

THE HEADSTONE

Vol. III

February 2025

Issue II

Hello and greetings to all!

I do hope that everyone is braving the elements of winter with some success. It is the second week of January as I start this newsletter, and we have already had about five inches of snow and ice with temperatures dropping to the single digits overnight. That is plenty cold for here and my woodpile shows it! We also had some really cold, hard winds the better part of late December and now into January.

At The Graveyard

A dead Cherry Tree limb fell during one such first of January blow and knocked over two headstones, those of Jacob Hanger and his daughter, Mary Ann Hanger Lucas. Andrew Lucas's headstone which is between Jacob's and Mary Ann's was untouched. The headstone for Charles Koogler which is in a different section of the graveyard was also lying on the ground. The original break in Charles' stone that I have repaired twice fractured yet again, from the cold I suppose as there were no limbs at or near the marker. I found all of this on January 3rd when I decided to ride over and check on things just before dark. I was able to reset Mary Ann's headstone the same day. It will take warmer weather to reset Jacob's and repair and reset Charles'.



Warmer weather finally did come, at least warm enough to melt the snow off Jacob Hanger's (1794-1875) stone so I could reset it. The snow had hung around for nineteen days and on January 26th it started to loosen its grip. Charles' stone will have to wait on 50's and 60's for the adhesive to do its proper job on the break. Jacob's stone will need a light cleaning then as well.



More Canine Hits!

On Sunday January 5th Dr. Kathleen Connor brought her canine, Seamus, out to the cemetery and worked him in the cold. She was preparing to go to Georgia the following week. Assignment: Locate a civil war amputee pit at one of the state's battlefield sites. She wanted to see how he would perform in a known environment while it was cold, thinking it would be almost as cold in Georgia by the time she arrived, and boy did he perform.

While he only worked a very short time given the temperature, Seamus located eight more potential graves. The hits were in an area adjacent to Catherine Wehrley Hanger's grave and just below the Clinebell section. I feel like one of them is going to be that of John Hanger, infant son of John and Catherine Wehrley Hanger. If records are anywhere close to accurate, Catherine had her last child, John Brown Hanger (1826-1866) on February 13, 1826. On March 26, 1826, both Catherine and her three-year-old son John died. These dates are from headstone inscriptions so minus a stonecutter error, that's probably a good timeline. Little John's headstone was present in 1972, and the inscription was recorded then but the stone is now nowhere to be found. According to Dorothy Weaver' 1978 records it read, *Son of John & Catherine, 3 yr. 23 da, Born 3 March 1823, Died March 26, 1826*. But wait, there's more...maybe.

When Kathleen was inserting one of the blue flags to mark the location of a hit, she may have hit paydirt so to speak. Marble has a distinct pinging sound when it is probed with anything metal.....like a metal flag rod. The flag marked with the arrow below is the one that made the ping. Kathleen prodded an area about the size of a dish towel around where that flag is set, 12" X 18" or so, and it appears that she may have located a headstone, a piece of headstone, or

maybe a footstone. The ground was too frozen then to check further but it is on my to-do list for sure.

Of course, the scent molecules could be emitting from the ground at multiple spots from each grave so just because Seamus alerted at eight spots, there could be fewer than eight separate graves present at that location.



A Possible Clue to a Radar Confirmation

Last April when Dr Nash and her archaeology students came out for the second time to deploy the ground penetrating radar, a grave was located beside the grave of Susannah Ott Hanger, wife of Jacob Hanger. It just struck me as odd because as far as I knew I had accounted for all of Jacob and Susannah's children and pretty much where they are all buried. I had been working on their family a great deal as many of their children ended up in Missouri and I had always had a William Hanger listed as one of their children but had never gotten around to working on him or for that matter, paying any attention to his birth and death dates. When I realized I could not account for his whereabouts, I started looking.

Prior to the 1850 census, census forms were not of a lot of value to genealogists generally speaking. Starting with the 1850 census all kinds of things could be concluded from the census; First and last names of all household members, their age, sex, and race, occupation of each resident, state, territory or country of birth, if married within the last year, attended school in the last year, and the list goes on. Census forms before 1850 were much different. The head of household was listed by first and last name and that was the only name recorded for each household. Other household members were enumerated in a series of columns under male and female. The columns were marked "under 5," "5 but under 10," "10 but under 15" and so forth all the way up to the last column marked "100 and upwards."



After looking at William a little closer I realized that I had a birth date of 1839 and a death date of 1840 recorded for him and I also had William as the last child born to Jacob and Susannah. After getting over being frustrated with myself for not seeing that before, I looked to the 1840 census. And there it was in the “under 5” column, a numeral 1, meaning one child under five years old. Of course, the other columns were populated to account for all their other children as well. I then looked at the 1850 census, no William. And then it hit me, and I asked myself if that oddly located (at least in my mind) grave beside Susannah could be Williams’. And yes, it could be. We will never know if it is, but it does show that while forensic work at the cemetery may not produce a name or even a relationship, it does offer some suppositional evidence to explain things that can’t otherwise be explained. I don’t take or offer such things as fact, but it does make a good crutch for a wobbly hunch! Above is the stone in question, indicated with the arrow.

Our Ancestors are Important, all of Them!

We would all probably agree that our ancestors are important. Many of us have heard from our older relatives about the great accomplishments of a long-passed loved one. Or how great grandma was at cooking bread or making soap. And there are always the “they had to walk to school with no shoes, uphill both ways” stories. But I just bet if you were do some snooping you might find out some fascinating AND true facts about those in your own family that came before you.

