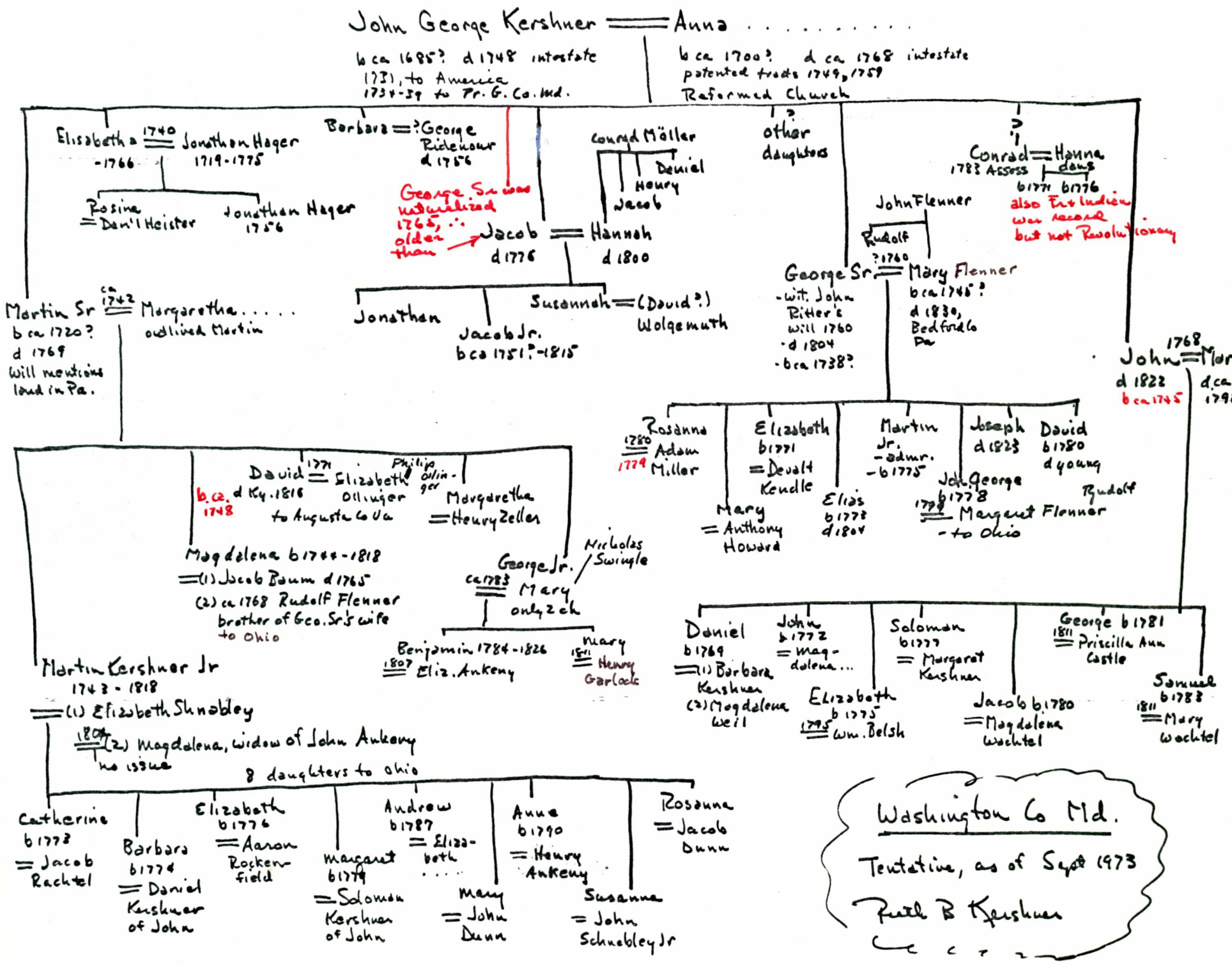
RBK
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin Tx 78746



Mrs. Presley D. Shingleton
419 Stanley Avenue
Clarksburg, W. Va. 26301


John George Kershner = Anna
b ca 1685? d 1748 intestate
1731, to America
1734-39 to Fr. G. Co. Md.
b ca 1700? d ca 1768 intestate
patented tracts 1749, 1759
Reformed Church
Elisabetha 1740 = Jonathon Hager
-1766
1719-1775
Barbara = ? George Ridenour
d 1756
other daughters
? Conrad = Hanna
1783 Assess
dau
b 1771 b 1776
also Ent Indian was record but not Revolutionary
Conrad Möller
Daniel
Henry
Jacob
George Sr was naturalized 1765, ... older than
Jacob = Hannah
d 1776
d 1800
John Flenner
Rudolf
?1760
Rosina = Dan'l Heister
Jonathon Hager
1756
Martin Sr
b ca 1720?
d 1769
Will mentions land in Pa.
ca 1742 = Margaretha ...
outlived Martin
Jonathan
Jacob Jr.
b ca 1751?-1815
Susannah = (David?) Wolgemuth
George Sr
-wit. John Ritter's will 1760
-d 1804
-b ca 1738?
Mary Flenner
b ca 1748?
d 1830, Bedford Co Pa
John 1768 = Mary ...
d 1822
b ca 1745
d ca 1795
Rosanna 1780 = Adam Miller 1779
Elizabeth b 1771 = Deualt Kendle
Martin Jr. -admr. -b 1775
Joseph d 1823
David b 1780 d young
Rudolf
John George b 1778 1798 = Margaret Flenner -to Ohio
Elias b 1778 d 1804
Mary = Anthony Howard
David b.ca 1748 d Ky. 1816 to Augusta Co Va
1771 = Elizabeth Ollinger
Philip Ollinger
Margaretha = Henry Zeller
Magdalena b 1744-1818
= (1) Jacob Baum d 1765
(2) ca 1768 Rudolf Flenner brother of Geo. Sr's wife
to Ohio
George Jr. ca 1783 = Mary only 2 ch
Nicholas Swingle
Benjamin 1784-1826 1807 Eliz. Ankeny
Mary 1811 = Henry Garlock
Daniel b 1769 = (1) Barbara Kershner (2) Magdalena Weil
John b 1772 = mag-dalena ...
Solomon b 1777 = Margaret Kershner
George b 1781 1811 = Priscilla Ann Castle
Samuel b 1783 1811 = Mary Wachtel
Elizabeth b 1775 1795 = Wm. Belsh
Jacob b 1780 = Magdalena Wachtel
Martin Kershner Jr
1743-1818
= (1) Elizabeth Shnabley
1804 (2) Magdalena, widow of John Ankeny
no issue
8 daughters to ohio
Catherine b 1773 = Jacob Rachtel
Barbara b 1774 = Daniel Kershner of John
Elizabeth b 1776 = Aaron Rockenfield
Margaret b 1779 = Solomon Kershner of John
Andrew b 1787 = Elizabeth ...
Anne b 1790 = Henry Ankeny
Rosanna = Jacob Dunn
Mary = John Dunn
Susanna = John Schnabley Jr
Washington Co Md.
Tentative, as of Sept 1973
Ruth B Kershner

WASH CO MD – RIDENOUR DATA FROM AUTOBIOGRAPHY of PETER D. RIDENOUR.
(KERSHNER) DATA FROM LEGAL RECORDS
Peter Ridenours RUTH B KERSHNER 1973

Nicholas Reitnauer = Susan . . . .
b. 1669 d.
Reformed Faith, lived in Rosenthal, Alsace

Nicholas Ridenour Sr
1695 – 1760
1739, to America, Robt + Alice
nat. 3 Sept, age 44
1742 Surveyed, 1748 patented "Nicholas Ridenour's Pond" adjacent to John Georg Kershner
= Rosina Kershner
relinquished her dower to Nicholas Hanson.
" nephews in Penna. who came to Maryland"

Henry

Mathias

Johas (John) 1716 = Maria Catherine . . . .
b 1690 d 1755
1739, to Oley Hills, Berks Co, Pa. near Reading

Nicholas Ridenour II
= . . . . . .
Jacob 1744 – 1808
Elizabeth bca 1782
Mathias

Henry b 1717
d 1781
= Eve
Sch
David 2nd son
Martin

Peter
1753, Pat. "First Snow"
= . . . . . .

