



considerably reduces the other costs. This required some considerable rearrangement in the order of pages within the computer files, but it was worth it.

The final result is a total of 676 copy surfaces. After cutting into two pieces, these pages fit nicely into three "books", each about one inch thick plus a fourth "book", about one-half inch thick, which contains the index. The set also fits nicely into a standard 6x9 inch mailing box without requiring other packaging materials. After some shopping around and negotiating, the costs for copying were also reduced.

So far, thirty-four sets of the 336 sheets have been produced and each cut into 676 individual pages. The pages have been collated, punched, and bound into the four books, and each set has been packed into a shipping box. My total cost to this point has been only very slightly above \$850.00. This is a cost of \$25.00 per set, with shipping or mailing charges yet to be added. That's still a lot, but it appears to be the best I can do.

These 34 sets are enough for those on my "request" list plus 3 copies for libraries. I will be sending these sets to those of you who have requested them about the same time as this newsletter is mailed. If I have overlooked a request or if someone else wants a set, please let me know, it will not be so difficult to make some additional sets.

#### **FAMILY NEWS ITEMS AND ARTICLES FOR INCLUSION ARE EAGERLY SOLICITED!**

I'm still looking for a practical method to get our genealogy collection into computer files which can be easily shared and updated. The size and nature of the collection makes this difficult, and transferring information from one type of computer software to another is still a challenge! If you have an interest in this, or suggestions for accomplishing it, please let me hear from you.

If your word processor handles line-drawing characters, I can copy the 1992 Edition's print files for you, but the complete set in uncompressed form requires more than eight megabytes of space due to the many lines and blank spaces in the printed sheets. Searching these for specific information will be very cumbersome. Later this year, I shall try to develop a program to strip out the lines and extra text, then organize the data into a format which can be imported by data-base type software. This will require a minimum of data-space and be much more useful for computer searching and display.

#### **ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER:**

The goals for this newsletter are to encourage further development of our family history and family friendship. It seeks to increase the circle of interested family members, and to assist in the sharing of information about our family heritage. There were three previous issues, two in 1991 and one in 1992. Your "editor" is:

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#### **YOU MAY HAVE A "SUBSCRIPTION" AT NO COST OTHER THAN TO LET ME KNOW THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED!**

Issue #1 (February 1991) went to 110 interested families; Issue #2 (June 1992) went to 195; and Issue #3 went to 230 families. This issue goes to 239 families.

#### **FUTURE ISSUES:**

Our history story in this issue pauses at the end of 1752 with all surviving members of our immigrant family still in Pennsylvania.

Planned for the next issue of the newsletter is the period between 1752 and 1765. This period includes the migration of Henry and his family first to Virginia, where they suffered some effects of the French & Indian War. The war caused them to finally settle in North Carolina, where they were joined, three years later, by Werner & his family. Subtopics could include: "The Great Wagon Road"; the Virginia settlements by German-speaking immigrants; "The French & Indian War"; "The Moravians";

"The Wachovia Tract"; and the Moravian settlements at Bethabara, and Bethania to which the families migrated (Why There)?

Other future issues can be devoted to that period after 1765 in which the family roots developed in North Carolina; The "Great Migration West" across the mountains into areas of Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Utah, and California, and also into Wisconsin, Arkansas, and Texas; and, an issue dealing specifically with the Civil War period.

Let us carefully remember, that while we speak of our emigrant family (singular), more than one Spänhauer family emigrated to America. All presently known families with this name, however, (no matter the spelling) are descended from one of the two brothers in that singular family -- Heinrich & Wernhardt (Henry & Werner).

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE AN ARTICLE (EVEN A FEW PARAGRAPHS) ON ANY ASPECT OF OUR FAMILY HISTORY THAT IS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO YOU! -- OR SEND ME NEWS ITEMS ABOUT FAMILY MEMBERS; ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR OUR FAMILY SHEETS OR FOR OUR HISTORY PAGES; AND NAMES & ADDRESSES FOR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED.

By the way, twelve counties in Pennsylvania have Indian names, and there are 480 places named with the Indian words.

### **FAMILY HISTORY**

In Issue #3 of this newsletter, I presented the first in a series of articles relating to the history of our American family. That issue attempted to place the year 1740 into some perspective as a point-in-time within world history generally but especially within the history of the European colonization of North America. That article ended with the following event:

1740 - Our ancestor family, along with a group of other emigrants from Muttentz, Switzerland, arrived in Philadelphia aboard the ship "Friendship" under Captain William Vetterly. This family included Elsbeth Spittler Spänhauer, widow of Wernhardt, and their four living children: Heinrich (24), Werner (21), Anna (20), and Barbara (17).

In this issue (since no one else volunteered), I will try to describe some aspects of what North America (and especially the colony of Pennsylvania) was like during the time our ancestor family arrived.

