



Miller Sentinel

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In this issue the Family Group Sheet of Johann MÜLLER (MUELLER, MILLER) the Elder supplied in the first installment is used as background and starting point of this edition of Miller Sentinel. The work still centers on the parents and siblings of Matthias MÜLLER (MUELLER, MILLER). The youngest siblings of Matthias, our great grandfather, are the main subject of this newsletter.

According to the Theley parish registers 1 and 2 held at the German Archives BISTUMS ARCHIV TRIER Johann and Maria DEWES MÜLLER were the parents of seven children, six boys and one girl. Anna Maria born Feb 1819 and Nikolas born Jan 1820 died shortly after birth. The married couple immigrated to America with five children, the youngest being Josef, born August 30, 1830. Two more children born after emigration from Theley, namely, Alex and Fred would make them parents of nine children. Alex, it seems, was born USA on the emigration voyage and Fred was born after the family settled in Canada, Rainham, Haldimand County, Ontario.

The 1851 Canadian Census p 23, Rainham, Haldimand County, Ontario shows John and Mary MILLER with three sons, namely, Joseph, 19; Alex, 17; and Fred, living at home. The 1861 Canadian Census, p 42, North Waterloo Township, Waterloo County, Ontario list John and Mary MILLER, sons, Alex, Fred, and Nicholas at home residence. However at this time, Mary, the mother, at age 66 had died of old age. Alex had died at age 27 from smallpox. The living members were the father and the sons Fred and Nicholas.

Previous installments of the Miller Sentinel feature this family with details about all of the children except Joseph and Frederick. Alex was youngest between Joseph and Fred. However he died at age 27. He married Caroline HUND in January 1860 and died in December 1860 from smallpox. It is possible but no proof exists that he was the father of one child. So the story hereafter shifts to the lives of Joseph and Frederick.

Somewhere along the way as names were reported in English the initial “D” was added. It appears to be a way of showing the first letter of the mother’s maiden name. Thus we now have Joseph D. MÜLLER (MUELLER, MILLER) and Frederick D. MÜLLER (MUELLER, MILLER). The three spellings of the last name bear witness to the area in Prussia where the family originated. The area was Alsace/Lorraine. The MÜLLER is German; the MUELLER is French. The people developed their own language or dialect. They could understand each other. They didn’t speak classical German.

Johann MÜLLER (MUELLER, MILLER) the Elder died August 1865. Waterloo County, Waterloo, ON Canada. His will was proved 31 October 1865. He named his sons Frederick MUELLER and Joseph MUELLER as inheritors of his farm. The farm was part of Lot number sixty-seven of the German Company Tract of the Township of Waterloo. They were to pay the balance due on the purchase of the farm. (Apparently an amount of four thousand dollars). Should either of said sons Frederick and Joseph refuse to accept the farm, the executor of the will was empowered to sell the farm. The year was 1865. Since Joseph pioneered and settled a tract of land in Dorr, MI, Allegan County about 1865, it follows that the Canadian farm was sold. Under conditions of the will Joseph and his wife sold his half (111 acres) to Wendel SNIDER (1866). This was done by executors of the will. In 1873 Frederick and his wife Elizabeth sold his 111 acres to Moses ESHELMAN.

John and Janice FENNELL have supplied many details for Joseph D. MILLER, great grandfather of John. Their information added to earlier research recorded from family interviews helps to flesh out the story for Joseph D. Joseph D. emigrated with parents from Prussia in May 1833. The family settled first in Haldimand County and then Waterloo County, Ontario Canada. Joseph’s mother Maria died in 1861 and father Johann died in 1865. After Johann’s death Joseph D. and wife, Gertrude plus three children immigrated to USA in 1865. They settled first in Dorr, Allegan County and then Remus, Mecosta County, MI. The land had to be cleared in both locations. For sure they were a pioneer family.

The oldest brother, Michael, born in 1817 may also have immigrated with this family to USA. He lived with the Joseph D. family in Remus, MI. As a member of St. Michaels Church he gave the large bell with his name inscribed or etched into the surface. The bells and carillon from the old church were placed in a new tower in front and to the left of the new St. Michaels Church located at the corner of 50th Avenue and 9-Mile Road. In the cemetery his grave is #1 in the Joseph D. MILLER family plot with a marker inscribed MICHAEL MILLER born Dec 8, 1817, died Feb 9, 1896.

A record # M165, St. Boniface Church, Maryhill, ON, Canada shows that Joseph D. MÜLLER married Gertrude FETH 11 November 1856. Both grew up in Canada, Waterloo County. John and Janice FENNELL reported that Joseph and Gertrude had 13 children. Five children were born in Canada. Records at Maryhill show the birth for three children, namely, Maria, Carolina, and Maria Carolina. The latter

two died as infants. Nicholas and Caroline (Carrie) records are not at Maryhill. They could have been recorded at St. Agatha or St. Mary's as priests at the time served St. Boniface, St. Agatha, and St. Mary Churches. My family group sheet shows information for 11 children. Two are missing. Most likely they were born after the family immigrated to USA. Of the 13 children, six sons and three daughters are now listed.

I ***Maria (Mary) *******

Mary born 2 April 1858 in Waterloo, Canada married Francis DILYARD 24 February 1879 in Remus, MI. The couple lived in Saginaw, MI for a while, and then established permanent residence in Big Rapids, MI (1913-1925). Francis worked at Falcon Mfg. Co. in 1913. Together they had three children. Caroline born 1883, Gertrude born 1892 and Alec born ? Francis died March 7, 1926, Mary died April 4, 1929. They had been married 50 years. Daughter Caroline married Henry POLASKY; daughter Gertrude married Omar BRISSETTE; son Alec married Edith NO NAME.

