

Appendices

This section consists of vital records sources, as well as supporting information (such as complete wills, and chains of land titles) too lengthy for inclusion in the biographical accounts. The source records include copies of Bible/family records, as well as contents of family-tree charts, which contain much of the vital records information included in the accounts of older members of the William, Thomas and Matthias Raser branches. All appendix items which were included in the earlier *Raser and Allied Families* (except for the transmittal letters related to that publication) are included here—with their original record-ID-number shown in the title list below in square brackets.

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X-1 Discovering the Raser German Connection

I have yet to find a record in America which points in any direct way to the origin of the Raser family in Europe. Certain family traditions seemed to provide some clues, but they all have proven to be misleading and erroneous. The mystery of where the family came from was solved by indirect means, coupled with a stroke of luck.

According to one family tradition (see Appendix X-15), the progenitor of the family was "Matthias Reser of Zweibroeken (Alsace-Lorraine). [He] married a French countess who with her family was Huguenot and fled from France across the border into Germany, thence to America. Matthias was given a plot of land [on] Germantown Avenue. He had a tannery on the rear of the lot."

Another tradition, communicated orally to the writer in the 1950s, claimed that the immigrant Raser was among the early settlers of Germantown Pa., and was closely associated with Daniel Pastorius. Pastorius came to America in 1683, leading a group of settlers from the region of Frankfurt, Germany. They were joined less than two months later by a second group, mostly Quakers, from Crefeld, Germany. Having arrived late in the season, they were forced to pass the winter in cave homes dug for the purpose (1). The immigrant Raser was supposed to have been among these cave dwellers.

In 1947, while working for General Electric in Philadelphia on second shift, I did extensive daytime research in the Philadelphia County courthouse and in nearby historical society libraries. Many early records were found for the Philadelphia area, but none mentioned anyone with a name resembling Raser/Reser during Germantown's first forty or so years. The name Matthias did appear in the Raser family, but not until after 1750. Baltes Reser, father of this Matthias, operated a tannery, but that was years after his father, Bernhard Reser, had settled in Germantown. As to the French countess, this appears to be confused tradition which has somehow been brought in from the Pfister side of the family.

The earliest Raser record of interest was a deed, dated 27 January 1726/7, by which Bernhard Reser, baker of Germantown, acquired 77 3/4 acres of land in the easterly part of Germantown. Deeds covering additional purchases soon followed, and his name appeared frequently in records thereafter. In a list of the landholders of Philadelphia County in 1734, he appears as Bernhard Reeser, Germantown, with 80 acres (2). In the same list is one John George Reezer, Creesam [Cresheim Twp., late part of Germantown], with 27 acres. Neither this man nor probable sons appeared in the Philadelphia County courthouse records which I examined. Years later an authority on Germantown land records told me that this Reezer reference was a misreading of a totally different surname.

In 1961, when I published the original account of John Bernhard Reser, I made the following speculation: "While no records of Bernhard Reser appear before 1727, it is possible that he had lived in Germantown some years before that date. However, in 1740 his son Baltes was naturalized under a law which prohibited persons of foreign birth from owning land in Pennsylvania unless they became subjects of Great Britain (3). Baltes Reser married in 1743, and since it was most common to marry in the 25 to 30 year age bracket, it can be assumed that he was born in Europe probably between 1710 and 1720. It therefore seems unlikely that the family could have been in Germantown much before 1720, or had much association with Daniel Pastorius, who died about that same year. Considering the various facts, it is most probable that Bernhard Reser was the immigrant ancestor of the Raser family, and that he came to America with his wife and one or more children a year or two either side of 1725."

Further, "Bernhard Reser was born probably between 1675-90 in the Rhine Valley of Germany. He was probably christened John Bernhard, but he rarely ever used his first name. Except for its appearance in one document (4), his full name might have gone unknown. Between 1710-20 he married one Anna Elizabeth, whose maiden name has not been discovered. They commenced to raise a family, and had one or more children before events led them to America. Bernhard was called a baker in the first American records; it is likely that he had already been established in that trade in the old country." Research years later was to show that this speculation, except for the Rhine Valley origins, was essentially correct.

Long before writing John Bernhard Reser's biographical account I had noticed the frequent appearance of certain persons names in family legal documents (deeds and wills), or as associates in community activities. At the end of the above mentioned account I added the following comments: "In searching the early records, it has been noticed that a

great many of Bernhard Reser's associates were in the leather trades. A possibility exists that many of these persons had come from the same region of Germany, and had even been associates there. Knowledge of their region of origin might provide a clue to Bernhard Reser's ancestral home. The possibility also exists that the association with leather trades came about only after Bernhard came to America ... Not knowing where the probability actually lies, the following list of associates is provided should any reader later wish to search for some earlier acquaintanceship in Germany." I then provided short descriptions of eight of Bernhard's leather-trade associates at the end of the *original* published version of his biographical account.

Having other interesting ancestral investigations to pursue, I moved on to other research. In April 1965, through a genealogical correspondent in Texas, I was able to obtain the help of Dr. Karl Friedrich von Frank of Austria, who was probably the best genealogist in Europe at that time. Knowing, from twenty years of American research, the problems in record searching, and facing the language barrier in continental European records, I decided to make maximum use of this opportunity. Working with Dr. von Frank, I gave him all I knew on the Raser, Heyl and Pfister origins, and commissioned him to undertake searches. I soon extended this work to my wife's Babakin and Berendts ancestry. By 1971 tremendous progress had been made on my wife's ancestry, and on the Heyl and related Ziegler lines. But the Raser and Pfister origins still remained undiscovered. Up to this point I could not provide Dr. von Frank with meaningful suggestions on which areas in Germany to search for the Raser/Reser family—a name which could stem from various spelling variants found in many places throughout that country.

I therefore resurrected my 1961 thoughts on the possible German origins of the family, and inserted the following query in the March 1971 issue of *The Genealogical Helper* (Vol. 25, p. 88), which was the national genealogical query publication at that time:

"Desr European background and migration data on fol[lowing] tanners, saddlers or shoemakers of Germantown, Pa. prior to 1740: John ZACHARY (ZACHARIAS), John LEGROM, John Theobald END(T), John Krafft RESTINE (RICHSTEIN), John REID, Nathan THOMAS, Michael STREITS and John JONES; also of John NAEGLEY, John WISTER, Blasius Daniel MACKINET and Abraham KINTZING bef 1730."

The first eight names were from my 1961 list; the remainder were non-leather-trade associates who the Rasers might have known earlier in Europe.

I received two replies to this query—one of no help on the Reid family, but another of great impact. Donald J. Martin, Jr., of Babb, Montana, replied in a letter dated 19 April 1971: "It is quite possible that your lines of ZACHARIAS, END, and RICHSTEIN go back to the Evangelical-Reformed Church of Elsoff, Kreis Wittgenstein (Berleburg), Westfalen, Germany, as these surnames are found in that parish in the 1600s ... Many early German settlers to Pennsylvania came from Wittgenstein."

In my reply of 24 April I stated: "As soon as I read your letter I realized it had a familiar ring. Berleburg sounded like something I had heard in the Rubincam family, so I searched my library and came up with the following in *The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* (PGM), 22:107:

"[Pastor Johann Philipp Rübenkam] and his family moved westward, taking up their exile at Berleburg, on the Eder River, in the little neighboring state of Sayn-Wittgenstein-Berleburg, [where Pastor Rübenkam] died and was buried [in] 1725.

"Margaretha Catharina (Sartorius) Rübenkam [his widow] remained in Berleburg with her children for well over a year after her husband's death. Then in the fall of 1726 with the children she joined a group of Wittgenstein emigrants going to Rotterdam, whence they sailed for England and finally for America. They landed in Philadelphia 2 December 1726."

Since John Bernhard Reser's son Baltes later married a granddaughter of Pastor Rübenkam, and John Bernhard appeared in Germantown less than two months after the arrival of the Wittgenstein emigrants, the possibility that Bernhard had come with this group was too great to ignore. The PGM article, which was published in 1961, contained a footnote indicating that Donald F. Durnbaugh, Instructor in History, Juniata College, Huntington, Pa., had provided the 1726 migration information to Milton Rubincam, author of the article, in 1959.

Intrigued by the possibility that Mr. Durnbaugh might be able to provide more on the Wittgenstein emigrants, I acted at once to locate him. I soon tracked him down to the Bethany Theological Seminary in Oak Brook, Ill., where I was able to reach him by telephone. Mr. Durnbaugh indicated he was very familiar with Wittgenstein and, in fact, was starting to pack for a two-year sabbatical in Germany which would include that place. Since he was a willing listener, I gave him my thoughts on John Bernhard Reser. He indicated that the Wittgenstein reference had undoubtedly come from his library, and he promised to see what he might be able to find, provided the pertinent books had not already been packed!

After almost a month had gone by without a reply, and as my hopes were beginning to wane, the following letter dated 25 June 1971 arrived from Mr. Durnbaugh.

* * *

Dear Mr. Raser:

This is in response to your recent call about your family history.

I find in an article by Karl Hartnack, "Schwarzenau an der Eder als Zufluchtsort Religionsverfolgert," *Archiv für Sippenforschung und Wappenkunde*, XVII (1940), the following reference to your family:

Röser (Reser), Johannes, 1713; 1726 mit seinem Sohn Bernhard nach America ausgewandert.

(Trans. Röser (Reser), John, 1713 [listed in Schwarzenau residence]; emigrated to America with his son Bernhard in 1726.)

In a list of inhabitants of 1722 Johannes Röser is mentioned as living with Blasius Daniel Mackinet. Mackinet is known as a resident of Germantown later. In the same list there is a separate mention of Bernhard Reser.

You will find material on Mackinet in the book by Thomas Ebaugh, *Ancestors of George McNett and Susan Armentrout* (New Orleans, 1961).

* * *

Although Mr. Durnbaugh's letter was silent on the Wittgenstein emigrant group, its two brief items left no doubt that the German hometown origins of our Raser family had at last been found! I immediately communicated this information to Donald Martin and Dr. von Frank, asking them to search for further facts. In short order Mr. Martin examined microfilm copies of the Elsoff church registers and found the christenings (see Apdx. X-2) of three of John Bernhard's children (most significantly, that of Johann Balthazar—Baltes—in 1720), while Dr. von Frank had the Wittgenstein Archives examined and found the various records which provide much of what we currently know of the Röser's situation in Schwarzenau back to 1713.

Edward J. Raser

X-2 Baptismal Records for Children of John Bernhard Röser (A-2)

These records were first discovered in 1971 by Donald J. Martin, Jr., of Babb, Montana, in the records of the Evangelical-Reformed Church of Elsoff, Kreis Wittgenstein (Berleburg), Westfalen, Germany. He sent a translation to Edward J. Raser on 7 November 1972, which was used as a basis for appendix XC-1 in the author's initial Raser genealogy. When contacting Mr. Martin again in 2005 (now of El Dorado, Kansas), he informed me that Jochen Karl Mehldau of Karlsruhe, Germany, had been doing extensive research of Wittgenstein records for some years, and advised me to contact him. On 16 August 2005 I received a reply in German from Mr. Mehldau containing his findings for John Bernhard Röser. The translation below was made by Mr. Martin for the author. I have retained the umlaut-o spelling of the name in the original record, which would otherwise translate to Roeser.

Appendices

With regard to the second paragraph, Gustav Schneider erred in stating Bernhard wished to sell his baker house to Michael Schuler. The author has a photocopy of Bernhard's petition, which clearly identifies a Michael *Schultze* as the buyer. See Appendix X-3 for a translation of the complete petition.

The Translation

Generation 1

Bernhard Röser, a baker at Schwarzenau, was possibly born there about 1690. He appears in the church records of Berleburg in 1724 as a sponsor at the baptism of a child of H. Hesse, and again in 1725 as a sponsor at the baptism of a child of the baker M. Gmelin. He appears in the church records of Elsoff in 1724 as a sponsor at the baptism of a child of J. Greber, and, again in that same year, as a sponsor at the baptism of — Pfeiffer.

On 14 Mar 1725 he appears in a civil record [Reference: Wittgenstein castle archives at Laasphe under the call number W 62 II] according to the research of Gustav Schneider, when he wants to give up his bakery since he is unable to serve, and his house should be sold to Michael Schuler, grocer at Schwarzenau.

Bernhard married, before 1720, Anna Elisabeth, whose maiden name has yet to be found. She was probably born about 1695. They were the parents of the following children:

Generation 2

- 1) Johann Balthasar Röser, born at Schwarzenau and baptized 27 November 1720. Reference: Elsoff Evangelical-Reformed Church baptismal records for 1720, page 169, entry #6. Sponsor at the baptism was Valentin Bätzel, court lay assessor [tax] from Dotzlar.
- 2) Henrich Christian Röser, born at Schwarzenau, and baptized 26 August 1722. Reference: Elsoff Evangelical-Reformed Church baptismal records for 1722, page 174, entry #11. Sponsor at the baptism was Henrich Christian Sander, Rentmeister [bursar] at Wittgenstein.
- 2) Sophie Margarete Christine Röser, born at Schwarzenau, and baptized 23 October 1724. Reference: Elsoff Evangelical-Reformed Church baptismal records for 1724, page 183, entry #5. Sponsors: August Pfeiffer; Sophie Elisabeth Wiedersprecher, chamber maid at Schwarzenau and single; Margarethe Elisabeth and —berger [illegible].

X-3 Preparations to Emigrate to America

The following two items are translations by Dr. Karl Friedrich von Frank of two documents found in late-1971 in the Archives of the Princes von Sayn-Wittgenstein. The author has photostats of the actual documents, from which smoother translations possibly could be made.

(1) Petition of Johann Bernhard Röser (A-2) to Sell his Baker House – 1725

Archives of the Princes von Sayn-Wittgenstein
Castle Wittgenstein
Sig. W 62 II.

On the 14th of March, 1725

Highborn Count of the Empire, gracious Count and Lord!

Since I know very well that without the consent by Your Highcountly Excellency, none of your subjects is allowed, to sell some of his real estate or houses, or to give them away without having got your gracious consent to do that, nor another one to buy them, especially at these times, when many people are wanting to emigrate from this country, and since in

these hard times, when there is only small or no profit at all with baking, I am forced to sell my baker house standing at the bridge in Schwartzenu and the chandler Michael Schultze has already decided to buy it from me, as a matter of fact, he really bought it already for 115 Reichsthalers, on the supposition that I will get your gracious consent. I not only am duly announcing this selling of my house, but I am at the same time submissesst asking for your gracious consent, and to tell me what my obligations for this deal will be to the gracious Lordship, and I am willing and obliged to pay it. But otherwise, I am looking forward to the gracious Lordship's resolution, remaining

Your High-County Excellency most obedient servant
Johann Bernhard Röser of Schwartzenu

(2) Permission for Johannes Röser (A-1) to Sell his Property – 1726

Archives of the Princes von Sayn-Wittgenstein
Castle Wittgenstein
Sig. C2.

Since Johannes Röser wants to leave the land and to emigrate to the island of Pennsylvania, and has settled everything with Us in order, he submissesst made the petition to allow him the selling of his property at Schwartzenu; and by special grace we gave the respective permit, but with the restriction, that it should not prejudice Our protest of the year 1720 concerning the new building, and should not cause any disadvantage, which we are going to attest herewith.

Wittgenstein, on the 8th of January, 1726
A(ugustus) G(raf) V(on) W(ittgenstein) U(nd) B(erleburg)

X-4 Bernard Raser (A-9) Family Record

This record is written in ink on a single sheet of ribbed paper, 5 in. by 8 in. Circumstances strongly suggest that it was sent to Charles Hitchcock early in 1892, at the same time that John Heyl Vincent drafted a family tree chart of Miller, Raser and Vincent descendants, labeled "For Charlie." The ink and handwriting style are essentially identical on both documents, and both contain the "Bernardo Raser" anomaly. The chart was drawn on ribbed-paper of identical ribbing, but also containing the watermark "Old/Berkshire/Mills/1890." However, successive watermarks could have been sufficiently separated so as to be missed on the small family record sheet.

From comparison with known correspondence, almost all of the family record was written by John Heyl Vincent, son of Mary (Raser) Vincent (A-13), in his easy-flowing handwriting style. The format of the records is three vital-records statements, each followed by a short separation line, then followed by the list of six children. The notes to the right of the list of children were, for William and Mary Raser, written by John H. Vincent, while the notes for Thomas and John Bernard Raser were written by Mattie (Raser) Hitchcock (T-2). The sheet was given by George B. Raser III to Edward J. Raser on 19 February 1970.

Why Bernard's name is written clearly as Bernardo in uncertain, but it may have arisen when John H. Vincent copied this record from an older source—in which the tail of Bernard's name may have had a loop which was misconstrued to be an "o". Bernard's death entry was belatedly inserted in this record by John H. Vincent (it is squeezed in above the previously-written separation line), which suggests it was not in the original record—and which may explain in part why the death year (1805) is incorrect.

The record appears to be a composite of information from several sources. All of the pre-1825 dates may have come from the "large Family Bible" mentioned in Mary (Heyl) Raser's will, and which she bequeathed to her daughter, Mary (Raser) Vincent. This thought is strengthened by the lack of Mary Raser's death date. All other information was acquired later, including the statement that Bernard Raser was "son of Baltus & Mary." By the 1890s, when this record was probably written, copies of the marriage certificate of Baltus and Mary Lucken were already circulating in the family, and the assumption was being made that Mary Lucken was Bernard's mother.

Appendices

The Record

Baltus Reser and Mary Lucken were married at Friends' Meeting in Germantown A.D. 1743.
Bernardo Raser son of Baltus & Mary was born Aug. 10, 1764. Died at Batavia, Island of Java, Mar. 25, 1805.
Mary Heyl wife of Bernardo Raser was born July 22, 1765.

The children of Bernardo & Mary Heyl Raser were:

1. William Raser	Born Mar. 23, 1791 Died Jan. 3, 1833	Father of John H. Raser " " Ann Eliza Raser
2. Thomas Raser	Born Aug. 26, 1793 Died Dec. 8, 1857	My Father Martha Heyl Raser
3. Catherine Raser	Born Aug. 10, 1795 Died May 3, 1796	
4. John Bernard Raser	B. July 26, 1798 D. Aug. 15, 1825	Mary Eliza Barry
5. George Raser	Born Apl. 7, 1801 Died Aug. 8, 1826	
6. Mary Raser	Born July 31, 1803 Died Feby. 16, 1852	My Mother John H. Vincent

X-5 William Raser (W-1) Bible Record

The records are contained in an old leather-covered Bible 8 1/2 in. wide by 10 1/2 in. high by 2 1/2 in. thick. The Old Testament bears the imprint "New York: /Published and Sold by Daniel D. Smith, /at the Franklin Juvenile Book and Stationary Store, No. 190 Greenwich Street, /Also by the principal Booksellers in the United States. /1822." The New Testament section is dated 1821.

The records are inscribed in the usual Family Record section. All entries for events dated 1828 and earlier appear to have been made at the same time by William Raser in his excellent handwriting. The remaining items appear to be contemporary entries made by others.

On the flyleaf in the front of the Bible is written: "John H. Raser, and Ann Eliza Raser, has agreed to exchange, she preferd taken the Bible & he the 3 Vols Music." There are no other entries inscribed in the Bible; however, a slip of paper in the Bible bears the note: "Dear Prentice, In looking over the books this house cleaning I came across this old Bible with the old family names recorded. I send it to you as I know you will value it. Yours truly, L. Buzby."

Comparison with handwriting in old letters leaves no doubt that the flyleaf entry was made by John Heyl (1775–1849) of Philadelphia. It seems likely that the Bible originally was acquired by William Raser and was in Alabama at the time of his death. It probably was sent to Philadelphia to John Heyl, guardian of John Heyl Raser (W-2), about 1836. Following the exchange it probably went to Chillisquaque, Pa., about 1840.

The whereabouts of the Bible after the death of Ann Eliza Raser in 1852 is unknown. It seems unlikely it soon reverted to John Heyl Raser, since the Bible only lists the death dates of his children, and the age of son Leonard at death is incorrect. However, he appears to have received it later in life, and possessed it at the time of his death, as Louisa Buzby, sister of Helen Thorp, his second wife, passed it on to his son George Prentice Raser (W-9) sometime after 1901. It subsequently came into the possession of Charles Linnaeus Raser (W-11). Several years after his decease his daughter, Helen Hull Raser, presented the Bible to its present owner, Edward John Raser.

The Bible bears a water stain on the front cover. The Bible was partially soaked during an accidental basement flooding in 1964, in which the Amand Pfister Raser Bible—which oddly enough contained no recorded entries—was

Our Raser Family

destroyed beyond saving. Considering its travels, it is surprising that the 1822 Bible has survived. The following copy of the records was made from the original by Edward J. Raser on 15 April 1965. Page 3 of the Bible, reserved for birth records, contains no entries.

[page 1]

FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

William Raser to Miss Amanda S. Pfister Demopolis 3rd April 1821
John H. Raser to Miss Cylinda S. Stoughton August 10 1847 at Milton, Pa.

[page 2]

BIRTHS.

William Raser born in Phila. 23rd March A.D. 1791
Amanda Susan Pfister born Nassau, New Providence 21st January A.D. 1801
Mary Amanda Raser born in Mobile, Alabama 19th March A.D. 1822
John Heyl Raser born at Live Oak lodge near Mobile, Alabama the 30th August A.D. 1824
Ann Eliza Raser born in Mobile, Alabama, 30th October A.D. 1826

[page 4]

DEATHS.

Mary Amanda Raser Died in Mobile 16th June 1823 aged 1 Year 2 Months 28 days
Amanda Susan Raser Died at Bellemont Springs Mississippi 8th September 1828 Aged 27 years 7 months 18 days
William Raser Died at Mobile Alabama January 3rd 1833 aged 41 years 9 months and 11 days
Ann Eliza Raser Died at Chilisquaque Penna. February 14th 1852 in great peace and triumph aged 25 years 3 months 14 days 12 hours
Leonard Stoughton Raser died at Milton Jan. 28th 1850 aged 3 mo. 23 days
Thomas Raser died at Reading Pa. May 2nd 1875 aged 17 years 3 mo. and 2 days
Cylinda Stoughton Raser at Reading Feb. 17, 1879 aged 50 years & 10 month 23 days

X-6 John Heyl Raser (W-2) Family Record

The records are contained in a thin black notebook, 2 1/2 in. wide and 5 1/4 in. high. The cover is imprinted "Compliments of W. A. McNulty/Olyphant, Pa." The notebook originally was owned by George Prentice Raser (W-9), who made all of the entries. The notebook was retrieved by Edward John Raser at the distribution of G. P. Raser's personal effects in Reading, Pa., in 1954.

A majority of the records (including all of the birth records) were entered in the notebook at the same time in ink. Without doubt they were copied from another record—possibly John Heyl Raser's family Bible—which so far has not been found. A number of pencilled additions and corrections were made later. The corrections are probably ones Prentice made to agree with a five-generation list compiled by his brother Linnie in 1945. Most deaths also are recorded in pencil. In the copy below *all pencil entries* appear in italics. This copy was made from the original by Edward J. Raser on 16 April 1965.

The birth of Armand [*sic*] Pfister Raser was recorded initially in the notebook as 9 June 1854, but subsequently was "corrected" to 4 March. While Pfister Raser in adult years celebrated 4 March as his birthday, Prentice Raser always contended that the date was wrong. An 1854 letter written by Amand P. Pfister to John Heyl Raser refers to the latter's letter of 9 June 1854 in which he was informed of a child being named in his honor. Similar letters written to other namesakes of John Heyl Raser's children are known to have been written on the child's day of birth. 9 June 1854 undoubtedly is the correct birth date, strengthening the belief that the *original* source of these records was compiled on a contemporary basis.