### **NORTH AMERICA IN 1740:**

No one actually counted the Indians, but one orthnohistorian, Henry F. Dobyns, has estimated the North American Indian population for the year 1492, at 18 million. Dobyns' estimate was calculated backward from the year 1900 when there were about 500,000 Indians left, using a "depopulation ratio" to account for disease and warfare. There is no doubt that many Indians died due to the diseases which came from contact with European trappers and traders (sometimes half the population within a tribe). The tribe sometimes concluded that the disease was a result of witchcraft by their enemies, and attack in revenge. When an epidemic would weaken one tribe, their enemies also found that a good time to wage a war for domination. As a result, many tribes disappeared entirely!

On the other hand, George Miller at Pennsylvania State University, has called Dobyns' population numbers "enormously high". Miller calculates the Indian population for North America in 1500 at no more than two million. His estimates were based on the maximum number of people a region can support based on their level of agriculture and life-style.

Captain John Smith, from the Virginia Colony was probably the first white man to see a Pennsylvania Indian. On July 24, 1608, he set out with 12 men on a voyage of discovery. They entered the Chesapeake Bay and went up the Susquehanna to the present Pennsylvania/Maryland border, where they met seven or eight canoes containing about 60 Susquehannock warriors, who said they were returning home from a war with the Tockwaghs. The principal town of the Susquehannocks at this time was on the east bank of the Susquehanna River, near today's Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The Susquehannocks were of Iroquois stock. The warlike Iroquois culture also included the Cayuga, Onondaga, Seneca, Oneida, and Mohawk tribes, of western New York, who (about 1570) formed the Five Nations. The Eries and Hurons, to the northwest of Pennsylvania were also of Iroquois stock. In

order to control the fur trade throughout the Susquehanna valley, the Five Nations defeated and dispersed the Susquehannocks about 1675. As a result, they were not of much threat by the time William Penn arrived.

Another large tribe of Iroquois (perhaps as many as 4,000 warriors in size), called Eries, lived in that part of Pennsylvania between Lake Erie and the Allegheny River, and probably as far south as the Ohio and eastward to the Susquehanna. These people were known as the "Cat Nation" because of the many wildcats and panthers in their territory. They had several towns and villages the chief of which was Rique, near present-day Erie, PA, where up to 4,000 warriors lived. They were conquered by the Five Nations about 1670.

Still another Iroquois group, were the Tuscarora Indians of the Carolinas. The famous Tuscarora Indian pathway across central Pennsylvania to southern New York is the route through which these tribes kept in touch with each other, and over which the Tuscaroras moved north in about 1722, to make the Five Nations Six Nations, a confederation of about 12,000 Indians.

Besides the Iroquois, there were two other cultural groups of Indians in this general region during Captain Smith's time. Beyond the Allegheny Mountains, in western Pennsylvania were tribes usually called the Monongahela People. This cultural group, which also had settlements along the upper Ohio, the Allegheny, the Kiskiminetas, and the Beaver Rivers, had entirely disappeared by 1650, so very little is known about them. This area reverted to wilderness until after 1700 when Indian refugees from eastern Pennsylvania and the south began to repopulate the region.

In eastern Pennsylvania, and in Delaware, living along the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers, where the first European settlements would be made, were the Lenni Lenape Indians, later called Delawares. These more peaceful people were of Algonkian stock, related to the Mahicans, Shawnees, Chippewas, Crees, and many others scattered very widely throughout the United States and Canada between the Atlantic Coast and the Rocky Mountains.

According to their legendary history, the Lenni-Lenape, or "Original People" (or "real people"), lived in the general area of Colorado before 1600. They were wandering east in search of a "new" homeland when they met the Iroquois Indians on the west side of the Mississippi River. The Iroquois, in a similar quest, were coming from an area southward along the Mississippi. The North American Indians, while quite "civilized" in social and political terms, were of the late Stone Age in terms of technology. It was therefore usual for tribes to hunt, fish, and farm small clearings in one location for several years, then move on, and settle again in a "new area".

On the east side of the Mississippi River were the Alligewi Indians, which the Iroquois described as "big, tall, and stout" fellows. The Delawares negotiated permission from the Alligewi to cross the river and pass eastward through their land. When they started across the river, however, the Alligewi became frightened by their number and attacked. The Delawares first retreated, then convinced the Iroquois to join forces with them to defeat the Alligewi and divide their territory.

The war forced the Alligewi southward into the area of Mississippi. The Iroquois took the region around the Great Lakes and the rivers which flow into them, and the Delawares took land to the south of this. Later, crossing the Allegheny Mountains, the Delawares followed the rivers further eastward to the Atlantic Ocean. They found this eastern region "full of forests with plenty of animals to eat, large rivers with many fish, and no enemies to fear" -- so they moved there, settling along the Potomac, Hudson, Susquehanna, and Delaware Rivers.

