Jane Cassedy
243 Molimo Drive
San Francisco, CA 94127
September 5, 1986

Ruth Bownds Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, TX 78746

Dear Ruth:

I'm sorry I have been so slow about answering your nice letter of July 15th with all the enclosures. I was delighted to have the 1783 Assessment Tax rolls which list Nicholas and George Swingle, Jacob Whiteman, Nicholas, George and Nicholas Smith, among others. The Swingles were also related to the Tices. In his will, written 2 Sep 1803, Nicholas Smith of Stone Walls lists his sons Nicholas and George, as well as a son Matheus and daughters, Barbara Celler, Eave Swingly, Elizabeth, Rachel and Catherine Smith. Elizabeth married Frederick Roemer two years later and Rachael married Jacob Waggoner on 16 June 1809.

I've had some very good luck in tracing the German ancestory of the Swingles. From an article in the Palatine Immigrant, I learned that my part of the family were from the town of Neunkirchen in the Saarland. I wrote to the author of the article in Germany and he agreed to do some research for me. He examined the original Evangelical Lutheran Church records and found birth and marriage records for the whole family. Nicholas of Conococheague was as I had surmised the son of Johan Nicholaus who came to America in 1740 on the ship *Samuel*. Nicholas, Jr. was born 23 Feb 1730. He was ten years old when he arrived in Pennsylvania with his parents, two older brothers and a sister.

I will try to follow up on the Smithfields patent to John William Smith. I wrote to Washington Co. for the Chancery Court record on the Swingle estate, but they don't have it, so now I have a request in to the Hall of Records for that. I also wrote to Georgia Kwiatowski about the Syster connection, but I have not heard from her either.

Thanks again for your interest and your help. If I turn up anything of interest, I'll let you know.

My best,

Jane

Jane Cassedy
243 Molimo Drive
San Francisco, CA 94127
June 6, 1986

Mrs. Ruth Bownds Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, TX 78746

Dear Ruth,

Through the good offices of your co-author Mary Maxwell, I learned that your books on the Kershners of Maryland were right here in the Sutro Library-- and I thought I had searched that library with a fine tooth comb! What a find! I can't tell you how delighted I am and how much I admire the seemingly endless time and trouble which went into your research and writing.

I was tracing my Roemer/Ramer line when I became interested in the Swingles, on whom I have spent a great deal of time. When I seemed to have hit a dead end with the Swingles, I thought the Kershners might shed some light on the scene, but of course I had no idea of the tremendous amount of work you had done.

Naturally, I was most interested in pages 132 to 149 of your book, Vol. II. I have copies of Nicholas and Maria Barbara Swingle's wills and of their land records, but I had no idea of the long-lasting suit in Chancery Court. It, of course, adds very important information about Maria Barbara Roemer's second and third husbands, which she seems to have managed to have at the same time!

John Roemer was a Revolutionary War soldier, born 1 March 1753 in York Co., PA to the immigrant Johann Frederick Roemer from Stadecken in the Palatinate and his first wife Anna Dorothea Mueller. Johann Frererick came to America on the ship *St. Mark* arriving in Philadelphia in 1741 and married 23 July 1744 or 45. Interestingly enough, Johann Frederick and Anna Dorothea belonged to the Reformed Church but switched to the Moravian Church in 1752.

Two of John's older brothers, Franz Jacob and Frederick Roemer were also in the Revolution and settled in Franklin County, PA. John must have moved to the Conococheague area about 1778 and probably married Maria Barbara Swingle the same year. They had three sons, John Frederick, John and Benjamin before John, Sr. died in 1784, still a young man. He left a simple will but did not have any real property listed in his name that I have been able to find. On 21 March 1778, a Frederick Raymor sold land known as *Resurvey of III Will* to Michael Bovey. This is the only Ramer land record I have found in Washington County and it probably pertains to John's brother who lived in Chambersburg, PA.

I do not know what happened to John's wife and the children after his death but I suppose it is possible that they went to live with Roemer relatives in York Co., PA. Jacob Whiteman, Barbara's brother-in-law, was executor of John's estate and received money from the estate of John's father who died about the same time. This money was distributed in 1786 and 1792 according to Balance Book No. 1. James Merett was guardian for John Frederick Ramer. In 1804, John Reamer replaced Henry Ash, desc., as guardian of Benjamin. Curiously, Benjamin did not receive his final share of the estate from his brother until August 1809 when he must have been about 25.

At the sale of the goods from the estate of Barbara Swingley by Jacob Whiteman and Benjamin Kushn (Kershner) in 1805, John and Benjamin Reomer bought a number of items. This seems to imply that they remained and were raised in the Conococheague area or at least that they returned there, perhaps when Barbara married Henry Kindle.

From the information in your book, I gather that the widow Maria Barbara Swingle Roemer married Michael Wier or Weyer (the name appears to be Wyatt in Barbara's will) very soon after John Roemer's death in 1784 if Michael had been absent for 20 years in 1805. I guess remarriage didn't do her much good! I didn't know Michael's first name or Henry Kindle's (Kandle's) either. I can now try to trace them.

Frederick Ramer, my ancestor, son of John, married 9 April 1805 Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Nicholas and Barbara Smith, and sister of Eve Smith who married Benjamin Swingle. On 13 Nov. 1779, Nicholas Smith of Berkeley Co., VA bought land called *Stonewalls*, 434 acres "lying to the Eastward of Adam Easter's big Spring Run and the Main Road leading from Easter's to Hagerstown on the ford next above Swingle's mill on the Great Conococheague".

Frederick and Elizabeth Ramer bought property in the town of Mercersburg, Franklin County, PA where they lived for several years before moving to Gerrardstown, Berkeley Co. (W)VA along with Benjamin and Eve Swingley. Nicholas Smith, the father of Elizabeth Ramer and Eve Swingle died in 1804 but the final settlement of his estate by the surviving executor, Benjamin Swingley, did not occur until 1831-- such tie-ups seem to have run in the family!

Getting back to Nicholas Swingle, I believe he was the son of Johann Nickel Schwingel, age 44, who came to America from Neunkircken, Saarland, in 1740 on the ship *Samuel* with his sons Mickel, age 20 and Georg, age 16, and probably other members of his family. Johann Nicholas settled in the Tulpehocken region of Lancaster (now Berks) County. There is mention of a Mathias Swingle in the local records of 1747 when the Orphan's Court appointed him guardian of a minor.

This makes me think that Mathias was the third son, born about 1726, and places Nicholas Jr.'s birth at about 1728. Nicholas Schwengel Jr. is named as executor in the will of his father-in-law Michael Rith (Riedt, Read, Reed), dated 15 March 1754. In this will, Michael Rith names his wife Maria Barbara (Feg) and his various sons and daughters, including Maria Barbara Swingel, and he devised 202 acres of land at Tulpehocken and 150 acres of land at Swatara (now in Lebanon County).

Nicholas Jr.'s older brother George bought land in Frederick County (now Washington) from Jacob Funk on 18 March 1772 and from the Kirkpatricks in 1773 and 1775. This land was near Clear Spring. In 1776, he provided a blanket to Maryland Revolutionary soldiers and in 1778 was a signer of the Patriots' Oath of Fidelity along with his sons George, Nicholas and Leonard (I'm not sure whether Michael was his son or his brother). His son, George Jr., was a private in the Maryland Revolutionary forces in 1776, a Captain in the Militia in 1778, a Major in 1780. (Much later when he was an old man in Kentucky, he received a pension-- Rev. War Pens. App. No. 24,995).

Meanwhile, Nicholas Jr. moved to Washington County and bought the Dutch Folly land from the Wolgamotts in 1777. I believe it was he and his son (John) George Schwengel who took the Patriots' Oath before Henry Schnebely. My guess is that John George was his parents' third or fourth child, born either just before or just after his sister, Ann Mary, who married George Kershner Jr. For a long time, I was hung up on this because of Nicholas Swingle's will in which he appointed "my friend Nicholas Swingle son of George" one of his executors. I thought this was a touching way of referring to his grandson and namesake, but for Nicholas to have been old enough to have been an executor in 1784 made his father and his grandfather older than I thought them to be.

JOHN GEORGE DID HAVE A SON NICHOLAS, b. ca. 1789, AFTER DEATH OF HIS GRANDFATHER

The "friend Nicholas" referred to in the will must have been the son of Nicholas Jr's brother George who settled near Clear Spring. This Nicholas, son of George, became a wealthy man in Washington County and owned a number of slaves.

Similarly, I believe that in Nicholas Swingle's will, the rather garbled bequest to his daughter Mary includes an almost parenthetical admonition to his son Benjamin to see that George Kersner Junior does not receive any more of his property. It is not likely that the Benjamin alluded to is George and Mary Kershner's son because no other grandchildren are named except those of deceased daughters.

It is interesting to speculate as what the problems were between Nicholas Swingle and his son-in-law, George Kershner Jr. Why did George appoint him as his attorney to help settle Martin Kershner's will in April of 1784? Possibly, Nicholas felt that George was not aggressive enough in

dealing with his stalling brother Martin and pressured him into it. In 1788, when John George sold his share of the estate to the Van Lears, George Kershner is mentioned as still living on and leasing the land in question.

Another minor question I had about the interpretation of Barbara Swingle's will was her bequest to "Barbara Seister. . . child of my daughter Elizabeth Whiteman, deceased". It seemed to me more likely that Barbara was by then married to a Seister than that her mother had been married twice, particularly since there is no mention of this in Nicholas' will. If my theory that Margaretha Elizabeth was Nicholas and Barbara's oldest child is correct, she was probably born ca. 1755 and could easily have a married child 50 years later.

In the Swingle Court action, you mention (p. 147) "Frederick Roemer of Chancellorsburg, PA, corroborates her statement". Do you know where Chancellorsburg might have been? I cannot find it on my maps. By 1805 there were about five Frederick Ramers in the area of southern Pennsylvania and northern Maryland, all I think related.

The German habit of naming the sons for grandfathers, uncles and other sponsors certainly complicates life for us today, but I agree with you the land records do help a lot in straightening out who was who. Incidentally, George Swingle born ca. 1720, his sons George, born ca. 1757, and Leonard all moved to Jefferson County, TN about 1800. John George, son of Nicholas, born ca. 1758 or 1760, moved to Barton's Creek, Wilson County, TN about the same time.

I am still trying to get a line on the Smiths. Descendants of Nicholas Smith have claimed DAR status through his being listed as having taken the Patriots' Oath in Washington County in 1778. The DAR records say that his father was John William Smith of Frederick Co., MD. who obtained a patent to land known as *Smithfields* before 1749, but in 1775 Nicholas Smith "of Augusta County, Colony of VA" appointed Conrad Hogmire to be his attorney in litigation concerning his father's property. I guess it could still be the same person, described as "of Berkeley Co., VA who bought the property near Swingle's mill in 1779. I know the Smith family was German because Elizabeth Smith Ramer's bible is written in German and in some records the name is written as Schmith.

