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THE
MENNONITE IMMIGRATION
TO PENNSYLVANIA
In the Eighteenth Century

Part XXXIII of a Narrative and Critical History
Prepared at the Request of
The Pennsylvania-German Society

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family,¹⁵ contrary to their former policy. Whether this was reported abroad, or whether the rumors of war and economic distress were responsible for the renewed emigration movement is not certain; but at any rate the Pennsylvania fever was revived.

From a letter under date of April 12, 1727, sent to Amsterdam and signed by the leading ministers of the Palatinate near Manheim,—Peter Kolb, Hans Burcholder,¹⁶ Johannes Dahlem, Ulrich Hackman and Hans Jacob Hiestand—it is stated that in spite of all the attempts of the Palatine ministers to stem the emigration tide, about one hundred and fifty discouraged Mennonites would start in about three weeks for Amsterdam, many of whom did not have sufficient funds to cover their passage. The Amsterdam committee alarmed at this prospect of a heavy drain upon their resources, immediately wrote the Palatines urging them to stay the movement. They express the hope that in case of war the brethren might find temporary refuge in the neighboring province of Neuwied evidently beyond the reach of the war area. As a further argument against emigration they also call attention to the fact that if any considerable number of Mennonites should leave it would be that much more difficult for their remaining brethren to meet the heavy tax burdens which were levied against them; and so many

15. This Hubert Brouwer who preceded the immigration of 1727 was given a letter to deliver to John Roth, who had settled on the Schuylkill in 1719 by Roth's brother Peter in Hesse, who says in the letter that because of heavy taxes militia fees, and special oppressive measures against the Mennonites he would also be glad to join his brother in America if he had the money to make the voyage. Later accounts show that Brouwer delivered the letter, and evidently became more than a mere message bearer from the distant brother, for he subsequently married Roth's widow. See article in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, Vol. X., 119, by Dr. William Brouwer, Spring City, Pa.

16. Not the Hans Burchalter of course who came to Lancaster county in 1717, though perhaps a relative.

of them would be forced to rejoin the Catholic church. The hazards of a sea voyage, too, were extremely great at this time, they suggested. Because of the approaching war between England and Spain it was extremely doubtful whether any ships would be found which would sail for Pennsylvania. There was great danger also of being captured by Spanish ships in which case the passengers would not only lose all their property but might even be sold into slavery in the Indies.

If the Palatine elders broadcast this discouraging news it evidently did little good; for under date of May 6, they wrote to Amsterdam that in spite of all their best efforts they were unable to stem the tide and that four families were already on their way, who because they had sold all their possessions and had already started for Pennsylvania they felt obliged to give them letters of recommendation, and hoped the Amsterdam committee would deal with them considerately. The names of these families were Benedict Bucher, Niclaus Bucher,¹⁷ Christian Mayer and Ulrich Stauffer. Ten days later the committee, evidently realizing that they could not avoid extending help in case many poor arrived at Rotterdam asking for aid, wrote to the Palatinate insisting that "they ought to be informed of the coming of those already on the way so as to be of assistance to them," and so that the society might arranged for "the many and great expenses of the voyage."

17. The ship lists of 1727 as found in Rupp's Thirty Thousand Names show that Christian Mayer and Nicholas Bucher both arrived on the Friendship, together with other Mennonites, on October 16, 1727, and Ulrich Stauffer on September 27 of the same year on the ship Good Will. Benedict Bucher's name does not appear. Since a large number of immigrants never reached their destination because of death on the way, it is fair to assume that except for the possibility of an omission of the name from the records such as did not appear in the Philadelphia lists died at sea. Of the above Bucher perhaps settled in Lancaster county, and Christian Mayer in the Skippack region.

A few days later another letter from the Palatinate signed by the above elders together with George Bechtel and also several elders from the upper Palatinate, Heinrich Kindig and Michael Kriebel,¹⁸ appeared stating that forty-five more were starting on their way to Pennsylvania, most of whom no doubt would need assistance.¹⁹ Before the end of July twenty additional emigrants had arrived at Rotterdam, and by the close of the year the whole one hundred and fifty had undoubtedly passed through that port on their way to the land of promise. That these landed safely on this side is evidenced by the fact that most of the Mennonite settlements here show a number of additional names in the year 1727 and those immediately following. After this, individuals and small groups continued to arrive almost every year clear up to the time of the Revolutionary war, but never again in quite such large numbers as in 1717, and in 1727.

