

HISTORY OF THE STREAM FAMILY

by Douglas K. Stream

DEDICATION

This historical narrative which chronicles the history of the Stream family from its origins in Germany, is respectfully dedicated to the memory of my beloved father, Wendell W. Stream, without whose motivation, perseverance, and passion for family history, this story would never have been told. It is my sincere desire that this narrative be added to the legacy that my father left me.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to express his sincere gratitude and indebtedness to the following individuals, without whose gracious support this family history could never have been written. Regrettably, the names of so many who contributed to this endeavor have been forgotten, but I would be remiss were I not to give credit to the following: Alice Alden, Forrest Fuhrmeister, Ralph Sherman and Sherman Dean Stream, Rhea (Stream) Rider, Craven Stream, Mr. and Mrs. Thornely Stream, Mr. And Mrs. Amos Stream, Josie Preston, Marilyn Threlkeld, and the dedicated volunteers at Archion.

INTRODUCTION

47 years have transpired since my father, the late Wendell W. Stream, and I began researching our Stream family history. What must have motivated and inspired my father to explore his ancestry was a typewritten story that was extracted from the 1887 *Biographical and Historical Record* of Greene County, Iowa. In my possession is the tattered cover sheet - dated 13 February 1949 - which was given to my father by his grandparents, Harvey and Alice Stream. But the spark that ignited our marathon family history quest many years later was the *Roots* television mini-series that was broadcast in January 1977. So infectious was my genealogy "bug" that I would graduate from Brigham Young University with a degree in Family and Local History Studies in December 1980! If we could have only known then just how far this journey would take us....!

Our initial efforts were primarily limited to personal letters and telephone calls, augmented with trips to cemeteries and county courthouses, as texting and online

genealogy had not yet been conceived back in 1977. After visiting several Iowa county courthouses and cemeteries in the spring of 1978, Dad packed our family into our Chevrolet Kingswood Estate station wagon to embark on a road trip vacation across the eastern half of the United States. Our objective was to re-trace (in reverse) the route that our family had taken from Loudoun County, Virginia to Licking County, Ohio and westward to Iowa in the mid-19th century. As you might imagine, our knowledge of the family at this time was extremely limited, but we did manage to learn early in our research that two of our ancestors had emigrated to Philadelphia in 1754. As our research time was quite limited on our road trip, we realized that we were only viewing the “*tip of the iceberg*”, but our enthusiasm continued to increase as we gained more knowledge and met long-lost cousins along the way.

After 1984, my role in furthering our Stream family history was predominantly one of consultation, as I was pursuing a career in Signals Intelligence with the Army and the National Security Agency. Most of the hard work of collecting, processing, and recording the reams of raw source data was tirelessly done by my father, who had retired from the Iowa State Patrol in 1982. After Dad purchased his first Apple personal computer later that year, he began the tedious work of inputting data not only from our Stream ancestry but dozens of other family lines as well. By the time he finished with it in 2016, his Legacy Family Tree database included over 239,000 names. Most of his early years of computerized genealogy was done with the *Reunion* program; he switched to *Legacy Family Tree* shortly after it was introduced in 1997.

Better late than never... it wasn't until exactly one year ago in February 2024 that I decided to sort through his rather disorganized archive of original source documents and research notes. You simply cannot imagine how herculean a task this turned out to be! But that effort proved to generate just enough motivation for me to resume researching my Stream family history. Moreover, it is noteworthy that what began in 2022 with a casual desire to obtain several family group sheets from Dad's Legacy Family tree archive, has blossomed into a full-scale family research project! As so often happens in life when facing defeat, hardship, or disappointment, that one last diligent effort can sometimes make all the difference!

As the list of German emigrants who had boarded the ship *Edinburgh* in the spring of 1754 indicated that most originated from Wurttemberg or the Palatinate, my father and I naturally assumed that this region was where our emigrant forefather, Johann Henrich Strehm and his brother Henrich Adam, must have originated. Despite these many years of diligent research, we were perennially frustrated by our inability to determine their birthplace or place of origin in Germany... *until one unforgettable day in March of 2024!*

Here is how this incredible miracle played out... a tale of what can happen when sheer persistence intersects Lady Luck. As I was killing time on my computer one day early that month, by sheer happenstance I happened to discover an obscure Hessian archival website. Its URL is: lagis-hessen.de. Lagis is an acronym for Landesgeschichtliches Informationssystem. Never having done any research previously in the German state of Hesse-Nassau, I had very little confidence that I would find anything of value there. But when I typed in the name of my fifth great-grandfather under the simple search tab – lo and behold – what should suddenly appear on my screen but his name and that of his brother! This obscure probate reference that I found by happenstance was posted by a researcher in April 2023, as I recall.