Mathias
d 1798, will
8 ch.

George = ? Barbara Kershner, dau. of John George.
d. 1756
Martin Kershner, surety on admr's bond. Prob.
killed in Fr + Indian Wars.
b ca 1728?
left legacy by Martin, son of John George Kershner, 1769
Margaret = William Spangler
"heirs of Geo. Ridenour deed" 1778
Elizabeth = Simon Garrick
(? Tarrick ?)

Martin Ridenour
1754 – 1794
Remaining half of Peter Ridenour's "First Snow" passed to Martin Ridenour's 8 children through Philip Kershner, 1807

Philip Kershner = Christiana . . . . .
b. ca 1755 – d after 1813 1836
d 1826, left will
12 children, born 1774 – 1800
1778 – Oath of allegiance, Washco
1781 – bought half of "First Snow" from Peter Ridenour, with original home site.
1788, 1804 Still owned tract
1813, deed to son Jacob names all children among them,

1826, these 2 lived in New York State

Jacob 1803 = Elizabeth Ridenour
(prob of Jacob. b. 1744)

Mary 1809 = Jacob P. Kershner of Peter
b ca 1786

Elizabeth 1816 = Samuel Heller
b 1793

[Note: this is the first mention of any Peter Kershner in any Maryland records]

Jacob Kershner m Peggy Gabbert

1801, Augusta Co Va

b 1781 d 1839 — d 1841

12 heirs

- John G b 1802
- David b. ca 1804, d. 6 Dec 1873
  - 1826-27 - Augusta Co Va. Tax List
  - m 27 Dec 1827, Greenbrier Co (W) Va.
  - Mariah Fleshman
    - b. ca. 1806 d 9 Nov 1885
    - 1834-1844, 1847, Greenbrier Co Tax List
    - 1840 census Greenbrier, m + f 30-40, 2 boys -5, 2 boys 5-10
    - male b 1830-35 — James Madison Kershner
      - b. 8 Mar. 1829
      - d. 11 Aug 1911, Monroe Co.
      - m. 1850 Greenbrier Co
      - Satitia . . . . . .
      - OTHERS
      - David A. 1851-1885
        - m (1)? Melissa Berry who d. 13 Mar 1883
        - m (2) 13 Sept 1883 Monroe Co Sallie George of Greenbrier b. 1861
        - ? Goodall Kershner, Confederate Soldier with Monroe Co. Sharpshooters. d. after Civil War, before 1916 (Hist. of Monroe Co., Morton)
      - Marshall Lee b 1864 d 1937
        - m 1886 Greenbrier . . . . . .
        - Pearl b. 1898, m 1924 Greenb. Harry H. Scott lived Monroe Co in 1970
        - Marquisite
        - Will m. Lottie Harnaker who taught Mr. Kenneth Swope in Second grade. Moved to Charleston
          - Billy
          - Ed Mrs. Swope taught
      - Alice V. b. 1857, m. 1875 Greenbrier
      - Charles W. * 1858-1932, m. 1883
        - Sarah Etta * 11 Dec 1860, 8 Dec 1927
        - Delbert W. * b. 1 Oct 1884, d. 19 Sept 1892
      - ? Hezekiah M. * 1 Aug 1860 - 21 Aug 1927, m 1886
        - Bettie A. * b. 2 Feb 1862, d. 23 Jan 1937
      - ------ b. 1 July 1862 (Greenbrier Birth Record) (No name given for child)
      - William L.
        - m. (1) 1890 Hilda B. Brown * b 1869, d. 15 Apr 1894
        - m (2) 1895 Lizzie J. * b. 31 Jan 1862, d. 14 Aug. 1898
        - Gladys Moore * b. 10 Sept 1896, d. 6 Mar 1897
      - Walter S. b. 14 Dec 1866 (Greenbrier Birth Records)
      - Mary A.B. * b. 14 June 1867, d. 12 Mar 1868
      - Cloung Skagg * b. 10 Feb 1869, d. 28 Feb 1896
        - m (1)? M.D. . . . . .
        - Nina S. * dau of C.S. and M.D. Kershner age 8 mo (no date)
        - m (2)? 7 Nov 1894 Pocahontas Co Belle Eskridge
    - male b. 1830-35 — William H Kershner * b 25 Mar 1831, d. 9 Apr (or Sept 7) 1888
      - m. 1855 Greenbrier Hanna Frances * b 10 Aug 1834 - 5 Jan 1910
      - ← 1860 census →
    - male b. 1835-40 — John F.M. Kershner b 23 Apr 1836
      - m. 1856 Greenbrier Elizabeth Johnston b 1834 (1850 census)
      - Wm. R. b. 1847
    - male b. 1835-40 — George Washington Kershner b. 4 May 1839
      - m. 1866 Greenbrier ?Catherine? Johnston
      - ? James b. 8 May 1867
    - Royal P. Kershner b. 26 June 1840, d. 10 May 1918
      - m 19 June 1866 Mrs. Nancy Johnston Gabbert b. 14 Feb. 1840, d. 23 Apr 1918
    - Mary C. Kershner b 26 June 1843 not in 1850 census - presumed to have died young.
- Michael G b. 1806
- Jacob Jr twins? b. 1808
- Peter
- William × b. 1810, d. 1868 Monroe Co W. Virginia
  - 1833-1836 Augusta Co. Va Tax List
  - 1837-1838 Greenbrier Co (W) Va Tax List
  - 1839-1842 Augusta Co Va Tax List
  - 1843-1844, 1847 Greenbrier Tax List
  - m. 15 Dec 1836, prob. Greenbrier Co.
  - Elizabeth Nicholas b 1810 d 1889 Monroe Co dau of Henry Nicholas b 1783 and Hetty....
  - moved to Monroe Co. by 1850
  - 11 children
- Elizabeth b. 1810-1820
- dau b. 1810-1820 Lavinia?
- George b. 1818
- Mary Ann b. 1820-25
- James Harvey b. 1827
- Abraham b 1828

