David
Hagar

Ruth M (Mrs Leslie R) Smith

395 Redding Rd. #10C
Lexington, Ky. 40502
June 20, 1980.

Dear Mrs. Kershner -

I'm sorry to be late in returning your book and this added postage. One thing I know now is that Marie Hazen did not marry his brother's sister-in-law. I'm afraid that what I long ago heard about the Hazen book is true - it is not to be trusted for



accuracy.

I am most grateful for the loan of your book and hope to hear from you again.

Gratefully,
Ruth Smith.

P. S. I'm inclosing an article from Ranck's History of Lexington. Do you think this could be the Cooper you have been looking for?

R. M. S.

Ruth Smith said
the Horn Papers are said
to be unreliable. I agree.
They are full of discrepancies
and misstatements.

Mary Haswell says
Horn "must have been
a windy!".

Ruth B Kershner
1980

FROM RUTH SMITH, 395 REDDING RD. #106
1980 LEXINGTON, KY 40502
(winter address) 2401 W. Southern #313,
Tempe, Ariz. 85282

THE HORN PAPERS

EARLY WESTWARD MOVEMENT ON THE MONONGAHELA AND UPPER OHIO 1765--1795

By

W. F. HORN

In Three Volumes

VOLUME I

PUBLISHED FOR A COMMITTEE OF THE
GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WAYNESBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
BY THE HERALD PRESS, SCOTTDALE, PENNSYLVANIA
1945

938

Ruth Bownds Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, TX 78746
Ph. 512/327-2020

please return to RBK

2401 W. Southern #313
Tempe, Arizona 85282

April 23, 1980

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

Dear Ruth:

Thank you so much for very prompt reply to my letter in regard to David Hager's line. Yes, I know that the early Hagers spelled their name "Heger", but the Kentucky families spell it "Hager" and so that is what I use.

I'm sorry your book is out of print but I am glad that you have a copy for loan. I have no idea as to the cost of the postage but will inclose a few stamps. Please send it to our permanent address, where we will be until about Oct. We leave here 29th.

395 Redding Road #106
Lexington, Ky. 40502

Inclosed are the pages from The Horn Papers. Long ago I was told that volume 1 and 2 were not reliable sources. Certainly the information given on David's marriage has much to be desired. Volume 3 is a book of detailed maps of a few western Penn. counties.

Edna Gerden and I have had several contacts. She spoke so highly of you.

Gratefully,

Ruth Smith

The Horn Papers - W. F. Horn. 1945
Hager Vol. I

THE HORN PAPERS

I

Jacob Horn's Diary 1735-1777

March 30, 1735. This day, I, Jacob Horn by order of Conwell, hath finished the setting up my first water tub and making it all like unto the one Conwell set by me to liken. Conwell say in one year, he will make me a master cooper, and pay me three shillings each six days beside, keep for full time labor. My father say: Jacob shall have one shilling each six days until I Jacob be turned 18 years.

July 16, 1735. John, with father, went to the Watson settlement to cut an hew the logs to be set in Robert's fort and house of 3 parts. Mother say, in 20 days all will be made done and John will return to the shop.

September 2, 1735. By consent of Conwell, and Mother, I am to be a fisherman with John, and John Hardtman on the up river, on the morrow, and the next morrow day. Conwell say: James will be one of us to fish, at Snooks Bend.

October 24, 1735. Being a day of no labor at Conwell's Cooper shop in Penns Row. We trailed four leagues to Hoges "corners on this day to Uncle John's" home but returneth by night fall.

December 25, 1735. Being Christmas day at Penns Point, and wild turkey day at Penn's Inn, all make merry on this cold winter day. William, Joseph, and Ann, with roasted apples, and tree sugar balls, they rejoice, while Aunt Ann, and Mother at rest from their wheel, sing of the "Babe in Bethlehem."

May 10, 1736. William, and Joseph, with Mother's advice, hath on this day planted the seeds in the home garden. I, Jacob Horn, did on this day make repairs on four chairs and one stool. This day Conwell, hath my clogs repaired. A new chintz by mother.

September 1, 1736. The ship "Hampton, came to the lower port landing late on this day, with seventy seven English and Irish colonists. Conwell say: Penn's Point, being next to Baltimore's home town, is fast growing into a big town. The Inn, have in all, 17 Colonists of late landing, all seeking some home place in Penn's Colony. William Hardtman, and father, are setting in a new iron shop for Bouthwell, and say it is to be the first in size in Penn's Row."

January 21, 1737. It being mid winter, Conwell, with James, and Jacob Hardtman, and self, set out for Barker flat woods, to chop Oak and Cedar trees, to be rived into tub staves and all toil

hard, and return by night fall, only to rest and take meat, then return to labor on the same on the morrow.

February 4, 1737. The last of 12 thousand pieces of rived wood being set in place near Conwells shop, he say: no labor on the morrow, the same being the third day of the week, John Hardtman and self, set out for wild turkey in Glenn dale, and by close stalking, we get three of the many found there.

February 21, 1737. This being my own day, and 16 years of life, Conwell gave me 10 shillings for my needs, where upon, I buy some Irish cloth and a ringlett for mother. No labor on this day for Jacob Horn. Mother by wieve, hath set me out in new chintz, and new legons, and feet wools, for my own day remembrance. Ann, say: Jacob, you are set to be a full man on this day. I say Ann, I am a man now. I have my trade made now.

April 6, 1737. The new hard iron axes, hew axes, and hoes, of Sheffield make, did reach Penn's Point, on the 4 day of this same month, and by call, many are taken from the shop, for needs by the claiments as by agreement. Peter Friend, a freeman's son, of 20 years, is now a first man to set log houses with the kings notch at all corners."

October 10, 1737. The season being one favorable to the growth of all kinds of garden vegitation, much green food is being stored by the settlers round about Penn's Point.

Conwell being ill for one month I, Jacob Horn, being his cooper man, have labored long and hard for the shop's name.

October 20, 1737. This day, I, Jacob Horn, of Penn's Point, commonly called Philadelphia, do here and now, set down my line of parentage to be true and lawful, if by chance, I meet with inquiry from Colonists, or officers outside of Penn's Colony.

I am the second son, and second in the family of eight children, of my father, George, and Mary Watson Horn, a grandson of Jacob Christopher, and Ann Hamilton Horn, and a great grandson of Jacob Cromwell Horn, who came from Chestershire, England, to this Post, September 5th, 1694, and who expired at Penn's Point, October 27th, 1712.

By this line, I make it clear, that I have the lawful claim of a full Colonial freeman.

My parents, George and Mary Watson Horn, were both born in the same year, 1696 and were united by God's law, and the Luthuran Creed, in 1717, in the second month, and on the twelfth day.

John being the oldest, being born August 4, 1719, and I, Jacob Horn, was born Feb. 21, 1721.

