

Comment:

The following pages are
an "original" typed copy
of "Our Harst Family."

Lorraine Frantz Edwards
speculates it was typed by
Mrs. Imogene Young because
her address label is attach-
ed to back side of last page.

LFE

28 Apr 2017

by William Tell Garst 1850

page 25

From "History of the Church of the Brethren," by M.G. Brumbaugh, we have the following regarding the Little Swatara Congregation in 1770:

"Peter Heckman, minister and wife, John Heckman and wife, Michael Frantz and wife Mary, Nicholas Gerst and wife, Jacob Moyer and wife, George Basher, David Marge and wife, Simon Merrich and wife, John Frantz and wife, Christian Frantz and wife, Rose Schnables, Jacob Smith and wife, Eliza Kentzel, Adam Henrich, Mrs. Cryder, Philip Zeigler and wife, Jacob Brandisen and wife, David Kleine and wife, Widow Benedict, Elizabeth Benedict, Sophy Kish, Leonard Sebalt and wife, John Grove and wife, Hans Stohner and wife, Jacob Beashor and wife."

page 28, 29

- 11 Catherine Gerst, daughter of John Nicholas Gerst, I (2). Married Peter Frantz, who was the son of Michael Frantz, II.
- 3950 Catherine Frantz, married William Grill
 - 3951 Mary Frantz, married John Fullheart
 - 3952 Nicholas Frantz, married Catherine Crist
 - 3953 Anna Frantz, married Henry Fullheart
 - 3954 Magdalena Frantz, married Jacob Crist
 - 3955 Elizabeth Frantz, married James Trout
 - 3956 Sally Frantz, married Garst
 - 3957 Barbara Frantz, married Robert Howards

According to the History of the Church of the Brethren, by Elder Jesse O. Garst, Mary, Nicholas, Anna, Magdalena, and Barbara Frantz lived in Southern Ohio at one time.

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 | Elizabeth Trout |
| Nicholas Frantz | Sally Garst |
| Anna Fullheart | Barbara Howards |
| Magdalena Crist | |

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.

Son, Nicholas Frantz to be guardian of any minor children.
Christian Wertz to be Executor.

Records show that Peter Frantz later married Mrs. Sarah Pleasants.

- 12 Mary Gerst, dau. of John Nicholas Gerst, I (2). Married about 1784, to Christian Frantz, son of Michael Frantz II and Magdalena Zug Frantz. Mary was born about 1762, d. Aug 8, 1838. His life-span, 1762 to 1850.

- 3958 Jacob Frantz, 1784-1851. Married Sarah Ebersole, 3 sons, 3 dau.
- 3959 Christian Frantz, Jr., 1805-1890. Marr. Catherine Trout, 5 sons, 4 dau.
- 3960 Elizabeth Frantz, marr. Jacob Clinger. No children
- 3961 Catherine Frantz, marr. George Grisso, 6 sons, 1 dau.

- 3962 Anna Frantz, marr. John Lesh, 2 sons
- 3963 Magdalena Frantz, marr. Phillip Simmons, 1 son
- 3964 Esther Frantz, single
- 3965 Mary Frantz, marr. John Brubaker, 1 son
- 3966 Sally Frantz, marr. Abraham Miller, 2 sons, 1 dau.

See John Brubaker
1777-1946
Copy right 1938
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pages
9-10/11

Christian Frantz was born in Pennsylvania, and with others of his father's family he moved to Botetourt County, Virginia, about 1784. Shortly thereafter he married Mary Gerst, and in 1814 he and his faithful wife and nine children moved to Clark Co., Ohio, settling three miles west of what is now Springfield. He was chosen as second Bishop of the Donnel's Creek Church. He is said to have been small of stature, of a very pleasant and genial disposition, and much respected by all. His advice and counsel were sought by all. He was known as "Elder Christly." He spoke German only. He and doubtless Mary were buried in Myer's Cemetery, nearby, and a stone boulder marks his grave, according to his request.

Here is a little interesting Garst-Frantz history:

Michael Frantz II came to America when he was two years old, with his father, Michael Frantz I. That was in 1727, and they came on the ship "Molly."

Three days earlier, Ulric Zug and wife, Barbara Bachman Zug, had landed from the ship "James Goodwill." Both families settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and all were associated in the "Dunkard" Church.