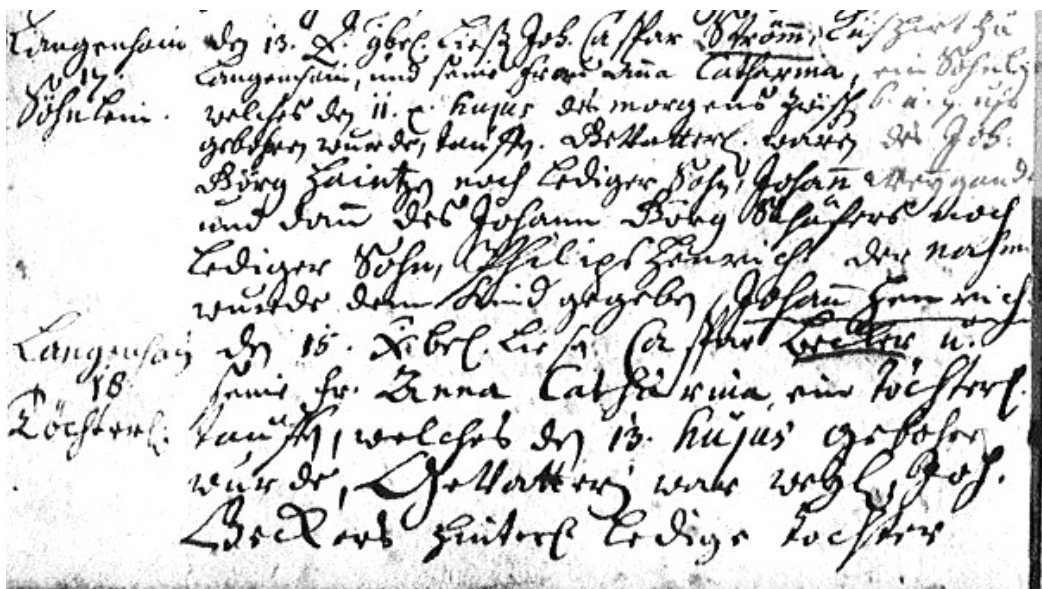
Dear reader - let me tell you - this *really* got my attention. A little more focused inquiry later that hour revealed that these two brothers' names had appeared in an old German probate record from 1785. At this point, I didn't know where this might lead, but common sense told me that I **had** to find source document Number 223061 at the Staatskirchlichearchiv Wiesbaden, no matter what. On 8 October 1785, Johann Christoph Strehm had filed an application requesting that personal property belonging to his two half-brothers (*Johann Henrich and Henrich Adam*) be transferred to him. Apparently the two brothers had left some carpentry and glass-blowing tools behind when they departed in 1754, and Christoph needed them to enhance his glass-blowing business. The details of how this German probate case played out is beyond the scope of this paper, so I shall continue with the story hereby.

Several days later, I stumbled across another incredible website. ARCHION brings original source-based Kirchenbuecher (church records) right into your home office. Linking 25 major German archival repositories, the dedicated workers at ARCHION have already digitized over 175,000 church records – and the tedious work of archival digitization goes on hour-by-hour, day-by-day.

Since it doesn't cost anything to post a query on ARCHION, I lost no time in preparing a well-worded query and then translated it into German, just in case one of their volunteers couldn't read English. When I posted my query on Friday, March 8th, I had so little confidence that it would bear any tangible results that I didn't bother to check for a response for another three days.

Can you imagine how I felt that glorious Monday when I received two separate responses to my query, along with digital copies from the original church books attached as proof?!? If anyone could have walked on water that day, it was yours truly!!! From the Lorsbach, Hesse evangelical Lutheran church records near the tiny village of Langenhain, the birth and baptism of Johann Henrich Strehm was recorded. The first historical references to this village occurred in 1309.

After nearly 47 years of research, the elusive answer suddenly appeared before my eyes, in faded German script!! A digital representation extracted from the original church record is shown below. What makes German research so challenging is the fact that old Fraktur script must be transcribed into High German before it can be translated into English. Much more work needs to be done in several other adjacent Hessian villages via ARCHION before the last chapter of this historical narrative is written. Inexplicably to this very day, I still do not know how those two volunteer research angels knew which church records to search? I can only speculate that whomever provided the long-sought-after nugget of "genealogical gold" must have been the same person who had posted a reference to that Hessian probate file in April 2023 that I alluded to earlier.



