

LEITNER

ADAM LEITNER and his wife Maude found themselves behind Marlborough's lines in Germany in 1708, during the wars of the religious persecutions, and accepted an invitation of Queen Anne of England to come to America. So many of the ruined German Protestants accepted that invitation, the English Government was unable to forward them to America. They were furnished with army tents on a heath outside of London, where Adam and Maude lived with two little sons, John Adam Jr and William A, who had been born in Germany, and where (in this tent) was born a third son

NATHANIEL LEITNER in 1709. They had some other children, but either they died in infancy, or returned to Germany (as did William A. Leitner and John, surely), or, as Ellis has it in his History of Lancaster County, Pa., "their boys were all girls". Anyway, it is generally conceded as stated that all the Leitners in America are descended from General Nathaniel Leitner (of whom I have written you), and his wife Margaret LaRue, "native of France, Protestant" (born 1713, died March 29, 1794). "They had 19 children, and being Lutherans, their births etc are recorded with few exceptions in the Church Book of New Holland, Lancaster County, Pa."

The children of Nathaniel Leitner and Margaret LaRue Lightner (as they spelled the name in Pa. to keep the pronunciation---the French neighbors insisted upon calling Leitner L-e-e-t-n-e-r), were as follows:

John b Aug. 15th 1733; md Barbara Reuter
John William b Aug 8, 1734, md Margaret McKerral
Anna Magdalene b Aug 26, 1735, md Geo Spangler
Nathaniel Jr b Aug 7, 1736, md Mary Rutter
Benjamin, b Aug 21, 1737, md ---
John Michael, b Sept. 25, 1738;
md(1st) Margaret Sulz
md(2nd) Maria Beard Leitner

JOHN GEORGE b Oct 10, 1739
md (1st) Mary Creighton
md (2nd) Catherine Swygert

Anna Margaret b Nov 29, 1740, md Geo Rutter
Maria Elizabeth b Nov 30, 1741, md Anthony Ellemaker
John Adam 2" b Oct 8, 1743, md Leah Ferree on 14th
Feby. 1777 -
Joseph and Benj. b 14 Feb 1744 were twins and died
Rachel md Peter Basore
Catherine b Jan 22, 1746, md John Myers
Isaac d in infancy
Jane md Andrew Rutter
George b Jan 13, 1753
Sasanna b Jan 16, 1753 (?) m Fredk Croker
Rachel

JOHN GEORGE LEITNER md Mary Creighton and had three children in Pa., about 10 miles east of Lancaster. It seems from the Leah Lightner record that Isaac md Elizabeth David, and went away.

Henry went South with his father William, the baby, was left with a relative upon his mother's death, and grew up in Lancaster County and married Catherine Wise--long line of children.

When JOHN GEORGE LEITNER went South he married Catherine Swygert, whose father lived on Second Creek adjoining the place where John Michael Leitner lived on Broad River in what is now Lexington County, S. C.

JOHN GEORGE LEITNER, or GEORGE LEITNER, as he is usually called now, received a Memorial Grant of 200 acres of land in Camden District on Broad and Little rivers 10 Feb 1772. This means that on 10 Feb 1772 he had a wife and four children; it being the custom to enter and take up land as follows: for each adult 50 acres; for children under 16 yrs of age, 25 acres each, and after ten years' occupancy the Government would grant a deed. As far as known, the names of the children were:

Isaac md Elizabeth David in Pa
Henry md Polly Nates (Mary Neat) in S C
William md Catherine Wise

George Jr md the widow of Jacop Turnipseed
and granddaughter of Wm Penn
JACOB (Dec 28, 1775-May 31, 1845) md
Mary Eve Gradick (b 1773-d 1847)
Catherine md John Gradick
Elizabeth md Miner Gibson
Mary

Christian (April 30, 1784-Aug 1, 1863)
md Hester Martin

JACOB LEITNER and Mary Eve Gradick Leitner's children were:

Jacob Leitner Jr md Charlotte Souter
DAVID WESLEY md Elizabeth Smith

Margaret
Christena Ann
Mary (Polly)
Mary Madeline
Salena
Hilliard

Nancy md John P Williams abt 1835--mother of old
Cousin Billy Williams (the Rev WWW)
Daniel md Martha Lever (Their son John Daniel
md Sue Leitner)

Susan d single in 1902 age 90

DAVID W LEITNER and Elizabeth Smith had following children:

John Wesley md Charlotte Hamiter (nee Hendrix)
Elizabeth md Mattison Abell
Harriet md George Lever
Rebecca md Hiram Allen
Hilliard died young

The following from letters of Mr. Claude C. Leitner, of Boston, Mass., who has for years collected information on the genealogy of the Leitner family:

"Tobler von Meyer, writing in 1667 of various old German families, says of the Leitners: "This very respectable family of farmer folk for the most part has had a most honorable history since the third century, certainly; but they have scorned titles and worldly honors, content to writer generation after generation before their names the one word 'Freiherr'". Leitners really have a lot to live up to, as you say; a great deal more than they suspect. Joseph Christian Leitner came over in the same ship with James Oglethorpe and John and Charles Wesley, and was one of the first settlers of the "Georgia Plantations in our Royal Colony of Carolina." He it was who helped to persuade John Wesley not to marry the gay, witty, hard drinking high living young woman who afterwards had him run out of the country. And of him it is recorded that within five years after settling on "Lochner's Creek, 36 miles above Savannah town" he is the "best farmer we have and one of the first citizens of Carolina". If you can get a copy, read The Salzburger and Their Descendants (you are one of them, though Jos. Christian Leitner was a cousin of John George Leitner. John George Leitner's great-grandfather was a member of the Tobacco College of Frederick William I.

..... My great-great-great-grandfather Martin, who came from Zweibrucken am Saar named five of his sons John Jacob, John George, John Edward, etc. He, by the way, was the first Lutheran preacher in upper Carolina, and his circuit was "34 preaching pl aces from what is now Augusta, Ga. to Winnsboro, S. C." But you are a girl, and young, so here's a bit to cherish. One of your ancestors had an honor part in Heidleberg in 1392. The subject of his address was "Freiherr Michael Marie Dominique Etienne Henrique Heraclé Michael Leitner von Litenan, Isle de France et Paris, Obit im Jahre 1184." Note that was 100 years before America was discovered - and only six years after Heidleberg was founded.

"A few weeks ago I was visiting at the little stone house about ten and a half miles east of Lancaster, Pa., where John George Leitner was born. I noted the hewn boards, rather rough before your great, great, great grandmother helped to wear them smooth with her daily scouring. But the old house is just as good today as it was then -- 200 years ago, nearly. Then I walked up the old Peter's road to the little church, about a quarter of a mile, and was standing at the grave of General Nathaniel Leitner.....

"I only happened to know that George Leitner served in the Revolution from this chance remark. When Maj. Zach Leitner came back from Gettysburg, I think it was, with his right leg shot off, a very old neighbor said, "Why Zach, that's the same leg your grandfather lost in the Snow Campaign."

"Do you know a Leitner was treasurer of the first Board of Trustees of Wofford College? Did you know a Leitner planted and raised the first cotton in America; helped build the first

cotton mill, etc." - - -

"Nathaniel Leitner served in the Congress at Philadelphia, and at Lancaster when the invading forces ran the Congress away from Philadelphia. Michael served in the first S. C. Legislature when for the same reason they did not dare to meet in Charleston, and long before Columbia was the seat of government in S. C."

"Nathaniel Leitner's xix fifth son was General Michael Leitner, b Sept 25th, 1738, surrendered with Geo. Washington at Ft. Mifflin July 4, 1754 (French & Indian Wars), and served during Revolution. Died in Lexington County, S. C., in 1789."

Mrs. Fannie S. Lever Turnipseed, Blythewood, S. C., gave me the following dates:

John George Leitner and Catherine Swygert married in 1760.

David Wesley Leitner, born June 9, ~~1798~~ 1797;
died January 17, 1863.
Married Elizabeth Smith in 1837.
" " b abt 1804
d 1844