

Paternal Ancestors  
of  
Sarah Mann Dodder  
1835-1916

by

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Boulder, Colorado

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Janice L. McCarty. You're the best research buddy and third cousin ever. None of the discoveries described here could have found the light of day without the help of your curiosity, intelligence, and wit.

Thanks to Herr Herbert Meyer, the author of *Die Familien – Chronik Södel*. His work helped us to find our way home.

## Notice

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## Introduction

The maternal side of my great-grandmother's Michigan family descends from Jacob Struble Dodder (1830-1903) and his wife Sarah Mann (1835-1916), both of whom were born in Sussex County, New Jersey, and died in Argentine, Genesee, Michigan. A good deal of information was handed down to me about the Dodder family<sup>1</sup>, but nothing whatsoever was recorded about the Mann family. So began a research journey that has resulted in discovering five previous generations of the Mann family, all of which were previously unknown to us up to this point.

This, then, is the story of a German family's journey to pre-Revolution America, how they arrived first in Philadelphia, then part of the British colony of Pennsylvania. As the American Revolution unfolded, the family moved up the Delaware River to Sussex County, New Jersey where they provided supplies to the Continental Army of George Washington. Then in the 1830s, just as the Erie Canal was completed, the family migrated west, settling in Macomb and Oakland counties in Michigan. So it was that several generations of the Mann families helped to pioneer a new country that would become in such large part shaped by their German heritage.

## A Word About German Surnames

One of the biggest challenges in tracing the Mann family in particular was determining the origins of the surname. Mann could be an English, German, or Dutch, so how could we know? Many of the families coming to Michigan from Sussex County, New Jersey were of German origin, but even suspecting that, tracking the Mann surname proved to be difficult. As we slowly started to accumulate documentation, however, we started to notice the occasional mention of the surname Man and then Mange, Mangen, Menge, or Mengen. At first, we thought these were spelling mistakes, without realizing or even suspecting that perhaps the Mann surname was an Anglicized version of some other surname altogether. As it would turn out, that was exactly case.

It appears that the Mann family name in America evolved from the original German name of Menge probably as a result of how English-speaking people heard a German-speaking person pronounce the name. Menge was probably spoken as two syllables, something like MAYN-guh, with the emphasis on the first syllable. In fact, the second syllable probably fell off fairly quickly as an English-speaker likely hardly heard it. That left a syllable that sounded like "Man", and in fact, in some early documents, the spelling was exactly that. [fn EM's will]. However, I think the family meant to keep its German roots by adding back the second N to the spelling. Why? Because the translation of the English word "man" into German is "Mann."