EARLY YEARS OF RESEARCH

While I was stationed at Vint Hill Farms Station near Warrenton, Virginia, my father and I began making plans to rendezvous in Pennsylvania for the purpose of furthering our research. On the 1st day of April 1984, my father and I met in Hershey, Pennsylvania for an unforgettable week of intense Stream family research. After researching at the State Library in Harrisburg, we spent a full day at the county courthouse and Lancaster County Historical Society in Lancaster, before paying a call to the Phillip Schaff Library. It was then over to Ephrata, where we visited the historic Muddy Creek Union Church, which began in the year 1732.

Unfortunately, the Cocalico Valley Historical Society was not open that day, so we pressed onward toward Philadelphia, where we scoured the records at the Genealogical and Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It was here that I found the following information from the *Published Pennsylvania Archives* (Volume I, 5th Series, Pennsylvania Militia History): (John) Henry Strehme, date of commission: 29 May 1757, three-year enlistment, age 27, a joiner from Germany. The German word *Schreiner* (or joiner in English) refers to a carpenter or cabinet-maker. Even with the limited knowledge that we possessed regarding Stream family ancestry at that time, my father and I knew harbored no doubt that this was the same emigrant who had arrived in Penn's British Colony in September 1754. As we had hoped, this whirlwind week of research proved highly successful, but many months would be required for us to process and interpret all that we had discovered that week.

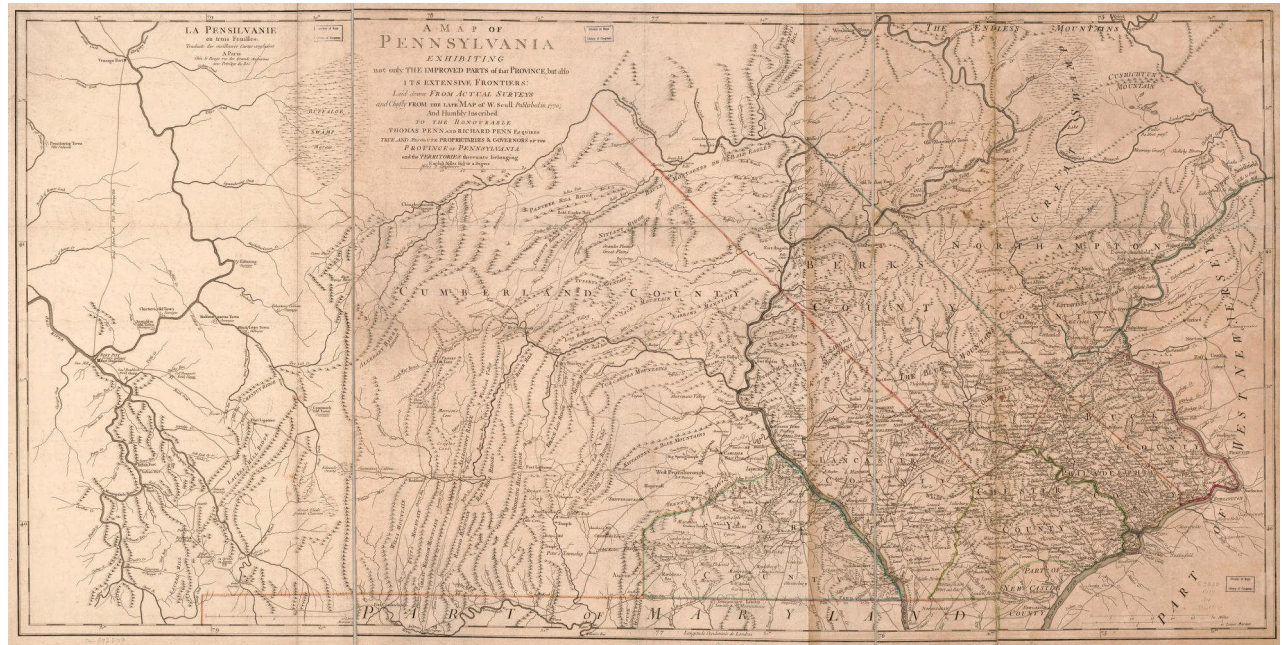
Before proceeding with the story, we need to rewind the clock briefly to November 1983. While researching at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., I located an advertisement that Johann Henrich Strehm had placed in Johann Christopher Sauers' newspaper (*"Der Hoch-Deutsch Pennsylvanische Geschicht-Schreiber"*), dated 6 June 1760. This invaluable source was published in 1935 by Edward Hocker entitled, *"Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of Pennsylvania...from advertisements in German Newspapers published in Philadelphia and Germantown, 1743-1800"*. This is the advertisement as it appeared in Hocker's book:

Henrich Strehm, Lancaster County, on Cocalico Creek, one-quarter mile from Ephrata, near Abraham Schonauer, came to Amerika five years and six months ago, with his brother, Henrich Adam, and he seeks information about the latter.