Later Michael Frantz II married Magdalena Zug. They had eight sons and one daughter. Four of the sons married four of the daughters of John Nicholas Gerst, I, and the daughter also married a Gerst, said to be George Gerst. Can't place him.

Mary Gerst married Christian Frantz

Anna Gerst married Daniel Frantz

Marie Elizabeth Gerst married David Frantz

Catherine Gerst married Peter Frantz

Note: A George Gerst, single, paid taxes in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in the years 1786, 1787, and 1788, but not in 1789. Could he have married the Frantz girl and migrated to Virginia, along with many others who went?

page 31, 32

v14 Anna Gerst, dau. of John Nicholas Gerst, I (2), b. May 8, 1764, d. June 19, 1821. Married July 25, 1784, to Daniel Frantz, Sr., b. Feb. 9, 1763, d. May 17, 1843, son of Michael Frantz and Magdalena Zug Frantz. Moved from Pennsylvania soon after marriage, to Botetourt County, Virginia, and from there to Clark County, Ohio, where Anna died June 19, 1821. Aug. 21st, same year, Daniel married Magdalena Minnich. She died Sept. 8, 1866.

4056 Anna Frantz, b. Apr. 30, 1785, d. Mar. 5, 1840, marr. 65 Peter Heck

4057 Michael Frantz, b. Jan. 27, 1787, d. Feb. 7, 1791

4058 Magdalena Frantz, b. Oct. 6, 1788, d. Mar. 2, 1806

4059 Catherine Frantz, b. Jan. 21, 1791, married Benjamin Ream

4060 Elizabeth Frantz, b. Mar. 9, 1793, d. Sept. 12, 1795

4061 Daniel Frantz, b. Sept. 15, 1795, d. Aug. 4, 1802

4062 Benjamin Frantz, b. Nov. 23, 1797, d. Sept. 18, 1869 Married Elizabeth Flory

- 4063 Susannah Frantz, b. Jan. 5, 1800, married Henry Neher
- 4064 John Frantz, b. Aug. 24, 1802, d. Aug. 25, 1866, married Anna M. Ohmart
- 4065 Daniel Frantz, b. Mar. 13, 1804, d. Apr. 23, 1889, married Sophia Ohmart
- 4066 Christina Frantz, b. Feb. 24, 1807, married Adam Ohmart

Anna Garst Frantz was buried at Brook's Grove Cemetery, near Stanford, Ill.

On page 451, History of Church of the Brethren, we find John Frantz, the ninth of Anna's eleven children was baptized in 1822, elected deacon in 1827, to the ministry in 1833, ordained in 1847. Following the death of Elder Ebersole in 1850, was given charge of the church, and served as Bishop until 1877. He died on the homestead now occupied by his daughter Phoebe Lane.

- 16 Marie Elizabeth Gerst, dau. of John Nicholas Gerst, I (2). Married about 1790, David Frantz, b. 1766 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, the son of Michael Frantz, II, and Magdalena Zug Frantz. Shortly after marriage they, with many other Pennsylvania Dutch, went to Botetourt County, Virginia.

- 4044 Michael Frantz, b. Sept. 19, 1791, d. Feb 11, 1860
- 4045 Anna Frantz, b. Nov. 18, 1792, d. Dec. 25, 1867
- 4046 Abraham Frantz
- 4047 Susan Frantz
- 4048 Samuel Frantz
- 4049 Christian Frantz, b. Sept. 8, 1801, d. Oct. 2, 1851
- 4050 Lydia Frantz, b. Sept. 26, 1805, d. Jan. 4, 1886
- 4051 David Frantz
- 4052 Elizabeth Frantz
- 4053 Jacob Frantz, mar. Mary Ebersole
- 4054 Joseph Frantz, b. Nov. 30, 1813, d. Mar. 28, 1854, mar. Catherine Neher, b. Nov. 21, 1829, d. Dec. 6, 1888

David Frantz died in 1815, and Sept. 24, 1816, Elizabeth married Leonard Houtz. They settled near Bellefontaine, Ohio. They had one son:

- 4055 George Houtz, went west

page 38, 39

- 27 Frederick Garst, II, son of Frederick Garst, I (9). Born January 15, 1784, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and died at Limestone, Tennessee, August 11, 1850. Married first, Dec. 28, 1809, to Susannah Eller, who died about 1827. Married second, Mar. 15, 1829, to Sarah Frantz, b. Sept. 20, 1807. Children of first marriage:
 - 36 Samuel Garst, b. Nov. 3, 1810, d. Oct. 28, 1876, Tenn.
 - 37 Jacob Garst, b. Aug. 29, 1812, d. Dec. 17, 1893, Girard, Illinois
 - 38 David Garst, b. June 3, 1814, d. Sept. 29, 1886, Tenn.
 - 39 Magdalena Garst, b. Aug. 7, 1816, d. March, 1906, Johnson City, Tennessee.
 - 40 Nancy Garst, b. Sept. 29, 1817, d. April 24, 1860
 - 41 Henry Garst, b. Nov. 14, 1818, d. Dec. 27, 1898, Blountville, Tennessee
 - 42 Mary Ann Garst, b. Married 1840 in Tennessee
 - 43 Catherine Garst, b. Apr. 26, 1820, d. Dec. 7, 1911, Cower, Missouri

- 44 Sarah Garst, b. Dec. 17, 1822, d. Nov 12, 1917, Seminole, Florida
- 45 Elizabeth Garst, b. July 17, 1824, d. Nov. 20, 1892
- 46 Joel Garst, b. 1826, d.

Children of 2nd marriage:

- 47 Frederick Garst, III, b. Jan. 4, 1830, d. Sept. 18, 1904
- 48 Susannah Garst, b. Feb. 15, 1832, d. Sept. 15, 1902
- 49 Barbara Garst, b. about 1835
- 50 William Garst, d. young
- 51 Peter Garst, b. Oct. 23, 1837, d. Apr. 1, 1922
- 52 Elias Garst, b. d.
- 53 John Garst, b. Oct. 3, 1839, d. Feb. 26, 1914
- 54 George Washington Garst, b. Nov. 2, 1841, d. Mar. 10, 1908
- 55 Frances Garst, married Berry
- 56 Benjamin Franklin Garst, b. Apr. 3, 1847, d. Nov. 22, 1922

The family Bible of Frederick Garst, II, was handed down through the family of his son, David, to Hiram, to Herman S. Garst, who lives at Okmulgee, Okla., and it has been purchased from Herman S. Garst by William T. Garst of Kansas City, Mo.

This Bible is 10x13x3 inches, is bound with wooden, leather-covered backs, and is printed entirely in German. Contains the old and new testaments, and the 14 apocryphal books.

The title page states that the book is according to the German translation of "Dr. Martin Luthers," that it is the first edition "Die erste Unslage," and the date, 1813. There follows a letter to the publisher's "German Brethren," and at the bottom is his name, Friedrich Goeb, and the place and date: Somerset, Penn., June 26, 1813.

page 65

- 337 John W. Garst, son of Jacob Garst (37). Born Sept. 13, 1857. Married Nov. 17, 1881, to Marietta Catherine Frantz, born June 2, 1863, died May 21, 1949. John W. died July 23, 1926. Infant son, born and died Dec. 6, 1882
- 559 Edith Estella Garst, b. June 23, 1884, Virden, Ill.
- 560 Lennie Pearl Garst, b. Dec. 4, 1887, d. Feb. 24, 1892
- 561 Lester H. Garst, b. June 5, 1889
- 562 Elsie Cora Marie Garst, b. Jan. 1, 1893
- 563 Bessie Alma Garst, b. Jan 14, 1897, d. Jan. 20, 1897
- 564 Vesta Albertha Garst, b. May 1, 1901

page 115

- II Mollie F. Garst, dau. of George Washington Garst (54). Married first, Jan. 9, 1890, Emery Anderson, b. Mar. 1, 1855.
 - 1514 Albert R. Anderson, b. Jan. 8, 1891
 - 1515 Alice M. Anderson, b. Feb. 2, 1896
 - 1516 Alma G. Anderson, b. Apr. 23, 1899
 Married second, in 1937, John M. Frantz

page 124, 125

- 28 Anna Garst, dau. of Frederick Garst, I (9). Born Aug. 2, 1785, died Oct. 22, 1858. Married, Jan. 15, 1801, Richard Gordon son of Giles Gordon, a Revolutionary War Soldier. Richard was born Dec. 12, 1774, in Buckingham County, Virginia, died Dec. 17, 1857, in Clark County, Ohio. They had seventeen children, and raised them all to maturity, except Eliza, who died at age 17.