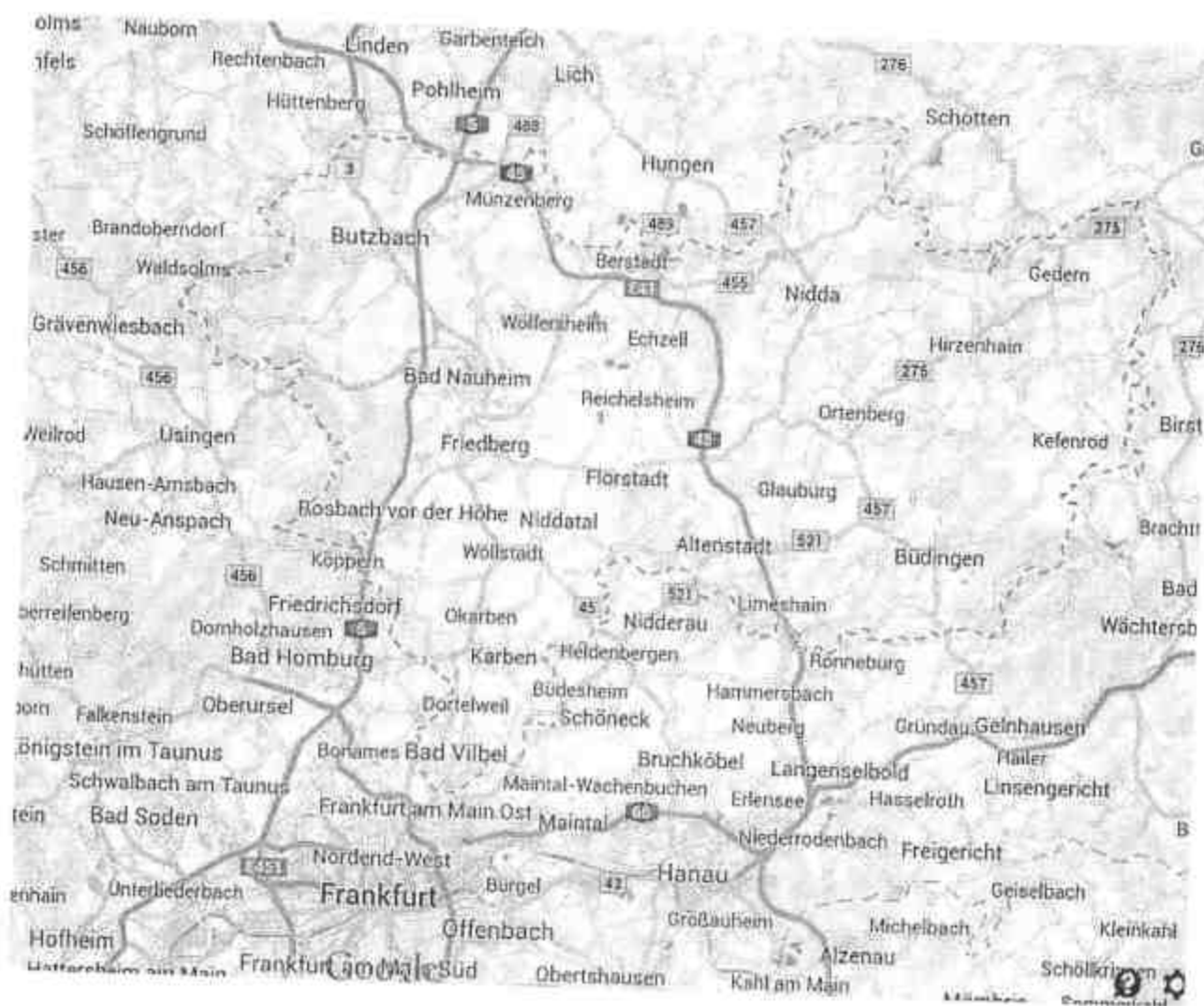
<insert Sarah Mann pedigree chart>

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<sup>1</sup> The Dodder Family Record, self-published by Edith Gillespie.

## The Menge Families in Germany

First, let's look at where the Menge families lived before the emigration to America. Here is a map showing the current district of Wetteraukreis, which was formed in 1972 when the two districts of Friedberg and Büdingen were merged. The district is located between the Taunus mountains and the Vogelsberg volcanic mountain. The main rivers of the district are the Nidda River and the Wetter River.



In this map, you can see the village of Wölfersheim highlighted. Here is an enlargement of that area:

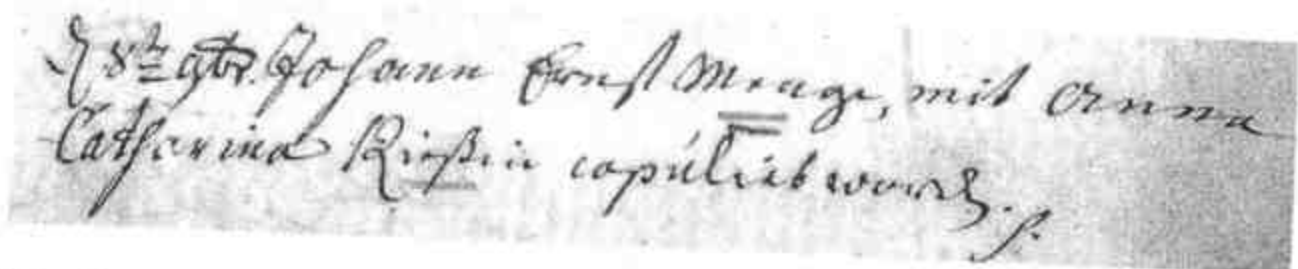


Here you can see the neighboring village of Södel. This is the place where the Menge family lived in the days before some of them decided to start the journey to America.

## Generation 1: Johann Ernst Menge & Anna Catharina Riess

Johann Ernst Menge was the son of Balthasar Menge and his wife Elisabetha. He was born in Södel in 1681, one of at least 11 children. In 1709, Johann Ernst married Anna Catharina Riess, the daughter of Johann Clemens Riess and Anna Margareth Kleberger. This was the second Menge-Riess marriage in the same families to occur. In 1695, Johann Ernst's older brother Johann Henrich Menge had married Anna Catharina's older sister, Anna Dorothea Riess.

Here is the record of the marriage of Johann Ernst Menge and Anna Catharina Riess:










1709. Johann Ernst Menge, mit Anna  
Catharina Riess in copuliert worden.

Johann Ernst and Anna Catharina had 8 children that we know of, shown in the following family group sheet. Johann Ernst Menge was a church elder of the local Lutheran (Evangelisch) church.

Anna Catharina died in 1753, and her husband died in 1760, both in Södel.

<insert fgs for Joh. Ernst>

## Family Group Sheet for Johann Ernst MENGE

<b>Husband:</b>		Johann Ernst MENGE
	Birth:	20 Mar 1681 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Death:	13 Jan 1760 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Marriage:	08 Nov 1709 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Father:	Balthasar MENGE
	Mother:	Elisabetha (MENGE)
<b>Wife:</b>		Anna Catharina RIEß
	Birth:	01 Dec 1690 in Soedel, Hessen, Germany
	Death:	12 Jun 1753 in Soedel, Hessen, Germany
	Father:	Johann Clemens RIEß
	Mother:	Anna Margerth KLEBERGER
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Male Menge
M	Birth:	15 Oct 1710 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Death:	08 May 1712 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
2	Name:	Johann Georg Menge
M	Birth:	27 Mar 1713 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Death:	19 Dec 1775 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Marriage:	15 Jan 1739 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Spouse:	Elisabetha Catharina Finger
3	Name:	Johann Henrich Menge
M	Birth:	14 Oct 1715 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Death:	Apr 1773 ; based on prove date on will of 8 Apr 1773
	Marriage:	04 May 1747 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
	Spouse:	Anna Margretha Dittmar
4	Name:	Anna Margaretha Menge
F	Birth:	25 Apr 1718
		
5	Name:	Anna Elisabetha Menge
F	Birth:	23 Jun 1721
		
6	Name:	Johannes Menge
M	Birth:	13 Sep 1722
	Death:	12 May 1790 in Northern Liberties, Pennsylvania
	Marriage:	03 Jul 1767 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania
	Spouse:	Anna Catharina Wolf
	Other Spouses:	Euphronica Kress (15 Feb 1759 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania)
7	Name:	Johann Caspar Menge
M	Birth:	03 Aug 1727 in Sodel, Hessen, Germany
		

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8	Name	Ernst Christian MENGE
M	Birth	Abt. 1732 in Wolfersheim, Hessen, Germany
	Death	Apr 1813 in Oxford Twp, Sussex, New Jersey
	Marriage	05 Aug 1766 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania
	Spouse	Maria "Mary" Magdalena SUMMERS
	Other Spouses	Catharina Klockner (07 Oct 1759 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania)



## The Journey To America

It might not be hard to imagine what prompted the emigration of some Menge family to America. Ernst's mother had just died, and Ernst's father was over 70 years old. My understanding is that the rule of primogeniture had long ago been introduced in Hesse, meaning that the firstborn male child would inherit the family estate. In the case of our Menge family, Johann Georg would inherit the family lands, leaving 6 younger children to find their own way. Add to that the beginnings of what would be called the Seven Years' War, which started in 1754. All the major European powers, including Great Britain, France, Spain, Austria, and Prussia were all in a struggle for power. If the young men in the Menge family remained in Europe, they would likely have to become soldiers in one army or another.

