

Joseph K. Kessler, b. 17 Feb 1767 Pa., d. 21 Aug 1840 Butler twp.,
Montgomery Co., Oh., s/o Ulrich
m. 4 Feb 1787 (Wilkes Co.?) N.C.
Mary Steel(e), b. 11 Nov 1768 (Rockingham Co., Va.?), d. 22 Sep 1843
Butler twp., d/o step d/o Bowman

Joseph is thought to have been born near Philadelphia, Pa. After the death of his mother, the family moved to an unknown location in Va. for a short time then on southward into N.C. The first record there is the 1790 Federal Census, Morgan's 16th Co. District in Wilkes Co. which was formed in 1777 and from which Ashe Co. was taken in 1799. From the registrar of Deeds at Wilkesboro, Wilkes Co. it is learned that his first land purchase was in 1796. Clayton Miller of Sparta N.C. (1963 letter, he is not a descendant of this family) says his land was in what seemed to be a Dunker settlement. The registrar of Deeds at Jefferson, Ashe Co. shows his last purchase was made in 1808 and in 1811 in one transaction sold all of his holdings, 490½ acres including the 1796 purchase. Land records in Montgomery Co., Oh. have not been searched. He is said to have been a Dunker minister, but this may be only family tradition. No record is found in Montgomery Co. of his being a minister at weddings. His prime interest was farming in connection with wagon-making. He with his eldest son are said to have constructed the first windmill in Montgomery Co. Joseph and Mary's tombstones are located in a field near Martindale Rd. between St. Rt. 48 and Frederick Pike, section 11 in Butler twp. and are very legible. These are the only two markers now found there, but family tradition states that the emigrant father Ulrich is also buried there. The area is now part of the Miami Conservancy District.

1. John Bowman, b. 12 Nov 1787, d. 22 Sep 1866 Troy, Oh.
m. 2 Jun 1807 (Ashe Co.?) N.C.
Susanna Feese, b. 21 Jan 1787 Pa., d. 3 Jun 1850 nr Kessler, Oh.
d/o Jacob
m. 17 Oct 1850 Miami Co., Oh.
Sarah M. () Morey, b. c. 1798 R-I., d. c. 1893 BU FOREST HILL CEME.,
A Methodist minister, he is bu Rose Hill Ceme., Troy, Oh., PIQUA, OH.
Susanna is bu Wheelock Ceme., Nashville, Oh.; 11 ch.
2. Henry, b. 27 Nov 1789, d. ca 1852/3
m. 11 MAR 1819 MONTGOMERY CO., OH.
Elizabeth Hart, b. ca 1793 Pa., d. 8 Feb 1838 Spencer Co., In.
d/o William 7 ch. bu Pleasant Valley Ceme. Spencer Co.
m.
Fetter/Fetten m. 1ST 27 NOV 1808, (ASHE CO.?) N.C.
d/o 4 ch. CATHERINE
m. PER BRO. RECORDS, 3RD 1850
Elizabeth Rublia 1 ch.
m.
Nancy Robinson 1 ch. FEB
d/o
3. Catherine, b. 8 May 1791, d. 22 May 1855 Darke Co., Oh.
m. 10 Aug 1815 Miami Co., Oh. HER BIRTH FROM FAMILY RECORDS,
William Jones, b. ca 1789 S.C., d. AFT. 1850, B.F. 1860 CENSUSES
s/o Wallace Sr. & Elizabeth (Fritz); she is bu Newcomer Ceme. nr
Painter Creek, Oh.; 8 known ch. s/o ? HENRY
4. Mary, b. 8 Dec 1792, d. 23 Dec 1848 St. Joseph Co., In.
m. 9 DEC 1809 ASHE CO., N.C.
Henry Huntsinger, b. 3 Jul 1789 Tn., d. 30 Mar 1850 St. Joseph Co.
s/o Jacob & Mary (Burkhardt); 13 ch.; bu Pleasant Valley Ceme.
Osceola, In.
5. Anna, b. 23 Nov 1794, d. 5 Dec 1854

EARLY BRETHRU

- m. 7 Mar 1813 Montgomery Co., Oh.
David Mote, b. 1 Aug 1787 Ga., d. ca 1823 Montgomery Co., Oh.
s/o Jonathan & Ann (Hickson); 4 ch.
6. Susannah, b. 18 Mar 1796, d. 6 Feb 1835 Darke Co., Oh.
m. 27 Apr 1813 Montgomery Co., Oh.
Brethren Jonathan Mote Jr., b. 1 May 1791 Ga., d. 26 Dec 1876 Palmyra, Ia.
s/o Jonathan & Ann (Hickson); 11 ch., she is bu Greenmound Ceme.,
New Madison, Oh.; m. 2nd 24 Jun 1841 Darke Co., Oh., Catharine
(Bowman?) Fenstermaker, 3 ch.
7. Elizabeth, b. 16 Nov 1797, d. 23 Jan 1869 Howard Co., In.
m. 22 Apr 1819 - *From the Family of 2000*
QUAKER Jacob Tucker, b. 6 Oct 1797 Washington Co., Tn., d. 17 Mar 1877
Howard Co., s/o Abraham (IV?) & Mary (Carsoner/Castner/Custer?)
13 ch.; bu Old Poplar Grove Ceme., Poplar Grove, In.
8. Joseph J., b. 6 May 1801, d. 26 Apr 1873 Bond Co., Il.
m. 29 Mar 1821 Montgomery Co., Oh.
Susannah Garber, b. 8 Mar 1801 Va., d. 28 Aug 1865 Bond Co., Il.
d/o Elder Joseph Sr. & Catharine (Leedy); no ch. known
m. 28 Oct 1866 Bond Co., Il.
Catherine (Rinehart) Struble
d/o wid/o Henry Struble
a (Dunker?) minister, he and Susannah bu Maxey Ceme., Pleasant
Mound twp., Bond Co.
9. Samuel Steele, b. 13 Mar 1804, d. 24 Jan 1872 nr West Milton, Oh.
m. 21 May 1829 Miami Co., Oh.
CHRISTIAN Margaret (Porter) Siler, b. 17 Feb 1805 Tn., d. 10 Nov 1886 nr
METHODIST West Milton, d/o James & Anna wid/o Henry Siler
4 ch.; bu Riverside Ceme., West Milton, Oh.
10. Benjamin, b. ~~31~~ 12 Apr 1807, d. 5 Dec 1898 Frederick Co., Md.
m. 21 Sep 1826 Miami Co., Oh.
BRETHREN Sarah Burket, b. 21 Jan 1804, d. 2 Apr 1880 Lee Co., Il.
d/o John & Mary (Bonner); 7 ch.
m. ~~C1334-5~~ ? FREDERICK CO., MD.
Catherine () Cronise, b. 6 Jun 1815, d. 24 Apr 1898
Frederick Co., Md., d/o wid/o Benjamin Cronise
~~he and~~ Catherine bu Bush Creek German Baptist Ceme., Monrovia, Md.
11. Jonathan, b. 7 Jul 1809, d. 3 Nov 1893 Frederick Co., Md.
m. 30 Nov 1826 Montgomery Co., Oh.
OLD GERMAN Catherine Garber, b. 9 Nov 1807 Va., d. 3/30 Nov 1889 Bond Co., Il.
BAPTIST d/o Elder Joseph Sr. & Catharine (Leedy); 8 ch.; she bu Moxey Ceme.
BRETHREN m. 1892 Frederick Co., Md.
Harriet Griffith, b. 18 Apr 1822, d. 30 Dec 1900 Frederick Co., Md.
d/o wid/o THOMAS GRIFFITH
he and Harriet bu Bush Creek German Baptist Ceme., Monrovia, Md.

The following is family tradition written by the late Dr. William H. H. Kessler of West Milton, Oh. The family emigrated from Switzerland (ship and date not established). The mother died at sea, leaving her husband, a son and a daughter. Upon arrival each were sold into servitude to pay for the passage. Ulrich, the son was about 11 years of age at that time, having been born circa 1740. He was bound out to an Amish or Mennonite family where he learned weaving. At the end of his service, he searched unsuccessfully for his father and sister. He returned to the neighborhood of his former home near Philadelphia and there married (wife's name unknown) becoming the father of Joseph K., John, Henry, Daniel or David and a daughter who did not long survive. He accumulated \$53,240 Continental money through his thrift and industry at the loom, which he was swindled out of in Pa. His wife and son Henry died in Pa. and the father with the remaining sons moved to Va. (county unknown) for a short time and from there to Wilkes Co., N.C. in the area that later became

Ashe Co. He is listed in the 1790 Federal Censu as Olwich Kisler with three sons under 16 (indicating the previous listing of children may not include all of his sons). About 1811, he and his sons traveled northward due to the fact that taxation in N.C. had become prohibitive. Son Daniel or David stopped off in Southern Ky. (Bowling Green area?) where he raised his family. Ulrich with sons Joseph K. and John continued on to Montgomery Co., Oh.

Jr. William H. H. Kessler 1839-1914 eldest child of
Martin Kessler 1816-1863 & Anna Hoover 5th child of
John Bowman Kessler 1787-1866

John Kessler, b. 9 Jul 1768, d. 8 Feb 1845 Kosciusko Co., In. may be a son of Ulrich. The *Biographical and Historical Record of Kosciusko County, Indiana*, 1887, Lewis Publishing Co., p.p. 248, 317 contain biographical sketches of Jr. Benjamin and his brother Elias, sons of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Kissler) Burkett (Burket per their tombstones). The sketches state that Elizabeth was a d/o John & Mary (Custer) Kissler. A Dunker family, their 1st child was born in 1809 in Rowan Co., N.C., their 3rd in Hamilton Co., Oh. 1812, 4th in Montgomery Co., Oh. in 1814, 11th in Jefferson twp., Wayne Co., In. from which they moved to Miami Co., In. and in 1850 to Franklin twp., Kosciusko Co., In. where they are buried in the Nichols Ceme. Elizabeth, b. 15 Mar 1792 N.C., d. 25 Apr 1858; Nathaniel, b. 27 Aug 1784 Rowan Co. (now Davidson Co.), N.C., d. 3 Oct 1863 s/o Elder Jehu & Magdalene (Croll) Burkhard.

Buried within the same row as Nathaniel & Elizabeth are:

John Kessler 1768-1845

Ulrich Kessler, d. 14 Oct 1866 @ (77)1y5m11d & wife

Margaret (Whiteneck), d. 2 Apr 18(80?) @ 67y11m9d; m. Nov 1849 Grant Co., In. as his 2nd wife; his Will filed Fulton Co., In.; a ~~known~~ ^{likely} son of John; known to have lived in Miami Co., Oh., Henry, Delaware,

Randolph, Jay (likely), Grant (likely) and Fulton Co.'s, In. Another son may have been John Kessler who died in Labette Co., Ks. in 1874. He m. in Henry Co., In. Mary (Anderson) Cates who d. 7 Feb 1888 @ 78y8m13d and is buried in the same row with the rest in Nichols Ceme.

Further investigation into this family relationship may reveal that indeed this is the brother of Joseph K. Kessler.

Ulrich Kessler did not buy land in Montgomery Co., Oh. nor did he leave a Will and no estate was filed for probate, presenting a difficult situation in proving who his children actually were. At this point, we only have the family traditions to fall back on.

Additions and corrections are welcome
prepared by

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Note. The last address I have for Gale is:

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