As the Delawares wandered eastward, so did the Iroquois, settling below the Great Lakes, and along the St. Lawrence.

When the first European settlers arrived, the Delawares occupied the site of Philadelphia, living in villages on Ridley Creek and Crum Creek below the site and along the Neshaminy Creek above the site. They also had the settlements of Wicoa, Passayunk, Shackamaxon, and Playwicky, which are in or near the present city limits. By 1650, however, they had been pushed north and east, and had sold the entire western shore of the Delaware River to the Swedes and the Dutch settlers. The Iroquois, however, tried to keep most of the Schuylkill Valley as Indian territory by bringing in a stream of Indian refugees from Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina.

The foregoing is a small and an extremely selective slice of Indian history, but it serves to paint a general picture of the region of eastern North America at the time when the European colonies were beginning. Even if one accepts Dobyn's "enormous" numbers, North America was very sparsely populated with Indians, but they were spread out in small to modest size groups throughout the region, and there

was considerable traveling and trading among the tribes, and many intertribal wars. Forming the early settlements, therefore did not present a direct conflict with the Indians because there was plenty of space, and the Indians were "fluid", they could easily "move over", and they generally did. Land was regarded by the Indians as something to be shared, however, and not owned, so they generally did not understand the settlers viewpoint when land was "purchased" from them. They thought they were agreeing to share the land, not give it up entirely. For this reason, conflicts obviously arose from time to time and from place to place.

Because they don't help with background for our family history, we can ignore the Spanish missions in Florida, California, New Mexico, etc., and the French forts & trading posts scattered throughout the Ohio and Mississippi River Valleys as well as the French settlements in Canada.

The first permanent English colony in North America was begun in "James Town", Virginia in 1607. By 1740, each of the 13 original colonies had been established. The number of Europeans in these colonies as a whole cannot be known very exactly because so many different groups were involved and because the first census was not taken until 1790, fifty years later. From tax and other records, however, reasonably accurate estimates are possible for the colony of Pennsylvania.

### **PENNSYLVANIA IN 1740:**

Europeans traded with Indians living along Delaware Bay and the Delaware River for many years before the colony of Pennsylvania was formed. Henry Hudson first explored the Delaware Bay for the Netherlands on August 28, 1609, and the Dutch soon set up trading posts and small settlements. In 1624, the Swedes organized the South Company and eventually began to challenge the Dutch supremacy in the Delaware Valley.

The Pennsylvania of today can be roughly separated into three triangular regions. Neither the "Erie triangle" in the west, nor the central triangle containing the broad Allegheny Mountains Plateau had any significant number of European settlers during the period in which our ancestor family lived there. The European settlements in 1740 were all within the eastern triangle -- in the valleys of the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers.

England gained the area with the capture of New York in 1664. William Penn applied to King Charles II for a grant of land west of the Delaware River in June, 1680. His petition went to the Privy Council, who referred it to the Lords of Trade, who heard arguments for boundaries from agents of the Duke of York and Lord Baltimore, whose lands might also be involved in granting Penn the tract he wanted. On March 4, 1681, King Charles II signed the charter for the colony, the twelfth English colony to be chartered in North America. The charter was confirmed the next day and on April 2, William Penn (at age 36) was presented with the charter and appointed sole proprietor.

Penn wanted a haven for his persecuted Quakers. The early Quakers, in visiting the Puritans of New England, saw how easy it is for a homogeneous people to deny others the freedom they demanded for themselves. Penn's conclusion was that "We must GIVE the liberties we ASK". He wanted more than this, too, he wanted a sizeable slice of the globe, a new country free of European traditions and free from political involvements -- a melting pot, a "free colony for all mankind" -- in which he could experiment with his own theories of government. This was Penn's "Holy Experiment".

Penn had wanted to call the colony "New Wales", but the secretary to the Lords of Trade, a Welshman, did not want to have it called New Wales, or "Sylvania". To resolve it, they added the name Penn, forming "Pennsylvania". Penn tried bribing the secretary, but that didn't work, and the King, insisting that the tract was in honor of Penn's father, also refused to change it.

Various estimates of the European population in "Pennsylvania" during 1680 range from about 700 to "less than 2000". About half of these were Swedes and Finns who lived along the west shore of Delaware Bay, and the others were mostly Dutch and English who were spread out along both sides of the river and the bay. About 500 people lived in the lower reaches of the Schuylkill Valley, around the future site of Philadelphia, and at Upland, now Chester, there had been several families for almost 50 years. The

Indian population was about 15,000 and thinly scattered throughout the region. More than 90 percent of the area was virgin forest.