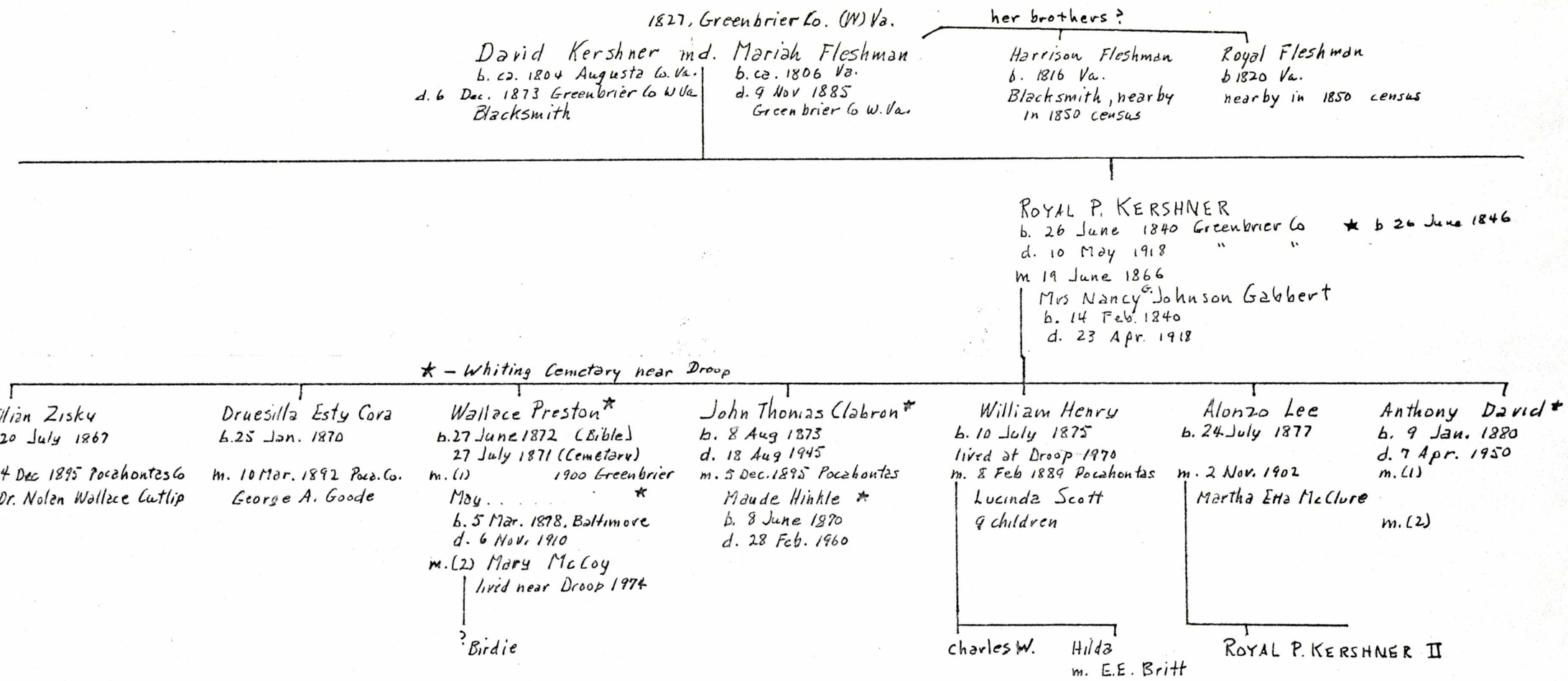
* adjacent graves in Frankford Cemetery

TENTATIVE FAMILY CHART

× Line of Stuart G. Kershner

Relationships suggested by Bible, Census, Cemetery, Birth, Death, Deed and other records.

Chart by Ruth B. Kershner 1976



TENTATIVE FAMILY CHART

Relationships Suggested by Bible records contributed by Grace Kershner (Mrs Royal P. III) Warren, Ohio, indexes to Greenbrier Co W.Va. Marriages, Cemetary, and public records of Augusta Co. Va. and Greenbrier, Monroe and Pocahontas Counties W. Va. Chart 1976 by RUTH B. KERSHNER

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

14 September 1976

Dear Mrs. Shingleton:

Thank you for your recent note. I hope I am not burdening you with correspondence, but I am very grateful that you are accepting copies of these drafts. I feel like I am putting them in a safety deposit box where someone will have access to them if I fall off my husband's sailboat before I finish getting the records in written order!

Your question about charts was most interesting to me. I have been making them as I went along, for my own instruction, as I find them invaluable for spotting inconsistencies. I have a looseleaf notebook full, all dated, and probably ALL tentative, for more information keeps coming up to change them. I would like to use them in the book. However, Mary wants to do this from stencils, and I find it fiendishly hard even to type a chart, much less convert it to a stencil with a space limitation of 7 x 9 inches. My brother-in-law, Stephen Kershner, and I are working on a scheme to do our portion offset from the typed pages and ship them to Mary for inclusion in her books. That way, I can do charts and have them reduced, include samples of handwriting, photos, etc. So I have a folder full of charts to be re-done neatly as I get an opportunity.

I was initiated into the construction and use of charts by Dr. David Kelley, a fellow=researcher who teaches archealogy and is a Fellow of the Am. Gen. Society. He uses them especially for situations where a few facts are known, but not the whole of the dates/ relationships, etc.

So far, I have not found any system of numbering individuals that is satisfactory for the incomplete data we have, though I think I might be able to begin on a generation-numbering scheme eventually.

What I am trying to use is the Mormon system, for it seems to be especially adapted to amateurs. While researching at Salt Lake City, I examined their "Archive" books, which are loose leaf books, thousands of them, containing three-generation family sheets. Within the books, these are arranged alphabetically by last name, then by first just as in a phone book, so that part is not only a familiar way to do it, but requires no index. Within each name, for example,"Jacob Kershner", the sheets are arranged chronologically by birth date. Even if it is only an estimated date, this automatically requires the researcher to THINK through the clues, and there is much less likelihood of confusing the generations. The Mormon sheets are on a family basis, the family consisting of a husband, a wife, their parents, and their children, with spaces for listing other spouses. I do not much care for the family sheets themselves, for there is insufficent provision for references and proofs. I do like their emphasis on place, for it is axiomatic that one person cannot be in two places at the same time, and it satisfies one of the five or six facts essential to a news story: Who, When, Where, What. (In this research, the other two, Why and How, are strictly speculative.) This Where, in the case of nearly every thing I've sent you, will be shown after the person's birth date, as "Jacob Kershner b. ca. 1732 Md.". If there get to be too many of the same name in later generations, I will probably indicate the parentage,too. This is somewhat clumsy, I admit, but has the advantage of not requiring that a numbering system be learned, and helps me keep the individuals straight in my own mind. As new data come to hand, a more and more accurate birthdate evolves.

Over -

I'm putting in a few copies I have on hand, which show some of the uses to which I've put charts.

Not everyone can work with charts. Mary Maxwell is only confused by them—

RBK.

6667 Van Winkle Drive
Falls Church Va 22044

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16 JUN
1973



Mrs P. D. Shingleton
409 Stanley Ave
Clarksburg, W. Va 26301

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

27 April, 1973

Mrs. P. D. Shingleton
419 Stanley Avenue
Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301

Dear Mrs. Shingleton:

Everyone has been so good about contributing bits of Kershner information. We have been platting like mad and the land holdings are taking shape. Right along Route 40. Everybody knows it, but couldn't prove it! You'll get a report on that later.

I'm beginning to pull together bits on individuals, and have gotten some surprises. As we delve deeper, it looks like Dr. Nay got a little tangled up in his George Kershners who married into the Flenner family. It's not yet in typed form, but The George Kershner who married Mary Flenner was George Kershner Sr, the brother of Capt. John Kershner, both younger brothers of Martin Kershner Sr, d 1769.

George Kershner Jr, Martin Kershner Sr's son, married Mary Swingle, daughter of Nicholas. Both these George's apparently died in the 1800 period and we're piecing together bits on them. More later.

As I started doing sheets on the Jacob Kershners--you remember we are trying to determine the relationship of Jacob Kershner 1751-1815 to the Johan Gorg Kirschner/George Kersner descendants--I had ruled out many of the records as those of the Jacob who married Hannah Miller. You sent references on him, and I thought I would get them together and do a sheet, with reference w to Martin Kershner's 1769 reference to disinheriting any children who married into Conrod Miller's family. By the time I got to the second page, I had to re-do it. The chronology doesn't appear to fit Martin Kershner Sr.

Would you be so kind as to pick this to pieces? It does depend heavily on the assumption that the Assessment of 1783-4 is complete and that the Oaths of Allegiance include all males over 21 in Washington Co. I'm not sure it is a valid assumption. Not only that, but my reasoning can be wrong, and we surely don't want to put anything into print that we don't feel good about. The copy is for your files, of course.

Not only that, but our land research will depend on the chronology of the Jacob/Hannah Miller Kershner family. It will make a difference whether we assume any Jacob [redacted] transaction between 1778 and 1787 is Jacob b 1751 or not. So your skilled eye is really needed.

Best of everything to you...

Ruth Kershner

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

Visiting a son -
New Haven, Conn.
4 July 1973

Dear Mrs. Shingleton:

Thank you so very, very much for the kind loan of your Kershner research papers. I can't tell you how helpful they have been, and how many areas they have pointed out to us for further work.

We are about ready to begin our Pennsylvania coordination now. I have abstracted every Pennsylvania reference or indication so far, but most of them are in the early 1800's. We do have some in Martin Kershner Sr's 1769 will, tho.

You ask whether Pennsylvania Archives are available to me. You would be surprised to see how many libraries have only a few volumes, the ones relating to Revolutionary War research. I think Mary Maxwell has been through them pretty thoroughly, tho, at least as far as indexed Kershners are concerned.