When I submitted the application for the National Register Nomination, the cultural aspect of the cemetery ranked pretty high on the list of attributes I wanted to accentuate for consideration. After all, cemeteries are extremely difficult to get listed on the National Register, so I had to identify those things that set it apart from just being a place to bury the dead. And

Dutch Hollow became only the second cemetery in Augusta County to achieve the distinction of being on the National Register, the other being The Glebe Cemetery near Swoope. I included the following as part of my support narrative to try to accomplish this distinction:

These ancestors and descendants traveled west, they fought in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, and wars into the twentieth century. They received land grants, cleared forests for farmland, made innovations in farming and technology. They were Patriots, freedom fighters, Southern sympathizers, abolitionists, statesmen, ministers, community leaders, farmers, blacksmiths, distillers, and businessmen. All from a small community not unlike many other communities in Augusta County and elsewhere, yet what makes this group unique is that they settled, lived, raised families, worshiped, suffered through wars, disease, and persecution, died, and were buried in the very place that the American dream had brought them to, Dutch Hollow. And it is here, their final resting place, that offers tangible evidence of their existence.

It is this place that I seek recognition for, not merely to mark their death, but to mark the starting point for all those that have come afterward as a result of their life. Through preservation, recognition, and public awareness, the end point of their life becomes the starting point for stitching their patchwork of American fabric to already existing pieces, to provide a better picture of what makes up the history of America, which is continually being seamed together. And for modern era researchers looking at the accomplishments of the descendants of Dutch Hollow, they can look back to the recognition requested through this submission and see, even touch, just where those patches of American fabric were first woven. Their story is one worth repeating, and this recognition will help accomplish that, and more.

Now I know that this little section of the submission on page twelve of eighteen pages sounds like a lot of embellishment (some folks have a much different word for it!) but I had documentation for just about every vocation and profession I listed for those who descended from folks in Dutch Hollow out of an abundance of fear that the folks with the National Park Service might smell, oops, I mean think, the same thing. So just bear with me on this if you will.

As I have done research since the submission, snooping here and there and documenting a fact or two, I have discovered that not only did the descendants of those buried in Dutch Hollow have many accomplishments, but so did their ancestors. In the April 2024 issue of *The Headstone* I shared the story of the Muddy Creek Massacre and the Clendenin Settlement Massacre by Chief Cornstalk and his warriors in 1763 in the Greenbriar Valley of what is now West Virginia. If you don't recall the story, I encourage you to go back and read it to get the full appreciation of this present story. I have known for some time and had documented that John William Hanger (1855-1935) had married Nancy "Nannie" Clendenin (1858-1949) on the 4th of February 1883 at Nannie's parents' house in Audrain County, Missouri. As for the Dutch Hollow connection, John William's paternal grandparents were none other than Jacob and Susannah Ott Hanger. John's parents were Jacob and Lucy Ann Marks Hanger, buried in Santa Fe, Missouri. I became convinced in my own mind at least that Nannie Clendenin Hanger was a descendant, albeit not a direct one of the Clendenins from the Greenbriar Valley. So, I set out to prove myself either right or wrong.

In the summer of 1763 Archibald Clendenin and his wife had gathered the whole community of settlers at their homestead for what is believed to have been a community feast of sorts. Archibald was killed and scalped by a Shawnee war party and Mrs. Clendenin was taken prisoner but managed to escape as she was being taken back to the Shawnee Villages in Ohio. Except for the women and children taken prisoner, everyone was killed but one, he being in the fields working far enough from the scene of the carnage to escape once he could hear the screams. His name was Conrad Yoakum. His brother Valentine "Felty" Yoakum was not as fortunate. And while I digress from the purpose of this short piece, I have included a newspaper clipping that is attached to Conrad's memorial page¹ on Find A Grave.

So looking deeper into the relationship between Nannie Clendenin and the Clendenins that were victims of the massacre in 1763, I found that her 3g grandfather was a man named Charles Clendenin(1712-1790). He was Archibald's brother. But these great ancestor stories don't end here. Charles Clendenin, Nannie's direct ancestor and ancestor by marriage of Nannie's husband, John William Hanger, fought at Point Pleasant on October 10, 1774, which is generally accepted as the first battle of the Revolutionary War. And the next time you drive through Charleston, West Virginia, you now know who it was named for. Yep, Charles Clendenin. There is a sundial erected there on Kanawha Blvd. in his memory.² Although the pedestal is there, the dial is missing in this photo.

WHEN MUDDY Creek Mountains in Greenbrier County are mentioned I think of a tragedy that was enacted up there where Herbert Burdette and family live.

It was on June 27, 1763, that Chief Cornstalk and a band of 69 Shawnee Indians dropped in on that white settlement near present day Lewisburg. Close to 100 people made up the settlement at that location in 1763.

A party of the Shawnee savages had gone to the settlement on Muddy Creek Mountain. After the settlement had been wiped out, the killers came up to the Lewisburg location and joined with other savages who had massacred every living soul there except one. After killing the white settlers, the Indians applied the torch to their cabins.

That lone survivor was Conrad Yokum. When the savages band stopped off at Lewisburg, Yokum "smelled a mouse," so to speak, and took off. That saved his life.

¹ Find a Grave, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/262919882/conrad-yoakum>: accessed January 7, 2025), memorial page for Conrad Yoakum (1742–1768), Find a Grave Memorial ID 262919882; Burial Details Unknown; Maintained by Jeanne Yoakam (contributor 47161936).

² Find a Grave, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/30956157/charles-clendenin>: accessed January 7, 2025), memorial page for Charles Clendenin (1712–1790), Find a Grave Memorial ID 30956157, citing Monument on Kanawha Boulevard, Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA; Maintained by Susan Reineke (contributor 47018876).



Sundial and Memorial erected on Kanawha Boulevard, Charleston, WV

Erected 1917 by The Colonial Dames of West Virginia.