Penn immediately set about to attract settlers. He wrote nearly a dozen publicity pamphlets to circulate in England and on the European Continent. The rapid growth in the number of settlers caused Penn to write more detailed instructions to his commissioners for the sale of land and for laying out a "large town" on the Delaware -- Philadelphia. These were completed on July 11, 1681. Penn managed to

convince the Duke of York to grant him the lower counties of that colony (which later became Delaware), via a deed of

August 24, 1682. Six days later, August 30, 1682, Penn set sail for the colony with a group of new settlers aboard the ship "Welcome". They entered the Delaware Bay on October 24, and landed at New Castle on October 27. On October 29, he sailed north to the place that Thomas Holme had selected (the day before) as the site for Philadelphia. In November 1682, Penn divided the colony into the three original counties, Philadelphia, Chester, and Bucks.

Most of the new settlers to arrive during the first twenty years (1680-1700), would be English Quakers. This was because of Penn's popularity, the liberal distribution of land, the growing persecution at home, and the advertising booklets. The English Quakers were joined, however, by several other Quaker groups, especially Welsh and Dutch. The Welch Quakers were the second largest group in 1710. The first large group of Welsh settlers had arrived on August 13, 1682 and settled on lands north & west of Philadelphia. Sixty ships docked at Philadelphia in 1683, bringing some 4,000 more settlers to swell this growing town and to take up land in the Delaware Valley.

The Krefeld Economy and the Frankfort Company, purchased land in 1682 and 1683. The subscribers in these groups were Dutch Quakers who were, at the time, living in the Rhine Valley towns of Krefeld and Krisheim. They arrived in Philadelphia during the fall of 1683. The community they established (about five miles northwest of Philadelphia) was later called Germantown. It is one of the oddities of Pennsylvania history that the settlers of Germantown were Dutch, and those settlers which people generally refer to as the Pennsylvania Dutch, were Germans! The first German speaking settlers were a group of Menonites from Knepford, who arrived in Philadelphia on October 6, 1683.

Penn returned to England in 1684. By 1685, the population had reached about 8,000 (although some "reports" of the time inflated this almost by a factor of ten) and the vast majority of them were English, Welsh, or Irish Quakers. By 1690, the population had grown to about 11,500.

In 1690 Germantown had less than 200 people. These folks were not very good at agriculture, apparently, but they had set up a "linnen" factory. Germantown cloth became well known throughout the colonies. German settlers also had established the first paper mill.

In 1693, the first private postal system in the colonies was established connecting the individual settlements along the Delaware River.

In the autumn of 1699 William Penn set sail again for Pennsylvania. He was accompanied, this time, by his wife, his daughter Letitia, and his private secretary, James Logan. When they arrived at Philadelphia during November, there was a joyous welcome. Like the colony as a whole, the town of Philadelphia had also grown. Some of its first citizens found shelter for several years in caves dug out of the river bank. During Penn's first visit, these were described to him as scenes of "clandestine looseness". Pigs and goats ran freely in the "streets" and in the heart of the town was an undrained sewer. This very raw frontier village of a "few hundred" in 1684 when Penn left, had become, upon his return in 1699, a town of about 2,000. Philadelphia was still small, that's true, and well behind Boston, but on the other hand it had now become perhaps the third largest town in English America, and was only slightly smaller than New York.

In 1699, William Penn himself took up the duties of colonial governor. By 1700, the population of Pennsylvania had become equal to the population of New York -- about 18,000. Penn and the colonial assembly of 1700 authorized public funds for widening of some trails into the first roads, but public road building didn't really begin until the Queen's Path was finished in 1706, connecting Philadelphia and Chester, and the Old York Road was finished in 1711 (over an Indian trail), which ran from Philadelphia through New Hope to New York.

In 1701, Penn left Pennsylvania again for England, but before he left Philadelphia for the last time, he bestowed on it a new charter, raising this "greene Country Towne" to the status of "city".

Population in

Philadelphia at this time was about 2,500, and there were almost 500 brick houses, yet it more resembled a country market town of England than an English city. A Scottish observer noted that its streets were dirty

and unpaved and all the buildings were low, so that there was nothing to "catch the eye" from a distance. The Great Meeting House (a frame structure about fifty feet square) was the only structure that could even claim to be a public building.

#### **A NEW SOURCE OF SUPPLY:**

For decades already the colonies of New York, New Jersey, and Maryland, as well as Pennsylvania, had been working hard to induce Englishmen to join their colonies, so if Penn wanted continue Pennsylvania's growth, he needed not only to continue his aggressive promotional campaign, but more than this, he needed a new source of supply for settlers. Penn's mother was Low Dutch and he had traveled within the Palatinate area of what is now Germany and had respect for the farmers there. It was natural, therefore, for him to seek people from this region. This area had suffered a long series of economic disasters & religious persecutions. The potential new immigrants could follow the Rhine River to await emigration ships at Rotterdam.

Penn's agents called "Newlanders" roamed throughout the Rhineland region of Europe procuring "bodies" for the ships. They were employed by the ship companies in England and Holland. They often dressed to show wealth (supposedly earned in the New World) and along with the advertisements, they often had skillfully forged letters from successful immigrants who were known by the prospective recruits. They worked house to house throughout the region. The resulting migration lasted almost 100 years.

