

Emigrants of the 18th Century from the Northern Palatinate

By FRIEDRICH KREBS

Translated and Edited by Don Yoder

[The materials included in this contribution of Dr. Krebs to our knowledge of the 18th Century emigration to America and its German background are translated from the article entitled, "Amerikaauswanderer des 18. Jahrhunderts aus der Nordpfalz," in *Nordpfälzer Geschichtsverein*, XXXV (1955), 63-66. Of particular interest are the many references to Mennonite families (Brubacher, Küntzi, Krebühl, and Ellenberger) who were for the most part "hereditary lessees" (*Erbbeständer*) on the estates of the area—the Münchhof near Albisheim, the Weierhof, the Otterberg estate at Rüsingen, and the Clauserhof near Ramsen. The towns and villages mentioned in the list can be located on the map in the vicinity of Kirchheim-Bolanden, South of Mainz and Northeast of Kaiserslautern.—EDITOR.]

EMIGRANTS FROM MARNHEIM

1. In the release of the property of *Susanne Armknecht*, widow of *Johannes Knauf* of Marnheim (married September 6, 1703, at Marnheim), dated May 2, 1747, it is stated of the sons *Johann Henrich Knauff* and *Anthon Knauff* (the latter born September 17, 1721, at Marnheim), that "both sons . . . went to the New Land or the so-called Pennsylvania four years ago" [*beyde Söhne . . . vor 4 Jahren in das neue Land oder sogenannte Pensylphania gezogen*]. *Johann Hennrich Knauff* and *Anthon Knauff* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *St. Andrew*, October 7, 1743 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 103 A-C). List A gives Henrich's age as 30, Anthon's as 20.

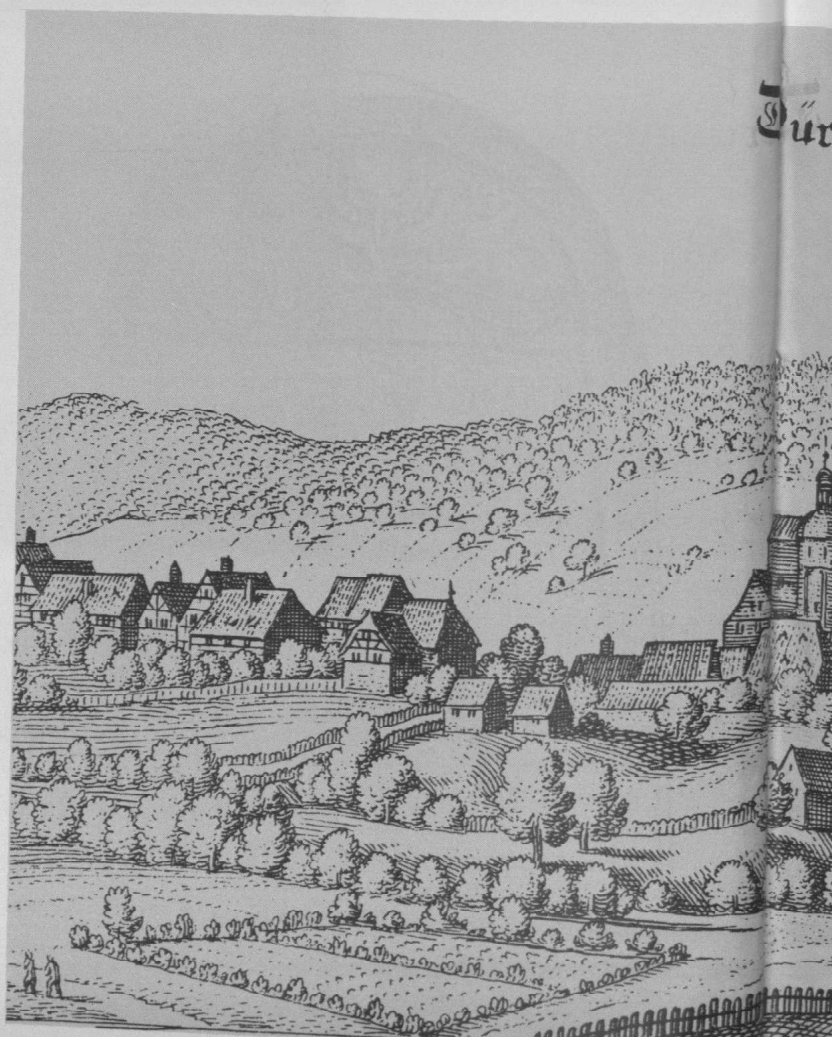
2. The inventory of *Maria Magdalena Knauff*, widow of *Lorentz Knauff* of Marnheim, dated November 21, 1777, lists among the sons and heirs *Johann Adam Knauff*, "aged 33 years, living in the New Land" [*alt 33 Jahr im neuen Land sich aufhaltend*]. *Johann Adam Knauff* was born at Marnheim, September 23, 1744.