18. Michael Krebl's name appears as a passenger with a number of other Mennonites on the ship Molly, September 30, 1727.

19. This letter gives the names of the forty-five who need help as follows.—Michael Franse, altogether 5 persons; Peter Guth, 7; Samuel Guth, 2; Rudolf Lanthis, 5; Jacob Hostetler, 8; Jacob Huber, 3; Christian Solderman, 5; Rudolf Behm, 4; Martin Kintig, 5; and a woman named Oberholterin, 1; in all 45 persons.

An examination of the list of arrivals in Rupp shows that most of these landed on the ship Molley, September 30, 1727. Some of the names appear in different spellings due to a variety of causes. Lanthis, whose real name no doubt was Landis, could not write, and thus had to pronounce his name to an English clerk at the port of entry who wrote it Lanckes. Franse could write, and his name appears Frantz. Solderman appears in the lists as sick. Whether Solderman is correct or not or whether he lisped in his speech of course we do not know. At any rate, however, the name is spelled the same in both lists, at Amsterdam and Philadelphia. It may possibly be Holdeman. Kintig spelled his own name Kindigh. Women's names of course never appeared in the ship lists and so the woman named Oberholterin is not recorded. There was a Samul Oberholtz on board the Molley, however. The others, Jacob Huber and Rudolf Behm, do not appear on this ship nor others in the years immediately following. If they set sail with the rest they may have been the unfortunate ones upon whom the sea gods had called for their quota of sacrifices on that particular voyage. Jacob Hostetler's name does not appear either; but among the dead is reported one Jacob

Palatines to forsake their home land was "because the land is so full of people and the distress so great that the poor people hardly know how to support themselves; and so the rumors of the war between the English and the Spanish does not prevent them from making the attempt to cross the ocean." The advice not to grant any letters of recommendation⁴ to prospective emigrants had been faithfully carried out, they said, but they had been obliged to make exception in the case of four poor families who had been driven out of Bern some years before, and had spent all their money in preparing for the journey to Pennsylvania. Nothing was left for these but to complete their undertaking, and it was hoped that the committee would aid them when they arrived. The names of these families are given as Benedict Bucher, wife and son; Nicolaus Bucher, wife and three children; Christian Mayer, son-in-law, wife and two children, and Ulrich Stauffer, wife and six children. An examination of the ship records for that year indicates that the committee evidently

4. The following documents written for Johannes Roth, who settled near Phoenixville are typical of the credentials with which a good Mennonite equipped himself as he left his home for the new world. Both are found reprinted by Dr. Wm. Brower, of Spring City, Pennsylvania, in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, Vol. X, page 119.

"Attest and Recommendation to the brethren in Holland—

We the ministers and elders of the church in the Palatinate wish all the ministers and elders in Holland and Pennsylvania much grace and many mercies from God our Heavenly Father, and the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and the co-working of the Holy Spirit, Amen. John Roth from Dirmstein with his wife Barbara and with their little children whose desire and pleasure it is to journey to Pennsylvania, therefore we wish to send them greetings. As to other conduct as brethren and sisters we can say nothing else than that we are satisfied with their honesty and sincerity, and therefore request of all to whom they may come to recognize them and receive them, and give them good advice. To hear of such kindness will give us pleasure. We wish you often many hearty greetings and remain your faithful friends and Brethren in Jesus Christ."

Peter Colb
Velte Huetwohl
Hans Burkholder

"Written in the Palatinate May 30, 1717
Jonas Lohr, Elder."

furnished the necessary aid. Ulrich Stauffer was a passenger on the James Goodwill, which landed September 27; Nicholas Bucher and Christian Mayer both arrived October 16, on the ship Friendship; Benedict Bucher's name does not appear.