- 1621 John Gordon, b. Feb. 15, 1802, d. Feb, 1880
 1622 James Gordon, b. Sept. 27, 1803, d. in Kansas
 1623 William Gordon, b. Jan. 15, 1805, d. Jan. 19, 1863
 1624 Andrew Gordon, b. Nov. 7, 1806, d. Cherryvale,
 Kansas
 1625 Lettie Gordon, b. Dec. 2, 1808, d. Jan. 19, 1893
 1626 Giles Gordon, b. Mar. 3, 1810, d. Roanoke Co., Va.
 1627 Anna Gordon, b. July 23, 1811, d. near Yellow
 Springs, Ohio
 1628 Eliza Gordon, b. Mar. 10, 1813, d. Aug. 28, 1830
 1629 Mary Gordon, b. Oct. 15, 1814, d. Sept. 9, 1896
 1630 Richard Gordon, Jr., b. Feb. 9, 1816, d. Sept. 24, 1878
 1631 Catherine Gordon, b. May 15, 1818, d. Nov. 28, 1906
 1632 George Gordon, b. June 7, 1820, d. 1900, Grape
 Grove, Ohio
 1633 Mazy Gordon, b. Mar. 13, 1822, d. May 31, 1900
 1634 Sarah Gordon, b. Jan. 18, 1824, d. No. Manchester,
 Ind.
 1635 David Gordon, b. Nov. 15, 1825, d. Weadville, Mo.
 1636 Frederick Gordon, b. June 10, 1827, d. Nov. 6, 1866
 1637 Delilah Gordon, b. Mar. 13, 1829, d. No. Topeka,
 Kans.

Anna Garst, daughter of Frederick and Magdalena (Rauch) Garst, came with her husband and older children, to Highland County, Ohio, stopping on White Oak Creek, where there was a small settlement. They traded their wagon and one horse for fifty acres of land, and built a house and a round-log barn on it. At one time, there seemed to be imminent trouble with the Indians in Clark County, some sixty miles from White Oak, and our Gordon family started the 375-mile trip back to Virginia, settling on Mason's Creek, near Salem. On October 7, 1816, they again started for Ohio--such was the pioneer spirit! They came to the home of an aunt and uncle of Anna, Mary (Garst) and Christian Frantz, and later bought a farm on which they lived the rest of their lives. The back part of the farm joined the Frantz farm, located four miles from Springfield, Ohio.

Both Richard and Anna were buried near the orchard on this farm as was the daughter, Eliza, who had died 10 years earlier. They were buried in hand-made walnut caskets, hewn from a solid walnut log. After Anna and Richard had been buried some 60 years (Eliza 70 years) they were moved to Bethel Twp. Cemetery, where they have a suitable monument. The solid walnut caskets were still in a good state of preservation.

Anna had been a member of the Church of the Brethren for 47 years before her death, and Richard transferred from the Episcopalian to the Brethren Church. Neither had much education in school, she being married at fifteen, but they lived their busy lives in such a way that their children were impressed with the great importance of industry, honesty, and morality, summed up in Christianity.

Note: Fuller records are in possession of Anna's great, great granddaughter, Mrs. Rollin A. Stukey (Mary Ruth Powell) of 321 N. Walnut St., Van Wert, Ohio.

page 179

- 2675 Sarah Garst, dau. of John M. Garst (2659. Married, about 1872, Samuel Riffey, b. Dec. 26, 1849, died Mar. 25, 1929.
 2719 Alva A. Riffey, b. Dec. 13, 1873, d. May, 1940
 2720 Ella Riffey, b. Mar. 5, 1876, marr. Hirt
 2721 Jesse Riffey, b. Jan. 2, 1879, married Almah Frantz
 Add.: Rt. 1, Olathe, Kans.
 2722 Lillie M. Riffey, b. June 23, 1884, marr. Alfred M. Harris

page 206

- 15 Jacob Garst, I, son of John Nicholas Garst, I. (2). Married first, Frantz,
4170 Abraham Garst, remained single
4171 Catherine Garst
4172 Elizabeth Garst
4173 Christina Garst
4174 Jacob H. Garst
4175 Annie Garst
4176 Nicholas Garst
4177 Rosena Garst
4178 Christian Garst
4179 Easter Garst, died in infancy
Married second, Eve Minter, Dec. 3, 1805
4180 Eve Garst, married Sept. 15, 1828
Married third, Mrs. Magdalena Hinkle, who was the widow of John Hinkle. Her maiden name was Magdalena Landers, b. Sept. 24, 1771, d. July 8, 1851.
4181 Phillip Garst, married Nov. 17, 1831, moved to Iowa
4182 Mary Garst, b. Feb. 23, 1810, d. Sept. 27, 1891: Married Forrest Lockett, Feb. 7, 1827
4183 Lydia Garst, married Nov. 1, 1832
Jacob and Magdalena spent their last days in the home of Mary Garst Lockett. He had given the home to her. A picture of this recently modernized log house is printed elsewhere in this book.