### **THE TWO GERMAN "TIDES":**

Before 1708, in spite of Penn's advertising efforts, the German-speaking population in the colony was essentially limited to those 200 or so people who were living in Germantown, but beginning that year, a heavy stream began to flow from Alsace, Lorraine, Swabia, Baden, & Württemberg, & especially from the Rhennish Palatinate and Switzerland. Settlers in this first "tide" can be called "sect people" because they came in groups organized by their religious sects. Most of them were Mennonites and Dunkers (also called Dunkards, or German Baptist Brethren). Their homeland had been thoroughly devastated between 1704 and 1708 during the War of Spanish Succession, so they came primarily as war refugees, although they had other reasons as well. The winter of 1708-1709 was especially harsh, undoubtedly also helping the flow.

In 1709, a group of Swiss Mennonites settled along Pequea Creek, south of Tulpehocken, in what would twenty years later become Lancaster County. They were delighted with their new home, so they sent one of the group back to Switzerland to convince others to come. Hundreds responded, and they soon established a thriving settlement along the Conestoga and Pequea Creeks. In 1714, that branch of the Mennonites known as the Amish began settlements in what would become Berks County.

In 1716, Thomas Rutter, a Quaker, constructed, on the Manutawny Creek, the colony's first iron forge.

In 1717, Governor Keith expressed the opinion that this "tide" of Germans could prove dangerous. The English politicians were beginning to worry that the Germans might drown them, threatening their political dominance. No political action was taken at this time, and the tide continued.

In 1718, Samuel Nutt established Coventry Iron Works in Chester County. Also in 1718, William Penn died in England.

In 1719, Peter Becker, a Dunker preacher from Krefeld, led his group to the area which became Lancaster County. Other Dunkers followed, locating at Oley in Berks County (near the Mennonites), and at Falckner's Swamp in what is now Montgomery County. After these first church communities were established, the stream of Mennonite, Dunker, and Amish settlers continued steadily as news of their "good life" in Pennsylvania circulated among their brethren in Europe. Almost 7,000 Palatines entered the port of Philadelphia in 1719. Also in 1719, the colony's first newspaper, the "American Weekly Mercury" made its debut in Philadelphia. By 1720, the colony's population had grown to about 31,000 people. Actually the first group of Palatinate refugees to come to America were sponsored by the British Board of Trade, in a plan to send them to the West Indies to manufacture Naval Stores. Thankfully, however, someone convinced them that sending a group of German farmers to the tropics to grow pine trees was a little stupid, so they were dumped at New York. They first settled in 7 villages along both sides

of the Hudson River. After 2 years, the whole project was abandoned and the Palatines were left to fend for themselves. They established new settlements in the valley of the Schoharie River, near Middleburg, New York, but they later discovered that their land titles there were not secure. As a result, Pennsylvania became their "Land of Promise". Scouts were sent there in 1722. An area was selected between the Susquehanna and the Schuylkill Rivers (Berks and Lebanon Counties). It is important to note that, unlike the first groups of German immigrants, these folks were Lutherans and Reformed Protestants, not of the plain sects such as Mennonites, Amish, Dunkers, Schwenkfelders, or Moravians, so they behaved as associated but more as individual families rather than as a highly cohesive single group. They also sent

letters back to the Palatinate states painting glowing pictures of their new homeland. As a result, a "second tide" of German-speaking immigrants began to arrive. In a few more years all German emigrants would pay little attention to the other colonies who were also trying to attract them -- they were headed for PENNSYLVANIA!!!

From Philadelphia, these people spread northward into the valleys of the Schuylkill, the Perkiomen, and the Lehigh Rivers, reaching the Tulpehocken and Swatara, where they met those other Palatines who had come by way of New York! They were mainly farm folks, so they sought land in what are now Berks, Lebanon, Lehigh, Lancaster, & Northampton Counties. Why did they head in this direction? It was in these valleys that they found blue stones streaked with white (limestone soil) and black walnut trees

-- signs they recognized as indicating the best, most fertile land. {The Scotch-Irish immigrants looked for blue grass to determine rich soil, and thereby ended up in Kentucky}. The famous Kentucky rifles were made in Lancaster and Berks Counties by German gunsmiths. The metal came from the Pennsylvania iron ore deposits and the wood from those black walnut trees.

Like spokes of a wheel, roads spread out north, west, south, and east from Philadelphia. Early roads, not yet mentioned, included those to Whitmarsh, North Wales, and Skippack, and one up the Schuylkill Valley toward today's Norristown.

In 1722, the road from Philadelphia to Doylestown & Easton was opened, and in 1723, Benjamin Franklin (at age 17) arrived in Philadelphia. All the immigrant streams continued to flow into the colony, but by about 1725, the German group had grown to about one third of the total. The Colonial Council showed its concern by passing a resolution requiring all German immigrants to enter only through Philadelphia, where they were to be listed by name, occupation, and place of origin, and more importantly, where they would be required to take an oath of loyalty to the crown of England.