Later Palatine letters inform the committee that at least one hundred fifty more are preparing to leave for Pennsylvania. This is no welcome news to the committee, but evidently realizing that nothing could be done to stem the tide they ask that they be informed of the number of arrivals at least, and of the time when they may expect them, so that they may best provide for their needs. The elders accordingly furnished the names of those likely to need help as follows:—Michael Franse, five persons; Peter Guth, two persons; Samuel Guth, two persons; Rudolf Lanthis, five per-

The following is a copy of the passport which Roth received from his local ruler, the Bishop of Worms and the local Bailiff—

"Whereas the bearer of this, Johannes Roth, hitherto an assessor (?) and Mennonist, has resolved to go from this to another place and applied to this office for a pass and certified attest as to his behavior in this community, therefore it is attested to him herewith upon his due request that he did conduct himself during his stay in this place as becomes a good subject and we request each and every one to give not only free credit to this certificate, but also to let him pass with wife and children everywhere free and unmolested and to treat him in other respects with a kind intention under an offer of reciprocal service."

"A. D. 1719."

"Seal—J. W. ASTORF,
The Prince Bishop of Worms."

"Attested by our handwriting and official Bailiff
Dirmstein, near Worms."

5. The following item is taken from the records of the Minute Book of the Board of Property dated July 23, 1727. Land is entered here in the name of Rudolf Boem as well as others before he arrived in Pennsylvania. It was a common thing for some friend to take out land in the name of a prospective immigrant before his arrival. Boem's name does not appear in the passenger list of this year, although he is listed in the Palatinate as one of the poor who needed help to emigrate. The fact that his name was entered for land is evidence that he was expected. He may have died on the way, or perchance his name may have escaped the copyist. Among those recommended are—Rudolf Boem, Jno. and Jacob Snavely, Chr. Crabil John Long, Jacob Rife, Jacob Lichte and others.

Ebersole,¹⁰ Ulric Zug,¹¹ George Zeug,¹² Hans Hege, his brother-in-law; Hans Lehman and Henry Leshner, the latter an orphan boy with two sisters.^{12a} Three days later the Molley arrived with these Mennonites not already mentioned—Michael Krebil,¹³ Felix Guth, Hans Guth, Sr., Michael Schenk, Hendrick Kreyebiel, Jacob Scherer, Jacob Baehr, Hans Funk, Ulrich Shellenberger, Samuel Oberholtzer, Hans Hoogstaedt¹⁴ and Christian Wenger.¹⁵ The largest group of the year arrived on the Friendship October 16, as follows.—Jacob Hiestand,¹⁶ Valentine Kratz,¹⁷ Nicolaus Piere,¹⁸ Peter Pixeler,¹⁹ Peter Leeman,²⁰ Heinrich Lohr,²¹ Illes

parents to Lancaster county in 1727. Some of his descendents were among the first to emigrate to Canada."

8. Peter Zug settled near Germantown; Ulrich near Elizabethtown, in Lancaster county. In 1770 Moritz, son (?) of Peter, moved to West Whiteland township in Chester county on the farm now (1881) owned by Jacob M. Zook.—Futhey and Cope, *History of Chester County*, p. 787. Peter is said to have been a member of the Dunkard church.

9. Could not write his name. See chapter Pequea, note 78.

10. Ebersohl is a common name among the Mennonites. In the Swiss refugee lists it appears as Abersold. Among the Alsatian Amish who came to Illinois in the middle of the nineteenth century it appears as Abersohl.

11. Settled in Lancaster county. Had six sons. See Hartsler Genealogy.

12. Likely Zug.

12a. For the three last mentioned see "Genealogical Register of the Male and Female Descendents of Hans Hege" and also "Descendents of Henry Leshner," Chambersburg, Pa., 1850.

13. This name appears as that of a Mennonite preacher in a letter from the Palatinate to Holland May 20, 1727. Also in later letters.