In Memory of Charles Clendenin For Whom Charleston was named.

December 19, 1794.

Okay, so for me and many others, calling Charles Clendenin a relative is well beyond a stretch. His relationship to me is technically "3rd great grandfather of wife of 2nd cousin 3 X removed." But that's not the point, (thank goodness). The point really is, generally speaking, no matter what your last name might be, where you were born, or where your "ancestors" are buried, someone in your past, no, many in your past, are responsible for stitching together the fabric of our America. Remember the application, *It is this place that I seek recognition for, not merely to mark their death, but to mark the starting point for all those that have come afterward as a result of their life. Through preservation, recognition, and public awareness, the end point of their life becomes the starting point for stitching their patchwork of American fabric to already existing pieces, to provide a better picture of what makes up the history of America, which is continually being seamed together.* But when all else fails in your search for someone in your past that did something noteworthy just remember their greatest contribution of all and say to yourself; ***"I am because they were."***

And one person who could say “I am because they were” was none other than John and Nannie Clendenin Hanger’s son, Charles Robert Hanger. Below is why.

Being a Hanger, I used folks from the Hanger ancestry to illustrate my point, but the real point is, you too can find similar examples of Great Americans in your own family. I challenge you to explore just a little, and if you remember some great story that was passed down through the years about an ancestor that just seemed too far-fetched to believe, I will wager that there is some truth in it. Take the time to investigate. I claim only to be a beginner-amateur researcher into such things, but I will

provide all the help I can muster to assist you in your endeavors. Think about my example here; On one end of the spectrum you have a man who fought in the first battle of the Revolutionary War and had a state capital named after him and on the other end you have his 4th great grandson receiving the Distinguished Service Cross³ for heroism in the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of arguably the worst war ever fought. And by the way, other countries honored him also as the 1919 newspaper article⁴ attests to.

But great accomplishments don’t have to be punctuated with great, world changing events. Take another look at your ancestors and see what you might learn.

There can be a dark side of course, that of infamy. But we can’t change that either. While in Cheyenne, Wyoming with our chuckwagon cooking for the Cheyenne Frontier Days event one year, I noticed ants on one of my cook-fly poles. At 6,000 ft. in elevation Cheyenne has very few pest insects so I was a little taken aback by their presence. I walked over to another chuckwagon cook from South Dakota and asked him, “have you had any problem with ants.” His reply, “No, but I had an uncle that was a drunk one time.” We are all remembered for

something, and yes, sometimes somebody has got to be the uncle. See what your ancestors should be remembered for. It would be great to highlight the accomplishments of some other surnames. Send me your clues and let’s see where they lead us, even if it is an uncle.

Distinguished Service Cross

World War I

Service: United States Army

Rank: First Lieutenant (Infantry)

Regiment: 356th Infantry Regiment

Division:

89th Division, American Expeditionary Forces

Action Date: November 10 – 11, 1918

War Department, General Orders No. 37 (1919)

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant (Infantry) Charles R. Hanger, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with 356th Infantry Regiment, 89th Division, American Expeditionary Forces, near Pouilly, France, November 10 – 11, 1918. When three of the companies of his battalion had become lost in the dense fog, during the crossing of the Meuse, Lieutenant Hanger made five trips through extremely heavy shell fire and guided them to the river crossing, thus enabling the battalion to fulfill its mission in the operation.