Appendices

The Records

[page 2]

John Heyl Raser born at Mobile, Ala. Aug. 30th 1824 son of *Wm. Raser* and *Amanda Pfister*. Died at Williamsport Pa. Dec. 1901

Cylinda Stoughton born at Milton, Pa. April 24 [28]th 1828 daughter of Leonard Stoughton and *Eliza Seydel*. Died at Reading Pa. Feby 17 [15]th 1879

Married by Rev. Jas. Williams at *Milton, Pa.* John Heyl Raser to Cylinda Stoughton Aug. 10th 1847

[page 3]

Born to John Heyl Raser & Cylinda Stoughton Raser

Wm Heyl Raser born July 14 1848 at Milton Penna. Died in N.Y. City July 1, 1941 Age 93 yrs. 11 mo. 14 days.

Leonard Stoughton Raser born Nov. 5th 1849 at Milton, Pa. Died at Milton, Pa. Jany 28th 1850 *Age abt 3 months*

John Bernard Raser born Dec 7th 1850 at Milton, Pa. *Died Feby 13th 1939 at Reading Pa. Age 88 yr. 2 mo. 5 days*

Oliver Burbank Raser born June 30th 1852 at Reading Pa. *Died Mch 20th 1933 at Portland Oregon Age 81 yrs. 9 months*

Armand Pfister Raser born June 9th [Mch. 4th] 1854 at Reading, Pa. *Died Oct 5th 1937 at Trenton, N.J. Age 83 yrs. 10 mo.*

Celeste Stoughton Raser born Feby 29th 1856 at Reading, Pa. *Died at Williamsport Pa. May 3rd 1937 at 3.30 A.M. Age 81 yrs. 2 mo. 7 days*

Thomas Raser born Jany 31st 1858 at Reading, Pa. Died at Reading May 2nd 1875 *17 yrs. 3 mo 9 [sic] days* Concussion of brain due to diving against rock in River

[page 4]

Born to John Heyl Raser and Cylinda Stoughton Raser continued.

George Prentice Raser *the elder by 20 minutes* and Seydel Stoughton Raser (twins) Sept. 8th 1861 at Reading, Pa. (twenty minutes apart). Seydel Died of Locor Ataxia at Phila. Pa. Aug. 13th 1921 *Age abt 60 years*

Chas. Linnaeus Raser born Nov. 10th 1867 at Reading, Pa.

[page 7]

Deaths

Mrs. John B. Raser nee Kate E. Weida Died at Reading, Pa. 606 N. 5th St. May 16th 1935

Died June 14th 1943 Josephine Hennesy Raser wife of Wm Heyl Raser New York

Lilla Hull Raser Died 3/10/44 wife of Chas. Linnaeus Raser Washington, D.C.

X-7 Thomas Raser (T-1) Bible Record No. 1

The records are contained in a large Bible 9 1/4 in. wide by 11 1/4 in. high by 2 1/8 in. thick. The title page is imprinted "Philadelphia:/Jesper Harding, No. 57 S. Third St./1851." in capital letters, while the New Testament title page is imprinted "Philadelphia:/Published by Jesper Harding,/ No. 57 South Third Street/ J. Harding, Printer./1851." The Family Record page with Marriages and Births was at one time torn from the Bible; the associated Deaths page is now missing. The Bible contains no loose clippings or other handwritten information of genealogical value.

All records in the Bible dated 1852 and earlier were entered at the same time by Thomas Raser (T-1), as proven by comparison with contemporary handwriting in his receipt book. The marriages of four of Thomas Raser's children (1865-69) appear to have been recorded in 1869, and the last two in 1875—all by Thomas's widow, Elizabeth (Brown) Raser. The births of Martha (Raser) Hitchcock's two sons (1871-73) and the marriages of Annie (Vaughan) Hubbard and Maud (Belnap) Dean were all recorded, possibly about 1894, by Martha ("Mattie") Hitchcock, as proven by comparison with contemporary correspondence. The births of the Belnap (1870-73), Dean (1893) and Fowler children (1904-08), and marriage of Lucy (Belnap) Fowler (1902)—all entered with a purple pencil in 1908 or later—were all recorded by Mattie Hitchcock, who commonly used a purple pencil and whose handwriting had deteriorated by this time.

Our Raser Family

The record groups suggest that the Bible remained in possession of Thomas Raser and his wife for many years, after which it passed to their oldest daughter, Mattie Hitchcock—possibly after Elizabeth Raser's death in early 1894. The Bible likely remained in Mattie Hitchcock's hands until her death in 1923, when it probably was passed on to her nephew, Harry T. Raser (T-10), who had been actively pursuing family history and records since 1916. After Harry's death the Bible passed to his son George B. Raser III, who subsequently willed it to his son, Thomas McKim Raser of Ashtabula, Ohio, the present owner.

The following copy was made from colored xerox copies of the original, provided to the author by Thomas M. Raser in April 1994.

MARRIAGES

Thomas Raser to Amantilda Pfister in Demopolis Ala. on 10th October 1822 by Bazil Meslier Esqr.
Thos. Raser to Elizabeth Knight Brown in Chillisquaque Pa. 30th Septr. 1841, by the Revd. Wm. Hirst
Mary E. Raser to R. V. Vaughan April 10th 1865 at Waterford Pa. by Revd. T. T. Bradford
Martha H. Raser to O. H. Hitchcock May 25th 1868 at Erie Pa. by Revd. Dr. Cane
Sarah D. Raser to J. E. Belnap Feb. 9th 1869 at Erie Pa. by Revd. C. C. Parker
George B. Raser to Hattie Maus Oct. 5th 1869 at Erie Pa. by Revd. C. C. Parker
Annie E. Raser to T. E. Metzgar Jan. 27, 1875
H. A. S. Raser to May Iddings Oct. 20, 1875
Annie K. Vaughan to Walter Hubbard in Ashtabula Ohio [no date]
Maud L. Belnap to A. M. Dean, in Erie April 22, 1891
Lucy T. (or P.?) Belnap to William G. Fowler in Erie, Oct. 25, 1902

BIRTHS

Thomas Raser born 26 Augst. 1793 in Phila. Pa.
Amantilda Pfister 6th July 1805 at Nassau New Providence.
Elizabeth Knight Brown 8 June 1819. Sunbury Pa.
Martha Heyl Raser 4th July 1842. Chillisquaque
Mary Elizabeth Raser 23 Novbr. 1843. Chillisquaque
George Bernard Raser 10 July 1845. Chillise.
Infant Son Thos. G. 1 O'clock A.M. 3 Octr. 1846. Chillisqu.
Hogan Brown Raser 14 Decbr. 1847. Chillisque.
Sarah Davis Raser 15th March 1849. Chillisqu.
Ann Eliza Raser 30th May 1851. Chillisququ.
Henry Alfred Schroeder Raser 16th Decembr. 1852, in Lewisburg Union County Pa.
Charlie D. Hitchcock, in Erie Pa. Feb. 21, 1871.
Gilliat S. Hitchcock, in Erie Pa. June 23, 1873.
Maud L. Belnap in Erie Pa. July 22, 1870.
Annie Knight Belnap in Erie Dec. 8, 1871.
Lucy P. Belnap in Erie Pa. May 2, 1873.
James E. Dean Erie Pa. March 23, 1893.
Newton B. Fowler Wabash Ind. Feb. 1, 1904.
James E. Fowler, Jan. 10, 1908.

X-8 Thomas Raser (T-1) Bible Record No. 2

The records are contained in a large Bible approximately 10 in. wide by 11 1/2 in. high by 4 in. thick, with a brass clasp. The title page is imprinted "Hardings' Royal Quarto Edition./ ... /Philadelphia/ Jesper Harding & Son./1859." While the records refer to the family of Thomas Raser (T-1), all records were entered after his death.

Appendices

All the entries in the Bible of events occurring through February 1869 were entered by Mattie Hitchcock, probably at the same time. The events from October 1869 through 1879 also were made by Mattie Hitchcock, probably at the same time. The 1894 death of Elizabeth K. Raser was recorded by someone currently unknown. The 1926 death entry of Harry A. Raser was made by his daughter Carrie Beth Raser (who frequently printed information as it appears in this entry).

The record groups suggest that the Bible originally belonged to Mattie Hitchcock and were begun in 1869, about a year after her marriage—and possibly soon after she acquired the Bible. Possibly Mattie, who was the family record keeper for many years, kept this as her own Family Bible until she acquired her parent's older Bible after the death of her mother in February 1894. By 1926 the Bible belonged to Mattie's youngest brother Harry, but since none of his children's birth/death events 1882–1911 are recorded, it is uncertain who owned the Bible between 1894–1926. The Bible passed to Harry's daughter Carrie in late 1926, then was given to George B. Raser III in 1975. His widow acquired the Bible in 1978; in 1991 it passed to her daughter, Ruth (Raser) Timbrell of San Francisco, Cal., the present owner.

The following copy was made from a colored xerox copy of the original records, provided to the author by Thomas M. Raser in June 1994. The records originally had been hand-copied by the author at the home of Carrie Beth Raser in Seattle, Wash., during a visit on 20 October 1962.

MARRIAGES

Thomas Raser to Amantilda Pfister in Demopolis Alabama Oct. 10, 1822 by Bazil Meslier Esqr.
Thomas Raser to Elizabeth K. Brown in Chillisquaque Pennsylvania Sept. 30, 1841 by Revd. William Hirst.
Mary E. Raser to Robert V. Vaughan April 10, 1865 at Waterford Pennsylvania by Revd. T. T. Bradford.
Martha H. Raser to Otto H. Hitchcock at Erie Pennsylvania May 25, 1868 by Revd. Dr. Cane.
Sarah D. Raser to James E. Bellnap at Erie Pennsylvania Feb. 9th 1869 by Revd. C. C. Parker
George B. Raser to Hattie Maus at Erie Pennsylvania Oct. 5th 1869 by Revd. C. C. Parker
Annie E. Raser to T. E. Metzgar at Erie Pennsylvania Jan. 27th 1875 by Revd. Mr. Hilliard
Harry A. S. Raser to May W. Iddings Oct. 20th 1875 by Revd. Mr. Reed at Greenfield Mercer Co. Pennsylvania.

BIRTHS

Thomas Raser born Aug. 26, 1793 at Philladelphia Pa.
Amantilda Pfister July 6, 1805 at Nassau New Providence
Elizabeth K. Brown June 8, 1819 at Sunbery Pa.
Martha Heyl Raser July 4, 1842 at Chillisquaque Pa.
Mary Elizabeth Raser Nov. 23, 1843 at Chillisquaque Pa.
George Bernard Raser July 10, 1845 at Chillisquaque Pa.
Thomas Raser Oct. 3, 1846 at Chillisquaque Pa.
Hogan Brown Raser Dec. 14, 1847 at Chillisquaque Pa.
Sarah Davis Raser March 15, 1849 at Chillisquaque Pa.
Annie Eliza Raser May 30, 1851 at Chillisquaque Pa.
Harry Alfred Shroeder Raser Dec. 16, 1852 at Lewisburg Pa.

DEATHS

Thomas Raser died Oct. 4, 1846 aged 15 hours
Thomas Raser died Dec. 8, 1857 at Waterford Pa. aged 64 years 3 months & 13 days. Pneumonia
Hogan Brown Raser died Feb. 17, 1863 aged 15 years 2 months & 3 days. Epileptic convulsions
Mary Elizabeth Vaughan died Oct. 22d 1879 aged 35 years 10 months and 29 days. Morasuus
Elizabeth K. Raser died Feby 5th 1894 aged 74 years 7 months & 28 days, at Erie, Pa. Pneumonia.
Harry Alfred Raser died September 26, 1926 aged 74 years, 8 months and 21 days at Seattle, Washington

X-9 Thomas Matthias Raser (M-12) Family Record

This record was printed using elaborate and different type fonts for each child's record. The information is on a single sheet 8 1/2 inches wide and 13 inches high; it contains only birth dates. The record is believed to have been composed and printed by Thomas Matthias Raser (M-12), who by trade was a printer.

In October 1976 the sheet was owned by Thomas J. Raser, Jr. (M-30) of Hartsdale, N.Y., who permitted the author to make a photocopy. The upper left corner of the sheet had been torn off, so that the first entry is incomplete. Mary Rose Raser (M-24) once said that Thomas Matthias Raser's first child was Edward, which would seem to fill the gap.

Births.

[EDWARD M]ATTHIAS RASER, Born July 9th, A.D. 1842.
THOMAS JEFFERSON RASER, BORN March 22d, A.D. 1844.
Eliza Ross Raser, BORN July 9th, A.D. 1846.
AMELIA RASER, Born August 13th 1848.
Mary Elizabeth Raser, BORN November 12th 1850.
FANNIE RASER, Born September 25th, A.D. 1852.
JOHN GARRISON RASER, Born September 7th, A.D. 1854.
ANNIE RASER, BORN February 12th, A.D. 1857.
IDA RASER, BORN March 30th, A.D. 1861.
LILLY RASER, Born May 30th, A.D. 1867.

X-10 Thomas Jefferson Raser (M-16) Bible Record

The records are contained in a very large Bible—one of the largest I have seen. The Bible has an excellent leather cover, but the binding has broken. It was not convenient to measure it when I saw it, but by estimation it was about 4 inches thick and about 9 by 12 inches across the face. It is profusely illustrated, and must have sold for a good amount. The title page bears the imprint: "The/ILLUMINATED/BIBLE/Containing the Old and/New Testament/[etc.]/New York/Harper & Brothers, Publishers/82 Cliff Street/1846."

I first saw (and copied) this Bible on 13 August 1951, when I had the first of two extensive interviews with Mary Rose Raser (M-24) at her home at 7825 Germantown Ave., Germantown, Pa. At that time the Bible was stored in the wooden settee made by Thomas Jefferson Raser for his wife. After the death of Mary Rose Raser the Bible was passed on to Thomas J. Raser, Jr. (M-30) of Hartsdale, N.Y., at whose home I reexamined the Bible on 7 October 1976 and copied the several additions which Mary Rose Raser had entered in the Bible in the intervening years. Strangely, although the Bible contains a full list of their children, there are no birth or marriage records for the parents, Thomas Jefferson Raser (M-16) and Mary Rose Fullaway.

Many of the entries in the Bible are in pencil, and were recorded by Thomas Jefferson Raser in a very fine hand. As Mary Rose Raser told me in 1951, she had gone over them "here and there, since they have faded." The entries which were added after 1951 I have included below in square brackets.

MARRIAGES

Lincoln Raser & Mary J. Allison Nov. 15, 1911
Jennie Lynn to Thomas Jefferson Raser 2nd
Maud Peverley to Charles Fullaway Raser
Dorothy Runge to Earl Raser
[Mary Rose Raser Jr. (Mother) Sr. Graduated from Jewish Hospital Training School for Nurses – Phila. – June 2 1908 –
Registered R.N. – started Penn. 1911 –]

Appendices

BIRTHS

John Hudson Raser was Born July 25 1875
Eliza Agen Raser was Born Mar 30th 1877
Thomas Jefferson Raser was Born Jany 9th 1879
Mary Rose Raser Was born Nov. 4th 1880
Lincoln Raser Was born Aug. 24th 1882
Charles Fullaway Raser Was born Oct. 15th 1884
Fannie Raser Born Aug. 28th 1886
Ida Raser Born Nov. 16th 1887
Ross Raser Born June 1st 1889
Clifford Raser Born July 2nd 1891
Annie Raser Born January 9th 1893
Earl Raser Born Sept 14 1896

DEATHS

John Hudson Raser Died July 12th 1879
Eliza Agen Raser Died July 11th 1879
Ida Raser Died July 24th 1888
Ross Raser Died May 29th 1890
Annie Raser Died July 31st 1893
Fannie Raser May 29th 1894
Thomas J. Raser – (father) died May 26th 1906
Clifford Raser died September 23rd 1924 [at Sundown] – Jewish Hospital
Lincoln Raser died October 21st 1930 [5 am] – Jewish Hospital
Mary Rose Raser (mother) died June 18th 1935 [8:15 am]
[Charles Fullaway Raser at Bryn Mawr Hospital Aug 6th 1952 – 2 P.M.]
[Thomas Jefferson Raser 2nd died at Montgomery Hospital Norristown Pa August 28th 1953 – 8 am]

X-11 John Heyl Bible Record

The Bible of John Heyl (1775–1849) descended to John Bernard Heyl (1822–1874), then to Robert Chapman Heyl (1853–1919), and thence to John Bernard Heyl (1893–19), whose widow, Mrs. Mary Laura (Scull) Heyl of Bryn Mawr, Pa., was the owner in 1966. The Bible bears the imprint “The/HOLY BIBLE./Containing the/Old and New Testaments:/.../and the/APOCRYPHA:/with/Marginal References./PHILADELPHIA:/Printed for BERRIMAN & Co. by JACOB K. BERRIMAN,/MDCCXCVI.” and is approximately 15 1/2 inches high by 10 inches wide. The Bible bears the signature of John Heyl on the flyleaf.

Between the Apocrypha and title page of the New Testament are two heavy ribbed sheets, of different paper than the rest of the Bible. The first sheet is watermarked “AMIES”, while the second sheet is watermarked with a dove with an olive branch in its beak. Each sheet has been ruled vertically into halves, and is headed “Births – Deaths.” Most of the family data on the two sheets appears to have been entered shortly after the birth of William Molledore Heyl on 7 July 1814. To simplify publication of the records, death information is herein given immediately after the birth entry for each individual. Absent wording, helpful in clarifying the records, has been added herein within square brackets. The records were copied from the original by Edward J. Raser in November 1966.

[First sheet]

Philip Heyl born the 15th September In the Year of Our Lord 1739. Departed this Life the 29th Decebr. In the Year of our Lord 1811.

Maria Jacobina Zieglerin born the 1st June 1740. Departed this Life the 2nd Septr. In the Year 1804. [Marriage date not recorded.]

Our Raser Family

- 1st. George born the 17th April 1763. Departe[d] this life [rest blank]
- 2nd. Mary born the 22nd July 1765. Departed this life the 17th Febury. 1810.
- 3rd. Philip born the 19th Febury. 1768. Departed this life the 2nd May 1835.
- 4th. Susannah born 9th July 1771. Departed this life [rest blank]
- 5th. Thomas born the 10th Sepr. 1772. Departed this life the 1st April 1792.
- 6th. John born the 7th Febuy. 1775. Departed this life Decr. 11th 1849.
- 7th. Elizabeth born the 26th June 1779. Departed this life Jany. 2, 1854.

[Second sheet]

John Heyl born the 7th of Febuary in the Year of our Lord 1775. [Died] Decr. 11th 1849 [at] 9 O'Clock A.M.
Ann Molledore born 3rd of January in the Year of our Lord 1785. [Died] Octbr. 21st 1864 [at] 7 O'Clock P.M. Married
13th of May 1813.

- 1st. William Molledore [born] 7th of July 1814. [Died] November 26th, 1870 at 7 O'Clock P.M.
- 2nd. Mary Raser [born] 25th of May 1816. [Died] Sept. 25th, 1840 at 6 O'Clock A.M.
- 3rd. Ann Eliza [born] 17th of March 1819.
- 4th. John Bernard [born] 8th of May 1822. [Died] November 4th, 1874 at 11 O'Clock P.M.
- 5th. George Raser [born] 11th of Novembr. 1824. [Died] April 16th, 1826 at 1/2 past 12 O'Clock A.M.

John Bernard Heyl born 8th of May 1822.

Jane Chapman Esher born 28th of October 1825. Married Dec. 31st 1847.

- 1st. Jacob E. Heyl born June 2nd 1849.
- 2nd. William Esher Heyl Born [rest blank]
- 3rd. Mary Heyl Born [rest blank]
- 4th. Robert Chapman Heyl Born Oct. 19, 1853. [Died] 1919.
- 5th. Margaret Chapman Heyl Born [rest blank]
- 6th. Jane Heyl Born [rest blank]

X-12 The Heyl's "Old German Family Bible"

Old papers in possession of several Heyl families make reference to an old "German Lutheran Bible printed 1733 [in] Nürnberg," which contained information on the emigrant Heyl family. Three purported early "copies" of this record have been found, but they differ so markedly in content that it is now difficult to tell which one more accurately reflects the original record.

Attempts (up to January 1967) to locate the original Bible proved futile. A letter written by Jane Whann (Heyl) Roland in 1885 advised a correspondent to get the record "from Frank Heyl, who has in his possession the old German family Bible ..." But a letter written by Charles Heath Heyl to his brother Edward Miles Heyl in 1886 says "If you write to Dr. Albert Heyl for a copy from the old Heyl Bible—in German—you may be able to get some valuable information. Caroline Heyl has it." Frank and Caroline Heyl were children of John and Elizabeth (Christian) Heyl, grandchildren of John and Mary (Striker) Heyl, and great-grandchildren of the immigrant. Descendants of this branch of the Heyl family could not be located during the pre-1967 search, nor do we have any indication that searchers during the 1885–1920 time period ever found the Bible. It is quite likely that it had long ago been destroyed.

The old record is especially interesting on two counts. First, none of the births of the children of George Thomas Heyl and his wife are given. Why they would have recorded data in the Bible about their early life in Germany, bring the Bible to America with them in 1739, and then fail to record the births of their children during 1739–52 seems strange. However, that record could have been made on another page that later became lost.

Secondly, at some time after 1886 the records began to include the even earlier birth data of John Thomas Heyl (1670) and his wife Katarina (1678). While a descendant had searches made in the Bischoffsheim area in the late 1800s for confirming data, no correspondence has been found that indicated these searches were successful.

Appendices

In late 1967, Dr. Karl Friedrich von Frank (see Appendix X-13) was able to determine that the Heyl family originated from the area of *Neckar*bischofsheim (not *Tauber*bischofsheim), and that the account in "the Old Heyl Bible" contained many errors and inaccuracies.

(1) Dr. Albert G. Heyl Version

The following account was supplied by Dr. Albert G. Heyl of Philadelphia to Edward Miles Heyl on 21 April 1886. Dr. Heyl's accompanying letter notes: "The record which I enclose is a copy of the translation of the original German in the Bible to which you refer in your letter [of March 15]. Father copied [it] for me but it is copied as if I were writing. Thus the first word *my* refers to *me*." Dr. Heyl's letter and translation were in the possession of Helen Elizabeth Heyl (granddaughter of Edward Miles Heyl) of Mount Holly, N.J., when copied by Edward J. Raser in 1967.

The Account

My Great Great Great Grandfather was John Thomas Heyl. His wife was Katarina Heyl who died August 20th 1734. Their son my Great Great Grandfather was born near Sasheim in a place called Vasbach in the Grand Duchy of Baden Germany August 2nd 1702 and was christened by Abbel at Crumbach George Thomas Heyl, and learned the trade of Tailor with Daniel Alberg at Bishoffsheim. When he became of age he went on the Vanderschaft or travel, according to German law; on his return to his family he became engaged to Susanna Sterheim Jany. 4th 1728 and married her May 25th 1728 at Bishoffsheim where she resided. She was born Jany. 13, 1706 and died August 3rd 1780. Her remains were buried in the Moravian ground at Franklin & Wood St. in this city. We have no record of the date they came to this country. My Great Grandfather was John Heyl a Baker by trade and was employed in Washingtons Army at the Valley Forge. My Great Grandmother was Mary Stricker and must have died about the year 1800.

(2) The John Bernard Heyl Version

The following copy was found among the papers of the late John Bernard Heyl (1893-19), but is not in his handwriting. The copy probably was written in the early 1900s. In the possession of Mrs. John B. (Mary Scull) Heyl of Bryn Mawr, Pa., when copied by Edward J. Raser in November 1966.

The Account

From bible in possession [of] Carrie Heyl
Father & mother of Philip Heyl

George Thomas Heyl, was born August 2d 1702 near Saisheim, Baden in a place called Vahsbach his father was named John Thomas Heyl mother's name was Katarina Heyl, who died Aug. 20th 1738. George Thomas Heyl was christened by Abbel at Kumbach learned the trade of taylor with Daniel Alberch or Alberg at Bischoffsheim when he became of age he went on the Vanderschaft or travel according to the German law he returned to his parents found them well and became engaged to Susannah Sterheim Jan. 4th 1728 and married her May 25th 1728 at Bischoffsheim where she resided, she was born Jan. 13th 1706 and died Aug. 3d 1780 and was buried in Moravian Ground corner Franklin & Wood Street, Philad. These localities in Europe are all in Baden.