For these reasons and maybe others, in the summer of 1754, three sons of Johann Ernst Menge and Anna Catharina Riess, namely Henrich, Johannes, and Ernst Christian Menge, and possibly one or more daughters (maybe Anna Margaretha), started the emigration journey. Here is a description that tells how the journey probably started:

The trip down the Rhine River from the Palatinate to Rotterdam sometimes lasted for several weeks, much of the time being spent in complying with the regulations of the various German principalities which existed along that great river valley through which they were obliged to pass. They were normally delayed in Rotterdam for several weeks more, and again at one of the English ports (usually Liverpool) where the ships stopped to pick up English immigrant passengers.

The sailing time for crossing the Atlantic from England to Philadelphia was from eight to sixteen weeks! Ships usually left in early summer to take advantage of calmer seas and balmy weather over the North Atlantic.

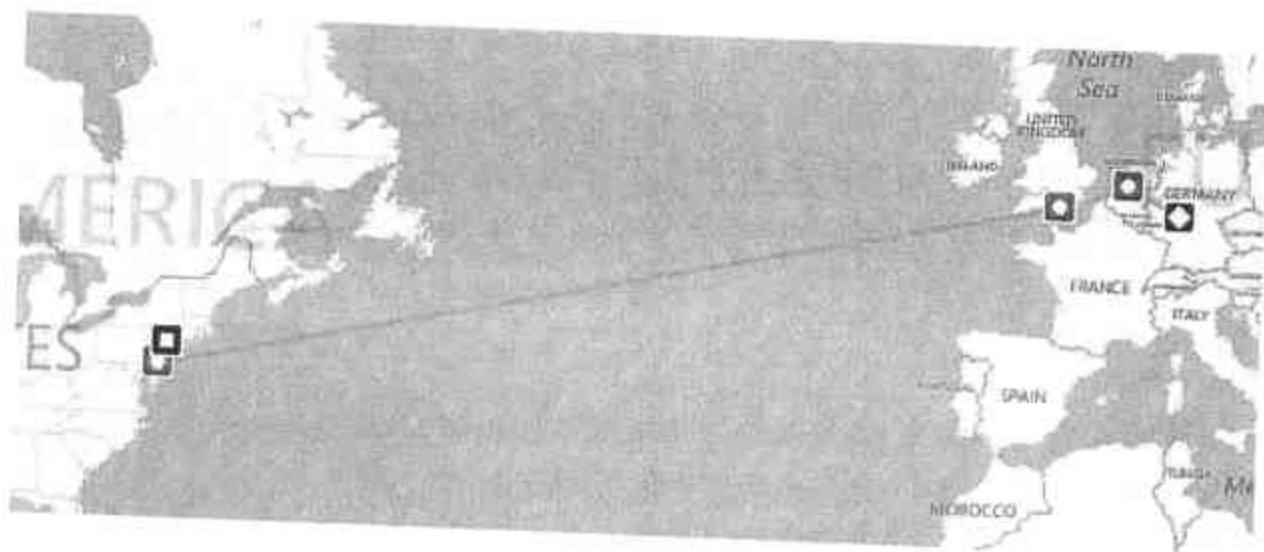
Conditions on board the ships were usually horrible, with many passengers sick and dying. As many as 150 to 400 passengers were stuffed into the hold spaces of these small ships. Rarely was there sufficient food for the trip. Starvation and death stalked amidst stench, vermin, and filth. "Ship fever" (typhus), dysentery, smallpox, and scurvy ravaged the passengers. Many vessels were lost at sea in storms<sup>2</sup>.

What we know for sure is that Captain James Russell sailed the ship *Edinburgh* from Rotterdam, stopping in Cowes, England, and arriving in Philadelphia on September 30, 1754. The names of Ernst and Johannes Menge were on the passenger list, while the name of Henrich appeared but was crossed out (we believe this might have happened because he was sick and could not take the oath of allegiance at the same time as other passengers).

The following maps show the basic route of the journey to America.

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<sup>2</sup> *Souls for Sale: Two German Redemptioners Come to Revolutionary America* by John Frederick Whitehead, Johann Carl Buttner, Susan E. Klepp and Farley Grubb (2006)



## Generation 2: Ernst Christian Menge & Maria Magdalena Sommer

Ernst Christian Menge<sup>3</sup> was born around 1732, probably in Södel, Germany, the youngest child of Johann Ernst Menge and Anna Catharina Riess. We have not been able to find his birth record, but he is recorded as the godfather of his brother Georg's twin sons, both of whom died almost immediately after birth in 1748.

Ernst was 22 years old when he arrived with his brothers in Philadelphia in 1754. Not long after arrival, his name started to appear in the records of the St. Michael's & Zion Lutheran Church in Philadelphia. He is recorded attending several Lord's Supper's, which was a requirement for becoming naturalized as a British citizen. Before taking the oath to become a citizen of Great Britain, an immigrant had to live in the colony for 7 years and could not leave the area during that time for longer than 2 months, and the immigrant had to produce Court Certificates that he or she had taken the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in a Protestant or Reformed church within the last 3 months. For this reason, there are several records showing attendance at Lord's Supper's!