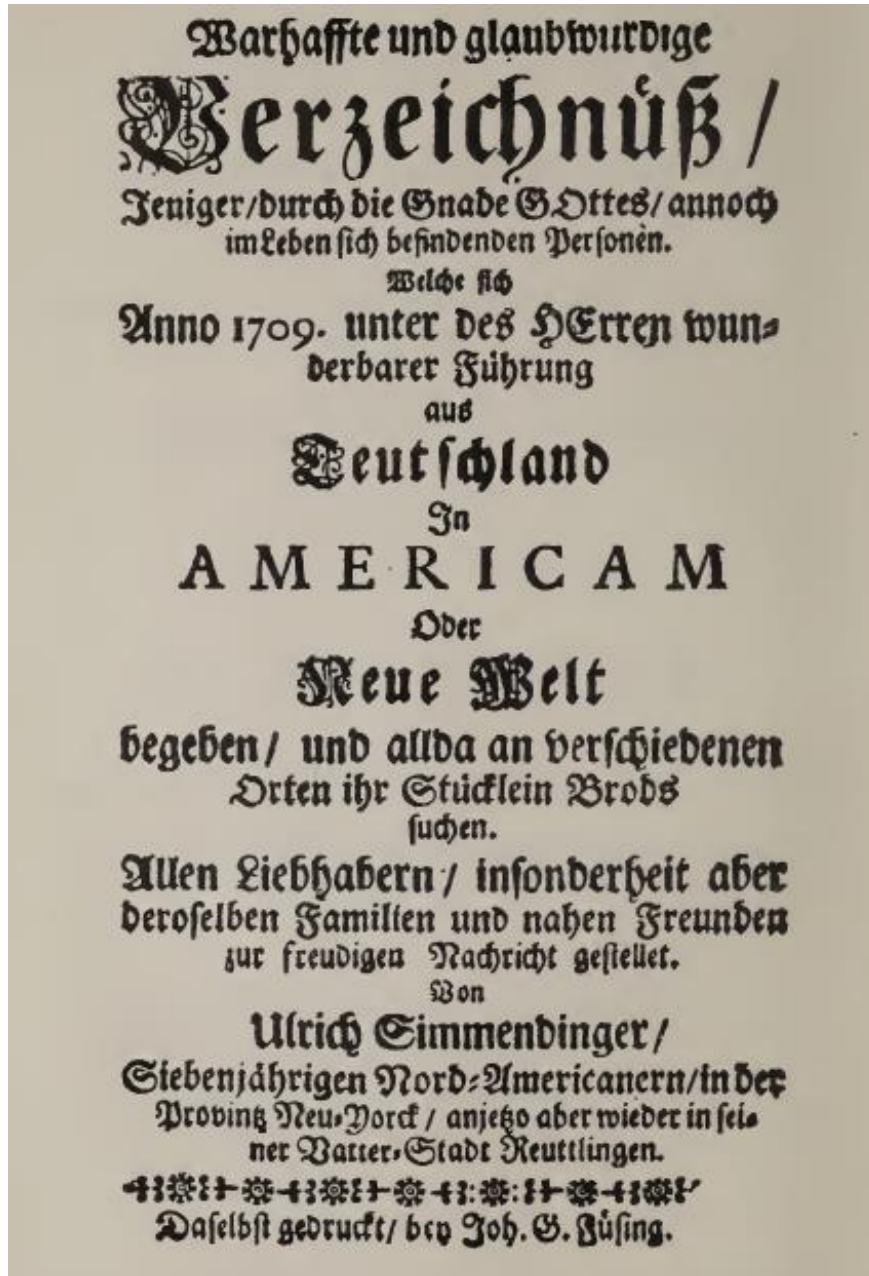


Lieut. Chas. R. Hanger of this place who was a member of the 356th Infantry of the 89th Division, is the most decorated Audrain county soldier. He has three decorations. The Distinguished Service Cross, from the United States government and the Croix de Guerre and the Legion of Honor, both from the French Government. All were presented him for bravery on the field.

Lieut Hanger, accompanied by his wife, he was married just before he sailed for France. He has a fifteen day leave and expects at the end of that time to receive his discharge he says he will go to Kansas City and resume the practice of law. At one time he was a law partner of D. D. Robertson, of Mexico.

³ <https://valor.militarytimes.com/recipient/recipient-12308/>

⁴ Newspapers.com. *The Vandalia Press and Laddonia Herald*, Vandalia, Missouri. 19 June 1919. Page 3.



As sort of a follow-up to the previous writing, I would suggest we all do our own research when it comes to history, especially that of our own family. I certainly challenge everyone to question anything I state with humble assurance from me that I will correct any mistakes I make and beg your forgiveness for the error. As an example of how easy it is to “mess up” when accepting things at face value I offer the following little story.

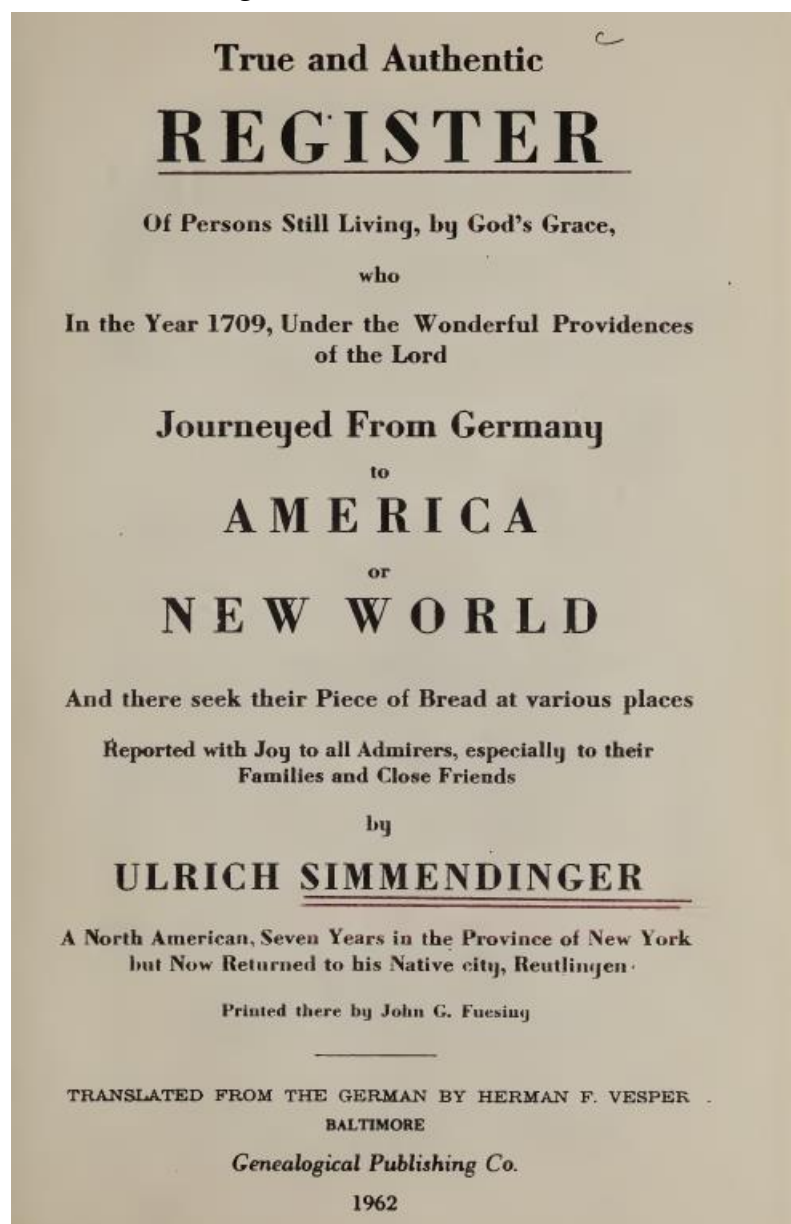
Some time ago I ran across a posting by a researcher who had found what they purported to be an “advertisement” that was used in Germany to solicit folks to migrate to America in 1709. I was immediately interested. So, I decided to actually do a little article for the newsletter based on what the researcher had stated. Left is the advertisement that the researcher had posted.