II *** Nicholas*******

Nicholas born 15 November 1860 in Waterloo, Canada married Maria (Mary) RÚTZ 1 February 1887 in Big Rapids, MI. Almost one year later 15 November 1887 Mary died. Cause of death listed as childbirth. On 28 August 1889 Nicholas married Veronica (Fannie) BAUMANN in Wheatland (Remus) MI. The priest named as official was J M Steffes. This had to be St. Michaels Catholic Church as Fr. Steffes was assigned first priest in residence in 1888. Nicholas and Veronica were parents of four children. (1) Edward B born in 1890; (2) Mary born in 1892; (3) Alexander born in 1890; and (4) Carrie born in 1899.

Edward married Lavina BIERSCHBACH by whom he had three children, namely, twins Gerald and Geraldine and Harold. After Lavina's death he married Agnes STAFFORD who in effect was stepmother and helped to rear children from the first marriage. After death of Agnes, Ed married Gladys MAIN who actually preceded him in death. Ed and Agnes lived in Detroit, MI and Ed was in business with our father, John Jacob MILLER, in an auto repair shop. The business was totally wiped out in the 1929 Depression.

Mary married John Joseph REIHL in August 1917. They were parents of 10 children.

Alexander married Serua PEPPER. They were parents of 5 children.

Carrie remained single, never married.

Veronica, second wife of Nicholas, died 4 July 1913. I was told she had an ectopic pregnancy. My brother John was told she had an accident. The Recorder's Court of Mecosta County listed heart failure shock from an operation as cause of death. Nicholas married a third wife, Nellie HASLEM DORAN 7 November 1921 in Big Rapids, MI. Nicholas died Little Sisters Home for the Aged, Grand Rapids, MI 23 September 1929 and buried St. Michaels Cemetery 26 September 1929.

III******* Carolina *******

Carolina born 12 August 1861 Waterloo, Canada and died in infancy. The birth is recorded at St. Boniface, Maryhill, ON. #B1227.

IV******* Maria Carolina *******

Maria Carolina born 20 August 1863 Waterloo, Canada and died in infancy. The birth is recorded at St. Boniface, Maryhill, ON. #B1393.

V******* Caroline (Carrie) *******

Caroline (Carrie) born 20 August 1864 in Waterloo, Canada married Michael DOWNEY 1884 in Reed City, MI. They had one child, Girtie, who died 24 June 1884 as recorded on a very old marker in St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI. In 1894 Carrie established herself in the millinery business in Mt. Pleasant, MI. In 1898 a partnership with brother Edward renamed the firm to DOWNEY & MILLER. Carrie died 21 April 1906 in Mt. Pleasant, MI. Funeral services were conducted at Sacred Heart Church, Mount Pleasant and St. Michaels Church, Remus. She is buried in St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI.

VI*******Alexander *******

Alexander born 1865 Dorr, MI, Allegan County never married. He died 3 August 1888 aged 23Y3M3D. Information inscribed on the tombstone #6 in the Joseph D. MILLER family plot, St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI.

VII******* Joseph F. *******

Joseph F. born 16 February 1867 Dorr, MI, Allegan County married twice. First marriage was to a woman whose maiden surname was either KRENTZ or KREUTZ. To date no record located. Second marriage was to Katherine HESSELL 7 October 1889, most probably in Wheatland, Mecosta County, MI. There were five children from the second marriage. Vital statistics entered only for four. (1) Robert; (2) Henry born 1892 married Susanna BAUMANN 26 October 1926; (3) Raymond born 1899 married Bernadette DUTMERS; (4) Sadie born 1906 married Arthur O'NEAL and (5) Pauline born 1916 married Grant LEWIS. Henry and Susanna had six children, one died in infancy. They lived in Remus, MI. Raymond and Bernadette had five children. They lived in Big Rapids, MI. Sadie and Arthur had one child. Pauline and Grant had four children.

VIII******* John F. *******

John F. born 28 October 1869 in Dorr, MI, Allegan County married twice. His first marriage was to Julia TORPEY 28 November 1896 in Saginaw, MI. Julia died 31 July 1921. His second marriage was to Elizabeth HOLTFOORTH SIGIELLO

11 April 1923 in Saginaw, MI. There were three children by their first marriage. (1) Gertrude who married David ROUSSEAU; (2) Dennis J.; and (3) John W. The first two resided in Saginaw, MI. The third lived in Bay City, MI. No further information on this family.

IX

***** Helen *****

Helen born 6 September 1871 in Dorr, MI, Allegan County married Daniel GIETZEN no date given. They had two daughters, one being adopted. (1) Lena and (2) Margaret. The family lived in Grand Rapids, MI.

X

*****Edward *****

Edward born 17 July 1873 in Dorr, MI, Allegan County married in 1898 according to the 1900 Federal Census. In 1900 Edward and wife Mary lived in Mt. Pleasant, MI. In 1920 they lived in Big Rapids, MI with daughter Emeline and a two-month old child. Directory and Census data indicate their home was Big Rapids, MI. In 1913 Edward and wife Mary, Henry and wife Mary were listed as owners of MILLER BROTHERS, a store with groceries and variety of staples. Henry was Edward's younger brother.