In 1759, when Ernst was 27 years old, he married Catharina Klockner, a 32-year-old widow with as many as 9 children. Why would a young man marry a woman with so many children who were not his own? I believe it might have been because Catharina's first husband, Johann Georg Ernst, had been a tavern-keeper. It seems likely that Ernst Menge took over the tavern when he married the widow.

Ernst and Catharina had two more children, daughters. The first one died in infancy, and within weeks of the birth of the second daughter, Catharina herself died early in 1766. Ernst then had a business and quite a number of children to take care of, so he remarried before the end of the year to a 17-year-old immigrant named Maria Magdalena Sommer. Maria (or Mary as she would become known), not only became step-mother to a number of children, but over the next 25 years, she and Ernst had at least 8 more children (see the following Family Group Sheet).

In 1775, Ernst's father-in-law purchased 414 acres of land on Scott's Mountain near Oxford Furnace in Sussex county, New Jersey. Shortly thereafter, in May, 1776 – just before the Declaration of Independence and the start of the American Revolution - Earnest Man (his Anglicized name) made a petition to run a "house of entertainment" in Oxford, citing his previous experience running a tavern in Philadelphia.








Here is a map showing the movement of the family to New Jersey. It's most likely that the family traveled up the Delaware River from Philadelphia. The highlight shows the course of the river.

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<sup>3</sup> We believe his full name was Johann Ernst Christian Menge, and that he might have been named for Johann Ernst Christian Kreuter, who was probably his godfather.



# Family Group Sheet for Ernst Christian MENGE

<b>Husband:</b>		Ernst Christian MENGE
Birth:	Abt. 1732 in Wolfersheim, Hessen, Germany	
Death:	Apr 1813 in Oxford Twp, Sussex, New Jersey	
Marriage:	05 Aug 1766 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	
Father:	Johann Ernst MENGE	
Mother:	Anna Catharina RIEB	
Other Spouses:	Catharina Klockner (07 Oct 1759 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania)	
<b>Wife:</b>		Maria "Mary" Magdalena SUMMERS
Birth:	11 Feb 1749 in Freistett, Offenburg Baden, Germany	
Death:	Abt. 1816 in Sussex, New Jersey	
Father:	Johann Georg SOMMER	
Mother:	Anna Barbara RUB	
<b>Children:</b>		
1 F 	Name:	Salome "Sarah" Mann
	Birth:	01 Oct 1766 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
	Death:	Bef. Jul 1818 in New Jersey
	Spouse:	Nathaniel Oliver
2 M 	Name:	Johann Georg Mann
	Birth:	23 Jan 1771 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
	Death:	08 Sep 1772 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
3 M 	Name:	Ernest MANN
	Birth:	10 Jun 1773 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania
	Death:	14 May 1846 in Lockport, Niagara, New York
	Spouse:	Catharine CRUTS
4 F 	Name:	Mary "Jane" Mann
	Birth:	1774 in New Jersey
	Death:	28 Jun 1851 in New Jersey
	Marriage:	27 Oct 1795 in Sussex County, New Jersey
	Spouse:	Joseph Kitchen
5 M 	Name:	Johannes "John" Mann
	Birth:	06 Mar 1776 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania
	Spouse:	Agnes (Mann)
	Other Spouses:	Mary (Mann)
6 F 	Name:	Anna Mann
	Birth:	08 Oct 1781 in New Jersey
	Death:	Bef. 1860 in Pennsylvania
	Spouse:	James Picker
7 M 	Name:	Peter Mann
	Birth:	Abt. 1790 in New Jersey
	Marriage:	15 Apr 1810
	Spouse:	Mary Hummer

8 M ♂	Name:	David Mann
	Birth:	28 Nov 1791 in New Jersey
	Death:	02 Feb 1868 in Northampton County, Pennsylvania
	Spouse:	Sarah Allison
9 F ♀	Name:	Anna Veronica Menge
	Birth:	18 Jan 1761 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
	Death:	26 Jan 1761 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
10 F ♀	Name:	Catharina Menge
	Birth:	12 Jan 1766 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
	Death:	Bef. 1804
	Marriage:	17 Jul 1788 in Greenwich, Sussex, New Jersey
	Spouse:	Heinrich "Henry" Wandling

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The highlight in this map shows the location of Oxford township in New Jersey, which lies on the east side of the Delaware River (Pennsylvania is on the west side of the river).



Oxford must have been a bustling place in 1776 and in the ensuing years of war with the British. Built up around the Oxford Furnace, one of the first producers of iron ore, Oxford was thought to have supplied Washington's troops with equipment. Indeed, in December of 1776, Washington would cross the Delaware River at Trenton and defeat a Hessian (German) army of 1400 (Hessians were recruited by and incorporated into the British army). What was going on in the mind and heart of my German ancestor in his tavern in Oxford? We know that Ernest Man served as a juror in several sedition trials, and he provided supplies to the Continental Army of General George Washington. Ernest Man was claiming himself to be an American.