Now to me this looks like it could be what the researcher

said it was. What looks like a date of 1709 can be seen and a word that looks a lot like it might be America if in English can also be seen. So, you have got to figure that after being right two for two, just go with it. That’s when I contacted Author Nancy Sorrells and asked her if she could get Katherine Brown, an expert in all things German in my opinion, to translate the document. I am really, really glad I did that! A big thank you to Nancy and Katherine. It is not an advertisement at all but rather a register of sorts.

After getting the translation I started doing some digging and found in the California State Archives the very document that Katherine had translated, and it was available in digital format online.

Below is the English translation.



As you can see, this is not an advertisement! It is a register consisting of nine pages of names of Palatines who immigrated in 1709 from the Palatinate region of Germany which covers an area a little more than twice the area of Augusta County Virginia. It is a list of those 1709 immigrants that were still living at the time the register was compiled. Palatine is simply the name assigned to the group of people from the Palatinate region of Germany who due to many different circumstances were forced to flee their homeland. They found refuge in England and when their number exceeded what Queen Anne was comfortable with, the English concluded that these people would be great settlers for the New World in the name of England.

Rather than try to further explain events that I know very little about myself, I have included the various narratives associated with the register in hopes that you will be just as enlightened by what you learn about

this difficult time in America's history as I was. I have not included the nine pages of names here, but I have uploaded the entire register and list of names to the website. It can be accessed by first logging in and then going to the **Misc. Research Notes** module and clicking on the file "1709 List of Palatinates." To read this information may not be the desire of everyone, but I can assure you that the following perspectives cannot be found in any history books that I have been fortunate enough to read. Your text will probably need to be enlarged to read the following.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Through the courtesy of the New York Public Library and especially through the Assistant Director, H. M. Lydenberg, we are permitted to give to the public the contents of the Simmendinger Register.

This register was originally prepared by Ulrich Simmendinger after his return to Germany from this country where he had been in the Palatine migration for seven years. The preface sets forth his reason for coming and returning. The Register throws light on the limited information we possess relative to the early struggles of the hardy Palatines who first settled along the Hudson and later, the Mohawk Valley. The author explains why he published the book, which was a sort of message from the colony overseas to friends and relatives back home in Germany.

Little is known of the history of this Register until it showed up in the New York Public Library through an exchange of items with another library in 1926, and is now a matter of public record and photostat copies can be had by addressing the New York Library. It consists of 24 pages printed in German. The *Enterprise and News* is indebted to Rev. Herman Vesper of St. John's Lutheran church of Canajoharie, N. Y. for his service in translating the Register, and whose previous service in preparing a sketch of Rev. Joshua Kocherthal has been acknowledged in our publication entitled, "The Book of Names."

The Simmendinger Register will be valuable to many genealogists in definitely identifying the names of pioneer Palatines of the many Mohawk Valley families. Names frequently associated with the Palatines are now definitely established. It also clears up the date of arrival of many other families who had hitherto been obscure. He states plainly in the introduction that the names given are all who were established here at the time of his departure in 1717.

LOU D. MacWETHY, Publisher

FOREWORD BY THE TRANSLATOR

Ulrich Simmendinger was born in 1672 in the city of Reutlingen which is some twenty miles south of Stuttgart in the Province of Wurtemberg. His occupation is not known, but from the preface to his register of Palatine emigrants we deduce that he was a man of more than ordinary education and a member of the Reformed church. He married Anna Maria Schnabel of Cannstatt, a town near Stuttgart. They had two children.

Attracted to America by the promises of William Penn's Quaker land agents, who sought colonists for the newly established commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Simmendinger departed for England with his wife and children on July 31, 1709. His mention of "the gilded promises of the English letters" refers rather to the propaganda of these Quakers, who are said to have induced immigration to the Penn's Woods colony by describing it in glowing terms and by freely distributing money and tickets from Holland, and not to the "Golden Book," which commended the Queen's plantations in North Carolina. This latter prospectus derived its name from the fact, that under the picture of Queen Anne the letters were printed in gold. It appeared in 1710, the year after the author left his native country.

In 1710 the Tories displaced the Whigs in British politics, and the new party in power began to protest against the Palatine exodus to England, a movement which had assumed alarming proportions. The Queen felt it necessary to restrict further emigration from the Continent. After waiting several weeks for permission to cross the Channel a group of Germans, including the Simmendinger family, finally landed in England. Here the two children of the author died. It is assumed that he and his wife were among the 3,000 Palatines who sailed from London in a fleet of ten ships in January, 1710. On board one of these vessels was Robert Hunter, the newly appointed Governor of the Province of New York. On this voyage of six months some 480 passengers died and one vessel was wrecked on the American coast. The survivors eventually reached New York, but owing to their sickly condition they were quarantined for five months on Nutten (now Governor's) Island. Here 250 more succumbed to ship's fever, and 84 orphaned children were apprenticed to respectable citizens.

In the fall of 1710 Governor Hunter settled the remaining colonists on a tract of 6,000 acres on the East bank of the Hudson river, which land he purchased of Robert Livingston. Later he acquired 800 acres of land from Thomas Fullerton, a Scotch neighbor of Livingston. He also bought land on the western shore. On

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both sides of the lordly Hudson these Palatines were settled in small communities called "dorfs".

