

MICHAEL FRANTZ II

Michael Frantz, Jr. was born in 1725 according to tradition. THE MATTHIAS FRANTZ GENEALOGY says his father had moved to Krefeld, Germany in 1720 and was Anabaptist at that time.¹ Michael came to America in 1727 with his father, arriving at Philadelphia September 30, 1727.² He was two years old when he came with his father, and probably his mother and sister.

His father settled in Cocalico Twp., Lancaster Co. and was baptized into the Brethren church at the Conestoga congregation in 1734.³

Michael Frantz II was baptized at Conestoga, probably on April 24, 1748.⁴

On June 12, 1748 he married Magdalena Zug, daughter of Ulrich Zug who lived in the White Oak Valley.⁵ His father, Michael Frantz I, had oversight of the White Oak church. Magdalena was baptized on June 12, 1748 which is also given as her wedding day.⁶

In 1752 a Michael Frantz was taxable in Lebanon Twp., Lancaster Co.⁷ A Michael France received a patent in Bethel Twp, Lancaster Co. (now a part of Lebanon Co) in 1753 for 100 acres, but this may have been Michael, son of Christian, and a first cousin of Michael II.⁸

On March 19, 1762 Michael Frans of Cocolico Twp was granted a Proprietary Patent for 40 acres (Warrant 187) and for 154 acres (Warrant 621) in Cocalico Twp. The acreage return is 40 acres (Survey Book A47-46) and 131 acres (Survey Book C76-164, making a total of 154 acres.⁹ This was on Route 222 about 1 1/2 miles south and west of Reamstown.¹⁰ Researchers say that in 1762, Michael and his wife, Magdalena, sold 50 acres of this tract (that they had just bought in 1762) and in 1775 they sold the balance.¹¹

Michael Frantz is listed in the 1763, 1769, 1779 Cocalico Twp. tax list.^{11a}

In 1770 Michael II and his wife are listed as members in the Conestoga congregation.¹²

Michael and Magdalena had 9 children - John b 1749, Jacob, Michael b c1753, Abraham, Daniel b 1763, Christian b 1762 or 1766, Peter b 1765, David b 1766/68 and one daughter Anna.¹³ These were probably all born in Lancaster Co.

Michael and Magdalena with their eight sons and one daughter moved to Botetourt Co., Virginia in 1784.¹⁴ Four of his sons married four daughters of John Nicholas Garst and later moved from Virginia to Clark Co., Ohio, helping in the formative years of the Donnels Creek congregation.¹⁵ Our ancestor, Peter Frantz, stayed in Virginia.

Michael Frantz II died in Botetourt Co., Virginia in 1807 or 1808 at the age of 82 years.¹⁶ He is buried near Tinker Creek, Troutville, Botetourt Co., Va. according to descendants.¹⁷

Notes on Michael Frantz II

1. Frantz, E. Harold, The Genealogy of the Matthias Frantz Family of Berks Co., Pa., 1972, p 9.
2. Brethren Encyclopedia, Inc., Oak Park IL, 1983, p. 508.
3. Brumbaugh, Martin G., A History of the German Baptist Brethren in Europe and America, 1899, p. 301.
4. Brumbaugh, *ibid.*, p 310; Bomberger list, Michael Frantz Jr. 1948 (Magdalena Zug not listed, not in Conestoga territory)
5. Zug S. R., History of the Church of the Brethren of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 1915, p. 378. (1748) Flory, Rolland, Lest We Forget and Tales of Yester-Years, Vol. 2, 1974, p. 179. (June 12 1748) Frantz, E. Harold, *ibid.*, p 10 (June 12 1748)
6. Brumbaugh, *ibid.*, p 310.
7. Frantz, E. Harold, *ibid.*, p 10.
8. Patent Book A16-page 453, Lancaster Co. Pa., 100 acres Since Michael II's father-in-law lived in this area, this could have been Michael II but a Michael Frantz settled in the Little Swatara Valley in 1745 (Brumbaugh p 320, Zug p 425) and Michael II was not married by then. Michael Frantz (probably a son of Christian was born 1726) became a minister and elder at Little Swatara (see Brumbaugh and Zug, *ibid*) and this may be the Michael France who obtained the patent in Bethel Twp. This is the one mentioned in Brethren Encyclopedia as Michael II but this was not the son of Michael I.
8. The FRANTZ FAMILY article in the Brethren Encyclopedia states that Michael Frantz, Jr. was ordained in 1780. Our Michael Frantz (II) is listed as a member of Conestoga (Cocalico Twp) in 1770. A Michael Frantz is also listed as a member of the Little Swatara congregation in Berks Co. in 1770. This other Michael settled here in 1745 and was ordained in 1780.
9. Patent Book AA3, page 129, Lancaster Co., Pa., patent recorded March 23 1762, 154 acres Cocolico Twp.
10. Frantz, Dore, Springfield, OH, letter dated March 12, 1947 to Elvin Frantz - "The home farm of Michael Frantz II, is along U.S. Route 222, about 1 1/2 miles south and west of Reamstown."
11. Frantz, E. Harold, *ibid.*, p 10. Clyde Groff, Lancaster Pa, A.G., letter 1987 to Gladys Royer - "No alien could pass on property, which was passed in 1727, however if you took oath you could. Most Brethren and Mennonite and other plain persons refused to take oath, so around 1760 the next generation applied for Patents to the land. Very few lost land for being an alien." It does appear Michael II purchased his land from other parties, however, rather than his father. Flory, Rolland, Lest We Forget and Tales of Yester-Years, Vol. 2, 1974, p. 179. "In 1762, Michael and his wife, Magdalena, sold 50 acres of this