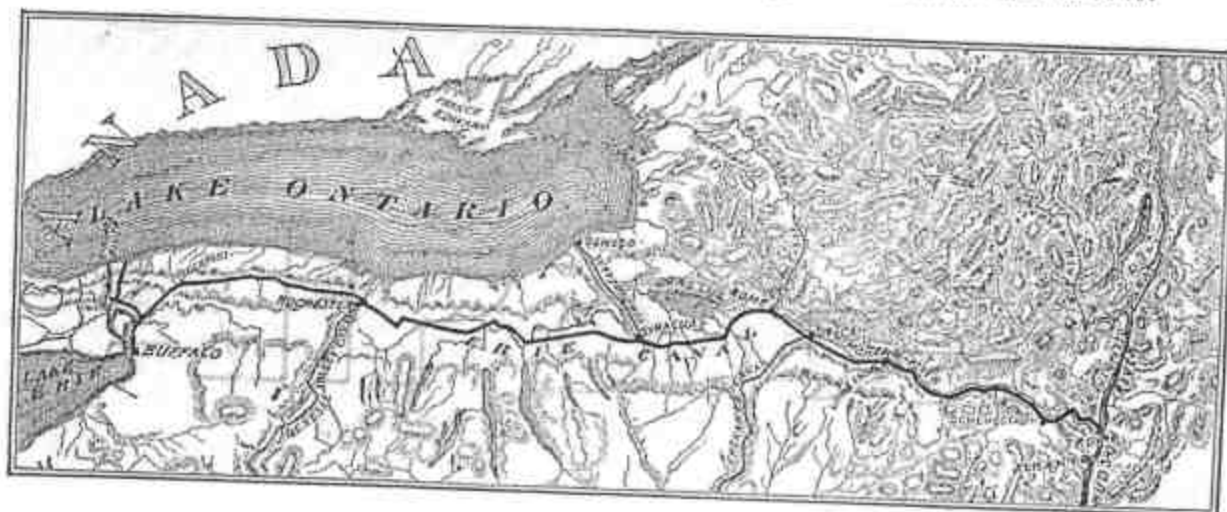
In 1783, Ernst purchased 210 acres of land in Oxford township, and in 1785 after the death of his father-in-law, George Summers, Ernst and Mary also inherited part of those lands. Ernst continued to buy and sell property until his death in April, 1813. Johann Ernst Christian Menge, who had started his life in Södel, Germany, the son of a church elder who worked as a stocking weaver and then crossed the ocean with his brothers, never to return again. In the course of his life in America, he married two women, fathered and adopted probably a score of children, became a tavern keeper, and then farmer who gave aid and support to the American Revolution, and finally died over the age of 80 with quite a sizable estate of his own in Oxford Township, New Jersey. Johann Ernst Christian Menge to Earnest Man. What a life. What a rich and wonderful life.....

### Generation 3: Earnest Mann & Catharina Cruts

Earnest Mann was baptized at the St. Michael's & Zion Lutheran Church in Philadelphia on June 20 1773, then the oldest son<sup>4</sup> of Ernst Christian Menge and Maria Magdalena Sommer. We don't have any other record of this Earnest Mann until possibly in 1793, when a Earnest Mann is recorded as serving with the New Jersey militia.<sup>5</sup>

In 1797, Earnest married Catharina Cruts, the daughter of Andreas and Maria Barbara Crutz. Over the next 20 years, Earnest and Catharina had 10 children together.

This Earnest Mann was involved in his local community: he was a trustee of the Scott's Mountain Presbyterian Church, a Justice of the Peace, and a supporter of the Delaware and Raritan Canal in 1828. In fact, I believe Earnest was very interested in the opportunities that became available with the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825. This canal, which was an engineering feat, covered 363 miles from the Hudson River to Buffalo, New York. Here is a map showing the route of the canal in 1840.











This canal made transportation to the west easier and more economical, especially since the roads west of the Allegheny Mountains were slow and Indians often attacked settlers who traveled that way. In addition, the territory of Michigan needed to attract more population in order to apply for statehood, and so they were offering land at \$1.25 per acre. Thousands of settlers saw new opportunity by moving west, and Earnest Mann was one of them. Having sold all his property in New Jersey, Earnest Mann is recorded buying over 100 acres of land in Macomb county, Michigan in 1836. He was 63 years old.









<sup>4</sup> A previous son, Johann Georg Menge, was born in 1771, but died in 1772.

<sup>5</sup> Ernest Man, Sr. would have been 63 years old in 1793, while Ernest Jr. would have been 20 years old. It seems more likely that the younger of the two served with the militia.



# Family Group Sheet for Earnest MANN

<b>Husband:</b>		Earnest MANN	
	Birth:	10 Jun 1773 in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	
	Death:	14 May 1846 in Lockport, Niagara, New York	
	Father:	Ernst Christian MENGE	
	Mother:	Maria "Mary" Magdalena SUMMERS	
<b>Wife:</b>		Catharine CRUTS	
	Birth:	Abt. 1774 in Pennsylvania	
	Death:	08 Dec 1845 in Washington, Macomb, Michigan	
	Father:	Andreas GROTZ	
	Mother:	Maria Barbara (Grotz)	
<b>Children:</b>			
1 M	Name:	George D Mann	
	Birth:	25 Dec 1797 in Pennsylvania; data per family bible birth records; note that transcription of gravestone says age at death was 84, which would make birth 1794; which of course could be an error.	
	Death:	18 Mar 1878 in Oakland County, Michigan	
	Spouse:	Sarah Kinney	
2 F	Name:	Mary Mann	
	Birth:	30 Nov 1799 in New Jersey; date per family bible birth records	
	Death:	15 Mar 1874 in New Jersey; burial Summerfield Methodist Cemetery, Oxford, Warren, NJ	
	Spouse:	John Cline	
3 F	Name:	Anna Mann	
	Birth:	08 Sep 1801 in New Jersey; date per family bible birth records	
	Death:	20 Nov 1880 in Macomb County, Michigan; burial Mt Vernon cemetery, but no stone	
	Spouse:	Lebbeus Lockwood	
4 F	Name:	Elizabeth Mann	
	Birth:	20 Nov 1803 in New Jersey; date per family bible birth records	
	Death:	20 Nov 1830 - date per family bible death records	
5 F	Name:	Catherine Mann	
	Birth:	31 May 1806 in New Jersey; date per family bible birth records	
	Death:	12 Apr 1894 in Oakland, Oakland, Michigan; per Michigan Deaths 1867-1897 on familysearch.org	
	Spouse:	John L Lambertson	
6 M	Name:	Ernest MANN	
	Birth:	22 Jul 1808 in Sussex County, New Jersey	
	Death:	15 Jun 1890 in Oakland County, Michigan	
	Marriage:	10 Jan 1833 in Warren, New Jersey	
	Spouse:	Margaret RUSH	
	Other Spouses:	Sarah Maria Huffman	