3. An inventory of *Sophia Sybilla*, wife of *Philipp Debusz*, dated August 18, 1767, names among her sons: *Johann Daniel Debusz*, "who about sixteen years ago went to Pennsylvania in the single state" [*welcher vor ohngefähr 16 Jahren ledigen Standes in Pensylvanien gezogen*], and *Maria Elisabetha Debusz*, "who went out to Pennsylvania twelve years ago in the single state" [*welche aus vor 12 Jahr ledigen Standes in Pensylvanien gezogen*]. *Daniel Debus* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *Sandwich*, November 30, 1750 (Strass-

burger-Hinke, List 160 C). Note also that a *Daniel Debus* (aged 28) arrived in company with *Jacob Debus* (aged 26) and *Lodwick Debus* (aged 36) on the Ship *St. Andrew*, October 7, 1743, List 103 A-C; cf. *supra*, No. 1). In the Reformed church register of Marnheim from this period no entries relative to the Debusz family could be located.

EMIGRANTS FROM ALBISHEIM

4. The inventory of *Anna Maria*, widow of *Tobias Trescher* of Albisheim, dated March 2, 1743, lists a daughter *Anna Maria*, "wife of *Jost Diel* who is in Pennsylvania" [*Jost Dielen Ehefrau so in Pensylvanien*]. *Jost Diehl*, son of *Sebastian Diehl* of Offenheim, had married at Albisheim, January 13, 1728, *Anna Maria*, daughter of *Tobias Drescher*. *Jost Diehl* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *Robert and Alice*, September 3, 1739 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 71 A-C).



5. The inventory of *Jakob Racke*, inhabitant at Albisheim, dated February 5, 1767, lists two sons of his first marriage, *Johann Philipp Racke* and *Henrich Caspar Racke* as being in Pennsylvania. *Henrich Caspar Racke* was born at Albisheim January 9, 1722, son of *Jakob* and *Anna Margaretha Racke*; *Johann Philipp* was born there of the same parents, February 12, 1736. *Henrich Caspar Racke* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *St. Andrew*, September 9, 1749 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 128 C). *Johann Philipp Racke* arrived on the Ship *Britannia*, September 26, 1764 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 245 C).

6. *Jacob Brubacher*, who has been cited in a previous article as the father of a son *Abraham* who according to an inventory dated 1763 was in Pennsylvania, was hereditary lessee [*Erbbeständer*], under the local government, of the so-called Münchhof near Albisheim. Possibly *Aberham (sic) Brübacher*, who arrived on the Ship *St. Andrew*, September 9, 1749 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 128 C).

EMIGRANTS FROM SIPPERSFELD

7. In an inventory dated October 8, 1793, of *Anna Maria Scholl*, born at Sippersfeld, who died single at Kerzenheim in September 1793, the question comes up of "the sister of the decedent *Margreta*, wife of *Martin Seewald* of Sippersfeld, who had gone to America about

30 years ago and disappeared" [*vor ohngefahr 30 Jahren nach Amerika gezogenen und verschollenen Schwester der Erblasserin Margreta, des Martin Seewalds von Sippersfeld Ehefrau*]. According to the Lutheran church register *Martin Seewald*, son of *Velten Seewald* of Sippersfeld, had married *Maria Margretha*, daughter of *Theobald Scholl* of Sippersfeld on December 22, 1744, at Sippersfeld. *Martin Seewald* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *Hero*, October 27, 1764 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 248 C).

8. An inventory dated December 5, 1766, of *Daniel Müller*, widower, who died in 1766 at Sippersfeld, cites among his children a daughter *Catharina*, "who went to Pennsylvania in the year 1764" [*welche anno 1764 in Pensylvanien gezogen*].

EMIGRANTS FROM DANNENFELS

9. A release of the property of *Johann Melchior Ruppert* of Dannenfels, dated February 25, 1766, cites among his children a son *Johann Henrich Ruppert* as being in Pennsylvania. Possibly *Henry Rubert*, who arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *Jacob*, October 2, 1749 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 140 C).

EMIGRANTS FROM BREUNIGWEILER

10. A guardian's account (1776-1780) "about the property of *Peter Weissmann* of Breunigweiler, who has already been in the New Land some twenty and

Dürkheim.



Dürkheim in the Palatinate from Merian's Topographia Germaniae (1672).

EMIGRANTS FROM RAMSEN

more years" [*uber des schon ettlich und 20 Jahr im neuen Land sich aufhaltenden Peter Weissmanns Vermögen*], besides a manumission certificate of *Peter Weissmann* dated July 19, 1754, allows us to assume the emigration date at about 1754. This is probably the *Peter Weissmann* who arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *Edinburgh*, September 30, 1754 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 220 A-C), where his name follows that of *Conrath Enders* (cf. *infra*, No. 11). *Peter Weissmann* was born October 16, 1729, at Sippersfeld, son of the miller *Peter Weissmann* of Breunigweiler.

11. An inventory of *Maria Enders*, widow of *Henrich Enders* of Breunigweiler, dated October 3, 1797, names among the children a *Leonhard Enders*, "at this time in his 33rd year, who long ago journeyed to America, but of whom nothing has been heard for many years" [*dermahlen im 33. Jahr, welcher längst nach Amerika gereist, aber auch in vielen Jahren nichts von sich hören lassen*].