Because the Scotch-Irish could land at New Castle, they tended to seek land toward the southern part of the colony. While the variety of national origins for the settlers in Pennsylvania seems to fulfill Penn's concept of a melting pot, and even though they lived nearby to each other, there was actually very little interaction between the various groups. This is perhaps not too surprising due to their language and their religious differences. The three original counties still contained the colony population of about 40,000 at this time, with only about 25,000 of these living within 30 miles of Philadelphia.

In 1728, settlers on the east bank of the Susquehanna petitioned for a new county, complaining of the distance to the county seat at Chester (about 90 miles). Governor Patrick Gordon and the colonial assembly agreed to divide Chester County, and on May 10, 1729, Lancaster County was created. The county-seat, Lancaster, was laid out the following year. Population in 1730 was about 52,000. The Schwenkfelders arrived from Silesia in 1734.

Perhaps one of the most important of the public roads was completed in 1733 -- the Conestoga Road between Lancaster and Philadelphia. At first it followed the Great Minquas Path, an Indian trail that ran from the site of Philadelphia to the Susquehanna fort on the Susquehanna river near today's Columbia and by way of what is now West Chester, the Gap, Strasburg, and Rockhill. Later it was routed in a more northerly direction through Compass, White Horse, and Lancaster.

Lancaster was the first inland town of any size in the whole of the English Colonies and, while it was close to the Susquehanna River -- that river flowed southward to the rival port of Baltimore! The Conestoga road was therefore intended not just to link Lancaster with Philadelphia but to be a main channel to bring the farm produce from the Susquehanna Valley to the Port at Philadelphia. At first, this didn't work out so well. Those huge oak-framed Conestoga Wagons (which later became so famous as the primary transport for the "great migration west") were created for hauling the grain and other foods from those "Dutch" or German farmers to Philadelphia for export. They were designed with a deep bed to prevent their loads from shifting on the hills, but they tore the road to pieces! A little rain produced a quagmire. The usual complement of six horses (eight were sometimes used) could drag only about 2,200 pounds from Lancaster to Philadelphia!

The first group of Moravians arrived in the colony during 1740. Some years earlier, this group together with a group of Salzbergers, and that group of Schwenkfelders mentioned above, were all headed for the new colony of Georgia, but two of the groups changed their minds at the last minute and went instead to Pennsylvania. Only the Moravians went to Georgia. They formed a settlement in the area of Savannah in 1735 and 1736, plus a school for Indians of the Lower Creek Tribe in Irene, Georgia, plus a Negro mission in Purysburg, South Carolina.



Savannah, however was on the frontier between the English colonies and Spanish Florida, and there was a war going on between England and Spain at this time. As a result, Savannah was becoming a fortress to prevent the Spanish from moving northward. Because the Moravians refused to bear arms, they were considered "unpatriotic" and not trustworthy. To make matters worse, sickness began to take a heavy toll on the group. Eight of its 35 members died in 1737. When George Whitefield visited Savannah from Pennsylvania in 1740, and offered the group work helping him build his new settlement there, the Moravian group readily accepted his offer and returned with him to Pennsylvania. The work was in the little town of Nazareth, about 70 miles north in "the northern wilderness of Pennsylvania".

Our immigrant Spänhauer family also arrived in 1740. Elsbeth Spänhauer and her children had taken boats up the Rhine to Rotterdam in May, and had arrived at Philadelphia aboard the "Friendship" in August. Their name was spelled Spainehower by the English clerk who recorded the information required by the colonial council, and also as required, they appeared in court and took the oath of allegiance to the crown, on September 23, 1740. The colony's population was now about 86,000. Philadelphia, about 10,000, was now three thousand larger than New York, and only two thousand smaller than Boston.

#### **THAT SEA VOYAGE:**

The Palatine emigrants trying journey started with four to six weeks on the Rhine to Rotterdam, then another four to six weeks in Holland waiting for their ship. Many were first required to take a one to four week voyage to England. Crossing the Atlantic usually required seven weeks at sea before landing at Philadelphia. The cost was about 34 pounds from home to Philadelphia, but the cost wasn't the worst part. With an average of about 300 passengers, the ships were very crowded! Sea sickness, headache, dysentery, constipation, boils, scurvy, and fever were common ailments, and the bad smells which resulted, didn't help! The lice did well though! Some claimed they got so thick, especially on sick people, that they were scraped off the body! The effects of disease were supplemented by dampness, heat, cold, and, of course, fear. Then, of course, there was the mouth-rot! It resulted from the age & high salt content of the food, especially any meat, and the filthy (often black) water. Such conditions, in turn, promoted hunger and thirst!