- tract and in 1775 they sold the balance." They purchased 154 acres in 1762. Did they also sell 50 acres that year?
Frantz, Genealogy of Matthias Frantz Family, pp 9-13.
- 11a. Photocopies of 1763, 1769 tax lists; 1779 Hawbaker Tax list.
 12. Brumbaugh, History of the German Baptist Brethren, p. 317.
Durnbaugh, Donald, The Brethren in Colonial America, p. 180.
 13. Garst, Wm. Tell, Our Garst Family, 1950,, p. 2888.
Fellowship of Brethren Genealogists Newsletter, V. 18, No. 1, 1986.
 14. Brethren Encyclopedia, p. 509.
 15. Ibid.
Flory, Lest We Forget, p. 394.
 - 15a. Stoner, Robert, A Seed-Bed of the Republic, pp387-388.
 16. Brethren Encyclopedia, p. 509.
Flory, ibid., p 394 (1807 or 1808)
 17. Edwards, Lorraine Frant, P. O. Box 2079, Lancaster CA 932539-2076
Michael Frantz I family researcher

Prepared by Gladys Royer, 25457 CR 32 Goshen IN 46526, Jan 1997

*Copied from Gladys Royer's
collection 8/30/2000*

Michael Grantz - pp 387-388
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CHURCHES

For a portion of the data contained in this chapter, I am indebted to *History of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botetourt County, Virginia* by Rev. E. W. Leslie, A. M., published by Hedrick and Leslie, Fincastle, Virginia, in 1910, the volume having been graciously lent me from the library of Roanoke College.



31. THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN IN BOTETOURT COUNTY

The Church of the Brethren was organized in Schwarzenau, Germany, in 1708. During the first half century of its existence, it was transplanted to the Penn Colony in America, where its membership grew to about 800 members, divided among twenty congregations in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland, with the strongest settlement at Germantown, Pennsylvania. With few exceptions, the Brethren spoke only the German language and were largely an agricultural people.

During the second half century of its existence, the Church of the Brethren's borders were extended westward and southward. The chief reasons for this movement were the growing religious intolerance toward Germans of the Separatist type, such as the Brethren, and the persecutions suffered during the Revolutionary War period.

On June 13, 1777, the Legislature of Pennsylvania made it the duty of every citizen to surrender allegiance to the King of England, and to take the oath of allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania. Although they were loyal to Pennsylvania and to America, it was against their principles and beliefs to take an oath; so many of the Brethren decided to give up their homes and property and to seek refuge where there was more freedom and protection. Wherever they went, they organized churches. The two first known Brethren to come to Virginia were John Garber from York County, Pennsylvania, who

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located in the Shenandoah Valley about 1775, and Jacob Miller who located in what is now Franklin County near the same time.

The Church of the Brethren had its beginning in Botetourt County about 1780 at the time the German settlers came from Pennsylvania to this section.

A History of the Brethren in Virginia, by D. H. Zigler, says: "Quite a colony of Brethren located at New Amsterdam, now Daleville, Botetourt County, in 1780."

Amsterdam was the chief village and the post office for all its section of the County; it being, according to Martin's *Gazetteer of Virginia*, dated 1835, p. 328, "situated in a healthy part of the county, 15 ms. from Buchanan, 16 from Salem, and 5 from Fincastle directly on the main western post road." It was the post office of a large number of Brethren.

John Graybill, great-grandfather of Jonas Graybill, early Botetourt County minister, came from Berks County, Pennsylvania, with his wife, four sons and three daughters in 1780. Apparently the first deed of lands in Botetourt County acquired by him was from William and Elizabeth Ward, dated July 12, 1785, conveying one tract of 186 acres "lying on both sides of Back Creek, adjoining Elliott's (now Dick's)" which Ward had acquired from Thompson and Preston, Executors of James Patton, deceased, in 1773. Another tract of 220 acres on Back Creek, corner to land "once the property of Luke M. Therry," patented to William Preston, June 15, 1773, was conveyed to Ward, Feb. 14, 1775; and later, in 1797, purchased from James Moore and Allen Gulliford 200 acres on Back Creek, which had been patented to James Moore and James Anderson in 1794.

Other Brethren also came to New Amsterdam prior to 1800 including the Gishes. Abraham purchased from James Breckinridge 250 acres in 1796 (Deed Book 5, p. 366). Christian in 1792 (Deed Book 4, p. 383) had bought from Preston Breckinridge his 650 acre tract on the side of Tinker Mountain, adjoining the Great Road, that he had acquired from his father, Robert Breckenridge, shown to have joined James Breckinridge.

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CHURCHES

Preston land and James Robinson. In 1795 David Gish bought from John Cardwell, 130 acres on Glade Creek on the south side of Great Road, adjoining Stewart and Graham (Deed Book 5, p. 304).

The Kinzies, Christian in 1790, bought from _____ Robinson, 442 acres on a branch of Tinker Creek adjoining James and Preston Breckinridge and Anthony Gholson, and lying below Thomas Preston's Mill (Deed Book 4, p. 199); and John Kinzie who had earlier (Deed Book 3, p. 235) purchased from Patrick Bryson of Bedford County, 250 acres on the north side of South Mountain.