In 1728, I was made to learn the king's English, and write it in part, and learn all of God's commandments, and say the Book of Matthew in full. At twelve, I made an end to being tutored, and began to tutor, William, and Joseph, but soon, began to learn the cooper trade under father, and William Conwell. At 16, I had mastered it, and began to set up water tubs in the shop of William Conwell, in Penn's Row.

In this same year, 1728 and in the month of March I learned to chop the score, and make the Yoke, which in this year, 1737 is a trade unto itself, and useful to me. I, Jacob Horn, did fulfill all agreements made by Conwell and worked well for him, so say he, until I closed with him four days hence.

By father's consent and approval of Conwell, I was made my own full master on the first day of September this year, 1738.

On this day, October 20, 1738 I, Jacob Horn, with brother John, John Hardtman, and Peter Friend, of Penn's Point, do make agreement with one Jonathan Hager, a fur trader of this colony, to set out in March, next, to meet him at his chosen site in Baltimore's Colony where he proposes to build a fort and fur trade house directly between the London Fur Company Post set up by one Thomas Cresap and the French Fort, and fur trade house, at "Half Moon" bend of the Potomac Waters.

Jonathan Hager, the young German "stowway," from Siegen, came to this town late in the year 1736 at the age of 17 years, but he now in appearance, he is all the ship Master took him to be, six full feet and more. With a mild face, and a clean look, we say to him that his wife, Elizabeth, made a good choice. He say: I am the one that made the good choice. We do not know Elizabeth Kershner, and cannot say Yea, or Nay.

He say: for two years, he has been a fur trader with the Indians on both sides of the Susque de Lahanna River, and being a good observer of prime furs, he has set himself at the front of all the fur traders trailing into this town with the mark of "prime" set on his list at the Colonial Fur Company store house.

By his say, we are to assist him to build his log fort, and fur storehouse at Swamp Springs where he wants to take his wife, and child, to live as soon as it can be made safe for them.

He say: I married Elizabeth Kershner in 1736, and that she consents to live in Baltimore's Colony.

I now make this agreement one in faith, and fact, by this payment of thirty shillings to each of you, and set in witness, before all, that this agreement to be kept as one, man to man, we all say, we will keep our part in full.

All things said and done in the king's English, and Jonathan after setting to meat, say: I will see you at my camp in March, each of you, with his own "flintlock," and his "hard iron" axe. He takes our hands, then he departs with his supplies, to the home of the Kershners, where he say, his wife and child are this day, and that his brother David, and wife, Katrina, are abiding there at this time.

February 22, 1739. This day we are hailed by one David Hager, the elder brother of Jonathan Hager, our master for this year 1739. He say: I hail from Siegen to this Colony in December 1736 and now abide at Kershiner's "Harle" about ten leagues distance, where on we say: "abide with us," and so be it.

By his say: we determine that Jonathan Hager, being born in 1719 was an escaped guard in the army in Wettgenstein, and was full acquainted with Elizabeth's people at Siegen. They being free emigrants from Clearance at Emden, and bound from Amsterdam, to this Port, in the good ship "Harle."

Jonathan by Elizabeth's wish, escaped and was made a "stowway" in the sail cloth hold on the same ship "Harle." When at mid sea, he was made a prisoner, and set before the Master, and harshly set upon by that officer, but Jonathan claiming to be twenty two, years of age, and a free man, from Siegen, and say: the Kershners, know me, where upon, they say Jonathan is a free man, and belongs to Elizabeth, a cleared emigrant. Elizabeth make it appear that by right, Jonathan should be her man, where up on the Master doth set the Moravian marriage law upon them, and compelled Jonathan to work his way into port. Elizabeth being born in 1712, is now seven years older than Jonathan.

I, David Hager, by my father, the officer in command, in the District, set out to overtake Jonathan, and return him to Siegen, but I found him married to Elizabeth, a free emigrant, and a free Colonist, and by these terms, this made him a freeman in Penn's Colony, and he refused to go to Siegen, then I, David, say, I shall not return to Siegen. I stay, and marry Katrina Kershner, in 1737 and now abide with her father, Henrich, and her Mother Elizabeth Kershner, at their "Harle."

By his say: Jonathan is depending on us to set our faces on the trail early in March, and say for us to trail to Kershners "Harle," and abide one day, then set out for Jonathan camp at Swamp Springs, near the French Post, at "Half Moon" waters in Baltimore's Colony. We all say: Yea, we will do so, and hail at Kershners. He abide with us three days, then set out for his home.

February 27, 1739. It is now made clear that the Johns, Peter and self, are claimed by Jonathan Hager, and we must set out by

the 10 day of March, for the unknown site of Fort Hager, and fur trade house. It being in agreement, that each of us must have his own "flintlock" and 'axe' before leaving Penn Point, I now have made this part fulfilled, as have the others. Conwell say the axes are "prime" being of the Sheffield make, and of the best order.

March 6, 1739. All being made ready for the trail, we make our way to places of meet in common, and say: We will be off to the new lands to morrow. Conwell say: lads; look sharp, speak easy, and beware of all Indians not on the trail.

We say: one year away, and then the town again, and with all day to you all, each of us make his way to his own home.

This day, I, Jacob Horn, have much talk with Mother, and Aunt Mary Horn. The Johns, and Peter Friend, do all make merry, while I beheld a long, long time from home, and family. But our word being given to set out our faces into the wilds of Baltimore's Colony, it is just, that we keep this promise.

This day being a bright cheerful one, we all feel up in spirit, but dwell on the division of the family on the morrow. Mother: how she looks, and say: Jacob, be brave, and work well, and return home next year. The young children ask what it is all to be. . . .

March 7, 1739. The last day at Penn's Point, is a bright one, and we toil to make our "kersacks" and our rolls, portable, but keep in mind, both our needs, and the long trail over strange lands.

With a strong shake of hands and not a few tears from Mother and Rosanna, we grimly set out on the trail to Kershners.

April 4, 1740, Snow Creek, Colony of Virginia. We set out from Penn's Point and reached Kershners "Harle," on the 7 day of March, last year, and received the blessings of that great hearted family. Henrick Kershner, and his consort, Elizabeth, being part and part, German, and English, in talk, say: they have sons, Rudolph, and Henrick and daughters, Elizabeth, Katrina, Ruth and Rosanna.

They say Elizabeth belongs to Jonathan Hager, and our Katrina, she belongs to David Hager, but Ruth, and Rosanna, are not claimed by any man.

We like all very much, but cannot tarry with them. Elizabeth say, you all, are my friends, because you are Jonathan's friends.

We set out from Kershners after one days rest, and having each received the "kiss of peace," from all the family, joyously jorned on the strange trails through Castle, and Cecil, and reached the Susque de Lahanna River, where we were met by two fur traders who carried us across in Indian Canoes, to their Camp on the west

side shore. From there, we set our faces to the western sun set, and finally after 10 dreary toilsome days, we reached the waters of the Potomac, at a point about three leagues, below "Half Moon" Bend, where as then, we believed must cross the river, in order to reach Swamp Springs.