Storms at sea, would, of course, make everything worse, but even in good weather most wished they had never left home. Children under seven seldom survived, and parents often watched their children suffer, die, and be thrown into the sea.

We know from Heinrich Spänhauer's memoirs that the "Friendship" encountered a "most terrible storm upon the sea so that we all expected to be lost". We also know that as a result, nearly 60 people from the Basel area died on that voyage. Most of these deaths resulted from starvation, because food, and their cooking utensils, were lost in the storm.

We can gain a little more insight regarding such ocean voyages from a journal written about a group of about 250 Moravian settlers who arrived in Philadelphia on June 7, 1742. On June 18, they set out on foot for Bethlehem, a trip of about 50 miles. This journey required three & one half days, because many of them were still barely able to walk due to their long confinement aboard the ship.

We can also gain a little insight, by observing that a dreaded disease in colonial Philadelphia was called "Palatine Fever", because it was believed to be brought by the ill-fed, ill-clothed, and ill-smelling immigrants. This finally resulted in the construction in 1743 of a "Pesthouse" where all ships were quarantined for a period of time.

#### **ON ARRIVAL:**

Many potential emigrants, of course, did not have enough money to pay for their passage. The usual solution was to sell their labor for a period of years after arrival in the colonies. This was a profitable system for the recruiting agents, the ship captains, and the colonial employers. The emigrant was guaranteed passage plus the necessities of life in return for being an indentured servant for a specified period of years, which could be up to seven years for an adult and to age 21 for children. On dismissal, at least in Pennsylvania, they were to be clothed and provided with certain basic tools. No stigma was attached to such service and a majority of the settlers in the colonies south of New England came under such an arrangement.

Many of the emigrants from the Rhineland were able to pay for part of their journey, but not all. In this case a similar solution applied. In effect, the ship captain would take a partial payment when

leaving Europe, and get the rest of his money upon their arrival in Philadelphia. When the ship arrived, labor employers came on board and negotiations were held with such "redemptioners". They would contract their services for a period of time which depended upon the current state of the labor market, their aptitude and physical fitness for the desired work, and of course, the amount of money they owed the captain. The captain, then, would immediately collect his money from the employer.

What about the Spänhauer family with regard to such arrangements? So far as I know, no specific information is available, but some factors suggest that they may have made at least some agreements of this type. Before discussing these, however.....

### **SO WHY DID THEY LEAVE HOME?**

Certainly many Europeans became emigrants for the adventure, many came seeking a fortune, and many more came trying to escape the hard times created by the long wars, religious persecution, etc.

Without doubt, economic times were hard, and the outlook for improvement, anytime soon, wasn't promising. Certainly this was enough to create in many minds the idea that almost nothing can be worse than this! Each family, however, surely also had something else -- "that final straw which broke the camel's back" -- which caused them to make such a drastic move. In Heinrich Spänhauer's memoirs, we read:

In the year 1732, there appeared a particular accident in our family when my Father (being a cooper) was poisoned by a wicked man, and although he was restored again by the help of God, yet he retained from that a weakness in body and mind till his departure. This circumstance was the occasion that soon after Father's death (March 3, 1737), I resolved to move to America with my mother, brother, and two sisters".

### **OUR FAMILY'S FIRST 12 YEARS IN AMERICA:**

Barbara Spänhauer, according to our Collective Family Sheet # 4,002, died in August 1740 at Youngstown, PA. This is almost immediately upon their arrival, so she likely became ill during the sea voyage. The primary record from which this information was obtained is not known to me, so this will be added to a "List of Topics for Further Research".

Elsbeth Spittler Spänhauer, on this same family sheet, died in Yorktown, PA. No date is known, but some family files suggest that she probably also died not long after the family's arrival in Pennsylvania.

Elsbeth's date of death and place of burial are certainly on our "Research List". Anna Spänhauer married Heinrich Tschudi, had at least three children, and lived until 1803. Her marriage was not until 1754, however, and collectively, we know nothing more about her. Some of our files indicate that her family lived in Lancaster and that she may be buried there. Elsbeth would be only age 62 in 1754, so perhaps she was still alive at this time and living with Anna's family. It is my hope that some of the Tschudi descendants has collected information on this family and will share that with us.

Johann Heinrich Spänhauer either had no passage redemption period to serve, or a very short one, since our collective family sheet says he was married about two years after arrival. Well, on the other hand, maybe he married his employer's daughter?

Jacobus Wernhardt Spänhauer married Verona Wister in 1749. He was 30 years old at this time and had been in Pennsylvania for nine years. Did he have a passage redemption period of several years, such that he could not marry? -- or did he postpone marriage to take care of his mother and his sister Anna? -- and with whom did Anna live during the 5 years after both her brothers were married & before she herself was married?

Freddie Spainhouer of Dallas has pointed out that several Spittler families are also known to have emigrated to Pennsylvania, so that Elsbeth and Anna might have lived with some of her relatives after their arrival.