We have at least two fairly complete research lines in Pennsylvania, one of Johannes Kirschner and son Conrad, to Berne Twp., now in Berks Co., 1733. They are said to have come from Langenselbold, near Frankfurt. As you mentioned, there are numbers of later ones as well. Last week, we called on Dr. Ammon Kershner, descendant of Johannes, and Mr. Edward Kerschner, of the Hagerstown Kershners, who both live in Norristown, Penna. and are great friends. Both have done quite a bit of research, and both are more than 84! Mr. Edwrard is a descendant of the Jacob Kershner of Conquest, and nephew of the Dr. Edward Kershner whose biography is in the Williams history. Mr. Edward told me the other day that all the family knew of "Philip Kershner" is that they found a tombstone with his name on it, very worn, with others on a farm near the west side of the Conococheague--presumably near Wilson's Store. The stones were leaning up against a fence, and they had no idea where the grave was. He also told me that his Jacob was son of a Jacob, which is a new version. The old one is Philip--Jacob--Gustavus--Jacob Brewer, and he has added in a Jacob: Philip--Jacob--Jacob--Gustavus, etc.

We have found a couple of accounts for Jacob Kershner, dated 1791, admrs. John Kershner and Hannah! And a suit filed in 1779 and continued for several years, finally being dropped in 1787 without trial, Jacob Kershner vs Sprigg. 1787 is the year Jonathan stated his father Jacob had died intestate (no date of death).

Also, we spent several hours prowling around St. Paul's churchyard. I am beginning to suspect that Jacob Kershner of Conquest was about 5 or 10 years younger than his tombstone states. (I have found errors like this before.) I thought maybe I could guess at the age of the stone by the style, as there are usually definite changes. But I was very surprised by the uniformity of the "oldest" stones. They are white marble, absolutely identical in shape, wording, style of lettering--everything. I would say about 100, mostly dated 1838 to 1845. Jacob Kershner's is dated 1815, his wife's 1835, and three children's --"Jonathan Kershner who died (no date) aged about 9 years","David Kershner who died aged about 6 years,"

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

and "George Kershner who died, aged about 4 years." No dates on the children's graves. About 40 feet nearer the church is another identical stone to Jacob Kershner, d 1838. This would be the brother to Gustavus. Deed records show they were very close, handled a lot of business together. Jacob Kershner of Conquest left land to them jointly.

Assume for a moment that Jacob Kershner who died in 1815, "age 64," was memorialized by his widow, Ana Mariah Brewer, who is presumably the mother of the three sons, and that she bought stones for all of them at the same time. Why are there no dates on the children's stones? Why is their age stated "about"? Surely she knew this.

Suppose, on the other hand, that no stones were put up until after her death. There are no Bible records, and no one really remembers the children's dates. Or the stones are just field stones.

I think there might be a third possibility. The history of St. Paul's says the early burials there, after the church was moved to that site in 1795, had limestone markers. But these were white Vermont marble, with beautiful, sophiticated lettering, in English. What if some enterprising soul shipped in a big load of handsome stones, and there was a movement to replace the deteriorating old stones? Gustavus, the surviving member of the family, pillar of the church, prosperous, with a strong family feeling, but not born himself until 1801--he is the one who would be likely to buy six identical stones for the departed. He was only 14 when his father died. There would be many opportunities for a wrong age to be engraved in stone.

The age of the older Jacob--and it says very clearly that he was 64 in 1815--and the age of the younger Jacob, 47 in 1837, are the only two remaining discrepancies. Salem ~~Kirkh~~ records say a son Jacob was born to Jacob Kirschner and Margretha Angener, unmarried, in 1781. I do not know what the custom was for naming children in such cases. None of Jacob's other children appear in baptismal records. I am checking out the legislative act for legitimizing his children to see if actually more than four were named. In the book I found the reference in, there is no son Jacob mentioned, but in his will of 1815, Jacob of Conquest says Mary Ann Brewer had son Jacob and daughter Polly in addition to the four. This guess will have to wait for more data.

There is no indication any of these Jacobs migrated elsewhere and back, and we now have dates on them about 3 years apart, so if any of them left, he didn't stay long and he still owned the same land when he returned.

As you see, I am just thinking out loud. But it really is looking as though Jacob Kershner who married Hannah Miller might have been another son to Johan Gorg and Anna Kirschner. This impression is bolstered by his association with John Kershner in 1766, and with John as his administrator. The most persuasive tough is a deposition of Martin Kershner (Jr) Esq. in 1801 that Jonathan Kershner, son of Jacob and Hannah, is a "near kinsman. If both Martin and Jacob (Hannah) were sons of Johan George, Jonathan would be Martin's nephew. It fits.

I must quit, but enclose some sheets on Phillip Kershner, for your files. Note that he had prominently stated he had a son Jacob. I think this may have contributed to the mixup.

Since you plan to contribute your Kershner files to the Wld. Hist. Society, I have enclosed some add'l sheets for you to include.

Sincerely Ruth Kershner

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

2 Feb 1976

Dear Mrs Shingleton—

May I claim an offer you once made? This was to look up further ship's records in your Strassburger.

V. I p 329 21 Sept 1742 Martin Kirschner, ship Francis + Elizabeth.

Is there any indication he had a family with him? We are specifically looking for a Conrad b. ca. 1740 — not either of the other two Conrads. Kershners already there. Or a wife or other children? Vol II?

Appreciated your letter! !

Ruth K.

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

You said to write you for references to patents, and we're taking you up.

Black Oak Level — Hilda Cushwax says it's not in Wash. Col Land Records. It is listed in Williams History but I have only a little piece of the page.

Also wonder if your files include anything on these administrations that we have collected references on:

A 381, 11 Apr 1801 and 30 Oct 1804, adm. of George Kershner (one may be Geo Sr, one Geo Jr and I doubt they are on same page if so)

A 100, ca 1790, admr of Jacob Kershner

~~B 269 14 Mar 1815 Will of Jacob Kershner~~ May Maxwell sent the will itself to me.

" " 21 Mar 1816 Will of Jonathan Kershner

Late 1700 or early 1800 (not 1836)...admr for Philip Kershner

Obviously, some of these are wrong, but we are hopeful that your balance books records might show something!

1794-1795 admr for Peter Ridenour

1414 RED BUD TRAIL, AUSTIN TEXAS 78746 PH 327-2020

30 March 1977

Dear Mrs Shingleton—

Herewith another batch of copies. I hope you aren't too wearied by them. I've finally caught on to dating the drafts so it's possible to tell which has the last data in it.

I'm not sure you ever got an answer from me to your question about keeping some charts I sent. Yes, anything I send is only a copy, and you should feel free to keep it.

Your idea of compiling all your certified documents and filing with charts into notebooks, was an interesting solution to your MISS. problem, and would have the advantage of being open-ended. I have the most unmanageable set of documentary material - from maps 18"x24", inventories 6"x19", clippings, photos, slides, and copies 8½x11 and 11"x17" and 8½"x14", to tape recordings and 35 mm negatives. Cell I have been able to manage is to file by size and cross-reference to my card file. Then when I get ready to write, I pull a group of cards to work from. This is the time-tested way to prepare articles, books, etc., so I enter much of my data (comments etc) directly to cards, and include the source of the record.

One of the hardest things I've tackled is the connection with Pennsylvania records, for most of them have come from other people without references, proof, or source! And I truly have it wanted to spend much time or money doing "arm chair" research.

My contribution is about done except for writing on Michael Kershner the Rev. Sol. in D.A.R. indet. I am horrified to find that the 1935 D.A.R. application has more wrong information than right.

Have a nice spring.

Ruth Kershner

This incorporates new information, and should be added to or replace the previous draft. I am going over everything now to try to see if it all meshes, and will be sending you more of this stuff. Your file drawers must be getting overloaded! I try to date everthing, so if I change my mind, you can tell which was the latest gyration. And I suppose I have always in the back of my mind the idea that anyone of us can meet up with a truck at any time, and have the thinking somewhat interrupted. So it's nice to know that someone will have copies for others to pick up and work on. I know I will never get it all done!