Just one week or so after his discharge from militia duty, my paternal fifth-great grandfather had placed an advertisement in an effort to determine the whereabouts of his younger brother, Henrich Adam. Did the two brothers ever re-connect? Well, there is no way to know for sure, but this much I can tell you. In a statement that Christoph Strehm made to the Hessian probate court alluded to earlier, I learned that his half-brother Henrich Strehm had written a letter to his parents in 1761. In that letter, he reported that he had been separated from his brother (Henrich Adam), and knew nothing of his whereabouts. In any event, after many years of contemplation, I believe it is reasonable to assume that Henrich Adam must have died from disease or been killed by belligerent Indians while his older brother was serving in the Lancaster County militia.

When the two brothers arrived in the port of Philadelphia aboard the *Edinburgh* on 30 September 1754, Lancaster County had only been in existence for 25 years. It

had been part of Penn's original charter created by King Charles II in 1681. The attached Scull map (1770) which appears below shows the area in some detail.



Before continuing with the story, I would like to add a brief discussion regarding the logistics of trans-Atlantic travel during the 18th Century. More than likely, those two Strehm brothers would probably have pulled a small wagon south to Florsheim sometime in the month of May, where they would have boarded a small boat for the short ride down the Main River to Mainz. After catching a boat there, it would have taken them between 4-7 weeks to travel down the Rhine River to the Dutch port of Rotterdam. This was so because there were approximately 24 toll (custom) stations along the way, and each duchy, kingdom, and province demanded a fee for passage.

The voyage from Rotterdam to the port of Cowes on the north coast of the Isle of Wight would typically require another 10-20 days, depending on how fickle the winds were. Since Penn's British American colony was administered by Britain, each ship had to clear English customs there. Once the big sailing vessel set sail for America, another 7-9 weeks would be required to cross the turbulent Atlantic Ocean, depending on how contrary the winds may have been. Altogether, the ordeal from place of origin in Germany to the port of Philadelphia would take between five and six months. According to a reliable source, it has been estimated that each adult passenger was charged the equivalent of about \$2000 for the trans-Atlantic voyage.

On the last day of May 1761, Johann Henrich Strehm and Maria Margaretha Wolff were married at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church in New Holland, Pennsylvania. At the time of their marriage, he was a resident of Earl Township, near present-day Ephrata. Very little is known about their early family in Lancaster County, but I did find something of interest from the Cocalico Valley Historical Society that adds substance to the story. According to a detailed “*debt book*” journal that Michael Muller kept between 1748 and 1786, two windows were sold to “*Hennerich Stremm on the Middle Creek*” in May 1762. Evidently, Henrich was installing new windows into his log cabin.

Shortly thereafter, the baptism of two sons was recorded at the Muddle Creek Union Church near Ephrata: Henrich Adam in 1765 and Johann Friedrich in 1767. I speculate that one or two daughters may have been born prior to 1765, as it would not be unlikely that Henrich and Margareth would name their firstborn son after the younger brother who had disappeared shortly after their arrival in Pennsylvania.

From the St. James Reformed and New Jerusalem church records in Lovettsville, Virginia, I learned that Henrich and Maria Margaretha Strehm were blessed with the following children:

Barbara

Henrich Adam

Johann Friedrich

Margaretha Anna

Sarah

Anthony

Sally

Johann Henrich, Jr.

Elizabetha

Michael

Johannes.

Despite years of diligent research, very little is known about this family, as absolutely nothing appears in print between 1769 and 1783 when the youngest child, Johannes was baptized at the evangelical Lutheran church in Frederick City, Maryland. Perhaps more research in the tax and church records will reveal additional information in the future.

Before continuing the narrative into Loudoun County, Virginia, I will share a story with you regarding Henry Stream's military service during the Revolutionary War. Early in my research, I obtained a photocopy of a muster/payroll document from the National Archives. It is imperative to realize that TWO different men (Henry Stream *and* Henry Stroam) are represented in this Revolutionary War document, but for over 40 years I had falsely assumed that it pertained to only one!

For the record, Private Henry Stream enlisted for three years in June 1777 in Captain William Heyser's company of the German Regiment. This unit had been organized in Frederick County, Maryland in 1776. From a file recorded in early November 1779, I re-confirmed that Private "Henry Straam" had been discharged on 17 July 1779. Although neither of these two source documents referring to "Henry Stream" have been digitized, the unique spelling of his surname confirms the identity of this soldier as my fifth great-grandfather. This important confirmation was found in a article entitled "*The German Regiment of the American Revolution*", by Charles Francis Stein.