The Sniders began their acquisition of Botetourt County lands in 1784 when Mathias purchased 46 acres from Lauderdale; 60 acres from Preston's Executors and 60 acres from Leatherdale, all on Looney's Mill Creek (Deed Book 3, pp. 382, 383 and 460); and Peter bought 700 acres on both sides of Tinker Creek, adjoining John Noftzinger, the Glebe, John Neely and Jacob Gish (Deed Book 5, p. 37). In 1796 Mathias bought from Jon Kessler an easement for a mill dam. In 1794 John Snider bought lands from _____ Watts, adjoining Greenfield, John Neely, Michael Cloyd and crossing "The Great Road," but a portion of this deed is lost so that further details of the transaction are not available. Peter Snider was in his deed recited as being "of the City of Washington, State of Maryland."

The Niningers, of whom Christian seems to have been the first to come into the county, or to own land in this county, when in 1800 he purchased from his father-in-law, Peter Snider, 100 acres which adjoined Noftzingers and was part of a grant of 730 acres to Snider under date of November 14, 1799. Any other Nininger immigrants would seem to have filed deeds for their lands subsequent to 1800.

The Wingers who came into this county filed their deeds subsequent to 1800, so far as indicated by the records.

The Laymans are first shown in Botetourt County, when in 1779 Joseph Layman of Rockingham County purchased from _____ Alcorn two tracts, 180 acres, on Back Creek (Deed Book 2, p. 489); and in 1787 Christian "Laman" purchased from

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Snodgrass 200 acres, a part of 400 acres patented to Snodgrass in 1747 (Deed Book 3, p. 511); and the other Laymans (Lemons) came later.

The Stovers came to Botetourt about 1794 when George Stover acquired from John Snider 261 acres, except 11 acres involved in an interlock, in two tracts, one corner to John Neely and M. Cloyd, in which was the fork of the Great Road (See Deed Book 5, page 202); and in 1796 (Deed Book 5, p. 425) George Stover purchased from Michael Cloyd 4½ acres of land "including part of Stover's Town, on both sides of the Great Road leading from Botetourt Court House to Roanoke River," in exchange for a like acreage conveyed to Cloyd by Stover. Stover's Town, laid off by G. Stover, is now known as Amsterdam.

The Buckners (Beckners) were also early arrivals, John having acquired from James Snodgrass in 1786 (Deed Book 3, p. 433) 160 acres on the waters of Catawba, corner to Mitchell; and Nicholas purchased from Moore in 1787 (Deed Book 3, p. 463) 158 acres on Looney's Creek, adjoining Wm. McClellon, Christopher Waggoner and James Ewing; while Jonathan followed a few years later with a purchase in 1793 (Deed Book 5, p. 36) of 75 acres on the waters of Back Creek, joining R. Duncan, Jacob Lark and Nicholas Carper. Lawrence Beckner had purchased from Kelly in 1786 (Deed Book 3, p. 399) 200 acres on a branch of Looney's Mill Creek, adjoining the Great Road and Andrew Woods; but Daniel's deed from Andrew Clark, conveying 102 acres on Looney's Creek, was not executed until 1797 (Deed Book 6, p. 332).

The Harshbargers, apparently led by Christian, who was the only Harshbarger to record a deed to a Botetourt County farm prior to 1800, when in 1787 (Deed Book 3, p. 454) he purchased from Matthew Ralston 8 acres on Looney's Mill Creek, adjoining "Thirsty" Amon; but he was already considered a citizen of Botetourt when that same year (Deed Book 3, p. 480) George Kersell "of the County of Rockingham" conveyed to him as "Christian Heisburger of the County of Botetourt," 290 acres on Back Creek, corner to Alcorn.

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The Ammens came to America from Switzerland, and to Botetourt County from Pennsylvania, along with the Hershbergers, Deerdorfs and other Brethren, but family history is very positive that Durst, the head of the family in the late 1700's, was a Lutheran all of his life and to the time of his death, although some of his daughters had married members of the Brethren Congregation.

The Noffsingers began acquiring lands in Botetourt County, when Peter (Knoffsinger) purchased from E. Springer in 1784 (Deed Book 3, p. 256) two tracts on Buffalo Creek, 190 acres joining Capt. Francis Smyth and the glebe-lands, which had been patented to Robinson in 1748 and conveyed to Springer in 1767; and 54 acres patented to Springer in 1770, adjoining same. Peter Nofsinger, Jr., acquired from Armstrong lands adjoining McDonald and J. Snodgrass in 1780 (Deed Book 3, p. 259); Peter also acquired from Ralston in 1791 (Deed Book 4, p. 192) 263 acres on Looney's Creek, corner to Moiers & McClenachan; and in 1792 (Deed Book 4, p. 355) purchased 515 acres on Catawba from Jacob Carper, which Carper had bought of Patrick Sharkey. In 1788 (Deed Book 4, p. 183) Samuel Noffsinger bought 271 acres on a branch of Looney's Creek.

Hoffs, Peters and Rifes seemed to have passed through present Botetourt County without having acquired lands here prior to 1800; and a little later came Arnolds, Fishers, Mangus', Moomaws, Crumpackers, Murrays, Bonsacks and others.

The Church of the Brethren was established in Botetourt County before church buildings were erected. They met for services in homes, barns and schoolhouses. One place of worship was a log barn on the farm now owned by Joseph Kinzie. Another was in the house on the James Kinzie farm. Another was in an old schoolhouse just below the present Daleville Church.

