout life..." 9.

Primary School for The Frantz's started out as 'Select Schools'. In the rural districts they were supported by subscription from the patrons. They had the endorsement of the church.

Sharp lists four causes which prevented the German Baptist Brethren from establishing high schools and colleges during this period:

1. The blighting influence of the Revolutionary War
2. Emigration
3. Adhering to the use of the German language
4. The lack of an educated ministry ...10.

The colonial troops stopped the Christopher Sower Press - this act caused great damage to this group of Germans. Although Christopher Sower remained neutral during the Revolutionary War, young Sower became known as a Loyalist.

The Patriots were "determined to ruin the Sower (Saur, Sauer) Family even though the Elder Sower had remained neutral during the entire war. The authorities confiscated the Sower property and sold it on Monday, August 24, 1778" 11.

KNAUSS GOES ON TO SAY, "THERE IS HARDLY ANY DOUBT THAT THIS CONFISCATION OF THE ELDER SOWER'S PROPERTY WAS UNJUST AND PROBABLY ILLEGAL." 12.

There is some evidence that the English allowed Brethren, Mennonite, Quakers and similar groups to settle in frontiers as to provide a buffer between the main colony and the Indians. This buffer is interpreted as being their non-resistance and fair dealings with the Indians.

These German Baptist Brethren such as the families of Michael Frantz II and 1-8 David Frantz followed the human drive to migrate. After the war we find their children moving on to Ohio. These particular families migrated from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; then to Botetourt County, Virginia; and now on to Clark County, Ohio.

DORE M. FRANTZ did invaluable research on the above mentioned families and shared information with Elvin D. Frantz in 1947

Up to this period in history the German Baptist Brethren had limited education to teaching in their homes, preaching, and their own printing press. Their very early Elders had been educated in Germany and Switzerland. In these countries they had been unable to establish an institution of higher learning because of persecution.  
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9. Lee, Gordon, Crusade Against Ignorance, Columbia Univ., 1961-fifth printing, 1967) pp. 21, 28
10. Sharp, S.Z., The Educational History of The Church of the Brethren, Elgin, Ill. 1923  
PAGE 41
11. Knauss, James O., "American Antiquarian Society Proceeding", page 241
12. " , " page 242



Written in German by himself in the family Bible.

Now owned by his great granddaughter, Amanda Kessler, LaFontaine, Indiana

Translated from the German by Dr. D. C. Reber

I, Michael Frantz was born, June 23, 1764.

My wife, Marian Elizabeth, was born Feb. 27, 1767.

A daughter, Anna, was born September 27, 1788.

A son, John, was born December 3, 1789.

\* A daughter, Elizabeth, was born January 16, 1791.

A son, Henry, was born March 11, 1794.(?)

A daughter, Susannah, was born January 23, 1797.

A daughter, Magdalena, was born April 17, 1798.

A daughter, Margaret, was born October 23, 1801.

A daughter, Catherine, was born February 23, 1806.

A son, Michael, was born February 10, 1810.

161  
Marian Eliz Kish/Gish  
(per Floyd Mason)

The following facts not found in the Bible, but elsewhere:

Anna married Abraham Arney, was paralyzed 16 years before death.

John???

Elizabeth married Martin Winger. 3808

Henry administered the estate.

Susannah????

Magdalena married Henry Wingert, brother of Martin Winger.

Margaret married a Kinzie; after his death John Gish.

Catherine married a Kinzie; after his death John Gish.

Michael IV married Elizabeth Barnhart. They lived in Jalapa, Indiana. Their daughter Elizabeth Pogue died Aug. 19, 1942. Age 100.

Michael III's first wife, Marian Elizabeth died May 8, 1824.

His will was made at Fincastle, Virginia Sept 16, 1833.

In that will he mentioned his second wife, Hannah, a second marriage.

It is thought that his first wife was a Garst and that the second wife was Hannah Goode.

Copied by L. W. Shultz June 2, 1970  
from Dr. Reber's copy

Michael Frantz came from Germany Switzerland in 1727.

He had but one son, Michael Frantz II.

Michael Frantz II married Magdalena Zug, they had eight sons: Christian, Daniel, Michael, Peter, John, Jacob, David and Abraham.