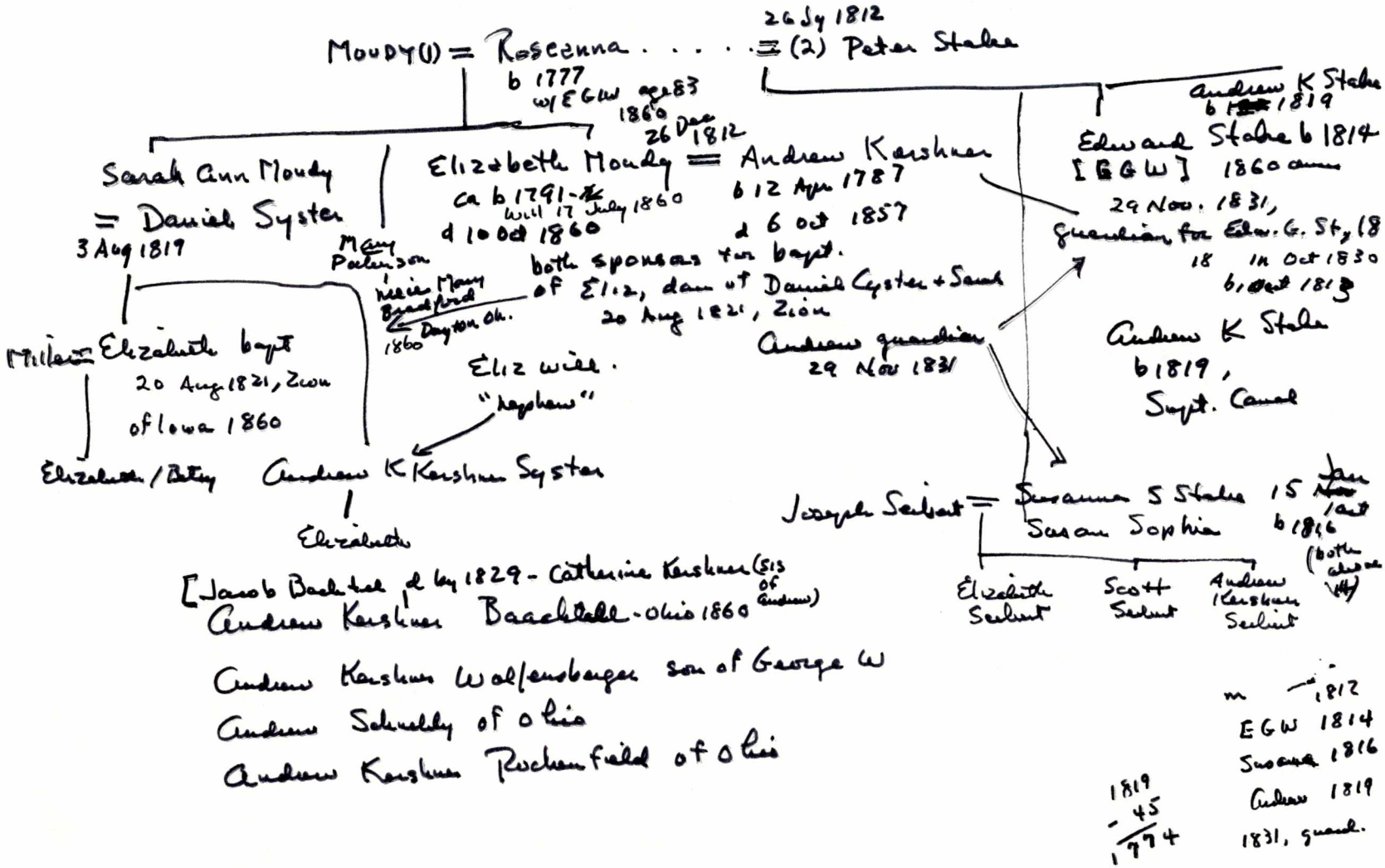
← WITNESSES: DANIEL SMITH & GEORGE K. KERSNER

I hope I haven't worn you out completely with this long letter. If you are still interested, I would love to hear from you. Thanks so much for the monumental job you have done and especially for the help you have given me.

Sincerely yours,

Jane Cassedy

JUN 11 1986


Moudy (1) = Roseanna . . . . . = (2) Peter Stahe
b 1777
w/EGW age 83
1860
26 Jy 1812
26 Dec 1812
Sarah Ann Moudy
= Daniel Syster
3 Aug 1819
Elizabeth Moudy = Andrew Kershner
ca b 1791 - Will 17 July 1860
d 10 Oct 1860
b 12 Apr 1787
d 6 Oct 1857
Andrew K Stahe
b 1819
Edward Stahe b 1814
[EGW] 1860 aet
29 Nov. 1831,
guardian for Edw. G. Stahe, 18
18 in Oct 1830
b, Oct 1813
Andrew K Stahe
b 1819,
Supt. Canal
Mary Patterson
nee Mary Brandford
Dayton Oh.
1860
both sponsors for bapt.
of Eliz, dau of Daniel Syster + Sarah
20 Aug 1821, Zion
Andrew guardian
29 Nov 1831
Miller = Elizabeth bapt
20 Aug 1821, Zion
of Iowa 1860
Eliz will.
"nephew"
Elizabeth / Betsy
Andrew K Kershner Syster
Elizabeth
Joseph Seibert = Susanna S Stahe 15 Jan last
Susan Sophia b 1816
(both alive 1887)
Elizabeth Seibert
Scott Seibert
Andrew Kershner Seibert
[Jacob Backstead d by 1829 - Catherine Kershner (5th of Andrew)
Andrew Kershner Backstead - Ohio 1860
Andrew Kershner Wolfensberger son of George W
Andrew Schnebly of Ohio
Andrew Kershner Rockenfield of Ohio
m 1812
EGW 1814
Susana 1816
Andrew 1819
1831, guard.
1819
- 45
1774

RUTH BOWNDS KERSHNER 1414 Red Bud Trail, Austin, Texas 78746 Phone 512/327-2020

12 June 1986

Jane Cassedy
243 Molimo Drive
San Francisco, CA 94217

Dear Jane:

I've certainly enjoyed your fascinating letter about the Roemers and Swingles for in the course of Kershner research, I, too, was led to look into them. My colleague, Mary Maxwell, was so moved by a visit to Kemp's Mill that she felt sure she was treading where Martin Kershner had built his mill on Dutch Folly by 1765. She wanted to believe that a brick cottage across the road with its Pennsylvania Dutch hex sign was the very location where he ordered quarters made for his wife. I volunteered my husband to check the deeds and surveys. He had taken a surveying course ages ago, and I had once helped him survey a lot that we built a house on in Houston. My report on land records only developed into Vol. II because Mary became simply overwhelmed.

If you had a chance to read through the early parts of Vol. II, you know how Martin Kershner's "Dutch Folly" turned out to be only about a couple of miles north on an stream so inconspicuous that we haven't yet found a name for it, that his mill has disappeared completely and so has his log house. Too bad I am such a spoil sport. But we did find his mother's spring, and proved that Mary's Revolutionary Captain John Kershner and George Kershner Sr. were sons of Martin Kershner (b. 1722) and grandsons of Johan Georg Kirschner (b. 1795) and wife Anna, the immigrants.

Vol. III of <u>The Kershner Families of Maryland</u> has additional material sent to us, lots of corrections, German research back to 1570, and photos borrowed from everyone. I'm sending you a page with additional material on the Moudy, Syster, and Stake connections. Do write to GEORGIA KWIATOWSKI, 6884 Weber Rd in St. Louis, MO 63123 for Syster information. I've done a chart with what I know about these connections, and see that Roseanna Moudy who married Peter Stake, 1812, had Edward G W Stake born Oct 1813, Susanna Sophia Stake born Jan 1816, and Andrew Kershner Stake born ca 1819. Andrew Kershner became the guardian of the estates of the first two, both over 14, in 1831, suggesting that their father had died and their mother was guardian for Andrew, who was under 14. "Infants" (under 14), had no choice, but children over 14 could choose their own guardians. It seems to me Roseanna Stake, "83" in the 1860 census, probably was somewhat older, since her daughter Elizabeth Moudy was born around 1791 or 1792. If Roseanna was 83 in 1860, born in 1777, she was 13 or 14 when Elizabeth was born. Of course, not impossible, but most of the girls were 18 or 20 at marriage in that society. Elizabeth Moudy was married to Andrew Kershner 26 Dec. 1812, so was 21. Her two sisters were apparently younger, Sarah Ann (Sally) Moudy who married Daniel Syster 2 Aug 1819, and Mary Patterson of Dayton, Ohio. I would like better proof, but in view of Elizabeth Moudy Kershner's obvious pride in the Kershner heritage as shown in her will, I certainly feel it is likely that her mother was also a Kershner, Rosina baptized 28 Feb 1773 at Salem, daughter of David Kerschner born 1750 and Elizabetha (Olinger.) David was named the second son of Martin b 1722, younger than Martin b 1743 and older than George Kershner Jr b ca 1761-63, who married Mary Swingle. David went to Augusta Co VA about 1786 and joined his father-in-law, Philip Olinger, then on to Christian Co. Ky by 1810.

Also, I've copied a chart from Vol.III with real dates to replace our guesses for the immigrant Kershners. I hope it will be all right with you if I send some of your data in for the Kershner Family Association's quarterly. But I want to send you a draft first, for your additions, corrections and comments. We are not planning a Vol. IV, but are publishing the valuable updates that we are getting in this nice quarterly. So far, Kershner Kinfolk is going to 26 libraries. The editor, WILLIAM E. KERSHNER Jr., is also computerizing a list of all proven descendants of Enders Kirschner (b ca 1570). There were over 11,000 last time I heard, all with references to printed proof. He welcomes queries and contributions. Write 1449 Fox Run Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212.

Mary Maxwell got photostats of the Swingle court records, and I returned them to her after abstracting them. If she still has them, I'm sure she'd be very happy to let you have them too.

I checked my notes on Frederick Roemer's 1806 affidavit. Your question about Chancellorsburg, PA, is well taken, and I suspect the handwriting should have been read "Chambersburg." 1) It makes better sense 2) the word "Chancellor" in the next line had two loops instead of one in the last syllable 3) It was signed by Christian Wolff J. P., who I think I remember was in Franklin Co.

I suppose you came across those disputed boundary lines between Pennsylvania and Maryland. I don't recall exactly when that last leg of the Mason-Dixon line was surveyed, perhaps in the 1770's, but I do know that when that survey began (1754?) it was expected to reach the Potomac near present Williamsport. Moving the line north gave Maryland the strip about seven miles wide along the Conococheague, and added the panhandle westward, which was supposed to be Ohio Co. VA as far east as Fort Pitt. Some land granted in Pennsylvania was sold in Maryland. The huge Shelby tract, "Mountain of Wales", north of Clear Spring, extended for miles in both states.

Also, I see I need to correct my guess that Nicholas Swingle's executor was his grandson, Nicholas, son of George Swingle. I knew there were a lot more George Swingles than I needed, but had no way to get a handle on them. I'll defer to your estimates of ages and order of Swingle's heirs. Actually, the widow Barbara and son Benjamin were executors for Nicholas Swingle's estate.

It is also my guess that old Nicholas Swingle supposed that his daughter was marrying a rich heir and, as you suggest, was irritated that George Kershner Jr. had not succeeded in getting hold of his inheritance. This 1784 power of attorney refers to the 1769 will of Martin Kershner, dec'd, and the executor and oldest son, who was Martin Kershner (1743-1817). It had been 15 years, and George still had not gotten any share of the real estate willed by his father, Martin Kershner (born 1722). He never did get it, and neither did any of the other children. And Nicholas Swingle's bequest was to Mary "and her lawful heir Benjamin if there will not be any more ....George Kershner Jr. shall not enjoy anything of my property." This means to me that Mary's only heir so far is Benjamin Kershner, then about a year old, and that she might not have any other heirs. She did have one other child, Mary, born three or four years later, but that's all. Nicholas Swingle wanted to make it perfectly clear that George Kershner Jr. was not to get his hands on any part of that £200.