7 F 	Name:	Rachel Summers Mann	
	Birth:	24 Mar 1810 in New Jersey; date per family bible birth records; a little illegible though...	
	Death:	15 Sep 1894 in New Jersey; burial Summerfield Methodist Cemetery, Oxford, NJ	
	Spouse:	Elisha Beers	
8 F 	Name:	Sarah Mann	
	Birth:	19 Aug 1812 in Warren County, New Jersey; date per family bible birth records	
	Death:	20 Jan 1876 in Oakland, Oakland, Michigan; per biography sketch attached to Historical Records for Christian Cole	
	Marriage:	28 Jan 1836 in Oxford, Warren, New Jersey; per New Jersey Marriage Records attached	
	Spouse:	Christopher Cole	
9 M 	Name:	John Mann	
	Birth:	22 Dec 1814 in New Jersey; date per gravestone; also family bible birth records	
	Death:	16 Mar 1885 in Washington, Macomb, Michigan; per gravestone	
	Spouse:	Elizabeth H Pickle	
	Other Spouses:	Catherine A (Mann)	
10 F 	Name:	Rebecca Mann	
	Birth:	09 Mar 1817 in Warren County, New Jersey; date per family bible birth records	
	Death:	01 Jul 1900 in Oakland, Michigan; burial Lakeville Cemetery; per death cert	
	Spouse:	George B Lambertson	

Using the Erie Canal and then a steam ship on Lake Erie, here is the route that the Mann family probably followed to Michigan.



Earnest Mann wrote his will in Michigan on May 7, 1846 shortly before a trip back to New Jersey to visit those of his children who had remained behind. On the way there, he died in an accident in Lockport, New York, one of the places along the Erie Canal. According to the newspaper account, he was crushed to death.

In trying to understand what happened to Earnest, we must first think about how people traveled along the Erie Canal in what were called packet boats, which looked something like this:



*Erie Canal Packet Boat, 1840s Era*

Here is one account of traveling conditions that might explain what happened to Earnest Mann:

"The Bridges on the Canal are very low, particularly the old ones. Indeed they are so low as to scarcely allow the baggage to clear, and in some cases actually rubbing against it. Every Bridge makes us bend double if seated on anything, and in many cases you have to lie on your back. The Man at the helm gives the word to the passengers: 'Bridge,' 'very low Bridge,' 'the lowest in the Canal,' as the case may be. Some serious accidents have happened for want of caution. A young English Woman met with her death a short time since, she having fallen asleep with her head upon a box, had her head crushed to pieces.<sup>6</sup>

Earnest Mann, born in 1773 in Philadelphia to German immigrant parents – before America was even a country – met his end traveling through one of the most important engineering feats of that time (or maybe since). In his 70s, his wife had recently died, and half his children in Michigan, the other half in New Jersey. Caught in the middle of a rapidly changing world, one can imagine that he died painfully and alone. But like his father, this Earnest Mann also had a vision to improve himself and his family in the New World, and he lived his life fully in that pursuit.

Earnest Mann was buried with his wife Catharine at Mt. Vernon Cemetery in Washington, Macomb, Michigan:



<sup>6</sup> Traveling the Erie Canal, 1836, <http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/eriecanal.htm>.

**Generation 4: Ernest Mann & Margaret Rush**

Ernest Mann was born in 1808 in Sussex county, New Jersey. He was the second son of Earnest Mann and Catharina Cruets. In 1833, he married Margaret Rush and just before the migration to Michigan, their oldest child, Sarah Mann was born. Ernest Mann and Margaret Rush had 9 more children in Michigan.

Ernest Mann bought a land patent for 90 acres in Oakland County, Michigan in 1837, and several of his siblings also bought property and lived nearby. In 1843, Ernest donated one acre of his land to the public for use as a cemetery. It's possible that Ernest might also have owned some horses because he was listed as a member of an association called the Lakeville Society for the Detection of Horse Thieves. In a similar occupation, Ernest was also a civilian deputy associated with Leonard Davis who was the constable for Addison township.

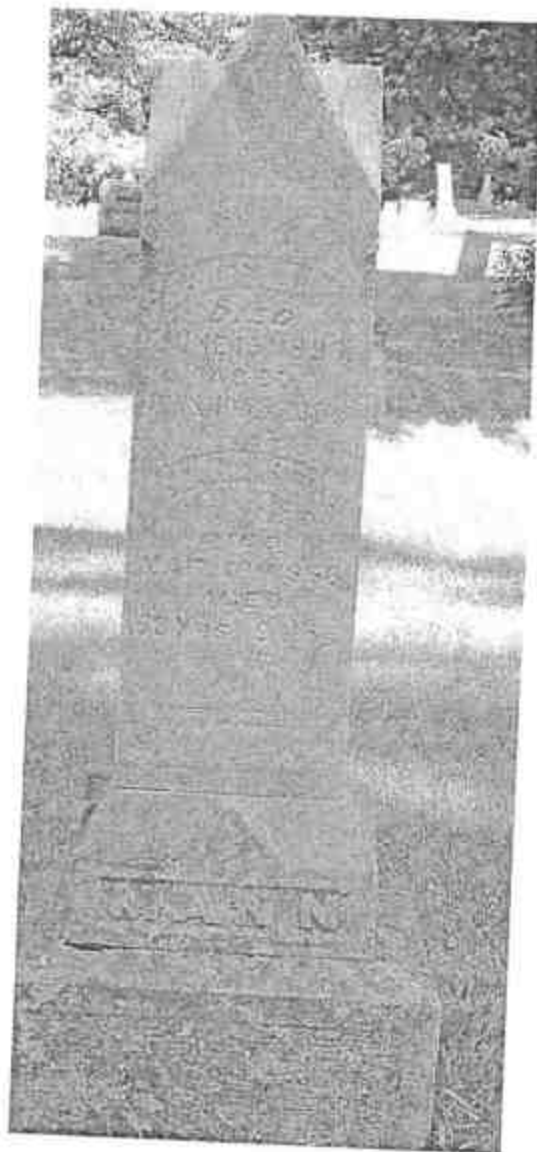
Here is plat map of Addison township where the Mann families lived:

1837	1838	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862	1863	1864	1865	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2443	2444	2445	2446	2447	2448	2449	2450	2451	2452	2453	2454	2455	2456	2457	2458	2459	2460	2461	2462	2463	2464	2465	2466	2467	2468	2469	2470	2471	2472	2473	2474	2475	2476	2477	2478	2479	2480	2481	2482	2483	2484	2485	2486	2487	2488	2489	2490	2491	2492	2493	2494	2495	2496	2497	2498	2499	2500	2501	2502	2503	2504	2505	2506	2507	2508	2509	2510	2511	2512	2513	2514	2515	2516	2517	2518	2519	2520	2521	2522	2523	2524	2525	2526	2527	2528	2529	2530	2531	2532	2533	2534	2535	2536	2537	2538	2539	2540	2541	2542	2543	2544	2545	2546	2547	2548	2549	2550	2551	2552	2553	2554	2555	2556	2557	2558	2559	2560	2561	2562	2563	2564	2565	2566	2567	2568	2569	2570	2571	2572	2573	2574	2575	2576	2577	2578	2579	2580	2581	2582	2583	2584	2585	2586	2587	2588	2589	2590	2591	2592	2593	2594	2595	2596	2597	2598	2599	2600	2601	2602	2603	2604	2605	2606	2607	2608	2609	2610	2611	2612	2613	2614	2615	2616	2617	2618	2619	2620	2621	2622	2623	2624	2625	2626	2627	2628	2629	2630	2631	2632	2633	2634	2635	2636	2637	2638	2639	2640	2641	2642	2643	2644	2645	2646	2647	2648	2649	2650	2651	2652	2653	2654	2655	2656	2657	2658	2659	2660	2661	2662	2663	2664	2665	2666	2667	2668	2669	2670	2671	2672	2673	2674	2675	2676	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681	2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689	2690	2691	2692	2693	2694	2695	2696	2697	2698	2699	2700	2701	2702	2703	2704	2705	2706	2707	2708	2709	2710	2711	2712	2713	2714	2715	2716	2717	2718	2719	2720	2721	2722	2723	2724	2725	2726	2727	2728	2729	2730	2731	2732	2733	2734	2735	2736	2737	2738	2739	2740	2741	2742	2743	2744	2745	2746	2747	2748	2749	2750	2751	2752	2753	2754	2755	2756	2757	2758	2759	2760	2761	2762	2763	2764	2765	2766	2767	2768	2769	2770	2771	2772	2773	2774	2775	2776	2777	2778	2779	2780	2781	2782	2783	2784	2785	2786	2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794	2795	2796	2797	2798	2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	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The map above also shows the land of Peter Dodder, whose son Jacob Dodder would marry Ernest's daughter Sarah in 1854, but three years later a financial collapse in the country caused unexpected hardships for the pioneer families. Then in 1861, the American Civil War – also known as the War Between the States – started, and Ernest's son Jacob R. Mann enlisted with the Michigan Cavalry. Jacob was taken as a prisoner of war, but survived to return to Michigan, and start a family of his own.







Margaret Rush Mann died in 1866, and shortly thereafter, Ernest returned to New Jersey for a visit, and there married Sarah Maria Huffman in 1868. She was also widowed, and as it would turn out, after Sarah moved back to Michigan with Ernest, her youngest son from her first marriage would end up marrying one of Ernest's daughters!

Toward the end of his life, this Ernest Mann apparently struggled with some form of dementia, because from 1878 until his death in 1890, he was twice declared by the court to be incompetent to handle his own affairs. However, like his father and grandfather, he lived a long life – he was 81 years old when he died. He apparently died without a will, and his properties were divided between his children's families. He is buried in Lakeville Cemetery, which was the land that he had donated for such purpose.