CROSSING THE POTOMAC INTO LOUDOUN COUNTY

Between 1757 when Loudoun County, Virginia was created and 1786, all male residents 16 years of age and older were assessed a tithe by the Anglican parish where they resided. Prior to 1770, payable to Cameron Parish, Parish thereafter. From the list that Hiatt and Scott published appears in Farling Ball's 1784 Don't be fooled by this unusual following valid surname seen in various sources: Stremm, Strehm, etc. In any references to the Stream family lists before 1784, I think it is did not cross the Potomac in the German Settlement prior agrees with the early church records at Lovettsville, too, as several members of the family begin to appear in those records as early as 1785. (*The photo above is Milestone 17 on the old Baltimore-Frederick Pike, located about one mile east of West Friendship, MD*)



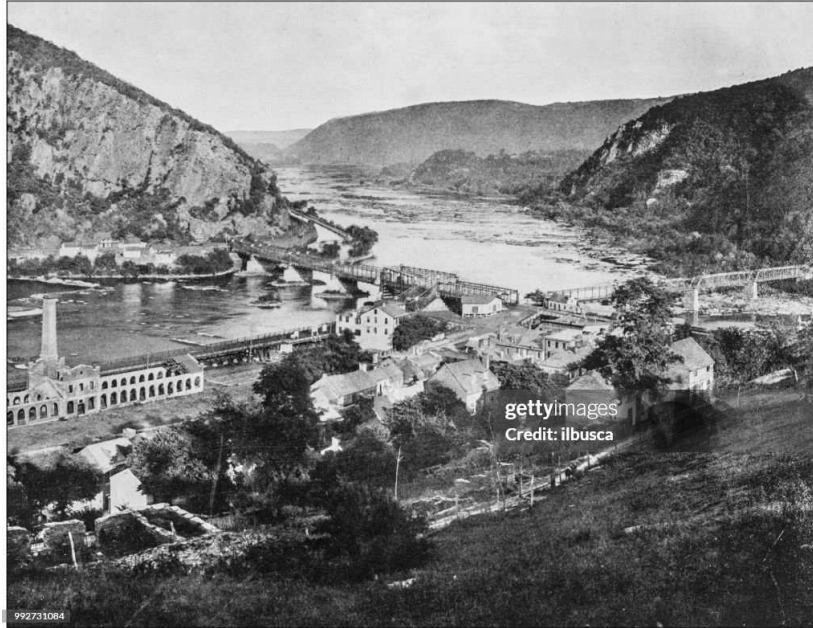
these tithes or taxes were and then to Shelburne of Loudoun County tithables in 1995, Henry *Strame* list in Shelburne Parish. surname spelling, as the variants were commonly Stram, Strohm, Strahm, event, since no other were found in these tithable River to establish residence to that date. And this

My paternal Stream lineage emanates from Michael Stream. Michael was born in June 1773, and married Maria the 10th day of October acre farm several miles Settlement. Sometime after Harpers Ferry, Virginia to 1810, he operated a horse freight team between Baltimore. By the year Frederick Pike would have branch road known as the was soon extended to inventory in 1827, it prosperous member of the unforgettable photograph of was taken the day we the St. James Reformed Church cemetery just outside Lovettsville, in August 1978.



Magdalena (Dorscheimer) in 1796, and settled on a 13 west of the German the road was extended from Frederick, Maryland in about trucking service with a six- that Harpers Ferry and 1806, the Baltimore- reached Frederick, and a Harper's Ferry Ridge Road Knoxville. From his estate appears that Michael was a local community. This my father, Wendell Stream, located Michael's grave at





old photo of Harpers Ferry, Virginia, showing the confluence of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers

At this juncture, I will share with my readers vital statistics extracted from the family group sheets for Michael Stream (*my 4th GGF*), Elias Stream (*my 3rd GGF*), William C. Stream (*my 2nd GGF*), and George Stream.

FAMILY GROUP SHEETS

Michael Strehm (Stream) was born in June 1773, presumably in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and died on 25 January 1827 in Loudoun County, Virginia. He married Maria Magdalena Dorscheimer on 10 October 1796 in Leesburg, Virginia.

Maria Magdalena was born on 2 Aug 1774 in Frederick City, Maryland, and died on 16 February 1856 near St. Louisville, Licking County, Ohio. Her parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (Ullam) Dorscheimer.