The oldest building especially for worship by the Church of the Brethren in this area is the Peter's Creek Church, in Roanoke County. This church was built in 1845. It has been remodeled, but part of the original structure still stands. This

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is the parent church of our Roanoke City and Roanoke County churches.

This history being devoted to early Botetourt personages, happenings and conditions, the custom of the Brethren to worship in their homes, leaves us no churches in the early 1800's to describe as having been erected or used by them. The first church of the Brethren erected in what is now Botetourt County was at Laymantown. The land for the church was given by George Layman. The deed to the Laymantown church property was written November 8, 1847, two of the trustees being Daniel Kinzie and George Layman, Jr. Peter Nead, a Brethren minister, a tanner by trade, lived in the Laymantown section and preached there from 1843 to 1848. The building is no longer in use as a church. The site for what may have been the second Brethren Church was conveyed by Jacob Sperry in 1851 to Trustees of Valley Dunker Church, and contained one acre (See Deed Book 31, p. 389).

The Botetourt Congregation, as it was first called, is the mother church for many congregations, from which pioneer preachers went out to establish churches in other parts of the county, of the state, and in West Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. Some years ago the Botetourt Congregation was divided, and Cloverdale, Daleville and Troutville became the largest and strongest in present Botetourt although there are several smaller churches in the County.

The early ministers and deacons carried the full responsibility for the church program in the Brethren Church, serving without pay. Later the pastoral system was adopted in the Church. The Brethren congregations carry progressive programs for Sunday Schools, higher education, missions and recreations that have well served the people, and particularly the youth of Botetourt County.

For the above information, with the exception of the notes on acquisitions of lands by the members of the Brethren Congregation prior to 1800, we are indebtedly to Mrs. Mary Garber for the use of a portion of a larger work done by her on behalf of her Church, and most kindly contributed to this publication.

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PETER FRANTZ

Peter Frantz, son of Michael Jr. and Magdalena (Zug) Frantz, was born c1765 and moved to Botetourt Co., Va, north of Roanoke, with his parents c1784 when he was about 9 years old. (1, 2)

He married Catherine Gerst/Garst, daughter of John Nicholas and Mary Elizabeth (Stathalter) Gerst. She was also born in Pennsylvania and moved to Virginia with her parents. They were possibly married in the early 1790's. (3, 4)

They were the parents of eight children - Catherine, Mary, Nicholas b 1797, Anna, Magdalena, Elizabeth, Sally and Barbara. Several of Peter's brothers moved to Clark Co., Ohio but he stayed in Virginia. Five of his children moved to Clark Co. (5)

Botetourt Co. records show that Peter and Catherine bought part of a tract of land on the waters of Carvins Creek, a branch of Tinker Creek on June 12, 1815 from Peter Heck. (6)

Peter Frantz is listed in the 1850 census - Roanoke Co., Va., #279, 57th district. (7)

Catherine evidently died before Peter. Records show that he married (2) Sarah Pleasants. (8)

Peter died in 1853. Will Book 1, Page 86, Roanoke Co., Salem, Va. under date of July 22, 1853 contains the will of Peter Frantz. He names Catherine Grill, Nicholas Frantz, Anna Fullheart, Magdalena Crist, Elizabeth Trout, Sally Garst and Barbara Howards. Estate to be divided share and share alike. To be paid to daughters only and for their benefit only; husbands, if living, not to have any control or right whatever. The only son, Nicholas Frantz, to be guardian of any minor children. (9)

Neither Catherine, Peter, nor their children are mentioned in her father John Nicholas Gerst's will in 1801. (10)

Notes on Peter Frantz

- 1.
2. Brethren Encyclopedia, 1983, p. 509.
3. Garst, William Tell, Our Garst Family, 1950, p. 28-29.
4. Edwards, Lorraine Frantz,
5. a) Fellowship of Brethren Genealogists, V. 18, No. 1, Spring 1986, p. 4
b) Garst, Our Garst Family
6. Botetourt Co. records from Phyllis Kendall, P. O. Box 667, Crockett Texas 75835.
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8. Garst, Our Garst Family, pp 28-29.
9. Ibid.
10. Botetourt Co. records from Phyllis Kendall, P. O. Box 667, Crockett Texas 75835.

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NICHOLAS FRANTZ

Nicholas, son of Peter and Catherine (Gerst/Garst) Frantz, was born May 1, 1797 in Augusta (perhaps Botetourt) Co., Virginia. He had 7 sisters and no brothers, and Nicholas later had 10 daughters and no sons. (1, 2)

He married Catherine Crist, daughter of Jacob and Margaretta (Hobb/Hoh) Crist. Catherine was an orphan and raised by a Leedy family. She was born February 2, 1799. Her stories as told to a granddaughter, Sarah Cripe Ranck who lived in the same yard, indicate that the Leedys gave her the usual freedom given a daughter. (3, 4)

Quoting from Sarah Cripe Ranck "As a little girl living with the Leedys, Catherine was horrified to see the Indian mothers come in the early mornings in autumn and dip their naked babies into the many springs on the mountain sides. Mother Leedy told her they knew their people live a rough, hard life, so they do this to harden and prepare them for it. (5)

Nicholas and Catherine met at a church meeting in someone's barn. "The young folks were walking around in groups and Catherine saw a very likely looking boy and she dropped her handkerchief accidentally - on purpose. Before time to go home he brought the hanky and his name to her. (6)