Cumback is on the river Mayn.

Bishoffsheim [*sic*] is on a branch of the Mayn called the Tauber below Cumback.

Saisheim is on the Mayne above Cambach

translated from old German Lutheran Bible printed 1733 Nurenberg

(3) The Edward Miles Heyl Version

This copy was written as though by Edward Miles Heyl (among whose papers it was found), but it is not in his handwriting. The account includes birth data of unknown origin on John Thomas Heyl and his wife. This version was in the possession of Helen Elizabeth Heyl (granddaughter of Edward Miles Heyl) of Mount Holly, N.J., when copied by Edward J. Raser in 1967.

Our Raser Family

The Account

My Great, Great, Great Grandfather was John Thomas Heyl, born August 20th 1670.

His wife was Katharine Heyl, born October 8th 1678, and died August 20th 1734.

Their son, My Great, Great Grandfather was born near Sasheim, in a place called Vasbach, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany, August 2nd 1702, and was christened by Abbet at Crumbach, – George Thomas Heyl, – when he became of age he went on the Vanderschaft, – or travel, according to German law. On his return to his family he became engaged to Susanna Sterheim January 4th 1728, and married her May 25th 1728, at Bishoffsheim where she resided. She was born January 13th 1706, and died August 3rd 1780. My Great Grandfather was John Heyl, born September 30th 1730, and married Mary Strickler, April 10th 1755. My Grandfather, Philip Heyl, born 1784. Married Margaret Whann, November 12th 1807.

My father, David Seeger Heyl, born October 31st 1814, married Caroline Julia Heath, October 12th 1836. I was born February 14th 1844, and was married to Mary Delphine Turner, October 6th 1886. The family came to America, and settled in Philadelphia, September, 1739.

X-13 Philip Heyl Family Record

The Heyl record reproduced here is from an ancient paper in the possession of John Heyl Raser Arms (W-19) of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in the 1960s. The record, written in German, appears to have been made at one time; the aged ribbed paper and ink indicate it was probably copied from an older family record not long after 1779.

The origin of the record is unknown, but it came into the hands of Celeste (Raser) Arms in the late 1800s, when she was actively engaged in searching family history. At some time the original sheet had separated into two pieces, roughly 6 1/2 inches high by 4 inches wide. Births (4) through (7) of the record appear on the back of the right half. When seen by this writer, the pieces had been mounted between glass, passe-partout style, to help preserve them. At my request, Mr. Arms had a photographer make a copy, as I found an earlier translation to be suspect.

The translation given below was made by Dr. Karl Friedrich von Frank, Schloss Senftenegg, Post Ferschnitz, Austria, at my request in April 1967. In his reply, Dr. von Frank noted that in Maria Jacobina Ziegler's entry, the minister's name reads Gnüge, "but the first letter is not very clear!" In a follow-up letter in early July, he stated that the "only pastor of this surname, whom I was able to locate is: Johann Christoph Gnüge *1704 Gotha, who was 1st pastor at Neckarbischofsheim, +1747." Coupled with information in the Heyl's Old German Bible (Apdx. X-12), this resolved any questions of the area of origin of the early Heyl family.

Philip Heyl's birth entry is of particular interest. According to Philadelphia records, the Heyl family arrived there aboard the ship *Friendship* on 3 September 1739. The family record states that Philip was "born on the sea, on the 15th of September 1739"—twelve days after their reported arrival. Possibly the ship was quarantined for some time, or the dates were by different calendars. Then again, the mother may have been too weak to go ashore and stayed aboard the ship until her child was born; or tradition has turned his prospective birth at sea into a "fact." In any event, both the Heyl family and Phillip Werner, the baby's sponsor (and likely namesake), were known passengers aboard the *Friendship*.

The Translation

Philip Heyl, born on the sea, on the 15th of September 1739 and baptized by Mister Pastor Böhm, Sponsors: Phillip Werner and his lawful wife.

Maria Jacobina Ziegler born on the 1st of June 1740 in the afternoon between 1 and 2 o'clock. On the 3rd of June thereafter, by Mister Pastor Gnüge received holy baptism. Sponsors: Maria Jacobina Knortz and Mister Johann Martin Lortz.

On the 10th of June 1762 by Mister Pastor Hanschu, Philip Heyl and Maria Jacobina Ziegler, were consecrated in the state of holy matrimony.

From this marriage have issued:

- 1) Georg, born on the 17th of April 1763.
- 2) Maria, born on the 22nd of July 1765, baptized on the 18th of August. Sponsors: Maria and Susana Heyl.
- 3) Philip, born on the 19th of February 1768, baptized on the 13th of March. Sponsors: the parents themselves.
- 4) Susana, born on the 9th of July 1771, baptized on the 25th of July. Sponsors: Friedrich Schinckel and his lawful wife.
- 5) Thomas, born on the 10th of September 1772, baptized on the 11th of October. Sponsors: the parents in Thomas Heyl's name.
- 6) Johannes, born on the 7th of February, baptized on the 26th of February 1775. Sponsors: Johannes Heyl and his wife Maria.
- 7) Elisabeth, born on the 26th of June, baptized on the 10th of July 1779. Sponsors: Georg Seitz and his wife Elisabeth.

X-14 Blasius Daniel Mackinet's Colladay Account

The ancestry of Catharine (Colladay) Raser (A-3) has been preserved in an old account written by Blasius Daniel Mack(i)net for his stepdaughter Sarah (Colladay) Meng. Mackinet had married the widow Colladay (nee Catharina Juliana Rübenkam) after the death of Jacob Colladay in 1750. He wrote the account at Sarah's request sometime between her marriage to Wollery Meng in 1760, and his own death in 1775.

The document passed to Sarah Meng's son Charles, and after his death, between 1844–50, it was acquired by his sister, Sarah Meng. In a letter to Mrs. Charles Abert, dated 29 August 1850, she wrote: "I will send you a paper found among my Brother's papers at his death in which is stated the nativity of my Grandmother and her children (my mother Sarah C. being one)." [It should be noted that in the account Mackinet clearly wrote "naturity" twice.] The document was sent with this letter or shortly thereafter. Charles Abert was a great-grandson of Sarah (Colladay) Meng through her daughter Margareta, who married John Abert.

The paper probably passed, along with other Abert documents, to the children of Charles Abert upon his death in 1897. Shortly after the death of his last surviving child, Allen Abert, in 1951, the account was given to Allen's grandniece, Catharine (Cook) Harvey, of Falls Church, Va. Catharine, then Mrs. G. Roger Harvey, subsequently married Col. John M. Davies and eventually settled in Concord, N.C., where she died on 11 September 2003. As of 2005 her papers were in the possession of her only son, Roger Harvey of Concord.

A detailed account of the Rübenkam ancestry can be found in a superb article, "The Rübenkam Family of Hessen," by Milton Rubincam, appearing in *The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, XXII (1961), 85. An outline of Jacob Colladay's family is given on page 108, while the subject account is produced on page 112. Some inaccuracies in Mackinet's account are corrected in this article—which serious readers should review. Some information noted as undecipherable in the published account has been included in the copy below, courtesy of Mrs. Harvey who made a copy of the document before the information became obliterated. Edward J. Raser examined the original document at Mrs. Harvey's home in December 1963, and at the same time made a photographic copy. The copy which follows is verbatim ac litteratim.

The Account

Whereas our Daughter, Sarah Meng living in Germantown is desirous of knowing her line of Naturity, I therefore, through this make known unto her the same, so far as I have Knowledge of it.

Her Father was a Burger's Son of Manheim in Pfaltz (a Place so called) and came to this Country with his Mother very young; his Name was Jacob Colladay: his Father died crossing the Ocean. Her Mothers Name is Catharina Juliana, Fathers Name Ribenkam, was born 1703 in Wasinfried in Hessia, where her Father named Jno Philip Ribenkem was

Our Raser Family

Preacher, & preached the Gospel 19 years and his Father was Preacher at Eschwig (a Place so calld) Her Mothers Name was Magretta Catharine, a Ministers Daughter of Saxone in Hessia, her Fathers Name Sattorin. Her Mothers Name Anna Juliana of Luninburgh in Holstein. This may serve as a Memorendom, if perhaps sooner or later some of the Relations should come to this part of the World. your Grand Mother, a Widow, came over with 6 grown Children in 1726, Viz. 3 Sons & 3 Daughters the eldest Daughter she left in Germany in Berlinburgh, where her Father died she is marryed to a Merchant of that Place, named Holtzklaus who—with his wife are, at this time, dead. They have left Issue, one Daughter, who is marryed & lives in the House where her Mother died. Her Husband's name, is I believe, Reuschell. Here follows a List of your Mothers Children born in this Country Viz,—

1st	Margret Catharina,	born	1728	Sept	23	dead
2	Anna Maria		1731,	April	23	
3	Jacob Colladay		1733	do	15	
4	Catharine		1735	May	30	
5	Sarah		1737	do	12	
6	William		1738	Sept	16	
7	Susanna		1741	April	17	

And Whereas I was well acquainted with your Grand Mother, I can give her the Testimony that she was a pious good Woman, led a Virtuous life, & was an Ornament to her Sex. The follies & pleasures of this World, she despised, & took upon her the Cross of Christ

Blasius Daniel Macknet

Naturity

X-15 A Traditional Ancestral Account

The following (mostly) typewritten account was found among the effects of George Prentice Raser in 1954. It represents a composite of traditional and speculative information exchanged among descendants of Capt. Bernard Raser during the 1890–1920 time period, as well as more substantive information (e.g., the discovery of Catherine “Colloby”) gathered by George B. Raser III (T-16) during research in Philadelphia beginning in 1920. As such it is a mixture of facts, clues and fiction. A reader of *Our Raser Family* will find most of the erroneous and misleading information corrected. However, buried in the account are still some interesting clues that remain to be fully explored. There is quite likely some truth to be discovered in the tale of the French countess. This writer has done much research into the Pfister family, and various accounts of Amanda (Pfister) Raser's parents—Amand Pfister and Maria Josephine Rys—published in the 1820s era strongly suggest that her mother came from an illustrious background in France.

The account is written on one side of an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of watermarked paper. In addition to containing several typing errors, four words have underlined letters, which have been retained below.

The Account

R E S E R (RASER)

Germantown, Pa. was settled 1683, a year after William Penn took over the land known today as Pennsylvania. He sent his friend and secretary, Pastorious, back to Germany for good families to settle the territory. Pastorious brought back eighty families, many Quakers, from the vicinity of Berne, Switaerland, and Alsace-Lorraine, many being Huguenots and refugees from France who were glad to seek a home in the new country.

Matthias Reser of Zweibroeken (Alsace-Lorraine) married a French countess who with her family was Huguenot and fled from France across the border into Germany, thence to America. Matthias was given a plot of land now known as 5166 (new number again in 1900) Germantown Avenue. He had a tannery on the rear of the lot. He was the father of

Bernhard Reser who married Ann Elizabeth — of Bristol township, her will made 28 October 1773, died 7 March 1776. Will of Bernhard Reser of Bristol township made 18 October 1760. He died 27 June 1761.

Our Raser Family

chart to record intervening events and to add newly acquired, or overlooked, older information. I have shown her added information (which appears on the chart in a darker brown ink) within square brackets, but without a following plus sign or asterisk. (The "doubtful" after the death date of Bernard Raser probably relates to Celeste's concern about the disturbing 1805 date which appears in the family record of Apdx. X-4). The bracketed information followed by a plus sign (+), which was mostly printed in dark ink in upper and lower case letters, apparently was entered by John Heyl Raser Arms at later dates up to 1948. The bracketed information followed by an asterisk (*) was written in pencil, probably also at a late date.

The Chart

Baltus Raser (Reser)

Married by Friends Ceremony, Germantown, 1743

Mary Lukens (see note 1)

[Married 1763, 2nd wife]*

[Katherine Colloby]*

[4 children, 2 died young]*

Bernard Raser, b. Aug. 10, 1764, d. Mar. 25, 1804 [doubtful] at Batavia, Java (see note 2)

Mary Heyl, b. July 22, 1765, d. Feb. 17, 1810

Susannah Raser, b. Jan. 12, 1767, d. Sept. 22, 1853

Married by Mr. Billmere

Joseph Miller, b. July 6, 1757, d. Mar. 27, 1825

Sarah, b. Nov. 11, 1791, d. Nov. 12, 1791

Catherine, b. July 18, 1793, d. July 5, 1880 (Married Thorpe)

Sarah, b. Jan. 30, 1795, d. Feb. 3, 1869

Susannah, b. Nov. 13, 1796, d. Feb. 6, 1875

Joseph, b. May 1, 1799, d. May 13, 1874

George, b. Feb. 20, 1801, d. May 18, 1801

John, b. April 2, 1802, d. Aug. 31, 1843

Charles, b. Nov. 23, 1803, d.

Mary, b. Jan. 27, 1806, d. Feb. 12, 1874

George, b. Mar. 12, 1808, d. July 10, 1808

William, b. Nov. 9, 1807 [*sic*, should be 1809-EJR], d. Feb. 16, 1872 (Batchelor)

Children of Bernard Raser and Mary Heyl

William Raser, b. Mar. 23, 1791, d. Jan. 3, 1833

Married at Demopolis, Ala, Apr. 3, 1821

Amanda Pfister [b. Jan. 21, 1801] d. [Sept. 8] 1828 (see note 3)

[Mary Amanda Raser, b. Mar. 19, 1822, d. June 16, 1823]

John Heyl Raser, b. Aug. 30, 1824 [d. Dec. 14, 1901]

Ann Eliza Raser, b. Oct. 30, 1826, d. Feb. 14, 1852

Thomas Raser, b. Aug. 26, 1793, d. Dec. 8, 1857

Married

Amandilla Pfister

Elizabeth K. Brown, b. d.

Catherine Raser, b. Aug. 10, 1795, d. May 6, 1796

John Bernard Raser, b. July 26, 1798, d. Aug. 15, 1825

Mary Eliza Raser (Mrs. Barry)

George Raser, b. Apr. 7, 1801, d. Aug. 8, 1826

Mary Raser, b. July 31, 1803, d. Feb. 16, 1852

Married Sept. 6, 1821

John H[imrod]+ Vincent, b. d. Aug. 13, 1873

Appendices

Mary Amanda, b. Jan. 20, 1823, d. Oct. 12, 1823
William Raser Colgin, b. May 14, 1825, d. Nov. 6, 1825
Martha Ann, b. Mar. 13, 1828, d. Mar. 20, 1828
George Strother Gaines, b. Sept. 20, 1829, d. Oct. 15, 1829
John Heyl, b. Feb. 23, 1832 [Bishop Methodist Church, Founder of "Chatauqua" with Miller]+
[m. Elizabeth Dusenbury, son George Edgar Vincent]+
Bethuel Thomas, b. Aug. 9, 1834 [d. Denver, Colo. 192-]+
Frank Lyon, b. Feb. 28, 1839, d. *
Thomas Raser, b. Aug. 7, 1840, d. Sept. 18, 1841
Mary Elizabeth, b. Jan. 9, 1842
(Married Jas. A. Farovid)

John Heyl Raser, b. Aug. 30, 1824 at "Live Oak Lodge" near Mobile, Ala [d. Dec. 14, 1901 at Williamsport, Pa.]
Married at Milton, Pa. Aug. 10, 1847 by Rev. James Williamson
Cylinda Stoughton, b. Apr. 24, 1828, d. Feb. 17, 1879 at Reading, Pa.
Married Apr. 28, 1881 2nd wife of John Heyl Raser
Helen Thorp [b. June 30, 1841, d. May 27, 1901] No issue

Children of John Heyl Raser and Cylinda Stoughton

Wm. Heyl Raser, b. July 14, 1848 at Milton, Pa.
Married in N.Y. June 18, 1890 by Rev. W. J. B. Daly
Josephine Hennessy
Leonard Stoughton Raser, b. Nov. 5, 1849 at Milton, Pa., d. Jan. 5, 1850 at Milton, Pa.
John Bernard Raser, b. Dec. 7, 1850 at Milton
Married in Reading, Pa. Oct. 18, 1877 by Rev. Wallace Radcliffe
Catherine Elizabeth Weida, b. Apr. 30
Elizabeth Weida Raser, b. Aug. 12, 1879 at Reading, Pa.
Wm. Heyl Raser, 2nd, b. Dec. 27, 1880 at Reading, Pa.
John Vincent Raser, b. Feb. 17, 1891 at Reading, Pa.
Oliver Burbank Raser, b. June 30, 1852 at Reading, Pa.
Married (no record)
Sarah Beidler
Mary [E]+ Raser, b. [31 March 1874, bap. Trinity Luth. Ch., Reading, Pa., Dr. Jacob Fry]+
Married (no record)
Ellen Raser, b. d. 1879
[m. Portland, Org. 16 July 1884, Rev. A. L. Lindsley, 1st Pres. Ch.]+
[Ellen Virginia Campbell, b. 13 May 1862, d. 13 1937]+
Armand Pfister Raser, b. June 9, 1854 at Reading, Pa.
Married at Bordentown N.J. Dec. 10
Sadie E. Perry, b. d. May 14
Married at Farmingdale N.J.
Lena [Goodenough], 2nd wife
[Amand Edward Raser, b. April 1st 1899]
Celeste Stoughton Raser, b. Feb. 29, 1856 at Reading, Pa.
Married at Reading, Pa. Feb. 16, 1882 by Rev. Wallace Radcliffe [Presby. Ch.]+
Augustus Nice Arms, b. Aug. 4, 18[48]
John Heyl Raser Arms, b. Feb. 28, 1888 at Williamsport, Pa.
Thomas Brown Raser, b. Jan. 31, 1858 at Reading, Pa., d. May 2, 1875 at Reading, Pa.
George Prentice Raser
& (Twins)
Seydel Stoughton Raser, b. Sept. 8, 1861 at Reading, Pa. [died Aug. 12, 1921]+
Married at Philadelphia, June 10
Louise Evens, b.
Chas. Linnaeus Raser, b. Nov. 10, 1867 at Reading, Pa.

Married at N. York, June 1897
Lilla Hull of N.Y.
[Helen Hull Raser, b. July 14, 1899]
[Gladys Post Raser, b. Jan. 4, 1901]

Note 1: There is a record, a Friends marriage certificate as above. It is said that Baltus Raser's (Reser) family came from Germany with Francis Daniel Pastorius in 1683, who founded Germantown. See Watson's Annals Vol. 1, pp. 424, 92, 576.

Note 2: "Our Grandfather Capt. Bernard Raser died in Batavia, Java. He used to bring many beautiful presents home to his children & friends—Silk goods and you remember two models of ships, one of glass & one of wood." Extract from a letter from John Heyl Raser to Bishop John Heyl Vincent, dated Mar. 9, 1889.

Note 3: "I well remember my Mother on her deathbed at Belmont Springs, Miss., in 1828 & my Father when he came to see me in 1832. He died at Mobile the following year. I can yet remember Live Oak Lodge where I was born & the roses that grew in the lattice of the porch." Extract from a letter of John Heyl Raser to Bishop Vincent, Jan. 11, 1889.

X-17 Harry T. Raser (T-10) Family Tree Chart

This chart was laid out in India ink on a sheet of white draftsman's vellum, 29 1/2 in. wide and 16 1/4 in. high. Although unsigned, the hand-printed upper-case lettering leaves no doubt that the chart was inscribed by Harry Thomas Raser (T-10). The chart is a complete revision of an earlier chart made by Harry of similar size and style, but which contained essentially no dates and some abbreviated names, on a copy of which his son, George B. Raser III, wrote: "Can't you make a complete chart of this giving all dates and carrying out the two children's name[s] under R. Vaughan etc. Also give all middle names etc. This information is all absolutely authentic back as far as Bernard the wife of Anne Elizabeth, and can be proved by these wills mentioned. If you can, would you just as soon send me one to give to Celeste S. Arms? She knows a great deal concerning the family. When I go home in June am going to stop in Williamsport and see all the old documents & heirlooms she has. She is going to get all the information she knows & write it up." This, the resulting chart, contains a four-line statement in the upper-left corner reading: "Information concerning first Bernard Raser and his children, and Baltas Raser his wives and children was obtained from qualified records recorded in Philadelphia Penna. in search made in February 1921 by George Bernard Raser III." Soon afterwards a number of blueprints of the chart were made and distributed to family members. At that time George believed Sophia Raser was the wife of Mathias Adams Hogermoed, as appears in the blueprints. He subsequently discovered the error, as well as the published "Colloby" marriage record, and Harry updated the chart as shown below. The updated original is currently in the possession of Thomas M. Raser, son of George B. Raser III.

The chart has a typical vertically-tiered generation flow, with "Bernard Raser" (d. 1761) at the top, and the names of the three children of Elsie (Raser) Parvin at the bottom. In the following rendition, I have divided the chart information into two parts, first for the early descendants of Bernard Raser (d. 1761), then followed by the descendants of (Capt.) Bernard Raser. The second part consists mostly of two groups of the descendants of William Raser and Thomas Raser. For any married person, the name of their spouse has been indented once in this list, and the list of their children indented once again. As a result, throughout the second part, all siblings and cousins of the same generation are equally indented. All spellings of names and places, and all date information, are as in the original. The most-recently born person recorded on the chart is Jane Virginia Metcalf, born 6 Jan. 1917, which is also the latest date—the latest death date is 2 May 1916. Sometime after the death of his brother-in-law, Christian F. Weller, in August 1965, George B. Raser III updated a copy of the above-mentioned predecessor chart (also in possession of Thomas M. Raser) with information for descendants of his grandparents. I have inserted this information below within square brackets.