XI

***** Henry *****

Henry (Heinrich) was born 28 August 1876 in Remus, MI, Mecosta County, and married Maria BAUER 10 April 1907 in St. Michaels Church Remus, MI. For a time he and wife Mary were joint owners (with Edward) of MILLER BROTHERS grocery store in Big Rapids, MI. From early 1920s they lived in a two family dwelling in Grand Rapids, MI. Henry was employed in various types of foundries. Maria was an accomplished dress maker before and after marriage. They celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary 10 April 1957. They both died in 1959 and are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Grand Rapids, MI. They were the parents of three children. (1) Bernadette married to Wayne POUND; (2) Margaret married to Thomas FENNELL; and Francis married to Anne KOLENDA MILLER. Margaret's son John is the person doing extensive research on this family. John is one of five children.

XII and XIII, two children who died in infancy. No record found.

The Census History of Johann MÜLLER family starts with 1842 Haldimand County, Ontario, CA. Joseph's name can be traced through all of the census returns from 1851 Canada to 1910 USA. See attachment to this newsletter. Most of the census data correspond with information learned elsewhere. There are some discrepancies. In a few instances the information recorded could not have been learned otherwise. For example, the 1870 Allegan County USA return shows Gertrude's mother, Mary, age 67 was present the day of the census, or even lived

with the family. In the 1910 Mecosta County USA return Joseph, age 79, widower was living with his son, Nicholas MILLER family.

Also attached to this newsletter is a four-generation pedigree chart for Mary Ann MILLER REIHL, daughter of Nicholas and Veronica BAUMANN MILLER. This name was chosen as it shows that Mary Ann's paternal grandfather was Joseph D. MILLER and her maternal grandfather was Phillip BAUMANN. From here one gets into a jumble of relationships which are beyond the scope of this newsletter. A few items of note show a connection to this Joseph D. MILLER family. Phillip BAUMANN was one of seven children born to Anthony and Agnes VOGEL BAUMAN. Phillip and siblings Matthias and Mary came to Mecosta County from Canada and pioneered the area. Phillip married Mary Ann FISCHER, a sister to Veronica FISCHER, mother to our father John Jacob MILLER; Matthias married Susanna SCHWOOB grandmother to Susanna BAUMANN, wife of Henry MILLER; and Mary married Samson GOBOLD. With the exception of Veronica FISCHER, all lived and died in Mecosta County. All are buried in St. Michaels's Cemetery, Remus, MI. (BAUMANN is sometimes spelled with one N).

Back in the 1990s when I only contemplated doing the MILLER genealogy I was given a few sheets of printed MILLER history, most of which featured the Fred D. MILLER family, a family about which I had little knowledge. It was a work done by Frederick A. MILLER and distributed to various family members. Most of my information came from Louise A. MILLER. Her 1969 work centered on Matthias MILLER and listed Fred D. MILLER as a brother to Matthias. By correspondence and chance encounters I met others who had a fraction of information and who were trying to complete the full story about our MILLER families.

Two different families had heard of a brother named August. After Joan DEVRIES MILLER and I found that the family originated in Theley Prussia birth records never listed a name August. The name was mentioned as a possible connection to the MILLER BREWING COMPANY in Milwaukee, WI. Joan DEVRIES did the research and found no name August that fit our family. Joan is a great granddaughter of Fred D. MILLER.

Another slip of information was an obituary that stated that Fred D. MILLER was born in Rheinheim, Ont. There never was a Rheinheim, ON. Investigation showed Rheinheim in Prussia. After checking the Canadian Census we found Fred in the 1851 Census for Rainham, Haldimand County, ON, Canada. He was the youngest of three sons named in the family of John MILLER and Mary MILLER. German speaking immigrants could easily get Rainham mixed up with Rheinheim. Rainham itself was an area where some of the first German emigrants to Canada settled. The name is no longer on the map. The first settlers could not speak English.

Johann MÜLLER (MUELLER, MILLER) the Elder died in August 1865, Waterloo County, Waterloo ON, Canada. His will was proved 31 October 1865. He named his sons Frederick MUELLER and Joseph MUELLER as inheritors of his farm.

Information regarding this will was given at the beginning of this newsletter. Both sons refused the farm and empowered by the executor each sold his share. In 1873 Frederick and his wife Elizabeth sold his 111 acres to Moses ESHELMAN. Also this family with six children immigrated to USA, pioneered and settled in Remus, MI area, called Wheatland at the time.

Ferdinand D. MÜLLER and Elizabeth HUNDT were married St. Boniface Church, Maryhill, ON 4 Mar 1862 (Record # M239). Elizabeth HUNDT was born 15 Jul 1840 in Baden, Prussia. She immigrated with parents to Canada when she was 9 years old. They had 10 children. Following the Family Group Sheet, I'll give some brief details about each one.

I

*****Caroline*****

Caroline born 2 January 1863 in Waterloo, Canada was unmarried. She spent most of her life in Chicago, Illinois where she operated a sizeable rooming house. She died 5 April 1928 in Remus, Mecosta Co., MI. She is buried in Frederick D. MILLER plot, St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI.