# Family Group Sheet for Ernest MANN

<b>Husband:</b>		Ernest MANN
	Birth:	22 Jul 1808 in Sussex County, New Jersey
	Death:	15 Jun 1890 in Oakland County, Michigan
	Marriage:	10 Jan 1833 in Warren, New Jersey
	Father:	Earnest MANN
	Mother:	Catharine CRUTS
	Other Spouses:	Sarah Maria Huffman
<b>Wife:</b>		Margaret RUSH
	Birth:	1813 in Montana Mountain, Sussex, New Jersey
	Death:	19 Mar 1866 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan
	Father:	Jacob J RUSH
	Mother:	Rachel DEREMER
<b>Children:</b>		
1 F 	Name:	Sarah MANN
	Birth:	28 Sep 1835 in Montana Mountain, Warren, New Jersey
	Death:	11 Jan 1916 in Argentina, Genesee, Michigan
	Marriage:	27 Sep 1854 in Holly, Oakland, Michigan
	Spouse:	Jacob Struble DODDER
2 F 	Name:	Catherine Mann
	Birth:	14 Jan 1837 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA
	Death:	03 Nov 1909 in Davison, Michigan, per death cert
	Marriage:	18 Feb 1856 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA; married by Rev Samuel G Black
	Spouse:	Elijah Jones Brokaw
	Other Spouses:	Milo N Miller
3 F 	Name:	Rebecca Ann Mann
	Birth:	1839 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA
	Death:	09 Feb 1881 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA; couple buried Lot #23, Lakeville Cemetery, Lakeville, MI
	Marriage:	09 Apr 1861 in Michigan; per Oakland Co Marriage Book "F", page 140
	Spouse:	John L Campbell
4 M 	Name:	Jacob R Mann
	Birth:	30 Aug 1841 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA
	Death:	16 May 1918 in Brandon, Oakland, Michigan; burial Seymour Lake Cemetery
	Marriage:	20 Mar 1877 in Independence, Oakland, Michigan; from Oakland Co Marriage Book #1, p. 227, record #3274
	Spouse:	Ellen M Adams
5 M 	Name:	Hiram F Mann
	Birth:	Oct 1844 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan
	Death:	02 Nov 1919 in Genesee, Michigan; see death cert (web link)
	Marriage:	27 May 1866 in Oakland County, Michigan; per Oakland Co Marriage Book "G", p 120
	Spouse:	Caroline Taylor
6 M 	Name:	George F Mann
	Birth:	Jan 1848 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA
	Death:	05 Feb 1848 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA

7 F 99	Name:	Lucy Ellen Mann
	Birth:	26 Aug 1849 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA; per gravestone
	Death:	28 Jan 1926 in Lansing, Ingham, Michigan; burial Woodlawn Cemetery in Clio, DC incorrectly states (I think) states father as Jacob Mann
	Marriage:	26 Jan 1868 in Orion, Oakland County, Michigan
	Spouse:	Hiram F Taylor
8 F 99	Name:	Margaret Elizabeth Mann
	Birth:	03 Sep 1853 in Lakeville, Oakland, Michigan
	Death:	31 Oct 1912 in Poplar Bluff, Butler, Missouri
	Spouse:	Silas S Cowell
9 F 99	Name:	Frances Emma Mann
	Birth:	22 Jan 1855 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA
	Death:	23 Jun 1928 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan, USA; burial Lakeville Cemetery, Lakeville, Oakland, MI; per findagrave
	Marriage:	1875
	Spouse:	Jacob Cowell
10 F 99	Name:	Ada Martha Mann
	Birth:	07 Apr 1858 in Addison, Oakland, Michigan
	Death:	24 Oct 1946 in Owendale, Huron, Michigan; DC incorrectly (I think) states father as Hiram Mann
	Spouse:	Henry C Wales

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## Generation 5: Jacob Struble Dodder and Sarah Mann

Sarah Mann, the oldest child from a long line of Ernest Mann's, was born in 1835 on Scott's Mountain in what was then Warren county<sup>7</sup>, New Jersey. As a small child, she moved to Michigan with her family, and in 1854 when she was barely 19 years old, she married Jacob Struble Dodder and they moved to Genesee County in Michigan. Over the next 20 years, Jacob and Sarah had 10 children.



*Wedding Photo of Jacob Struble Dodder and Sarah Mann*

Maybe the best account of her life was printed in the newspaper, the *Flint Daily Journal*, after her death in 1916. It read:

"Mrs. Sarah Dodder, widow of the late Jacob Dodder of Argentine township passed out of this life at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Judson, January 11, 1916, at age 82.

She was born in New Jersey and at the age of two came with her parents to Lakeville, spending her girlhood there and marrying Mr. Dodder. In 1854 they came to Argentine to make their future dwelling place, and succeeded in building up one of the finest farm homes in the county.

Of the children born to their union, the eldest passed away in infancy, another in early manhood. Those remaining are Mrs. Alpha (Frances) Fields, Mrs. Edward (Annie) Smith, Mrs. George (Genevieve) Judson, and Mrs. William (Abi) Gillespie. Arnold, Morgan, Nye, and Ernest are the sons surviving their mother.

<sup>7</sup> Parts of Sussex County became the new Warren County in 1824.

She was a mother in the true sense of the term, which implies so much. She was always patient and untiring in her efforts to make a comfortable and happy home for her large family. She was of domestic tastes and virtues, a lover of the fields and flowers, of the golden grain and lowing herds. She was ambitious to do for herself and family and always ready to lend a helping hand to others less fortunate.

Mrs. Dodder was a great reader of books and literature and had read the Detroit Free Press about 70 years. She was one of the pioneers left in this vicinity, having passed the four-score milestone, and she, like others of her time and class, helped to convert the wilderness into a garden.

She occupied her farm home until a few years ago, when unfortunately her home with its contents, including a wonderful library, burned to the ground, thereby separating her from the environment in which she had been so long accustomed. Destroyed were the many heirlooms and relics of the olden time that she had so treasured and carefully guarded.

And then, though compelled to change her dwelling place to her daughter's home, where loving hands and faithful hearts were ready and anxious to ease her burdens and relieve her of all responsibilities, yet she would plead for work to do, and in the late evening of her well spent life, she enjoyed cultivating the flowers that she loved so well."



The loss of all the Mann family heirlooms perhaps explains why almost nothing about the Mann family was passed down to the following generations. How we wish we had more pictures and stories about their pioneering lives. And yet, with the help of another curious cousin, we have now have pieced together fragments that tells some of the story of our proud German ancestors. I dedicate their story to future generations who might find a piece of themselves in the spirit of those who came before.