14. Perhaps Hochstetter, a son of Jacob, who had eleven children, and appears in the ships' dead list as "Horrester."

15. Ancestors of a large number of Wengers among the Mennonites in America.

16. A common Mennonite name in eastern Pennsylvania.

17. Settled in the Skippack region.

18. Should be Biery. Could not write his name. A brother to Abraham Beer, who immigrated in 1736. Settled in Berks county. Another brother is said to have located in North Carolina.—Wenger, *Beery Family History*.

19. Could not write his name. May have been Bixler, which was not

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Kassel,²² Niklaes Croessman,²³ Jacob Sneply,²⁴ Johannes Kassel,²⁵ Johannes Forrer,²⁶ Heinrich Strickler,²⁷ Johannes Hiestand, Christian Creyebiel,²⁸ Heinrich Schnebeli, Abraham Schwartz,²⁹ Jno Crybile, Peter Hunsberg,³⁰ and Jno Oberholtzer.³¹

an unknown Mennonite name in Pennsylvania, but which does not appear in that form in Rupp's lists anywhere.

20. Could not write his name, but likely Lehman. The same name appears in the ministerial list of the Palatinate during the Amish controversy in the late nineties of the seventeenth century. Also as an early settler in Lancaster county.

21. One of the signers of the recommendation for John Roth in 1719 was Jonas Lohr.

22. See chapter on Skippack, note 18.

23. Perhaps Cressman now. Whether the ancestor of numerous Mennonite Cressmans I do not know.

24. Could not write his name. See Pequea chapter note 71.

25. Johannes and Illes were sons of Illes, the minister at Kriegshelm in the Palatinate. They remained some time with their brother Hubert in Germantown. See Cassel, *Cassel Family History*.

26. A common name in the Palatinate.

27. The name appears among the Mennonites of the Palatinate.

For a complete history of the Strickler family see *Fore-runners, a History or Genealogy of the Strickler families*. Harry M. Strickler, Harrisonburg, Va., 1925. Miss Alice Strickler, Landisville, Pa., secretary of the Strickler reunion, says that her first ancestor in America was Henry Strickler, who migrated from Switzerland in 1723 (?); that he had four sons, John Ulrich, Abraham and Henry, and that she is a descendent of the second son, Ulrich, whose descendents she has traced.—*Fore-runners*, p. 392.

Abraham Strickler was one of the first settlers in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, arriving there perhaps with Adam Miller, the pioneer settler, perhaps as early as 1727. His name appears on a petition with those of several other Mennonites in 1733. The Stricklers all seem to have been Mennonites. In Pennsylvania they seem to have settled in what is now Mt. Joy township in Lancaster county.

28. Could not write his name. See Pequea chapter, note 67; also history of the family in *Christlicher Gemeinde Kalender*, 1906 issued by the Conference of the Mennonites of South Germany, Kaiserslautern, Pfalz.

29. The name appears on a petition from Skippack 1723. Later a minister.

30. Perhaps Hunsberger.

31. Appears among the ship's list of the dead. The name also appears as one of the two Palatine ministers signing the recommendation of Hubert Brouwer 1726.

Palatinate, to which he finally agreed." The committee again strongly urges that the elders discourage the emigration movement among their people. Since this advice was given to those who had funds of their own as well as to those who had none it would seem that the suggestion did not originate altogether in the fear of the drain upon their relief funds.

In the above Siegfrieds we recognize an important factor in the whole Palatine emigration movement of the eighteenth century—a sort of an agent for the ship masters, and land companies known during the period as "Neulander,"—one whose business it was to secure for his employer by fair means and sometimes by foul passengers or settlers as the case may be. The work of these men was not without its risks; for in south Germany and in Switzerland, from whence most of the emigrants of the period came, the authorities were often loath to part with their able bodied men for both industrial and military reasons. Emigration was usually discouraged by a heavy tax on the property of all those who left the land. Solicitors for emigrants were strictly forbidden to practice their arts upon the inhabitants upon penalty of imprisonment and fine, and sometimes worse. There is at least one case in the canton of Bern, Switzerland, as late as the middle of the eighteenth century where a man was condemned to death for no other reason apparently than that of being a Newlander.