As you see from this discussion, we know very little about our immigrant family's first ten years in America! We don't even know if they lived together, or, as was often the case in passage redemption agreements, whether each had to serve a different employer. Our first American-born generation begins during these first ten years. John Henry Spoenhauer's memoirs state that he married Elisabeth Lum in 1743, and both the book "Owen County Cousins" (OCC) and the "History of Stokes County" (HST) use this year. Some family files also use that year, and a few give the year as 1747, but the latter is clearly not acceptable. Other family files and our 1992 Collective Family Sheet # 5,001, indicate this date to be August 17, 1742. On our "Research List", then, is to clearly determine this date. Some family files give Elisabeth's surname as Linn or Zinn, rather than Lum. In handwritten script, these three names

could look very much alike! In Henry's memoirs, he mentions a close friend, while living in Virginia was "old Gerard Zinn, who apparently also moved to Bethabara, NC. Perhaps further research can also clear up Elisabeth's family name. As for Henry and Elisabeth's children, there were five.

In the book "Owen County Cousins"(OCC) Maria Elizabeth is listed as the first child. While some family files indicate Maria's birth as 1744, our Collective Family Sheet agrees with "Owen County Cousins" and her gravestone, that she was born on February 26, 1746. OCC lists the second child as Heinrich, birth in 174-, and death in 1763 at Bethania, NC. Some family files show Heinrich's birth in 1746, the same year as his sister Maria. Out 1992 Collective Family Sheet # 5,001, maintains this family structure, but the next edition probably will not.

The books "Forsyth County NC Cemetery Records" (FCCR) lists at the Bethania Moravian Cemetery, John Spoenhauer, with birth in 1743 and death in 1763. This is, without doubt a son of Henry and Elisabeth. Their surname is also spelled Spoenhauer in the records at this church. For Henry and Elisabeth to have a son in 1743 after marriage in 1742 and a daughter Maria in 1746, is certainly reasonable. Well, are you ready to agree that John and Heinrich are the same person -- born 1743, died 1763, and whose full name was John Heinrich (or Johann Heinrich) -- the same name as his father? If so, how do we explain that the fourth child was named, John Henry, Jr., upon his birth in 1750 (date well documented) while his brother was still alive!

The third and fifth children both died as infants, and were probably unnamed. Family files indicate these years as 1748 and 1752. These are certainly reasonable, but, so far as I know, we have no primary records confirming them. Our Research List is getting longer!

Jacobus Wernhardt Spänhauer and Verona Wister were married in 1749 and their only son Johann Jacob, was born on November 7, 1750 "near Yorktown, PA". Verona died in May, 1751, when John Jacob was only six months old, so John Jacob was taken in by his Uncle Henry and Aunt Elizabeth for one year, until his father was married again, on May 2, 1752, to Elisabeth Lohner.

In 1748, Heinrich returned to Switzerland to get his paternal estate. While he was there, he apparently helped organize groups of new emigrants, and the authorities gave him 48 hours to leave the country! He returned in 1749, and "soon afterward" moved to York County.

#### **MEANWHILE:**

Pennsylvania Colony had continued to grow. The town of York had been laid out in 1741, and finally in 1748 York County was established with its seat at York. Peter Grubb built the Cornwall Iron Furnace in 1742; Thomas Jefferson was born in 1743, and in 1749, the University of PA was established in Philadelphia. The year 1749 was a record year for new immigrants. Through Philadelphia that year, there were 22 ships and a total of 8,778 folks who were German-speaking settlers.

In 1750 there were 14 ships & another 7,000 "germans", which can be compared to about 1,000 English-speaking immigrants that year. Cumberland County with its seat at Carlisle was established, in 1750; John Hubrer constructed the Elizabeth Iron Furnace near Brickerville in Lancaster County; and Lord Chancellor Hardwicke issued a decree settling the border between Maryland and Delaware, which in turn led to the survey that established the border between Maryland & Pennsylvania -- called the Mason and Dixon line in honor of the surveyors. Population in 1750 was about 120,000. Some estimates, however, were as high as 250,000 with 100,000 "germans". In 1750, Philadelphia was home to about 13,000, and Lancaster had a little over 1,000. York and Reading were both still less than 1,000 people. On the other hand, Pennsylvania was now the third largest colony in America, behind only Virginia and Massachusetts.

In 1751, Berks County with its seat at Reading, was established, and also Northampton County with its seat at Easton. That famous "Liberty Bell" with that inscription selected by Isaac Norris, Jr., which we all tend to associate with 1776 was hung in the State House in Philadelphia in 1751 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of William Penn's Charter. It broke on its first ringing.

In 1752, Berks & Northampton Counties were both created, and in 1753 the Publick Academy, with Benjamin Franklin as president, was organized in Philadelphia. This was also the year that Ben flew his kite!