R.B.K.

Box 1135
Marfa, Texas 79843

MARFA, TX
AUG 13
PM
1975
79843



Mrs. P. D. Shingleton
419 Stanley Ave.
Clarksburg W. Va. 26301

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

10 April 1975

Dear Mrs Shingleton -

Thank you so much for your note. I hope you don't feel mine are a burden, and do thank you so much for the suggestions on Catholic records. I passed them on immediately. Not before noting you suggested Mrs Swartz - I hope she's still active.

I am writing up the land record and allied research now for Mary Maxwell, doing about 8-10 pp per week on some one pre-Revolutionary individual Kershner. There weren't so many back there! It is now my opinion, I think, that the Elizabeth Shultz who md (2) Martin Harry, cannot be a daughter of Martin Kershner I (d 1769). (1) altho MKI directed in his Will that George Shultz be given a deed, Elizabeth is not named in the Will, which mentions "my eldest daughter Margaretha" and "youngest daughter Magdalena." (2) Margaretha was born about 1744, George Shultz b. 1711, d 1779 & there is no way Elizabeth, if a Kershner, could have been mother of his children. But I think she was their mother, and lived in Augusta Co Va with George Shultz Jr. after the death of her second husband. Although it is not impossible that Elizabeth Shultz

was a sister of M.K.F., it does seem rather unlikely, since he had another sister Elizabeth who married ~~Martin~~ Jonathan Hagey. She just doesn't fit, time wise, and I've found no positive evidence.

I do think it likely the immigrant George and Anna had other daughters born between 1731 and 1745 — since I'm pretty positive about 3 more sons — but have nothing positive. They seem to have been intimate with the Ritter or Reiter Family over a long period, from the ship Samuel then 1800. John Ritter bought Conquest Farm from Creasap in 1757; George Kershner Sr (son of the immigrant) witnessed his will 1760; Jacob Kershner (d 1776) lived nearby & his son Jacob (d 1815 - who was Not the son of Philip) bought Conquest from the heirs and Ritter, the heir, was executor for Hannah Kershner - By the way, I located the father of Hannah Kershner, Conrad Miller - Will, 1783 in Cumberland Co. Pa. Conrad was on the same ship two, with Johan Görg Kuschner and Hans Ritter.

Mary is coming along with her work and tho I think she won't get into type this summer, she may by fall.

Gratefully,

Ruth Kershner

Box 1135, Marfa, Texas 79843

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

12 August 1975

Dear Mrs. Shingleton:

Thank you so much for thinking of me and for sending the Chalkley references. Christiana Kershner, whose parents David and Elizabeth gave consent for her marriage in 1795, was born 8 January 1776, according to Salem records. We had looked up the Kershners, Gabberts, and Olingers some years ago, but not the Shultz references.

After doing a lot of work on Elizabeth Shultz Harry, I have convinced myself that she was NOT a daughter of Martin Kershner Sr. His 1769 will mentions his oldest daughter Magdalena and his second daughter Margaretha, but no Elizabeth. Although he directed that George Shultz be given a deed, it transpired that George had not completed the payments and the deed was given to his widow when she paid the balance. She then exposed the land to publick sale as directed by Shultz' will, and the land was bought by Henry Ash. She moved to Augusta County Virginia, presumably with George Shultz Jr., her son. Her husband, George Shultz Sr. was born in 1711. Had Elizabeth been a daughter of Martin Kershner, she would have had at least three children ahead of her--Martin Jr b 1743, Magdalena b ca 1744, and Margaretha b ?, giving her a birthdate of not before 1747. Therefore she could not have been the mother of the Shultz children. It would seem strange if she left the security of the house in Hagerstown and the income left her by Martin Harry, just to move to Augusta County to live with a stepson no older than herself. I really found nothing suggesting that she was a Kershner. I'm sorry, too, for I was all prepared to have her an aunt of Jacob Kershner, b ca 1780.

Please don't feel that you owe me a letter now. This is more in the nature of a report to you.

Mary Maxwell and I are mailing drafts back and forth, and finding that sometimes one has something the other doesn't. Her chapter on Philip Kershner b.ca. 1755 had an 1839 distribution record on the estate of Philip Kershner that named the same husbands of Kershner women as did Christiana's 1826 will. I spent most of a day at Annapolis looking up these estate records--they have a lot more there than are indexed in the Washington County courthouse. There was an order for appraisment and sale of real estate, and three accounts, the last in 1849. I had been curious as to why Christiana did not mention her (probably eldest) son Peter, but Philip included him in the 1813 deed. Tracing through the deeds and estate records, it seems that Philip bought 33 acres north of Clear Spring, which, in his will of 1836, he left to Peter--a life interest only, but with the curious provision that should Peter become disabled, the land should be liable for his support. It was this land that was the subject of the sale in 1847, and distributed to the remaining heirs. So now I have to write a couple of pages more on Philip Kershner. I've rewritten him till I'm tired of him !

~~I shall not bother to type copies of some of these drafts, but I think~~--sorry--didn't space--- I will try to send you some of these drafts, but warn that I have not written them in the order in which I will arrange them later.

Some parts of Texas are hot, but we're in the mountains, nearly a mile high, and the temperatures are about 58 night, 80 daytime, and very dry. You should enjoy Toronto. It's about raspberry time -

Ruth K

this is for your Kaschuen file. If/when there are additions, corrections, or data to despose any of this, I'll send it along.

this letter does <u>not</u> cover all the other leads we followed + found to be not connected!

R. B. K.

Oscar and Amanda are brother and sister of Marion George Kershner, born Oct. 13, 1852, Bond Co., Illinois, the 8th child of Jonathan and Catherine Kershner. Perry Kershner the 6th child born 1847 was born in the Hagerstown region. Looking at the chart of James Kershner of Manhattan, Kansas, his father was James Barton Kershner, born July 10 1878, Bates Co., Mo. who was the son of Marion George Kershner above mentioned. Jim's wife is very active in this work and we feel Jim and I are off the same branch of births around 1750. So if it is handy to include Oscar and Amanda do so- or Helen (Jim's wife) can get the information from you if she needs it. The third child shows up on the cemetery records of 60,000 tombstone inscriptions in D A R Library, and Helen may need this information to tie in Hagerstown and Bond Co., Illinois, since she has the Illinois records and childrens dates of birth.

Oscar, s. of Jonathan Kershner and Catherine, B. Sept. 13, 1837;
Bapt. June 30, 1838. (Zion Evan. Luth Church)
Amanda, daughter of Jonathan Kershner and Catherine, B. Dec. 21, 1838;
Bapt. Feb. 17, 1839. (Zion Evan. Luth. Church)

One reason I have so much interest in this line, other than Helen and I having a lot of fun working on it together is that my father took me with him to visit Perry Kershner and they were trying to establish the relationship. Now I expect to do so.

I know you like to have the family tie-ins for your files. Earl Kershner, born 1893, is the son born to Jonathan, Jr. 4th child of Jonathan and Catherine, on Oct. 3, 1842. Earl has a son now living in the Washington, D. C. region. So you see these Kershners have been across the country and back East again. Also I have reason to believe the Wiles have done the same thing. I'm working on that. (I wrote in notations as to Jonathan Sr. and Jr. 1814 and 1842)

Jonathan Sr. Born Mar 31 Bapt Aug 7, 1814 Jonathan Jr. 1842

Jonathan, Husband of Catherine, was born Mar. 31, ~~1814~~, no year date of birth Bapt. Aug. 7, 1814 to Isaac Kerschner and wife Eva. Salem Reformed Church record. Other children of Isaac and Eva: Annamaria, B. Apr. 30, bap. Aug 12, 1806; Henry Stertzman, B. Feb. 3, 1820; Isaac B. Mrch. 8, 1817 (you had this from St. John's lutheran Church) ~~as is the other record.~~ The first three are from Salem Church. Helen and I believe this is the marriage of Isaac Kershner to Eve Startzman of 2-22-1805--from your list of marriages.