In the ship passenger who has insufficient funds to pay his fare, but agrees to work for his passage after his arrival in America we are introduced to a common type of emigrant in the eighteenth century—the redemptioner. It was a common practise of such to contract with the ship captain to sell their services for a free passage. The captain then owned the labor of the passengers for a number of years to be disposed

of as he saw fit. The services of such a redemptioner was usually sold at auction to the highest bidder at the port of entry soon after the ship's arrival.^{32a} Many of the emigrants of the eighteenth century were of this class. Mennonite redemptioners were less perhaps than those of other groups because they were a more compact group, and received more help from relief societies. There are a number of traditions, however, that have come down in Mennonite families indicating that Mennonites were frequently sold as redemptioners, often to their own Mennonite brethren. Jost Yoder, the founder of one branch of the Yoder family well known in Amish circles, bound out his children to service to help pay the passage money for the family. Philip Lantz was kidnapped as a small boy, brought to Baltimore and finally sold to Peter Yordea, of Lancaster county, where he later married one of Yordea's daughters. Such romances were not uncommon. Frederick Alderfer, who landed in 1732, was sold to Hans Klemmer, of Bucks county, and upon the death of the latter some years later, Alderfer married the widow. There is a tradition in the well known Amish Plank family that Melchior Plank and his young wife, ancestors of one branch of the American Planks, were enticed on board of a vessel about to sail and were thus brought to Pennsylvania, where their services were sold to a man

32a. The following is taken from Gottlieb Mittleberger, *Journey to Pennsylvania* (1754) p. 26.

"Every day Englishmen, Dutchmen and High Germans came from the city of Philadelphia and other places, some from a great distance, sixty miles and one hundred twenty miles away, and go on board the newly arrived ship that has brought and offers for sale passengers from Europe and select among them the healthy persons such as they deem suitable for their business and bargain with them how long they will serve for their passage money, for which most of them are still in debt. When they have come to an agreement it happens that adult persons bind themselves in writing to serve three, four, five or six years for the amount due by them according to their age and strength. But very young people from ten to fifteen must serve until they are twenty-one."

Blicher,^{50c} Heinrich Geber,^{50d} Jacob Meyer, Casper Schirch^{50e} and Christian Huber.^{50f}

The year of 1732 was again a year of heavy emigration among all classes of Palatines, the arrivals mounting from six hundred in 1731 to over two thousand the next year. Mennonite emigration, too, followed the general trend. In a letter sent by the Amsterdam relief committee to the Palatinate, May 6, 1732, in reply to an earlier letter which they had received informing them that many Palatines were again on their way to Pennsylvania, the former said it was "no welcome news" to them. The committee continues to remind them of the hardships suffered by those crossing the ocean from hunger, storm and disease, calling attention especially to the case of a ship that had set sail from Rotterdam in June of last summer bound for Philadelphia, and after a rough voyage of twenty-four weeks had been stranded at Marthas Vineyard instead. Not expecting to be out at sea so long, of course provisions fell short. For the last eight weeks they were without bread, and both food and water became scarce. So great was their hunger that they had to scour the ship for vermin of all sorts. A rat was rated at eighteen pence by the hungry castaways, and a mouse at six pence. Seven persons died of starvation in one night. Of the hundred and fifty who had embarked at Rotterdam three months before fully one hundred had died, and a number more soon after they had landed, from the exposures suffered during the voyage.

50c. Spelled in the Dutch document Hendrick Bluecher.

50d. Perhaps the Hendrick Kever, of Krefeld, mentioned in No. 2274.

50e. Arrived on ship Norris. Perhaps the Casper Schwerger listed in No. 2274.

50f. Arrived in 1732. Perhaps the Christian Hober in document No. 2274.

This case with which the Amsterdam committee no doubt hoped to scare the Palatine Menonites out of their desire to go to Pennsylvania was not overdrawn, and could easily be duplicated by experiences equally as harrowing. In 1753 the ship *Snow Experiment* set out from Dover, England, with one hundred and eighty passengers on board for New York. After eight weeks of beating up and down the coast she finally landed at the Bermudas after one hundred of the passengers, including the captain, had perished. In 1732 the *John and William* left Rotterdam with two hundred and twenty passengers, including a number of Mennonites. The ship was seventeen weeks on the way, losing forty-four passengers enroute. In another case out of one hundred fifty passengers only fifty survived.