"Nicholas was a small, quiet, precise man. Catherine was a large, strong, energetic, and rather free spoken woman. (7)

They were married on March 2, 1819. Susan was born first, then Catherine c1822. An infant daughter possibly named Leah and possibly the third child died at the age of 5 months. Elizabeth was born in 1824. (8, 9)

Nicholas with his wife and daughters moved to Clark Co., Ohio when Elizabeth was about 2 years old, arriving in September 1826. They settled in the Donnels Creek church where many Frantz and Crist relatives lived. (10)

Five more daughters were born here in Ohio - Magdalene b 1827, Salome in 1829, Anna in 1832, Rebecca in 1836, and Mary in 1840. (11)

Nicholas was elected to the ministry of the Brethren church at Donnels Creek in 1832. It is said his preaching was of the exhortation type with much earnestness and feeling and seldom without weeping. He was a strong forceful minister and could preach in either German or English, he later being the first at Manchester to be able to preach in English. (12, 13)

In 1841 when their youngest daughter, Mary, was about a year old, they moved with two ox teams and wagons to North Manchester, Indiana to the farm of 120 acres which they bought and lived on till he died in 1874. This was on St. Rd. 114 three miles west of North Manchester. (14)

In 1844 their tenth daughter, Phoebe, who never married was born. (15)

Mary, the ninth daughter and the last daughter married, was married in 1867 to Isaac C. Cripe. Nicholas sold the farm to Issac and Mary

12 Eliza
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Cripe in 1870 when their daughter Sarah was one year old. She is the Sarah Cripe Ranck who remembers her grandparents and wrote of them. (16)

14 "A small house of five rooms were built for Nicholas and Catherine a few yards west of us, facing us and the barn, and under some large locust trees. On the north was a small porch over the little living room door and near the woodhouse shared by us all. Here I remember (at age of three) seeing Grandpa Nicblas stack wood so he could reach it from the door. He was always so patient with my clumsy efforts to help him. (17)

15 My brother, John born in September 1871 and I played much in Grandma's kitchen; she had spoiled us I think, always giving us something from her cupboard. My brother trying to open Grandma's cupboard, always backed up against it and pushed hard. I was only four myself but I already knew not all doors opened in the same direction." (18)

16 The house Grandpas had lived in and where we now lived was "log boarded over, the kitchen on the east toward the barn and a small pantry south of it; in the latter was a crude homemade sink where I learned to wash dishes; over the sink a window and over the window a large grapevine, a fruitful one. At the north end of the kitchen stood our table. There also was a door opening onto the back porch where mother cooked in summer and often worked late at night by the light of a grease rag in a pan or lard, or perhaps it was tallow. (19)

17 Grandma Catherine made candles for the living room in a set of candle molds. All the tallow from beeves and sheep killed was carefully saved for this. (20)

18 On Sundays we knew we were going to church. Over at the little house the same preparation was going on. Soon Grandpa Nicolas would be seen leading out his bald-faced mare to the buggy for Grandma and him, as long as he lived. Nicolas was the elder at the church one mile east, from 1861 until ill. He was also the first minister in this area that could preach in English as well as German. (21), (22)

19 Grandpa grew rapidly more feeble, yet for these three years from 71 to 74, he did his self-assumed small chores. One was to bring the cows for milking, even if they were pasturing in the fields across the road. Always he'd take us children along, leading me with one hand and little John could just hold one finger of the other hand. Whether or not he was really sick I don't remember, but one day that is clear in my memory in the fall of 1874, our Grandpa Nicolas died. I saw him in the casket but know nothing of the funeral. Although an eloquent and serious speaker for his time in the pulpit, he was also a gentle playmate with us in the home. (22)

20 Nicholas' obituary in THE VINDICATOR says he died at the age of 77 years on September 30, 1874, from lung fever. He had ten children, six living and four dead, and 36 living grandchildren and 20 dead grandchildren. (23)

21 "Outside of Nicholas' old home was a good strong spring under the big locust trees which certainly my grandfather had planted, a spring house shared by all on the place was built over the trough for the milk, butter, cottage cheese, apple sauce and pies made of dried apples; a gourd dipper hung over the open spring." (24)

22 "Then there was an acre of apple, cherry and peach orchard north of the house. My Grandma always ate one of these right from the tree in season with her bread and butter for breakfast. We children vied with each other to bring it to her, just one each day. (25)

23 In about the center of the orchard stood the dry house, about 8 feet square I think, a stove in the center and shelves around the sides from floor to roof where the fruit was dried - canning was still untried. (26)

24 Grandmother continued I think to live in her little house but visited whenever she felt like doing so with the other daughters. (27)

25 In 1876 a new brick house was built by my folks. Grandmother now had a good room in the new house and the little house became a tenant house for farm help. (28)

26 Grandma living mostly with us but she did stay a little with Uncle Abe Montel's. She never moved more than once a year. She died at Uncle Abe Montels on the east edge of Silver Lake. (29)

27 Catherine died Dec. 18, 1886. at the age of 87. Her obituary states Robert Miller preached her funeral. She died after the 1881 divide and went with the Conservatives or Church of the Brethren. (30)

28 Nicholas established a cemetery on the farm where he lived which was originally known as the Frantz cemetery but is now generally called the Cripe Cemetery. This is on a hill on the north side of the road and can easily be seen from St. Rd. 114 (This is not to be confused with the old Cripe cemetery further east by the creek and which cannot be seen from the road). Nicholas is buried here and Catherine was buried beside him. As of 1990 her stone has evidently been broken off and may be in a pile of stones at the corner of the cemetery.