Simmendinger was one of those who in June, 1711, volunteered for the expedition to Canada. After this unsuccessful campaign the Governor ventured upon his inglorious attempt to produce tar and pitch for the British navy. The enterprise aroused a spirit of rebellion among his German colonists and he was compelled to halt the further manufacture of naval supplies. He released his wards from their contract and permitted them to shift for themselves. They were ordered to find lodgement for the winter, to remain within the bounds of the Province, and to hold themselves in readiness should the Queen desire their further services.

Upon their release some of the Palatines migrated to the Schoharie Valley, some to lands south of the Livingston tract, and still others to New York and vicinity. Among those who returned to New York was Simmendinger. He found employment on Long Island and remained there until August 14, 1717, when, with his wife, he returned to his native city by way of Amsterdam and subsequently published his register of approximately 500 Palatine families.

Beside the more familiar "dorfs" of Queensbury, Hunterstown, and Annesbury, which were communities in the East Camp settlements, the author lists the names of eight villages in that district whose exact location is still unknown. They are Wormsdorf, Beekmans' Land, New Stuttgart, New Cassel (Newcastle?), New Queensbury, New Heidelberg, New Hayesbury and New Annesbury. There is no map extant which identifies their site. To the south of the Livingston and Fullerton tracts were lands belonging to the Schuyler and Beekman families. In this region, stretching from the present Germantown to Rhinebeck, many of the original settlers and their descendants, as well as later arrivals, established their homes. We must assume that these eight communities were located on the Schuyler and Beekman tracts. The census of East Camp families which Dominics Kocherthal and Haeger compiled in 1718, the year after Simmendinger's departure, mentions the names of Kingsbury and Rhinebeck in addition to Hunterstown, Annesbury and Hayesbury. This census, which makes no pretensions at correctness, assigns a total of 128 families or 499 persons to the five East Camp villages. It lists 25 families or 109 persons as living in Hunterstown. For this village Simmendinger registers 41 families or 179 persons. This difference is considerable. Also in the listing of the remaining "dorfs" the discrepancies in the two registers are remarkable.

The names appearing in the Simmendinger register may be found also in the Ration Lists of Governor Hunter, in the Colonial Census of 1710, and at least two in the List of Apprenticed Children, 1710-1714, all three tabulations appearing in the "Book of

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Names" recently published by MacWethy. Simmendinger's own name is found in the first two of these lists. The spelling of names differs in some cases, and there are printer's errors also in our author's register. The latter might well have given the exact number of children in each family and their names. However, the pamphlet is valuable both to the historian and the genealogist, because it substantiates certain facts in the story of the Palatines and contains names which shine with undying lustre in American history. The language is couched in the phraseology and in the involved sentences of 18th century German. The translator has endeavored to preserve the quaintness and the naivete of the original, and he sends it forth in the hope that it may stimulate the historian to further inquiry into this interesting chapter of Colonial history and also assist the descendants of these doughty pioneers in their genealogical researches.

HERMAN F. VESPER.

Catsjoharie, N. Y.
November, 1934.

PREFACE

By ULRICH SIMMINDINGER

Kind Reader:

Were I fully to describe to you my condition and origin, you would certainly not conclude that either curiosity or a mania for traveling to see foreign countries had driven me out of my fatherland and horizon; much less to inquire of me: For what reasons and why I had journeyed with wife and children out of a fruitful and cultivated country to an untilled and wild province, out of peacefulness and security upon the perilous, restless waves of sea and ocean, out of precious, golden freedom into troublesome, wretched servitude, and out of the uninhabited and populous world into the long-discovered, in many places still uninhabited New World or America. Rather would you, in Christian humility, believe with me, that my former resolution was united not only with (a belief in) divine Providence, which wonderfully guides His own, and His holy will, without which the doings of men do not succeed, but also with the dutiful love of a father to provide honestly for his own wife and children.

For in the year 1709, when, in consequence of the most golden promises of the English letters, many families departed from the Palatinate, and the districts of Zweibrücken, Hesse-Cassel, and also Waldeck, down the Rhine to England in order to embark there for Pennsylvania, which land the late Queen Anne of Great Britain had granted sundry privileges—especially to the city of Philadelphia located there—I also resolved to go to England, with God's will, with the intention of enjoying a better living perhaps, by the grace of the Queen, and so, in the year mentioned above, and on the 31 of July, with the help of a birth certificate granted me by the highly esteemed authorities of Reutlingen, I set out upon my way in the Name of God with my wife Anna Maria, nee Schnabel of Cannstatt, and two children.

As joyful as was the entrance upon our journey out of Württemberg, so sorrowful and sad the same suddenly became when in Rotterdam 1,000 souls were recalled and ordered back, the Queen having given new orders prohibiting the entrance of more immigrants. This pretext discouraged from their intended journey at

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that time more than 3,000 of the Catholic religion, who returned home rather than change their faith at the demands of the Queen.

The return journey of these Catholics, however, opened up to us travelers, who had been laid up in Rotterdam for five weeks, the passage to England, where, after our arrival we were well provided for until we embarked, and within 26 weeks, with no small loss of passengers, landed in the Province of New York in Canada in North America, which borders upon Virginia.

After the landing and fortunate voyage, and since we were all in duty bound to live upon the grace of the Queen and under her services, we camped for a time very near the City of New York, until, away from there, and about fifteen miles south of Mr. Livingston's tract, we began to erect cabins, which everyone fashioned according to his own invention and architecture.

During this time—because it was planned to seize Canada or New France, which had been discovered and occupied by the French in the year 1504 and whose inhabitants were mostly savages—equipment, bread and other necessities of life were provided us, but as this campaign did not succeed as expected, after our return march certain work which consisted in the burning of tar was demanded of us, which (work) was carried on with much labor for more than two years, yet with no special and evident advantage and profit to the Governor.

Thereupon each one received his freedom to the extent that he might seek his own piece of bread in his own way within the Province until the Queen should again need our services and we, prepared for the first call, could be assembled together.