For Ma Shingleton

Re: Soloman Kershner b 1799

Keep

Stuart G. & Ruth B. Kershner, 1414 Red Bud Trail, Austin, Texas 78746
Summer address: Box 311, Pinedale, Wyo. 82941 28 July 1974

Mrs. Ernest Elder
1100 Cedar St.
Wenatchee, Wash. 98801

Dear Cousin Hazel:

Jean Migler sent me your letter of April 11, and Mary Kershner Maxwell showed me a copy of a letter to her from Vernon Kershner, dated 29 April, from which I abstracted the following information:

Soloman Kirchner of Virginia b c 1800 === Margaret Ann . . . . .

Margaret Ann b 12 Mar 1831, Harper's Ferry Va. d 12 Nov 1912, Cle Elum, Wash. === (1) Michael Kinsel or Kensel d c 1863 Missouri or Iowa; (2) William Rankin

Susan Maybell === Chadwick	Mary Ann or Molly === Curren Hunt	Katherine Elizabeth b 12 Nov 1901 Adair Co Iowa d 9 Jan 1930	1887 === Michael (Marion) Henry Cahill

We think these data place your Soloman Kirchner in the Berkeley Co. W. Va. group, which is still alive and prospering, across the Potomac River from Washington Co. Md. They are also descended from Soloman Kershner, and have records of his daughter Margaret who married Rankin, but are just as mystified as you are about Soloman's origin.

At this point, I'd better explain that, in 1970, my husband and I offered to help Mary Maxwell with her research, by exploring the old Kershner deed records of the Hagerstown, Md., area. Deed research is difficult to do by mail, but we were planning a trip to Northern Virginia and could go in person. We actually began with Salt Lake City, however, and found our first breaks in their microfilmed deed records. Since then, we have been to Maryland about eight times for research, and it has turned out that we are pretty well informed now on Kershner family records, prior to 1800. Mary has much data on the 1830 and later period, and we are presently working on the interface between 1800 and 1830.

It appears that we now have Soloman's ancestry pretty well worked out, but it is indeed a tangled web. I will have to write you a very long letter, and tho I will try to omit material not pertinent, it will still be difficult to follow. I hope you will have the tenacity to follow through and collect the supporting documents that I will tell you how to get.

Starting with your family records/traditions (chart above) that Margaret Ann Kirchner's birthplace was Harper's Ferry in 1831, you should verify these by reading the U. S. censuses for the county in which Harper's Ferry was located in 1830 et seq. I have no Virginia maps with me, but think this was possibly Berkeley Co. which was in Virginia until after the Civil War.

I have not read these censuses myself, but have the following sent me some years ago by Mary Maxwell. I have on my card that this census was 1880, but I think it may be the 1850 census instead because of the ages, and apparently it was a very difficult one to read. You certainly should check this information before counting on it.

BERKELEY CO Va, 9th District, Falling Waters

p 716
636

Soloman Kersner	51	b Md	pauper, no occupation
Elizabeth Kersner	61		
Eliza Kersner	30		
David or Daniel Kersner	21 or 71	Farmer	b Va

Mary Maxwell visited and corresponded extensively with Daniel Kershner of Falling Waters, Berkeley Co., W. Va., who died two years ago at the age of 96. He was, I believe, a great-grandson of Soloman Kershner. From his letters I ha ve abstracted the following data:

Soloman Kershner === . . . . . .

Elizabeth	Samuel	Cyrus	Margaret	David
	b c 1822	b 11 Dec 1825	=== Rankin	b 29 Dec 1829
	* 1846 Ann A. Williamson	d 23 May 1893		d 1 Dec 1918
		=== 1846 (1)		
		. . . . .		
		=== (2)		
		(line of Daniel Kershner b c 1876)		

Mary	Isabella	Betty
==Samuel Landis	==Samuel Cole	at age 40 ==Noah Davis
	8 children	1 dau

For further information, you could write to Mrs. Glenn Maxwell, 1622 W. St. Vrain, Colorado Springs, Colo., 80904.

At this point, we began trying to fit the family records into the public records, and found this:

Marriage Records of Washington Co. Md.
Soloman Kershner to Elizabeth Cole, 18 Aug 1818, by Kurtz.

Any of the marriage records I mention for Washington Co. can be obtained from the courthouse at Hagerstown, or you could write the Washington Co. Free Library there, which has the typed copies. I think if you would send 10¢ for the copy machine, for each record you wish, and a stamped envelope, you would get inexpensive and speedy results.

Soloman Kershner is, fortunately, an unusual name, and we have found only two identifiable individuals in that area in the period 1776-1830. Mary and I think they are father and son.

* Marriage Bonds of Berkeley Co Va.

Again from the Washington County Free Library's Church records,

SALEM BAPTISMS
Soloman, 29 June 1799
parents, Soloman Kershner and Barbara Reudenauer

Salem Church was located about two miles north of the Kershner and Ridenour homesteads. Both families were of the Reformed faith. These records have been translated by some unknown person from the original German version, and the originals later destroyed in a fire. The translations may be found at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore.

We think this is your Soloman, born about 1800, according to your guess.

Let me digress somewhat in the time schedule now, and look at a record which considers Soloman Kershner,b 1799, as a young man.

WASHINGTON CO MD WILLS C:305 probated 21 Mar 1826

Will of Christiana Kershner devises specific legacies of $10 each to her daughter Polly and daughter Elizabeth, and $1 to her son Jacob, (these children probably have already received their share), the remainder of her estate to be sold and divided among nine living named children "and the children of her daughter Barbara deceased." The Will names the children: Soloman, John, Phillip, Polly and Nathan, and says that Nathan Starrit, Barbara's husband, is father of the last four children. The Will further provides that any sums the testator, Christiana Kershner, has advanced to Nathan Starrit, shall be subtracted from the inheritance of his own four children, but not from the share of Soloman Kershner.

You will wish a copy of this will, I'm sure. In the Washington Co. Orphan's Court, which is the probate office, there are a couple of old fragile "Ballance Books". These show the final disposition of the estates, and the one for 1828-1835 contains the account of Christiana's executor:

WASHINGTON CO MD BALANCE BOOK 1828-1835, page 9

Isaac Kershner, executor of Christiana Kershner

to nine children (named)	$39.30 each
to Soloman Kershner	7.86
John Starret	7.86
Philip Starret	7.86
Polly Starret	7.86
Jonathan Starret	7.86

If you are not able to get a photocopy of this book, I will supply you with a copy of the complete text.

Additional estate records for Christiana Kershner are in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland, indexed under her name as follows:

Letters of administration 21 Mar 1826
Bond C:420
Appraisal C:288 and O:457
Sale J:217
Accounts 8:48

You might find the appraisal and sale especially interesting.

Christiana Kershner was the widow of Philip Kershner, who left no will, but did leave a deed of trust naming his wife and his children.

WASHINGTON CO MD LAND RECORDS Y:859 10 Aug 1813

Philip Kershner to Jacob Kershner of Philip, for $5, 170 acres, part of the tract First Snow (description), a trust for the payment of $200 annually to sd Philip Kershner during his lifetime; after death of sd Philip Kershner, Jacob shall continue to account to all the children annually for $200 during the life of Christiana, wife of sd Philip...after death of both, tract to be sold and divided between Barbara, wife of Nathan Start, (and 10 other named children).

Philip Kershner's actual signature is apparently on this document, in his own handwriting in German script. If you see this, you can easily understand how the name could be spelled many different ways when translated.

There are many Start headstones at St. Paul's Lutheran and Reformed Church west of Hagerstown, the oldest being about 1815. Since Barbara probably died between 1813 and 1826, her grave might be there. Philip and Christiana Kershner had a number of children baptized at Salem Reformed Church, but he was apparently buried at the old St. Paul's: there is a family record of an old, almost illegible headstone with his name being found in the vicinity. The graveyard is now destroyed.