29 Nicholas made a cupboard for each of his eight married daughters. The cupboard he made for daughter Elizabeth married to Jacob Cripe is now in possession of Doris Cripe, widow of Daniel. (31)

The house built in 1876 on this farm by Isaac and Mary (Frantz) Cripe was restored in 1970 and is now the residence of H. F. Terrell, D.V.M.

Thomas Ranck, s/g E. W. Ranck, and great-great grandson of Nicholas Frantz may have Nicholas' Bible. Address: Thomas and Nanch Ranck, 350 Stratford Rd., Catonsville MD 21228, Ph. 301-747-2281.

Notes on Nicholas Frantz

1. The Vindicator, Dayton, Ohio, 1874, p. 176.
2. Binnie, Lester, Early Brethren Families in Eel River, pp 49-50.
3. Edwards, Lorraine Frantz
4. Ranck, Esta, Our Ancestors, p. 41.
5. Ibid., p. 40.
6. Ibid., p. 41.
7. Ibid., p. 42.
8. Ibid., p. 42-43.
9. Binnie, Early Brethren Families in Eel River, pp 49-50.
10. Shoup, Lella, Annals of the Donnels Creek District, 1976, p. 8.
11. Binnie, Early Brethren Families in Eel River, pp 49-50
12. Shoup, Annals of Donnels Creek, p. 8
13. Ranck, Our Ancestors, p. 42.
14. Ibid., p. 41.
15. Binnie, Early Brethren Families in Eel River, pp 49-50.
16. Ranck, Our Ancestors, p. 43.
17. Ibid., p. 44.
18. Ibid., p. 44.
19. Ibid., p. 44.
20. Ibid., p. 44.
21. Ibid., p. 44.
22. Winger, Otho, History of the Church of the Brethren in Indiana, 1917, p. 85.
23. The Vindicator, 1874, p. 176
24. Ranck, Our Ancestors, p. 45
25. Ibid., p. 45.
26. Ibid., p. 45.
27. Ibid., p. 45.
28. Ibid., p. 46.

26 29. Ibid., p. 41

27 30. Binnie, Lester, Early Brethren Families in Eel River, p. 50

31. Ibid., p. 50.

28

29

David's will
(David Frantz, son of M II)
Will B 437
In ~~Boletown~~ Co.

Worrell, Ann Lowry. Over the Mountain Men. Their Early Court Records in Southwest Virginia.

Roanoke Co.