A. Michael and Magdalena were the parents of the following children:

1. Jacob Strehm Born: 14 February 1797; Died: 25 October 1856
Married: Susanna Fawley on 28 March 1824 in Lovettsville, Virginia
2. Wilhelm (William) Born: 24 July 1798 Died: 3 January 1889, Orient, IA
1st Marriage: Jemima Hirl on 29 June 1820

2nd Marriage: Pleasant Garwick on 6 March 1828

3. Nancy Stream Born: 21 March 1800 in German Settlement
Married: Jonathan Householder on 4 May 1820
4. Elias Stream Born: 18 March 1802 Died: 18 Feb 1864, Linn Co., Iowa
Married: Mary Ann Waters on 24 September 1831, Lovettsville, Virginia
5. George Stream Born: 20 May 1805 Died: 11 March 1881, Johnson Co. IA
Married: Jane Bonar Beard on 25 August 1836, Licking County, Ohio
6. Lydia Stream Born: 17 December 1808 Died: 5 Nov 1861, Chatham, OH
Married: Augustine Muse Sanford on 7 October 1824 in Loudoun Co. Virginia
7. Israel Stream Born: 18 Oct 1809 Died: 4 May 1853, Petersville, MD
Married: Catherine M. Rhodes on 3 October 1832 in Frederick, Maryland
8. Mahala Stream Born: 30 May 1811 Died: 13 July 1854, Licking Co. OH
Married: George Fahley on 24 December 1828 in Loudoun County, VA
9. Maria Anna Stream Born: 26 September 1813 Died: Unknown
Married: Adam Potterfield on 28 April 1827 in Loudoun County, Virginia
10. Elisa Ann Stream Born: 14 January 1817 Died: 28 April 1905
Married: John Marple on 18 June 1839 in Licking County, Ohio
11. Perry Stream Born: 18 March 1820 Died: About 1832

B. William and Jemima Hirl were the parents of three daughters:

1. Mary Ann Stream Born: 30 April 1821 Died: 30 Nov 1880, Ely, IA
Married: Samuel W. Martin on 15 March 1860 in Linn County, Iowa
2. Lydia Ann Stream Born: 28 February 1825 Died: Unknown
3. Eliza Jane Stream Born: 11 March 1823 Died: 15 March 1856
Married George W. Bruerd on 23 January 1841

After Jemima Hirl passed away on 2 April 1827, William re-married a widow named Pleasant Garwick, and they were the parents of the following:

1. Grafton Caywood Stream Born: 22 Oct 1829 Died: 24 Feb 1905, Tryan, OK
Married: Sarah Electa Bishop on 15 August 1854
2. Samuel Addison Stream Born: 4 Oct 1831 Died: 25 Mar 1919
Married: Elizabeth Miller Nesbitt on 16 December 1860
3. Charles William Stream Born: 27 June 1835 Died: 13 Sept 1910
Married: Alice Ann ("Allie") Thompson on 18 December 1858

C. Elias and Mary Ann Waters were the parents of the following children:

1. Virginia Stream Born: 20 March 1833 Died: 22 August 1910
Married: Samuel Rigdon Preston on 30 August 1855
2. William C. Stream Born: 14 Apr 1834 Died: 29 Jan 1912
Married: Mary Mathews on 24 Dec 1868
Married: Rebecca (Cairns) DeLong on 30 Oct 1881
3. Sarah Stream Born: April 1836 Died: 2 Feb 1845
4. Perry C. Stream Born: 27 May 1837 Died: 17 Jan 1900
Married: Angenora G. Langdon on 13 December 1866
5. Fenton S. Stream Born: 22 June 1838 Died: 2 June 1911
6. Girl (Child) Born: 1839 Died: 1845
7. Girl (Child) Born: 1841 Died: 1845
8. Jonathan H. Stream Born: 2 August 1842 Died: 9 March 1845
9. Mary Ann Stream Born: 4 January 1844 Died: 10 June 1936
Married: David Moore Langdon on 29 January 1868
10. Willis Calvin Stream Born: 2 September 1845 Died: 23 March 1912
Married: Caroline M. Andrew on 29 February 1876
11. Wilson Lemuel Stream Born: 10 April 1848 Died: 18 Dec 1927
Married: Ophelia West on 1 January 1878