There is another record which has caused us a great deal of trouble. In Maryland's Hall of Records (the archives) is a card file prepared by a Mrs. Hodges, a genealogist, who donated it to the archives. The file is called Marriages by Inference, and contains data which Mrs. Hodges culled from court records, wills, etc. This indicates that Nathan Start and Barbara Kershner were married prior to 1790. This just didn't seem to fit, and I asked a researcher who is doing some work for me in Annapolis, to check it. He looked up the court record and reported, in a letter I received this week, that the record refers in no way to this marriage, and that the Hodges reference is mistaken. In addition, he sent:

WASHINGTON CO MD MARRIAGE LICENSES

28 Oct, 1801
Barbara Ridenour and Nathan Start

We already had this record:

ST JOHN'S EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH, HAGERSTOWN MD (Vol I, Wash Co Marriages)
Daniel Reidenauer md Barbara Kershner, March, 1798

And a few months ago, Miss Edna Ridenour of Boonsboro, Md. (Wash Co.), sent me this:

ESTATE INDEX, WASHINGTON CO MD

Philip Kershner, administrator of estate of
Daniel Ridenour
5 May 1798

We had copied, last summer, as a part of the Philip Kershner records,

WASHINGTON CO MD, Balance Book # 1, page 84

(see next page)

(Wash Co Md Balance Book # 1, p 84)

Philip Kershner, administrator of
Daniel Ridenour 9 Dec, 1800

Final Account,	₧ 10.13.9 3/4	
to the Widow	5. 6.10 3/4	
to Nicholas Ridenour	.13.4½	(Note: the estate settlement of Mathias Ridenour in 1795 names these same children, with the addition of a son Daniel.)
" Henry "	"	
" Jacob "	"	
" Mathias "	"	
" David "	"	
" Conrad Oster	"	
" Valentine Ackenbarger	"	
" John Ridenour's heirs	"	

(Notice that the widow received one-half of the estate instead of one-third, the usual legal amount. Usually the children got two-thirds. Therefore, these are not the children, but the brothers and sisters (the sisters represented by their husbands) of the decedant. This suggests to me that Daniel Ridenour died without issue, and apparently within two months of the time he was married, and that his estate was administered by his father-in-law, Philip Kershner.)

To recapitulate, these records seem to say that Barbara Kershner, daughter of Philip Kershner and Christiana his wife, was married, first, to Daniel Ridenour, in March, 1798 (I do not have the day of the month, but you can obtain it); that Daniel Ridenour died almost immediately without issue; that about a year later, Barbara Kershner Ridenour, his widow, had a son, Soloman, whose father was Soloman Kershner (a distant cousin); that about 16 months later, Barbara Kershner Ridenour married Nathan Start, by whom she had four children; that Barbara died between 1813 and 1826; that her son Soloman Kershner—who got his family name from his father, not his mother—was alive and presumably near Washington Co. in 1826.

It is futile, and bad genealogy, to speculate on the motives of people long dead, which is illustrated by the later history of Soloman Kershner, the father of Soloman b 1799. Had it been the intention of Soloman Kershner and Barbara Kershner Ridenour to contract a common law marriage—not at all unusual at the time—apparently they changed their minds, for both of them remarried shortly to other mates.

Soloman Kershner (the elder) was born 1 Oct 1777, son of Capt. John Kershner and his wife Mary, and married, 11 Dec 1800, Margaret Kershner, daughter of Maj. Martin Kershner and his wife Elizabeth. Capt. John Kershner, though only slightly older than Maj. Martin Kershner, was his uncle, so Soloman and Margaret were first cousins once removed. Maj. Martin Kershner bought a large quantity of land in Ohio, which he bestowed on his eight daughters, and Soloman and Margaret Kershner moved to Greene Co. Ohio and are both buried there. Soloman's Will, made in Ohio, does not mention a son Soloman. Mary Maxwell thinks this was because all the land he devised to his heirs came to him through his wife, thus went only to her children.

In the D.A.R. Library in Washington D.C., I came across a volume called Divorces and Name Changes in Maryland. Divorces at these early dates were made by legislative act. I did not come across Barbara Kershner or her son Soloman, but it is possible, just barely, that there might be one under Ridenour.

(Last page has only personal remarks + is omitted from your copy)
RTK

From the desk of
S. G. KERSHNER

We visited Mr. Woodard in Salt Lake City and were very favorably impressed.

This is a fairly new book (I don't have it) but thought you might be interested. I enclose stamps & mailing label for return of these sheets.

(The Flenner Genealogy)

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

4 Oct. 1974

Dear Mrs. Shingleton:

Your letter reached me at Salt Lake City, as we begin our fall migration south. We spent the summer in Wyoming and decided come East this year.

I did appreciate very much your writing me of your sister and family. You must have been very devoted, and I know you must miss them.

You are kind to offer the Kershner material, and I would be pleased to have it contributed to either the Maryland Historical or The Genealogical Society. Don't you think it would be wise to review it and delete some suppositions and doubts that we have later data on? For example, I suspected that Philip Kershner (c.1755-1815) married Christiana Rebenack of Peter: I now have a letter from a descendant naming her as a Rebenack. And your clues about the Pennsylvania connections are really proving out: Philip was brother of Lt. Peter Kershner of Bern Twp, Berks Co.

We visited Mary Maxwell in Colo. Spr. in June. She had postponed her retirement another few months. Has now retired, cleaned the grass out of her iris bed, canned the tomatoes, and has gone to Maryland for last details. She insists she is writing her books, and her material seems well-organized by lines. We have said we would work up our land research, 1730-1800, and contribute it. I have a feeling that the way I propose to organize it is not the way most genealogies are written! But the legal records we have assembled do make a

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

picture if arranged chronologically, and by tracing each individual thru his land records, we can distinguish one Jacob Kershner from another!

When I return to my files, perhaps I can tell what I've sent you and what I haven't, and perhaps can send you some later compilations. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your consultations. It was gratifying to see that you have been able to get your own MSS together in spite of such destructions.

I would be so pleased to have the two biographies from Green Co Ohio, Eli A Kershner and Henry Pidcock. Mary Maxwell and I went over our materials and traded data, but I have not done anything on Ohio Kershners. Have you heard of any in Indiana? William Kershner b 1810, Augusta Co Va., said to have had a brother there.

One really interesting by-product was a little research into records of Michael Kershner, The Rev. Soldier, which suggests that the D.A.R. application of 1935 was entirely family tradition except for his pension record. Michael was said to have lived in Cumberland "a mile before the Revolution" but he moved there from Frederick well after, according to the deed records that are right in Cumberland. Was in Frederick Co. (Georgetown) census 1776. I do not believe he was born in Germany, and he couldn't possibly have been a deserted Hessian Soldier — he enlisted less than 2 weeks after 4 July 1776! — I'll send you this too.

Affectionately,

Ruth

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

P.S. On afterthought —

You are right in the area and I can't resist asking if you know of any recent research on Vanbibber or Van Bebber line?

John Vanbibber d Kanawha Co Va 1820, Said, in Colonial ~~American~~ Families of U.S., to be born in Cecil Co Md c1740, son of James Vanbibber d. 1750, but James' Will names sons: "~~first~~ eldest son Henry, third son Isaac, second son Jacob, 4th son Stephen, 5th son Abraham." Henry b 1726, Isaac b 1736 d 1825.

I don't see any room there for John, who deposed in Mason Co Va 1813, age 79 (Chalkley II:161), therefore b 1734. I suspect John was brother to Isaac van Bibber, killed at Pt. Pleasant 1774, and Peter Van Bibber Sr d between 1784-1799. It is really Peter's wife, Margery Bounds b c 1738?, in whom I am interested. I want to know where she was born and married. Perhaps Chester Co Pa?

I would think recent research might show John (and Isaac + Peter?) van Bibber to be sons of Mathias van Bibber, a brother of the John who so conveniently left a will.