The Chart

Bernard Raser, d. June 27, 1761
Anna Elizabeth, d. Mar. 7, 1776
Baltas Raser, d. Jany. 3, 1774
Mary Lucken, d. Apr. 17, 1762

Appendices

1st wife, 4 children
John Raser, d June 18, 1847
Matthew Raser
Daniel Raser
Elizabeth Raser
Catharine Colloby
2nd wife, 4 children
Bernard Raser, b. Aug. 10, 1764, d. Mar. 25, 1804 at Batavia, Java
Mary Heyl, b. July 22, 1765, d. Feb. 17, 1810
Susannah Raser, b. Jan. 12, 1767, d. Sept. 22, 1853
Joseph Miller, b. July 17, 1757, d. Mar. 27, 1825
Sarah, Catharine, Sarah, Susannah, Joseph, George, John, Charles, Mary, George, and
William
Sarah Raser
Catharine Raser
Sophia Raser
John Restine
John Raser
Magdalene Raser
Mathias Adams Hogermoed
Charles
Elizabeth
Ann
Elizabeth Raser
— Endt
William Endt
Bernard Endt

Children of Bernard Raser and Mary Heyl

William Raser, b. Mar. 23, 1791, d. Jany. 3, 1833
mar. at Demopolis, Ala., Aug. 3, 1821
Amanda Pfister, d. 1828
John Heyl Raser, b. Aug. 30, 1824
Cylinda Stoughton, b. Apr. 24, 1828, d. Dec. 1879
Wm. Heyl Raser, b. July 14, 1848
Josaphine Hennesay
Leonard S. Raser, d. age 2 mos.
John Bernard Raser
Catharine E. Weida
John Vincent Raser
Edith Read
John Vincent Raser, Jr.
Wm. Heyl Raser II
Elsie Weida Raser
Edwin L. Parvin
Kitty, Celeste, Frances
Oliver Burbank Raser
Sarah Beidler, 1st wife
Mary Ellen, m. Edelman
Ellen Virginia Campbell, 2nd wife
Oliver B. Raser, Jr., Wm. Vincent Raser
Armand Pfister Raser
Sarah E. Parry
Emaline D. Goodenough, 2nd wife

Our Raser Family

Edwin G. Raser
Celeste Stoughton Raser
Agustus N. Arms
John Heyl Raser Arms
Edith Wilkinson
Thos. B. Raser, d. age 17
Geo. P. Raser
Seydell Stoughton Raser
Louise Lewis Evans
Charles Linnaeus Raser
Sarah Lilla Hull
Helen Hull Raser, b. 1899
Gladys Post Raser, b. 1901, d. 1902
Helen Thorp, 2nd wife, d. 1901
Ann Eliza Raser, b. Oct. 30, 1826, d. Feb. 14, 1852
Thomas Raser, b. Aug. 26, 1793, d. Dec. 8, 1857
Amadilla Pfister, 1st wife, b. July 6, 1805, d. Oct. 21, 1822
Elizabeth K. Brown, 2nd wife, b. June 18, 1819, d. Feb. 5, 1894
Martha Heyl Raser, b. July 4, 1842
Otto H. Hitchcock, d. Oct. 11, 1904
Charles D. Hitchcock, b. Feb. 21, 1871
Sylvia Dott, b. June 23, 1887, d. Feb. 27, 1911
Gilliat S. Hitchcock, b. June 23, 1873
— Dick, b. Sep. 10, 1876
Richard G. Hitchcock, b. June 30, 1908
Mary Elizabeth Raser, b. Nov. 23, 1843, d. Oct. 22, 1879
R. V. Vaughan, b. Mar. 19, 1843, d. Mar. 12, 1916
Annie Knight Vaughan, b. June 12, 1866
Walter C. Hubbard
Bernard H., b. Dec. 16, 1885
Pearl Greenman, 1st wife, d. Oct. 1909
Ruth Irene, b. Apr. 15, 1905
Tillie Kyllonen, 2nd wife
Robert Thomas, b. Jany. 12, 1887
Marguerite Beer
Robert Vincent, b. Apr. 16, 1909
Dorothy H., b. July 16, 1911
Dean Lester H., b. Jany. 1, 1915
Annette Jean H., b. Jany. 1, 1915
Harriet Raser H., b. May 22, 1891, d. Nov. 7, 1894
Phoebe Vaughan H., b. May 4, 1899
Walter Coleman H., b. Sep. 9, 1901
George M. Vaughan, b. Oct. 15, 1867
George Bernard Raser, b. July 10, 1845, d. Mar. 13, 1901
Harriet Maus, b. Aug. 18, 1848, d. May 2, 1916
Henry Thomas Raser, b. July 10, 1870 [d. 23 Nov. 1956]
Katharine E. Hubbard, b. Feb. 3, 1870 [d. 3 Apr. 1942]
Margaret Hubbard Raser, b. May 28, 1896
[Christian F. Weller, b. 17 Feb. 1893, d. Aug. 1965]
Mark Raser, b. Aug. 10, 1898, d. Aug. 5, 1899
George Bernard Raser III, b. Sep. 12, 1903
[Katherine Bell, b. 17 Oct. 1913]
[Thomas McKim, Timothy Bell, Ruth Hubbard, John Baltas]
Elizabeth Knight Raser, b. Nov. 18, 1872 [d. 2 Sept. 1963]
John L. Wilson [d. 27 Dec. 1923]

Appendices

- [James Henry McGiffert, b. 17 Oct. 1866, d. 4 July 1938]
George Bernard Raser, Jr., b. Mar. 14, 1883 [d. 11 June 1962]
Sarah Elizabeth Hughes [b. 15 Feb. —]
Ruth Maus Raser, b. Feb. 4, 1885 [d. 8 Apr. 1953]
Harry E. Metcalf [b. 25 Jan. 1883]
Leland Edward Metcalf, b. Aug. 23, 1912
Paul Harry Metcalf, b. Feb. 7, 1915
Jane Virginia Metcalf, b. Jany. 6, 1917
Thomas G. Raser, b. & d. Oct. 3, 1846
Hogan Brown Raser, b. Dec. 14, 1847, d. Feb. 17, 1863
Sarah Davis Raser, b. Mar. 15, 1849
Jas. E. Belnap, b. Oct. 25, 1841, d. Sep. 26, 1904
Maud L. Belnap, b. July 22, 1870
A. M. Dean
James E. Dean, b. Mar. 23, 1893
Annie Knight Belnap, b. Dec. 8, 1871, d. Aug. 23, 1872
Lucy A. Belnap, b. May 2, 1873
W. G. Fowler
Newton B. Fowler, b. Feb. 1, 1904
James E. B. Fowler, b. Jany. 10, 1908
Annie Eliza Raser, b. May 30, 1851
T. E. Metzgar, b. Apr. 24, 1841
John Thomas, b. Sep. 14, 1875, d. Sep. 21, 1875
Franklin Edward, b. Oct. 17, 1876
Kate Meyers
Winifred M., b. Aug. 10, 1911
Rosalyn May, b. Mar. 14, 1878
Christian Eller
Christian E., b. Aug. 2, 1905, d. Nov. 22, 1905
Thora E., b. Aug. 11, 1908
Edgar, b. Mar. 6, 1880, d. Mar. 8, 1880
William Bernard, b. July 10, 1881, d. July 3, 1882
Jeannette Knight, b. Apr. 25, 1883
Reynold Edward, b. Dec. 17, 1886
Katheryn Echel
Sarah Raser, b. Oct. 19, 1891
Gust Askouner
Virginia A., b. Feb. 20, 1913
Henry Alfred Schroeder Raser, b. Dec. 16, 1852
May Iddings
Carrie Beth Raser, b. Jany. 10, 1882
Laura Raser, b. Feb. 22, 1887, d. Sep. 2, 1904
Charles Iddings Raser, b. May 15, 1890, d. July 2, 1911
Catharine Raser, b. Aug. 10, 1795, d. May 6, 1796
John Bernard Raser, b. July 2, 1798, d. Aug. 15, 1825
Juliet Abert
Mary Eliza Raser
— Barry, of Columbus, Miss.
George Raser, b. Apr. 7, 1801, d. Aug. 8, 1826
Mary Raser, d. Feb. 16, 1852
John H. Vincent, d. Aug. 13, 1862
Mary Amanda, Wm. Raser Colgin, Martha Ann, George Strother Gaims, John Heyl, Bethuel Thomas,
Frank Lyne, Thomas Raser, and Mary Elizabeth

X-18 The Rösler Families of Beddelhausen

The following list consolidates records of the Rösler and Rösler families (other than that of Bernhard Rösler, for which see Appendix X-2), which appear in the Evangelical-Reformed Church registers of Elsoff, Kr. Wittgenstein, Westfalen, Germany. Microfilms of these registers are available through Mormon Family History Centers; extracts also now appear in their International Genealogical Index (IGI). The list was constructed from data supplied by Donald J. Martin at the request of Edward J. Raser, 7 November 1972.

It should be noted that extensive Wittgenstein research by Jochen Karl Mehldau during the past decade has failed to show any connection between Bernhard Rösler of Schwarzenau and the Rösler/Rösler families of nearby Beddelhausen. This information is furnished solely should some possible connection arise in the future.

- Henrich Rösler**, son of Thöniges Rösler, of Beddelhausen, Kr. Wittgenstein, Westfalen,
m.(1) Dom 23 p. Trin. 1621, in Elsoff, Merga Trapp, dau. of Johannes Trapp. She d. 3 Oct. 1631 in Beddelhausen.
Children (Rösler), both b. Beddelhausen:
1) Johann Jacob, chr. Sept. 1625.
2) Enchen, chr. Dom. Lataere 1629.
m.(2) Dom. Lataere 1631, in Elsoff, Anna, widow of Johannes Wezel. Children (Rösler), both b. Beddelhausen:
1) Görg, chr. Reminiscere 1632.
2) Johannes, chr. 19 Apr. 1635.
m.(3) 22 Nov. 1636, in Schwarzenau, Lehna Helle, dau. of Johannes Helle and Cretha Amen, dau. of Jost Amen.
Children (Rösler), all b. Beddelhausen:
1) Hans Georg, chr. 14 Jan. 1638, m. 1 May 1656, in Elsoff, Anna Elisabeth Reutter, dau. of Melchior Reutter and Maria ——. Children (Rösler), all b. Beddelhausen:
a) Johann Cunrath, chr. 16 Oct. 1670.
b) Johannes, chr. 30 Oct. 1677.
c) Anna Catharine, chr. 6 Jan. 1681.
d) Anna Elisabetha, chr. 20 Apr. 1684.
2) Johannes, chr. 22 Dec. 1640, m. 26 Jan. 1664, in Elsoff, Anna Feuring, dau. of Herman Feuring and Catharina ——. Children (Rösler):
a) Johann Debess, b. Beddelhausen, chr. 1 Apr. 1678.
b) Anna Elisabeth.
c) Johannes.
3) Johann Christian, chr. 1 Jan. 1644, m. Enche ——. Children (Rösler), both b. Beddelhausen:
a) Niclos, chr. 11 Jan. 1672.
b) Anna Elsa, chr. 23 Mar. 1677.
4) Johann Craft, chr. 20 Sept. 1646, m. Enchen ——. Children (Rösler), a–b b. Beddelhausen, c–e b. Elsoff:
a) Margretha, chr. 18 June 1676.
b) Anna Gerderaut, chr. 1677.
c) Johannes, chr. 18 Apr. 1680.
d) Johann Arndt, chr. 5 Mar. 1683.
e) Christian, chr. 1 June 1696.
5) Johann Jost, chr. 23 Sept. 1649. No further record.
6) Matthias, chr. 13 Apr. 1651. No further record.
7) Anna Margretha, chr. 10 July 1654. No further record.

- Toffel Rösler**, son of Johann Rösler, of Beddelhausen, Kr. Wittgenstein, Westfalen,
m. Dom 4 Advent 1626, Anna Köler, dau. of Henrich Köler. Children (Rösler):
1) Christian, b. Schwarzenau, chr. Dom 9 p. Trin. 1628.
2) Elisabeth, b. Beddelhausen, chr. 5 Oct. 1634.

X-19 Peter Lemaigre's Petition – 1793

The following two documents appear in "The Thomas Jefferson Papers Series 1, General Correspondence, 1651–1827," as images 106–9 in the Library of Congress American Memory website (for a Google Advanced Search, input Thomas Jefferson/American Memory). The first document is indexed as being from Peter Lemaigre to Thomas Jefferson, 25 July 1793. The second document (image 109) is incorrectly listed as being sent by Bernard Raser to Thomas Jefferson, 9 July 1793; it actually is the Copy referred to in (and was included with) Lemaigre's petition. Bernard's letter was sent to Peter Lemaigre on 9 July 1793 by way of Capt. Vallintine of the schooner *Sinnet*, Bernard Raser having been forcibly brought into New Providence three days earlier.

Lemaigre's petition is mostly written as one long paragraph, with little punctuation. I have taken the liberty to break it into several paragraphs, and to insert commas to make the text more readable, but without altering or adding any words. However, I have italicized the names of all vessels.

The Petition

To Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State for the United States of America.

The Petition and Remonstrance of Peter Lemaigre of the City of Philadelphia, Merchant and a citizen of the United States, Respectfully sheweth,

That your petitioner has before exhibited proofs to you in the case of the snow *Suckey*, that he has been for upwards of thirteen years a citizen of the United State residing and exercizing Business as a merchant in the City of Philadelphia. That your petitioner, having been largely interested in Trade to the Island of St. Domingo, had very considerable Sums of money due to him there, which he was desirous to withdraw from thence, and not only directed that his property there to be shipped as well in his own vessels which he hath from time to time sent to the said Island, as in such other American vessels as would receive freight for this port of Philadelphia.

That your petitioner having already stated to you the capture and detention of the said snow *Sucky*, Captain Andaule(?), which was taken and sent into Jamaica by a british Privateer, and for the reclaiming of which he is waiting for further Proofs of the Property of the vessel from Boston, is sorry that he is reduced to the necessity of again coming forward, humbly to represent the further capture and detention of his property by British privateers.

That your petitioner, being sole owner of the Brig or vessel called the *Molly*, whereof Bernard Razer is or was commander, fitted her out and loaded her at this Port of Philadelphia in the month of May last, with a cargo of Flour and other articles for his own account for Port au Prince in the Island of St. Domingo, and that the said vessel, having arrived at Port au Prince, there delivered her cargo here loaden, and received on board a full cargo of the produce of said Island, and four thousand eight hundred Dollars in Specie, wholly for account of your petitioner, and set sail therewith (bound for this port of Philadelphia).

That your Petitioner hath received a letter from Captain Bernard Razer, the commander of his said Brig *Molly*, dated at New providence the 9th day of this present month, informing him that his said vessel and cargo were captured and sent into said Island of new providence with a full cargo, and that they had taken from him 4,800 Dollars in cash, the property of this Petitioner, that they had unbent his sails for a Trial of his vessel and cargo, and that he could not inform what would be the consequence, as they bribe the sailors, get them drunk, and ship them on board their privateers, leaving some vessels but one or two Hands and sending them into Port. That the said Capt. Razer's letter, of which Copy is herewith handed you, also informs your petitioner that a great number of other vessels belonging to other ports in these States, several of which have property on board for your petitioner, have also been captured by the British and carried into the said Island of New Providence.

That your petitioner is deprived of the means of making his claims for the recovery of his property, by the violent and unjust measures made use of by the said British Cruisers, and must, with other merchants concerned in Trade to the French Islands, be involved in ruin, unless some measures are taken as well to recover the Property thus forcibly and unjustly taken and Detained, as to secure their vessels and cargoes from like capture and detention, therefore your Petitioner, relying on the wisdom and Justice of the general Government, respectfully submits his case to your consideration and prays that you will grant him such Relief herein as to you in your wisdom shall seem meet.

Philadelphia
July 25, 1793

(Copy)

P. Lemaigre

Our Raser Family

Copy of Capt. Razer's Letter

New Providence 9th of July 1793.

Sir,

This by Cap. Vallintine will inform you of my being brought in this place 3 days past with a full cargo and 4,800 Dollars in cash for your account. They have taken the money from me already and unbent my sails for a trial I cannot inform you what will be the consequence a great number of American vessels here, and every day more or less coming in. they take every one they come across they bribe the sailors, get them drunk and ship them on board the privateers - leave some small vessels but one or two hands and send them to Port - promise them a share in the prize if condem'd. three of my people has been taken out the vessel and ship'd on board the privateer - they offer the master from 4 to 5 hundred dollars for information - numbers of the mates and crews have ship'd - there is one Capt. McKilvin has condem'd his vessel & Cargo is at present a Capt. of a Privateer. Capt. Vallintine can inform you more particular than I can at present. Sir

I remain Yours &c

Bernard Raser

N.B. The following vessels in port belonging to Phila.

Schooner <i>Commerce</i>	Capt. Foulk
Brig <i>Hannah</i>	Capt. Connell
Sloop <i>Eliz'a</i>	Davidson
Schooner <i>Sinnet</i>	Vallingtine

And a great number of vessels belonging to other ports in the States, several with property for you.

X-20 Abstracts of Alabama-era Family Correspondence (1822–1832)

The following are abstracts from original family correspondence copied by the author. At that time letters 5–6 and 9–10 were in the possession of William H. Raser, St. Petersburg, Florida (1948), while letters 1–4 and 7–8 were in the possession of John H. R. Arms, New York City (1950).

I have done a certain amount of editing of these letters to remove distracting misspellings and excessive capitalization of words, and to alter punctuation so as to improve readability. Hopefully, I have not altered the facts or feelings which the writer wished to convey. I have also indicated, within square brackets, the timing of certain events, or the identification of mentioned individuals, that may not be known to the casual reader.

- 1) Mobile, 13 Apr 1822 Amanda S. Raser to "dearest Aunts", c/o John Heyl, 106 N. 2nd St., Phila.
It will be a great satisfaction to you to know you have another dear little niece, who we call Amanda Mary. I was ... safely delivered on the 19th of March. She is a treasure ... and will be a great comfort to us.
I heard from Mary [Vincent] a few days ago, she is well, also her husband, as well as our family [Thomas Raser and the Pfisters] at Demopolis.
- 2) Mobile, 2 Apr 1823 Amanda S. Raser to Miss Eliza Heyl, c/o John Heyl, 106 N. 2nd St., Phila.
I had a long spell of that disagreeable ague and fever, ... and having my little babe quite sick again. She has had a large boil on her neck, but she begins to get quite well ... she tries to talk and chat, and run about.
Sister Mary [Vincent] was with us a few weeks ago, she was quite well, she has a sweet babe ... she calls it Amanda

Appendices

Mary, we have reversed the names, ours is Mary Amanda. She made quite a short stay—it was not more than a week.

My William intends having me this summer to pay a visit. I wish he could take me with him, I am so anxious to see you, do come with him when he returns. You will certainly be pleased with Mobile, it improves so much, society is so good and large.

Thomas was down with us for some time, he has been in bad health; he was recovering when he left.

We heard from up the country lately, our parents [the Pfisters] and the rest of the family were all well, excepting grandmother [Pfister, nee Rys] who enjoys very bad health; her advanced age makes it impossible it should be otherwise [she died 5 Nov.].

3) Demopolis, 17 July 1823 Amanda S. Raser to aunts, c/o Miss Elizabeth Heyl, 106 N. 2nd St., Phila.

[This letter, which typifies the circumstances of family members in Alabama, is reproduced in its entirety.]

My dearest Aunts

When my William left me, I was unable to address you a few lines. I hope this will find you in health as well as my dear uncle and children. I keep as well as I can possibly, the loss of my dear little treasure is painful [Mary Amanda died 16 June]. She has left a terrible mourn, to her dear parents, a mourn if not replaced will never more make me happy in this World. She is now lying in peace sweet little babe. I expected too much happiness; that is the folly we have in this world of putting aside what we are not certain of—what a pass-time she would have been to me while separated from a dear husband. I cannot say any more on the subject, I could not write any more—my William will read to you what I could wish to write.

I hope he will arrive safe in good health—I received your two letters dated May the 10th and 30th. I assure you it gave me much pleasure.

Mothers family are all sick. We were likely to lose our next grown sister. Thomas [and] Amandtilda have both been sick; she says you must excuse her not writing you before. She knows she has been very neglectful; she is now unwell, but will try to write you a few lines [she died 21 Oct.]. Charles has been very sick but is getting quite well.

I wish you my dear Aunt to choose me one of those chamber bed basins, I suppose you will say I am too modest—bed pots. I was so much in want of it in sickness.

I heard from George—he is quite well—he says Mobile is quite healthy. I had quite a notion to go in the steamboat up to Mary; the family's sickness kept me back. William wrote me from there that John was coming down for me. I hope there will be nothing in the way to prevent my going. I cannot bear the thought of being so near and not see her, I am so fond of her.

I hope my Aunt Betsey [Heyl] will not disappoint us, I do certainly expect you will come and see me, if you would only know what pleasure it would give me. Do make up your mind and come on with William. My kind respects to my Uncle. Embrace the dear little children; I hope to see them one day if life is spared me. The family join in respect to you.

Thomas would write but he feels a little unwell. Adieu dear Aunts, write me soon, and believe me your ever affectionate niece. Amanda S. Raser

4) Off Cape May, 6 Oct. 1823 William Raser to John Heyl, 106 North 2nd St., Phila.

We are going to sea with a good wind. Aunt Betsy has commenced paying the forfeit, the rest feel rather Qualmish ... I am very glad we went on board yesterday, the parting was a task I was glad to get over ...

Tell Mr. Stockton [his business partner] I am unable to write more than this letter ...

5) Mobile, 23 Nov. 1823 William Raser to John Heyl, 106 North 2nd St., Phila.

Since last writing you we have [learned] of the death of Amanda's mother, who died of a dropsy in the chest on the 5th inst. Amanda has had a severe indisposition arising no doubt from the agitation [and] her situation on board the Barge ... [she may have traveled from Mobile to Demopolis by barge. EJR]

Thomas has also come down & has commenced working here. Charles remains at Demopolis [from which] we will in the spring remove the goods to some more lively place of business. John Vincent writes Mary [his wife] is not in good health ... John Raser has gone to Columbus, he will come down again, as soon as the Steam Boats run & carry up Juliet & the rest. Aunt has written you how she likes it in this place [but] Eliza [Juliet's sister] appeared a little homesick at first ...

The ship *India* & Mr. Stockton has arrived [but] the goods [and mail] are not [yet] landed ... I learn a vessel has cleared from Phila. for this place; I hope you have sent the sully ... as it is for our Physician. I continue to have a cough yet I have a good appetite. I take the preparation ordered by Dr. Griffiths ... I have no more pain in the breast & side.

Tell William I am going to write a long letter to him [and tell] Mary her cousin Amanda is much pleased with her present [and tell] Ann Eliza I have 5 Cents ... for her if she learns her lesson well ... [William, Mary and Ann Eliza were

Our Raser Family

John Heyl's children. EJR] Give our best love to Aunt Nancy [John Heyl's wife] & the child [John Bernard Heyl, born 8 May 1822. EJR]. Remember me to Mr. Prentice & George ...

6) Nassau, New Providence, 16 Mar. 1825 Amanda S. Raser to Mrs. Mary Vincent and Sister, Mobile
I hope you have kept well [and] we shall have some good news [from you] before long ... [William Raser Vincent was born 11 May 1825. EJR]

We have been a long time getting to this place; I [suffered from] sea sickness ... all the way ... John stood it remarkably well [and] cut two of his teeth at sea and has two more since ... he is quite hearty.

William is looking very well, he has made a trip to one of the Islands, he accompanied Mr [and] Mrs Wier. I suppose you will know who I mean.

It was quite a surprise on our arrival to hear papa and Becky had left, and the Tinnet was married. I found our little place very little altered, it reminds me of my younger days—the most of my friends are married. My sister Mrs Taylor is [expecting] in two weeks; her family are quite well. I suppose Juliet has her little play baby by this time [Mary Eliza Raser was born 1 Apr. 1825. EJR]—a fine play thing for Eliza [Juliet's sister], who will not want to dress the broom.

7) Belmont, Mississippi, 8 Sep. 1828 W[illiam] Raser to Bazile Meslier, Esqr., Mobile

All is over, my fond hopes that my dear Amanda was getting better are at an end; she left us last night at 8 o'clock for I trust a far happier & better place than this world of trouble. I hope Papa & Augustine [Augustine Pfister, Meslier's wife. EJR] will bear it with fortitude ... My cup of affliction is now full, but I shall use all efforts to bear it with fortitude.

8) Demopolis, 27 Aug. 1830 William [Raser] to Miss Basilia Meslier, c/o B. Meslier, Esqr, Mobile

I was detained much longer than I expected at Columbus by finding Mr. Abert confined to his bed by a fall from his horse, [from which I saw] him recover before I left, though it left him very weak. His wife is not very well either ... their little boy being very unwell & almost reduced to a skeleton by an internal complaint from which I fear he will not recover ... Mrs. Wright lost her little daughter after a sickness of only 3 or 4 days, [it having] enjoyed most excellent health till then.

I came to Tuscaloosa afterwards, where I found them all well except your Aunt Tinette, who had a Whitlow on her finger which however was getting better after cutting it open to the bone. Your Aunt Rebecca ... is very well; her old admirer Mr. Goldthwaite has been over again tending court ... [She is rumored to have other suitors, but] poor Becky has the luck of getting admirers that she does not fancy ...

Your Uncle Robert [Wier, or Taylor? EJR] came down with Thomas & I. Thomas is very desirous Tinette & he should move down here, as well as Mr Gains & Mr Glover & Lyons ... Thomas will fix up his house for him if he will consent to come, he lives so miserably at Mr Lipscomb's he cannot stand it any longer—must keep house himself unless some one comes with whom he can board.

Give my love to your Mama, Papa & grand Papa & to Josephine & the children ... I shall start [for Columbus] the day after tomorrow.

9) Mobile, 12 July 1832 William Raser to John Heyl, 106 North 2nd St., Phila.

Yours of 24th ult. came safely to hand; George [Prentice] had left before it reached here & I hope has ere this arrives, got safely home. My health since George left has been very bad, so as to prevent my attending to anything, but since Monday I have felt better than I have for 4 or 5 months past. If I continue so, I should be able to get through business in time to start up the Country as soon as Mr Hall returns.