George's brother, Martin Kershner b 1743, was still selling estate land just before he died in 1817. The evidence is that this older brother and executor loaned his siblings small amounts of money instead of turning over their part of the "real and personal property" specified in the will. Years later, when they got deeply in debt to him, he forced all of them to make releases to him

for their legacies. That's why George Kershner Jr. had to lease Swingle land instead of owning any. Don't quote me, please--I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings--but I privately refer to that rich, powerful Maj. Martin Kershner as "that old skinflint." I did think it was poetic justice that, of his eight daughters, seven moved away before his death, and that his only son, Andrew Kershner, had to spend his whole life disposing of all that property, had no issue, and ended his life as a bankrupt.

About Barbara Swingle Roemer, Henry Kindle was doubtless related to Devault or Theodore Kendel/Kendall/even Campbell, who married Elizabeth, daughter of George Kershner Sr. and Mary Flenner. The two George Kershners, Sr. and Jr., each with wife Mary, and not father and son, were an interesting puzzle, all the more because Jr. died before Sr.

Your mention of Tulpehocken reminds me to tell you we did solve the mystery of the relationship of Berks Co. PA Kershners to Maryland Kershners. Johan Georg Kirschner, born 1695, came in 1731, probably spent a little time in Pennsylvania, and settled just west of present Hagerstown on Route 40. His brother Johannes Kirschner, born 1693, came in 1733 and settled west of the Schuylkill in Bern Township, but his son Conrad moved east of the Schuylkill to Windsor Twp. in 1744. Johannes died 1742, a month before the arrival of his half-brother, Martin Kirschner (born 1703 - died 1782). A fourth half-brother, Konrad, and some cousins, stayed in Langenselbold: Rolf Kirschner, one of our tenth generation cousins, and his wife Ursel, who still live in the same town, will be here this month for a second visit to the U.S. Every Kershner who goes through Frankfurt airport, where Rolf works, gets the royal treatment and a tour of Langenselbold. All this from our German research!

I'll watch for Smiths, but don't recall seeing interaction with Kershners. I am interested in Augusta Co VA, where David Kershner ("second sone" of Martin b 1722,) brother of George Jr., moved his family about 1786. Also, we have a George Kersner there in 1773, whose family sounds very much like the younger son of Johannes Kershner d 1742 of Berks Co. PA. Problem is, in 1768, two of George's children, age 14 and 16, had guardians appointed, and George is said to be dead. But there are NO estate records, will, admr. appointed, nothing else, yet the Orphans' Court records appear to be complete. The usual form says "guardians <u>of the estates</u>" which these brief minutes omit. I suspect that these children could have been legatees of grandparents. Both did stay in Berks Co. and married there, but there's no sign of their older brother Conrad or mother Margaret. It is just too much of a coincidence that George Kersner, wife Margaret, and grown son Conrad turned up in Augusta Co. VA. But back to Nicholas Smith -- I couldn't tell whether the power of attorney was made to to Conrad Hogmire in Augusta Co. VA, or in Frederick Co. MD or some other place, in 1775.

I've run on far too long, but hasn't it been fun!

SUPPLEMENT TO VOL II, KERSHNER FAMILIES OF MARYLAND

Supplement to Vol II, pp 110-113. Andrew Kershner b 1787, m Elizabeth Moudy.

From Georgia Kwiatowski, 6884 Weber Road, St Louis MO 63123, a SOYSTER descendant, to R uth B. Kershner:

Other MOUDY marriages:
Syster, Daniel, to Sarah Ann MOUDY 3 Aug 1819
STAKE, Peter, to Roseanna MOUDY 26 July 1812

"The maiden name of Daniel Syster's wife Sally was Moudy, and she was a sister of Elizabeth Moudy Kershner, Andrew's wife...A marriage for their widowed mother" (Roseanna to Peter Stake)" would explain Elizabeth Kershner listing Edward Stake as her brother. In 1860 Maryland census, with E.G.W. Stake, 46, merchant, is Roseanna Stake, 83 b Md. This is evidently Edward Stake's mother living with them. Also, Andrew K. Stake, 41, is a 'Supt. Canal.'...(he married) Adaline OSTER 22 April 1844."

(Note by RBK) Apparently it was Elizabeth Moudy Kershner's half-brother, not her father, who was the canal superintendent, and I agree that Roseanna Moudy who married Peter Stake must have been their mother. This also reminds me of the lost Rosina Kershner b 1772, eldest daughter of David Kershner b 1750. She would have been around 16 or 17 at the time David moved permanently to Augusta Co. Va. There are good marriage records in Augusta Co. but none for Rosina. It is only speculation that she stayed in Maryland, a good clue and indication more research is needed. Please do not jump to the conclusion that Rosina b 1772 is the same person as Roseanna Moudy Stake on this flimsy intuition.

Supplement to Vol II page 158-9

Jacob Kershner b "ca 1752"---"ca 1757"

As the evidence suggests, Jacob Kershner was not as old when he died in 1815 as indicated on his gravestone in St. Paul's, Clear Spring, Md. Although the inscription on the oldest stone says he was in the 64th year of his age when he died 20 Feb. 1815, the stone may not have been erected until after the death of his wife in 1835.

The contemporary record was published in the Baltimore Patriot and Evening Advertiser on 24 March 1815:

"Jacob Kersner, innkeeper, died in Hagerstown Maryland, age 58."

This record provides Jacob Kershner with a more logical birthdate of about 1757.

JANE CASSEDY
243 MOLIMO DR.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94127



SAN FRANCISCO CA 941
PM
9 JUN
1986
AB

National Flag
JUN 14
Pause For The Pledge

Mrs. Ruth Bownds Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, TX 78746

ABBREVIATIONS

b - born/bapt
c - circa
d - died/bur
m - married
mo - months
p - profession
(1) - ist marr.
y - years

Am - America
Hb - Herbstein
La - Langenselbold
Md - Maryland
Mr - Merlau
Nb - Nürnberg
Pa - Pennsylvania
Rv - Ravolzhausen
St - Stockhausen

ENDERS KIRSCHNER
b c1570 Hb

LUDWIG KIRSCHNER
b c1590 Hb
d by May 1657 La
p councilman La
m 23 Mar 1614 La
Anna Fuchs, dau of Anton of La
b 29 Aug 1585 La
d 3 Dec 1657 La

THE KIRSCHNERS OF HESSE

based on data supplied by professional genealogist Max Steinbaur of Frankfurt, W. Germany, to the Kershner Family Association

GELA
b 22nd Sunday in Trinity 1618 La

HANS
b Palm Sunday 1620 La

PETER KIRSCHNER
b
d 10 Mar 1665 La
p councilman & surveyor La
m 1 Dec 1637 Mr
Anna, widow of Peter Bauman
b 1607
d 25 Aug 1693 La
86 y, widow

ELISABETH
b 26th Sunday in Trinity 1622 La
m 17 May 1657 La
Peter Blum of Ilbeshausen

JULIANE
b
m 17 May 1658 La
Martin Kraus of Nb, a teacher

JOHANN KIRSCHNER
b 2 Dec 1638 St
d 23 Apr 1713 La
76 y
p councilman La
m 26 Jan 1660 La
Anna Elis. Ermolt
dau of Hans of La
b 14 Nov 1641 La
d 15 Mar 1683 La
41½ y

WERNER
b 9 Jan 1642 La

KONRAD
b Christmas Day 1643 La
d 30 Apr 1674 La
33 y
m 11 Jan 1666 La
Engel Ritter dau of Philip

ELISABETH
sponsor of her niece 8 Nov 1663

GEORGE
b 8 Mar 1646 Rv

HANS PETER
b 12 Nov 1653 La
d 18 Nov 1663 La

ANNA ELIS.
b 1st Sunday in Advent 1660 La

ELISABETH
b 8 Nov 1663 La

ANNA
b 25 Feb 1665 La

MARIA
b 4 Nov 1666 La

JOHANN KONRAD
b 14 Nov 1669 La
d 26 Apr 1746 La
77 y
m 23 Feb 1693 La
(1)Maria Kneiss
widow of Hans Bernhard Schad
b 28 Feb 1669 La
d 21 Nov 1697 La
m 16 Feb 1699 La
(2)Anna Margaret Keyser dau Joh.
b 1672
d 30 Nov 1722 La
50 y

HENRICH
b 21 Jul 1671 La

ANNA MAGDALENA
b 23 Sep 1675 La
d 26 Sep 1675 La

(1)

JOHANNES
b 26 Nov 1693 La
d by Sep 1742 Pa
(to Am 1733)
m 11 Feb 1717 La
Gertrude Dietrich
dau of Joh. (dec)
b c1683
d after 1742 Pa

JOH. KONRAD
b 17 Sep 1717 La
d 21 Apr 1791 Pa

JOH. PETER
b 15 Oct 1719 La
d 29 Dec 1725 La

ANNA
b 15 May 1722 La
d 26 Dec 1722 La

JOH. GEORGE
b 15 May 1722 La
d Am

ANNA PHILLIPINE
b 20 Aug 1724 La
d 12 Jun 1725 La

ANNA KATHARINA
b 5 Nov 1727 La

(1)

JOH. GEORGE
b 9 May 1695 La
d May 1748 Md
(to Am 1731)
m 28 Jan 1722 La
Anna Fischer
dau of Konrad
b 13 Jun 1698 La
d c1768 Md

JOH. MARTIN
b 3 Dec 1722 La
d Dec 1769 Md

ANNA ELISABETH
b 25 Mar 1725 La
d 16 Apr 1765 Md

ANNA BARBARA
b 26 Jan 1727 La
d Am

JOHANN
b 24 Feb 1729 La
d

GEORGE
b c1731
d 1804 Md

JACOB
b c1733 Md
d 1776 Md

JOHN
b c1740 Md
d 1822 Md

(2)

JOH. KASPAR
b 18 Sep 1700 La
d 8 Apr 1765 La
64 y, 7 mo
m 19 Nov 1721 La
Anna Magd. Döll
dau of Peter

ANNA ELISABETH
b 28 Apr 1723 La

ANNA SABINE
b 20 Dec 1724 La
d 28 Jan 1725 La

JOH. MARTIN
b 10 Dec 1725 La
m 10 Mar 1751 La
Elisabeth Ruth

JOH. KONRAD
b 29 Aug 1728 La

ANNA MARGARETA
b 25 Sep 1729 La

JOHANNES
b 17 Aug 1732 La

JOHANNES
b 10 Dec 1733 La

ANNA MARIA
b 29 Aug 1736 La

ANNA KATHARINA
b 2 Mar 1740 La
d 1 Jun 1751 La

JOH. KONRAD
b 16 Sep 1744 La

(2)

JOH. MARTIN
b 4 Nov 1703 La
d 1782 Pa
(to Am 1742)
m 26 Nov 1732 La
Anna Elis. Schuffert
dau of Joh. (dec)
b 29 Dec 1711

ANNA KATHARINA
b 11 Oct 1733 La
d 11 Dec 1733 La

JOH. KONRAD
b Oct 1734 La
d Am

JOH. PETER
b 27 May 1736 La
d 2 Feb 1737 La

ANNA MARIA
b 17 Oct 1737 La

JOH. KASPAR
b 10 Jun 1739 La

JOHANNES
b 9 Apr 1741 La

M/M Lester M. Swingle
300 E. Church St. #1019
Orlando, FL 32801

ORLANDO, FLA. 328
HOUSTON, TEX.
PM
OCT
1982
1982

Pennsylvania
USA 20c
Ruffed Grouse &
Mountain Laurel

The Kirshner Family Association
~~4603 El Salvador~~
~~Houston~~ 1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, Texas
~~Texas 77066~~ 78746

M/M Lester M. Swingle
300 E. Church St. #1019
Orlando, FL 32801

ORLANDO FL 328
PM
8 NOV
1982

Maryland
USA 20c



Baltimore Oriole &
Black-Eyed Susan

Mrs. Ruth Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin
Texas 78746

November 8, 1982

Dear Ruth:

Thank you so much for your response to my request on the Kershner Genealogy. You are very right that I am interested in the Nicholas Swingle history.