Margery + Peter Van Bibber's youngest dau, Olive b 1783 on The Greenbrier, md 1st Nathan, son of Daniel Boone — who died at Nathan's home 1820. I have data from Pioneer Fam of Mo + the Boone Family.

RBK.

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

16. Dec 1974

Dear Mrs. Shingleton:

If I am putting you under any pressure with my letters, I should be very embarrased, but I do so enjoy hearing from you, and your letters inspire me so, that sometimes I feel I must write you at once. Please do not feel an obligation to drop your Christmas observances to answer or even read mine.

The biographies you sent from Greene Co Ohio are new to me. Just yesterday I was sorting through cards I had tentatively placed with Gustavus Kershner, b 1800, and removed the Estate Index of Ann M. Kershner, 1841. I had thought this might be the wife of Gustavus, who was named Anna Barbara Brewer, but the administrators, A. and Eli A. Kershner, do not sound like her children, and in fact, she was still alive in 1846. Benjamin Kershner and Gustavus are both buried at St. Paul's Clearspring. Mary Maxwell will be happy to have this, I know. And I will share the Henry Ridenour biography with Miss Edna Ridenour, who has just proved up her Martin Ridenour b 1740, for her D.A.R. records.

I am not a member of the D.A.R., tho I could join the legions of descendants of Gen Griffith Rutherford of N.C., without much research. But there seems to be little I could contribute, traveling around as I do, to a group that depends on regular meetings and local projects. I console myself that I can contribute in less orthodox ways, however. Mary Maxwell would get copies for me, I'm sure. She sent me a copy of the application (1935) on Michael Kershner. And I just wish I could some how add in what I know about Michael Kershner of Allegheny Co! Because a number of statements in that application, tho probably based on family tradition, are just plain wrong. Like his death date, his wife's death date, her maiden name, when he came to Cumberland, his daughter's married name, where he came from, etc. Almost the only correct thing is his military record.

The records you sent me, I have copied and returned. Should you not find them, perhaps I can replace them. I'm glad you checked them out to us, tho, so you'll know who had them last.

I don't know why I'm so glib about you misplacing records. I'm pretty sure I kept a list of the Kershner documents I sent you in my last, and can't find it any where now. Yes, I do have Hannah Miller's Kershner's will of 1789 and admin. 1800 and later in 1801 when her will was found. Also the administration of her husband, Jacob Kershner, erroneously indexed in Wash Co Estate Book as 1790, admin. John; his inventory is dated 1776, and his administrator was Jonathan, not John. It is this administrator, Jonathan, that I am looking for in Bedford or Franklin Co. Pa. right now, after 1795.

Yes, I have the Berks Co. Pa deeds in Wash Co. Md, 1811--Jacob, son of Peter, married Mary, dau of Philip Kershner b ca 1755, of Washington Co. Md. Philip Kershner was a brother of Peter Kershner of Berks Co. (Rev. Lt.), hence Jacob P. and Mary Kershner were first cousins. The Daniel Kershner (wf. Magdalena), of Berks Co Pa, was Jacob's of Peter brother; another brother, Jonathan, and a sister, Catherina, wf of George Zacharias, also figure in Washington Co Md. records. I thought the Jonathan whose estate was administered in Wash Co. 1816 was Jonathan, son of Jacob d 1776, until I read the records and discovered that the estate consisted of one payment of $444 from Jacob P Kershner and was administered by George Zacharias. I have the will of Peter Kershner, 1809, and that of his father, Martin Kershner, 1782, both Berks Co. Pa.

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

Thank you so very much for the Van Bibber notes. The quote from Thwaites/Kellogg I have not seen. There is very little here on Ohio and the mid-west generally, tho lots on the southern states through which most of our migration came. I am especially happy to have a confirmation of my impression that John and Peter VanBibber were brothers. A biography in Pioneer Families of Missouri states Peter and Isaac were brothers. I think, however, that there is little chance that John was son of James VanBibber who d 1750 in Cecil Co. Md. as stated in Col. Families. I find, in 1767, Peter VanBibber Sr. and Peter VanBibber Jr., one in Pittsylvania Co. Va., and the other in Halifax, both on Blackwater River. Elementary arithmetic (sure can't spell today!) arithmetic convinces me that if Margery Bounds VanBibber had 10 children, the youngest born 1783, it is almost impossible that her eldest son, Peter Jr., was old enough to be on the tax list in 1767 and to own land. I am beginning to think Peter VanBibber Sr looks like the father to John, Peter, and Isaac.

I note in your entries from the DAR Patriotic Index, that Isaac Van Bibber's death date is given as 1744 and birth date as 1725: the death date is a typo, doubtless, as he died at Pt Pleasant, the battle being 1774. His wife is given as a Miss Davis. Pitts. Co. Va. Deeds 1:38, 22 July 1767, gives her a name, "Isaac Vanbibber to Anthony Tittel, both of Pitts. Co Va. 170 ac on both sides of Mill Run, a branch of Blackwater River...signed Isaac + Vanbebber, Sarah + Vanbebber. Witnesses Peter Vanbibber, James Rentfro".

John VanBibber is said to have been born 1740 and md. Chloe Standiford, according to the DAR Index. Bedford Co Va Deeds 3:261, 22 Mar 1769, have "I, John VanBebber of Pittsylvania Co Va, appoint my trusty friend James Standifer Junr of Bedford Co Va my attorney to sell...a salt peter mine lying on the South Branch of Potomack River in Hamshire Co." The next year, Pittsylvania Co Va Deeds 1:453, 25 July 1770, notes that "John Vanbebber of Botetourt Co. sells to James Standifer Sr. of Bedford Co. 215 acres on Story Creek...witness James Standifer Junior." The VanBibbers were easily traced thus to the Greenbrier River where John was a justice in 1771 and took a list of tithables which included Isaac and Peter. Regarding the age of John VanBebber, Chalkley (II:161), says John Vanbibber deposes on 12 Apr 1813, in Mason Co. Va., stating his age as 79. Pt. Pleasant was the county seat of Mason Co, 1804 from Kanawha. This would place John Van Bibber's birthdate ca 1734, not 1740. Colonial Families of the U.S. V:461 says 1740, and that Chloe Standiford was of Cecil Co. Md: I think both these statements are wrong. I found no Standiford in Cecil Co. Md., tho there are VanBibbers galore, and from 1707 (not 1720 as stated in Col Fam.).

However, it is the Bounds line I am interested in, and grasping at any handle to determine where they lived when they married into the Cole, Bird, and VanBibber lines. They came, I suspect, from the Eastern Shore about 1725, but where were they 1725-1754? Virginia? Maryland? Pennsylvania?

I will ask Mary to get me the application on Peter VanBibber. I do hope it is a later one. The research is getting better now.

It always clears my mind when I try to write you. Thank you for listening!

Appreciatively

Ruth Kershner

P.S. I omitted comment on your gentle warning about Mormon records. It is records on sheets such as I sent you on George Kershner, which they call their "Archive" sheets, that I view with caution. And you are so right: they should always be checked out. That is why I provided such detailed references on George Kershner Sr. But they also have a fabulous genealogical library, with practically every published and unpublished genealogy, all on film, which can be ordered by mail and read at any branch library of theirs. The thing I go for is their extensive microfilm collection of original records. I found there 56 reels of indexes to the Deed records of Franklin Co. Pa, plus all the deeds. There are about 200 microfilm readers on the main floor at Salt Lake, and additional ones on other floors. Film is in open files, help yourself, but an excellent staff to assist if you look a bit vague. Xerox copies from print 5¢, from microfilm 15¢ a page, 5 minute service. They have the entire Draper MSS on film, for example. The drawback is that I never have enough opportunity to search thru the endless volumes of historical society publications, which have published much material if I only knew where to look.

Ruth

P.P.S. A card from a friend asks if there are any Roman Catholic records for the Conococheague area — ca 1750 - 1825. I enclose a post card print in case you happen to know the answer to this. She is interested in James McHaim, under age in 1770 when his uncle James left land in care of his father, William (brother of the decedent)