II

*****Helena (Ella) *****

Helena (Ella) born 7 October 1864 in Waterloo, Canada married Ed WENDLING 26 April 1892 in Remus, MI. The couple lived first in the village of Altona, MI where he worked in the grist mill on the little Muskegon River. Later they moved to Remus where they built their home on some lots of the Frederick D. MILLER property. In Remus, Ed worked at Adam DIEHMs General Store. They had two children: (1) Vincent born 1896 was unmarried and had several jobs as he completed his education from high school to college (Ferris Institute). His last employment was with US Secret Service. In 1922 he was sent to Philadelphia, PA on special assignment. While there he contracted pneumonia and died in a hospital there. His body was returned to Remus and buried in the Ed WENDLING plot in St. Michaels Cemetery. (2) Marie born 3 May 1901 married Casper PREIN. She completed her education at Central State Teachers College in Mt. Pleasant, MI. She earned her Life Certificate in Music in 1923. She taught music in various schools in Kent County and lived in Grand Rapids, MI. Ella died 28 Jan 1950. After Ed's death in 1932 Ella moved from her Remus home to the home of her daughter, Marie WENDLING PREIN where she remained until death.

III

***** Edward Albert *****

Edward Albert born 22 Aug 1866 Waterloo Canada married his cousin Mary (Ruth) HUNDT 28 Nov 1923 in St. Mary's Church, Grand Rapids, MI. They were married late in life and had no children. Mary was from Lena or Wadham's Grove area of Illinois. In early years, apparently before marriage, Albert lived in Omaha

NE and was associated with the meat packing industry. After return to MI he and Mary operated a rooming house in Grand Rapids, MI where he died.

IV

***** Alexander (Sandy) S.*****

Alexander (Sandy) born 8 March 1868 Waterloo Canada married Amelia (Millie) WENDLING 18 April 1893 in Remus, MI. He did not have a middle name or initial, but because everyone called him “Sandy” he added the initial S to distinguish himself from other Alex MILLERS in the area. He attended school on an interrupted basis when not needed at home or “working out” as did most boys and young men in his time. By 6th grade he was big enough to “work out” full time and terminate any formal education. After marriage to Amelia WENDLING they lived on his fathers 80 acres west of Remus. He assisted with saw mill operations until the mill was destroyed by spring floods. He also did some farming. Amelia died three months after the birth of their fourth child, July 22, 1900. Cause of death septicemia or blood poisoning. Lack of proper medical care was blamed. She was assisted by a mid-wife as no doctors were available. Frederick A. was born Apr 24, 1900. This couple had four children, namely, Urban, Arnold, Marguerite, and Frederick A. Alex reacted in a state of shock as his family was separated after Amelia’s death. (1) Urban lived with maternal grandparents, Jacob and Marian WENDLING (2) Marguerite was adopted by mothers brother Joseph and Angelina WILLETT WENDLING and lived in Mecosta, MI (3) and (4) Arnold and Frederick lived in the home of their paternal grandparents, Frederick D. and Elizabeth MILLER. A 1910 Federal Census shows Sandy married Caroline SCHWOOB about 1903 and Urban, Arnold and Frederick living at home. Caroline was a stepmother to these growing sons. Two were teenagers. Sandy died 10 Jan 1937. Buried in St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI.

V

***** William (Guilelmus) *****

William born 22 June 1870 in Waterloo Canada never married. He worked at different jobs around Remus. He left home in the spring of 1891 to take a position as bookkeeper with a firm in the state of WA. On a return trip home he became ill and upon arrival in Chicago was hospitalized. Even with the best of medical care he died 8 Oct 1891. Tombstone inscription in St. Michaels Cemetery Remus, MI notes ae 21y3m15d.

VI

***** Mary C/ Maria Catharina*****

Mary born 20 Sept 1872 in Waterloo Canada never married. She became Sr. Mary Mechtilda as a Sister of Mercy. She taught in various Catholic Parochial Schools in the Diocese of Grand Rapids, MI. She died 10 May 1926. She was buried in Sisters of Mercy plot in Grand Rapids, MI. She and her brother Frederick were baptismal

sponsors for our father John Jacob MILLER, son of John M. MILLER and grandson of Matthias MILLER. John M. MILLER and family had moved to Manistee, MI from Canada and were registered parishioners of Guardian Angels Church.

VII

*******Frederick H. *******

Frederick H. born 11 Feb 1875 in Wheatland Twp., Mecosta County, MI married Elizabeth Agnes O'BRIEN 3 Jan 1910 in Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago, IL. They had three daughters. Listing them with their married names they were (1) Virginia DEVRIES, (2) Patricia ESCH, and (3) Elizabeth WOLFSTON. Elizabeth was a registered nurse. Fred was a barber and owned his own shop. Fred was baptized 3 May 1875. Record at St. Mary's, Big Rapids, MI shows he was christened George Frederick MILLER. At the time records for St. Michaels in Remus were kept in Big Rapids. He lived in Remus, Scottville, and Grand Rapids, MI. He grew up in Remus, he married in Chicago, he returned to Remus with his bride. They were boarders at the Bailey Hotel in Remus as recorded in the federal census for 1910. Then they moved to Scottville for a time long enough for the first born daughter to have childhood memories. Their final move was to Grand Rapids, MI. Both died there. Both are buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in a plot not far from the Sisters of Mercy Plot.

VIII

******* Wendell M *******

Wendell born 31 Oct 1877 Wheatland Twp., Mecosta County, MI never married. He was ordained a priest of Grand Rapids, MI Diocese 24 June 1905. He served three years as assistant in St. Mary's Parish in Big Rapids, MI and remainder of his life as Pastor of Gladwin, MI Sacred Heart Parish. He died 24 Sept 1919. He always suffered from poor health. Both his obituary and the 1880 federal census mention ill health. However he was an excellent speaker and a good and zealous priest. He is buried in St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI in the Fred D. MILLER plot.

