

Abraham and Jacob Pitsenbarger: Documents and Chronology

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This summary is an attempt to put together the documents I have on my great-great-great-great-great grandfather, Abraham P*, and his son Jacob P*. Over the last three years other researchers have been generous in supplying me with documents and interpretations of how these relate to my family line. The following pages are in no way a finished product: the goal is to pull together into one place the documentary evidence for this line of ancestry in a form which can be sent out to other researchers. It represents, at this point, very little primary research on my part. I am adding to this summary as new material comes to light. If this comes to you as printed copy second-hand, you should contact me for the latest version. The version on the web is always the latest version.

I am interested in Abraham and Jacob P* because they are the immediate ancestors of Anna Catherine P*, who married Adam Rodabaugh. A fuller description of the life of Adam and Anna Catherine can be found in my summary "Abraham Rodabaugh, Ancestors and Descendants." Adam's ancestry is in my genealogy *Four Generations of the Immigrant Christian Rodabaugh (1707?-1779) and his Family*. My line of ascent to Anna Catherine is Kem Luther (1946-), Billie Enid Rodabaugh (1917-), William Henry Rodabaugh (1879-1964), Abraham Rodabaugh (1853-1937), Jacob Rodabaugh (circa 1820-after 1880), Anna Catherine P* (circa 1794-after 1870).

There are a number of people who are active in researching various parts of the P* line. In Appendix B I have provided a list of correspondents. In Appendix C I have listed all of the P* sources currently in my files. At the end is an index of persons and places.

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Chronology

Numbers in square brackets (e.g., [0]) are references to bibliographic sources in Appendix C. The first mention of any child of Abraham and Jacob P* is in bold **SMALLCAPS**. I have given the death date for each child (if known) in the entry under the date of birth, and a forward reference to the marriage date. Spouse names and dates, and sometimes indications of data sources for descendants, are given in the marriage entry for each person.

- 1766 Abraham "Bitzberger," mason, marries Elisabet "Teysinger" (assumed Elizabeth Deisinger) at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on 22 April. In another church record, a communicant's list, Elisabeth's mother is said to be "Margaretha Feisinger." [33]
- 1767 **JACOB P***, the oldest son of Abraham and Elizabeth P*, was born on 23 February and baptized on 1 March. His sponsor was Margaret Schmidt. [33] As reported on his tombstone, he died on 9 July 1840 in Darke County, Ohio. His marriage was in 1792.
- 1768 December, 1768, is the year given for the birth of Jacob P*'s future wife, Margaret Booher/Bucher/Butcher.¹
- 1770 Abraham, Elizabeth and her mother (a widow) are listed as communicants of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. [33]. Abraham is said to be 30 years old.
- 1771 **ABRAHAM P* JR**, son of Abraham and Elizabeth P*, was born on 14 Feb, baptized on 1 April. His sponsor was Peter Deisinger (possibly a brother of his mother). [33] Abraham P* Jr lived in Pendleton County and Nicholas County, West Virginia, until 1830. After 1830 he disappears from the census records, perhaps indicating the decade of his death was the 1830s. His marriage was in 1795.
- 1773 **PETER P***, the son of Abraham and Elizabeth P*, is born on 14 February and baptized on 20 May, Peter Deisinger and Catherine Spohr, sponsors. [33] Peter P*'s tombstone in the Yoder Cemetery, Darke County, Ohio, says that he died on 3 December 1837 at the age of 63 years. He married in 1804. His wife, Mary Magdaline Fry, is buried in Clinton County, Indiana. Her tombstone says that she

¹This date is found in the family Bible of David Lair. Information conveyed to me by Rosemary J. Longworth, Route #1, Box 424, Simpson, Illinois 62985.

died on 22 May 1853 at the age of 73 years, 9 months and 29 days. Peter P* moved to Greene County, Tennessee about 1803, and on to Wayne County, Indiana, about 1826/29.[24] Many of Peter P*'s children ended up in Darke County, Ohio, where Jacob P* lived. There were two first-cousin marriages between Peter P*'s and Jacob P*'s families.

- 1774-79 **ANNY P*** and John P*, children of Abraham and Elizabeth P*, are born in the 1770s. See under 1792 for Anny's marriage.
- 1777 According to a Virginia deed [65] Abraham P* bought 300 acres of land on Elk Run, a tributary of Stoney Creek, in Shenandoah County (then Dunmore County), Virginia. The house on this land, originally built in 1734 by John Cristy, still stood in 1937 [69]. The house is on the Shenandoah Alum Springs Road, about three miles south of Jerome, Virginia.
- 1775-79 My guess for the birth window of **JOHN P***, son of Abraham and Elizabeth P*.
- 1776-1781 Abraham P* is recorded on an undated scroll as a member of the militia under the command of Captain Michael Reader [3]. It is not known which of the war years are included in this document. Also on the list is the Peter Tiesinger who would later witness Abraham P*'s will.
- 1781 **PHILIP P***, son of Abraham and Elizabeth P*, is born. Beer's history of Darke County [39], in the section on Patterson Township, says that "the first settlement was made in 1827 by Isaac Finkbone and upon the adjacent section a man named Philip Pitzenbarger erected a cabin and clearing a few acres lived for a time upon the land as a squatter. The location of these two pioneer clearings was Section 32 and 33." In 1830 a Philip P* is living in Wayne Township. He is age 40-49, and has 1 boy and 2 girls under 5, 3 boys age 10-14, 1 boy age 15-19, 1 girl 5-9, and 1 girl age 10-14. If this latter reference and the son of Abraham and Elizabeth P* are one and the same, then the birth of Philip P* must have immediately preceded his father's death, since his father only lived for part of two years in the birth decade indicated on the census. It is interesting that to note that in the list of the younger children in Abraham P*'s will, given three times, Philip P*'s name is always the last boy. Philip P*'s wife's name may have been Catherine.² The marriage date is unknown.
- 1781 On a single sheet which survived as a page marker in the Zion Pine Church (a German Lutheran Church in Shenandoah County) there is a list of persons who contributed to the retirement of the church's debt [70]. The name of

²Source of this name for Philip P*'s wife is highly uncertain. It may be that Emmalo Coody has this information.

“Pitzenbarger” occurs. The first name is indecipherable, but it could be “Abram.” If Abraham P* had already died, it seems unlikely that his family would have been in a position to contribute, so this probably occurred prior to the summer of 1781.

- 1781 On the 12th of April Abraham P* is sick and makes out his will [52]. It is not known how long he lived after making out his will, but the probate occurred in August, so it must not have been long. From his will we learn that his wife's name was Elizabeth (maiden name still unknown), and that his eldest son was Jacob P*. His second oldest was probably Abraham P* Jr. The will implies that both Jacob P* and Abraham P* Jr were under 21 (Jacob, the oldest, was in fact 14). They each inherited 150 acres of the land which had been purchased in 1777, and they were to “divide it in brotherly love.” Elizabeth's one-third dower was reserved, as was usual. The other four children, Peter P*, John P*, Philip P* and Anny P*, were to receive cash payments from their brothers Jacob P* and Abraham P* Jr, paid out over a five-year period after the two boys had turned 21. The will was witnessed by George Rinker, Peter Tiesinger, Ubrick Waggoner and Nicholas Hellwick.³ Matthias Painter shows up as an executor with Elizabeth.
- 1785 The Virginia 1790 census figures for Shenandoah County were based on county enumerations from 1783 and 1785. Elizabeth shows up on a list made by Alexander Hite in 1783 [36] and on one by Jacob Rinker in 1785 [67]. Rinker lived in Conicville, so the people on the list were from there and adjacent areas. Elizabeth has in her family eight white persons in 1783, but only six white persons in 1785. The 1783 list seems to have one extra person, and the 1785 seems to be short: if the number six includes Elizabeth, as it seems to, then one child is missing. Perhaps Jacob P*, already 18, was living off of the family farm.
- 1786 On 6 April Jacob P*, listed as “Jacob Bizenberger,” is the godparent for Johann Jacob Schäfer, son of Christian and Anna Schäfer. The baptism was in the Zion Pine Church, and was performed by Abraham Gottlieb Deschler [70].
- 1792 According to Morton [45], the marriage date for Jacob P* and Margaret Booher/Bucher/Butcher. Margaret's parents are not known with certainty. In Appendix A is a discussion the Butcher possibilities for Margaret's ancestry.
- 1792 According to Morton's Pendleton County, West Virginia, history [45], the marriage date of Elizabeth P* (probably the “Anny” of the will: if she were named Elizabeth Anne P*, and her mother used the name Elizabeth, she might well have

³The names are signatures, and not easy to decipher. Fortunately, all but Nicholas Hellwick are on the same census list as Elizabeth in 1785, so the spellings have been taken from the census. The transcriber of the order book [31] lists two of them as “Nicholas Helmes” and “Ulry Waggoner.”

been called “Anny”) to John Moats.⁴ The data on the marriages of both Jacob P* (in the entry just above) and Elizabeth P* is said to be “unplaced,” so this citation should not be taken to imply that Jacob P* or Elizabeth P* lived in Pendleton County.

- 1793 Birth of **PHEBE P***, daughter of Jacob and Margaret P*. The 1810 census discussed below suggests that there were two daughters born before 1795. Since Anna Catherine P* is known to have been born in 1794, it seems logical to put the first daughter in the empty two-year space after the marriage. Note that Phebe P* and Anna Catherine were also the first to marry. Phebe P* was married in 1817. When the final papers on the administration of the estate of Jacob P*, the father of Phebe, were made out in December of 1858, Phebe P* was deceased.
- 1794 Jacob P* and Abraham P* Jr, in twin deeds, sell the land they had inherited from their father as two separate 150-acre parcels [66]. It appears that they had not formally divided the land by deed, so the signatures of both were needed for each half. No mention is made of Elizabeth or her dower rights, so she may have died by this date. Jacob P* was already married to Margaret, but no wife is mentioned for Abraham P* Jr, so he must have been unmarried. A court order was issued on the 9th of July for two justices to travel to see Jacob P*'s wife Margaret and obtain her consent to sell, since she was not able to travel. They made the trip and registered the consent on the 16th. It may be that the impediment to Margaret's travel was a pregnancy, since her oldest child may have been born only two weeks later (see next entry). The fact that the court would underwrite such a trip, and that it could be done so quickly, suggests that Jacob and Margaret P* were living in travelling distance to the Shenandoah County land which they had inherited (see Appendix A for more).
- 1794 Birth of **ANNA CATHERINE P***, daughter of Jacob and Margaret P*, according to her age on the 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses. Correspondence with Emmalo Coody gives the specific day as 26 July [8]. On the censuses Anna Catherine P* specified her birthplace as Virginia. She died after 1870, probably in Missouri. The site of her grave is not known. She married about 1815.
- Before 1795 This is the time given in Morton's history [45] for the arrival of the P*s in Pendleton County, West Virginia. The name of Abraham Jr P* is known as the head of the Pendleton County group. The P*s are said to have settled around Dahmer, which is near Sugar Grove, West Virginia. Abraham and his wife bought

⁴There is a possibility that this is a second marriage for Abraham's widow, and not for her namesake daughter.

the Nicholas Emick farm in 1799.⁵ The Pendleton County tax lists show Jacob P* owning land from 1794-96, and Abraham Jr P* from 1797 on.

- 1795 The date in Morton [45] for Abraham Jr P*'s marriage to Mary Cowger (pronounced COW-gurr). Their children are described in [19]. Other sources for the descendants are [41] [34] [35] [51] [50] [49] [46]. It is possible that Mary was the child of John Conrad Gauger and Anna Barbara Probst. John Gauger arrived in North America in 1736, and came to Virginia in the early 1760s [9].
- 1796 One source on the Cox line, into which Barbara P* married, reports 27 October as the birth date for Jacob and Margaret P*'s daughter **BARBARA P*** [42]. It is only through the Cox descendants, in fact, that we know her name, since her father's will mentions only Barbara's son. The same source reports 4 April 1820 as the date of her death (in childbirth). See under 1820 for the date of her possible marriage.
- 1795-1803 Jacob and Margaret P* may have moved to Pennsylvania on or before this date, since the child born in 1794 claims Virginia as her birthplace and the child born in 1802 claims Pennsylvania as his birthplace. However, the child Margaret, who may have been born in 1803, says that she was born in Virginia. It is possible (see Appendix A) that Jacob and Margaret P* accompanied a large group that migrated west from Pendleton County in 1797.
- 1797-99 Birth of Jacob and Margaret P*'s daughter **ELIZABETH P*** ("Betsy"). The 1830 census for Randolph Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, places her birth in the decade of the 1790s. She married in 1821, and the 1810 census seems to imply a girl in the second half of the decade, so I am guessing that her birth falls in this period. Note that exchanging the names of Elizabeth P* and Phebe P* in the birth sequence does not produce any contradictions. Elizabeth P* was married in 1821.
- 1802 The Beer's history of Darke County [39], discussing a daughter of Jacob's son Jacob Asbury P*, says that **JACOB ASBURY P*** was born in Pennsylvania on 18 August. This agrees with his tombstone in West Branch Cemetery, Neave Township, Darke County, which says that he died on 24 September 1878 at the age of 76 years, 1 month and 6 days. Jacob Asbury P* was married in 1825.
- 1803 Jacob and Margaret P*'s daughter **MARGARET P*** born. On the 1850 census of Darke County Margaret Metzgar lists her age as 40, placing her birthdate close to 1810. She says, moreover, that she was born in Ohio, which would imply a birth

⁵Pendleton County, West Virginia Deed Book 3, p. 78, records the transaction. There were two tracts, of 90 and 27 acres, purchased on 5 February 1799.

date even later, perhaps 1811. The 1860 census, however, has her age as 58, and her birth place as Virginia, which would move her back to about 1802/3. The 1810 census does suggest a girl was born 1800-1810. According to the Alva Pitsenbarger family Bible a Margaret "Metcar," probably this Margaret, died on 2 March 1865. She was married in 1827.

- 1804 Peter P* and Mary Magdaline Fry marry on 3 January in Greene County, Tennessee.
- 1805 Jacob and Margaret's son **HENRY P*** was born about this year, according to the information on the 1850 Darke County census. Davidson family group sheets (Henry P*'s oldest daughter married a Davidson) specify the date as 10 November.[24] The date and place of his death is unknown. He was married in 1828.
- 1809 According to the 1850 Darke County census, Wayne Township, **JOHN D. P*** was born in Pennsylvania about this year. His will was made out on 21 January 1863. He died within a month of making out his will, and was buried in Yoder Cemetery, but the stone has been reset, and the date of his death is obscured.[24] He was married in 1834.
- 1810 Jacob "Pitsonberger" is in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in Bullskin Township. He is listed as being over 45, though he was only 44 if the information above is correct. Besides his wife, living with him are 4 boys under 10, one boy 10-15, 1 girl under 10, 2 girls 10-15, and 2 more girls 16-25. This corresponds to the ages and genders of children born to this date, except there are two extra boys, one under 10 and another 10-16. These may be relatives, or children who died.
- 1811 This would be the date that Jacob and Margaret P* and their children moved to Ohio, according to Beer's history of Darke County [39].
- 1812 Jacob and Margaret's son **JONATHAN B. P*** was born on 1 November according to an entry in the Heins-Pitsenbarger family Bible [13]. The same Bible lists his death date as 18 April 1886. He was living in Wayne Township, Darke County, Ohio. These dates also correspond to the dates on his tombstone in Yoder Cemetery, Darke County. He was married in 1839.
- 1815 Approximate date for the marriage of Anna Catherine P* to Adam Rodabaugh, probably in Montgomery County. Adam was born circa 1788, and died about 1865. After 1842 Adam and Anna Catherine lived in Darke County, Van Buren Township.

- 1816 Jacob P* is listed as a proprietor on the Randolph Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, tax records for this year [60].
- 1817 Jacob and Margaret P*'s daughter Phebe P* marries Daniel Fetter (or David Fetter) in Montgomery County on 25 September.⁶ On 2 May 1842 her brother Henry P* is appointed guardian of the Fetter children of Phebe P*. Pitsenbarger researchers have posited different life histories for Phebe over the years. The most recent study of this is by Wally Garchow, published in the *Darke County Kindling* (XII:4, Oct 1994). Wally believes that Daniel and Phebe had three children who lived to be adults, George Fetter, Margaret Fetter and Delila Fetter. Phebe P* died between 1834 and 1841. Widower Daniel Fetter remarried, to Anna Barbara Shook, widow of Henry Shook, on 19 Sept 1841. Daniel Fetter died in early 1842 and his widower (of less than a year) married Jacob Waganick on 20 May 1842.[29]
- 1819 Approximate date of Barbara P*'s marriage to John Cox. I did not find the marriage recorded in Montgomery County. However, the Coxes were Quakers, and the West Branch Monthly Meeting records show a John Cox was condemned for marrying contrary to discipline on 16 October 1819 [68]. John Cox was the son of William Cox and Elizabeth Thomas. He was born in South Carolina in 1799, and died 27 July 1822.
- 1820 The federal census notes Jacob P* living in Montgomery County, Ohio, in Randolph Township, living next to Adam Rodabaugh and his wife (and Jacob P*'s daughter) Anna Catherine P*. Jacob and Margaret P* are listed in the wrong age bracket (26-45). They have living with them 1 boy under 10 and 2 girls under 10. These numbers do not correspond well with Jacob and Margaret P*'s family, so the entry may be in error. It has the same marks as Adam's record which is next to it, and so it could have been mistakenly duplicated.
- 1820 On 24 April 1820 Jacob P* receives the final deed for land at the very south edge of Patterson Township, Darke County (R4E, T6, S33, W half of SW quarter, 80 acres). There is no evidence that Jacob ever lived on this land, though his Wayne Township land could have been part of a contiguous piece. In the 1870s and 1880s this land and adjoining pieces in the same section were in the possession of the children of Jonathan B. P*

⁶Volume A, p. 67 of Montgomery County, Ohio, marriage records. The specific book/page citations are taken from Credith Schaefer's research notes [63].

- 1821 Jacob and Margaret P*'s daughter Elizabeth P* (Betsy) marries Adam "Sloonecker" (Slonecker) on 26 April in Montgomery County.⁷ Adam Slonacker's death date is not known.
- 1822 Jacob P* appears as the purchaser of a razor, shovel, quilt, shawl and an axe in the list of goods sold from the estate of (Jacob P*'s son-in-law) John Cox of Randolph Township, Montgomery County [10]. Some or all of these, however, may be Jacob Asbury P* citations.
- 1823 Jacob P*'s name appears as plaintiff in a case where he is trying (unsuccessfully) to remove William Cox as the guardian of his (Jacob P*'s) grandson Jacob Cox [12].
- 1825 Jacob and Margaret P*'s son Jacob Asbury P* marries Susanna Miller in Montgomery County on 6 September.⁸ There is a record of a Jacob P* taking a land patent in Clay Township of Montgomery County in 1827 who may be Jacob Asbury P*.⁹ A Jacob P* is on the 1830 census in the same Township. In 1840 Jacob Asbury P* is living in Perry Township of Montgomery County. In 1850 and 1860 he is in Neave Township of Darke County. Susanna Miller's stone in West Branch Cemetery, Neave Township, says that she died on 24 April 1859 at the age of 55. Jacob Asbury P* may have married again on 10 November 1861 to Christina Troup.
- 1827 Jacob and Margaret P*'s daughter Margaret P* marries Jacob "Metzkar" (Metzgar) in Montgomery County on 27 December.¹⁰ Jacob Metzgar probably died in or before 1840, since there is a 26 December 1840 record appointing Jonathan B. P* the guardian of the deceased Jacob Metzgar's children.
- 1828 Jacob and Margaret P*'s son Henry P* marries Elizabeth Miller in Montgomery County on 25 September.¹¹ Elizabeth Miller was the sister of the Susanna Miller who had married Henry P*'s brother Jacob Asbury P* three years earlier.

⁷Volume A, p. 96 of the Montgomery County marriage records.

⁸Volume A, p. 150 of the Montgomery County marriage records.

⁹The land is the west half of the southwest quarter of section 33, Township 6, Range 4, 80 acres. This is in Clay Township, about a mile west of Brookville.

¹⁰Volume B, p. 11 of the Montgomery County marriage records.

¹¹Volume B, p. 16 of the Montgomery County marriage records.

Elizabeth Miller died on 11 February 1863, according to a Yoder Cemetery tombstone, aged 52 years, 5 months, 1 day.

- 1828 This would be a reasonable date for Jacob and Margaret P*'s move from Montgomery to Darke County. Apparently there is an Ohio Land Record for Jacob P* purchasing his Darke County land for cash in 1828, but I have not seen it.[24]
- 1830 Jacob P* is on the federal census in Darke County, Wayne Township. In addition to Jacob and Margaret P* there is a boy 15-19, 2 boys 20-29, a girl under 5, and a woman 20-29. The youngest boy would be Jonathan B. P*. The older boys might be John D. P* (age 21, still unmarried) and Henry P* (age 24). The woman might be Henry P*'s wife Elizabeth (age 20), and the younger girl her daughter Susanna P*.
- 1834 Jacob and Margaret P*'s son John D. P* married Sarah "Sally" Pittzenberger, the daughter of his uncle Peter P*, on 17 October 1834, in Darke County, Ohio. She died 27 June 1877, age 65 years, 20 days, according to her tombstone in Yoder Cemetery, Darke County.
- 1837 On July 31 Jacob P*, living in Darke County, makes out his will [57]. He gives to his three sons Henry P*, John D. P*. and Jonathan B. P*.¹² the 240 acres of Wayne Township land in Darke County. The rest of his goods, plus \$300 to be added by the three inheriting the land, were divided between his six other children. (When the probate was finished, the six children receiving money instead of land ended up with \$50.00 each.) Five children, Jacob P*, Elizabeth P* Slonaker, Anna Catherine P* Rodabaugh (called "Katherine"), Phebe P* Fetters and Margaret P* Metzgar, received a share. The share of his (deceased and unmentioned) daughter Barbara P* was given to her son Jacob Cox. The maintenance of his wife Margaret is entrusted to the three who inherited the land. Witnesses to the will were Elijah Ward and Daniel R. Davis.
- 1839 Jacob and Margaret's son Jonathan B. P* marries Mary "Pittsenberger" in Darke County on 21 November. Mary P* is the daughter of Jacob P*'s brother Peter P*. Mary P*'s tombstone in Yoder Cemetery, Darke County, says that she died on 22 January 1859 at the age of 37 years, 3 months and 29 days.
- 1840 Jacob P* in federal census. Living with him and his wife is 1 male 20-29, 2 males 30-39, one female under 5, and another 20-29. The man and woman 20-29 could be the Jonathan B. P* who had just married. The girl could be Delilah Fetter, one

¹²No middle initials or P* last names are given in the will.

of the daughters of Phebe P*, whose husband probably died in the spring of the year (see under 1817). I don't know who the older men (30-39) are.

1840 Jacob's tombstone in Yoder cemetery indicates that he died on 9 July of this year, age 73 years, 5 months and 9 days. In December his wife Margaret registers a document with the court of common pleas of Darke County stating that she relinquishes her right to administer Jacob P*'s estate to Henry P*.

1848 The Margaret Booher/Bucher/Butcher P* tombstone in Yoder cemetery indicates that she died on 25 March, age 79.

Appendix A: Butcher Connections

The maiden name of Margaret Booher/Bucher/Butcher, the wife of Abraham's son Jacob P*, is known only through the reference in Morton [45]. I have spent some time trying to identify her family. Unfortunately there is no known Butcher family in the immediate vicinity of Abraham P*'s land in Shenandoah County. We are left with trying to make connections to Butcher families who lived in the vicinity of Jacob and Margaret P*.

If Butcher could be read as a variant of Booher (the German Bucher), then one possibility is that her parents were Peter and Catherine Booher of Fayette County, Pennsylvania. This is based on the fact that Jacob and Margaret P* were in Bullsken Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, for a period in the early 1800s. In neighboring Saltlick Township were the Peter Booher's. The father Peter Booher Sr and the son Peter Booher Jr took original patents on tracts of land in 1785 (Peter Sr, "Mill Seat", 1785 Warrant) and 1786 (Peter Jr, "Booherville", patentee on 1784 warrant to Richard Brown). From Peter Sr's 1807 will [1] we learn that his children were Peter, George, Jacob, Henry, John, Catharina, Barbara, Elizabeth, Apollona, Margareth and Rosina. They seem to have been born in the 1760-90 period, so if the child Margareth was one of the earlier daughters, she could have been born circa 1770, about right for a 1792 marriage to Jacob P*. There is no evidence, however, that this family of Booher's were in Shenandoah County at any point. And no other mention of P*'s in Fayette County has been found, in land, tax, church, or other records. Peter Booher Jr left Fayette County in the 1810s [20] for the west, but the brother George was still in Fayette County in 1820.

Another possibility is that Margaret was part a Bucher family that may have been in Frederick County, Virginia, in the 1790s. They were centered in Stephen's City, about 25 miles north of Abraham's land [6]. Data on this family is scanty at this point. The oldest known figure is a Jacob Bucher who died about 1800 [4]. There is no known Margaret connected with this family.

By far the most likely connection to neighboring Butcher families, however, is to a family of Butchers in southern Rockingham County, Virginia, that moved to Pendleton County, West Virginia. The outline of this family has only recently been put together [5]. This family, named "Metzger" in Germany, did a meaning-translation of the name to "Butcher" in the late 1700s. George Valentine Metzger (call him Valentine) came from Nieder-Linxweiler, Germany. He was the son of Johann Philip Metzger. George Valentine married Maria Elisabetha Kiepert, daughter of Johann Wilhelm Kiepert. In 1749 Valentine Metzger and his wife came to the American colonies, settling initially in Frederick County, Maryland. Valentine and Maria were the parents of several children, among whom were the sons Nicholas Butcher, Balthasar/Paulser Butcher, George Valentine Butcher Jr, and Jacob Butcher. George Valentine and his family moved about 1754 to the region around Bridgewater and Elkton in the southern part of Rockingham County, Virginia. By 1769 he was on the move again, this time across the mountains to South Mill Creek in Pendleton County. Valentine died about 1772. His children appear to have moved around a fair bit in the next 20 years, but the son Nicholas Butcher was back in Pendleton County by 1790. Nicholas married a Susanna. Jeff Carr and David Armstrong, who have researched this family, initially believed that Margaret P* was the daughter of Nicholas and Susanna Butcher. Later correspondence with Jeff Carr points to a strong possibility

that Margaret was a late daughter of George Valentine Metzger and Maria Elisabetha Kiepert, and may have grown up the family of the son Nicholas Butcher after the parents died. They cite records saying that Jacob and Margaret P* sold their Pendleton County land in 1797 and moved west with several other local families. In support of this connection to Nicholas Butcher is the fact that Jacob and Margaret's daughter Margaret (see under 1803 in the chronology) married a Metzger.

If this last connection proves to be the right one for Margaret Butcher, then we could postulate the following scenario: Jacob P* marries Margaret Butcher of Pendleton County in 1792, meeting her through some unknown connections, perhaps because Jacob and Abraham had been working in Pendleton County. In 1794 Jacob and Abraham P* decide to sell the Shenandoah County land they had inherited, with a view to purchasing land in Pendleton County. It may the one-week trip taken by examiners to see Margaret (see under 1794 in the chronology above) was to her home (or her parents) in Pendleton County. The sale of the land precipitates the final move of Jacob and Abraham to Pendleton County. They purchase land on Buckthorn Creek, about 15 miles south of Nicholas Butcher. Jacob leaves after a few years, Abraham stays behind in Pendleton County, where his descendants remain to this day.

Appendix B: List of Correspondents

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Appendix C: Bibliography of Documents in my Files

- [1] Booher, Peter. Will extraction from Book 1, p. 118 of the Fayette County, Pennsylvania, will records.
- [2] Brumbaugh, Gaius Marcus. *Genealogy of the Brumbach Families*. New York: Frederick H. Hitchcock, Pub. George Brumbach Baker married Susan P* circa 1850. Pp. 462-64.
- [3] Brumbaugh, *Revolutionary War Records, Virginia*, Volume I. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1967. On p. 602 "Abraham Pitsbarger" is listed as a member of Captain Michael Reader's company in a scroll from the "Bird-Samuels Papers" of Dunmore County (Shenandoah County).
- [4] Bucher, Jacob. Will. Printed in M. N. Kangas and D. E. Payne, *Frederick County, Virginia Wills & Administrations, 1795-1816*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co, 1983. Page 30.
- [5] Carr, Jeff and Armstrong, David. "Butcher Breakthrough." *Hacker's Creek Journal*, Vol. X, No. 3 (1992), p. 105-115. Published by Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants, a historical and genealogical society of Lewis County, Virginia. Also Carr, Jeff. Correspondence in 1993 and 1994. His letter of 21 Feb 1994 gives the references to P* in the Pendleton County Personal Property Tax Lists. Jacob P* is listed in 1774-76, Abraham P* in 1797-98.
- [6] Cartmell, T.K. *Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and Their Descendants*. 1908. Page 492 mentions a Bucher family that was "found about Newtown [Stephen's City] as one of the pioneers." They were said to have spelled their name "Boogher." Specifically mentioned is "old Capt. Jacob Bucher."
- [7] Cayou, Alvin. Group of documents (census, death certificate) relating to P* in Missouri.
- [8] Coody, Emmalo. Correspondence about P*s in Darke County and relationship to Adam Rodabaugh. April 1990-present.
- [9] Cowger, Bruce. File of data on Cowger research sent to Wally Garchow (see below). Bruce Cowger's email address is cowger.cv.hp.com.
- [10] Cox, John. Estate inventory, Darke County, Ohio, 1822.
- [11] Cox, William, Jacob Wisener and Thomas Thornton. Executor authorization papers for William's son's Montgomery County estate, 1822.

- [12] Cox, William. Copy of original, and typed transcription by Robert Anderson, of plea in the Dayton, Ohio court in 1823, where Jacob P* fails to defeat William Cox's guardianship of their mutual grandson Jacob Cox.
- [13] D.A.R., Fort Greenville, Ohio, Chapter. "Ohio Bible Records." 1969, 1971. I have copied the pages from the Heins-Pitsenbarger family Bible, the Alva Pitsenbarger Bibles, the Pittsenbarger-Hanselman Bible, and the Pittsenbarger-Large family Bible.
- [14] *D.A.R. Patriot Index*, Volume II, 1979. Page 166 indicates that someone submitted the name of "Abraham Pitsbarger" as patriot, presumably based on his service in the company of Michael Reader.
- [15] Darke Co, Ohio. "Darke County Birth Records, 1867-1906." Prepared by Darke County Historical Society. Pages 60-62 contain 43 P* births. I have an annotation of this list from Wally Garchow showing the presumed P* lineages of persons on this list.
- [16] Darke Co, Ohio. P* marriages from an alphabetized list of marriages on file at the Garst Museum. Includes Darke County marriages between 1858-1892.
- [17] Darke Co, Ohio. P* obituaries copied from the local paper. Copies taken from the P* file at the Garst Museum. Includes obits of James P* (1921), William A. P* (1929), Ida P* (1916), John F. P* (1943), Earl E. P* (1979), Ellen P* (1946), Elizabeth P* (1950), William P* (Bud) (1963), Harry P* (1962), William George P* (1962), Francis M. P* (1912), Jacob P* (1909), William P* (1914), Clara P* (1895), Harlan P* (1952), Lowell P* (1920), Elmer P* (1965), Kathryn Hulda P* (1949), Wilmer Francis P* (1988), Scott Leon P* (1989), Mary C. P* (1988), and Clarence E. P* (1986).
- [18] Darke Co, Ohio. Various P* probate papers from the P* file at the Garst Museum. Includes papers of Francis M. P* (c. 1912), S. E. P* (d. 1930), Eli P* (d. 1907), William H. P* (d. 1914), Elizabeth P* (d. 1950) and Henry P* (1912).
- [19] Eye, William. "A Compilation of the Descendants of Abraham Pitsenbarger, Pendleton County, West Virginia." July 1990. Contains a listing of over 500 descendants of Abraham P* Jr.
- [20] Ellis, Franklin (Ed.) *History of Fayette County, Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia: L. H. Everts & Co, 1882. Volume II, pp. 741ff has information on Saltlick Township and the Buchers.
- [21] Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Copy of 1810 census entry showing Jacob P* family.
- [22] Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Extractions of land records, tax data, census and cemetery records relating to Booher/Bucher families.

- [23] Fernelius, Nils. Copy of 6 June 1990 letter to Wally Garchow regarding Fetters estates in Darke County in the 1840s.
- [24] Garchow, Wally. Personal correspondence with the author from 1990 to the present. Wally has also contributed a number of P* articles to the *Darke County Kindling*. See also his P* information at <http://www.calweb.com/~wally/darke/w-pits1.htm>.
- [25] Garchow, Wally. "Five-generation Chart of Members of the Darke County Genealogical Society." Greenville, Ohio: Darke County Genealogical Society, 1990.
- [26] Garchow, Wally. Family group sheets for Abraham P*, Jacob P*, Peter P*, Phillip P*, Henry P*, William Henry Pittsenbarger, and descendant report for William Henry's daughter Mollie Pittsenbarger.
- [27] Garchow, Wally. Descendant reports as of December, 1990, for Jacob Sr and Peter P*. 14 pages.
- [28] Garchow, Wally. Obituaries and death notices concerning the P* family of Darke County, Ohio, based on the original collection of Mary Jane Pittsenbarger Coupland Peace, transcribed from various sources. The collection includes about a hundred transcriptions.
- [29] Garchow, Wally. Phebe Pitsenbarger Fetter, *Darke County Kindling* (XII:4, Oct 1994, p. 82).
- [30] Garst, Jesse O. (Ed.) *History of the Church of the Brethren of the Southern District of Ohio*. Dayton, Ohio: Otterbein Press, 1921. Pp. 365-66 discusses Henry Baker, son of George Baker and Susanna P*.
- [31] Gilreath, Amelia C. "Shenandoah County, Virginia, Order Book, 1781-1784 (Abstracted)." March 1987, self-published, 14200 Vint Hill Road, Nokesville, Virginia 22123. Page 14 has the order book entry for the probate of Abraham P*'s will.
- [32] Gilreath, Amelia C. "Shenandoah County, Virginia, Deed Books I, K, L 1792-1799." January 1989, self-published, 14200 Vint Hill Road, Nokesville, Virginia 22123. Pages 43, 49 and 127 have abstracts of the transactions for the land of Abraham P*.
- [33] Girven, Charlotte. Email correspondence, 1999. Charlotte reports the data from the Lancaster, Co, Pennsylvania church records on "Abraham Bitzberger." The records are in the *Trinity Lutheran Church Records*, Vol. I, II (Closson Press). On page 231, there is a list of "married and unmarried person who went to the table of the Lord for the first time on the first Sunday after Easter (1770)." Abraham's entry is "Abraham Bitzberger, age:30, miles." The Peter Deissinger sponsorship records (for Peter P*) are in the

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Church Records of the 18th Century, Vol. I, compiled by Ernest Wright (Family Line Publications).

- [34] Harter, Mary. "Marriages of Pendleton County, Virginia 1788-1853." 1978. Self-published, 3812 Flager Avenue, Key West, Florida 33040. Page 53 has P* marriages.
- [35] Harter, Mary. "Pendleton County, Virginia, Marriage Bonds 1791-1853, Complete 1810 Census." 1979. Self-published, 3812 Flager Avenue, Key West, Florida 33040. Entry for Abraham P* on p. 50, P* marriages on p. 21, 25, 31.
- [36] *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790, Virginia*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co, 1979. Entry for Elizabeth P* family is on p. 65. This is actually the state census done by Alexander Hite in 1783.
- [37] Hennen, Dorothy T. "Hennen's Choice." Genealogy which includes the descent of John Hennen and Sarah Pitzenberger, claiming Sarah as the daughter of Jacob. I have copies of the Introduction and pp. 39, 75-77, 155-163.
- [38] Hill, Robert G. and Mabel Louthan. Research summary on the matter of the Fetter families in 1840 Darke County records, 10 pages. Also copies of letters from the Hills to Tom Feters and Wally Garchow, and 8 pages of copied entries from the court records.
- [39] *History of Darke County, Ohio*. Beers Publishing. 1880. Page 524 mentions a daughter of Jacob P*, p. 385 talks about Philip P*, the first settler in Wayne Township.
- [40] Hodges, Nadine and Woodruff, Mrs. Howard (Compilers). "Missouri Pioneers, County and Genealogical Records." April 1971. Volume X. Pages 8-11, 19 have P* marriages from 1856-66.
- [41] International Genealogical Index. Copy of the 1988 IGI pertaining to P* in Virginia and West Virginia.
- [42] Kinsler, Ruby. A one-page description of the her descent from John and Barbara Cox. She lived in Kingman, Kansas. Date of composition not known.
- [43] Long, Samuel. *Pioneer History of Wayne Township*. Radabaugh and Fahnestock, Printers, 1901. Mentions P*s in a few places.
- [44] Marion County, Indiana. "Index to Marriage Records, 1886-90." Compiled by the WPA, 1939. It has a Henry P*'s 1890 marriage, presumably Harrison Monroe P*, grandson of Jacob Asbury P*.

- [45] Morton, Oren F. *History of Pendleton County, West Virginia*. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co, 1980. Reprint of 1910 edition. Pages 170, 275-76, 423 have information on P*s.
- [46] Marsh, William A. (Compiler). *1880 Census of West Virginia*. Volume II. Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1981. Page 235 has P* entries for Pendleton County. Volume IV, p. 261, 318-19, 345 has entries for Nicholas County. Volume IX, p. 103, 197 has P* entries for Greenbrier County
- [47] Pendleton County, West Virginia. Entry from 1805 Minute Book telling about suit against Abraham P* Jr over bond issue.
- [48] Pendleton County, West Virginia. Two pages of extractions from deed book entries relating to Abraham P* Jr, and summaries of wills for Benjamin P*, Harrison P*, Ella E. P*, and John P* Sr.
- [49] Pendleton County, West Virginia. P* extractions from the 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses.
- [50] Pendleton County Historical Society. *Grave Register, Pendleton County, West Virginia*. 1977. Over 100 entries for P* graves.
- [51] Pendleton County Historical Society. *Grave Register II, Pendleton County, West Virginia*. 1980. This second volume contains the death register entries for P* who died in Pendleton County from the 1850s to the 1910s.
- [52] P*, Abraham. Copy of his 1781 Shenandoah County, Virginia, will, from Will Book A, and the inventory list, and a transcription by Wally Garchow. I also have a photocopy of the will itself.
- [53] P*, Anna Catherine. Letters of Adam Rodabaugh and his wife Anna Catherine to Adam's brother Samuel Rodabaugh. Typed transcript of three letters, 1855-60.
- [54] P* extractions. "A Register of Marriage Certificates Recorded in Montgomery County, Ohio, July 26, 1804 to July 20, 1851."
- [55] P*, Jacob Asbury. Copy of 1878 Darke County, Ohio, will.
- [56] P*, Jacob Asbury. Letter to Samuel Rodabaugh, 1855. Original and typed transcript.
- [57] P*, Jacob. Copy of 1837 Darke County, Ohio, will and some of the estate papers.
- [58] P*, John D. Copy of 1863 Darke County, Ohio, will.

- [59] P*, Peter. Copy of 1837 Darke County, Ohio, will.
- [60] Powell, Esther Weygandt (Compiler). *Early Ohio Tax Records*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1985. Jacob "Pitzenbarger" is mentioned on p. 274.
- [61] Ruff, Paul Miller. "Baptism Index of the German Church Records, Lutheran and Reformed, of Fayette County and Washington County, Pennsylvania, 1783-1806." 1986. Volume C has the Bucher listings for the Good Hope Church.
- [62] Schaefer, Credith. Correspondence about P*'s in Darke County and relationship to Adam Rodabaugh. January 1990-present.
- [63] Schaefer, Credith. Research notes on P*'s, including census, family sheets, marriages, deaths, wills, military records. 40 detailed pages.
- [64] Seiler, Toni. 10 pages of notes on P* data compiled from the records of the Garst Museum.
- [65] Shenandoah County (called Dunmore County), Virginia. Copy of 20 March 1777 indenture showing George Harrison selling to Abraham "Pitsberger" 300 acres on Elk Run, a branch of Stoney Creek.
- [66] Shenandoah County, Virginia. Copy of July 1794 indentures showing heirs of "Abraham Pitzeberger" selling the land on Elk run, a branch of Stoney Creek, 150 acres to Jacob Anderick and 150 acres to Jacob Freed. The sellers are "Jacob Pitzeberger and Margaret his wife and Abraham Pitzeberger."
- [67] Wayland, John W. *A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia*. Strasburg, Virginia: Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc., 1969. Page 227 has the 1790 (actually 1785) census listing for Elizabeth Pitzenberger.
- [68] West Branch Monthly Meeting (Quaker). On p. 733 of the printed records it mentions that John Cox was condemned for marrying contrary to discipline. I do not have the full citation on this, so I am not sure whether this was Darke County or Montgomery County, Ohio.
- [69] WPA Project, Historical Inventory Project for Virginia, 1937. "The Paul Markley Home," http://www.rootsweb.com/~vashenan/hom/S_pmarkl.html. 26 November 2004.
- [70] Wust, Klaus. "Lutheran Zion Pine Church Records," Volumes One and Two, 1985. In Vol. One, p. 10, in a 1781 list of the "Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation" who contributed toward the freeing of the church lands from debt is a "Abram Pitzenberger." In Vol. One, p. 17, "Jacob Bizenberger" is listed as a baptismal sponsor.

- [71] Wust, Klaus. *The Virginia Germans*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1969.
Nothing specific on P*s, but good background to the Virginia context.

Index

The names of married women are indexed under their maiden names for all historical persons, and modern researchers are indexed by the name they use on correspondence. Where the surname was not available, I have indexed the person under the single Christian name (even if it was a wife whose husband's last name was known). Where the given name was not available, I have indexed the surname by itself.

Authors of works are indexed as persons. Generally the introductory words of titles (“A” or “The”) have not been retained for index placement.

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