I regret to hear the want of success of Mr. Sweet(?) with John, but really I have very little hopes ... For my part I do not view it in so deplorable a light as Mary; it is a misfortune, but perhaps it may eventuate to his benefit. It may occasion his closer application to study & if he can but get a good Education & is benefitted by it, there will never be any fears of his not getting along through the World, as well as others. My sole object will be to procure a sufficiency to have him & Ann Eliza well educated. I have no desire to leave them any other fortune. I have one consolation in knowing that no children who had lost their Mother at so young an age, ever had the good fortune to have her place so well supplied as mine.

10) Columbus, Mississippi, 22 Nov. 1832 William Raser to John Heyl, 106 North 2nd St., Phila.

Finding much to do here with Charles on my arrival, & the weather being ... very cold, I have not yet started for Mobile, but expect to do so shortly. I found all well here—little George William is very fat & the little girl a most interesting child. Mr & Mrs Wright & Mary Eliza are very well; also Columbus improves very fast, the society is excellent.

I was not a little astonished at George Prentice's delay in Phila. I cannot conceive what business can detain him ... I fear business will suffer much in Mobile, but he could not reasonably expect after my letter from Tuscaloosa, that I could be there to attend to it, for if I had got down I could be of but little use at present. My cough continues very oppressive & I am very weak; indeed, I made a sacrifice last summer in remaining in Mobile that nothing shall induce me to try again. [William died 3 Jan. 1833]

Write me to Mobile on receipt of this [letter as] I am anxious to learn if John's lameness gets better.

X-21 Family Correspondence Collections and Compiled Records

During the last two centuries a number of collections of family correspondence have evolved, particularly in the Thomas and William Raser branches. These probably were the result of the dispersed nature of the family and a desire to keep track of the movements, activities and changes in the status of various family members. In the case of the two generations of orphaned children of Capt. Bernard Raser (A-9) and William Raser (W-1), their guardians were interested in family heritage and saved both correspondence and heirlooms for the future use of their charges. Over time the existence of these documents and heirlooms spurred interest in the family background and, especially with the growth of hereditary societies during the Centennial Era, prompted a number of family members to generate further correspondence in their quest of additional biographical and vital records information about their ancestors. In some cases genealogically-interested members began to compile family trees, and in rare cases, some family members were prompted to delve into old courthouse records in an attempt to find answers to vexing questions about obvious gaps in traditional family accounts. However, not until the author undertook a sustained search into archival and published records, and sought biographical information from widely dispersed family members, did these efforts generate any significant accounts of the growth of the Raser family in America and the roles that family members played in its development. This appendix provides an overview of these earlier collection activities, and the contributions they have made to preserving details of family composition and relationships—for which this compiler is much indebted.

Most of the earliest vital records were maintained by churches. The German Elsoff church records of consequence to us are documented in Appendix X-2, while interesting personal events noted in Quaker meeting records are woven into the accounts of Baltes Reser (A-3) and Matthias Raser (M-1). With the increasing availability of printed Family Bibles, individuals began keeping their own records of birth, marriage and death events of family members in the sections provided between the Old and New Testaments (see Appendices X-5, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12). Similar records were sometimes recorded in other books/notebooks (Appendix X-6), or on carefully-preserved pieces of paper (Appendices X-4, 9, 13 and 14).

The first real attempts at compiling Raser genealogical records involved the construction of family tree charts. Such charts showed pictorially the descendants of a progenitor over an extended period of time, commonly including the name of the spouse (of which some individuals eventually had more than one), and ideally contained a certain amount of vital records information so that one could determine the time periods in which these individuals flourished. These charts came in two basic forms: ones showing successive generations going from left to right (horizontal-flow), or ones proceeding from the earliest generation at the top, to the most recent at the bottom (vertical-flow).

These charts usually made use of the compiled family records described above, supplemented by additional information solicited from relatives by correspondence. The compilers of these charts were usually persons motivated by a particular interest in family heritage, or a need for information, such as by an administrator trying to identify heirs to an estate, or a person needing proof to join a hereditary society. The account below describes the Raser family tree charts which have come into the view of this writer. It should be recognized that before the age of xerography, to be duplicated, most charts had to be redrawn by hand. As a result, slightly different copies may have been generated and sent to subsequent requesters. The copies described below are ones which appear to be substantially new, revised and expanded versions. In the narration, I have frequently used the nicknames of the principal compilers, rather than their formal names. I have also identified some persons who were original researchers, and whose findings were incorporated into these charts.

JHV Bishop John Heyl Vincent (A-13-5) (1832–1920)

Bishop Vincent, the co-founder of Chautauqua, was well known and respected by family members; his writings often showed a keen interest in family heritage. He appears to have accumulated much family correspondence. In 1892 he published a booklet paying tribute to his mother, Mary (Raser) Vincent (A-13), in which he early notes the existence of old letters belonging to his mother. Later in the booklet he states that “There are so many of [these old letters]; written between the year 1822, immediately following that of her marriage, and 1852, that of her death; [being] letters to her beloved uncle and aunt in Philadelphia; [and] to other relatives and friends ...” (1). Over the years Bishop Vincent gave a number of these old letters to family members who corresponded with him seeking family information.

In early 1892 Bishop Vincent sent Charles Hitchcock, son of Martha (Raser) Hitchcock (T-2), two significant documents. The first was a copy of the Bernard Raser Family Record (see Appendix X-4). The earliest information in this record possibly was copied from the “large Family Bible” which Mary (Heyl) Raser had in 1810 willed to her daughter Mary—later to become Bishop Vincent’s mother. The record identified *Bernardo* Raser as the son of Baltus and Mary Reser. The second was a hand-drawn, horizontal-flow family tree chart, labeled “For Charlie,” showing descendants of Susannah (Raser) Miller, Bernardo Raser, and Mary (Raser) Vincent—the most recent person being Isabel Vincent, who was born in February 1891 (2). The appearance of the “Bernardo” anomaly in the chart suggests that the information came from the Family Record. While the Family Record contained birth-death information, none of the vital records were included in this chart. This was the earliest Raser family tree chart seen by this writer.

In early 1902, in response to a request from Celeste (Raser) Arms (W-8) seeking information, Bishop Vincent sent her a packet containing old family letters—promising to follow it with a genealogical chart which would clarify family relationships involved in several of the letters (3). The actual chart has not been found, but it is most probable that Bishop Vincent subsequently did send it, and Celeste soon incorporated its contents in a larger tree chart which she constructed. The contents of her chart will be described below, but it is to be noted here that Bishop Vincent’s 1902 chart for the first time contained extensive birth and death information for the persons shown.

MRH Martha “Mattie” (Raser) Hitchcock (T-2) (1842–1923)

Mattie’s son Charles appears to have first shown an interest in the family background about 1892 (when he was about 20 years old). At some time he drafted (or possibly just copied), a horizontal-flow chart showing descendants of “Major General Brown & Lizzie Knight” (4). His considerable interest at the time is apparent from a horizontal-flow chart drawn later by Mattie showing the descendants of Solomon Raser (a totally unrelated family), and labeled “C. D. Hitchcock got this [data] in 1893, while in Chicago, Ill’s” (5).

While Charles Hitchcock had a continuing interest in the family heritage, his mother Mattie soon developed a much deeper passion for family history and memorabilia. When Celeste (Raser) Arms later was seeking information from Bishop Vincent in 1902, he advised her “to correspond with Cousin Mattie ... who has more relics of the Rasers & more enthusiasm on such matters than any of the relatives I know” (3). Over time, Capt. Bernard Raser’s heirlooms (see Appendix X-22) had come into Mattie’s hands, as well as many of Bishop Vincent’s letters and records.

In 1898 Mattie drafted a horizontal-flow family tree chart, following the style of Bishop Vincent’s 1892 chart, which she labeled: “The blood of our family. Cousin John commenced it. I finished it. Mattie H. Hitchcock. Bellevue, Huron Co. Ohio. Jan. 4, 1898” (6). Her chart contained all of the earlier names, but significantly expanded the descendants of Thomas Raser—her father—and extended the Vincent line; it contained no vital records. Over the next decade Mattie corresponded with many family members, always seeking more details about their families. In May 1909 Mattie drafted a very long family tree chart for Celeste Arms, essentially bringing her 1898 chart up to date in the Thomas Raser branch (7). This chart still contained no birth-death date information.

After Harry Raser became deeply interested in 1916 in the family background, Mattie gave him many of her correspondence papers. After her death in 1823, what records remained passed to her son Charles. Shortly before his death in 1931, Charles gave these papers to George B. Raser III, Harry Raser’s son (8).

Appendices

LRA **Celeste “Lessie” (Raser) Arms** (W-8) (1856–1937), and
JHRA **John Heyl Raser Arms** (W-19) (1888–1982)

Lessie’s interest appears to have been spurred in early 1902 when, in response to her query to Bishop Vincent, he sent her a packet containing old family correspondence and other papers—promising to follow it with a genealogical chart which he said would explain the Abert/Barry connection involved in several of the letters. He also urged her to correspond with Cousin Mattie Raser (3). Lessie did contact Mattie, who on 26 May 1902 sent her a 10-page letter giving much family history and describing some of her heirlooms (9). While Bishop Vincent’s chart has not been found, its contents in all probability enabled Lessie to draft a very long (24 inches) horizontal-flow family-tree chart with nicely-spaced and detailed information (10).

The chart is essentially in two parts, with the left half showing three generations of descendants of Baltus Raser and Mary Luckens (as then thought) in the Bernard Raser and Susannah (Raser) Miller lines. The entire chart contains birth date information for most persons (including spouse), and death dates for many. Two (of three) notes at the bottom of the left-half of the chart quote historical events extracted from letters which John Heyl Raser—Lessie’s father—had sent to Bishop John Heyl Vincent, his first-cousin, dated 11 January and 9 March 1889, strongly suggesting that Bishop Vincent had first laid out all of this information from records he had collected prior to 1890. Lessie initially recorded in the right half of the chart similar information and dates she had at hand for John Heyl Raser and two generations of his children, subsequently updating it through her father’s death in December 1901. For a complete copy of the information on this chart, see Appendix X-16.

After Lessie’s death in 1937, son John Heyl Raser Arms maintained her collection, but he appears to have done little further research. He was one of the first persons contacted by this writer, after I became interested in the family background in mid-1945. In 1950, while I was attending Columbia University, John would bring old papers to his downtown New York office and allow me to copy them. Later, he graciously copied items at my request, in particular the Philip Heyl Family Record (see Appendix X-13)—which enabled me to discover the German origins of our Heyl and Ziegler ancestors. We corresponded well into 1968, when I was publishing the serial *Raser and Allied Families*, and John was eighty years old—he died in 1982. During his retirement years, while spending winters in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., he gave various old family papers to interested relatives in Florida, some of which papers eventually were passed on to me.

John’s collections eventually passed to his son Richard Philip (W-32), who became interested in family history. In 1992 he published *Extracts from “Raser and Allied Families,”* and a companion *Copies of Raser Photographs*, the latter being a large collection of photographic materials covering the immediate predecessors and descendants of John Heyl and Cyllinda (Stoughton) Raser. Subsequently, what remained of Lessie’s genealogical collections was given to this writer by Richard’s widow, Elizabeth (Widger) Arms, in March 2005.

HTR **Henry “Harry” Thomas Raser** (T-10) (1870-1956), and
GBR **George B. Raser III** (T-16) (1903-1978)

Note: Only during the process of reviewing my chronologically-ordered files of old correspondence, for the purpose of writing this appendix, did I fully realize the extent of Harry Raser’s role in obtaining vital records information of family members. In the endnotes of this book (which notes were developed over the decades) I have frequently cited the GBR Coll[ection] as the source of much information, when in retrospect I probably should have cited it as the HTR Coll[ection].

Harry T. Raser appears to have become seriously interested in the family background after the death of his mother (Harriet Maus) in May 1916. He noted in a May 1917 typewritten letter to his uncle Harry in Seattle, that “[I] fully realized this last year from what [I] have bee[n] through [administering his mother’s estate] that [I] did not know or have record of the decedants [*sic*] of Thomas Raser and Elizabeth K. Brown, and that I was not the only one who was in the same position; so [I] have taken the matter up to get complete record[s] to date if possible, and in which [I] have been ably assisted by Aunt Mattie who has supplied me with the vital statistics regarding the past. Will you kindly give me the history of all your children with their births, deaths, etc. [I] fully realize we elder ones should give this our immediate attention so we may leave a complete record for our children before it is too late, therefore [I] took upon myself the task of collecting and tabulating this information for the future and trust you may be able to give me this complete history of your family very soon ... ” (11).

Probably by late 1916, Harry had put together grouped photographs of five generations of Thomas Raser branch members, photographed a painting of Capt. Bernard Raser, and begun to send prints of these to Raser relatives, often soliciting an exchange of photos, but primarily seeking up-to-date family-tree information (12). In March 1917 Mattie Hitchcock composed for him a three-page account of the family, and sent him a bundle of her family records, asking that he “copy what you like [and] send the letters back to me for it is all I have ... ” (13).

At some point after 2 May 1917 Harry compiled a typewritten, three-page genealogy of the Thomas Raser branch of the family (14). This was an early attempt at a *narrative* account, and was composed when he only knew of Baltas Raser’s first marriage, and two of his children. Harry did have a full, dated list of Capt. Bernard’s children, and had obtained Ensign Philip Heyl’s military record from the Sons of the Revolution. Thomas Raser and his descendants are outlined in some detail, but essentially in the form of a narrative family tree, with essentially no biographical information. However, he did give place-names of some of the vital records events—which information had been included in some of the letters solicited by him (15). Harry’s interests apparently extended to other ancestral families, for in 1917 he drafted a hand-lettered, vertical-flow chart of descendants of Philip Maus (1731-1797) and Frances Heap, listing their descendants up to date, but containing no vital records information.

Harry’s son, George Bernard Raser III, evidently had become fascinated by his father’s efforts. Soon after moving to Philadelphia in 1920 to attend the University of Pennsylvania, he began visiting Raser, Heyl and Miller relatives, and undertook family research in the Philadelphia county courthouse and local historical society libraries. In old wills he discovered the names of Baltas Raser’s parents, siblings, and children by his two marriages. This colonial-era information, coupled with the data Harry was receiving from correspondents, appears to have prompted Harry to start drafting a large, vertical-flow family-tree chart for the Raser Family, much like his earlier chart of the Maus Family.

By early 1921 Harry’s rough flow chart of the Raser family displayed the early Raser family structure which son George had uncovered in his courthouse searches, as well as speculation on their immediate forefathers. This was followed by five generations in the William line (with Richard Philip Arms, born in 1920, most recent) and four generations of part of the Thomas line (with Jane Virginia Metcalf, born in 1917, most recent). When George reviewed the draft, which contained no vital records information, he wrote extensive comments all around the sides of the chart, including “Can’t you make a complete chart of this giving all dates and carrying out the two children’s name[s] under R. Vaughan [given only as “2 Children”] etc. Also give all middle names etc.” (16)

Harry immediately drafted a new chart to include comprehensive name and date information. This chart bears the inscription in the upper-left corner: “Information concerning first Bernard Raser and his children and Baltas Raser his wives and children was obtained from qualified records recorded in Philadelphia Penna. in search made in February 1921 by George Bernard Raser III.” The new chart dropped the speculative first two generations, and extended the descendants of Bern[h]ard and Baltas with a slightly abbreviated William line (with few dates), but a greatly expanded Thomas line which included most birth dates and many death dates. This chart showed Mathias A. Hogermood as husband of Sophia Raser, — Adams as husband of Magdalen, and Catharina — as Baltas Raser’s second wife. Harry made many blueprints of this chart and distributed them to relatives (17). The chart was completed before 11 March 1921, when he mailed a copy to William H. Raser in New York City. Harry later corrected this chart to show John Restine as Sophia’s husband, Mathias Adams Hogermood as Magdalen’s husband, and Catharine Colloby as Baltas Raser’s second wife (18). The “Colloby” addition had to be made after mid-May 1922, when George first made mention of his recent discovery. See Appendix X-17 for a complete listing of the information on this corrected chart.

The corrected chart represented the high point of Harry Raser’s genealogical efforts. After that his son continued research from time to time, as opportunities arose during his busy Navy career. In early 1926 George wrote “I have been mighty busy searching out information about the Hubbard (my mother’s), Maus (my grandmother’s) and Brown (my great-grandmother’s) lines” (19), while later in the year he said “I have been working at the Vincent line, but have still quite a good deal of material to gather for it ” (20). At some time he laid out a very large horizontal-flow chart of the Hubbard Family, on which he subsequently added in handwriting the names and vital record dates for newer generations.

About June 1931 George was spurred to do further research on the Raser family when Charles Hitchcock, recognizing George’s great interest in the family, gave him what remained of his mother’s papers (8). George

Appendices

subsequently engaged in correspondence trying to find the German origin of the family, to obtain more information about Capt. Bernard Raser's Masonic records in Holland, and to determine the captain's possible involvement as a privateer in the Quasi-war with France—all without success. He was able to find a limited association with shipping magnate Stephen Girard (21), and was successful in obtaining records from Java on Bernard's 1804 sickness and burial (22). Between 1963 and 1974 I had considerable correspondence with George. During this time he generously provided me with copies, and often the originals, of letters and documents in his collection, and willingly answered all questions and made suggestions for further research. Following his death in 1978 his family record collections passed to his son, Thomas McKim Raser, of Ashtabula, Ohio. I continued to consult with Thomas on various historical matters, and visited him in March 1994 and October 2007 to view family papers and heirlooms. I am much indebted to him for his help in recent decades.

CCH Catharine (Cook) Harvey

During 1964–69 I had extensive correspondence with Mrs. G. Roger Harvey of Falls Church, Va. Mrs. Harvey was descended from Sarah (Colladay) Meng and her daughter Margareta (Meng) Abert, and at the time was compiling a genealogy of the Abert family (23). In addition to owning the Blasius Daniel Mackinet account (see Appendix X-14), she had acquired a large collection of Abert–Wright correspondence covering the 1823–47 time period, and was very familiar with the Raser–Heyl connection. James Abert, age about 14, was apprentice to Capt. Bernard Raser during the fatal voyage to Java in 1804, and was raised for some years afterwards in the widow Raser's household. In Mrs. Harvey's search for more information about James Abert's seafaring career, she became familiar with the old custom house records held by the National Archives. She informed the author about these records, enabling me eventually to gain access to them and discover the great amount of information disclosed in the account of Capt. Raser. She also allowed the author to photocopy a considerable portion of her correspondence collection. Mrs. Harvey subsequently married Col. John M. Davis, and later moved to Concord, N.C., where she died in late 2003. At last account her collections were in the possession of her son (24).

EJR Edward John Raser (W-30) (1925–)

Over the decades I have assembled a large library of genealogical and family history information on families and areas of interest to me, much of which is not directly related to the Raser family. Fortunately, most of the material is well enough organized so that I can easily access information and compose detailed narrative accounts. Much genealogical material is organized as manuscript surname genealogies and maintained in 1 1/2 inch three-ring loose leaf binders, with all family members bearing ID numbers (as in *Our Raser Family*) and related data sheets filed with them (ten Raser binders). Research notes from archival and library collective records sources, such as probate, church, cemetery, military, shipping, tax, city directory, census summary and vital records, are filed in separate research notes binders (four for Raser notes). Three 10-inch by 12-inch sheet-protector folders contain original and copied old family correspondence and documents, mostly from the collections cited in this appendix. A vertical file, consisting of two drawers of Raser file folders, contains miscellaneous documents and research notes, family-tree charts, Bible and family records, accession lists, and the writer's correspondence from 1945 to date. Included in the correspondence folders is the Biographical Highlights information collected from Raser family members during 2004–07 and which, for the most part, was not included in *Our Raser Family* for privacy reasons. Four transfer boxes contain photographs and photo albums acquired from various family members over the decades. My library shelves contain a number of history books and professional journals (frequently cited in the endnotes) which have provided information on activities and facilities of various places, such as Germantown, Philadelphia and Alabama, where family members settled and made contributions to the communities.

Edward J. Raser

X-22 Raser Family Heirlooms

Family heirlooms tend to be reminders of generations long gone. Often, for lack of earlier written family tradition, inaccurate stories become attached to them. The only heirloom in the William and Thomas Raser branches of colonial origin is an example. Photographic copies of the 1743 Quaker marriage certificate of Baltes Raser and Mary Lucken, held in the Mary (Raser) Vincent family, were widely distributed to Raser relatives in the 1890s (1,

2a, 3). These copies led many descendants in both branches to believe the Rasers were among the earliest settlers of Germantown, Pa., when in fact this was only true of the Lucken(s) family. Family tree charts up to 1921 always showed Baltes and Mary as our earliest know ancestors. It was not until 1921 that George B. Raser III (T-16), who was the first family member to undertake original research in the Philadelphia courthouse records, discovered that these two Raser branches descended from a second wife of Baltes, and that the Raser family probably had come to America considerably later than believed. Descendants of the Matthias Raser branch do have Mary Luckens as their ancestor.

Additionally, later heirlooms have become widely distributed and intermingled, so that their actual earlier origins and owners have become uncertain. The following descriptions cover some of the more significant heirlooms still held by family members, with some clues as to their earlier ownership which have appeared in old family documents. Since George B. Raser III and the author are frequently referred to in the narrative which follows, I have at times identified us as GBR, GBR III, or George, and EJR to keep the text more compact.

Bernard and Mary (Heyl) Raser

Most notable of all heirlooms in the William and Thomas branches are the personal possessions of Capt. Bernard Raser, which by tradition were cared for by members of the Masons and returned to his widow after his death in Java in 1804. Oddly enough, they are not mentioned in the will of his widow (who died in 1810), in which she bequeathed other family articles to her children. This was a deathbed will, so perhaps it only contained the most immediate items that came to mind—I will discuss them first. Her entire will can be read in Appendix X-26.

In the early items of the will she gave each of her four boys a gold watch—no subsequent specific mention of any of these watches has been seen by this writer. The same is true of a gold watch she gave to Mary, her only daughter. She also gave Mary “One large Family Bible, ... all my Plate, to Wit., Coffee Pot, Tea Pot, Sugar Bowl, Tea Tongs, Cream Pot, Soup(?) Bowl, Soup ladle, Punch Strainer, six Table & six Tea Spoons, a Sett of Marble Mantle Ornaments, knife case and knives & forks therein or thereto belonging, a Tea Sett of China marked M.R., five Goblets marked B.M.R., a pair of figured Decanters, half a dozen Wine Glasses and a minature [*sic*] Picture of her late Father set in Gold.” Daughter Mary (A-13) was only six years old at the time; her mother’s executor—brother John Heyl of Philadelphia, who lived until 1849—was to deliver them to Mary at her marriage or when she attained the age of twenty one years, whichever came first. At age 18 she married John Himrod Vincent in Alabama on 16 September 1821. The large Bible is likely the one from which her famous son, Bishop John Heyl Vincent (A-13-5), later copied the family record—see Appendix X-4. Once held in the Vincent family, the present whereabouts of this Bible is unknown.

Mary’s solid silver tableware (then known as “plate”) largely became indistinguishable from later tableware coming from the Pfister and other marriages. Some pieces may have had engraved initials, or maker’s marks, which could help to distinguish them. In 1902 Mattie (Raser) Hitchcock (T-2) wrote to Lessie (Raser) Arms (W-8): “The Coffee Urn I think was given to your Grand Father [William Raser] [and the] silver set to Aunt Mary ... There was a great amount of silver & elegant things that [Bernard] brought from foreign lands, but where they are no one knows” (2*). In a 1912 letter Mattie told Lessie that Aunt Mary [(Raser) Vincent] had obtained twice as many relics as all the rest of the family, and that all the Vincent children “had a hand in them ... Mary [(Vincent) Farovid] has Grand Mothers silver tea set, but it is packed up ... I have often seen it at Aunt Mary’s” (4).

Bishop Vincent, in an 1892 booklet written about his mother, Mary (Raser) Vincent, states that “Among our family treasures are many elegant presents, brought to [Bernard’s] family from foreign lands, and I prize highly a lovely little miniature of him in medallion, painted in Paris, which my mother cherished with greatest care” (5). In 1965 GBR told EJR that the Vincent family has “a miniature [portrait] just like ... his [large pastel] picture painted in Paris” (6). The present whereabouts of the miniature medallion portrait is unknown.