- Circle, John. No probate date; will made Nov. 25, 1839. Names wife, Elinor; and ch. Lewis, Margaret Roof(?), Eleanor Gordon, Elizabeth Dulaney, Phebe Windle, Rutha Hagy, and John.
- Coffman, David. Will pro. Jan. 1855. Names wife, Ann Elizabeth; and ch. Susan Owens, Mary M. Parnnel, Lenna F. Butt, Margaret Pannel, Lydia L. Bear, Palomy W. Butt, Frances N., Moses, Rhoda I. Coffman, Esther A. Coffman, Clarissa R. Coffman, David M., and John.
- Craig, Robert. Will pro. Dec. 1852. Names wife, Malinda.
- Deaton, Frances. Will pro. Feb. 1849. Names husband, John; sister, Sophia Hubbard, and Francis A. Deaton, Hardyman Deaton, Polly Goodwin, Hester Day, Eliza Horn, and Sally Temple; the last six, relationship not given.
- Denton, Phebe. Will pro. Apr. 1853. Names John Neff; relationship not stated.
- Dillard, Will pro. Mar. 1853. Names wife, Elizabeth.
- Dillard, Louisa. Pro. Aug. 1850. Names friends only.
- Dingledine, Balsler. Pro. Apr. 1850. Names wife, Susan; ch. Elizabeth Saver (of Indiana. Land to her children by her first husband, John Moore; has no children, this date by Saver); Susannah W. McCaulcy her son, William); and a step-son, Dan'l Hiteman, of Rockbridge.
- Farley, William. Pro. June, 1846. Names wife, Fanny W. and their children, Seth, George, Ann Hazletine, Sarah Mildred. The following children by his first wife: James H., Joseph, Catherine Read (wife Wm.), Nancy Baldwin (wife Wm.), Eliza Kenzie (wife Christian), and Emeline Angel (wife Jacob).
- Francesco, Lewis. Pro. Sept. 1850. Names ch. George, John, Lewis, Garner, Jacob, Christopher, Sarah Hypps, Mary Indals, and Elizabeth, and Margaret Francesco. Says he is "Old, and well stricken in years."
- Frantz, Peter. Will pro. Aug. 1854. Names wife, Sarah; ch. Catherine Grill, Mary Fullhart, Nicholas, Ann Fullhart, Magdalene Christ, Elizabeth Trout, Sally Garet, and ~~Barbary~~ Howard.
- Gaines, Kemp. Will pro. June, 1851. Names wife, Mary; sons, Thomas and James; grandson, William, the son of James.
- Garman, Adam. Will pro. June 1854. Names wife, Catherine; and ch. Sarah, Joseph, Elizabeth Enoch, Nancy Everly, John, and Magdalene Bean.
- Garst, Frederick. Will pro. Sent. 1842. Names wife, Magdalene; and ch. Frederick, Anna Gordon (wife of Richard), Magdalene Echols (wife, Joseph), Elizabeth, Jacob, John, Peter George, William, (whose wife left him in 1822.)
- Garst, Jacob. Will pro. March, 1854. Names wife, Magdalene; and ch. Jacob F., Phillip, Elizabeth, Hannah, Abraham, Catherine Hartman, Christina Akers, Anna Clarke, Roena Hinkle, Nicholas Christian, Eve Shewly, Mary Lockett, and Lydia Mason.
- Gish, David, Sr. Will pro. Mar. 1849. Names wife, Polly; and ch. David, John, George.
- Greaso, Jacob. Will pro. Feb. 1844. Names wife, Sarah; and ch. James, Elizabeth, Catherine Mateson, George Hawkins, John Sarah, Rebecca, and William.
- Green, John W. Will pro. Mar. 1846. Names Mrs. Nancy Preston, Mrs. Washington Smith (the dau. of Capt. Phillips), Nancy Kyle, wife of Col. James Kyle; and his brothers, Thomas, Timothy and Samuel Green.
- Grounds, George. Will pro. Jan. 1842. Names ch. George, Peggy Lowry (wife, James), Catherine Britt; grandson, George Moyers (son of David Moyers), son-in-law, William Fizer, and Lewis Circle.
- Hall, William. Will pro. Nov. 1849. Names wife, Nancy; and ch. James, David, William, John, Lewis, Archibald, Allen, and others, no. or names not given.
- Hannan, Esom. Pro. Mar. 1843. Names wife, Mary; ch. Mary Ann Cooper, Thomas, William, John, Esom, Edward; and the ch. of his dec. ch. Elizabeth Hutcheson (3ch.); Jane Baker (3 ch.); and Abraham.
- Hannah, Patterson. Pro. June, 1853. Names wife, Edney, and ch. Martha Jane Harvey (wife, Matthew—has ch. Irvin Patterson Harvey); Julia Ann Rorer (wife, Ferdinand, and ch. Patterson Hannah Rorer).
- Hartman, John. Pro. Nov. 1846. Names ch. John Abraham, George Lewis, Catherine Snider, Elizabeth Kittinger, Susanna Kittinger, Sarah Brooks; also, Mary, the wife of his dec. son, Michael.
- Hartman, Luke. pro. Aug. 24, 1839. Names brother, George.
- Henry, William. Pro. Jan. 18, 1841. Names wife, Bethsheba; ch. John, William, Mary Owens, Anna Johnson, Sarah Wartz, Sophia Neighbors, Rachel Owens, Margaret Leffler, Catherine Henry, Helen Hartman, Stephen, and Magdalene Henry.
- Howbert, George. Pro. Jan. 24, 1839. Names wife, Elizabeth M. and ch. Samuel Esler, Jacob, Michael, John, Moses, George Elizabeth, Catherine, Esther, Mary, Barbary, and Ann.
- Howell, James. Pro. Sept. 1852. Names Jesse, Abner, and Ann Howell, Sally Armintrout, Elizabeth Baker, Jemima Gaultney, Mary Gaultney, (all ch. of Jesse Howell dec.) Relationship unstated. The ch. of his dec. sister, ~~Elizabeth~~—Elizabeth Love, Sarah Holleman, Hannah Williams. The ch. of his dec. Sister, ~~William~~—William, David and Mary Mangus.
- Johnson, John. Pro. July, 1845. Names wife, Elizabeth; and ch. Susan, William, John, Joseph, George, and Elizabeth.
- Keagy, Henry. Pro. Aug. 1944. Names ch. Henry, Christopher, Jacob (wife, Mary), Anne Frantz. (husband, Henry M. dec.)
- Ledgerwood, Rebecca. Pro. Aug. 1849. Names Nephew, Wm. Hall, and his wife, Nancy. Sisters, Margaret, and Mary Ledgerwood, and brother, William, and Wm's. daughter, Nancy.
- Ledgerwood, William. Will pro. Mar. 1852. Names wife, Sally; and ch. William, David, Joseph, and Nancy.
- Leffler, Joseph. Will pro. April, 1853. Names ch. John, Aaron, George, Richard, Susannah Butler, Patsy, Nancy, and Joanna (and HER son, John.)

*Pauitine Immigrant
Summer 1982*

William Stover of Virginia

Nancy B. Fratt, Westfield, New Jersey

It is likely that William Stover was the first minister of the German Baptist or Dunker Church in Botetourt County, Virginia. In the Minutes for a Court held in Fincastle on 13 March 1798, the following record is found:

On Motion of William Stover who produced Credentials of his Ordination & of his being in regular Communication with the Old Baptist distinguished by the name of Duncard, Church License is Granted him to perform the rites of Matrimony throughout this State upon his giving bond with Security in the Clerks office according to Law & the said Stover took the oath of allegiance to this State according to Law¹.

Quite a bit of information has been found concerning this man, although there are no records for him in Botetourt County prior to 1794. On July 8th. of that year, Deed Book No. 5 shows that William Stover purchased 220 acres of land from Thomas and Temparence Campbell. He bought an additional 265 acres from Daniel and Sarah McNeel there on 10 October 1795².

Subsequent entries in the Botetourt County Court Order Books give William's appointment as Surveyor of the Highway, and as juryman, and his selection with others to view road alterations. On 12 June 1798 he was appointed guardian to three minor children of Martin Mason, deceased³.