I would like very much to have the lending copy of Vol. II. If Vol. III has much to do with the Swingles I would like it too, that is if there is a lending copy. Or, perhaps, it is still being printed?

Also, you mentioned photo stats of court papers, land deals, and other data which you would lend. Indeed I am interested. I am more than happy to pay the postage both ways and will take good care of the materials. I am enclosing a check for $10.00-I have no idea what the cost of sending may be. I'll send any remainder as soon as I know the amount.

My husband's father was John William and then the procession was Josiah-Benoni-Benjamin-Nicholas-Nicholas. It is interesting there is so much Swingle information in your history book. Benoni married Rebecca Morgan who was the great grandaughter of Col. Morgan Morgan who was the first white settler in West Virginia. That is, he is reputed to be -there are contradictions.

Thank you again for all your help. If you ever get to this area let us know. We live at the Orlando Lutheran Towers and can be reached by telephone through the Towers number 425-1033 x 1019. So many people do come to Disney World or now to Epcot-about 25 miles away.

Sincerely,

Aleta

from:

M/M Lester M. Swingle
300 E. Church St. #1019
Orlando, FL 32801



To:
MRS. RUTH B. KERSHNER
1414 RED BUD TR
Austin, Texas
78746

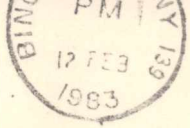
11/29/82

Dear Ruth;

I see I have failed to let you know I received the envelope with letter dated Nov. 15 and other enclosures. I will get these mailed back to you by Dec. 4, 1982.

Thank you very much. Also have a letter from Mrs. Maxwell.

Aleta S.





Mrs. Stuart G. Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, Tex. 78746

© USPS 1981

2008 Galaxy Drive
Vestal, N.Y. 13850
Feb. 11, 1983

Dear Ruth,

Many thanks for your letter of Jan. 2 - it just missed me as I was en route to Yucatan, Mex. (on an archeological "field trip" to Maya country in connection with a mini-course in same at Cornell last summer) via Charlotte, where my sister and 3 of her children live and as of Dec., my mother in a nursing home there. Wish I'd had Wm. Kershner's address - he must live near my nephew - at least they have the same zip #s. Glad the info, on Eliz. (Schnebele) Kershner is of interest. Sorry, I don't know of contacts between cousins in Ohio - so many of them went there, it would be interesting - my Henry (nephew of Eliz.) settled in SW Ohio (Butler Co.), desc. of # bro. Joseph around Canton. I guess Ohio was the "promised land "then!

February 8, 1983

Dear Ruth:

I did indeed receive the Vol. II of the Kershner history and have enjoyed it very much. I am sending it today to you with many thanks. I would be delighted for you to send the 10.00 dollars to Mary. I did send her a check too but she returned part of it. Still I would like her to have it so encourage her to keep it.

In the course of our correspondence Mary and I have found we were born in adjoining counties in Illinois and that she has visited with people(in Flora, Ill.)with whom my family was aquainted. It is such a small world. This has been a very interesting "side effect" of my search for Swingle history. I am anxious to go back to Effingham, Ill. again and this time look for records. My husband and I usually go to Illinois once or twice a year.

I trust the book will arrive in good condition. It certainly represents years of searching and compiling.

Best wishes to you and if you ever get this way do try to let us know. We live at the Orlando Lutheran Towers and our telephone number is 305 425 1033 ext. 1019.

Sincerely,

Aleta E. Swingle

Mrs. Lester M. Swingle
300 E. Church St. Apt. 1019
Orlando, Florida 32801

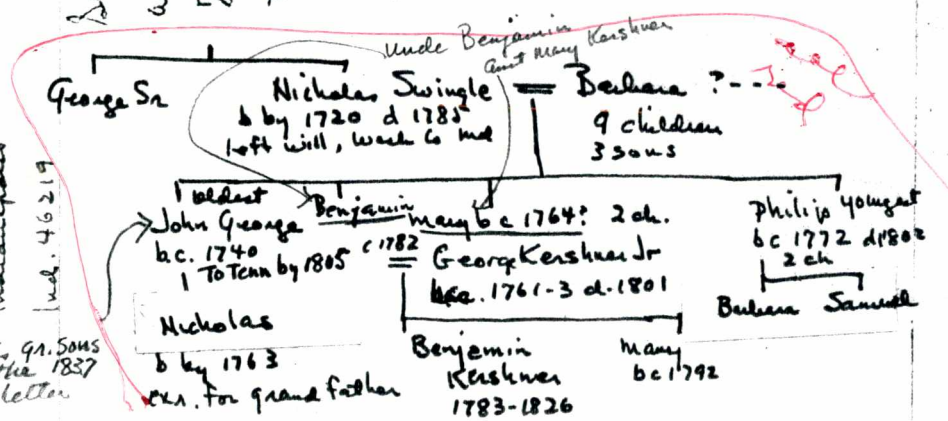
Ralph L. Swingley b 1902 to Kath B Kershner 1114 Red Bud Tr Austin Tx 78746
232 N. Bolton Ave 30 Aug 1977
Indianapolis
Ind. 46219

There was quite a colony of Swingleys, Swingles and Swingleys in Washington County, Maryland; adjoining Hamilton County, Pennsylvania and Berkeley County, Virginia (now W. Va.) in the early 1800's. It appears that between 1790 and 1850 the emigrated westward.

I have been pursuing census and other data in the early 1800's trying to tie together the interrelations of the families.

If you have anything that will help I will be glad to get it.

Cordially,



One of his 9 sons must be the 1837 writer of letter

by Joseph Albert Swingley - 1975

COPY OF A LETTER WRITTEN MARCH 11, 1837, BY NICHOLAS SWINGLEY TO HIS BROTHER JONAS.

Marion, Franklin Co., Pa., March 11th, 1837.

Dear Brother:

I received a letter from you some time since, dated Jan. 21st, and was glad to hear of your wellfare, and sorry to hear of the decease of our venerable mother, of which your letter gave me the first notice. The reason I have delayed writing to you is that my health has been very bad, in consequence of which my nerves are weak and render me incapable of writing. I have been confined to my room almost entirely for three years. I had intended to come to the western country but sickness has entirely thwarted my purpose. It is still my intention of visiting you if I can have my health restored. In consequence of my ill health you may rightly conclude that my circumstances are not as prosperous as they might otherwise be and that I have somewhat reduced in my estate. I wrote to Joseph previous to his death concerning the ninety-seven acres of land which belonged to me, my cattle, corn, etc., but did not receive from him any satisfactory answer. I wish you to write immediately and tell me the state of things, and whether there is not something coming to me. You no doubt know all about matters. If I can get something from that source, it would greatly benefit me at present in my afflicted state.

You enquired where Sister Barbary's children were and how doing. There are two of them in this county, Daniel and Jacob, who were well a short time ago. Michael moved westward and is living about Pittsburg. George and Elizabeth died about two years since. Catharine Montgomery is also living in this county. Aunt Mary Kershner and the rest of our friends are alive and well as far as I know. I purchased a small home for my family about two years ago on which I am living. There is a railroad to run within about three hundred yards of me which is to be commenced shortly to run from Chambersburg to Williamsport, Md. Our wheat and rye crops last year failed and the prices of grain are pretty high—wheat $2, rye $1.25, corn 75c, oats 45c, buckwheat $1.00 per bushel. Pork from $7 to $8 per hundred and beef about the same price.

The people of this country are generally well. I have nothing more which would be interesting to you and therefore I will conclude by wishing you health, peace and prosperity.

Your brother,

Jonas Swingley Nicholas Swingley.

P. S. There are some of our relations in the state of Illinois, two of Uncle Benjamin Swingley's children, Jacob Swingley and Rachel Bell, his sister, who live in Sangamon County, near Springfield, the County Town. Rachel's husband is a wagon maker. If you ever go that way you can enquire after them.

N. S.

The above letter addressed from Marion, Pa., March 13th, to Mr. Jonas Swingley, Silver Spring, Wilson County, Tennessee.

Jonas (1800-1850) Nicholas (1795-1[illegible])

23 August, 1977

Mr. Ralph L. Swingley,
732 N. Bolton
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219

Dear Mr. Swingley:

We noticed your name on file in the Washington Co. Md. Free Library as a Swingley, Swingle researcher.

In the course of our snooping into the affairs of the Kershners of colonial Maryland, we have amassed quite a bit of data on Nicholas Swingle who died 1785 in Washington Co. His daughter Mary married George Kershner Jr. b. c. 1761, but the records that required the most untangling were with Martin Kershner, Miller (b. c. 1720), who owned a tract aquired by his father in 1739--called Dutch Folly. Nicholas Swingle, also a miller, also owned a tract called Dutch Folly, but patented to Thomas Wells in 1739.

Would you be interested in some of these by-products? We have platted many of the land records, have copies of court actions, deeds, data on the mills, etc., and found the Swingles a most interesting family. Since we have not located any contemporary members of this group. we had no idea how their name would finally come to be spelled. I should mention that the latest date we have on the Swingle/Swengle/Swingley/Schwengle research is 1807, except for having picked up a few later references to the name in other places.

Sincerely,

4 Sept 1977

Dear Mr. Swingley:

Thank you for the copies of Swingley material. Unless you need them back, I would appreciate being able to add them to my file.

Our research problems do indeed touch at points, and your mention of Ruth Baker, whose great grandmother was Elisabeth Swingley (Ankeny then McCoy) brings up another coindidence. The Mary Kershner mentioned in your material was probably the one whose son Benjamin bc 1783 married Elizabeth Ankeny in ~~kX~~ 1807. Benjamin Kershner d 1826, his widow married Jonathan Snyder and migrated to Illinois with her Kershner children and a number of Ankenys.

Enclosed are a couple of drafts of sketches which have quite a bit on Mary Swingle Kershner and her parents, Nicholas and Maria Barbara Swingle. Careful reading ~~x~~ of your report on J. A. Swingley's 1926 book turns up a number of discrepancies between Nicholas Swingle, miller, who died in 1785, and J.A.'s Nicholas 1680-1784. What I have run across suggests that there were two Nicholas Swingle's names and three George's in the 1778 list--so it may take some more work to distinguish these various Washington Co. Md. individuals.

These drafts, such as they are are yours to keep.

We have tried to make some estimates of ~~b~~rthdates, using the ordinary methods. I have assumed Nicholas Swingle's grandson, namesake and executor was at least 21 when he was named executor. I have assumed that Maria Barbara was around 45 at the birth of her youngest child. It does give at least some sort of possible framework. You might well be sceptical of children born 35 years apart to the same woman--possible, but not likely.