These may have been exceptional cases, but at best a voyage across the ocean in those days required great courage. In fair weather and under normal conditions ten or twelve weeks was ample time for the voyage, and although there must have been more or less of suffering on even the average passage, it was at least endurable; but in cases of contrary winds and storms the small ships would be driven far out of their course and suffering became intense. The death rate was especially high among children, some writers stating that children under seven scarcely ever survived. Added to these hazards beyond human control, there were others due to the greed of ship owners. Often greedy captains would overcrowd their ships, furnish poor food, and by failing to provide proper sanitary facilities would greatly increase the death toll. Gottlieb Mittelberger, who arrived at Philadelphia in 1750, wrote a book describing conditions on the immigrant ships in the hope of alleviating the worst abuses. On the ship in which he arrived thirty-two had died, mostly children. Among the breeders of disease on ship board he men-

tions "foul water full of worms, salted food, biscuits full of worms and spiders, dampness, heat, hunger, lice so thick that they had to be scraped off." Warm food was furnished only three times each week, he said, and children under seven usually died of hunger, thirst and itch. The Provincial Assembly finally passed laws specifying the number of passengers that could be carried on one ship and regulating the quantity of food and sanitary conditions in general. For a long time, too, strict quarantines were maintained to prevent sick passengers from spreading contagious diseases throughout the Province which had been contracted on the ships, due to unsanitary conditions.

The Mennonites could not be scared out, however, by these stories of the hazards and hardships that they might encounter on the way to the new world. A letter to Amsterdam from the Palatinate contains a list of sixty prospective emigrants, most of whom either had sufficient funds to pay their way to America, or were promised support from Pennsylvania, and consequently would not be a great burden to their Dutch brethren. All that the Palatine ministers in the above letter ask is that their fellow countrymen should be provided with

51. This letter was written from Grumbach in the Palatinate and was signed by the ministers Heinrich Kuendig, David Kaufman and Michel Krebil. The complete list of prospective immigrants is as follows.—

Michel Frantz, wife and 11 children.
Hans Witmer, wife and 2 children.
Oswald Hofstetter, wife and 4 children.
Christian Gehman, wife and unmarried brother.
Michel Dierstein, unmarried.
Christian Marty, wife and 2 children.
Hans Scherer, widower, and 3 children and two sons-in-law.
Samuel Brand and wife.
Samuel Mayer, wife and 2 children.
Martin Mayer, wife and 2 children.
Hans Huber, widower and 3 children and son-in-law.
Jacob Scherer, wife and 2 children.
Hans Behr and 2 daughters.
Jacob Oberholtzer, widower.

a good ship and an agreeable captain.⁵¹ An examination of the ship records for 1732 shows that the majority of the above immigrants arrived on the ship Samuel, August 11. The following Mennonites were included in the list,—Oswald Hostetter, Christian German,^{51a} Michael Dirstein,⁵² Samuel Brandt,⁵³ Jacob Oberholtzer,⁵⁴ Hans Musselman,⁵⁵ Ulrich Burghalter,^{56a}

Hans Musselman, wife and child.

Ulrich Burghalter.

Jacob Gut.

Christian Huber, widower, and 3 children.

Most of these immigrants came from the upper Palatinate, on the east side of the Rhine, in the general region of Heidelberg. The ship lists for the year indicate that other Mennonites from other sections of the Palatinate were also coming to Pennsylvania this year. Of those mentioned in the above list it does not appear from Rupp's Thirty Thousand Names that either Hans Witmer or Hans Behr arrived with their brethren. There were several other Witmers during the year, however, and it is possible that there is a confusion in the given names. Michel Frantz does not appear as an adult either, but as a child under 16. Christ Senior and Junior are found in the group, and if there is no mistake in the names Michel may have died at sea. All the others in the list seemingly landed with the two ships, Samuel and Pink Plaisance, on August 11 and September 21 respectively.

A letter from Hans Burghalter to the Amsterdam church during this same year says that there were no immigrants from his congregation at that time.

A number of the above names can also be found in Mueller, p. 200, as members of Palatine congregations.

The Pennsylvania land records show that Oswald Hostetter was granted 150 acres on the Cocalico, 1733; Jacob Snively was granted land on Mill Creek, the same year; and Christian Gehman settled in Saucon 1734. See Taylor Papers.

51a. Should be Gehman. Benedict was an unmarried brother of Christian's.

52. The name appears as a witness to a will of Rev. Henry Funk, 1756, also as a minister in Franconia, 1765. Michael Dirstein was a miller and settled in Rock Hill township, Bucks county. He was an elder in the Franconia Meeting as early as 1759, and elected as one of the ministers in 1765. He was naturalized, 1743. Was married to Agnes, daughter of Jacob Kolb, of Skippack.—Abram Clemmer.

53. Likely Martin.

54. Name appears on a Palatine list 1732 as a widower in need of help. It also appears Among a list of Palatine members in 1731.

56. I am not absolutely sure of course about the religious faith of all those who are listed here. All bear characteristic Mennonite names, and it is likely that nearly all are of that faith; but there may be a few wild

Jacob Gut, Christ Frantz, Sr.,⁵⁵ Christ Frantz, Jr., Christian Beudler,⁵⁷ Benedict German,⁵⁸ Jacob Gochen-

guesses. Most of the names of course have been identified through family histories, local chronicles and a few church lists in the Palatinate and America. All the names which are not identified in the footnotes, or otherwise claimed as Mennonites, are placed with them because their counterparts are found in Palatine and Swiss membership lists, or because, bearing typical Mennonite names they are found in the ship lists in the company of those whom we know for a certainty to be Mennonites. The fact that these are all of Swiss origin and that the Mennonites were the only Swiss refugees to the Palatinate in the early eighteenth century increases greatly the likelihood that these guesses are correct where they are not based upon better evidence. But it is not claimed that this list is either complete or altogether accurate. No doubt some are here classed as Mennonite who are not of that faith; on the other hand there are likely some whose names ought to be here but who are not included. I believe, however, that the omissions are likely to be more numerous than the cases of mistaken identity. Rupp's lists from which these names are taken are not always reliable either. I shall be glad to hear from any one having definite knowledge of mistakes or omissions.—C. H. S.

56a. Ulrich Burghalter and Jacob Gut, whose names appear together in Rupp's list, were sons-in-law of Hans Scherer, whose name does not appear among the ship passengers, according to Rupp, although that of Jacob does.

55. See note 51 for Michael Franz. The ship list of August 11 records two boys under sixteen as Michael and Johannes. In 1800 there was a Mennonite preacher by the name of Christian Frantz in the Hammer Creek district in Lancaster county, Cassel, 163. A Christian Frantz was a disciple of Hans Herr in the Herrite division in Lancaster county. He carried the division into Franklin county, where the sect is still locally named after him. Christian Frantz also was the name of a member of the Haschof congregation in the Palatinate in 1731. (See Mueller, 210.)

57. From the Beldler Family History by A. J. Fretz we get the following,—

"Jacob Beldler, born in Germany about 1708 or 1709, emigrated to America in the early part of the eighteenth century. He is said to have been a redemptioner, and served his time in Chester county; for he first lived in that county. He afterward settled with his family in Lower Milford township, in Bucks county, in what was then known as the Great Swamp. He married Anna Meyer, daughter of the pioneer Hans Meyer."

This family seems to be largest of the Mennonite Beldler families. For the European branch of the family see Christlicher Gemeinde Kalender, 1905.

58. Likely Gaueman, now Gehman. Name given as one of the Swiss refugees in the Palatinate 1710, whose wife was a Streit. Benedict settled in the Skippack region. See chapter Skippack, note 37.