A petition to the Legislature of the State of Virginia dated 13 December 1799 was signed by more than forty members of the German Baptist Church, and said in part,

That the members of our Church have at all times

and in all countries, been forbid by the conscience to take up arms against their fellow man. Observing as we trust we do, a conduct void of offence toward all men we are by the same principles forbid all legal strife and contention.

The petitioners requested exemption from fines for not attending musters, and suggested that service to the community, in the form of road improvements, might be a worthwhile alternative. Signers included William Stover, his son-in-law Joseph Noffzinger and George Stover. There is no record of action taken on this petition⁴.

Over the next few years there were periodic references to William relating to deeds to two of his sons, a property survey, bounty paid for killing wolves, and the running of a road through his property, all in Deed Books, Survey Records or Court Minutes.

Perhaps the most significant record left by William Stover is in the Botetourt County Marriage Register⁵, listing the weddings at which he officiated:

<u>Marriage Date</u>	<u>Husband</u>	<u>Wife</u>
22 Mar. 1798	Jacob Stover	Susanah Solenbarger
24 June 1798	Abraham Kinsey	Cathrine Elswode
17 Oct. 1798	Peter Heck/Hoit	Sarah Flack
20 Nov. 1798	George Ground	Sarah Kinsey/Kinzie
3 Sep. 1799	Samuel Pasley	Nancy Borotrager
9 July 1799	Peter Noftsinger	Mary Pillinger/ Pettinger
2 July 1799	David Noftzinger	Molley/Polly Stover
11 Mar. 1800	David Borndrager	Elizabeth Spidler/ Spittler
28 Jan. 1800	Christian Moomaw	Catherine Snider
27 Mar. 1800	Henry Snider	Susanna Britz/ Critz
19 Apr. 1800	Solomon Graybill	Caty Kline
4 May 1805	George Michael Strough	Uli/Ula Minter
8 June 1815	Peter Heck, Jr.	Anne Frantz
24 Sep. 1815	Leonard Houtz/Houtts	Elizabeth Frantz

2 Apr. 1816	John Fulhard/Fulheart	Mary Frantz/France
23 Apr. 1816	William C. Grill	Catharine Frantz
4 June 1816	John Bondsock	Susanna Harshbarger
28 Nov. 1817	Jacob Good	Elizabeth Houtz
4 Aug. 1818	Michael Howbert	Hannah Pefley
25 Aug. 1818	Jonathan Brubecker	Barbara Crist
4 Nov. 1818	Henry Fulhart	Anne France
29 Nov. 1818	Samuel France	Mary Fisher
18 Feb. 1819	Michael Peter	Elizabeth Dillman
2 Mar. 1819	Nicholas France	Cathrine Crist
23 Nov. 1819	Jacob Bonsack	Cathrine Harshbarger
4 Apr. 1820	Jacob Brubaker	Susanna Gresso
15 Aug. 1821	Benjamin Braine/ Reeves?	Catharine Frantz
5 Sep. 1821	Jacob Olinger	Elizabeth Frantz

From the Marriage Register and a bond for daughter, Catharine, the following marriages of his own children have been identified:

Elizabeth and Joseph Noffsinger
Michael and Elizabeth Solenbarger, 1799
Margarate and Samuel Jackson, 1806
Catharine and James Franklin, 1806
Esther and (1) John Frantz, 1810, (2) Joshua Lee, 1824
Susannah and Joseph Sollenbarger, 1799
Hannah and Edward Carvin, 1812

Marriages not yet proven to be for children of William are:

Jacob and Susanah Solenbarger, 1798
Daniel and Mary (Polly) Frantz, 1806
John and Mary _____

Deeds show that William's wife was named Susanna, but his Will, dated 21 January 1825, does not mention her, indicating she had probably died by that time. He left his estate to be divided equally among his children, Elisabeth, Michael, Jacob, Daniel, Peggy, Catty, John, Esther, Susannah and Hannah, with Michael to have his land. His Will was recorded at Court 12 November 1828.

Circumstantial evidence seems to indicate that William Stover of Virginia was the son of the Reverend or Bishop William Stover of Antrim Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Bishop Stover had a son, William, said to have been born in 1750⁶ who would have immigrated with him in 1752 on the ship "Richard and Mary"⁷. By 1773, William, designated "Jr."; was on the Cumberland County, PA, tax lists, and later on those for Franklin County (erected from Cumberland in 1784) through 1788. Only one William, called neither Sr. nor Jr. was listed in 1791, the next record year, and no Jr. was found after that date.

William, Jr., was counted in Franklin County's 1790 Census, but apparently not in 1800, when the only William Stover entry was for a younger man. The Bishop's Will dated 28 April 1797 listed son, William, together with his other children. Both men were ministers of the German Baptist Church, although there appears to be no record of the actual ordination of the younger William.

Adding additional weight to the theory that the two Williams were father and son is the migration of four of the Bishop's other children to Botetourt County. Dr. George Stover was first noted in the County Court records there in October of 1794, and there are a number of references to him over the years. The families of three of his sisters, Margaret married to Adam Britz⁸, Susanna wife of George Gish, and Catharine with husband John Gish, are all known to have moved to that county⁹.

Susanna, wife of William of Virginia, may well have been the daughter of Hans Michael Millar (Miller), who also lived and died in Antrim Township, Franklin County. Hans Michael and his wife Elizabeth had a large family, and his Will, dated 28 September 1784, includes daughter, Susanna Stover, among his heirs. William and Susanna Stover's two oldest children were named Elizabeth and Michael.