But I think the letter which mentions Aunt Mary Kershner and Sister Barbary may ~~be~~ referring to the family of Nicholas Swingle, Miller. The widow, Barbara, was in the 1790 census with one male over 16 (probably the youngest son Philip) and two females, and there is a Nicholas 2-3-1, 1 sl., among a group of people I do not recognize. Nicholas could be the grandson-executor, son of John George ~~S~~wingle who appears to have been called George Schwengle Jr in the 1778 Oaths.

Nicholas, the miller who d. 1785, left a will, in which he stated that an ~~xxx~~ executor was to be Nicholas, son of his son John George, so that is firm information. He had two other sons, Benjamin, also an executor, and Philip, a minor who came of age about 1793-1796. Bhilip married, but died by 1802, leaving minor heirs Barbara and Samuel, so you can add that bit of information. I have nothing on the children of John George, who went to Tennessee (tho I don't know if he stayed) or on Benjamin, or on Nicholas the grandson.

Nicholas Swingle's mill is still standing, a historic landmark which is near Williamsport and now operated as the Old Mill Restaurant, tho it known locally as Kemp's Mill. Although I have not referred recently to my material, I think I recollect the Kemps ~~xx~~ acquired the properties from the Van Lears who are mentioned in the Chancery case.

The Chancery records seem to be pp 14-50, according to my notes. The negative photostats are owned by my colleague in research, Mary Kershner Maxwell (Mrs. Glen), 1622 W. St. Vrain, Colorado Springs, Colo. She might be through with them and might consider letting you have them, or at least borrow them. Her cost was 50¢ per page plus a dollar or two fee for the order. We have had very good luck mailing documents FIRST CLASS, and have found, that as photographs, they are eligible to be insured even though sent first class.

The sketches have been prepared for Mary's book on the Kershners of Maryland, which is in the process of being indexed and finished up right now. The ones I am sending you have been slightly revised, but not to any substantial amount.

I have checked my copies of the 1783 Assessment for Washington Co. Md. and find in Conococheague and Salisbury Hundred list, p 48:

Nicholas Swingle/Land, pt. of Dutchman's Folly, 128 acres Woods, 20 acres Meadows, 30 acres Arable, 178 acres total amount of land, value £ 150, value of improvements £ 200/Slaves, none/6 Horses and 14 Black Cattle, value £ 76/ 3 mills value £ 150/ Value of other property 13 £ /Total Amt of Property £ 769. (This indicates a pretty prosperous land-owner) He had a grist mill for flour, a saw-mill, and probably a feed mill. There is a lot of inaccurate "history" floating around Hagerstown about the age of this historic landmark, which is certainly not the original Wolgamot Mill built in 1743, but a much more substantial one which may have been constructed by Wolgamot Swingle, who mentioned the New Mill in his will. Wolgamott was in a running battle with Ringgold over conflicting claims to the land across Conococheague Creek: one of them had a warrant for the land and the other had it surveyed. Not until Swingle's ownership was a compromise reached which gave clear ownership of the land on both sides of the creek to the miller, together with the right to build the mill, but the majority of the land --not adjacent to the creek-- to the Ringgold heirs.

Also in the 1783 Assessment, immediately below Nicholas Swingle's name, is George Swingle Jr./ no land, no slaves/4 horses, 4 Black Cattle, value £ 30/ other property valued at £ 3/ Total Amt. of Property £ 33. One could imagine how this would chafe a man with a grown son and a prosperous father, and lead him to try his fortune elsewhere after Nicholas Swingle tied up his inheritance so tightly.

In the Chancery case, John George Swingle or George Swingle Jr. stated that the widow, Barbara Swingle, was his mother, which pretty well rules out any possibility of him having been the child of a first or earlier wife. And the youngest son, Philip Swingle, did not reach his majority till 1793-1796, so this gives us an earliest possible birthdate for Philip of 1772, and a latest likely birthdate for John George (whose son Nicholas was of age in 1784) of about 1740. Meaning that Barbara had children for at least 30 years, more likely 32 or maybe more. I was nervous about this, but haven't found any flaw in the evidence yet.

Since John George Swingley b c 1740 was identified, in connection with Nicholas the miller, at least twice, 1778 and 1783, as George Jr., I think your mention of the George Sr. becomes more credible, and I would not be surprised to find that George Sr. was a brother of Nicholas Swingle, miller. Nor would I be surprised if it seemed likely that the Nicholas Swingle, im-

migrant, 1680-1784, turned out to be records of a father and son, both named Nicholas. The 1784 death date is the same date of the will of Nicholas Swingle, miller, but I very much doubt that he was age 96 when he made that will. I guessed at a birth date for the miller of not later than 1720, and waa quite interested to see that your records mentioned a Nicholas, a son age 20 in 1740, who, however, was not on the ship's list.

To return to the 1783 Assessment, I did not check indexes for other Hundreds Swingles, but just ordered copies of the Hundreds in which Kershners lived. As I mentioned, the Swingles are by-products. I think you could write the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md., for copies of the S-pages (lists are alphabetical within Hundreds) of all Hundreds, and could locate the additional Swingle families listed in the 1778 Oaths of Fidelity. With luck, this would give you the names of their land tracts, and you could then order copies of certificates of survey for the tracts. This would give you the names of individuals who were the first owners of the tracts--and you are very likely to find Swingles among them--which gives you a method of distinguishing one George Swingle from another. Maryland's land records are excellent. The Hall of Records will not look up much in the way of indexes for you which is why I am suggesting the circuitous route of ordering copies. But if you find a date of patent or survey for a particular tract, for instance, which was later owned by one of the Swingles, say in 1783, you can make a guess and ask for a deed to the Swingle with an approximate date, and they may check it for you. Washington Co. was erected from Frederick Co 1778, and Frederick from Prince George's in 1748. Unfortunately, I have not checked Swingle indexes in either county, tho my notes indicate I did not run across any when I went down the Frederick Co. wills and administrations. The Maryland Calendar of Wills (Hodges) wouldn't do you a lot of good in locating a death record for a Nicholas Swingley b 1680 who immigrated in 1740 and was already 60, because until non-English immigrants were naturalized, they did not have the privilege of willing or inheriting property and would not have left wills. (See Colonial Maryland Naturalizations by Jeffrey A. Wyand, Gen. Pub. Co. Baltimore, 1975) You might find some Swingles in Wyand's list--we found Kershner's names in 1747--and ours who were listed definitely did inherit and did leave wills or administrations.

When I order copies from the Hall of Records, I splurge and order positive copies. Then they make a negative and from that a positive and I get both copies. The positives Xerox very nicely, so I can share them. The negatives are difficult to read. I think I get my money's worth for the extra 50¢.

Let me go ahead and throw in some miscellaneous bits from my Swingle cards:

Washington County Virginia, Census 1810 p. 10 Michael Swingle 11001-1301-3 sl (no other Swingles listed in this census)

State Map of Wyoming, 1974--as we drove through on I-90, the town of Swingley in Park County, and 60 miles west, town of Anceney in Gallatin Co.

Washington Co. Tenn., 1973 In Jonesboro, I inquired at the courthouse for local historians and genealogists, and was referred to Mr. Charlie Bennett, who lived across the street and down a couple of blocks. Mr. Bennett told me of Leonard Swingley, "still insolvent" and that a Dr. Swingley, professor of some nearby college, had done a lot of research on the family. Mr. Bennett might provide you with this name and address. Jonesboro is not large, and I think a letter to him as "historian" might reach him.

By now, I might just as well exhaust you and the subject! My excuse is that I think the Swingles are a very interesting family.

I would like to suggest that you research the Palatines a little more. What I have found indicates they were residents of the Palatinate, territory ruled by the Elected Palatine, one of the electors who chose the ruler of the Holy Roman Empire. The area was along the Rhine, and your description of the Upper and Lower Palatinate sounds fine. William Penn is said to have sent his agents up and down the Rhine, and into Switzerland, to solicit settlers for his new colony, one of the conditions under which it was granted (besides the settlement of a large debt owed to Penn's father). Penn is said to have married a Dutch woman, a widow who was living in Ireland or had large Irish estates. Many Palatinates appear to have come down the Rhine to Holland where they were assisted by the Dutch Reformed Church to emigrate--early letters of Reformed ministers in America reported to the Honorable Coetus at Philadelphia and the Sinod of Holland. Have you read "The Maryland Germans" by Dieter Cunz?

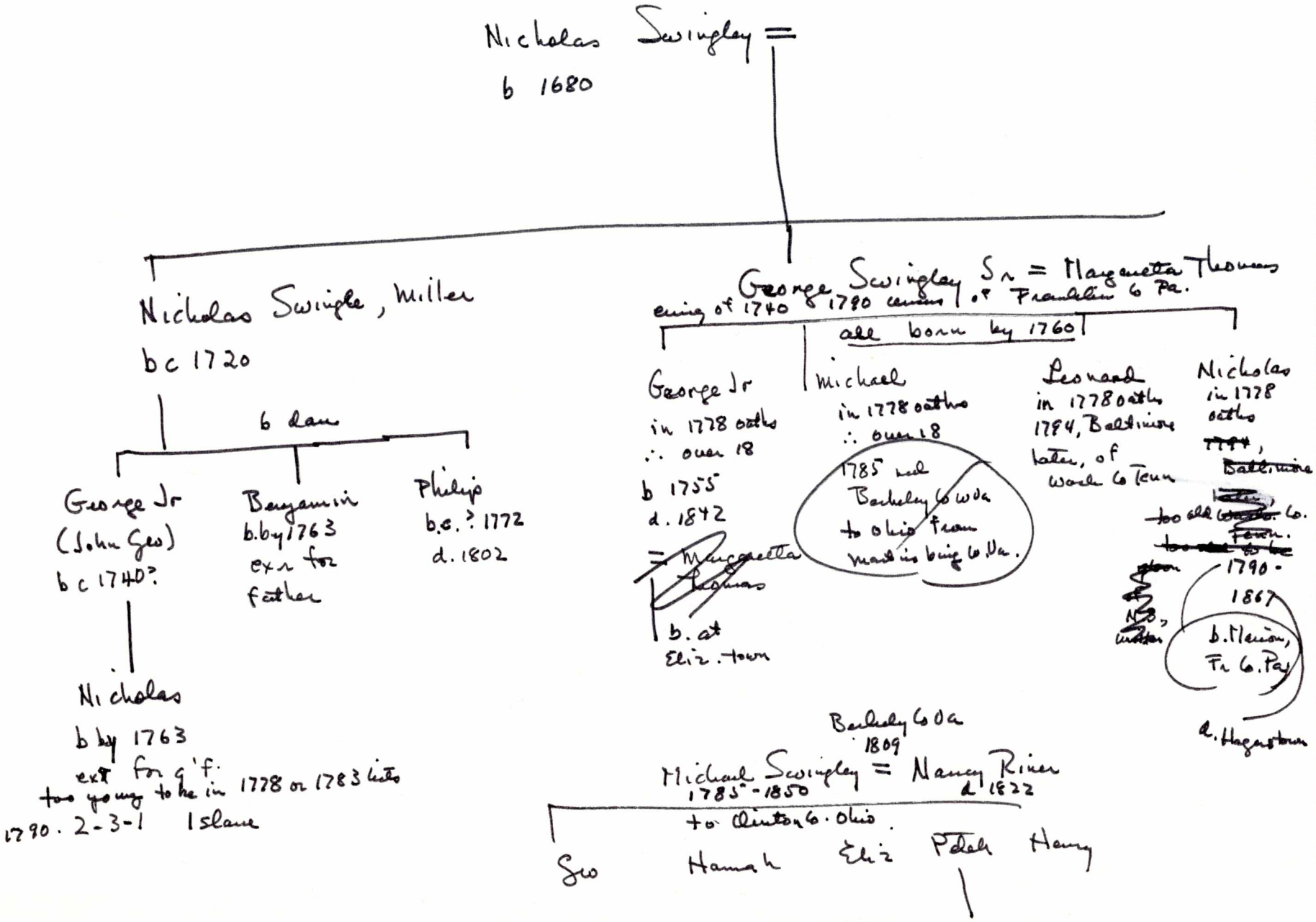
The point that bothers me a little is the description of Palatines, "immigrants from the Palatinates of Germany who did not have sufficient funds to pay for their passages and, as arranged, were sold by the ship's captain for a period of years as indentured servants..." No doubt some Palatinates were indentured, but it is my impression that the earlier ones, who came with families and in groups, were quite substantial citizens. There are lists of the cargo they brought as luggage--the amount of cast iron fireplace backs and stoves and pots and kettles would astound you. Many, we think, brought substantial amounts of hard money with them, and were able to purchase lands and maintain themselves from the first. Most of the purchasers of indentured servants--and many of them were the settled Palatinates--looked for young, single men and women who could do hard work or who had skilled trades experience. It is not clear to me whether you are reporting J.A. Swingley's definition of Palatines, which would probably have less research behind it in 1926. I do admire and approve of your cautious treatment of his statements, for it was very difficult to do the sort of research 50 years ago that we can now, and our predecessors, who recorded many valuable facts, also recorded many that were't substantiated.