Christian became the second elder of the Donnell's Creek Church.

Daniel and Christian Frantz were the only two sons who came west.

Daniel is buried in the Frantz Cemetery, about 80 rods south of the National Road, three miles west of Springfield, Ohio.

Michael Frantz II moved from Pennsylvania to Botetourt Co. Va. about 1784.

Michael Frantz I was one of the greatest preachers of the Church of the Brethren.

His old home was near Ephrata, Pa. where his old barn, perhaps the same frame still stands.

Elizabeth and Magdalena Frantz, daughters of Michael Frantz, married brothers, Henry and Martin Wenger. The Wengers were mennonites until these two Wenger brothers married into the family of Michael Frantz who were Dunkers.

Prepared by Otho Winger, Manchester College  
Copied from the Winger family record.



Martin Winger Family Record

Mark up

3808

4486 Martin Winger 1791-1864. Came in 1847 to Grant Co. Ind. from Virginia.  
Elizabeth Frantz-1791-1864. Married 1819-dau of Michael Frantz III, granddaughter  
of Magdalena Zug, dau. of Ulrich Zug.

Children:

- 3809 1. Catherine Winger Jan 18, 1819. Married Elias Miller. Lived in Allen County, Ks.  
Ten children: Mary, Eliza, Sarah, Nancy, Gideon, John, Elias, Maria, Rebecca, Alice.
- 3810 2. David Martin Winger-April 11, 1820-Jan. 8, 1859. Married LaDonia Peterman. Lived  
Peterman Co. Missouri. Eight children: Carey, Sarah Elizabeth, Irvin, Jacob W.,  
Adaline, infant D., Martin, Mary Ann. — 3862 — 3869
- 3811 3. Anna Winger-July 23, 1821-May 28, 1901. Married Daniel Barnhart. Lived Franklin  
Co. Kansas. Ten children: David, Abraham, Isaac, Elizabeth, Jacob, Joseph, Sarah,  
John, Benjamin, George.
- 3812 4. Eliza Winger-January 6, 1823-Dec. 17, 1901. Married William Stambaugh-b. July 17,  
1812-died Jan. 7, 1881. Four children. Infant, Anna, Amanda, Maria.
- 3813 5. Margaret Winger-January 11, 1824
- 3814 6. Joseph Winger-April 23, 1825-April 6, 1895. Married first Mary McDermot-b. Aug. 18,  
1829-died Jan. 18, 1856. Two children. Second marriage Elizabeth Showalter-b.  
Feb. 7, 1837-d. May 3, 1913. 8 children. Children by 1st marriage: John Martin  
Winger and Sarah Ellen Winger. Children by second marriage: Madison David, Samuel  
Edward, Daniel Oscar, Orlando Calvin, Joseph Pendleton, Abigail Ann, Ida Frances,  
Mahlon Delano. 3835 — 3844
- 3815 7. Mariah Winger-Jan. 27, 1827-Jan. 6, 1897. Married Samuel Whiteneck 1836-1883.  
Children: Infant William, Daniel, Lucinda, Mary Alice
- 3816 \* 8. Magdalena Winger-Feb. 1, 1828-May 11, 1863. Married first Jacob Statler. 1 child.  
Second marriage May 17, 1855 Daniel Halderman Showalter-Aug. 25, 1813-March 27,  
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- 3817 9. Michael Winger-March 12, 1829-May 16, 1889. Married Martha Whiteneck-1835-1922.  
Nine children: John Madison, William Perry, Arthur Oliver, Pamela Ann, Lucinda Ellen  
Carey Austin, Amanda Jane, Sarah Elizabeth, Infant son 3820 — 3828

Here is an interesting note: #6-Joseph Winger was a brother to Magdalena Winger #8.  
Joseph's second marriage was to Elizabeth Showalter, who was a daughter of Daniel  
Halderman Showalter, by his first marriage to Anna Brower. Therefore, #8 Magdalena  
Winger Statler Showalter was the step-mother of Joseph's wife Elizabeth and also her  
sister in law!

See Showalter history to continue my lineage:



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Read the interesting note  
near bottom of page.  
Lorraine



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