After Crossing on a log raft boat, we found on the bank of the stream, we ascended the bank of the river all the day, and at night fall, reached the site of the French Fort and fur trade house of Jean Le Beau, near the "Bar of Half Moon."

We made inquiry of two Indian boys as to where, Jonathan Hagers Camp at Swamp Springs is to be found? They say: Nay, Nay.

By common mistake it ruled that we crossed the river twice, and two days trailing, all because we did not have the knowledge of just where Jonathan's Camp is set up.

We received meat and rest at the French Post. Jean Le Beau, was friendly to us, and ask us to take meat and rest with him. He ask us where we hailed from? and where we are trailing to? Where on John Hardtman, say: Have it known, we are Jonathan Hager's men, and we are trailing to his camp, where he is to build Fort Hager. Jean say: Have two drams each, on Jeans friendship. The two Johns now declare no mistake was made in crossing the river, for Jean's Rum paid for all trailing.

We find four half French Indians men around the fur house, about six perches from the Fort, which is one of strength, being of hewn logs, set in "bound and tie," and all in shop order.

We rested on the earthen floor surrounded by lighted tapers, and many holy crosses, and it was a strange camp to us.

Jean say: By the grace of the Holy Father. I bestow this Holy Cross on thee, Jacob, as my desire to possess thy friendship. Where on, John Hardtman say: it is well with thee Luther.

I still have this cross, and shall retain it all my days, as a token of Him who died on a similar one for all men.

I, too, say: we made no mistake in crossing the river on this day, March 19, 1739.

It was said at Penn's Point, that the French set their Claims to the best places in North America, and as a fact, this is the best of all places we have beheld since leaving our home. We are taken over the river in Le Beau's boats, and directed to the east by north, and at the close of day, we espied some white men felling trees, and in one part of an hour, we sat down in Jonathan Hagers Camp. We found him and one Levi Funk, hewing the logs to be set in the Fort.

A great rejoicing in the camp lasted for sometime, with a large share of roasted bear meat, and Indian meal bake. With many sayings ask, and all made clear to Jonathan, all now feel at home, and at rest in camp.

In the days following, we all set in full days labor, and all labored hard to set the time short to build the Fort and fur house, before demands may be set up by the French, or by Thomas Cresap, the two-contesting claimants. Swamp Springs, being two in number, and of great flow, and pure water are at head of swamp bottom. The house being, set one perch from house spring, moat spring, being about one perch from house spring.

The Fort and Trade house being set in this manner.
each 24 x 18 feet and the home 18 x 18 feet set in two-parts above the sleepers and girder floor and the cook-room below on earthen floor.

John Hardtman being a stone workman as well as a wood workman, set a wall of dressed stone around the house spring.

In the weeks that followed, every man labored early and late. In three weeks time after we arrived at the camp, all the logs were cut and hewed, and ready to be set in the building. In the second half of April, the build was raised to 8 feet on high side of the ground and 14 feet on the low side, and at the end of April, the building was under one third pitch roof, covered with split clapboards. The chimneys, three in number, set at base and at capital of the stem, and the third at face of cookroom.

Early in the month of May, Jonathan turned all directions over to John Horn, and Levi Funk, and set out his mules for Philadelphia, and the Kershner home for his wife Elizabeth, and little son David. On June 2, he returned into the Camp with two extra mules heavily ladened with Elizabeth's needs. How each man did prepare his person to receive Elizabeth, was long talked in camp, but all treasured her kind friendship and her consideration for each man's welfare. It was at this time, that the Indian Chief Connochneeh, and ten of his tribe appeared in Camp and smoked the peace pipe with Jonathan, and all had a feast of deer and fowl, and Dutch oven Indian meal bread, made by Elizabeth's own hands. The Indians gave 10 fish of huge size to Elizabeth, who made friends with them, all being friendly to all the camp. By this stroke of peace, the Chief promised to bring all the furs, pelts, and hides of his entire band of three hundred Indians to Jonathan's trade house, much to the disgust of Thomas Cresap. The French say nothing.

About the middle of April, a lone Indian from the Susque de Lahanna country came into camp with three fine Indian stone axes made by Indians in Penn's colony and wanted to trade them to Jonathan Hager for Baltimore Town tobacco, saying, "heap good for chop tree." Jonathan gave him some tobacco, but looked at the axes with disgust but say nothing.

When "Lone Wolf" saw John Hardtman swing his heavy hard iron axe, and how quickly, and how easily he felled a large tree, he threw his stone axes, at the foot of a large tree, and said: "Me want it, Me trade heap furs for white man axe." Hardtman seeing far ahead said: "Lone Wolf," this axe say no trade now. In three moons from now, the sign will be just right to trade to you. Now heap bad for Indian. Great Spirit say, John, no trade now. "Lone Wolf," the Great Spirit say, "catchum" fish, and fowl, and deer, all three moons, for Jonathan and I will give you my axe, and I will tell it to the White man's Great Spirit, to be heap good to "Lone Wolf," To the surprise of all, "Lone Wolf" accepted John Hardtman's terms, and carried it out most faithfully. For three full months the Jonathan Hager camp never was in want of deer, meat, fish and fowl, and at times much wild fruit. After Elizabeth came to the Fort, she said: John, You must keep your word, and deal honestly with that faithful Indian. John became sober minded, and thought of the day he would see it no more. He kept his axe in the best of care: About the first days in August, "Lone Wolf" came into camp with four fine wild turkeys, and some sweet berrie, and John Hardtman say: "Lone Wolf," thy work is now done. I beseech you to listen to what the white man's Great Spirit say: It say: "Lone Wolf," never let this axe taste human blood, or harm a white man with it, for if thou do, it will strike you dead. It is the same Great Spirit that makes it chop tree better than the Indians stone axes, Be good to it. "Lone Wolf" was amazed at the power of the white man's axe, and say: Me never let heem taste blood, and with a long last look at all of us: he departed and not seen again at Fort Hager, while John, and I, remained there.

In October, Jonathan Hager, and John Horn, set out for Baltimore Town to obtain needed supplies, and did return on the last day of the month, ladened with every needed supplies.

Elizabeth's kind consideration for the men's welfare, made all her friends. It being her desire that all the men take land round about Hagers Choice, but only John Heister, Peter Friend, and Levi Funk adhered to her wish. In the month of September, David Hager, and wife, Katrina, came to Fort Hager, and Jonathan and Elizabeth, made them happy, and all the eleven men liked them

much, for they were fine cheerful people. They sojourned at the Fort until the third week in November, when they went to Baltimore Town, where their first child, Rosanna, was born in December and died at birth. This being December 19, 1739.

The Fort and trade house being made done, the stockade and moat likewise, about the middle of August, and the men spent sometime at "Half Moon" on the river, and hunting in the wilds of the border lands of Virginia. Jean Le Beau went with us, on a four day journey, one half way to this Snow Creek, but no man knoweth of this place. We explored some fine land, but set our faces to "Half Moon bend" of the river, which is to say: Chief Half Moon's Village site. He being named after the half moon bend of the waters of the Patomac.

This, Jean say: is the same place his father beheld in 1694, before Chief "Half Moon" became chief of the Fish Clan of the Tuswannah Indians on the border of the river. Chief Round Tree, still alive in 1694 was the head of the Fish Clan on this same site. Jean, he say: he made "Chief Half Moon," a feast and much supplies in 1735, and say: this is French lands whereupon, the Fish Clan set up many miles to the westward.

With two days at Jean's Post, we returned to Fort Hager, and set to clear the land of timber, which Jonathan bounds as 200 and 8 acres of fine land, which he say is "Hagers Choice." By February 15, 1740 we had 60 acres of Hagers Choice, clear of timber, except, certain trees preserved, by request of Elizabeth. She say: some trees must be in my town, which Jonathan say, shall be Elizabeth's Town. The log house set up on "High Point" by Levi Funk, being the first house set up in her town, the same one half acre lot, being Levi's full payment, same as our agreement set down on October 20, 1738.

It was late in November, 1739, that Johathan Hager, made demands for a road from his Fort Hager to join the old Frederick road to "Half Moon," where on Thomas Cresap, did enter complaint, that Jonathan Hager was making his Fort a stronghold for the French, and hailed him into Baltimore's Corte, by the Sheriff. By Jean's say: Jonathan is a Penn Colony man, and a lawful land settler in Baltimore's Colony, having no dealings with the French, and by Jonathan's declared statements and land claims, the Sheriff did not set Jonathan in bondage, but dismissed him, and Jonathan returned to the Fort, and set out to secure a warrant for Hagers Choice in Frederick.

This Christmas season of 1739 at Jeans post is like unto no other we ever beheld. The trade house held 62 cegs of Canada Rum. This is said to be the first of its kind ever known on the Potomac

Waters. The Indians came from afar, and near, with their catch, and traded furs of "prime quality" for Jean's Rum, then a rest in the dungeon. For two weeks time, the frontire spirit was displayed by all who chanced to meet at Jean's Post. Jean Le Beau, always the sharp, friendly, deep thinking host, never lets the Indians get free of debt, but always maintain their friendship, and secure most of their trade, which is bitter to Cresap's mind of peace.

This is now, and has been, the best fur trading Post on the Upper Patomac River. Cresap, being on the Indian Trail has since 1728 purchased huge stacks of furs, pelts, and hides for the London Fur Company, but his log buildings was destroyed by fire in January, 1734 and much fur was lost. He set in place a stone house of good dimentions, in the next year which with the new log store house is now his Post, and home, which Jonathan's men call "New Ireland," as the said Thomas Cresap, being from County, Armah, Ireland, in 1721.

Levi Funk, being one of Jonathan's most faithful men, departed for his home in Chester, to spend Yule days. Some say he will bring a wife with him to live in his house on the Point, but he sayeth nothing. Elizabeth say more women folks are needed at Hager, but no one knoweth what Levi thinketh.

John Horn say: I think I will take land in the spring, or return home. Early in March, 1740, I, Jacob Horn, and John Hardtman, being of one mind, was making preparations to return to Penn's Point, when destiny designed other plans, for us, not known of before. On March 4, 1740, Stuyvest Von Reisseiller, a Holland Dutchman, on his way from Snow Creek, Virginia, to Baltimore Town, paused at Ft. Hager, one day, to secure the help of two men to accompany him to Baltimore Town, to purchase two ox teams, and two wagons to haul two mill stones and gear back to Snow Creek, where he say: he is building a water power mill. No man did say: Yea, or nay, because no man except, Jonathan Hager, could understand his talk, Jonathan talked to him, then to Hardtman, and self, and say: he is a fine man, then and will do well by you, if, you want to go with him, so John Hardtman, and I, Jacob Horn, agree to go with him, and Jonathan say: so be it. Von Reisseiller shake our hands and say something, but we did not know what it was.

It was now the hardest part to leave Hager, and all our friends there. Elizabeth say: My friends, it is with a heavy heart that I give my consent to your leaving us, but you came here one year ago, to lend service to us, which I shall never forget. Be the same clean honest men you have been here at Hagers Choice, and I will ever

2401 W. Southern #313
Tempe, Ariz. 85282
April 6, 1980

Mrs. Reed Bowles Kershner,
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin Texas 78746

Dear Mrs. Kershner -

Last year while in Salt Lake I found your "The Kershner Families of Maryland." Vol II. It is so well written and I would like a copy for I am working on two family lines that you mention - Maria Heger (Hager) & Peter Hanger.

Does Volume I deal with either of these lines? If so I'd like to buy it also. I have successfully traced both lines to their Kentucky

descendants but I need more help on the earlier ancestors - especially on Davis's wife.

Mrs. Mary Nash says she called her Katherine. W. J. Horn in his "Horn Papers" Vol. I says her name was Katrina Kershner, daughter of Henrich + Elizabeth. I know this particular book [illegible] is discredited but some things he says agree with others. I'm grasping at straws.

I talked with Mrs. Gordon Lee in Mesa and she too is anxious to get a copy of your book or books so you'll probably be hearing from her. I was sorry she couldn't help me with my lines.

I hope to hear from you soon about the price of the books - before we return to our summer home in Lexington

Sincerely

Ruth Smith (Mrs. Lesie R.)

Our summer address May to Oct. -
395 Redding Rd. #106
Lexington, Ky. 40502.

9 April 1980

Mrs. Leslie R. Smith
2401 W. Southern # 313
Tempe, Ariz. 85282

Dear Ruth:

"The Kershner Families of Maryland"is out of print and we do not plan to undertake another printing. It is copyrighted, but you are welcome to Xerox any parts you wish, and to quote from it, provided proper credit is given.

However, we have placed copies in 75 libraries, including Tucson Public. I've put some sources on a card which I enclose. Volume I does not deal at all with Peter Hanger of Augusta Co. Va. and I don't recall any mention of David Hager, brother of Jonathan Hager born 1719; or 1714.

Mrs. Mish's little book, "Jonathan Hager, Founder," which you probably were quoting with regard to Katrina,who signed the inventory as nearest of kin and may have been David's wife, seemed to me to be very preoccupied with proving that there are no male descendants of Jonathan Hager and Elizabeth Kershner. She is probably right. Therefore, probably all the other Hagers (except Jonathan Jr. 1755-1798) are descendants of David. A John Hager was #79 on Henry Schnebely's 1778 list. A Jonathan Hager was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Hagerstown, d. 16 April 1864 aged 72. However, I think I've heard that there were other Hagers in Frederick Co. and in Pennsylvania.

Some of Mrs. Mish's early theories have turned out to be rather fanciful, but, then, as she wrote to Mary Maxwell, she was not a genealogist or a historian. I've caught a typo or two myself: she mentioned that Jonathan Hager was cited and fined for neglect of the road in Nov. 1736. This seemed unlikely to me if he arrived in Philadelphia on the Harle on 1 Sept. 1736, age 22. The citation can be found in Prince George Co. Md. Judgments FF-201, Nov. 1746 Court--"Lord Proprietary vs Jonathan Hager--Neglect of Duty as Overseer of the Highways."

I did quite a bit of research on Jonathan Hager's original land patents, but very little on his deeds--he was a wheeler-dealer and there were simply too many to follow through. It might be revealing to look for copies of the deeds Mish mentioned--1760, Hager's Defense, and 1766, Brothers Good Will,229 acres, to David. I suppose you have followed up on her reference to Prof. Frank Hager of Fayette Mo., descendant and biographer of David Hager. I would think the Washing.Co. Md. Free Library would have copies of his books or research.

Since the books came out, I've received a lot more data on the Augusta Co. Va. Kershners and connections, and have made an especially valuable acquaintance, Peggy S. Joyner C. G., a descendant of Peter Hanger--who, as I suspected, was certainly not a Hessian soldier, but was in Virginia long before the Revolution. Her address is 5008 Dogwood Trail, Portsmouth VA 23703. Be sure to give some dates on the Peter Hanger you want--I may be entirely mistaken about what generation you are researching. Peggy located the original register of St John's Reformed and Lutheran Church in Augusta Co. (Middlebrook), had them translated, typed and indexed. David Kershner's youngest daughter, Anna Maria, was baptized there in 1789, and was married 1819 in Christian Co. Ky. to Job Fletcher.

My greetings to Edna Gerden: she certainly found me some goodies, like an inventory that simply is not indexed at the Hall of Records.

Hope this reaches you in time--

2 Jan 1981

Dear Mary:

Happy New Year! and thanks for your Christmas letters. Glad Glen is mending.

Cousin Bill also wrote to me, and have asked Steve K to phone him and give him a good description of his Langenselbold visit. Both of them have WATS lines, and I had introduced them over the phone from Falls Church when I was there. I will arrange to send Bill some research money. Now seems to be the time.

Don't get all excited about Elsie Stauffer's Martin Karcher records. See the Vol II supplement I sent for the chart on p 222, Vol II. This is probably the Martin Kärcher b 1718, immigrated 1738, of "Karchertown" or Hamburg, who I thnk was father of Phillipina Karcher, wife of Andon Kirschner b 1746 (of Conrad I). I have Martin Kärcher (or Carter's) wife as Elizabeth Schubert. I got all excited about the wife of their son Martin (probably the one baptised in 1751) whose name was given somewhere as Elisabeth Schnebele. Not ours, tho, it turned ou
--I have a translation of the elder Kärcher's will, 1785: 4 sons, 4 dau. As abstracted by Paul Millikin, he said he was 67. Provided for his wife Elizabeth, and his youngest son Daniel was to have the house and land. Youngest dau Sarah £ 39, dau Phillipena £ 10, eldest son (not named) £ 15.1.10. To the building of a school in Hamburg, £ 3. Remainder among his 8 children, Martin, Christian, Johannes, Daniel, Gertraut, Maria Magdalena, Maria Phillipina, and Sara. Exrs, wife Elisabeth and son Johannes. Wit: Johannes Meyer, Abraham Lantzer.
---I suppose you noticed that the Kärcher baptism was in OleyeHills, Oley Twp. being just east of Windsor Twp., which was the location not only of Conrad I K. but of the town of Hamburg, 3 miles from Windsor Castle. Our Martin Kirshner b 1703 apparently always lived in Bern Twp near where old Johannes & Gettrude settled, across the Schuylkill River from Windsor Twp, and downstream a dozen or more miles. Bern Church is the only place we've found his records. That is a big wide river which probably had to be crossed by boat, and Bern Twp was in a different county till 1753 when Berks was organized. I'm saying that it was not very likely that anyone living on Plum Creek in Bern Twp would have taken an infant to Oley Hills for baptism.
--Paul Millikin said Elizabeth Karcher b 1753 m Philip Fenstermacher. There's no Elizabeth mentioned in Martin Karcher's 1785 will, but I think there were other Karchers besides Martin. Brothers, perhaps.

I have gotten to look over most of the copies of drafts for Vol III that you returned to me, and am making notes for a few corrections. I will send them along soon.

Our nephew, Stuart Hudson Kershner, Steve's son, is the proud father of a new little son, and has suddenly become very interested in the Kershner dynasty. He would like to join the SAR, and when I mentioned that you had also nailed down the DAC, is all for trying that one too! I don't know what the equivalent of DAC would be. Could you help us out? Young Stuart is a handsome young man, 6'4", about 30 or 31 years old now. After a musical hippies sort of high school and college life, he has become a stockbroker, to the astonishment of all of us, is making piles of money, and has bought a boat and a house and has a gorgeous wife--of Polish descent! Wonders will never cease.

Martin Karcher
b 1718
of Hamburg
PA

Christian Kirchner b 1821
to Texas from Germany 1846

5 February 1980

Dear Dorothy Crisp:

In feviewing your research with Texas immigrant Kirchners, I am becoming more doubtful that you will find much of use in our "Kershner Families of Maryland, 1731-1977," but it has finally occurred to me that you would be a much better judge of that than I am.

So, taking matters into my own hands, I am sending you a loan Volume II, which you may look over, and are welcome to copy. Please return it in about a month. Since the books are out of print, Mary Maxwell suggesed we save out a "floater copy" of each volume just for this purpose.

Since the publication was completed, we have been trying to do some German research, which is extremely slow and expensive, for none of the records of the area we are interested in have been microfilmed. I can barely decipher the 18th century German of the American records from churches, and certainly can't correspond with anyone in German. The dollar loses value against the West German mark almost daily, and gasoline for our researcher to travel to churches is so scarce and expensive that I think he delays these trips, especially in winter.

I have heard nothing from Max Steinbaur, in Frankfort-on-Main since November 1978, and have retained a native German researcher who lives in Salt Lake City, Dr. John Dahl, to correspond with Steinbaur.

Dr. Dahl tells me there are records (perhaps in Darmstadt) in Hesse of permissions to emigrate from Germany, and he said he would have a local researcher there try to locate such records for us.

Steinbaur sent convincing proof from church records that the immigrants in whom we are interested, Johan Georg Kirschner (came in 1731), Johannes Kirschner (in 1733), and Martin Kirschner (in 1742, were sons of Johan Conrad Kirschner of Langenselbold, about 30 miles east of Frankfort. Johan Georg's wife was Anna Fischer, and we note that the signature on the ship's list directly under his name was Johannes Fischer. Martin was a younger half-brother, born 1703, and there was a fourth half-brother, born 1700, Johann Caspar Kirschner. We have the name of Johann Caspar's wife and several children, and know he was still in Langenselbold in 1739 when he was godfather to one of his brother, Martin's, sons.

We are now investigating everything we can find to determine whether this Johann Casper Kirschner of Langenselbold, born 1700, is the same person as Rev. Johann Casper KIRCHNER, who came to America about 1753, served a number of Lutheran churches as pastor, and died in Baltimore Md. 1770. So far, we have not been able to bridge the gap between 1739 and 1753, and are hoping our researcher will find out whether the Langenselbold Joh. Casper was still there after 1753. I am becoming more doubtful that it is the same man.

In the early Pennsylvania cemeteries, with burials from around 1760, and to the present, I saw a lot of Kirchner names, but so far they don't appear to be associated as members of the Kirschner families. Up there, the names are pronounced quite differently--Kirschner as Keer'-kin-er--and the derivation is so different, that I've about convinced myself that the two different spellings were used perhaps by English-speakers, but not by Germans. "Kirchner" translates to "of the church," a sexton. "Kirschner" is a furrier or tanner.

I'm keeping one dollar for mailing expense and returning the other two. I hope it's worth your while.

Frankfurt on Main (F.f/M)

Marvell Ark.
Nov. 14, 1979

Dear Ruth B. Kershner.

Thank you for your letter and offer to Xerox pages 447-456 for me. I am enclosing some money to help cover expense. I will try again to locate your books when I have the opportunity.

Had hoped I could find Christian Kirchner's Parents. In a book by Chester W + Ethel H Geue, A New Land Beckoned, German Immigration to Texas, 1844-1847, on page 108-109 are 5 Kirchner families or listings. Christian Kirchner according to family tradition came to Texas in 1846. (In Book) A Christian Kirchner is listed, single, 25, (right age) dest. Travis County Texas; aboard Mathilde, I am satisfied this is my gt. grandfather. But was he connected with the others aboard since of the same name at that time??? On the ship list is 1844,

page 92 Feick, Casper, from Hesse; to New Braunfels, 1845, (ship) Ferdinand
P.P. 92 Fischer, F John, Single, 28; from Pattum FF/M to N.B 1845; " Weser 1844
P.P. 93 Flach, Christoph + Mde. Hesse Darmstadt to Kerr Co. " St Pauli 1847

I copied these names as I believe they are from the same area you are researching so it is possiable you may run across my Christian Kirchner family, I'll appreciate and will pay for any help.

Sincerly Dorothy Crisp

MRS. C. CRISP
RT. 2 BX 102
MARVELL, ARK.
72366

MARVELL
NOV 15
PM
1979
ARK.

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

Marvell Ark
Feb 26, 1980

Dear Ruth B Kershner

This is a wonderful work of history, and thank you for sending it to me.

If my line is connected it would be way back in Germany. I dont thing the spelling would make too much difference as the translation from German to English brought out some odd spelling.

My Kirchners came to america in 1846 - so no way to connect the lines. But I enjoyed reading your book. and thank you for the loan.

Sincerly

Dowdey Crisp
R2. Box 102
Marvell Ark 72366

Sent copies of
pp 447-450, Vol I
Michael Kershner, from
Germany 1829
Mar 4 1980
RBK

MRS. C. CRISP
RT. 2 BX 102
MARVELL, ARK.
72366



MARVELL
FEB 26
PM
1980
ARK.



Ruth Bounds Kershner
1414 Red Bud Trail
Austin, Texas
78746

Mrs. C. Crisp
Rt. 2 Bx 102
Marvell, Ark.
72366

Marvell Ark 72364
Oct 22 1979

I read the reviews of The Kershner Families of Maryland in the Arkansas Family Historian. I tried to find the book in the Memphis Tenn Library on Peabody and Mc Clain but was unable to locate them.

My family line includes Christian Kirchner (we spell it with an i but ~~E~~ Kirchner is also spelled with an e in the same family) My Connection

Christian Kirchner b. 4 March 1828 Alsace Lorraine married Martha Burdett
one of thier sons. W. B. Kirchner b 21 Dec 1852 Bee Co Tex married Ella Watson b 21 June 1861, Logan Co Ky.
one of their Sons - W. Henry Kirchner b 5 Jan 1884, Barksdale Texas married Ina Irene Boales ~~b~~ b 16 May 1889. M. Jan 24, 1906
(me) Dorothy Barbara (Kirchner) Crisp b. 26 Aug 1910
married Chesterfield Crisp 21 Feb 1928.

Christian Kirchner Came to America aboard the Ship Mathilda from Bremen Germany 1 aug 1846 landed in Galveston Texas 3 Oct 1846. There were other Kirchners aboard the same ship.

Is this line included in your books? And do you have any information from across the Ocean.

Is you book for sale? price?

Sincerely Dorothy Crisp

Dear Mrs. Crisp:

To answer your last questions first, The Kershner Families of Maryland volumes are in Memphis, but with the Tennessee Genealogical Society. Mrs. John D. Tyus asst. librarian, has a post office box address, 12124, Memphis, 38112. Mary Maxwell and I also have "floating" copies that we lend out by mail. We took subscriptions at $25 per set, which is dirt-cheap, and they are practically all gone.

However, there is very little in them that would be of help to you, I'm afraid. We do not have your line, and though we certainly do not discriminate against ANY spelling of the name, we just don't have any who spelled their own names Kirchner or Kerchner, even if county clerks did spell them that way.

Our immigrant, Johan Georg Kirechner, wrote his own name on the ship's list, and we accept that as his official spelling. He came, with his wife Anna Fischer and three children, to the port of Philadelphia in 1731, probably stayed in Berks Co. Pa. a few years,then settled in western Maryland on Conococheague Creek. His daughter Elizabeth married Jonathan Hager, the founder of Hagerstown, Md.

Johannes Kirschner, Johan Georg's older brother, was born in 1693 and came to Pennsylvania in 1733. Martin Kirschner, their younger half-brother, born 1703, came in 1742, arriving very shortly after the death of Johannes, who had also settled in Berks Co. (Bern Twp., which was at that time on the west side of the Schuylkill River and hence in Lancaster Co.: it became part of Berks in 1753.) These two stayed in Pennsylvania, but their progeny scattered to the west. Two grandsons of old Johannes, the immigrant, went to Ross County Ohio, and were living there at the time another Kirschner/Kershner family arrived from Germany.

Because,in 1829, Michael Kershner (b. 1791) went straight to Ross Co. Ohio when he got off the boat, his descendants think he might have had some contact with Daniel (b. 1773) and Jacob (b. 1775) Kershner, the grandsons of Johannes.

Michael's descendants have some letters from the family in Germany, written as late as 1865. Michael is said to have been from Kisselbronn, a small village or suburb of Pforzheim, which is in Baden, Germany. Michael's brother Christopher stayed in Germany, and his brother Jacob came to America, but the present generation hasn't been able to locate Jacob. Michael's daughter Frederika Bauer also elected to stay in Germany, but wrote to her parents.

Volume I of our Kershner Family history has about 10 pages (pp 447-456) on this family, contributed by Vernon Alton Kershner, who I think is no longer able to correspond with family. Otherwise, I'm afraid there is little that would be of help to you. I'll be glad to Xerox these pages for you if you think they would be helpful.

Since we got the American material into print, heaving a sigh of relief, we have had time to do some German research, which is still continuing. Slowly. Very slowly. Our family group came from small towns near Hanau, some 25 miles east of Frankfurt-on-Main in Hesse. The immigrant Kirschners had another brother--half-brother to George and Johannes, full brother to Martin,--christened Johan Caspar, born in 1700. He apparently was still in Germany in 1739.

In America, we are now on the trail of a Rev. Johan Casper Kirchner, a Lutheran minister of York Co. Pa., who retired in 1768 and died in 1770. The names and dates seem to fit pretty well, but we aren't sure yet that we can claim him. Joh. Casper is said to have come in 1753, but we have no ship record, and nothing yet on his children, if any. He left everything to his wife, Christiana. We haven't located anyone else interested in his line, so far.

John
Ritter b1753
Donald E
Long

25 April 1979

Mr. Donald E. Long
679 Four Mile Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45230

Re: RITTER

Dear Mr. Long:

First, let me congratulate you on your very clear letter, with its specific dates and places attached to the names.

You asked whether your John Ritter, born Dec. 12 1753, d Sept. 28, 1833 Ross Co. Ohio, might be the same person as John Ritter Jr. mentioned on page 46 of Vol. II of The Kershner Families of Maryland, 1731-1977. Mary Maxwell sent me a copy of your letter because I am the one who prepared Vol. II for our joint effort. My answer has to be, at this time, "I don't Know."

Probably you looked up and read all the Ritter references in Vol. II. I did not follow up on the administration of John Ritter Sr's estate by his exrx., wife Margaret, but there should be indexes to the administration records in the courthouse at Hagerstown. The records themselves are in the Hall of Records at Annapolis, but you could get copies if you had the references ~~from Hagerstown~~.

Frederick

On the scanty data I have, I am postulating that John Jr. was older than Abraham because he was named first in the will, but that both of them were not yet of age in 1760 when John Sr/'s will was made. It seems highly likely that they were of age by the time the will was proved in 1771, so the estate records might actually be useful. I have also assumed that John ~~XX~~ and Abraham Ritter, whose names appeared in the records of the neighborhood church in 1772, might be the two named heirs. If so, then John Must have been married at the time his father died or shortly thereafter, and could have been married some time before, for the Salem records only date from 1770. There is a big gap after 1780 till after 1800. Although Johannes Riter's wife was Susana in June 1772, he could well have had a second wife by the time Richard was born in 1794. However, Elender's birthdate in 1760 suggests that she was 34 and probably married for some years. Was she by any chance a widow? Though you gave "Burk" as her second name, I would not think she would give her son Richard Ritter a first husband's name.

At the time I read censuses of Washington Co. Md., I had not become curious about the Ritter connection, so have no later census data for them. I would assume that at least some of the Rutters listed in the 1778 Oaths of Fidelity are of this Ritter family, but it will be difficult to separate them from an actual family whose name really was, apparently, Rutter.

On a deed reference, L-557, Alexander Clarke to John Ritter, Bill of Sale for livestock and furniture (actually, a mortgage with listed items as security), I have a note that this is the earliest John Ritter deed I found in Wash. Co. Md.

Since the books were published, we have some records from Germany that do show a Ritter connection. From the Ev. Kirchengemeinde at Langenselbold, Hesse, (about 15 miles east of Frankfurt on Main) Konrad Kirschner (1643-1674) married 11 Jan. 1666 Engel Ritter, daughter of Philipp. Konrad b. 1643 was a brother of Johannes Kirschner (1637-1713), grandfather of the Johannes Kirschner b 1693 who emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1733, and of our Johan Görg Kirschner b 1695 who traveled to Pennsylvania on the Ship Samuel in 1731, along with a Riter family who had a son Hans under 16. This seems a far-fetched relationship to me, and I suspect there were later marriages between the two families.

In Frederick Co., I looked up, not only the quoted will of John Reiter, 1771, but A:1:87, Edmond Rutter, wife Mary, 1755; and A:1:346, John Rutter, exrs Peter White and Isaac Cooper, 1769. I'll put my notes on another page. If you find other Colonial records, do share.

RITTER

Notes on Frederick Co. Md. Wills

A:1:346
John Rutter..in perfect health (very pious) 20 June 1769
Exrs Isack Cooper, Peter White
wife Agnes
to son John, Rutters Delight
to son William at 21
"none may debar my son Elick of Waughter if he seis cause to build nare that land.."
to son Edmond, 100 ac Gamin Alley
to son Alexander Rutter, 78 ac, Resurveybon Gamin Alley
to son William things left by his Godfather...chist, coffee mill, saddle, Bible
to daughters Mary and Rachel remainder of personal estate into their own hands, their husbands have no right to dispose of it..
Witnesses: Thomas Brooke, Charles Hickman, Thomas Simm

A:1:87
Edmond Rutter 4 June 1755 proved 17 Feb 1755
to son Benjamin Rutter to learn a trade, £ 20
to son James Rutter to learn a trade, £ 20
to son Edmond Rutter
to daughter Mary Rutter
to daughter Elisabeth Rutter
to daughter Priscilla Rutter
to orphan boy Samuel Griffe
servant man shall be sold
wife (not named) to be executor)
(s) Edmund + Rutter
Witnesses: Thomas Scarlett, John + Rutter, James Daly
If wife thinks well to keep children above named till they come to age, they shall be at her disposing.

The Washington Co. Md. Free Library in Hagerstown has started a list of persons and the family names they are researching. I think they would be happy to add yours.

Apr 14, 1979

Dear Mary,

I've just been reading your marvelous works, the two volumes of Kershner, and have just decided you might be able to tell me if my John Ritter is the John Ritter in your list Vol. II pg. 46. He fits pretty nicely in to that will and our family history says that John Ritter b. Dec 12, 1753 d. Sept. 28, 1833 Ross Co. Ohio, married Elender Burk Richard b. Apr. 13, 1760, d. July 14, 1829, near Hagerstown, Maryland. Their son Richard Ritter b. Sept. 17, 1791 m. in Ross Co. Ohio, Dec 23, 1814, to Anna Marie Guthrie b. May 2, 1798. They are my maternal G. Mother's G.G. parents. She was b. 1884 and is living in Logan, Ohio, and enjoys my reports.

I have several direct ancestors coming from the various areas in your books. I'm looking for ancestors of Daniel Beck and w Hannah whose dau. Mary m John Oliver in Hagerstown Apr 28, 1807.

My direct ancestor Isaac Pearson of Andrew d in Frederick Co. Md. Aug 1748, Wife Sarah may have been a Westfall. About the same close relation ship exists between Friends of Westfalls as do Kershners Ritters.

Another line, Dgt. Adam Lynn m Aug 17, 1780 Ann Heffle Bower in Hagerstown, my Maternal G. Fathers maternal line.

I'm directly from a John Selby Brian b 1808 Prince Georges Co. Md. Probable parents Wm & Susanna (Selby) Brian. John m. Sophia Day dau of John Day who m. Hagerstown, Elizabeth Smith. I need proof of these peoples parents.

The Days seem to be of St. Marys Co. Maryland So you see, I've many ancestors, who were near by a few of the people you write about in your books. And I want to people who are also interested in such lines as Duvall & Dowler, ect. All interwoven into your fine narrative.

I don't want to be a bother to you a simple Yes - No - or I don't know will please me. However anything you know about the Ritters might help. If the John Ritters are not one & the same. Maybe my John is a son of the Abraham Ritter on Pg 4 of Baltimore Abraham's

Thank You For all Possible Consideration

Donald E. Day
[illegible]
Centerville, Md.
21617

May 18, 1979

Dear Ruth,

It's a pleasure to get the welcome responce to my letter from your co-author and you.

My John Ritter's children were: Elizabeth (Betsy) m. Samuel Arrowsmith, Pheba m. John Arrowsmith, Cassandra, (Cassie) m. Mr. Walton, Margaret (Peggy) m. Mr. Walton, Martha (Patty) m. Mr. Clingman, Richard, m. Anna Marie Guthrie, Joshua m. Harriet Codwalader, Sarah (Sallie) m Ezikial Bunn, and the ninth was Henry Ritter.

Richard Ritter & Ann Guthrie's children: William Guthrie Ritter b. Mar. 3, 1816 m. Adaline McDowell, Harriet Ellen Ritter b. Aug 8, 1817, m Dimothy Brown, Caroline Malinda Ritter b May 25, 1820, m. Louis Evans, John Ritter b. Feb. 28, 1823, dy.; Henry Ritter b. Oct 19, 1826, dy., Louisa Maria Ritter b Aug. 30, 1828 m. Thomas Orr, Amanda Jane Ritter b. Apr. 1, 1831 m. William Ashworth, and the 8th child Emily Catherine Ritter m. Robert Oliver.

I send you this to see if any of the decendants bear the names of any of their fore-fathers that you might know about. The only name in Johns offspring seems to be Margaret, Joshua & Henry are not accounted for in the visable past.

Sent Ruth Bluestein address

We have allways thought the Burk in Elendor's name to be a maternal name and not a 1st husbands name, and I've searched for a Richard - Burk marriage through-out the East and so far have not found it. I also do not think that there would be a son Richard named after the first husband.

From "The Biographical History of Sciota Valley" (Ohio)
Robert Oliver son of John. John Oliver b. Co. Derry N. Ire.
1773 to Lancaster Co Pa. farmed 6 years till 1802, thence to
near Hagerstown Md., came with 6 horse team to Ross Co. Ohio
Dec. 31, 1812. Son Robert m Apr. 4, 1854, Miss Emily Ritter b.
on adjoining farm dau of Richard Ritter who emigrated from
Virginia to Ohio in an Early Day, and was a 1812 vet.

From the Land Grant Records of Ohio, Those lands
purchased of the Chillicothy, Ohio, Land office,
John Ritters file is C-111, Richard is C-215, Thomas?
Ritter C 121, the above Richard Ritter patent dated
Feb. 25, 1808, Range 20, Twp 15, Sec. 10. No Kershner
is apparent in my first assesment of these records.

However the Kershners are listed as tax payers in
the very next Township west of Green Township as
early as 1810. And they lived on past 1850, whereas
both Richard & John Ritter were dead by then.

I'm not now certain as to the birth place of my
Ritters as maybe I've not been thorough in checking
every thing available, especially the 1880 Census
for children who might have parents birth places
listed.

sense enough to quit. When the trail gets 'cold' on one line seems like I get a break on another.

Personally, I'm the Father of 3 sons, the only Male Longs remaining that can carry on, to whom I am related and know anything about. I have a Brother who has girls & I have my Father who is 82 and an unmarried Sister.

I work as a Lithographer (printer) and help get the colors right.

Your letter is very helpful and the possibilities seem great that something will prove or eliminate possible relatives.

I wish, I could concentrate all my efforts on this matter, but this is our busy season at work & Home. We are working 57 hours a week & I'm stripped of time & energy at present.

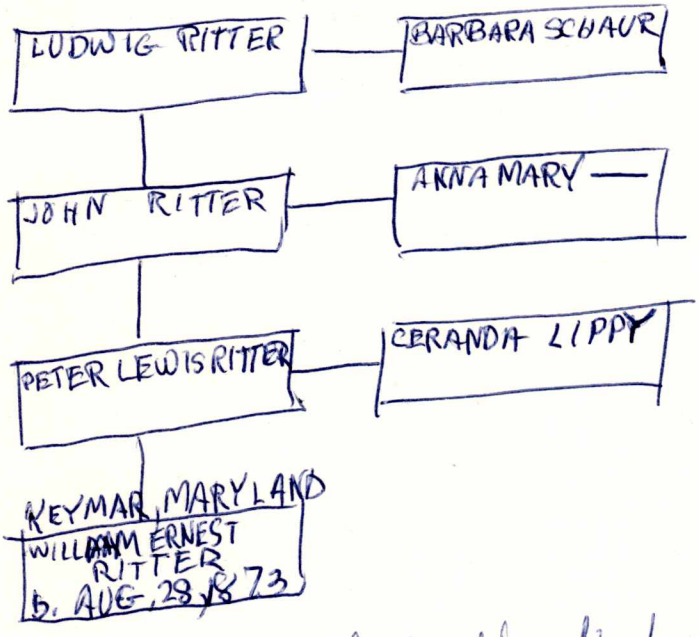
Many Thanks

Don.

Now that there is a possible Kershner connection, I may go back over the Ross Co Records to see what new information I can find.

Here is a Ritter line leading to Maryland:

From Prussia 1732 to Lancaster Co. Penn.



I've seen that the disposal of property in Maryland in 1808 is consistent with the purchase of land in Ross Co. Ohio.

The only thing I know what to do right now is bundle up my miserable notes and forward them to you and see if any thing registers with you. Over the years, I've tried to trace all my direct American Ancestors and it seems like I'm just trying to keep too many records on too many families. But I don't have

Dear Ruth,

Thanks for the letter & concern.

Hope you are successful
in All you Endeavors

Don

Still Working Beck - Richard
& Ritter