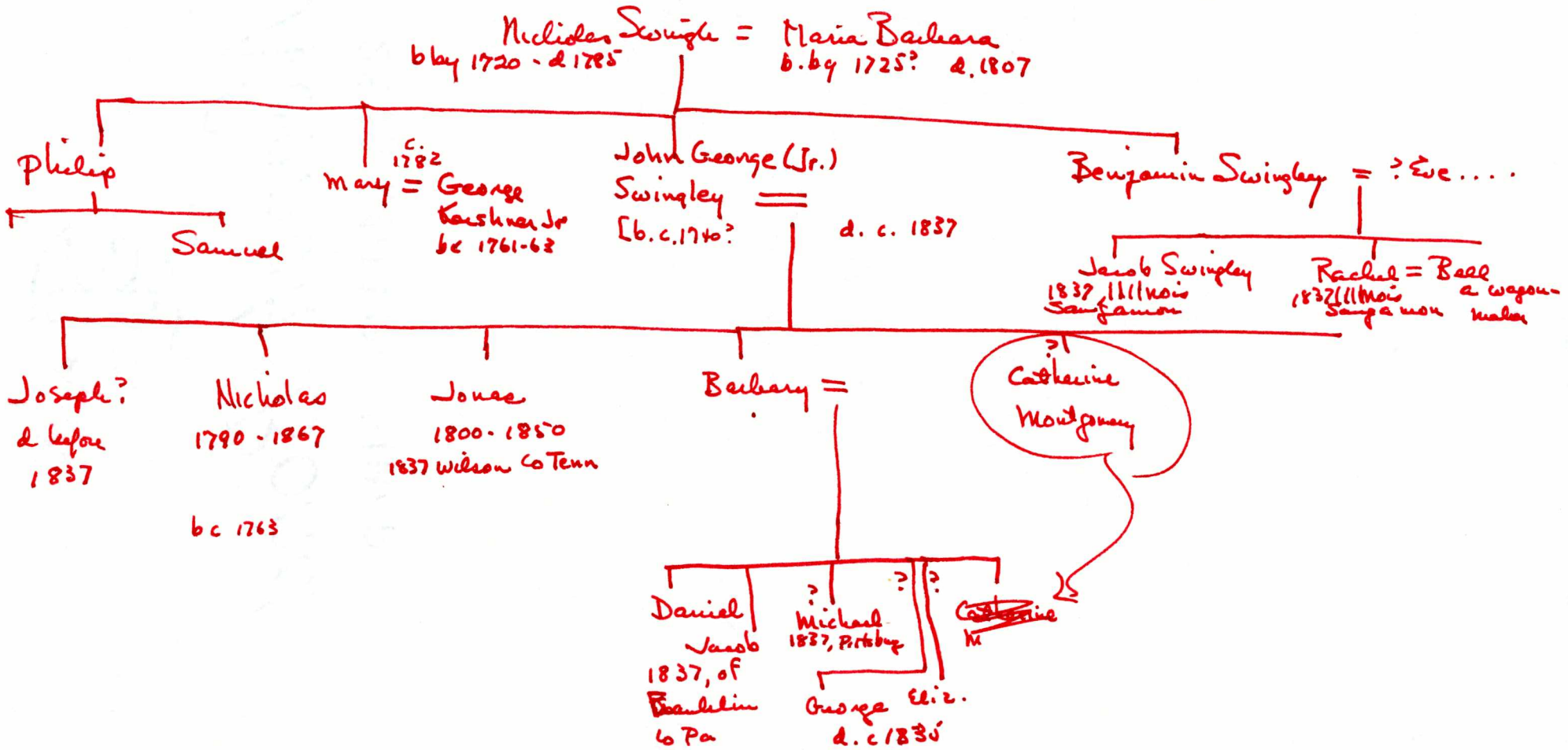
It will take you a lot of time to work through this mass of material, and I hope you enjoy it. You're not required to report (tho I'd be interested in any land records you find) but I would appreciate just a postcard to let me know this arrived. I am somewhat uneasy about the state of the mail service.

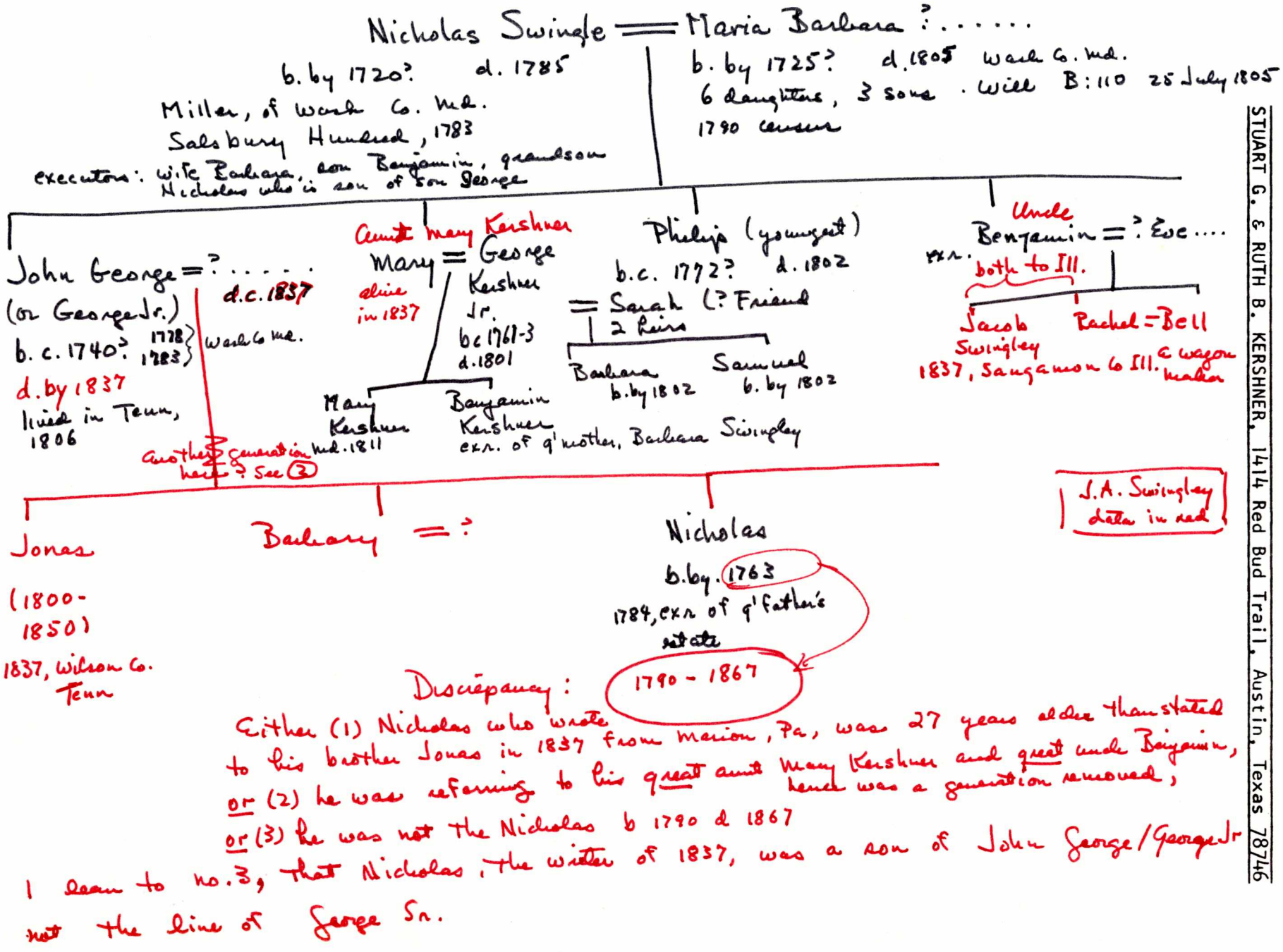
I do appreciate very much the copies you sent, particularly the letter about Aunt Mary Kershner, still alive in 1837. I had last identified her in the 1810 census, Washington Co. Md. I will try to make a copy of this to send to historian Harry E. Foreman, 222 High St., Chambersburg Pa 17201. He is <u>not</u> a genealogist, he says, but is interested in communities and land records, and his wife had a Kershner ancestor that we have not identified.

Thank you again,

STUART G. & RUTH B. KERSHNER, 1414 Red Bud Trail, Austin, Texas 78746




Nicholas Swingle = Maria Barbara
b bef 1720 - d 1785 b. bef 1725? d. 1807
Philip
Samuel
Mary = George Kershner Jr
c. 1782 bc 1761-63
John George (Jr.) Swingley
[b. c. 1760?
d. c. 1837
Benjamin Swingley = ? Eve....
Jacob Swingley
1837 Illinois Sangamon
Rachel = Bell
1837 Illinois Sangamon a wagon-maker
Joseph?
d before 1837
Nicholas
1790 - 1867
bc 1763
Jonas
1800 - 1850
1837 Wilson Co Tenn
Barbary =
? Catherine Montgomery
Daniel
Jacob
1837, of Franklin Co Pa
?
Michael
1837, Pittsburg
George
d. c 1835
?
Eliz.
?
Catherine
M



Discrepancy:

Either (1) Nicholas who wrote to his brother Jonas in 1837 from Marion, Pa, was 27 years older than stated

or (2) he was referring to his great aunt Mary Kershner and great uncle Benjamin, hence was a generation removed,

or (3) he was not the Nicholas b 1790 d 1867

I lean to no. 3, that Nicholas, the writer of 1837, was a son of John George/George Jr

not the line of George Sr.