I, for my part, returned once more to the aforesaid New York, lived about four years on the long island, a half hour distant, and in the village of Brooklyn situated there, and sought sustenance by various labors among honest people.

Finally, since it is not my intention to write a detailed account of a journey and of the country, which has been done by others often enough perhaps, and which I will leave to other curious minds which have not been burdened with such worries as I had in that poor, wretched condition, the kind reader shall know in brief how I returned to Reutlingen from America.

I endeavored day and night to return to our dear fatherland with my wife. The two children did not hinder us from taking this intended and distant journey, the good Lord having already in England taken them unto Himself into eternal rest out of this pilgrimage and wandering through His holy angels. Once, after imploring divine aid, I went to the Governor of New York, revealed my plan, with the humble petition to release me. His heart the great God immediately so disposed (thanks to the intercession made for me by Mr. Cass, High German Commissioner, a

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native of Strassburg) that he graciously promised the dismissal and delivered the pass, to the greatest joy and comfort of my wife and myself, which seldom happens to one among the many thousands who live under the grace of Her Royal Majesty.

But here advice was again needed: Where should I obtain the great expenses of the voyage? My small income from the sale was not sufficient to meet the terms of the ship's captain and to cover the 15 pounds demanded (90 guilders in our money); it hardly sufficed to bring me to the ship! And my plan would therefore have miscarried had not a special contribution been presented me upon testimony to my good conduct by the good Christians of the Reformed and other churches.

With these means we betook ourselves, under God, to the ship on the 14 of August of this year 1717, attended by the fervent prayers and best wishes for thousands of blessings on the part of the reverend clergy and fellow-Christians, in whose Christian intercession I am still included daily. Which voyage was so fortunate that, under a good, favorable wind we landed at Amsterdam already on the 28 of September, therefore within 46 days, which is said never to have happened in so short a time.

From this meager account it is clearly seen how wonderfully divine Omnipotence led me there and back, and that it dispatched me like a speedy, American messenger to bring to all those seeking information the joyful intelligence and comforting tidings of whether, where, and how, this or that one still lives.

Just as the spirit of the patriarch Jacob was revived by the glad and vivid tidings concerning his beloved Joseph, so that he exclaimed: "It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive," so I believe that it will arouse no less a heartfelt joy in him who with tearful eyes saw his good friend set sail for the New World in the year 1709 and now sees his name in my catalogue or can be informed verbally by me, upon request, concerning his circumstance. Will it not be a great pleasure indeed when parents hear that their children, children that their parents, brother and sister that their brother and sister are still alive, or when friends can be assured that their near relatives are still in good health in America?

But these are they who are left of my traveling companions to America and are still alive, they who arrived later, selected from each village. These are they who, either by letter or verbally, requested me to greet their dear relatives. These are they who in this printed register bid farewell, because they have absolutely no hope of ever seeing their loved ones again, whether in this

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European or that American world, but altogether firmly believe, that they shall meet again in a future world after this toilsome pilgrimage, and at a time when the first heaven and the first earth shall have passed away and the sea shall be no more, and we shall behold a new heaven and a new earth, that is, in the heavenly Jerusalem, to the praise, honor, and glory of God, and shall be God's people. To whom be blessing, honor, and power forever.

AMEN



APPENDIX

A LETTER FROM THE PALATINES IN 1709

Through the courtesy of Rev. Herman F. Vesper, Canajoharie, N. Y., attention was recently called to the fact that in the Augustiana College and Theological Seminary Library, Rock Island, Ill. was a pamphlet entitled "The Piety and Bounty of the Queen of Great Britain," etc. On correspondence with the Augustiana College Library and through the courtesy of their librarian, I. O. Rothstein, we were permitted to view and copy this pamphlet. It was published in 1709 and the purpose of the publication was to acquaint the officials of Great Britain with the distressed condition of those religious refugees from the Rhine Valley in the Palatinate, who had gathered to the number of about 8000 in and about the City of London.

At that time it was necessary to secure the permission of the Government before launching a program of charity and the volume above mentioned contains the Queen's (Anne) permission to solicit funds for the benefit of the Palatines. In the fore part of the little volume was a chapter written by the Palatines themselves setting forth in their own language their pitiful condition.

LOU D. MacWETHY, Publisher
St. Johnsville, New York

THE STATE OF THE POOR PALATINES, AS HUMBLY REPRESENTED
BY THEMSELVES UPON THEIR FIRST ARRIVAL IN THIS
KINGDOM, ABOUT JUNE, 1709

We the poor distressed Palatines, whose utter Ruin was occasioned by the merciless Cruelty of a Bloody Enemy, the French, whose prevailing Power some years past, like a Torrent rusht into our Country, and overwhelmed us at once; and being not content with Money and Food necessary for their Occasions, not only dispossessed us of all Support, but inhumanely burnt our Houses to the ground, where being deprived of all Shelter, we were turned into the open Fields, and there drove with our Families, to seek what Shelter we could find, being obliged to make the cold Earth our Lodgings, and the Clouds our Covering.

In this deplorable Condition we made our Humble Supplications and Cries to Almighty God, who has promised to relieve them that put their Trust in him, whose Goodness we have largely Experienced, in disposing the Hearts of Pious Princes to a Christian Compassion and Charity towards us in this miserable Condition, who by their Royal Bounties and large Donations, and the exemplary Kindness of well-dispos'd Nobility, Gentry, and Others, We and our poor Children have been preserv'd from Perishing; specially since our Arrival into this happy Kingdom of GREAT BRITAIN. While not only like the Land of Canaan, abounds with all things necessary for humane Life, but also with a Religious People, who as freely give to the Distressed for Christ's sake, as it was given to them by the Almighty Donor of all they enjoy.