IX

******* Joseph Eugene (Sep) *******

Joseph Eugene (Sep) born 8 Jan 1880 Wheatland Twp., Mecosta County, MI married Eva FREIDEL 9 Jan 1917 in Remus, MI. Marriage recorded as Record 5539 Secretary of State, MI. They had no children. "Josie" took over his father's homestead plus 40 acres one mile west and ½ mile north of Remus. His was a general farming operation. He died 17 Dec 1952. She died 1952, date unknown. Both are buried in the Frederick D. MILLER plot, St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI.

Elizabeth born 13 May 1883 Wheatland Twp., Mecosta County, MI never married. She lived at home with parents. Later she kept house for her brother Fr. Wendell MILLER during the time he was Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Gladwin, MI. She died 25 May 1919 in Gladwin, MI. and four months before Wendell. She is buried in the Frederick D. MILLER plot, St. Michaels Cemetery, Remus, MI.

The Frederick A. MILLER genealogy report gives a brief description of the Frederick D. MILLER property in Wheatland Twp., Mecosta County, MI. I have a copy of the deed to his property but Fred A.'s account clarifies the area a little better.

1.

Forty acres at west end of Remus, south of M-20. It was a general farm operation. Everything a pioneer family would need. The list would include horses, cattle, chickens, pigs, garden, pasture, and orchard. Add crops to feed family and animals. Part of the land is now occupied by Crittenden/Hansen Funeral Home. One half acre of land on east side of acreage was sold to St. Pauls Lutheran Church either for the site of the church or the parsonage. The price was \$25.00.

2.

Forty acres located one mile west and one half mile north of Remus. Joseph E. MILLER (son) supervised the farm here.

3.

Eighty acres located 3 miles west of Remus on NW corner of M-20. (One quarter mile on M-20 and one half mile north on 60th Ave.) A dam across a small stream of water was built for a saw mill operation. The dam had to be maintained and repaired. It operated for a number of years. It was abandoned after extensive damage from spring rains. Fred's son Sandy, Alex S. MILLER, lived on this property with his family for a number of years after his marriage.

There are three things to consider as we go through the stories of each of the family of Johann and Maria DEWES MILLER.

1. There was no direct immigration to Canada until 1900. All immigrants entered New York on the USA port.
2. Our family crossed over into Canada probably by boat and settled slightly westward in Haldimand County in an area named Rainham. Rainham is no longer on the map.
3. None of these immigrants spoke English. Their language was a mixture of French and German. They claimed Alsace/Lorraine as their homeland. France and Prussia separately claimed their allegiance depending on the latest war victories. A Webster Collegiate GAZETTEER defines the area 1871-1918. It was once a German province annexed to France by Louis XIV. The area existed before 1871 and no longer existed after 1918.

After we received Johann and Maria DEWES MÜLLER information from Michael Palmer, Research Director of the now extinct GGSA (German Genealogical Society) we were led to more sources which helped to see this family as a whole. All of the researchers mentioned heretofore had a little bit of information mostly about individual families of the sons of Johann and Maria. In the Louise ARNOLD MILLER account there was Michael and perhaps John D. The difference in their ages was enough to think they had different parents. But the BISTUMS ARCHIVE TRIER research showed that a girl and a boy born between the birth of Michael and that of John D. died at childbirth. Thus it follows that Johann MÜLLER and Frau Maria DEWES immigrated to North America with five children.

BISTUMS ARCHIV TRIER had registers 1 and 2 for the parish of Theley, Prussia. The registers listed the children of MÜLLER-DEWES Familie.

1. Michael born December 8, christened December 9 1816
2. Anna Maria born February 19, christened February 20, 1819, died July 18
3. Nikolaus born January 5, christened January 6, 1820, died March 12
4. Johann born February 17, christened February 18, 1822
5. Nikolaus born September 14, Christened September 14, 1824
6. Matthias born May 5, christened May 6, 1827
7. Josef born August 30, christened August 30, 1830

The 1851 Canadian Census, p 23 Rainham, Haldimand County, Ontario shows John and Mary MILLER with three sons, namely, Joseph 19, Alex 17, and Fred 14 all living at home. Alex was recorded as born in USA and Fred was born in Canada. Alex and Fred were the 8th and 9th children of John and Mary.

After we checked the Canadian Census as well as the US Federal Census for years 1840-1910 we were able to trace the history of this family as some members lived in Canada and others moved to MI, USA. (See Census History in the enclosed supplement) There is a Family Group Sheet for Johann and Maria DEWES MÜLLER along with one for each of the sons with documented information. Two Family Group Sheets accompany this edition of Miller Sentinel: Joseph D. MILLER and Fred D. MILLER.

This work on the Johann and Maria DEWES MULLER family was started and published in the Miller Sentinel in summer of 2003. It is written and reported to show the relationship between the families of their seven sons. The information about Matthias, my great grandfather, was recorded in more detail than each of the others. To give details about the first and second generations of descendants for all of the married sons would be beyond the scope of this newsletter. Michael, the oldest son of Johann and Maria never married. Through the years I have taken every story, oral or written, that was told to me, checked both civil and church records and reported the findings in story form to be shared by family members.