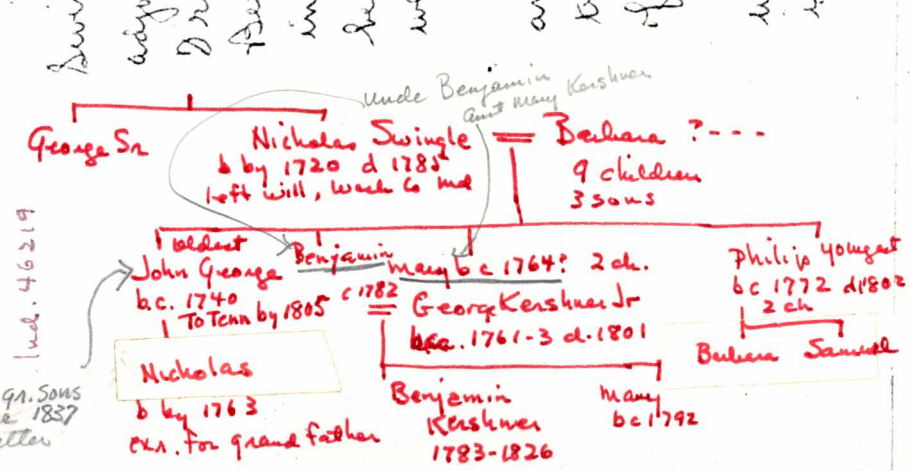
STUART G. & RUTH B. KERSHNER, 1414 Red Bud Trail, Austin, Texas 78746

Ralph L Swingley b 1902 to Ruth B Kershner 1414 Red Bud Tr Austin Tx 78746
30 Aug 1977
232 N. Bolton Ave
Indianapolis
Ind. 46219

There was quite a colony of Swingleys, Swingles and Swingleys in Washington County, Maryland; adjoining Franklin County, Pennsylvania and Bramblin County, Virginia (now W. Va.) Berkeley County, Virginia (now W. Va.) in the early 1800's. It appears that in the early 1800's the emigration between 1790 and 1850 the emigration was westward.

I hope I have persuaded you and other data in the early 1800's to tie together the information I am trying to get of the families. If you have anything that will help I will be glad to get it.

Cordially,



by Joseph Albert Swingley - 1905

COPY OF A LETTER WRITTEN MARCH 11, 1837, BY NICHOLAS SWINGLEY TO HIS BROTHER JONAS.

Marion, Franklin Co., Pa., March 11th, 1837.

Dear Brother:

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You enquired where Sister Barbary's children were and how doing. There are two of them in this county, Daniel and Jacob, who were well a short time ago. Michael moved westward and is living about Pittsburg. George and Elizabeth died about two years since. Catharine Montgomery is also living in this county. Aunt Mary Kershner and the rest of our friends are alive and well as far as I know. I purchased a small home for my family about two years ago on which I am living. There is a railroad to run within about three hundred yards of me which is to be commenced shortly to run from Chambersburg to Williamsport, Md. Our wheat and rye crops last year failed and the prices of grain are pretty high—wheat $2, rye $1.25, corn 75c, oats 45c, buckwheat $1.00 per bushel. Pork from $7 to $8 per hundred and beef about the same price.

The people of this country are generally well. I have nothing more which would be interesting to you and therefore I will conclude by wishing you health, peace and prosperity.

Your brother,

Jonas Swingley Nicholas Swingley.

P. S. There are some of our relations in the state of Illinois, two of Uncle Benjamin Swingley's children, Jacob Swingley and Rachel Bell, his sister, who live in Sangamon County, near Springfield, the County Town. Rachel's husband is a wagon maker. If you ever go that way you can enquire after them.

N. S.

The above letter addressed from Marion, Pa., March 13th, to Mr. Jonas Swingley, Silver Spring, Wilson County, Tennessee.

Jonas (1800-1850) Nicholas (1790-1867)

by Joseph Albert Swingley - 1925

COPY OF A LETTER WRITTEN MARCH 11, 1837, BY NICHOLAS SWINGLEY TO HIS BROTHER JONAS.

Marion, Franklin Co., Pa., March 11th, 1837.

Dear Brother:

I received a letter from you some time since, dated Jan. 21st, and was glad to hear of your wellfare, and sorry to hear of the decease of our venerable mother, of which your letter gave me the first notice. The reason I have delayed writing to you is that my health has been very bad, in consequence of which my nerves are weak and render me incapable of writing. I have been confined to my room almost entirely for three years. I had intended to come to the western country but sickness has entirely thwarted my purpose. It is still my intention of visiting you if I can have my health restored. In consequence of my ill health you may rightly conclude that my circumstances are not as prosperous as they might otherwise be and that I have somewhat reduced in my estate. I wrote to Joseph previous to his death concerning the ninety-seven acres of land which belonged to me, my cattle, corn, etc., but did not receive from him any satisfactory answer. I wish you to write immediately and tell me the state of things, and whether there is not something coming to me. You no doubt know all about matters. If I can get something from that source, it would greatly benefit me at present in my afflicted state.

You enquired where Sister Barbary's children were and how doing. There are two of them in this county, Daniel and Jacob, who were well a short time ago. Michael moved westward and is living about Pittsburg. George and Elizabeth died about two years since. Catharine Montgomery is also living in this county. Aunt Mary Kershner and the rest of our friends are alive and well as far as I know. I purchased a small home for my family about two years ago on which I am living. There is a railroad to run within about three hundred yards of me which is to be commenced shortly to run from Chambersburg to Williamsport, Md. Our wheat and rye crops last year failed and the prices of grain are pretty high—wheat $2, rye $1.25, corn 75c, oats 45c, buckwheat $1.00 per bushel. Pork from $7 to $8 per hundred and beef about the same price.

The people of this country are generally well. I have nothing more which would be interesting to you and therefore I will conclude by wishing you health, peace and prosperity.

Your brother,

Jonas Swingley Nicholas Swingley.

P. S. There are some of our relations in the state of Illinois, two of Uncle Benjamin Swingley's children, Jacob Swingley and Rachel Bell, his sister, who live in Sangamon County, near Springfield, the County Town. Rachel's husband is a wagon maker. If you ever go that way you can enquire after them.

N. S.

The above letter addressed from Marion, Pa., March 13th, to Mr. Jonas Swingley, Silver Spring, Wilson County, Tennessee.

Jonas (1800-1850) Nicholas (1790-1867)

RALPH L. SWINGLEY
732 NORTH BOLTON AVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46219
317 357-7045

Aug. 30, 1977

Mrs. Ruth B. Kershner,
1414 Red Bud Trail,
Austin, Texas 78746

Dear Mrs. Kershner:

It is always good to hear from another genealogical researcher particularly when it is evident our families touch. You will be interested to know that last evening I talked to another Ruth. She is Ruth Baker of De Kalb, Illinois whose great grandmother was Elisabeth Swingley (1813-1892) (Anheny then Mc Coy). I have also been touch with Swingleys (or descendents) in central Illinois and central Ohio. I can only directly tie in the Ohio ones.

Enclosed is a photocopy of a page from J. A. Swingleys Swingley Genealogy (1925) which mentions Aunt Mary Kershner. Can you tell me who her parents and brothers and sisters were? It appears she was the daughter of the Nicholas who had a brother George (Jr) (1755-1842)

Also sent along is a copy of a historical write up of my family. You will observe that I have not yet been able to determine the parents of my great, great grandfather Michael (1785-1854).

RALPH L. SWINGLEY
732 NORTH BOLTON AVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46219
317 357-7045

Sept. 12, 1977

Dear Mrs. Kershner:

The material you sent came thru promptly and in good condition. I certainly appreciate it. Also you are to keep the material I sent to you.

There is a surprising inter-relation between the Kershner and Swingley (le or ly) families.

Recently I listed censuses that are available here in our State Library for states of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia (or W. Va), Illinois and Indiana for years 1790 to 1850. There are many Nicholases, Georges and Michaels.

As I have time I shall crossmatch these with material you sent, that ~~that~~ I have and I believe I can come up with firmer identification.

Incidentally the J. A. Swingley who wrote the Swingley Genealogy I referred to lists his father as Otho (1879-1908) and Otho father as Nicholas (1790-1851)

More later.

Cordially, Ralph

P.S. I will pursue on number of your suggestions. R.

There was quite a colony of Swingleys, Swingles and Swinglys in adjoining Washington County, Maryland; Franklin County, Pennsylvania and Berkeley County, Virginia (now W. Va.) in the early 1800's. It appears that between 1870 and 1850 the emigrated westward.

I have been pursuing census and other data in the early 1800's trying to tie together the interrelation of the families.

If you have anything that will help I will be glad to get it.

Cordially,

Ralph L. Swingley

ZWINGLI SCHWINGEL SWINGLEY SWINGLY SWINGLE

The ancestry of persons in the United States having surnames of SWINGLEY, SWINGLY AND SWINGLE resulted from a migration in the mid 1700s from the Palatines (1) of the German Empire because of religious conflicts. According to the book entitled ZWINGLI a genealogy of the Swingley family written by J. A. Swingley in 1926, (2) the first ancestor of the Zwingli family of which history gives a record was born in the mountains of Switzerland at Wildhaus Canton, St. Gaul, County of Toggenburg. He also reports that the name Zwingli means "twins" in Wappen. Some members of this large family migrated to Germany and to Poland.

Johan Nicholas Zwingli (1680-1784) arrived at Philadelphia, U. S. A. on the German ship Samuel on December 3, 1740. (3) His name was "Germanized" on the ship's list to Johan Nicolas Schwingel. He was accompanied by his son Georg (1724-1800). Both were from Sarbrucken, Germany. J. A. Swingley reported they were accompanied by another son, Nicholas, age 20 (see note 2) but he is not listed on either of the two ship lists available. No mention is made on the ships lists of wives or children of any of the men listed. Both Johan and Georg were listed as Palatines. Palatines were immigrants from the Palatinates of Germany who did not have sufficient funds to pay for their passages and, as arranged, were sold by the ships captain for a period of years as indentured servants to pay for any amount due for their passage. (4)

George Swingley is referred to as senior. J. A. Swingley reported on page 21 of his book that his wife was Margaretta Thomas and that they had two children, George junior (1755-1842) and Nicholas (1790-1867). He also reported that George Swingly senior's name was changed to that spelling in the 1790 census. He reported on page 40 that George Swingly senior's wife as Margaretta Thomas and that they had two children, George junior and Michael. Observe the conflict in the names of George senior's children and the variation in the spelling of names. Since few people could write at this time the census taker wrote down his version of the name given to him orally. This accounts for variations in the spelling of names. Zwingli becomes Zwingle and Schwingel then was anglacized to Swingley, Swingly and Swingle.

Now to try to zero in on the ancestry of myself and my part of the Swingley family. The earliest completely confirmed record of a male ancestor of mine is that of my great, great grandfather Michael Swingley. (1785-1850). He married Nancy Riner in Berkeley County, Virginia (now in West Virginia) December 16, 1809.(5) After her death about 1822 Michael emigrated to Clinton County, Ohio.(6) They had five children. They were George, Hannah, Elizabeth, Peter (my great grandfather) and Henry. Michael, Peter and Henry lived the remainder of their lives in that area. All three are buried in the New Antioch, Ohio Cemetery just north of the town of that name. We have visited the cemetery and have seen the graves and the head stones. We have also visited with part of the Swingley family who still live in that area.