Blessed Land and Happy People! Govern'd by the Nursing Mother of Europe, and the Best of Queens! whose unbounded Mercy and Charity has receive us despicable Strangers from afar off into Her own Dominions, where we have found a Supply of all things Necessary for our present Subsistence; for which we bless and praise Almighty God, the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, and all Her good Subjects, from the highest Degree to those of the meanest Capacity; and do sincerely and faithfully promise, to all our utmost Powers, for the future, to render our selves Thankful to God, and Serviceable to Her Majesty, and all Her Good Subjects, in what way soever her goodness is pleas'd to dispose of Us: And in the mean time be constant in our Prayers, that God would return the Charity of well disposed People a thousand fold into their own Bosoms, which is all the Requittal that can at present be made by us poor distressed Protestants.

THE PALATINES.

Below is a picture of the Palatinate Forest, a low-mountain region in southwestern Germany.⁵ Its elevation is about the same as ours here in Dutch Hollow, around 2000 ft. Is it any wonder that so many of our German forefathers stopped in the Shenandoah Valley as they made their way south from Pennsylvania during the 1700s and chose to make it their home? This photo could in many respects pass for many areas in the Shenandoah Valley. What a little known of, yet wonderful account we have to learn from with the forgoing ledger writings.



If you took the time to read the forgoing document, you noticed that Ulrich Simmendinger was born in 1672 in the town of Reutlingen. The map below is the migration path of Johann Melchoir Hengerer (Hanger), (1700-1768) my 6th great grandfather and ancestor to many in Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery. This was his travel path in Germany up until he brought his family to America in 1740. And there is Reutlingen.

Coincidence?

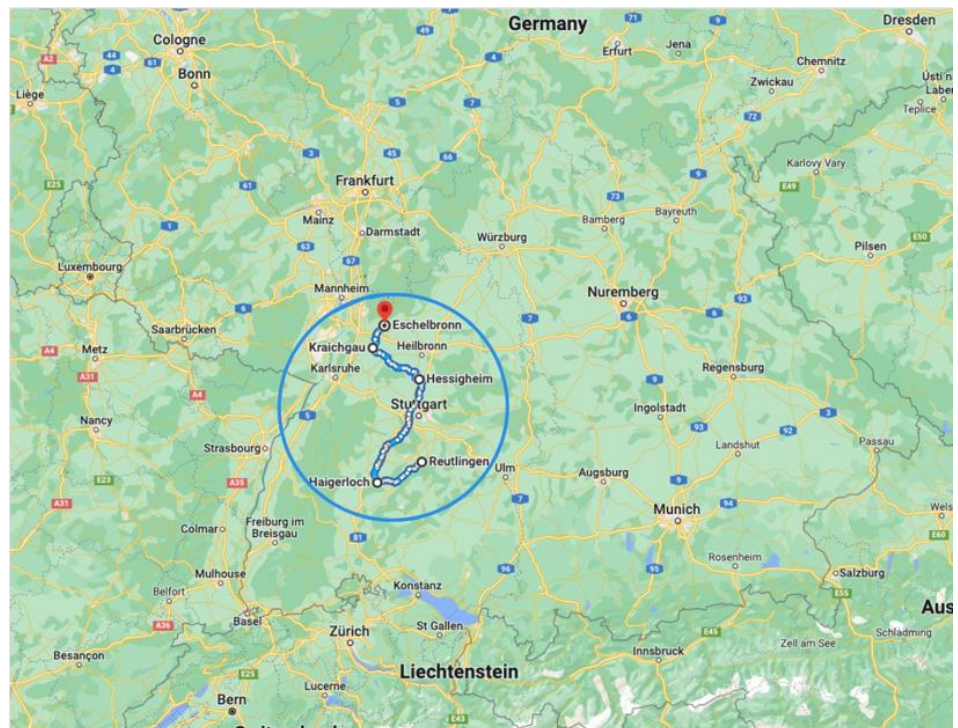


Diagram courtesy of Marie Sproul

⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palatinate_Forest

I guess I had better stop with all of this at least for this newsletter. I may have already worn out my welcome, but I hope not. Just remember, your own ancestors have a story too. Why not "look into it."

Last but not least: Please always verify my research. I make too many mistakes for you not to.

Website Updates: Members Section

In The Library / Archives Section

Ship Passenger Lists 1732-1754 - 15 Total

Unpublished Documents - 9 Total

Published Documents - 11 Total

Life in Dutch Hollow - 165 Total

Obituaries & Death Notices - 828 (Still several ~~hundred~~, thousand to go)

Lucas-Fix Private Collection 109 Total

Department of Historical Resources Augusta County Archaeological Site Surveys - 16

Deed Histories - Dutch Hollow - 5

DHH Cemetery Forensics, Etc. - Preliminary Findings of Ground Penetrating Radar for lower 35 feet of Cemetery and GPS of entire cemetery - 2

Frederich Hanger Descendants Over 200 pages of his descendants' names with city, county, and state of residence when known.

Cook-Teaford Cemetery - 2 Files

Schoolhouses-Augusta Co. - 1800s - 14

Coming Soon:

Elijah Jacob Hanger Private Collection (Approximately 450 files to be uploaded as time permits)

In The Focused Research Section

18 Files (40+ more to be researched, formatted, and uploaded as time permits)

The **Miscellaneous Research Notes** module now contains 41 files. There are over 350 files contained within those 37 files. Please use them. All of that work is for your benefit and was done with you in mind. Take advantage of it! By the same token, let me know what you would like to see changed or added and I will do my best to accommodate.

Until next month, Blessings and Happy Trails,

Glenn Hanger

President, Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery