

"And my God put it into mine heart to gather together... the people that they might be reckoned by genealogy." -- Nehemiah 7:5

Here 'tis April and the weather man has gone stark raving mad. At least ours has. Half the middle section of the country, including Tennessee, just got picked up and blown various points east of here by tornados. Bad! Income tax, Easter, sulphur and molasses and auto license decal which isn't bought yet. Wonder if people give their poor little children sulphur and molasses any more? We were never subjected to that, but castor oil and calomel were bad enough. Ugh!

Cheerful thought though: the dogwoods are beautiful and the wild flowers are bravely blooming in spite of temperatures in the 30's.

This letter is being sent to all the folks on our mailing list, dues paid or not, so that everyone will know about the Reunion in June and plan to come. Now that the President has loosened up the gas situation and opened some stations on Sunday there is a good chance that that particular deterrent to a good crowd at the Reunion won't be as important as it might have been. We fervently hope everyone is planning to attend. Do make a special effort.

THE SECOND BIENNIAL REUNION of the Family is to be held on Sunday, June 30th, at the VFW Hall in Floyd, Virginia.

This year we are having an "all-day-meetin'". The VFW Hall will be opened at 9:30 for those who wish to come early and visit and see the records.

Lunch will be served at 12:30, followed by the business meeting of the Organization and more visiting. There may be music and entertainment also.

You are asked to bring food for your family, (covered-dishes, etc.) folding chairs if you have any, and whatever you wish to drink with your meal. Coffee will be furnished (we think!), as well as paper plates and eating utensils.

There will be special recognition for those who have come farthest; the eldest; youngest; and the family with the most immediate members present. Some of you

folks from California, Washington State, Texas and Missouri and New York come. Virginia is very nearly the prettiest place on earth in June and Floyd County is very nearly the prettiest place in Virginia.

The Executive committee will meet at 12:30 P.M. on Saturday, June 29th, at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Freeman Slusher. All officers of the organization are urged to be present (and on time, please). And if any of our Family Organization members have anything you wish brought before the committee, it is suggested you let us know as soon as possible. (William S. Slusher, 206 Rivermont Drive, McMinnville, TN. 37110).

This is the last letter you will receive before the Reunion so make notes and plans now to attend. Start hoping it won't rain, gather pictures, documents, family data, etc. to bring with you. About 150 people came last time (in the rain!). We do hope there'll be 300 this time.

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Our genealogist, Mr. Clark, is still working hard for us, and he has found several things of interest. Some of it is what we might call 'negative' data - in other words something we thought might be true but has proven not to be so. This doesn't add much to our material, but actually is just as important to our end result as a positive fact and the genealogy has to be built on accurate information. Inaccuracies make very poor basis for family trees, or anything else.

The first positive fact found is that the Peter Schlosser who lived in Lebanon Twp. Lancaster County, Penn. is the same Peter Slusser who lived in Washington Co. Maryland and died there in 1790. This is proven by an Indenture of Mortgage made 29 May 1767 between Conrad Mentzinger of Lebanon Twp., Lancaster County, Pa., yeoman, and Peter Slousser of said place, yeoman, for $\frac{1}{4}$ 149/14/0, due 19 May 1768 $\frac{1}{4}$ 74/17/0. This land adjoined land of Jacob Berenson, Joseph Serick, Adam Waggoner, Pater Harlan and Peter Benelick, containing $\frac{1}{4}$.

100 acres more or less. Signed 29 May 1767, Rec. 10 July 1767. Source: Lancaster County Pa. Court Deed Books.

And then, in 1792, "Account of George Slusser, administrator of Petter Slusser of Washington County, Maryland, deceased ... "This accountant chargeth himself with amount of money received of Conrad Mentzinger for a mortgage of $\frac{1}{15}/0/0$... and this accountant claims an allowance for money paid Registrar paid filed $\frac{1}{1}/7/0$. Balance due estate $\frac{1}{13}/2/0$. George Slusser, adm. of Peter Slusser, dec'd acknowledged having received full satisfaction for this mortgage from Conrad Mentzinger, signed 14 August 1792. (Wash. Co. Md. Accounts, Liber 1, f. 337.)

So this proves that Peter Schlosser did in fact move his family from Lebanon Twp. Lancaster County, Pa. to Washington Co. Md., probably around 1780, when the Schlossers disappear from the Lebanon Co. church records.

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A George Slusser was also administrator of the estate of a Peter Slusser, in Washington County in 1805. Record reads as follows:

Deed of John Slusher from George Slusser 19 Nov. 1805, Recorded 21 Jan. 1806.

At the request of John Slusser, a deed of release was recorded whereas Peter Slusher late of Washington County, Md., died intestate, his heirs:

1. John Slusser
2. George Slusher, of Virginia
3. Leonard Middlecaulf and Elizabeth his wife.
4. Jacob Koffman and Catherine his wife

all of Washington County, Md. release all rights and title to $249\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land called "Slusser's Chance" for 1000 pounds oaud by John Slusser. George Slusher's wife, Polly, renounced her dower rights.

Elizabeth Middlecaulf and Catherine Koffman were the Slushers, apparently daughters of Peter Slusher.

Now, this last Peter was probably the Junior Slusher, since this transaction took place in 1805, 15 years after 1790 when Peter, Sr. died. Also, there is a

tombstone in Rose Hill Cemetery in Hagerstown, Md. which says: Elizabeth Schlosser, dau. of P. Schlosser and wife of Leonard M. Middleksuff, b: Mar. 28, 1770 d: Mar. 10, 1833. Since we have always assumed Christopher was Peter Sr.'s youngest child and Elizabeth was born 13 years after Chris this adds weight to this assumption.

There is also on record a listing of heirs of Herman Painter's land and that of Peter Ringer 15 Jan. 1822, as follows:

Elizabeth Painter, widow; George Slosser and wife Mary; John Slosser and wife Elizabeth; Jacob Coffman and wife Anna; Henry Huffman and wife Catherine.

One version of a family tree we have seen states that Peter Slusher, Jr.'s son John married a Painter (Panter in some spelling) and her sister married George Slusher, a son of Peter Jr's brother Henry.

But since we don't even know whether Peter Sr. had sons Peter and Henry yet, we certainly aren't going into that relationship at present! We have enough trouble as it is.

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Now: about the parents of Peter Schlosser (1710-1790) whom we have mentioned from time to time and whom we thought might be a brother to George Ernst Schlosser (b: 1714) of Philadelphia, who was born in St. Arnaud, etc. same place Peter was said to have been born on the DAR application form we have quoted so often and now wish we'd never laid eyes on, since the information of the application definitely has two Peter Schlossers thoroughly mixed up (See Vol. I, No. 2, pg. 1, Jan. 1970): I shall quote verbatim from what the genealogist has found about this which is as follows:

"It has been stated by some researchers that Peter Schlosser (1710-1790) was the son of Rev. Johann Georg Schlosser, a German Lutheran minister, and his wife Sophia Johanetta Margaretta. The reference in support of this was Egle's Notes and Queries, Third Series, Vol. 3, pp 188-9, a biography of George Ernst Schlosser of Philadelphia. There is no mention in Egle's article of a Peter, but apparently the assumption was made that George Ernst and Peter were brothers. (Cont'd)

"I have attempted to verify this assumption. Since St. Arnaud, Nassau-Saarbruck, and Dietlingen (the German place-names in Egle) do not appear on modern maps or in modern Gazetteers, it was first necessary to determine the German residences of Rev. Schlosser. A letter from Dr. Kelin, Leiter des Stadtarchivs, Saarbrücken, translates in Part:

"The St. Arnaud concerning which you inquired is most probably the part of Saarbrücken known today as St. Arnaud. The village of St. Arnaud rose in the middle ages as one of the churches founded in the 6th-7th century which bore the names of the Bishop of Metz, St. Arnaud. The seminary of St. Arnaud was considered in the middle ages as the second seat of the bishopric of Metz and was indeed the archbishop's church. In 1569, with the inception of the Reformation, the dependency was secularized by the Count of Nassau-Saarbrücken, but continued to remain the religious center of the state of Saarbrücken.

"The neighborhood of St. Arnaud, which lies just west of old Saarbrücken, was incorporated into the city of old Saarbrücken in 1896. The neighboring cities to old Saarbrücken, St. John and Malstatt-Burbach, were united in 1909 into the metropolis of Saarbrücken.

"... relatives of the family Schlosser are traceable from the beginning of the 17th century in old Saarbrücken and St. John and their environs."

"In response to my second letter inquiring about a Peter Schlosser born 20 January 1710 (buried in the Old Reformed Graveyard Sharpsburg, Md.) Dr. Kelin wrote:

"... I can report to you that the Peter Schlosser sought by you... could not be ascertained either in the church books of St. Arnaud or in the church books of Saarbrücken and St. John.

"The baptismal record of George Ernst Schlosser, born 7 November 1714 at St. Arnaud, and son of Johann Georg Schlosser, evangelical pastor of St. Arnaud and his wife Sophia Johanna Margaretha, can be found in the church book of St. Arnaud (Book 17, pg. 24, number 7. Two other children were also born to this couple in St. Arnaud: Maria Gertrude, born 26 April

1711, and Wilhelm Christian, born 20 September 1713 (Book 17, page 21, number 1 and page 23, number 6.)

"Johann Georg Schlosser was pastor in St. Arnaud from 1710 to 1715. He lost his pastorate in 1715 because of adultery. (A Ruppertsberg, St. Arnaud -- History of the Religious Organizations and the City, 1930 p 19). Since he obviously could not remain a resident of St. Arnaud or Saarbrücken, additional offspring of his could have been born elsewhere."

"According to Egle's article Rev. Schlosser moved to Strassburg when Georg Ernst was six months old (i.e. May 1715). Perhaps other daughters were born there; I have not requested a search of their church books or civil records. Egle's "Dietlingen" is, in fact, Dietlingen:

"Pastor Johann Georg Schlosser came to Dietlingen in July or August 1722. Just before that he was for two years and nine months the pastor at Huchenfeld near Pforzheim, a few kilometers distant from here. Pastor Schlosser died here in Dietlingen on 6 March 1746 and was buried on 8 March 1746. What then happened to his family cannot be learned from my books. Neither has the Mayor's office of Dietlingen any information concerning them.

"I have only one entry concerning his children which, however, may be useful to you: Johann Philipp, dearly beloved third little son of Johann Georg Schlosser and his wife Sophia Johanna Margaretha, died between 8 and 9 in the evening of 16 August 1722.

"This would exclude the possibility that Pastor Schlosser had had a third son Peter born before 1722 in addition to Wilhelm Christian and Georg Ernst, both born before 1722. The Johann Philipp mentioned died, according to this entry, at the age of 2 years less 11 weeks and 2 days and so must have been born on 29 October 1720.

"I was recently in Huchenfeld and could find there nothing more than confirmation for the son Johann Philipp; he was born on 30 October 1720."

Mr. Clark says that "on the basis of these communications, I believe it is possible to state absolutely that Johann Georg Schlosser did not have a son Peter. No

record of the birth of a Peter exists in St. Arnaul; if Rev. Schlosser had had another son after his departure from St. Arnaul and before his arrival in Huchensfeld, then Johann Philipp would not have been his third son. There is no record of the birth of a Peter in the Huchensfeld church book. Since Rev. Schlosser lived and was the pastor in Dietlingen from 1722 until his death in 1746, his children would surely have been baptized in his church there. The church records for that period do exist today and they contain no entries of the birth of additional Schlosser children. Having said all this, perhaps I should make one qualification: Johann Georg Schlosser did not have a legitimate son Peter." (End of quote)

Now isn't that perfectly splendid? To know someone who knows how to go about finding that type of thing, and writing people in Germany - and knowing where to write in the first place, and how to read the answer when you get it?

And I suspect its just as well we did not turn out to be descended from the Reverend Johann George, if we could help it.

Mr. Clark is presently working on trying to straighten out the relationship between the two Peter Slussers in Washington County and awaiting another letter from Germany about Peter's possible place of birth, among other things. We'll tell you all about that at the reunion if it doesn't come before this letter is stencilled and mailed. You'll remember that one of the Peters in Washington Co. had a wife Mary and one had a wife Susannah. They lived at the same time and we have thought they were father and son.

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Continuing our project of listing the kinfolks buried in the cemeteries in Floyd County, the following is from the Jacob Slusher cemetery, located 1/4 miles west of Floyd Court House on the farm of George L. Slusher:

(At this point in this letter someone gave your editor a brand new electric typewriter, and not a moment too soon! It has large type, but one doesn't go around

refusing brand new typewriters for small reasons such as that! Now, if I can just learn to type on it.)

To continue with the Jacob Slusher cemetery:

Jacob Slusher, Sept. 2, 1797 - Oct. 3, 1871, (son of Christopher)
 Telithe Slusher - Feb. 8, 1800, Mar. 26, 1875 (wife of Jacob)
 Jacob M. Slusher - June 17, 1854 - Oct. 25, 1857
 Mary M. Slusher, Nov. 10, 1839 - Aug. 10, 1853
 John B. T. Slusher, April 17, 1853 - June 3, 1853.
 Andrew T. Slusher, Aug. 26, 1853 - Dec. 7, 1903
 Sarah I. Slusher - Sept. 22, 1821, Nov. 24, 1904
 Florida I. Snead, Oct. 6, 1864 - Oct. 4, 1887
 Hampton A. Lester, Oct. 9, 1882 - Dec. 11, 1884
 Louanna E. Fayne, Aug. 16, 1881 - Oct. 27, 1945
 Samuel W. Slusher, Apr. 17, 1880 - Oct. 29, 1932
 Son of E. P. & L. E. Fain, Jan. 18, 1909, died in infancy.
 Sarah J., wife of M. F. Slusher, Feb. 22, 1855 - Dec. 4, 1891
 M. F. Slusher, Mar. 15, 1856 - June 4, 1899
 Mary E., wife of J. B. Hylton, Apr. 26, 1843 - Feb. 11, 1917
 John B. Hylton, Jr. Apr. 1, 1846 - Aug. 11, 1892
 J. B. Slusher, Apr. 4, 1851 - Apr. 14, 1921
 Lillie A. Slusher - May 8, 1872 - Jan. 30, 1891

The following are from the Old Topeco Cemetery, located 1/2-mile beyond Topeco Church (West) on Rt. 221, Floyd County.

Delilah F., Dau. of J. C. & Christena Weddle, Apr. 2, 1872 - Dec. 24, 1879
 Elizabeth Howell, Feb. 14, 1803 - Mar. 18, 1813.
 Daniel Howell, Aug. 11, 1798 - Mar. 30, 1880
 Margaret Hylton, died May 9, 1865, 64 yr. 2 mo. 18 d.

(cont'd)

Elizabeth A. Hylton, died April 7,
1865, 22 yr. & 10 mo.
Catharine Hylton, Mar. 9, 1784,
Sept. 26, 1863
Joel Hylton, Oct. 20, 187- - Jan.
30, 1872
Darius Hylton, died Oct. 19, 1855,
age 3 mo. 4 d.
Archelaus Hylton, April 13, 1779 -
Dec. 10, 1865.
Abraham Harmon, July 6, 1833 -
Sept. 21, 1855
Jabe Harmon, Jan. 1, 1832 - Mar.
2, 1862.
Jacob Harmon, Aug. 11, 1769 - Mar.
12, 18(43 or 48)
Annie Harmon, wife of Jacob, age
(too faint to read)
Landon Quesenberry, Sept. 11, 1860,
Jan. 15, 1862.
Eden D. Harmon, May 26, 1878 - Feb.
1, 1879
William Hancock - Nov. 6, 1841
Nathan E. Gath(i?)cole, July 26,
1867, May 14, 1916
Emeline Dobbins, died Dec. 23, 1900,
age 53 yrs.

East View Cemetery, approximately 6
miles South of Floyd Court House:

Mildredge A. Slusher, b: 1861 d:
Oct. 26, 1945
Juredia Hollinsworth Slusher b: 1863
d: April 5, 1937
Mary Ellen Slusher b: July 9, 1887
- June 23, 1966.

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Here is a rather interesting
article from a magazine called "Farm-
land" published twice a month by
Farmland Industries, Inc. 3315 N.
Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, Mo. It
was sent to us by Mrs. Ben Slusher,
Lexington, Mo. It is entitled:

"Jottings from a European Journey"

"One of the farms we visited in
this area east of the Rhine was at
Winterschied, not far from the Auto-
bahn between Cologne and Frankfurt.
It provided a good illustration of
what is taking place in German agri-
culture. The active farmer is Mar-
tin Schlosser, 32 years old, who has
68 acres, mostly in pasture. He
milks 31 cows and is quite disap-

pointed that he is unable to find
additional land for expansion. The
Schlosser farm is one of four in a
community where there were twelve in
1960. Schlosser sells his raw milk
through a cooperative.

If neighboring land were avail-
able, Schlosser said, he would have
to pay about \$1200 an acre if he
bought it, and about \$50 if he rented.
This would be high priced pasture in
the United States. Schlosser is
considered to be on the borderline,
- between expanding and cutting unit
costs or quitting and finding a job
in industry." (August 1971)

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The following is a deed for a
piece of land Peter Slosser bought
from Conrad Ringer called "Content-
ment" in Washington County, Md.

"At the request of Peter Slosser the
following deed was Recorded Dec.
1, 1786 To wit

This indenture made this first day
of Decr. Anno Domini seventeen hun-
dred and eighty six between Conrad
Ringer of Washington County and State
of Maryland of the one part and
Peter Slosser of the State and Coun-
ty aforesaid of the other part Wit-
nesseth that the said Conrad Ringer
doth for the consideration of the
sum of eighty pounds to him in hand
paid or secured to be paid by the
said Peter Slosser before the enseal-
ing and delivery of these presents
the receipt whereof he doth hereby
acknowledge and thereof and of every
part and parcel thereof doth fully
clearly and absolutely acquit exon-
erate and discharge the said Peter
Slosser his heirs executors and ad-
ministrators by these presents hath
granted bargained and sold aliened
and confirm unto the said
Peter Slosser his heirs and assigns
all that part of a tract of land
called Contentment lying and being
in the County aforesaid Beginning
at the Beginning tree of a tract of
land called stoney Ridge and run-
ning thence east twenty-eight per-
ches north twenty three degrees east

one hundred perch north seventy three degrees west thirty perches north forty eight degrees west fourteen perches north eighty two degrees west twenty two perches south thirty three degrees and thirty minutes east thirty six perches east seven perches then with a straight line to the beginning Containing four acres and a half of an acre of Land more or less Together with all and Singular the premises and appurtenances belonging or in any manner of ways appertaining TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said parcel of Land with all and singular the premises herein mentioned and intended to be hereby granted with the appurtenances thereto belonging unto the said Peter Slusser his heirs and assigns forever to the only use and behoof of him the said Peter Slosser his heirs and assigns forever and the said Conrad Ringer for himself and his heirs the said part of parcel of land all and singular the premises with the appurtenances unto him the said Peter Slosser his heirs and assigns and against any other person or persons whatsoever claiming or to claim from by or under him the said Conrad Ringer and his heirs shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents and the said Conrad Ringer and his heirs shall and will from time to time hereafter at the request of and at the proper cost and charge in the law of him the said Peter Slosser his heirs or assigns make do or execute or cause to be made done or executed all and every such further and other act or acts devise or devises assurance or assurances whatsoever requisite in the premises for the better and more suremaking of the bargained premises unto him the said Peter Slosser his heirs and assigns forever by it by of these presents or by any other Lawfull means as by him the said Peter Slosser his heirs or assigns or his or their council learned in the law shall be reasonably advised devised or required In WITNESS whereof the said Conrad Ringer hath here unto set his hand and seal this day and year first above written. Signed, sealed and Delivered in presents of

And^w Bruce
Joseph Chapline
His
Conrad (C) Ringer
Mark (Seal)

At the foot of the same deed was the following wrote - to wit Washington County Sct. On the first Day of Decr 1786 came before us the subscribers two Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid W. Conrad Ringer and acknowledged the above Instrument of writing to be his act & deed and the land and premises above mentioned to be the right and estate of the above named Peter Slosser his heirs and assigns forever at the same time came Elizabeth wife to the said Conrad Ringer and acknowledged her right of Dower to the above mentioned land and premises and said that she did the same with her own free good will without being compelled thereto by any threat of her said husband or fear of gaining his displeasure acknowledged before

It was signed by the same two witnesses and then Conrad Ringer said he has received the eighty pounds for the land.

You know perfectly well there wasn't the slightest excuse for all those words just to buy 4¹/₂ acres of land! And that must have been the crookedest piece of land that that anyone ever surveyed - at least the description of it sounds like it.

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We don't want to hear one single person forgot the Reunion. Not one! Anyone who forgot to pay their dues may do so by sending \$2.00 to Mr. Freeman Slusher, Rt. 3, Box 18, Floyd, Va. The new dues year begins in July. Would anyone else like to take over the writing of this Newsletter? It's become rather difficult for us since we have to go bum a mimeo machine each time!