The pastel painting of Capt. Bernard Raser still remains in the family. Mattie Hitchcock, in her 1902 letter to Lessie Arms, mentions “the portrait my Father [Thomas Raser] had that was painted in Paris. It was given to my brother George Bernard—his son George Bernard [T-12] has it now ” (2). In late 1947 Harry T. Raser (T-10) of Ashtabula told me his son then had the painting as well as the telescope Capt. Raser held in his hands—possibly George Bernard, Jr., had given them to George III in respect for his nephew’s great interest in family history. In early 1969 the author visited GBR in Schenectady, and later made some notes of the heirlooms he was shown. “I

was surprised to find [the portrait] is done in pastels. I had thought it was in oil. It is in excellent condition, very fine handiwork and done with great care. [George] says that on the back there is an indication it was made in Paris" (7). This right-cheek portrait is the one photographed by Harry Raser, his father, and widely distributed to relatives in 1916-17. By way of a memo written by George about 1959 (see below), it passed to his son Timothy B. Raser, the present owner.

In Mattie's 1902 letter to Lessie, she added that John Heyl Raser (W-2) painted another portrait of Capt. Raser "from the portrait my father [Thomas Raser] had that was painted in Paris. I remember when your Father borrowed it & painted the one you have" (2). In mid-1965 Lessie's son, John Heyl Raser Arms, told EJR that he had the painting and that it was painted in oil "on a 14 x 20 (about) canvas." (8). Two months later he sent me a small photograph of this painting, writing on the back of the photo: "Captain Bernard Raser painted by his grandson John Heyl Raser from ivory miniature [*sic*] done in Paris as a gift to Captain's wife." In the accompanying letter he stated that the following was written on the back of the canvas: "Capt. Bernard Raser, Born July 22nd 1765, Died in Batavia EI 1805" (9*). This left-cheek portrait passed to his son, Richard P. Arms, who by 1990 had given it to Janet (Raser) Faunce (W-25), of Dallas, Texas. In 2010 it was in the possession of her daughter, Wendy Johnson, of Weston, Vt. (10).

In 1892, when Mattie Hitchcock's son Charles wrote to Bishop Vincent, he noted that "My Mother has the profiles, I think of William, Thomas, John, George & your Mother. Aunt Nancy Heyle gave them to her many years ago. I will get them and take blue prints of them and send them to you" (11). In 1902 Mattie confirmed that "I have the [silhouettes] of the Raser family. We are going to have them Photographed, then each one of the family can have one. Aunt Nancy Heyl gave them to me when I was a little girl" (2). One of the prints, showing the five silhouettes, came into the hands of GBR, who in January 1964 gave it to this writer.

Captain Bernard Raser Heirlooms

Captain Raser had need in his travels for navigation equipment and personal use items. He probably carried most of them in a wooden box, to facilitate his transfers between ship and shore. When he died in Batavia, Java (now Jakarta, Indonesia) in 1804, tradition says his effects were taken into care by Masonic friends. Although some traditional accounts say "Dutch Masons," these Masons more likely were Bernard's immediate crew members, or even more likely, one or more of the supercargoes (business men associated with the cargo) who were traveling aboard his ship. The effects were probably delivered to his widow in Philadelphia, and after her death six years later held by guardian John Heyl until well after her children came of age. Children William, John and George were all dead by 1833, the first two having left only infant children. The bulk, if not all, of Bernard's personal effects appear to have been passed to son Thomas Raser (T-1), and later to his daughter Mattie Hitchcock and sons George Bernard and Harry A. S. Raser.

In her long letter of 1902 to Lessie Arms, Mattie indicated she then possessed Bernard's spy glass and Chambers Encyclopedias, while her brother George Bernard had his seal (2). In 1912 she again mentioned that she had the Encyclopedias, and added that brother George Bernard also had the compass (4). John Arms later wrote EJR that in 1920 he had visited Harry A. S. Raser (T-7) in Seattle, who told him of the Dutch Masons returning "the Captain's personal effects ... some of which Harry possessed, some went to Cousin Mattie Hitchcock, in Ohio" (9).

What happened to the items Harry A. S. Raser obtained has not been discovered. His daughter Carrie was aware of GBR's interests, and eventually (after her death?) some of her furniture and the Thomas Raser No. 2 Bible came into George's possession. It is unclear what happened to the items Harry's brother George Bernard may have obtained. Capt. Bernard's seal and compass, which Mattie stated he owned, have not come to light. While much of George B. Raser's personal estate passed to his two sons and eventually to GBR III, none of the items are identified as Capt. Bernard Raser heirlooms.

After Mattie Hitchcock's death in 1923 her holdings largely passed to her son Charles, who subsequently gave a (large?) part of them to GBR, in recognition of his great interest in the Raser family history (7). In late 1933, after the death of Charles, his brother Gilliat Hitchcock (with approval of his son Ricardo) sent GBR more (all?) of the remaining relics; subsequently George acknowledged safe arrival of "The package containing the books, spyglass and seal ... " (12). In 1969, when I visited George, he "brought out an old chest which contained heirlooms of Capt.

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Bernard Raser—all in excellent condition. They had been given to him by Charlie Hitchcock ... ” (7). The items he showed me included the spyglass, Masonic certificate and apron, insurance certificate, and other personal items.

About 1959 GBR wrote a six-page “memo” stating how his personal effects were to be distributed to his four children after his death. By the time of his death in 1978 he had given a few of the items to a different child (and even several paper items to EJR), but by-and-large his wishes were fulfilled (13). What follows are descriptions of the more significant Capt. Raser heirlooms which have been mentioned over the years, along with their disposition as of 2007.

Spyglass (also see Telescope, which follows)

In 1902 Mattie Hitchcock wrote to Lessie Arms: “I have his spy glass that he sailed all the seas with. It is the one he has in his hand in the portrait your father painted from the portrait my father had that was painted in Paris” (2). Possibly it passed to son Charles initially, but after his death passed to son Gilliat. In 1933 GBR thanked Gilliat Hitchcock for the spyglass which he had just received (12). In 1969 EJR visited GBR in Schenectady and was shown a “telescope (said to be the one in his portrait, but not so upon close examination)” (7). By GBR’s memo the spyglass passed to Timothy Bell Raser, the present owner.

Telescope

From the “Traditional Account” (see Appendix X-15): “Cousin Mattie had the encyclopedia [Capt. Bernard] carried, her brother in Seattle, Wash. had his spy glass ... The spy glass referred to was given to me [Prentice Raser] by my father about 1890. I took it to my summer cottage at Lake Winola Pa. & when I sold said cottage about 1928 I gave the said spy glass to my nephew Oliver B. Raser Jr. [W-16] now of Babylon, NY, who at this date Jany. 7th 1949 is the possessor.” This instrument, contained in a black felt bag and identified as “Grandfather J. H. Raser’s Telescope,” was in the possession of Oliver’s son in late 2007. Made of brass, it is of three sections, extending from about 12 1/2 inches closed to 16 inches open; the larger center-section being about 2 1/2 inches in diameter. The author is inclined to believe this telescope was one of John Heyl Raser’s scientific instruments, and never was owned by Capt. Bernard.

Insurance certificate—Philadelphia, 11 July 1800.

In early-1969, when EJR visited GBR in Schenectady, he was shown the original certificate, “which is in excellent condition. It was much larger than I expected—possibly 1 1/2 ft. high and 1 ft. wide” (7). By GBR’s memo, the “framed Mariner’s insurance certificate” passed to his son John Baltas Raser, the present owner.

Masonic membership certificate—Flushing, [Netherlands], 15 March(?), 1803; also the Masonic apron.

By GBR’s memo, the “Masonic certificate and apron” passed to son Timothy Bell Raser, the present owner.

“Seal”

In 1902 Mattie indicated that either her brother George Bernard, or his son George Bernard, Jr. “has Grand Fathers Seal, it is a grand thing, their name is engraven on it” (2). In 1933 GBR thanked Gilliat Hitchcock for the “package containing the books, spyglass and seal ... ” (12). But GBR’s later memo is mute on the subject of the seal, and son Thomas Raser in 2007 was unaware of its existence. It is not even clear what the “seal” actually was.

Chamber’s Encyclopaedia—1740 or earlier

In 1902 Mattie wrote: “I have the old encyclopedias that were aboard the vessel when it was raised or floated ashore ... they are not very beautiful.” “They are Chambers Encyclopedias in two very larger volumes. There is no date” (2). [But her description suggests they are the original edition, which can be compared with the interesting web site information at www.cyclopaedia.org/chambers/chambersnotes.html.] GBR’s memo lists the “Encyclopedia (Chambers’)” as (originally) Thomas Raser’s, rather than Capt. Bernard’s—I am inclined to agree. However, the captain may have used these large and heavy volumes to educate himself on his long voyages at sea. They are now in the possession of Thomas M. Raser.

Personal items

The following items are mentioned in GBR’s memo; all were given to son Timothy B. Raser, the present owner: “razor and strops, mirror, pipe, and medical scales.” EJR examined the pipe when he visited GBR in 1969; it was a Dutch pipe, with metal cover over the bowl.

Thomas Raser Branch Items

Most personal items of Thomas Raser which eventually came into the hands of GBR were passed to son Thomas M. Raser. They included a mahogany table, high book case, copper candlesticks with prisms, candle snuffers, a pair of glass decanters, and "Thomas Raser's hair curlers."

Thomas Raser's receipt book—1815

This historically valuable item is a notebook in which Thomas Raser obtained autographed receipts for disbursements he made to persons for various services rendered. It begins 18 Sep. 1815 in Philadelphia, covers Demopolis activities 1820–28, and Pennsylvania activities from 1840; the last entry is dated 14 July 1863. By GBR's memo, it passed to son Thomas M. Raser, the present owner.

Silver fork and spoon.

In 1935 Lessie Arms gave GBR a fork and spoon which she claimed Thomas Raser (T-1) had given her brother Tom. [Since Thomas, Sr., died in 1857 and young Tom was not born until 1858, this tradition is questionable.] GBR acknowledged receipt of the items, about which Lessie asked George: "Is that a crest of our family on the handle? Have you a Raser coat of Arms?" (14). This may be the silverware which George had heard of years before, and which prompted him in 1928 to seek professional help "to find the design of the Raser escutcheon. Until a few years ago there was a copy of it on an old family silver spoon which has since been lost" (15). No response to his research request has been found. More likely this silver bore a Pfister-related crest (Thomas Raser's first wife), which family was probably of upper class origins. Present whereabouts unknown.

Escritoire (writing table/desk)—about 1823

In a 1912 letter Mattie noted that "I have a desk my Father made for his first wife, Amantilda Pfister" (4). The initials "GSH" written in ink (probably for Gilliat S. Hitchcock, one-time owner) can be found inside the desk. By GBR's memo, it passed to son Thomas M. Raser, the present owner.

Thomas Raser's Travel Route Guide—1834

The Principal Stage, Steam-boat, and Canal Routes in the United States ..., pub. by Mitchell & Hinman, Phila., 1834. The guide contains hand-marked route segments between major Alabama and central Pennsylvania towns (16*). By GBR's memo, as one of the "account books," it passed to son Thomas M. Raser, the present owner.

Elizabeth (Brown) Raser portraits

Two small watercolor portraits (3 1/2 inches by 4 inches) were made of Elizabeth, in all probability by John Heyl Raser, and likely before he moved from Milton in 1851. Both are left-facing profiles (one is unfinished); they display the fine handwork typical of JHR's early watercolors. Probably among the "Family pictures and portraits" mentioned in GBR's memo, which items passed to son Thomas M. Raser, the present owner.

Thomas Raser Family Bible No. 1—Printed 1851.

For the Bible's ownership history, and family record contents, see Appendix X-7.

Thomas Raser Family Bible No. 2—Printed 1859.

For the Bible's ownership history, and family record contents, see Appendix X-8.

William Raser Branch Items

William Raser Family Bible—Printed 1821/2.

For the Bible's ownership history, and family record contents, see Appendix X-5.

Model of Capt. Bernard's ship

In 1967 John Arms stated that Oliver Raser (W-16) got "the model of Captain Bernard's ship which graced the top of JHR's curio cabinet" which Prentice Raser kept in his house at Lake Winola (17). In 1971 Oliver wrote to EJR: "I have, you know, a ship model [Bernard] brought home—given to me by Uncle Prentice" (18). The model—a three-masted sailing ship with womanshead and cannons—was in the possession of his son in late 2007. Whether this model ever belonged to Capt. Bernard is uncertain.

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John Heyl Raser paintings

His paintings (in watercolor, pastel and oil) were widely distributed, and can be found in museums and many private collections. Many were given to family members during his lifetime; following his death a large number in his possession were distributed by lot. The author has a largely-unfinished catalog of his paintings, which mostly were of scenes, but also included some still life. After retiring he mostly painted portraits, but almost none of them have been located. From time to time his paintings appear on the Internet in art dealer's offerings.

John Heyl Raser microscope and slide collection

His microscope and slide collection are presently owned by the author. Also a set of six watercolors he painted of microscopic objects seen using his microscope.

Amand Pfister Raser's baby cup—1854

Sterling silver cup, about four inches tall, engraved "A. Pfister Raser from his Uncle." Made by Bailey & Co. In possession of the author. A letter from Amand P. Pfister to "My dear Nephew," dated Montgomery [Ala.], June 26, 1854, thanking JHR for naming a "fat plump boy" in his honor, is also owned by the author.

Edward J. Raser

X-23 Will of Bernhard Reser (A-2) – 1760

The will of Bernhard Reser (A-2) is on record in the Surrogate's Office, Philadelphia, Pa. Courthouse records indicate that the original will is on file as Will No. 78, for 1761. Access to the original will was barred, ostensibly to save the fragile document from damage—whether it still exists remains undetermined. A verbatim ac litteratim copy of the will, as recorded in Liber M of Wills, page 133 et seq, is presented below.

Bernard Reser's Will. No. 78 of 1760
I Bernhard Reser of Bristol Township in the County of Philadelphia yeoman, being Indisposed in Body but of perfect sound Disposing mind memory and understanding, Calling to mind the uncertainty of my Time here I have Thought it Requisite & necessary to settle my outward affairs by this my Last Will and Testament in the following manner, Imprimis I Will & Require that all & Singular my Just Debts &ca. be well & truly paid and Discharged.

Item I Give & Bequeath to Elizabeth my well beloved Wife my best Bed, Bedstead, Beding and all furniture thereunto belonging, six chairs, four pewter Dishes, six Pewter Plates, all our Tea Ware & furniture, a Hanging Dresser, a Black Walnut Table, Two Iron pots, Two Brass Skellets, Two Trunks, & a Chest of Drawers to Dispose of as she pleases. I also give & Bequeath unto my sd. dear Wife the Use Rents Issues & Profits of my Messuage or Tenement wherein I now dwell and the Lot or piece of Land thereunto belonging which I purchased of William Wilson as also that piece of Land & meadow belonging to me lying and being in Bristol Township afsd. and Bounded by Nathan Thomas's Land George Bonnevil's land and the upper York Road To hold to her Together wth. the appurtenances to each of them belonging for and during her Natural Life or Widowhood which may first Terminate, and after my Wife's Decease or Marriage (which may first happen) I Impower and Authorize my Executors hereinafter named or the Survivor or Survivors of them to sell and Dispose of my sd. Messuage or Tenement and Lot or piece Land which I purchased of William Wilson and sd. piece of Land & Meadow Bounded as afsd. for the best price that may be had for the same, and in my Name & Stead to make Execute & acknowledge ffee Simple Deed or Deeds of sale for the same to the purchaser or purchasers and to his her or their Heirs & Assigns forever or if my wife be desirous that the same may be sold in the time of her widowhood I will that it be done with her consent and approbation in which case she is to have her part of the purchase mony in manner as is hereinafter directed.

Item I give & Bequeath to my two youngest Daughters Magdalene and Elizabeth and to each of them a feather Bed Bedthead Beding Curtains and all Furniture belonging, a Chest six Chairs six pewter plates and two pewter dishes, but if they or either of them Receive the above particulars of me in my life time then not to have them after my decease, and I will that my Remaining moveables be sold by my Executors.

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Item whereas I have sold to my son John Reser a Stone Messuage or Tenement and about seven acres & a quarter of Land thereunto belonging scituate & being on the Easterly side of the said upper york Road in Bristol township aforsaid and for which I have not as yet given him a Deed of Conveyance in fee If therefore a ffee simple Deed of Conveyance for said Messuage Land & premisses so as aforsaid sold to my said son John be not executed by me in my life time I Impower and authorize my Executors in my Name & Stead to convey the same to my said son John and to his Heirs and assigns forever upon the Term agreed on by and between us.

Item I Impower and authorize my Executors hereinafter named or the survivors or survivor of them as soon as it may be Convenient after my Deceace to sell & dispose of all my Remaining Lands & Tenements & Real Estate whatsoever and wheresoever belonging to me or to my Estate at the time of my Deceace and in my Name and Stead to convey the same or any part thereof to the purchaser or purchasers and to his her or their Heirs and assigns forever in such parts or dividends as they may think most Convenient and best.

Item I Give & bequeath to my two youngest Daughters Magdalen and Elizabeth aforsaid and to each of them the sum of one Hundred Pounds Current money of the Province of Pennsylvania aforsd. to put them upon an equality with the rest of my Children who have each of them had the like sum or value therof of me in their first Settlement or Seting up in Business for themselves.

Item I Give and Bequeath all the clear Residue of my Estate (after debts &ca. are paid and the before mentioned Legacies to my wife ad two youngest Daughters are Deducted) unto my said Dear wife and five Children vizt. Baltas Sophia John Magdalene and Elizabeth each of them (except my Daughter Sophia) to have an equal proportion thereof Share and Share alike my said Daughter Sophia is to have in the said Distribution Two Hundred & fifty Pounds less in her Share than each or any of the others as I have suffered so much as that sum amounted to as a Loss in my Estate by becoming Security for her Husband John Restine, and my will is that the said Distribution be made as soon as possible after my decease of all the assets that may come into the hands of my Executors belonging to my Estate, and if my wife be willing and desirous that the premisses hereby given to her during her life or widowhood should be sold during her widowhood or if the same be sold in her life time the money arising by such sale shall be considered as part of the said residue of my Estate and distributed or divided between her and my said five Children in manner above directed But if the same be not Sold untill after my wife's de[c]ease then the money arising by the sale therof shall be divided in manner aforsaid between and amongst all my said Children, always observing that my Daughter Sophia's Share in the said Residue of my Estate shall be the said sum of Two Hundred and fifty Pounds less than any of my other Children for the reasons aforsd. and I Impower my Executors to Retain my Daughter Sophia's part of my Estate in their Hands if they see it necessary and for her good, and pay her the Interest therof when any accrues, or they may pay her the Principle in such sums or sum as they may think will conduce to her and her Family's advantage, and if she or any other of my Children should happen to Depart this life before such a distribution as aforsaid of my Estate be fully made & paid and leave lawful Isue such Isue shall have such Decedent's share equally Divided amongst them But if such Decedent be under Twenty one years of age unmarried and without lawful Isue then and in such case my wife and Surviving Children shall have such Decedent's Share equally Share and Share alike, But if my wife be not then living then to Devolve to my Children equally or their Representatives and I will that if any of my Children be indebted to me or my Estate at the tim[e] of my Decease that Such so indebted shall pay the same or that the said debts shall be allowed and Discounted out of the Share or Shares of my Estate of such as may be as aforsd. Indebted to me.

I Nominate Constitute and appoint my said son Baltas Reser and my friends John Jones and Thomas Rose all of Germantown in the County aforsd. Executors of this my Last Will & Testament her[e]by Revoking and making void all former Wills Testaments or Exers. by me heretofore made Ratifying and Confirming this writing as my last will and Testament. In Witness wherof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Eighteenth day of October Ao. Di. one thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty. 1760.

Bernard Reser (seal)

Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Bernhard Reser as his Last Will and Testament in the presence of us the Subscribers

William Wilson

Joseph North

Nathan Thomas

Philada. 27th June 1761. Then personally appeared William Wilson Jos. North and Nathan Thomas the Witnesses to the forgoing Will & on Oath did Declare they saw and heard Bernhard Reser the Testator therein named Sign Seal

Publish and Declare the same Will for and as his last will and Testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound mind memory and understanding to the best of their Knowledge. Coram William Plumstead Register Genl.

Be it Remembred that on 27th June the last will and Testament of Bernhard Reser decd. in due form of Law was Proved and Probate & Lrs. Testamentary were granted to Baltas Reser John Jones and Thomas Rose Executors in the sd. Will Named being Solemnly affirmed well and truly to administer the Deced. Estate and bring an Inventory thereof into the Reg. Genl. Office at Philada. at or before the 27th July Next and render a true acct. when Required Given under the Seal of the Sd. Office Wm. Plumstead Reg. Genl.

X-24 Will of Anne Elizabeth Reser, Widow of Bernhard (A-2) – 1773

The will of Bernhard Reser's widow is on record in the Surrogate's Office, Philadelphia, Pa. A verbatim ac litteratim copy of the will, as recorded in Wills Liber Q, page 261, is given below. The recorded will appears as one long paragraph; the copy here has been divided into its major sections for easier reading.

No. 218 of 1773

Be it remembred That I Anna Elizabeth Reser Widow of Bernard Reser (late of Bristol Township in the County of Philadelphia in the Province of Pennsylvania Yeoman Decd) do hereby Settle, & dispose of my outward Affairs by Way of Will &c And in the first place I order that all & singular my just Debts funeral Expences &c be well and truly paid & discharged.

Item I give and Bequeath to my two Grand Children William & Bernard Endt Sons of my late Daughter Elizabeth Endt deceased the Sum of One hundred Pounds Current Money of the Province aforesaid to be equally divided between them & paid to them as they respectively arive at a Mature Age, In full of their & each of their part of my Estate, but if one of them should depart this Life in Minority & without lawfull Issue then & in such Case the Survivor shall be entitled to the whole, And if they both should die in Minority & without lawfull Issue in that Case & not otherwise I Bequeath the said Sum unto my Daughter Magdalen Adams if then living, but, if not living then to all her Children equally part & Share alike And I commit the Care of my said Bequest or Legacy of One hundred pounds, And so far as in me lies, the Guardianship of my said two Grand Children respecting what property may hereafter fall to their Share of my late Husband's Estate unto my trusty Friend William Wilson of Bristol Township aforesd to be by him ordered in the best Manner he is capable of for their Good.

Item I do hereby Order & direct that my Executors herein after named shall & do pay & deliver unto Cathrine Adams Hogermood of Germantown Widow the Annuity of Three pounds Six Shillings & Eight pence Current Money aforesd and One Cord of fire Wood or Value thereof to be paid & delivered to her Yearly & every Year out of the Incomes of my Estate for & during the Continuance of her Natural Life if she should survive me, the which is in lieu and instead of the Annuity payable to her from her Son Mathias Adams Hogermood as his part of her Dower, & in full Compensation thereof.

Item I give devise and Bequeath unto my trusty Friends Jacob Engle & Jacob Knorr both of Germantown in the County aforesd All that my Messuage and Lot of Ground Situate in the said Germantown Together with the Buildings Improvements & Appurtainances thereunto belonging, Being the same which I lately purchased of my Son in law the said Mathias Adams Hogermood & Wife and by them Conveyed to me by deed bear date the Twenty Second day of June last past, To hold the said Messuage Lot and premises to them the said Jacob Engle & Jacob Knorr & Survivor of them In Trust nevertheless and upon and under the special Confidence that my said Trustees or Survivor of them do and shall apply the Use or clear Yearly Rents & Incomes ariseing therefrom to the Maintainance & Support of my said daughter Magdalen Adams & her Children for & during the Natural Life of the said Magdalen,

I likewise Bequeath all the Rest & Residue of my personal Estate whatsoever (exclusive of what is herein before given) unto my said Trusty friends Jacob Engle & Jacob Knorr In Trust also and upon & under the like

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Special Confidence that they my said Trusty friends or Survivor of them do & shall apply the same or any part thereof, or of the Interest arising or accruing thereon to the Support & Maintainance of my said Daughter Magdalen & her Children for & during her Natural life (always observing to pay Cathrine Adams Hogermood her Annuity).

