

OTHO WINGER  
MAPLE - OAKS  
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA

Dec 5 ,1941.

William Frantz,  
Ladoga, Ind.

Dear Mr. Frantz: I was at your home in Ladoga today. Perhaps your daughter in law told you about it. I wanted to see you about your branch of the Frantz family. My great grand mother was a Frantz. They tell me that you are a grandson of Matthias Frantz who was a Dunker preacher and elder at Ladoga, 75 or 80 years. I have wondered whether my great grand mother and your grandfather might have been related. I will give you my ancestral line back for a few generations and it may be you can tell whether there is any thing in common:

Otho Winger. I have been president of Manchester College for (my father) 30 years. Am well known to Samuel Stoner, Ralph was Gottschall, etc of Ladoga. *I reserve testimony.*

John Winger. Lived in Grant County, near Marion. Died in 1922. his father was

Joseph Winger. live in Grant County, died in 1895

His mother was

Elizabeth Frantz who married Martin Winger, my great grandfather Her father was

Michael Frantz III. He lived and died in Botetourt Co., Va.

His father was

Michael Frantz II who married Magdalena Zug (Zook) in Pennsylvania about 1750. They had eight sons: Christian, Daniel, Michael, Peter, John, Jacob, David and Abraham: Michael II and most of his family moved to Botetourt County, Va. about the close of the Revolutionary War Christian and Daniel moved to Clark County, O about the first of the last century. They have many descendants today Children of the other boys moved in to Indiana and elsewhere. I am wondering whether your grandfather, Matthias Frantz, might have been the son or grandson of one of the eight boys.

Michael Frantz I, father of Michael Frantz II, came from Switzerland about 1727. So far as I know he had but the one son, Michael, who in turn had the eight sons

My great grandmother, Elizabeth, had a sister, Magdalena, who was the wife of Henry Wingert. They lived near Ladoga. They had sons, Jacob, Christopher, etc. John Wingert who died not so long ago, was a grandson.

Henry Wingert was a full brother to my great grandfather, Martin Winger. They married Frantz sisters, Magdalena and Elizabeth

Now if you can tell me whether your grandfather, Matthias Frantz, was related to any of the above, my ancestors, and how, I shall thank you very much.

I am sorry that we could not wait today until you came home. But we had a long way home to drive. I am much interested in this history and hope you will give me what information you may have.

Very sincerely

*Otho Winger*



Lorraine Frantz Edwards  
believes the Otho Winger  
letter is a treasured  
bit of Frantz genealogy.

Tradition has it that Otho  
Winger went to his grave  
believing his was a  
descendant of Immigrant  
Michael Frantz. In reality,  
he was a descendant of  
Immigrant Christian  
Frantz.

LFE

3 May 2017



Mr William Frantz  
Lancaster, Pa.

Shenandoah, Wisconsin  
Dec 9, 1950

Dear Friend:

There seems to be considerable confusion  
as to the Alder Michael Frantz and the Michael,  
I call "our Michael." Alder Michael Frantz came  
to America in 1727 and settled in Cocalico  
Township, Lancaster County Penna. and <sup>it</sup> was in  
that community he established for himself  
quite a reputation in the Dunkard Church.  
and he is at the present time looked up to as  
one of the great colonial leaders of the church.  
He died in 1749. His son Michael married  
a lady named Zug and moved to Virginia  
(Bethesda Co) in 1770 if there was any relation-  
ship as to our branch it may have been between  
our first American ancestor Christian I who  
came to America five years later (1732) and  
also settled in Cocalico Township Lancaster Co  
Penna. Christian I had three sons, John Michael



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and Christian (II) These three brothers moved  
from Localio Township, to Sulphur Spring Township,  
Berks Co. a few miles north of Localio Township.  
in 1745 and were among the founders of the  
Little Swatara Church (Dunkard) there. Here Christian  
Grundy (II) acquired a tract of land from one  
of William Penn's sons, in 1744 which became  
our homestead and was in the family name  
up to 30 years ago. Christian (II) had only one  
son Christian III (our great great grand father)  
who inherited the farm at his father's death  
in 1770. Christian (III) had five sons, named  
as follows: Michael the eldest, Christian (IV)  
your great grand father, Mathias, my great  
grand father, John and Henry, <sup>he</sup> also had five  
daughters. In 1794 Christian (III) sold the  
homestead to a Mr. Moyer, and in 1795  
moved to Baltimore Co. Va., with his entire  
family. Except Mathias, my great grand father  
who would not go because my great grand  
mother (Bene) refused to go along in 1800



my great grandfather (Mathias) bought  
 the farm back from Meyer, and as I told  
 you, the place remained in our name up  
 to 30 years ago. There is private family cemetery  
 on the farm and I suspect all of our early ancestors  
 are buried there. Our "Michael" had two daughters  
 who married two Wangers - Wangert brothers, one  
 of whom was the great grandfather of Rev  
 A. Wanger, and I regret to say. Rev A. died  
 in the Navy (contrary to the records) that he  
 was descended from Elder Michael Frantz, rather  
 than from our "Michael" Christian Frantz (IV)  
 a brother of my great grandfather Mathias,  
 and your great grandfather, was married to  
 Magdalena Houty. She died a few days after  
 in 1808 and left four children behind, namely:  
 Jacob, the grandfather of the Lord Okla-ton  
 Frantzes, Henry, Emma and Mathias, your  
 grandfather. Mathias was the youngest, in fact,  
 was only five days old when his parents died  
 He was raised by his Uncle and Aunt John and



Catharine (Houty) Tyler and when the Tygers  
migrated from Va. in 1830 to Ind., Nicholas  
and his wife (Greybel) accompanied them

All four children of Christian IV are specifically  
as their  
mentioned in the final statement & settlement

of our great grandfather's estate in 1845,

so there is absolutely no question as to

our relationship. In conclusion I may add

that I correspond with Mrs. Winger, of Crano-

fordville. We also are in touch with Mrs.

Whitaker and her sister Mrs. Raley of Indian

Okla. (daughters of Henry Francis, a cousin of mine)

and M. A. Francis of Clayton Ohio, a descendant

of Henry Francis. The youngest son of

Christian Francis (III) I feel greatly related

to the success thus far attained in unraveling

our relationship, especially so, inasmuch as trace

of our Virginia relatives was lost for over one hundred

and twenty years or ever since 1820 when my

great grandfather sent one of his sons to Va. after the

(Mrs) great great grandfather found away Sincerely yours  
Alvin D. Francis



In locating you Jacks I was loath to keep  
an eye on the descendants of a Mathies  
Frantz <sup>at Ciego</sup> as the name "Mathies" only runs in  
one branch of the Frantzes. Presumably your  
great grandfather was named after my great  
grandfather, - the one left behind in Penna.

Such names as Frank, Henry, Jacob etc  
run strong in our branch. I had a brother  
named Frank, also a son. Then there was  
your father, also the late Governor Frank  
Frankly, and he too had a son named "Frank"  
Henry is a common name too I know  
of at least four in our branch, not  
mentioning the Governor's father as the  
brother of your grandfather Mathies



J. D. Granting  
Plymouth, Wis

2376  
Plymouth



Mr William Granting  
Ladoga, Indiana

of Mrs. E. S. Granting