EMIGRANTS FROM WEIERHOF¹

12. A property list of *Johannes Künzi* of Weierhof, dated August 3, 1785, says of him "that he went to Pennsylvania thirteen years ago" [*dass er vor 13 Jahr nach Pennsilvanien gegangen*]. *Johannes Kintzi* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *Crawford*, October 16, 1772 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 296 C). According to an affidavit he died in Autumn 1777 in the Manor [Township] area of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He must have been a Mennonite, since the affidavit came from *Christian Hirschy*, preacher [*Lehrer*] of the Manor Mennonite congregation.

13. A property transfer of *Anna*, widow of *Michel Grebühl* of Weierhof, dated October 25, 1752, names among her sons a *Jakob Krebühl* as being in Pennsylvania. He is possibly the *Jakob Crebil* who landed at Philadelphia on the Ship *Mortonhouse*, August 17, 1729 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 9 A-C). Additional material has been published on him in the *Nordpfälzer Geschichtsverein*, XXXIV (1954).

14. A property list of *Elisabetha Krebühl*, daughter of *Johannes Krebühl* of Weierhof, dated April 25, 1739, who died in the single state in the beginning of 1739, names among her brothers and sisters a *Peter Krebühl*, "who went to the New Land four years ago" [*welcher vor 4 Jahren in das neue Land zog*].

¹Weierhof, near Kirchheim-Bolanden, is an important Palatine Mennonite center. Originally a monastery estate, it was given in hereditary lease in 1682 to Peter Crayenbühl (Krehbiel) under the elector of the Palatinate. According to the lease the lessee and his family were granted the privilege of holding Mennonite worship within the family, but without the right to establish a congregation. In 1706 the area came under the jurisdiction of Nassau-Weilburg and the congregation, which drew together Mennonites from the villages and estates of the area, took on formal character at that time. For the history of the settlement, see Christian G. Neff, "Weierhof," in *The Mennonite Encyclopedia*, IV, 911-913. For a brief history of the Krehbiel (Graybill) family, originally from Grossehöchstetten in Canton Bern, Switzerland, see *The Mennonite Encyclopedia*, III, 235-238.—EDITOR.

15. Of *Conrad Marent*, citizen at Ramsen, it is said in a document dated March 8, 1766, that "with his wife and children, he left here in the year 1764, after receiving manumission, and went to Cayenne in New France" [*mit seiner Frau und Kindern albereits anno 1764 nach erhaltener Manumission von hier ab und nach Cajenne in Neufanckreich gezogen*].

EMIGRANTS FROM RUSSINGEN

16. In a property transfer of the Mennonite *Ulrich Ellenberger*,² hereditary lessee of the Otterberg farm property at Rüssingen, to his son *Rudolph Ellenberger*, dated June 9, 1757, and in the estate inventory dated October 7, 1766, it is stated that two sons from his second marriage by the name of *Ullrich* and *Peter Ellenberger* "went to Pennsylvania" [*in Pensylvanien gezogen*]. *Ullrich* and *Peter Ellenberger* arrived at Philadelphia on the Ship *St. Andrew*, September 9, 1749 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 128 C).

EMIGRANTS FROM DREISEN

17. Here there are several documents about the reprimand for debt (i.e., settlement of the debt payment through the crediting of the said persons) of *Adam Siegel*, who went to New England (document dated May 27, 1774); further a document about the reprimand for debt of *Christian Emig* who was going to New England and the debts on his property (document dated May 28, 1774); and a document (reprimand for debt) of the widow of *Ludwig Löwenberg* of Dreisen, who was going to New England (document dated May 28, 1774). A similar document treats of *Daniel Zittel* of Dreisen. *Adam Siegel*, *Christian Eh-mig*, and *Daniel Zittel* all landed at Philadelphia on the Ship *Sally*, October 31, 1774 (Strassburger-Hinke, List 322 C), along with *Peter*, *Philipp*, and *Friedrich Löwenberg*. *Philipp* and *Friedrich Löwenberg* are entered in the Reformed church register of Dreisen as children of *Ludwig Löwenberg*, inhabitant at Dreisen, and his wife *Christina*. *Friedrich Löwenberg* was born September 21, 1740, and *Philipp Löwenberg* was born May 13, 1758, both at Dreisen. With the sons and the widow *Christina* there possibly came other children of hers, *Elias Löwenberg* (born January 10, 1761), *Maria Catharina Sophia Löwenberg* (born February 19, 1763), and *Christoph August Ludwig Löwenberg* (born February 9, 1766), who as minors (under 16 years) do not appear in the ship lists.

EMIGRANTS FROM CLAUSERHOF (NEAR RAMSEN)

18. A property list of the deceased wife, *Anna*, of *Jakob Krebühl*, hereditary lessee of the Clauserhof, dated May 30, 1793, names among her sons a son *Johannes*, "single, 19 years old, being in America" [*ledig, 19 Jahr alt, in America sich aufhaltend*].

²Ulrich Ellenberger was the elder (minister) in charge of the Mennonite congregation of Weierhof and vicinity during the middle of the 18th Century. See *The Mennonite Encyclopedia*, IV, 912.—EDITOR.