Our parents were John and Mary KNIGHT MILLER. Our family grew up in rural Remus, MI mostly during the Great Depression. My siblings and I attended St. Michaels and Remus Consolidated Schools. Two brothers, John and Arthur, served

in the armed forces during WWII. For whatever reason, we knew little or nothing about our MILLER relatives. The Joseph D. and Fred D. MILLER families pioneered and cleared large sections of land in the Remus area, and yet we didn't know we were related. Our branch of the MILLER family may well have been Canadian. Our great grandfather Matthias died in January 1861 during the smallpox epidemic. After death of Matthias great grandmother Magdalena married Jacob PALM and all of the second family remained in Canada. Our grandfather John M. MILLER, a son of Matthias, had a thriving blacksmith business in Formosa, ON Canada. When the Panic of 1890 wreaked economic disaster he and his family and few belongings crossed the border and settled in Manistee, MI. Three children were born in Manistee, MI, the youngest being our father, John Jacob MILLER. John Jacob's mother, Veronica FISCHER, contracted TB and died when her baby was three years old. When death seemed imminent she asked her sister, Mary Ann married to Phillip BAUMANN, to take John and care for him. The US Census for 1900 lists John as the adopted son of Phillip BAUMANN. Decisions were made for three of John's older siblings to be fostered with various FISCHER relatives.

Now outmoded transportation and communication systems probably contributed to the separation of our MILLER families. Add to this the language barriers between German/French Alsatian and English speaking communities. The seven sons of Johann and Maria DEWES MILLER had many nieces and nephews. The families were large. Example John D. MILLER: One wonders if the oldest child could keep track of the youngest in the family of 13.

Both Joseph D. and Fred D. were uncles to the son of Matthias, John M., who moved from Canada to Manistee, MI. It appears that the Fred D. MILLER family made contact and befriended John M. MILLER. The baptismal record at Guardian Angels Church, Manistee, MI lists godparents of our father John Jacob as Frederick H. and Mary, son and daughter of Fred D. MILLER. In the 1930s when the older siblings of our father, John Jacob, came to visit here in Remus they always visited with Sep and Eva MILLER before they returned home. Sep (Joseph Eugene) was the youngest son of Fred D. MILLER family. Fred D. was uncle to John M. and by extension great uncle to our father, John Jacob MILLER.

Everyone who receives this Miller Sentinel may wish to consider the names of your first and second cousins and who of the seven brothers would be your great uncle and your fathers or mothers uncle.

Family Group Sheet

Husband's Full Name **JOSEPH D. MÜLLER (MUELLE, MILLER)** Chart No.

Husband's Date	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband	
Birth	30	AUG	1830	THELEY	PRUSSIA			
Chr'nd	30	AUG	1830	THELEY	PRUSSIA			
Marr.	11	NOV	1856	MARY HILL ON CANADA			Record # M165	
Death	22	JULY	1913	BIG RAPIDS, MI	MECOSTA CO		at home of daughter	
Burial	25	JULY	1913	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY	REMUS, MI			
Places of Residence	CANADA, USA(MD), PRUSSIA							
Occupation	FARMER		Church Affiliation		ROMAN CATHOLIC			Military Rec.
Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each marr.								
His Father				JOHANN MÜLLER				Mother's Maiden Name
								MARIA DEWES

Wife's Full Maiden Name **GERTRUDE JANE FETH (FATE)**

Wife's Date	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife	
Birth	26	OCT	1838	HESSIAN	PRUSSIA	DARMSTADT		
Chr'nd								
Death	28	NOV	1906	REMUS MI	MECOSTA CO.			
Burial	1	DEC	1906	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY	REMUS, MI			
Places of Residence	CANADA, USA(MI) HESSIAN PRUSSIA							
Occupation	HOUSEWIFE, HOMEMAKER		Church Affiliation		ROMAN CATHOLIC			Military Rec.
Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each marr.								
Her Father				HENRY FETH				Mother's Maiden Name
								MARIA MIETH

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arranged in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info on Children
F	1 MARIA (MARY)	Birth	2	APR	1858	WATERLOO, ON CANADA			Record # 982
	Full Name of Spouse FRANCIS DILYARD	Marr.	24	FEB	1879	REMUS MI	MECOSTA CO.		3 children
		Death	3	APR	1929	BIG RAPIDS, MI	MECOSTA CO		
		Burial							
M	2 NICHOLAS	Birth	15	NOV	1860	WATERLOO, ON CANADA			
	Full Name of Spouse (2) VERONICA BAUMANN	Marr.	28	AUG	1889	WHEATLAND (REMUS, MI)			4 children
		Death	23	SEPT	1929	GRAND RAPIDS, MI			Little Sisters of Poor by second wife
		Burial	26	SEPT	1929	ST. MICHAELS CEMETERY	REMUS		
F	3 CAROLINA	Birth	12	AUG	1861	WATERLOO, ON CANADA			Record # B1227
	Full Name of Spouse _____	Marr.							
		Death							Died in infancy.
		Burial							
F	4 MARIA CAROLINA	Birth	20	AUG	1863	WATERLOO, ON CANADA			Record # B1393
	Full Name of Spouse _____	Marr.							
		Death							Died in infancy
		Burial							
F	5 CAROLINE (CARRIE)	Birth	20	AUG	1864	WATERLOO, ON CANADA			1 child
	Full Name of Spouse MICHAEL DOWNEY	Marr.	15	MAY	1884	REED CITY, OSCEOLA CO			
		Death	21	APR	1906	REMUS, MI	MECOSTA CO. (MP, ISABELLA CO)		
		Burial	1906			ST MICHAELS CEMETERY - REMUS MI			
M	6 ALEXANDER	Birth			1865	DORR, MI	ALLEGAN CO		
	Full Name of Spouse _____	Marr.							
		Death	3	AUG	1888	REMUS, MI - MECOSTA CO			
		Burial				ST MICHAELS CEMETERY, REMUS MI			
M	7 JOSEPH F.	Birth	16	FEB	1867	DORR, MI	ALLEGAN CO		
	Full Name of Spouse (KATIE) (2) KATHERINE HESSEL	Marr.	7	OCT	1889				5 children
		Death	19	OCT	1916	REMUS MI - MECOSTA CO.			
		Burial				ST MICHAELS CEMETERY REMUS, MI			
M	8 JOHN F	Birth	28	OCT	1869	DORR, MI	ALLEGAN CO.		
	Full Name of Spouse (1) JULIA FORPEY	Marr.	28	NOV	1896	SAGINAW, MI	SAGINAW CO.		3 children
		Death	11	DEC	1939	SAGINAW, MI			
		Burial	14	DEC	1939	MT OLIVET CEMETERY	SAGINAW		
Compiler		VERONICA A MILLER						Notes:	
Address		8177 50th AVE							
City, State, Zip		REMUS, MI 49340							
Date		FEB. 16, 2011							

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Husband's Full Name

Additional Children and Sources:

Husband's name **JOSEPH D. MÜLLER**

Wife's name **GERTRUDE FATE**

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arranged in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day Month Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info on Children
F	9 HELEN	Birth	6 SEPT 1871	DORR, MI	ALLEGAN CO.		2 daughters 1 adopted child
	Full Name of Spouse DANIEL GIETZEN	Death	29 JUNE 1947	GRAND RAPIDS, MI	KENT CO		
		Burial		ST. MARY'S CHURCH & MT CALVARY CEMETERY			
M	10 EDWARD	Birth	17 JUL 1873	DORR, MI	ALLEGAN CO		1 child
	Full Name of Spouse MARY HERZBERG	Marr.	27 APR 1898	REMUS, MI	COSTA CO.		
		Death					
		Burial					
M	11 HENRY	Birth	28 AUG 1876	REMUS MI	MECOSTA CO.		3 children
	Full Name of Spouse MARIA BAUER	Marr.	10 APR 1907	REMUS ST. MICHAELS			
		Death	22 MAR 1959	GRAND RAPIDS MI			
		Burial		WOODLAWN CEMETERY GR MI			
	12	Birth					
		Marr.					
	Full Name of Spouse	Death					
		Burial					
	13	Birth					
		Marr.					
	Full Name of Spouse	Death					
		Burial					
	14	Birth					
		Marr.					
	Full Name of Spouse	Death					
		Burial					
	15	Birth					
		Marr.					
	Full Name of Spouse	Death					
		Burial					

Sources for Husband:

Catholic Church Records, Thelen Prussia, Diocese of Trier
 Obituary of Joseph D. Miller - Big Rapids Pioneer
 Canadian Censuses: 1851 Rainham ON, 1861 Waterloo ON, 1871 Waterloo ON, Canada
 Will of father Johann Miller - proved in OCTOBER 1865
 US Censuses: 1880, 1900, 1910 Wheatland Twp MI Mecosta County
 St Michaels Cemetery Record Remus, Mecosta Co, MI
 St Boniface Church Records Maryhill ON Canada

Sources for Wife:

Great grandson John and wife Janice FENNELL
 St Michael Cemetery Record, Remus (Mecosta Co) MI plus death certificate state
 of MI
 St Boniface Church Records Maryhill, ON Canada

Sources for Children:

Birth records for 3 children recorded at St Boniface Church, Maryhill
 Carrie died in Mt Pleasant (Isabella Co) and was buried in Remus - St Michaels Cem

Additional Information:

Family Group Sheet

(FERDINAND) MILLER
Husband's Full Name FREDERICK D. MÜLLER (MUELLER) Chart No.

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband	
Birth	10	DEC	1836	RAINHAM (HALDIMAND COUNTY) ONTARIO CANADA				
Chr'nd								
Marr.	4	MAR	1862	ST BONIFACE MARYHILL, ONTARIO CANADA				M 239
Death	29	JUNE	1913	REMUS MECOSTA COUNTY MI				
Burial	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY REMUS, MECOSTA CO. MI							
Places of Residence HALDIMAND & WATERLOO COUNTIES, Canada, MI, USA								
Occupation FARMER Church Affiliation ROMAN CATHOLIC Military Rec.								
Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each marr.								
His Father JOHANN MÜLLER (MUELLER)				Mother's Maiden Name MARIA DEWES				

Wife's Full Maiden Name ELIZABETH HUNDT

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth	15	JUL	1840	BADEN PRUSSIA			
Chr'nd							
Death	1	FEB	1918	REMUS MECOSTA COUNTY, MI			
Burial	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY REMUS, MECOSTA CO, MI						
Places of Residence PRUSSIA, CANADA, USA							
Occupation HOUSEWIFE, HOMEMAKER Church Affiliation ROMAN CATHOLIC Military Rec.							
Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each marr.							
Her Father AMAND HUNDT				Mother's Maiden Name MARIANNA DIEDRICH			

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arranged in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info on Children
F	1 CAROLINA CARRIE	Birth	2	JAN	1863	NEW GERMANY, ON CA			B 1338
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.	— SINGLE - LIVED IN CHICAGO owned a rooming house						
		Death	5	APR	1928	REMUS MI MECOSTA CO			
		Burial	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY						
F	2 HELENA (ELLA)	Birth	7	OCT	1864	NEW GERMANY, WATERLOO CO CA			B 1471
	Full Name of Spouse EDWARD WENDLING	Marr.	26	APR	1892				2 children
		Death	28	JAN	1950	GRAND RAPIDS, MI ^{at home of} MARIE WENDLING PREIN			
		Burial	ST. MICHAELS CEMETERY, REMUS, MI						
M	3 EDWARD ALBERT	Birth	22	AUG	1864	NEW GERMANY WATERLOO CO CA			B 1611
	Full Name of Spouse MARY (RUTH) HUNDT	Marr.	28	NOV	1923	ST. MARYS CHURCH GRAND RAPIDS MI			
		Death	29	MAY	1947	GRAND RAPIDS, MI			
		Burial							
M	4 ALEXANDER (SANDY)	Birth	8	MAR	1868	NEW GERMANY WATERLOO CO CA			B 1728
	Full Name of Spouse (1) AMELIA (MILLIE) WENDLING (2) CAROLINE SCHWOEB	Marr.	18	APR	1893	REMUS, MI			4 children
		Death	10	JAN	1937	REMUS, MI			
		Burial	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY						
M	5 WILLIAM (GWILHELMUS)	Birth	22	JUN	1870	NEW GERMANY WATERLOO CO CA			B 1873
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.	—						
		Death	8	OCT	1891	CHICAGO, ILLINOIS			
		Burial	ST MICHAELS, REMUS, MI						
F	6 (MARY C.) MARIA CATHARINA	Birth	20	SEP	1872	NEW GERMANY, WATERLOO CO CA			B 2035
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.	— SINGLE joined Sisters of Mercy						
		Death	10	MAY	1926	GRAND RAPIDS, MI			
		Burial	SISTERS OF MERCY - CEMETERY						
M	7 FREDERICK H. (GEORGE)	Birth	11	FEB	1875	WHEATLAND TWP, MI MECOSTA CO			3 children
	Full Name of Spouse ELIZ. AGNES O'BRIEN	Marr.	31	JAN	1910	HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL CHICAGO, ILL.			
		Death	3	AUG	1943	GRAND RAPIDS, MI			
		Burial	MT CALVARY CEMETERY, GR, MI						
M	8 WENDEL M	Birth	31	OCT	1877	WHEATLAND TWP MECOSTA CO			(24 JUN 1905)
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.	— SINGLE ORDAINED CATHOLIC PRIEST - GR DIOCESE						
		Death	24	SEP	1919	GLADWIN, MI			
		Burial	ST MICHAELS CEMETERY REMUS, MI						

Compiler VERONICA A MILLER		Notes:
Address 8177 50th AV		
City, State, Zip REMUS, MI 49340-9715		
Date 2/14/12		

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Husband's Full Name

Additional Children and Sources:

Husband's name **FREDERICK D. MÜLLER** Wife's name **ELIZABETH HUNDT**

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arranged in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day Month Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info on Children
M	9 JOSEPH EUGENE <small>(SEP)</small>	Birth	8 JAN 1880	WHEATLAND TWP	MECOSTA CO	MI	
	Full Name of Spouse EVA FREIDEL	Marr.	9 JAN 1917	REMUS MI	MECOSTA CO	MI	RECORD 5539 Sec of state MI
		Death	17 DEC 1952	REMUS	MECOSTA CO	MI	
		Burial		ST MICHAELS CEMETERY	REMUS	MI	
F	10 ELIZABETH	Birth	13 MAY 1883	WHEATLAND TWP	MECOSTA CO	MI	
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.	SINGLE				
		Death	25 MAY 1919	GLADWIN,	MI		
		Burial		ST. MICHAELS CEMETERY	REMUS	MI	
	11	Birth					
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.					
		Death					
		Burial					
	12	Birth					
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.					
		Death					
		Burial					
	13	Birth					
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.					
		Death					
		Burial					
	14	Birth					
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.					
		Death					
		Burial					
	15	Birth					
	Full Name of Spouse	Marr.					
		Death					
		Burial					

Sources for Husband:

1866 St. Boniface Church Census Frederick MUELLER and Elizabeth HUND shows Joseph HUND and Magdalena HUND living at this address (Her parents?)

Federal and National Census reports from National Archives, Washington D.C and National Archives of Canada - (OTTAWA) 1842-1910

Marriage record M 239 St Boniface Church Maryhill, ON Canada

Sources for Wife:

Same as husband above

News clippings from local newspapers

Sources for Children:

Edward Albert MUELLER, son of Fredric MUELLER and ELIZABETH HUNDT married Mary HUNDT (age 47) born in Lena, Ill. Grand Rapids, MI
She was daughter of Joseph and Mary Wendling.

Fred A Miller son of Alex MILLER and Amelia Wendling supplied a section of this story

Baptismal records - St Boniface Church Maryhill, ON Canada

Additional Information:

Fred H. MILLER and his sister Mary C. from Remus, MI were godparents for John Jacob MILLER, Guardian Angels Church, Menistee, MI 1895
John Jacob was grandson of Matthias MILLER, a brother to Frederick D. MILLER