D. George and Jane Bonar Beard were the parents of the following children:

1. Lucinda Stream Born: 2 February 1838 Died: 23 Oct 1913
Married: Andrew Jackson Fuhrmeister on 7 May 1857
 2. Emeline Stream Born: 23 October 1839 Died: 10 Jan 1901
Married: Charles George Fuhrmeister on 4 February 1858
 3. Mahlon B. Stream Born: 27 Mach 1841 Died: 16 May 1863
 4. Minerva Stream Born: 17 Sept 1842 Died: 8 May 1897
Married: William H. LeGore on 1 March 1866
 5. Craven Stream Born: 19 June 1844 Died: 15 January 1908
Married: Harriet Jane Brown on 27 January 1870
 6. Clinton Stream Born: 18 June 1846 Died: 9 August 1907
Married: Rosemond Sarah Nicholson on 5 February 1871
 7. Grafton Stream Born: 25 April 1849 Died: 2 May 1863
 8. Fulton L. Stream Born: 5 May 1851 Died: 17 May 1937
Married: Ruth Josephine Richmond on 28 October 1875
 9. Jane Stream Born: 5 February 1854 Died: 6 June 1867
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Although the first Palatine emigrants settled into what was later to become Virginia in 1714, it wasn't until 1732 that an organized colony of German families migrated into Virginia Territory from Penn's British Colony. According to historian Briscoe Goodhart, who published a newspaper article entitled *The German Settlement*, in 1900, between 65-70 families established residency in this area between 1732 and 1734. Included in his list was the surname Stream. However, as we have already seen, Henrich and Margaretha did not bring their family across the Potomac River until 1784. Around the year 1730, members of the German Reformed church settled in this area, and English "outsiders" began referring to this fledgling settlement as the *German Settlement*. No one knows what name the German residents gave to their community. Another significant wave of German Lutherans arrived in 1765. Much of what we know

about the Strehm/Stream family was gleaned from the church records of these two churches: St. James Reformed and New Jerusalem Lutheran.

The early history of Saint James German Reformed Church and that of the German Settlement are virtually inseparable. Although the earliest records of the Reformed congregation at Lovettsville were destroyed, it is generally understood that this church was organized no later than 1730 or so; it is believed that the first log cabin church was erected somewhere on the grounds of the graveyard just east of Lovettsville.. Reverend Henrich Giesy's record book is dated 17 September 1789. It is noteworthy that one of the four original deacons, Jacob Dorscheimer, was the father of Michael Strehm's future bride, Maria Magdalena.

All church record entries were in the German language until May of 1811. So pervasive was the old language that it was not entirely superseded by English until August 1823, and church services were conducted in both languages throughout the 1820s. In the transition years after the turn of the century, records are found to alternate between the two languages. Surname spellings in the baptismal and confirmation records were not *anglicized* from Strehm to Stream until 1815 or so.



*Wendell Stream at the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church cemetery, Lovettsville, Virginia
August 1978*

A surveyor by the name of Yardley Taylor published a remarkably detailed map of Loudoun County, Virginia in 1853. Though you cannot read the names of the landowners from this digital copy, this historic map identifies the location of Henry Stream's small farm located about three miles due west of Lovettsville on the east side

of Short Hill Mountain. Two men named Henry Stream could have been living when this map was created, but I believe the “*H. Stream*” on Taylor’s map was Henrich Strehm, Jr. He was born in about 1770, and was living with his daughter, Barbara when the 1850 Census was taken. Interestingly, I found a hard copy of this map at Asa Janney’s general store in Middleburg, Virginia in July 1983. For greater resolution and clarity, you can access this map from the map collection at the National Archives.



LOUDOUN COUNTY MILITARY SERVICE

Michael Stream's eldest son, Jacob, served as a private in the 56th Regiment (*Taylor's*) of the Virginia Militia from 1812 to 1815 during the war with Britain. Subsequently, he appears as "delinquent" from the 57th Regiment in 1816.

In the Loudoun County Militia Book of 1793-1809, the following Stream references are found as delinquents:

1805, 1808	Henry Stream, Jr.	57 th Regiment
1805	John Stream	57 th Regiment
Undated	Michael Stream	CPT James White's company
1822, 1824	Elias Stream	57 th Regiment
1824	George Stream	57 th Regiment
1816, 1824, 1827	Henry Stream	57 th Regiment
1811-1824	John Stream	57 th Regiment
1822, 1825	William Stream	57 th Regiment
1855-1859	William Henry Stream	57 th Regiment
1855-1859	Charles H. Stream	56 th Reg / 1 st District
1854-1859	George W. Stream	56 th Reg / 1 st District
1854-1859	Jacob Henry Stream	56 th Reg / 1 st District
1854-1859	John Stream	56 th Reg / 1 st District
1855, 1859	Oliver W. Stream	56 th Reg / 1 st District
1854-1855	Thomas A. Stream	56 th Reg / 1 st District

As far as I know, no members of this family served in the Civil War from the Commonwealth of Virginia. Despite being south of the Mason-Dixon Line, Loudoun County was predominantly pro-Union with two companies of cavalry serving in the celebrated Loudoun Rangers unit. From the state of Iowa, the following members of our family served in the American Civil War: William C., Fenton S., Maylon B., Grafton C., and Samuel A. From the state of Ohio, the following three Stream soldiers served: Charles H., George S., and William M.