And after the decease of my said daughter Magdalen I give devise and Bequeath unto her the said Magdalen's three Children namely, Charles, Elizabeth & Ann And to such other Child or Children as She may hereafter bear and the Survivors or Survivor of them who may arive at a Mature Age, All my then remaining Estate both real & Personal To Hold to them their Heirs and Assigns forever in equal proportions part & Share alike And to hold my Real Estate as Tennants in Common & not as Joynt Tennants Provided Nevertheless That if it be found Necessary & of Advantage to my said daughter Magdalen to sell my said Reall Estate in her life time & she should chuse it, I in such case Impower & Authorize my said Trusty friends Jacob Engle & Jacob Knorr, whom I also Nominate & Constitute to be the Executors of this my last Will & Testament, to sell & dispose of all my said Real Estate in the life time of my said daughter Magdalen (if She consent to & approbate the same) And to make Execute & Acknowledge a Deed or Deeds of Sale for the same or any part thereof to the purchaser or purchasers his her or their Heirs & Assigns for ever, Which shall be as Authentick & Available to all Intents & purposes for vesting the property in fee of my said Real Estate in such Grantee or Grantees as if done by me in my own proper person any thing herein before contained to the Contrary thereof in any wise Notwithstanding, And the Money arising by such Sale to be put out to Interest in Safe hands by my said Trusty friends & Executors and to apply the said Interest from time to time as the same becomes due to my said Daughter Magdalen & her Children's Support during her Natural life as [torn] and at or upon the decease of my said daughter Magdalen, my whole remaining Estate being in this Case reduced into personals, I Give & Bequeath the same to all the Surviving Children of said Magdalen and the representatives of those of her Children who maybe dead (if any) to be equally divided amongst them part & Share alike.

Lastly I Ratifie these presents for & as my Last Will & Testament Revoking all former ones by me made In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & Seal dated the Twenty Eighth day of October in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Seventy three 1773.

[Signed, in German] Anne Elisebet Ruserin (Seal)

Signed Sealed Published & Declared By the said Anna Elizabeth Reser for & as her Last Will & Testament in the presence of Us: Christopher Sower Justus Fox Thos Rose

Philada March 7th 1776 personally appeared Christopher Sower and Justis Fox two of the Witnesses to the within written Will and on their Solemn Affirmation according to Law did declare that they saw and heard Anna Elizabeth Reser the Testatrix therein named Sign Seal publish and declare the same Will for and as her last Will & Testament And that at the Execution thereof She was of sound disposing Mind Memory and Understanding to the best of their Knowledge and Belief.

Coram Benjamin Chew Reg. Genl

Be it remembred That on the 7th day of March 1776 the last Will and Testament of Anna Elizabeth Reser deceased in due Form of Law was proved and probate and Letters Testamentary were granted to Jacob Engle & Jacob Knorr Executors in the said Will named they having first been duly qualified well and truly to administer the said deceased's Estate and bring an Inventory thereof into the Register Generals Office at Philadelphia on or before the 7th day of April next and render a true and just Account of the said Administration on or before the 7th day of March 1777 or when thereto legally required Given under the Seal of the said Office. Benjamin Chew Reg Genl

X-25 Will of Baltres Reser (A-3) – 1773

The will of Baltres Reser is recorded in the Surrogate's Office, Philadelphia, Pa. For some unstated reason the will was recorded twice, first in Wills Liber N, page 340, and later in Wills Liber P, page 444. It can be seen that the first copy contains obvious recording errors. A verbatim ac litteratim copy of the later recording is given below. The recorded will appears as one long paragraph; the copy here has been divided into major sections for easier reading.

Our Raser Family

No. 313 of 1773

In the Name of God amen I Baltas Raser of Germantown in the County of philadelphia in the province of pennsylvania Tanner being sick & weak in Body but of Sound and well disposing Mind and Understanding thanks be therefore unto the Lord for the Same and all others his mercies having Considered the uncertainty of life and certainty of death and knowing that it is appointed for all men on[c]e to dye t[h]ought proper to Settle my Worldly affairs in the best manner I could And I do hereby make my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say, hereby revoking all Wills by me heretofore made and I do declare this and no others to be my last Will and Testament.

Principally and of all things I do recommend my Soul to my gracious and merciful Creator and redeemer hoping through his merits for pardon of all my Sins and a joyful resurrection of my Body which I desire may be decently Intered, and it is my Will that all my Just debts and funeral Charges be duly paid and discharged

And I do give unto my three Children Matthew Daniel & Elizabeth Raser which I had by my first wife Mary deceased to every one of them the sum of ten pounds pennsyla. Currency for their own and proper use out of my real and personal Estate being the only Sum or Sums I give and bequeath unto them,

And I do give unto my dear & beloved Wife Catharina a Compleat Bed Bedsted Curtins and all what is belonging to it which She may chuse to pick out for herself, and I do also give and bequeath unto my said Wife Catherina a whole and Compleat sett of kitchen furniture such as potts Kittles dishes plates or any thing what belongs to it and what She brought to me by marriage and which She may also be at Liberty to Chuse for her, And I also give devise and Bequeath unto my said Wife Catharina one third or a third part of all my real and personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever for her own & proper use,

And I further give devise & bequeath unto my dear beloved Children which I had by my Wife Catharina viz. Barny Susey Sally & Caty the remaining two thirds or third parts of all my said Estate to be divided between them Share & Share alike in equal Shares and portions to their Heirs and Assigns forever,

And it is also my Will that my dear beloved Wife Catherina Shall have all the incomes Interest, rents of my Estate after my debts are paid during her Widowship or as long as She Stays my Widow to bring up my said four Children,

And it is my Will that my Executors whom I shall hereby appoint Shall Sell my House and Lands in parcels or in the whole just as they can make the best of it to pay my debts and Satisfy my Creditors and to give and deliver to the purchaser or purchasers a good and Sufficent deed or Title for the same,

And I do hereby Nominate and appoint my trusty friend William Colliday and my beloved Wife Catharina Executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I the said Baltas Raser have hereunto Sett my Hand and Seal this Seventeenth day of Decemb[e]r one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy three.

Baltas Reser (Seal)

Signed Sealed published and declared by the sd. Baltas Reser as and for his last Will & Testament in the presence of us who have hereunto Subscribed our names as Witnesses in the presence and at the request of the Testator.

Lorentz Reiss Agustine Neisser

Philada. January 3d 1774. Personally appeared Lorentz Reiss & Augustine Neisser the Witnesses to the foregoing Will and the said Lorentz Reiss on Oath and Augustine Neisser on his Solemn affirmation according to Law did respectively declare that they saw and heard Baltas Reser the Testator therein named Sign Seal publish and declare the Same Will for and as his last Will & Testament and that at the Execution thereof he was of Sound disposing Mind Memory and Understanding to the best of their Knowledge & Belief. Coram Benjamin Chew Regr. Genl.

Be it remembred that on the third day of January 1774 the last Will and Testament of Baltas Reser deceased in due form of Law was proved and probate and Letters Testamentary thereof were granted to William Colliday &

Catherina Reser Executors in the said Will named being first duly qualified well and truly to Administer the said deceaseds Estate and bring an Inventory thereof into the Register Generals Office at philada. on or before the third day of February next and render a true accot. of the said Administration on or before the fourth day of January 1775, or when thereto Legally required Given under the Seal of said Office. Benjamin Chew Regr. Genl.

X-26 Will of Mary Raser, widow of Capt. Bernard (A-9) – 1810

The will of Mary Raser is recorded in the Surrogate's Office, Philadelphia Co., Pa, in Liber 3, page 107. A verbatim copy of the recorded will is given below. The recorded will is written mostly as one long paragraph, with many words seemingly initially capitalized (possibly an idiosyncrasy of the recording scribe, and not of the original writer of the will). To make reading easier, I have divided the will into its major sections, added punctuation, and removed questionable capitalization, but not altered the spelling or sequence of words.

No. 28 of 1810

Be it Remembered That I Mary Raser of the City of Philadelphia, Widow of Bernard Raser Late of the same City, Mariner deceased, being indisposed in Body, but of Sound mind and memory praised be the lord for the same and all Other his mercies, do hereby make and declare the following to be my last Will and Testament, that is to say,

First. I will that all my Just debts and funeral expences be duly paid and Satisfied.

Item. I give to my Son William Raser my Gold Repeating Watch, late his Fathers, and a Gun.

Item. I give to my Son Thomas Raser a Gold Watch now laid bye for him, late his Fathers.

Item. I give to my Son John Raser a writing Desk late his Fathers, and a Gold Watch of about the Valued of fifty or Sixty Dollars to be purchased by my Executor and delivered to him at the Age of twenty one years.

And to my Son George Raser I give a Gold Watch of the like Value as aforesaid to be purchased by my Executor and delivered to him at the age of twenty one years.

Item. I give to my Daughter Mary Raser One large Family Bible, my Gold Watch, my Wearing Apparel, my Bed, Bedstead, and Bedding, compleat with Curtains, half a Dozen pair of Sheets, half a dozen Table Cloths, six napkins, all my Plate, to Wit., Coffee Pot, Tea Pot, Sugar Bowl, Tea Tongs, Cream Pot, Soup(?) Bowl, Soup ladle, Punch Strainer, six Table & six Tea Spoons, a Sett of Marble Mantle Ornaments, knife case and knives & forks therein or thereto belonging, a Tea Sett of China marked M.R., five Goblets marked B.M.R., a pair of figured Decanters, half a dozen Wine Glasses and a minature Picture of her late Father set in Gold. All which articles it is my Will shall be and remain in the care of my Executor and to be delivered to her my said Daughter at her marriage or when she shall attain the age of twenty one years which ever shall first happen.

Item. I give to each of my said Sons a legacy of Three hundred Dollars to be paid to them as they severly and respectively arrive to full age, and I will that all my Books, save the Bible above mentioned, be equally distributed among my said Sons. And all the rest of my Property & Estate I give to be equally divided by my Executor among my said Sons and my said Daughter share and share alike.

And until they severly and respectively arrive to age, my Will is that my Executor, after having converted all my property not above Specifically bequeathed into ready money, place and continue the same out at Interest on good landed security or in the funds or Stock for the joint use and benefit of my said Children respectively.

And in case of the decease of either of my said Children under age without Issue I give the part and Share intended for such decedent to the Survivors in equal Shares, and to the Lawfull Issue of such of them as shall be then deceased, such Issue taking only such part and Share as his her or their Parent would have taken if living.

Our Raser Family

Item. I nominate and appoint my Brother John Heyl Sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament. Witness my Hand & Seal this seventh day of February anno Domini 1810.

M. Raser (Seal)

Signed Sealed published & declared by the Testatrix and and [sic] for her last Will & Testament in the presence of Us, Catharine Raser Is. Wampole

Philadelphia, February 23d 1810. Then personally appeared Catharine Raser and Isaac Wampol the Witnesses to the within Will of Mary Raser and on their Solemn oaths according to law did depose and say that they saw and heard Mary Raser the Testatrix Sign Seal publish and declare the same Will as and for her last Will and Testament and that at the doing thereof she was of sound mind memory and understanding to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Coram. Saml. Bryan, Register. John Heyl Sole Executor sworn and letters Testamentary issued to him the same day.

X-27 Will of John Raser (J-1) – 1793

The will of John Raser is recorded in the Surrogate's Office, Philadelphia Co., Pa., in Liber W, page 442. The following is a verbatim ac litteratim copy of the *original* will, which also is on file. It can be seen in the original will, in the seventh and ninth paragraphs, where Hannah George is named, that George has been written over a mostly erased Wirebrook. However, in the codecil, written by the same scribe and dated exactly (and probably mistakenly) one month earlier, her name was written correctly as Hannah George without the need for over-writing.

No. 254 of 1793

[page 1] In the Name of God Amen I John Razor of the District of Southwark in the County of Philadelphia being weak in Body but of sound and well disposing Mind and Memory Thanks be to God for the same but knowing the Certainty of Death and the Uncertainty of Life have thought it proper to make this my last Will and Testament in Manner and Form following, to wit

First. It is my Will that all my just Debts and funeral Expences by paid out of the Nett Proceeds of my personal Estate by my Executors hereafter named as soon as conveniently may be after my Decease.

Next, after my Debts and funeral expences are paid as aforesaid I do give devise and bequeath all the Rest Remainder and Residue of my personal (Estate except what is hereafter Excepted) unto my Daughter Elizabeth Crosby Wife of Sampson Crosby to hold the same unto her the said Elizabeth Crosby and to her Heirs and Assigns for ever.

Item. And whereas I stand seized in my Demesne as of Fee of and in four Acres of Meadow Ground and a Stone Barn erected thereon which I purchased from the Executors of Thomas Lawrence deceased It is my Will and Desire and I do hereby Order and direct that the same be appropriated in the following Manner that is to say that the said Elizabeth Crosby shall have take and receive all the Rents Issues and Profits of the said "Lot" or piece of Meadow Ground aforesaid until my Grand [page 2] Son George Snyder the Younger Son of George Snyder the Elder of the City of Philadelphia Coachmaker shall attain unto the Age of twenty One Years if he should so long live and if he should die in his Minority or under Age then and in such my said Daughter Elizabeth Crosby shall have take receive possess and enjoy the Rents Issues and Profits thereof until the said George Snyder should have attained the Age of twenty one Years had he so long lived.

And. It is my further Will that my said Daughter Elizabeth Crosby during the Time that she shall be in the Receipt of the Rents Issues and Profits of the said Lot or Meadow Ground shall keep or cause to be kept the said Lot in good and perfect Order and Repair by keeping the Fences in proper Condition and improving and manuring the same, and shall also during the said Term pay and discharge all Taxes Levies and Assessments which shall or may from Time to Time be adjudged and laid thereon.

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Item. It is my Will that in the personal Estate so Granted to my said Daughter Elizabeth Crosby shall be included all the Hay in the Barn and all and every Sum and Sums of Money due to me by Bond Note Book Debt Contract or otherwise to recover and appropriate the same to the Use of herself and her Heirs and Assigns for ever.

[page 3] Again. It is my Will and Desire that when and as soon as my said Grandson George Snyder the Younger shall have attained the Age of twenty one Years, then it shall and may be lawful and I do require my Executors herein after named to sell and dispose of the said Lot of Meadow Ground for the best Price that can be gotten therefor to the highest and best Bidder and the Monies arising therefrom shall be equally divided Share and Share alike among my three Grand Children George Snyder the Younger, Hannah George, and Eliza Wirebrook and to their several Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns respectively as Tenants in Common and not as Joint Tenants.

Further. It is my Will that if my said Daughter Elizabeth Crosby should die before my said Grandson George Snyder shall arrive to the Age of twenty One Years if he should so long live or before he should have arrived to that Age if he should die in his Minority or under Age then and in such Case I order and direct that the Rents Issues and Profits of my said real Estate shall immediately from and after her Decease be equally divided between my Grand Children before mentioned or the Survivor or Survivors of them Share and Share alike as if no Devise of [page 4] the Profits of my said Real Estate had ever been made to my Daughter Elizabeth Crosby.

Item. It is my Will and Testament that if either of my said three Grand Children George Snyder the Younger Hannah George or Eliza Wirebrook should die under Age unmarried and without Issue then and in such / Case such / Child or Childrens so dying before they respectively attain to the Age of twenty One Years shall go and be equally divided between the Survivor or Survivors of them respectively that is to say if one of the said three Grand Children should die under the Age of twenty One Years then his part and Proportion of the said Estate shall be vested in the two Surviving Children part and Share alike and if two of the said three Grand Children should die under age then and in such Case the one surviving Grand Child shall take the whole of the said real Estate and the Monies arising from the Sale thereof to hold the same to him and to his Heirs and Assigns for ever.

Further. It is my last Will and Testament that if my said three Grand Children should die under Age or shall not arrive to the Years of twenty One during the Life Time of my said Daughter Elizabeth then and in such Case the said four [page 5] Acres of Meadow Ground Stone Barn Hereditaments and Premises shall go and be vested in her the said Elizabeth Crosby and her Heirs and assigns for ever.

Again. I do give devise and bequeath unto my said Grandson George Snyder the Younger my silver Watch (being the only article reserved out of my personal Estate and not Granted to the said Elizabeth Crosby) to hold the same unto him the said George Snyder and to his Heirs and Assigns for ever.

And I do hereby nominate and appoint my said affectionate Daughter Elizabeth Crosby and my trusty Friend and Son in Law George Snyder the Elder to be the Executors of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking disannulling and making void and of none Effect all and every other Will and Wills by me heretofore made hereby publishing and declaring this and this only to be my last Will and Testament. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set mine Hand and affixed my Seal Dated at the District of Southwark in the County of Philadelphia aforesaid this third Day of August [page 6] in the Year of our Lord One thousand and Seven hundred and Ninety three.

[signed] John Raser [seal]

Signed Sealed published and declared by him the said John Razor to be his last Will and Testament in the Presence [of] us who at his Request have Witnessed the same. The Words "Case such" in the 4th Page being first interlined.

Jaco:Bankson	Sworn	The Witnesses & Geo Snyder & Elizth. Crosby two of the Exors. Sworn
William Ogden	Affirmed	& affirmed the 2d Septemr. 1793, Before Geo. Campbell Regr.

Since Writing the above Will I have thought proper to add this as my Codicil in Manner and form following that is to say that if the said Hannah George and Eliza Wirebrook my Grand Children as aforesaid should die under Age before my said Daughter Elizabeth Crosby then and in such Case it is my Will that the said Elizabeth shall have and take the Interest of such Child or Childrens Part during the Term of her natural Life only, the Prinsiple Sum to be

kept whole and entire and to be equally divided between the Survivor and Survivors as aforesaid upon the Death of her the said Elizabeth Crosby In Witness to which said Codicil I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this third Day of July in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety three.

[signed] John Raser [seal]

Witnesses

Jaco:Bankson

Sworn

The 2d Sepr. 1793 Before Geo. Campbell Regr.

William Ogden

Affirmed

X-28 Real Estate Records of John Bernhard Reser (A-2) and his Wife

All deeds and mortgages are on record in the Philadelphia City Archives unless otherwise noted. Abstracts from these documents are arranged below by the transaction date, followed by reference to the volume and page of the record book in which it was recorded. A deed with two successive day dates refers to deeds of lease and release. A volume reference followed by an asterisk (*) indicates a mortgage volume. Land quantities are expressed in acres and perches, where 160 perches equal an acre. Persons names are spelled as in the body of the deed, unless they signed the instrument in another way. Rentals refer to Spanish pistoles, which were gold coins, the equivalent of four pennyweight and six grains Troy weight.

The dates on which the transaction was officially acknowledged (ack.) and then later recorded (rec.) have also been noted. Acknowledgment dates often are useful in indicating how long the grantors survived, and where they lived at that time—which might be in a distant state. Late recording dates may indicate the occurrence of some significant legal event. It will be noted that some deeds were recorded many decades later. Deed ADB-67:139, made 26 March 1739, was not recorded until 7 May 1859—120 years later!

The tracts are keyed to *numbered plots* shown in the author's maps of Bernhard Reser's Germantown and Milestown lands, which appear in the Early Generations chapter. Suffixes U (upper) and L (lower) are used in the text below to distinguish between portions of certain lots shown on the Germantown map which lie above and below the 27 January 1726/7 purchase line. Purchases and sales outside the areas of the main Germantown and Milestown tracts have not been mapped, and are identified by *lettered tracts* solely to facilitate correlating when these acquired properties later were sold.

- 27 January 1726/7 F-10:134 Dirck Jansen, yeoman of Gtn., and wife Marg[ar]et, to Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £150, sell/release two adjoining tracts, one of 29 3/4 acres in Gtn., and the other of 48 acres in Bristol Twp., including "all buildings, improvements, ways," etc. The *recorded* deed contains the note: "By some mistake the ground set apart for the above named purpose [i.e., a burial ground] was included with other of Lenart Aret's land adjoining, and was conveyed to the possession of one Bernhard Reser; but the latter in order to correct the mistake, on the 30th of May, 1728, forever released the claim and land for the purpose set forth in the original deed." Ack. 10 June 1738, rec. 20 July 1738. (First tract: plots 5 thru 14, 15U thru 19U, part of road 21, 22, 23. Second tract: plots 26 thru 30)
- 26 July 1727 H-1:145 John Kearlin, carter of Gtn., and wife Hannah, to Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £121, sell a tract of 14 acres in Gtn., "with all the buildings, gardens, orchards, ways," etc. Ack. 1 Oct. 1750, rec. 27 Oct 1750. (Plots 1, 2, part of road 21)
- 30 May 1728 TH-55:110 Bernhardt Reser, baker of Gtn., to John Lensen, Matthis Adams Hogermoed and Johanas Eckstein, yeoman of Gtn. For 5 shillings, quit claims his interest in the half-acre lot originally intended for use as a burying ground for the inhabitants of Germantown, reserving for himself and his heirs forever the "privilege of burying his or [his heirs] dead on the sd half an acre ..." The original deed was discovered in 1852 among the old papers of Samuel Mechlin, a former officer of the Lower Burial Ground, and was judged to be a "genuine original deed" and thus allowed to be recorded 4 Dec. 1852. (Plot 14)

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- 17 May 1729 G-12:400 John Lensen, weaver of Gtn., to Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £9, sells a tract of 4 ½ acres in Gtn. Ack. 7 Nov. 1745, rec. 27 Oct. 1750. (Plots 15L thru 19L, 20, part of road 21, 24, 25)
- 17 May 1734 IW-3:286 Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Elizabeth, to John Legrom, currier of Gtn. For £15, sell a lot of one acre in Gtn., now in his possession, with "all buildings, woods," etc. Ack. 3 Feb. 1734/5, rec. 26 Nov. 1819. (Plot 7)
- 26/27 November 1734 ACH-41:137 Joseph Turner, merchant of Phila., to Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £30.13.0, sells, sells a tract of 18 acres and 66 perches in Northern Liberties. Ack. 24 Dec. 1734, rec. 2 Apr. 1862. (Tract A)
- 24 March 1734/5 Germantown Court Records Originally intended 40-foot road (plot 3) exchanged with Bernhard Reser for a 40-foot wide strip (plot 1) at the northwest edge of his property, which is hereby established as Resers Road.
- 25/26 March 1735 (unrecorded?) Bernhard Reser of Gtn., to Christian Kinzing. For unknown amount, sells a three acre tract in Bristol Twp. for a mill site. Sale mentioned in mortgage F-9:345, and deeds G-8:262 and H-1:158. (Plots 28, 30)
- 14 February 1735/6 (unrecorded?) Mathias Adam Hogermoed and other executors of John Charles Greiss, shoemaker, late of Gtn., to Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn. For an unknown amount, sell three lots in Gtn. Mentioned in deed H-17:198. [The author has made no attempt to locate this property. Bernhard may have sold all the lots very soon; no record has been found of the sale of two of the lots.]
- 17 February 1735/6 H-17:198 John Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anna Elizabeth, to Mathias Adam Hogermoed, yeoman of Gtn. For £30, sell a tract of 14 ½ acres in Gtn., it being the second of three lots acquired from the Greiss estate on 14 Feb. 1735/6 (above). Ack. 25 Feb. 1735/6, rec. 4 Sep. 1762.
- 30 March 1736 H-19:18 John Lucan, Jr., yeoman of Bristol Twp., and wife Margaret, to Bernhard *Rezer*, baker of Gtn. For £126, sell a tract of 42 acres near Milestown, "with all ways, woods, waters," etc. Ack. 6 Apr. 1736, rec. 4 Feb. 1764. (Plots 50, 51, 51X, 52)
- 31 March 1736 F-7:318* Same parties as immediately above. Mortgage on the 42 acres, and for an additional five shillings, mortgage on two equal and undivided third parts in Lucan's message and plantation of 45 acres. Ack. 6 Apr. 1736, rec. 14 Aug. 1736. [This document implies that the deed of 30 Mar. 1736 is a release. I am uncertain of the significance of both of these documents. EJR]
- 20 June 1737 H-1:147 Mathias Van Bebber, merchant of Cecil Co., Md., and wife Hermina, to Bernard Reser. For £6, quitclaim any interest they may have in land of H-1:145 (dated 26 July 1727). Ack. 20 June 1737, rec. 27 Oct. 1750.
- 31 August 1737 F-9:345* Christian Kinzing, miller of Bristol Twp., and wife Mary, to both Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and Abraham Kinzing, miller of Phila. For £200, mortgage their message, mill and three acres thereunto belonging. Ack. — Sep. 1737, rec. 18 Jan. 1837/8. Reser and Abr. Kinzing acknowledge receipt of the mortgage money on 15 Aug. 1747. (Plots 28, 30)
- 26 March 1739 ADB-67:139 Benjamin Armitage, joiner of Bristol Twp., and wife Jane, to Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £15, sell a lot of 3 acres and 12 perches on the east side of York Road in Bristol Twp., with all woods, water courses, etc., and the privilege to dam a water course flowing on Armitage's land on the other side of said road and divert it to Bernard's new lot. Ack. 26 Mar. 1739, rec. 7 May 1859. (Plots 46, 47)
- 27/28 March 1739 (unrecorded?) Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn., to Theobald End and Christopher Sower, adm'rs. of the estate of John George Striker, gunsmith of Gtn. For an unknown amount, sells/releases a lot of 70 perches, with a message or tenement, for the use of the widow, Barbara Striker. This transaction is noted in deed RLL-27:328, dated 6 July 1756, in which eldest son Moses Striker, farmer of Frederick Co., Va., sells his 2/3 interest in the property (1/3 being from his mother) to Baltes Reser, tanner of Gtn. Also noted in deed RLL-