page 222, 223

WILL OF JACOB GARST I - Will Book 1, Page 87

In The Name of God Amen:

I, Jacob Garst Senr. being of Sound mind memory and understanding and impressed with the Great uncertainty of Life and the certainty of Death and Being desirous to Dispose of my temporal affairs that after my Death that no contention may arise Relative to the same and So I shall make this my lastwill and Prair thairfore I Jacob Garst of Roanoke Cty & State of Va. Do make ordsin publish and Declar this my Last Will and testament Revolveing other wills made her to fore

1st In the first plase I bequith my Body to the Dust from whence it came and my Sole to God who Gave it hoping for a happy immortality through the stoning merits of our Lord Jusus Christ the Saviour of the world My Desire is to have my Body plain & Decentley Buryed and all Expences Paid By my Executor hereafter named.

2nd. If I out live my wife Magdaleen Garst I wish for her to be taken Good care of and Decentley Supported out of my Estate and After her Death for her to Be Decentley Buryed and all Expences paid By my Executor hereafter named.

3rd. I shall will nothing to my Son Jacob Garst nor to my Son Phillip Garst for thay have Drawen their portion of my esstate which is Eleven hundred Dollars to Each which is their portion in full, Also, my Daughter Elizabeth Hannar is to have no more. She has Drawen her Shear in full which is Eight hundred Dollars which is her portion of my Esetate in full. I Give and Beqit to my Son Abraham Garst two hundred Dollars which is his portion in full. I will nothing to my Daughter Catharine Hartman at preasant for she has Drawen five hundred and twelve Dollars towards her portion. Also

- 1812, Jacob Olinger to Elizabeth Frantz
- 1816, Leonard Houtz to Elizabeth Frantz
- 1816, John Fullhart to Mary Frantz
- 1816, Abraham Frantz, to Phoebe Taylor
- 1818, Nicholas Frantz, to Catherine Coist
- 1822, Jacob Crist to Magdalena Frantz

- 3126 Abraham Garst, II, son of Abraham Garst, I (17), b. Jan. 16, 1791, d. Oct. 1, 1852. Marr. first, Anna Frantz, b. Nov. 18, 1792, d. Dec. 25, 1867.
- 3138 David Garst, b. Sept. 29, 1820, d. Dec. 13, 1890
 - 3139 Abraham Garst, III, b. Nov. 15, 1821, d. Oct. 1, 1852
 - 3140 Elizabeth Garst, b. Oct. 10, 1823, d. July 15, 1852
 - 3141 John Garst, b. Apr. 20, 1825, d. Oct. 18, 1873
 - 3142 Jacob Garst, b. Jan. 5, 1828, d. Sept. 14, 1898
 - 3143 Joseph Garst, b. Feb. 20, 1831, d. Mar. 31, 1897
 - 3144 Michael Garst, b. June 31, 1832, d. Apr. 26, 1903
 - 3145 Susan Garst, b. Apr. 11, 1835, d. Jan. 12, 1906
 - 3146 Elias Garst, b. Aug. 8, 1837, d. June 12, 1930

Marr. second, Magdalene Minnick.

Abraham Garst, II, was a farmer and owned land near North Hampton, Ohio. He married Anna Frantz in Fincastle, Botetourt County, Virginia. She was of Swiss-German descent. Anna is buried in Brook's Grove Cemetery, Stanford, Ill. Abraham, II, is buried in Myer's Cemetery, North Hampton, Ohio.

- 3138 David Garst, son of Abraham Garst, II (3126), b. Sept. 29, 1820, d. Dec. 13, 1890. Marr. first, Elizabeth Heck, b. Aug. 30, 1822, d. Mar. 14, 1867. Marr. second, Mary Frantz, b. Dec. 18, 1836, d. Aug. 10, 1914. Had no children by either marriage, but he raised Emma Frantz, dau of his brother-in-law, John W. Frantz, and she became his sole heir. David Garst was a farmer. Died at Springfield, Ohio, age 70 years, 2 months. Buried at Vale.