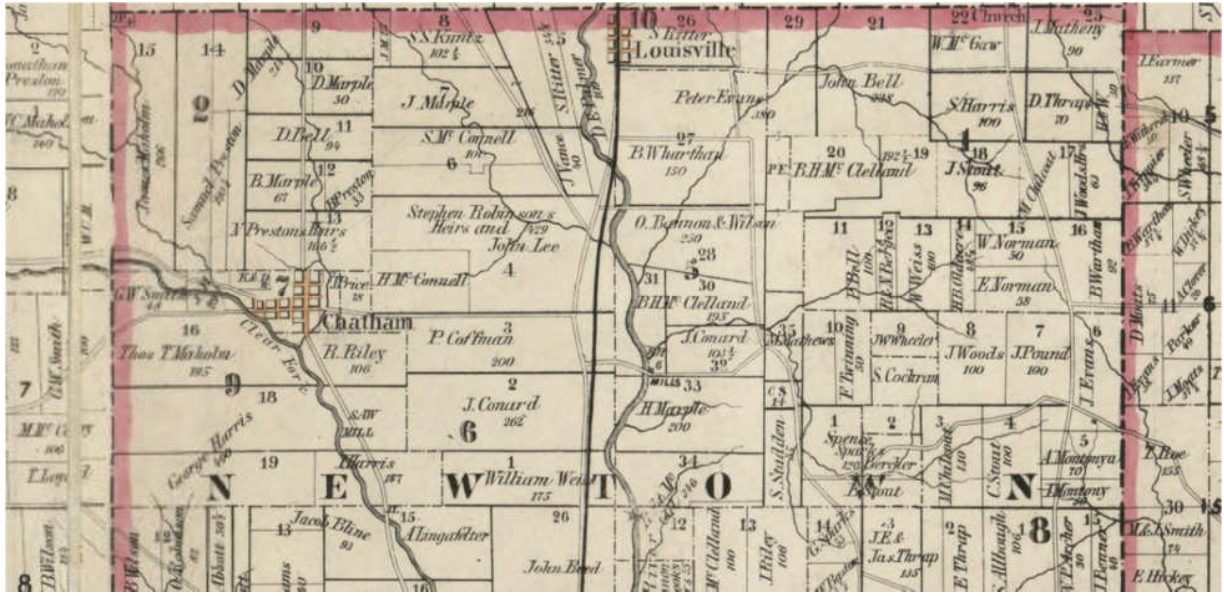
WESTWARD TO LICKING COUNTY, OHIO

Two weeks after my third great-grandfather, Elias Stream married Mary Ann Waters in Lovettsville, Virginia, George, Elias, and his widowed mother, Magdalena loaded their household goods into a wagon and headed west down the Old National Pike from Frederick, Maryland, bound for central Ohio. From an old land deed record, they apparently spent their first year in Perry County, just south of Licking County. George and Elias proceeded to raise large families in this county. Another brother, William, rejoined the family in Licking County later in 1848.

Another branch of the Stream family made its way to Licking County one generation later. Jacob, the eldest son of Michael and Magdalena, was the father of three sons: Charles Hamilton, Thomas Addison, and Oliver Walcott. Two of Elias' nephews, Thomas and Charles were found in the 1860 Census for Newton Township. Evidently, they must have departed the Old Dominion for Ohio shortly after Jacob passed away in 1856. The third son, Oliver, left Virginia around 1885 with his elderly mother, Susanna (Fawley), who died in 1889 and is buried at Wilson Cemetery in Newark. According to an indenture filed in Licking County on 12 March 1850, Jacob and Susanna Stream sold 11 acres of their 110 acre parcel to their nephew, Elias Stream.

Elias and Mary Ann's eldest child, Virginia, married Samuel R. Preston on 30 1854. Three of Elias's young children perished in a scarlet fever outbreak in 1845, and are buried at Marple Cemetery near St. Louisville, Ohio..

The following map from circa 1854 shows where the old Preston homestead property was located from an original copy at the National Archives.



The image which appears on the bottom of the previous page (from an original etching) was the homestead of Samuel R. and Virginia (Stream) Preston. This extensive property was located just north and a little west of Chatham, in Newton Township. This is where Virginia and Samuel Preston raised their six children. Back in the 1980s, my father made several trips to Licking County to further his knowledge of the Stream family from descendants of Charles, Oliver, Thomas, and Virginia Stream.

From the early 1830s until about the start of the American Civil War, hundreds of families living in Ohio contracted a bad case of “Iowa fever”, as reports of pristine affordable farmland were eagerly received. For the continuation of this narrative after the three Stream brothers migrated westward to Iowa, the reader is directed to the second part of this historical narrative.