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auer,⁵⁹ Peter Frit,⁶⁰ Johannes Brechbiel, Michael Kreiderr, Friderich Aldorfer,⁶¹ Hein Ulrich Fischer⁶² Peter Schellenberger and Daniel Stauffer. The Pink Plaisance, on September 21, appeared with Samuel Mayer, Martin Mayer, Hans Huber, Jacob Scherer, Christian Martin, Christian Huber, Daniel Stauffer, Johannes Landis, Jacob Stauffer, Samuel Harnish, Nicolas Ish,⁶³ and perhaps several others. On September 23 Michael Brand⁶⁴ arrived on the Adventurer, and Ulrich Basler on the Pleasant, October 11. On October 17 a number of Brackbills, none of whom could write his name, arrived; they thus appear under different spellings as Jacob Brakebill, Hans Peter Brechbill, Benedict Brechbill, Hans Brechbill and Jacob Brechbill, who was sick. There were no Brechbills in the list under sixteen, and this may have been a family of

59. The name appears as one of the Palatine signatures in Alsace to the Dordrecht confession of faith in 1660. Appears also as one of martyrs in Zurich 1654. See *Martyrs Mirror*, Eikhart edition, p. 1064.

60. Granted land in Bucks county, September 13, 1751.

61. Fréderick Aldorfer was born in the Palatinate. He came to Pennsylvania as a redemptioner, being bound to Hans Klemmer, of Bucks county. After Klemmer's death he married the widow in 1738, whose maiden name had been Ann Detweiler.

A year later on the same ship appears the name of another Frederick Aldorfer. There is some question as to which of these two is the Bucks county pioneer, or whether in fact both are not the same persons. Heckler, the local historian of Salford township, claims that the immigrant of 1733 located in Lancaster county but that no traces of his descendants are to be found there. His descendants seem to have gone to Virginia. Governor Brumbaugh, however, in his history of the Brumbaugh family, says that the Frederick of 1732 settled in Lancaster county, Lebanon township. Henry A. Aldefer, of Bluffton, Ohio is at present compiling a history of the family.

62. David Beller, a well known bishop among the early Amish of America, says in a diary of 1862 that this may have been the ancestor of the Amish Fishers of Pennsylvania. He gives it merely as a suggestion, however, and later genealogists do not agree with him.

63. Listed among the sick in the passenger list. Settled in Berks county. Descendants are known as Isht, East, Elisz, etc. Harvey Beldler, of Bluffton, Ohio, is working on a history of the family.

64. For this name in the membership lists of the Palatine Mennonites see Mueller, 210.

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grown young men. Jacob and Michael Probst were also given in the sick list. Peter Ruffner,⁶⁵ one of the pioneers of Virginia, is said to have arrived also this year, although his name does not appear in any of the ship lists.

It is said that this year marks the end of the aid given by the Amsterdam relief committee to poor emigrants. Alarmed no doubt by the rising tide of emigration of this year, and realizing that their repeated warnings were not taken seriously, they decided in a meeting of June 15 that under no conditions would they furnish any money for Palatine refugees in Holland except to take them back to the Palatinate. This resolution no doubt was carried out afterwards, but by no means did it prevent later emigration.⁶⁶ For a third of a century the committee had carried on a valuable work in behalf of their oppressed brethren in the Palatinate; and no doubt many of the prosperous families of Pennsylvania Mennonites today owe a debt of gratitude they are hardly aware of to these Dutch Mennonites of two centuries ago for making it possible for their forbears to get a new start in life in the new world. Just how many persons were given aid by the committee during the period of its existence is not exactly known, but it is said that some three thousand applications were made for help. Of course not all of these were Mennonites, and neither were all of them given help. That many non-Mennonites from the Palatinate asked for help in Rotterdam, the port of em-

65. The original spelling of Ruffner is not certain. In the Augusta county land records the name appears as Ruffner, Ruffnert and as Ruffnaugh. May it possibly be Rufenacht, a name common in the Swiss lists of 1710, as well as in Switzerland today and also among the Alsatian Amish in Illinois and Ohio. See *Pa. Mag. of Hist.*, 1, No. 2, p. 31; also Wayland, *German Element*, p. 67.

66. See de Hoop Scheffer in Samuel W. Pennypacker, *Historical and Biographical Sketches*; also *Doopsgezinde Bijdragen* 1868.