- 3147 Michael Neher, son of Elizabeth Garst Neher (3140). Married first, Oct. 22, 1868, Anna Frantz, b. June 27, 1845, d. Mar. 15, 1883.

- 3150 Ada A. Neher, b. Oct. 23, 1871
- 3151 James E. Neher, b. Oct. 15, 1874
- 3152 Ida M. Neher, b. Aug. 27, 1876
- 3153 Edith Neher, b. Aug. 28, 1880, single

Married second, May 22, 1884, Wartna Shriner, b. Jan. 12, 1846, d. June 1, 1935.

- 3154 Effie Neher, b. Mar. 13, 1889, single

page 231

- 3148 Noah Neher, son of Elizabeth Garst Neher (3140). Married Mary Elickinstaff, b. Jan. 22, 1852, d. Mar. 22, 1927

- 3214 Ada Neher
- 3215 Laura Neher
- 3216 Ira Neher
- 3217 Elizabeth Neher, has been a missionary to China, marr. R.C. Flory
- 3218 Susan Neher, has been a missionary to China
- 3219 Clara Neher, married Vaniman
- 3220 Edna Neher, married W.B. Charles, and they served under the Baptist Mission Board in the Philippine Islands

3221 Lottie Neher, married Rev. Ernest G. Hoff
3222 Alberta Neher, married Harmon W. Frantz
3223 Alva Neher

page 236, 237

- 3276 Elle Garst, dau. of John Garst (3141). B. Nov. 4, 1860.
Marr. Simon Frantz.
3326 John Frantz
3327 Mary A. Frantz, b. 1887, d. 1888
3328 Ethel Frantz, b. 1889
3329 Garst L. Frantz
- 3326 John Frantz, son of Elle Garst Frantz (3276). Marr.
Catherine Cummins.
3330 Zelma Frantz, born 1910
3331 Alma Frantz
3332 John M. Frantz, born 1917, died 1918
- 3328 Ethel Frantz, dau. of Elle Garst Frantz (3276). Married
Clarence Dysinger.
3333 Chester Dysinger, b. 1912
3334 Mildred Dysinger, b. 1916
3335 Ernest Dysinger, b. 1922

page 277, 278, 279, 280

- 3136 Henry Clay Garst, son of Abraham Garst, I (17). B. July
9, 1816, d. June 18, 1901. Marr. Feb. 5, 1845, to Miranda
Evelyn Mufnagle, who was born June 7, 1827, d. Jan. 1, 1897.
First child died in infancy
3913 Horace Garst, b. July 4, 1849, d. 1944 at Denver
3914 Henry Elias Garst, b. Mar. 8, 1852, d. May 2, 1925,
single
3915 Stephen Hale Garst, b. Mar. 18, 1856, d. Apr. 25,
1929
3916 Kate Ribble Garst, b. Sept. 18, 1857, d. 1944, single
3917 Barbara Garst, b. Nov. 25, 1861, d. June 6, 1940
3918 Elizabeth Garst, b. Feb. 11, 1863, d. 1944. Marr.
..... Stolz
3919 Dudley Garst, b. July 13, 1867, d. Dec. 17, 1922,
single
3920 Nellie Garst, b. Apr. 6, 1869
3921 Percy A. Garst, b. Mar. 29, 1871, d. 1943

The famous Henry Clay spent the night after the birth of
Henry Clay Garst at the home of Abraham Garst I - hence
the name.

The following is part of a letter written in 1892 by Henry Clay
Garst (3136), to his niece, Katherine Sample Garst, in answer to a
letter she had written to his daughter, Barbara, asking for some facts
concerning the family history:

"Now, my dear niece, the reason that I have undertaken this
laborious but pleasurable task, (laborious because I am in my 75th
year), is that by a vote of the family I was unanimously assigned
that duty, as probably more competent to give you a chronological
history of our ancestors than any of the others. What little I know of
our ancestors, for it will not be a four-volume affair, I assure you, I
learned from my father and mother when I was quite a boy, for they
have been, as you know, dead these many years.

The story on my mother's side partakes a little of the romantic.