Back again to J. A. Swingley's 1926 book. He reports on page 21 that George Swingly junior (1755-1842) was born at Elizabethtown (now Hagerstown, Maryland and that Nicholas Swingley (1790-1867), his brother, was born at Marion, Franklin County, Pennsylvania and died September 8, 1867 at Hagerstown Maryland. Michael Swingley (1785-1850) was married in adjoining Berkeley County, West Virginia and emigrated to Ohio from Martinsburg, West Virginia. Marion, Pennsylvania is just a few miles north of Hagerstown Maryland and Martinsburg, West Virginia is just a few miles southwest. All three lived in the same area. Michael was 30 years younger than George junior and five years older than Nicholas. I have not been able to confirm that they were brothers. The family scattered from that location and variations in the spelling of the name have occurred.

Now back to my more immediate ancestry. My great grandfather Peter (1808-1843) married Mary Amburn on October 31, 1831. They had three children. They were Caleb, Joshua and Rebecca. I have been told that "Becky" married a man by the name of Ward and lived in Elmira, Ohio. Peter died January 13, 1843 when Caleb and Joshua were eight years old. They were twins. Peter's widow, Mary, married Elijah King on June 4, 1845.

When my grandfather Caleb and his brother Joshua were eighteen theyemigrated from Clinton County, Ohio to Randolph County, Indiana. This was in the fall of 1853. They spent the remainder of their lives in Randolph and adjoining Delaware County in east central Indiana

My grandfather, Caleb married Mary Lucinda Thompson (1840-1925) on June 3, 1858. They reared ten children. Their names were: Carmilas, Will, Joshua Albert, George Elmer, Hugh, Martha Arbella (Clevenger, Minnie D. (Ullom), Ella M. (Helm), Florence (Cecil), and India (Clevenger). All of them married and had children. They spent their lives in east central Indiana.

My father, George Elmer lived his entire life in Randolph, Delaware and Wayne Counties. All adjoin in east central Indiana. He married Leona Ethel Friddle (1879-1953) December 24, 1895. They reared four children, Cleta D., Ruthanna (Mills-Richardson), Rosemary (Smith) and me Ralph Leslie.

I married Blanche Anderson in Indianapolis, Indiana on June 22, 1927. We have lived in Indianapolis for more than fifty years. Incidently we were both born in 1903. I was employed by Indianapolis Water Company for almost 50 years retiring at the end of 1969 as President. We have two children.

Our son, Roland K. married Shirley Kruger June 17, 1950. They have six children: Kenneth, Kirk, David, Anne, Jane and Elaine. Kenneth is married and has a son Finn. Roland is the Downtown Ford Dealer here. He was born in 1928.

Our daughter, Ellen, married Paul E. Middleton August 31, 1952. He works for Western Electric in their headquarters in New York City. They live in New Jersey. They have three children: Scott, Steven and Janice. Ellen was born in 1932.

Ralph L. Swingley

September 25. 1975.

732 N. Bolton Ave.,
Indianapolis, Ind. 46219
Telephone 813/357-7045.

RALPH L. SWINGLEY

ANCESTRY

Direct Line	Brothers
Hans Ulric Zwingle (1600-1640)	
Von Elgg Zwingle (1630-1700)	
Johan Nicholas Zwingle (1680-1784)	
George Swingly (Zwingly) Sr. (1724-1800)	
Michael Swingley (a) (1785-1854)	George, Nicholas
Peter Swingley (1808-1843)	George, Henry
Caleb B. Swingley (1835-1922)	Joshua
George Elmer Swingley (1872-1957)	Carmilas, Will, Joshua Albert, Hugh
Ralph L. Swingley (1903 -)	Cleta D.
Roland K. Swingley (1928-)	
Kenneth R. Swingley (1952-)	Kirk, David
Finn A. Swingley (1974-)	

(a) This is based upon information furnished by Miss Janice Story of La Salle, Illinois and contained on page 40 of J. A. Swingleys 1926 on the Swingley Genealogy. It states that George Swingley Sr. had sons George Jr. and Michael and assumes that this Michael is my great-great grandfather.

It is questionable whether do not this is the right Michael.

Ralph L. Swingley

July 26, 1975.

SUPPORTING DATA AND REFERENCES

(1) According to WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA (1951- Page 84) Palatinate was the name of two little countries of the old German Empire. The two Palatinates were one political unit until 1620. One was called the Upper Palatinate and the other the lower Palatinate. The name once referred to a castle of the German Emperor.

Powerful Princes of Germany called the Counts Palatine owned the Palatine and districts belonging to it as early as the 1000's. The Upper Palatinate and the lower Palatinate were separated by the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. The Upper, bounded chiefly by Bohemia and Bavaria,was given to Bavaria. The Lower Palatinate on both sides of the Rhine, became a separate electorate. A further settlement was reached at the close of the Napoleonic Wars. Bavaria was given the largest part. The rest was divided among Baden Hesse-Darmstadt and Prussia. - - - - -

The area has long been famous for it's fertile soil. The region produces good crops of potatoes, tobacco, flax, wheat, barley and rye. It has always been noted for it's wine.

Observations. Bavaris adjoins Switzerland the origin of the Zwinglis. Z in German is pronounced like the ts in hits so it is easy to how the Z was changed to S in English. Apparently all of the early generations of Swingleys in the United States were farmers.

(2) SWINGLEY GENEALOGY by J. A. Swingley reports on page 8 under the title Historical. "The first ancestor of which history has given any record was born in the mountains of Switzerland at Wildhaus, Canton St. Gall, County of Toggenburg from hardy Swiss parentage."

(3) The book THIRTY THOUSAND NAMES OF IMMIGRANTS BY Rupp lists on page 144 under names of German, Swiss the following:

"Dec. 3, 1740. Palatines imported in the ship Samuel, Hugh Percy, Captain, from Rotterdam, last from Deal. - 175 passengers.

- - - - - - -

Georg Bombach
Johan Nicolas Schwingel
Johan Nickel Schmidt
Johannes Stool
Gotfried Walter
Georg Schwingel
Johan Nicholas Zerfass"

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SUPPORTING DATA AND REFERENCES

(4) The following from HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND page 21:
"A considerable number of "Redemptioners" or indented Servants also became citizens of the valley. Redemptioners were assisted emigrants - persons who wished to find a home in the colonies but not having sufficient money to pay their passages across the ocean sold themselves for a term of years for the necessary amount. The captain of the ship brought them over and then sold them for a sufficient sum to pay the passage. The practice was so extensively engaged in that it was regulated by an Act of Assembly passed in 1715, servant being under fifteen years of age had to serve until he was twenty-two, if between fifteen and eighteen, seven years, if between eighteen and twenty-two, six years and five years if above twenty-five years of age. Usually their treatment was mild and they became freemen upon the expiration of the term of servitude; many of them, as well as convicts, became highly respected citizens, and the progenitors of influential families; and a few are mentioned as having become distinguished. One of the signers of the Declaration of Independence was a Redemptioner.

(5) From MARRIAGE RECORDS OF BERKELEY COUNTY, VIRGINIA 1781-1854 by Guy L. Keesecker:

			(marriage)
Swingle, Benoi	m. Morgan, Rebecca	Nov. 17	Nov.20,1823
Swingle, Cath.	m. Bower, Adam	Oct. 25	1830
Swingle, Eliz.	m. Sibole, Ebenezer	Nov. 19	1842
Swingle, George	m. Small, Cath. L.	Feb.7	Feb. 7,1852
Swingle, Maria B.	m. Thornburg, Thos	Oct. 6	1828
Swingle, Mary	m. Coleman, Michael	Aug. 20	Aug.22,1838
Swingle, Mary Va.	m. Shaffer, Wm. M.	Apr. 9	Apr.12,1849
Swingley, Cath.	m. Kindar, John	Aug. 24	1799
Swingley, Michael	m. Riner, Nancy	Dec. 16	1809*
Swingley, Rachel	m. Bell, Zebulun	Sept.20	1821

* Henry Riner, suretor

(6) From HISTORY OF CLINTON COUNTY OHIO -1882 on page 1016 Biographical Sketches:
HENRY SWINGLEY, farmer, New Vienna, born in Berkeley County, Va. March 6, 1816, is a son of Michael and Nancy Swingley natives of Virginia, where they resided till her death, which occurred about 1822. In 1825 Mr. Swingley with his children

(continued)

(6) concluded -

emigrated to Ohio, and located in Clinton County, where he resided till his death October 16, 1854, in the sixty-sixth year of his age. They had five children - George and Hannah,who prior to the war were living in Virginia and Maryland, since which nothing has been heard of them; Elizabeth, married George Hooten, and the last known of her was residing in Iowa; Peter (deceased) and Henry, our subject, who was about nine years of age when the family came to Ohio and here he grew to manhood, was married April 28, 1842, to Elizabeth Gillespie, who emigrated from Kentucky to Ohio, and settled on the farm now owned by our subject about 1810, being one of the pioneers of the county, and here lived and died. They (Gillespies) had seven children, two now survive - Catherine and Elizabeth. Mr. Swingley (Henry) and wife have had six children, five now survive - Michael, born April 27, 1843; Susannah, born October 16, 1845; Thomas born November 11, 1847; John born June 15, 1851; Hannah E. born November 11, 1854, deceased; and Kate, born October 13, 1857, wife of Thomas C. Bond. Mr. Swingley located after his marriage near where he now lives; he started life without means, and here has labored through life, and by his own industry and economy has become possessed of much wealth; is now owner of 1,000 acres of good land, and the greater portion of it is in good cultivation, constituting him the largest land-owner in Greene Township. Mr. Swingley first purchased a piece of land right in the woods for $2.37 per acre, and performed a great amount of pioneer labor andfrom time to time purchased more land, till he now owns as stated above. Mr. Swingley has never sought office, but has devoted his life to business, and as a successful farmer, obtained wealth by his own industry business tact and good management, has shown a skill, and success having few parallels in the history of our pioneers.

FROM
ALETA E. SWINGLE
300 E. CHURCH #1019
ORLANDO
FLORIDA 32801



FIRST CLASS

Mrs. Ruth Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin
Texas 78746

15 Nov 1982

Mrs. Lester M. Swingle
300 E Church St. #1019
Orlando, FL 32801

Dear Aleta:

Enclosed, a file of Swingley letters. I think you might want to get in touch with Ralph Swingley without delay. You're welcome to copy any or all of thsse, but please return them. His address, 732 N Bolton Ave, Indianapolis IN 46299.

Your check is probably somewhat more than we need, and I don't have everything at hand right here, so I'll wait to cash it until we see what the expenses are.

Myllending copy of Volume II of The Kershner Families of Maryland is out on loan right now, but I'm writing for it. My co-author, Mary Kershner Maxwell, has the photostats of the Swingley will, which was a part of the court procedare, and the other records that were my source. Her address is 1622 West St. Vrain, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. I've written to her, too.

You'll enjoy finding out about the Swingleys. They are a most interesting group.

Nice to hear from you.

October 27, 1982

The Kirshner Family Association
4603 El Salvador, Houston, Texas

Dear Sir:

I am interested in the Kershner Families of Maryland 1731-1977 Volume II. Is there any arrangement for the loan of this book? If not, is the book for sale? Price?

Any information you can give me will be appreciated. I do not happen to be near any library that has this book.

Thank you,
Aleta E Swingle

Mrs. Lester M. Swingle
300 E. Church St. #1019
Orlando, Fl 32801

Sent cc of
Nicholas Swingley