Her father was Christopher Ribble, and he seems to have had a liberal education, as he chose medicine as a profession. After qualifying himself by reading in the office of a local physician, he attended medical lectures in the city of Amsterdam in Holland. During his first course of lectures, he made the acquaintance of a young lady of that city by the name of Barbara Magdalena Brinkerhoff. During his second course of lectures, his acquaintance with this young lady ripened into something more than mere friendship. After he graduated, they concluded they would like to get married, but now their troubles began. The young lady's father (a stern old Dutchman I suppose he was, and tradition says a wholesale druggist and quite wealthy) would not give his consent. But as the saying goes, 'True love is never balked by bolts and bars,' and their next recourse was to accomplish the same thing on another line. When he had asked for her hand in marriage, the father was furious to think that a penniless young doctor should aspire to the hand of his daughter, and when the daughter declared she would marry him in spite of her father's refusal, he forbade the young man the house, and locked the young woman in her room. But a kindly maid-servant carried notes. Plans were made and the young couple got away.

As America was attracting a great deal of attention at that time in Europe, and as a Dutch schooner was lying in port ready to sail, they decided to take passage for the new world. They did so and were married on board the vessel by the vessel's Chaplain. They had a long and tiresome passage lasting nearly six months (all sail then and no steam), finally landing at Philadelphia on the day on which the battle of Brandywine was fought, September 11, 1777, the Revolutionary War being already well commenced.

Poor and nearly worn out with their long and tedious passage, they still had the same courage that had impelled them to come over. They cast their lot with the patriots, renounced their allegiance to all foreign potentates, and became new-born American citizens. Grandfather immediately took service in the American Army as a physician and surgeon, and grandmother found refuge among the Dutch settlers of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Several years later letters were exchanged with her father, and he relented so far as to send her her dowery - furniture, linen, silver, etc., but the ship went down and all was lost.

After the close of the war, they were reunited and settled in or near Hagarstown, Maryland, where my mother Katherine was born. She was the firstborn of the family. After living there several years and having other children, they moved to Virginia and settled near Blacksburg in Montgomery County. There grandfather bought a large tract of land, and practiced medicine for many years, and there is where my father and mother (Abraham Garst I and Katherine Ribble) were married.

Then my father and mother lived for many years (43 years I think he told me) on a farm in Botetourt Co., Virginia, about 40 miles from where Grandfather Ribble live. They raised a family of nine children, seven boys and two girls. They sold their farm in 1835 and moved to the West. They stopped in Clark Co., the first year, and then moved to St. Joseph Co., Indiana, and settled at South Bend. My father died in the fall of 1838, and my mother died in the spring of 1841. They lie side by side in a little graveyard (as it was called at that time) about two miles east of South Bend and known then as Bowman's graveyard.

My father, Abraham Garst, Sr., was born March 4, 1770, in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He was five years old when the Revolutionary War began and thirteen when it ended. He had many vivid recollections of that memorable struggle. Three of his brothers, Nicholas and Frederick and Jacob, being older members of the family, were in the Army of the Revolution during the whole eight

years of the war. Four sisters of my father married four brothers by the name of Frantz.

Dear Niece, it is a pretty laborious job for an old man to write letters. I write but few these days, but I am pretty good on the talk yet, and sometime when you come to visit me, I will tell you some things I have failed to write about. Etc."

"A few years after receiving this letter from my uncle, I paid him a visit. I found my uncle a most delightful old man, so kind, a typical Virginian in hospitality, and a talker who never had to hesitate for a word.

Katherine Ribble Gaest was the oldest child in the family, and Henry Ribble was the youngest. It was with Henry in Virginia that his nephews, Elias, Michael, and George Garst read medicine. Katherine Ribble Garst had nine children - seven sons, John, Elias, George W., Joel, Daniel, Michael, and Henry Clay; two daughters, Mary and Hannah."

(Signed) Katherine Sample Garst,
Muncie, Indiana.

page 288

FAMILY OF MICHAEL FRANTZ, 2ND

Wife - Magdalena Zug.

CHILDREN:

Christian Frantz. 1761-1850

(Mary Garst)

Daniel Frantz. 1763-1843

(Married Anna Garst) 1st.

(Magdalena Garver Minnick) 2nd.

Michael Frantz.

John Frantz. 1749-

(Married Hostetter)

Abraham Frantz

Jacob Frantz.

Peter Frantz. Marr. Catherine Garst.

David Frantz. b'76-1815

(Married Elizabeth Garst)

A daughter.

Note: This family list is not in the order of birth, as this is not known.

The above was taken from the genealogical record of Frank L. Garst.

Mrs. Imogene Young
6917 W. Arrowhead
Kennewick, Wash: 99336

*Dec 29
1954
WY*