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- 27:331, dated 17 Aug. 1758, in which youngest son George Striker, cordwainer of Lancaster Co., Pa., sells his 1/3 interest to Baltes Reser. These last two deeds were not recorded until 8 Nov. 1844. (Plot 6)
- 8 May 1741 H-1:158 Christian Kinzing, miller of Bristol Twp., and wife Mary, to Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £0.4.9, sell a small gore of 3 3/4 perches in Bristol Twp., being part of 3 acres Bernhard and wife had sold Kinzing on 25/26 Mar. 1735. Ack. 29 Oct. 1750, rec. 30 Oct. 1750. (Plot 28)
- 21-25 March 1744/5 In dividing a portion of his Germantown property into lots, Bernhard Reser established a 40-foot wide street (now known as Wakefield St., paralleling Germantown Main St.), by reserving land in various deeds for this use. Seven feet were allowed at the northeast end of his Main St. lots, and two perches (33 feet) at the southwest end of his adjoining land. (Road 21)
- 21 March 1745 IC-21:404 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Ann Elizabeth. to George Danahawer, yeoman of Gtn. For three Spanish pistoles yearly, rent two lots in Gtn., the first of one acre and the second of 0.5 acre and 31 3/4 perches, with option to buy at a price of £81. Ack. 24 July 1745, rec. 20 Oct. 1812. Option exercised 4 Mar. 1753. (Plots 10 and 16)
- 25 March 1745 G-12:55 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Ann Elizabeth, to Adam Hinter, yeoman of Gtn. For 2 1/2 Spanish pistoles yearly, rent two lots in Gtn., the first of one acre, and the second of 70 perches, with option to buy at a price of £67.10.0. To include "all buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 24 July 1745, rec. 4 Sept. 1749. Option exercised 15 Oct. 1748. (Plots 12 and 18)
- 25 March 1745 H-7:159 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to Godfreyd Harlacher, yeoman of Gtn. For 2 1/2 Spanish pistoles yearly, rent two lots in Gtn., the first of one acre, and the second of 63 perches, with option to buy at a price of £67.10.0. To include "all buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 24 July 1745, rec. 6 May 1756. First lot sold 10 June 1801, see EF-8:296. (Plots 11 and 17)
- 25 March 1745 H-11:28 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to Henry Kepele, innholder of Phila. For 8 Spanish pistoles yearly, rent a lot of four acres in Gtn., with option to buy at a price of £216. To include "all improvements, buildings, orchards, gardens, ways," etc. Ack. 11 Mar. 1745/6, rec. 13 Aug. 1759. Option exercised 17 Mar. 1759. (Plot 8)
- 25 March 1745 AWM-35:384 Bernerd Reser (sig.), baker of Gtn., with wife Anne Elizabeth, to George Hittner, yeoman of Phila. For £54, sell a lot of one acre in Gtn., "with improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 24 July 1745, rec. 16 June 1847. (Plot 9)
- 25 March 1745 D-22:441 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to Jacob Miller, wheelwright of Gtn. For 3 Spanish pistoles yearly, rent a lot of 1.5 acres and 10.5 perches in Gtn., with option to buy at a price of £81. To include "all buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 24 July 1745, rec. 27 May 1789. Option exercised in part on 10 June 1801. (Plots 13, 15)
- 27 April 1745 G-11:111 Daniel Toy, yeoman of Bristol Twp., and wife Rebecca, to Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £350, sell a tract of 78 acres and 28 perches at Milestown, to include "the said message and plantation of land ... with all and singular the buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 27 Apr. 1745, rec. 31 Jan. 1748. (Plots 53, 54)
- 7 May 1745 ACH-41:135 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to Jacob Bowman, carpenter of Gtn. For £80, sell a tract of 18 acres and 66 perches in Northern Liberties (purchased 26/27 Nov. 1734), with all buildings, improvements, woods, etc. Ack. 25 Nov. 1748, rec. 2 Apr. 1862. (Tract A)
- 8 August 1745 I-1:101 Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to Baltes Reser, tanner of Gtn. For £320, sell a tract of 7 acres and 42 perches in Gtn., with "all messages, tenements, buildings, improvements, tann yards, orchards, gardens, meadows, swamps, ways, waters, watercourses, woods," etc. Ack. 28 Jan. 1763, rec. 22 July 1765. (Plots 4, 5)

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- 18 February 1745/6 H-3:497 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to John Sheebly, husbandman of Gtn. For £45, sell a lot of four acres in Gtn., with "all improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 5 June 1746, rec. 30 Dec. 1752. (Plots 23, 24, 26)
- 10 March 1745/6 H-19:31 Henry Sissler, yeoman of Bristol Twp., and wife Catherine, to Bernard Reser, baker of same. For £80, sell a tract of 16 acres near Milestown, "with all the messuage, buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 9 Sep. 1746, rec. 11 Feb. 1764. (Plots 31, 32)
- 25 March 1746 H-19:20 James Baldwin, joiner of Bristol Twp., and wife Katherine, also Benjamin Baldwin, brother of James, to Bernard Reser, baker of same. Bernard having paid their mortgage of £71.10.0 to the General Loan Office of the Province of Pa., and for an additional £172.6.0, they sell him a tract of 36 acres near Milestown, including "a certain messuage or tenement ... improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 24 June 1747, rec. 8 Feb. 1764. (Plots 41, 42, 44, 44X, 48, 49)
- 20 May 1746 H-19:27 John Sheeply, weaver of Gtn., and wife Margaret, to Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp. For £35, sell two tracts at Milestown, one of five acres, the second a woodlot of 2 acres and 24 perches. Ack. 20 May 1746, rec. 10 Feb. 1764. (First plot: 38, 39; second: 34)
- 21 May 1746 IC-9:263 Benjamin Baldwin, yeoman of Bensalem, also John Read, cordwainer of Bristol Twp., to Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp. For £10, Baldwin sells a lot of one acre at Milestown, with "all ways, buildings, woods," etc.; Reser pays 5 shillings to Read, who has improved the land. Ack. 22 May 1746, rec. 21 Mar. 1810. (Plot 43)
- 22 May 1746 IC-9:265 Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp., and wife Elizabeth, to John Read, cordwainer of same. For 20 shillings yearly, rent the land of IC-9:263 (above). Rec. 21 Mar. 1810, along with other documents (see IC-9:267, 272, 274, 276, 286) by which the rental was transferred successively to various persons and finally to Henry Young, who bought the lot on 24 May 1784. (Plot 43)
- 5 September 1746 H-2:148 John Potts, Joseph Walker and wife Elizabeth, and Derick Cleaver and wife Mary, being the heirs of Martha Potts, to Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £35, sell their interest in the 14 acres of H-1:145 (dated 26 July 1727), which John Keurling sold, although he only had a 2/5 interest in the land. Martha Potts, dau. of Peter Keurling and sister of said John Keurling, had a 1/5 interest which, since her decease, has devolved to the present grantors. Ack. 11 Oct. 1746, rec. 10 Apr. 1752. (Plots 1, 2, part of road 21)
- 9 September 1746 H-19:23 Jacob Stiffill, carpenter of Gtn., and wife Catharine, to Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn. For £29, sell two lots near Milestown, one of five acres, the other a woodlot of 2 acres and 25 perches. Ack. 9 Sep. 1746, rec. 9 Feb. 1764. (First plot: 40; second: 35)
- 12 November 1746 H-19:29 Thomas Sugar, carpenter of Phila., and wife Elizabeth, to Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp. For £50, sell two lots near Milestown, one of seven acres, the other a woodlot of three acres. Ack. 12 Nov. 1746, rec. 10 Feb. 1764. (First plot: 36, 37; second: 33)
- 24 November 1746 G-8:262 Bernard Reser, baker of Gtn., and wife Anna Elizabeth, to John Wister, merchant of Phila. For £1,150, sell a tract of 77 acres and 10 3/4 perches, being part in Gtn. and part in Bristol Twp., including "messuages or tenements, barns, stables, buildings, houses, outhouses, gardens, orchards, fields, fences, ways," etc. Ack. 24 Nov. 1746, rec. 1 Jan. 1746/7. (Plots 2, 3, 22, 25, 27, 28)
- 30 March 1747 JAH-242:311 George Habell, weaver of Cheltenham Twp., and wife Mary, to Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp. For £134.1.6, sell a tract of 26 acres and 70 perches in Bristol Twp., including "messuages, buildings," etc. Ack. 30 Mar. 1748, rec. 3 May 1872. (Plot 55)
- 1 December 1747 ADB-67:133 Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp., and wife Anna Elizabeth, to John Kraft Riestine and wife Sophia (a dau. of said Bernard Reser). For £150, sell a tract of 20 acres and 28 perches in Bristol Twp., "with all buildings, improvements, ways, woods, waters, water courses, rights," etc., retaining right to pass through a 33-foot road and to divert water on the property. Ack. 2 May 1748, rec. 7 May 1859. (Plots 44, 46, 51)

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- 15 October 1748 G-12:58 Same parties as in G-12:55 (dated 25 Mar. 1745). Adam Hinter exercises option to buy at a price of £67.10.0. Ack. 18 Oct. 1748, rec. 4 Sep. 1749. (Plots 12, 18)
- 1 February 1748[9] JAH-242:419 Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp., and wife Elizabeth, to Jacob Mock, yeoman of Northern Liberties. For £195, sell two tracts in Bristol Twp., one of 26 acres and 70 perches, the other of five acres, "with all the houses, buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 2 Feb. 1748, rec. 3 May 1872. (First plot: 55; second: 54)
- 4 March 1753 IC-21:407 Same parties as in IC-21:404 (dated 21 Mar. 1745). George Dannhower exercises option to buy at a price of £81. Ack. 28 Mar. 1753, rec. 20 Oct. 1812. (Plots 10, 16)
- 4 September 1754 Sheriff's Deed (Common Pleas) A-1:136 Samuel Morris, Esqr., High Sheriff of the City and County of Phila., to Bernard Reser of Gtn. For £388, sells a tract of 20 acres and 28 perches in Northern Liberties Twp. [the same bounds as in ADB-67:133, dated 1 Dec. 1747], "being the Estate of John Kraft Riestine seized and taken in Execution at the suit of Bernard Reser ..." (Plots 44, 46, 51)
- 12 January 1758 JTO-64:344 Bernard Reser "(a la Rezer), now of Bristol Twp., late of Germantown," baker, and wife Elizabeth, to John Dedier, stocking weaver of Gtn. For £1.15.0, sell a 1/4 acre triangular strip of land in Gtn. Not ack.; rec. 18 July 1867. (Plot 20)
- 17 March 1759 H-11:32 Same parties as in H-11:28 (dated 25 Mar. 1745). Henry Kepele exercises option to buy at a price of £180, recognizing earlier payments made. Ack. 24 Mar. 1759, rec. 13 Aug. 1759. (Plot 8)
- 2 January 1760 RLL-20:52 William Wilson, husbandman of Bristol Twp., and wife Hannah, to Bernard Reser, yeoman of same. For £250, sell a stone messuage or tenement near Milestown, with gardens, orchards, etc., and a tract of eight acres and 78 perches thereto. Ack. 3 June 1760, rec. 4 Apr. 1844. (Plot 45).
- 1 May 1760 ADB-67:136 Bernerd Reser (sig.), baker of Bristol Twp., and wife Anna Elizabeth, to Nathan Thomas, tanner of same. For £400, sell the messuage and land, in his actual possession, of Sheriff's Deed A-1:136, and some contiguous land, totalling 24.5 acres. Ack. 5 July 1760, rec. 7 May 1859. (Plots 44, 44X, 46, 51, 51X) [In February 1995 James M. Duffin sent me a copy of the original survey of same date, as well as the deed, which confirmed the boundaries.]
- 3 September 1761 D-33:251 Baltres Reser and John Jones, tanners, and Thomas Rose, yeoman, all of Gtn., ex'rs. of Bernard Reser, yeoman, late of Bristol Twp., deceased, to Benjamin Armitage, yeoman of same. For £2.10.0, sell a lot of 1/2 acre and six perches in Milestown. Ack. 18 Sep. 1761, rec. 21 Mar. 1792. (Plot 31)
- 30 November 1761 I-1:537 Baltres Reser and John Jones, tanners, and Thomas Rose, yeoman, all of Gtn., ex'rs. of Bernard Reser, yeoman, late of Bristol Twp., deceased, to John Reser, sadler of Bristol Twp. For £175, and in accordance with Bernard Reser's will, a tract of seven acres and 68 perches, at Milestown, "with a stone Messuage by the said Bernard Reser Erected and Built thereon," is conveyed to Bernard's son John. Ack. 24 Apr. 1764, rec. 19 Aug. 1766. (Plots 36, 38)
- 2 April 1764 H-20:134 Baltres Reser and John Jones, tanners, and Thomas Rose, yeoman, all of Gtn., ex'rs. of Bernard Reser, yeoman, late of Bristol Twp., deceased, to William Wilson, yeoman of Bristol Twp. For £1,200, sell a tract of 152 acres and 15 perches at Milestown, "with all the houses, outhouses, barns, stables, buildings, improvements, woods, waters, water courses, soyl, pasture fields, meadows, swamps, criples, orchards, gardens, rights," etc. Being the land which Bernard Reser had already negotiated to sell and for which he had already received £200 from Wilson, but which had not yet been surveyed at Reser's decease. Ack. 24 Apr. 1764, rec. 11 May 1764. (Plots 32 thru 35, 37, 39, 40, 42, 49, 52, 53)
- 4 September 1764 IC-9:270 Baltres Reser and John Jones, tanners, and Thomas Rose, yeoman, all of Gtn., ex'rs. of Bernard Reser, yeoman, late of Bristol Twp., deceased, to Sophia Restine, widow of Bristol Twp., in behalf of her son Bernard Restine, a minor. For £24, sell a one acre lot at Milestown with a small messuage or tenement. Ack. 10 Nov. 1766, rec. 21 Mar. 1810. (Plot 41)

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- 22 June 1773 I-12:135 Matthias Adams Hogermoed, wheelwright of Gtn., and wife Magdalin, to Elizabeth Razor, widow of Gtn. For £200, sell a stone messuage or tenement and lot of 2 3/4 acres and 18 perches in Gtn. Ack. 24 June 1773, rec. 22 Sep. 1773. (Tract B) [Notes in a GtnHS library binder identify this lot as 6364 Germantown Ave.]
- 4 January 1776 I-16:249 Thomas Rose, yeoman of Gtn., surviving exr. of Bernard Reser, yeoman, late of Bristol Twp., deceased, with authorization of Elizabeth Reser, widow, to Joseph Spencer, yeoman of Bristol Twp. For £620.10.0, bid at public auction, sells 22 acres and 47 perches at Milestown, and the stone messuage left for the use of Bernard's widow in his will. Explicitly reserves for public use the straightened-out portion of York Road running through the property. Ack. 20 Jan. 1776, rec. 24 June 1776. (Plots 45, 47, 48, 50)
- 24 May 1784 IC-9:286 Thomas Rose of Gtn., only surviving exr. of Bernard Reser, late of Bristol Twp., to Henry Young, of Bristol Twp. For £15 in gold and silver, sells the one-acre lot at Milestown which was rented to Young by virtue of indenture of 22 May 1746. Ack. 5 June 1784, rec. 21 Mar. 1810. (Plot 43)
- 10 June 1801 EF-8:296 Heirs or their representatives [itemized in detail] of Bernard Reser, yeoman of Gtn., and wife Ann Elizabeth, to George Royal, victualler of Gtn. For £31.4.0, sell the one-acre lot of H-7:159, dated 25 Mar. 1745. Ack. 6 Apr. 1801, rec. 15 May 1802. (Plot 11)
- 10 June 1801 IW-8:62 Heirs or their representatives [itemized in detail] of Bernard Reser, yeoman of Gtn., and wife Ann Elizabeth, to Jacob Rap, wheelwright of Gtn. For £31.4.0, sell one acre of the somewhat larger lot which was first rented to Jacob Miller [in D-22:441], dated 25 Mar. 1745; rented 1 Sep. 1789 by Ulrich Gross and wife Catharine to Rap. Ack. 6 Apr. 1801 [*sic*]. In IW-8:65 (26 Mar. 1807) George Snyder of Phila. ack. this sale, and in IW-8:66 (15 Dec. 1808) Richard Ristine, tanner of Phila. does the same. All deeds rec. 13 Jan. 1821. (Plot 13)

Transactions for which records were not found:

- Plot 4: record of purchase [acquired before 8 Aug. 1745; included in deed I-1:101. Possibly included with the originally intended roadway he received 24 March 1734/5 in exchange for land establishing Resers Road].
- Plot 15: record of sale [mentioned in deed IW-8:62].
- Plot 17: record of sale.
- Plot 19: record of sale.
- Plot 29: sold to Christian Kinzing between 26 Mar. 1735 and 24 Nov. 1746. Deed in Harrisburg?

X-29 Real Estate Records of Baltes Reser (A-3) and his Wives

The introduction to appendix X-28 also applies to this listing. Note that persons names are spelled as in the body of the record, unless they signed the instrument in another way.

The tracts are keyed to *numbered plots* show in the author's map of Baltes Reser's Germantown lands, included within the Early Generations chapter. Purchases and sales outside the main Germantown tracts have not been mapped, but are identified by *lettered tracts* solely to facilitate correlating when acquired property later was sold. Not included are the 1784-85 speculative land activities of his wife Catharine, which are discussed in Baltes's account.

- 19 June 1745 G-11:125 Baltes Reser, tanner of Gtn., and wife Mary, to Jacob Vanderwide, carpenter of Gtn. For £12 yearly, rent a tract of 19 acres and 46 perches on the SW side of the Main St. of Gtn. [and on the SE side of King St.], with an option to buy at a price of £240. Mary Reser acquired the land by the will of [her father] Mathias Lucken, dated 18 Nov. 1741. Ack. 17 Jan. 1746/7 when Mary was "now of full age," rec. 14 Apr. 1748. Option exercised 12 Apr. 1748. (Tract A)
- 8 August 1745 I-1:101 Bernard Reser, baker of Bristol Twp., and wife Anne Elizabeth, to Baltes Reser, tanner of Gtn. For £320, sell a tract of 7 acres and 42 perches in Gtn., with "all messuages, tenements, buildings,

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- improvements, tann yards, orchards, gardens, meadows, swamps, ways, waters, watercourses, woods," etc. Ack. 28 Jan. 1763, rec. 22 July 1765. (Plots 5X, 61, 62, 63)
- 6 August 1746 GWC-83:497 Balltes Reser, tanner of Gtn., and wife Mary, to James Logan of Stenton, gentleman. For £45, sell a piece of meadow ground in Gtn. of 3 acres, it being land which Mary Reser was devised in the will of her father, Mathias Laken [*sic*], dated 18 day of 9 mo. 1741. Ack. 12 Aug. 1746, rec. 18 June 1851 (with other deeds, some of even earlier date). (Tract B)
- 16 May 1747 I-1:103 William Neus (signed Nice), weaver of Springfield, and wife Mary, to Baltres Reser, tanner of Gtn. For £210, sell a tract of 14 acres and 35 perches in Gtn., with "buildings, ways, woods," etc. Ack. 16 May 1747, rec. 22 July 1765. (Plot 66)
- 12 April 1748 H-9:306 Same parties as in G-11:125 (dated 19 June 1745), but current occupations and places of residence not mentioned. Jacob Vanderwide exercises option to buy at a price of £240. Ack. 14 Apr. 1748, rec. 14 Dec. 1758. (Tract A)
- 19 November 1751 H-18:35 Baltres Reser, tanner of Gtn., and wife Mary, to John Zachary, tanner of Gtn. For £10, sell a lot of one acre in Gtn., with all improvements, ways, waters, etc. Ack. 28 Jan. 1763 by Baltres Reser, his wife Mary being deceased; rec. 18 May 1763. (Plots 62, 63)
- 20/21 November 1751 JTO-15:558 John Zachary (signed Zacharias), tanner of Gtn., and wife Catherine, to Baltres Reser, tanner of Gtn. For £10, sell a lot in Gtn. of 1 1/4 acres, with all improvements, etc. Not ack.; rec. 9 Feb. 1867. (Plot 64)
- 10 November 1752 H-20:42 Catherine Naglee (widow of John Naglee, shopkeeper of Phila.) of Northern Liberties, [John Naglee], and Jacob Naglee, tanner of Phila. Co., who are surviving ex'rs. of the LWT of John Nagle, yeoman of Northern Liberties, deceased, to Baltus Raser and John Zachary, tanners of Gtn. For £135.16.3, sell a tract in Northern Liberties of 10 1/4 acres with all "buildings, improvements, ways," etc. Ack. 28 Jan. 1763, rec. 15 Mar. 1764. (Tract C)
- 6 July 1756 RLL-27:328 Moses Stricker, farmer, now of Frederick Co., Va. (eldest son of John George Stricker, late gunsmith of Gtn., who died intestate) to Balltes Rezer, tanner of Gtn. For £53.6.8, sells his 2/3 interest (incl. his mother's 1/3) in the lot of 70 perches, with message and tenement, which his father's executors bought for the widow Stricker from Bernhard Reser, baker of Gtn., on 28 Mar. 1739. Ack. 6 July 1756, rec. 8 Nov. 1844. (Plot 6)
- 17 August 1758 RLL-27:331 George Stricker, cordwainer, now of Lancaster Co., Pa. (youngest son of John George Stricker), and wife Catharine, to Balltes Reser. For £26.13.4, sell their 1/3 interest in the lot of 70 perches [noted above under date of 6 July 1756]. Ack. 17 Aug. 1758, rec. 8 Nov. 1844. (Plot 6)
- 27 January 1763 H-20:33 Baltres Reser, tanner of Gtn., to Jacob Naglee, tanner of Bristol Twp. For £60.10.0, sells his moiety in the 10 1/4 acre lot in Northern Liberties which he bought with John Zachary on 10 Nov. 1752. Ack. 20 [*sic*] Jan. 1763, rec. 20 Feb. 1764. On 15 Dec. 1762, in H-20:36, the ex'rs. of John Zachary, for £60.10.0, sell his moiety in this same lot to the same Naglee. (Tract C)
- 19 February 1763 I-1:108 Richard Walln, [gentleman] of Gtn., to Baltres Reser, tanner of Gtn. For £215, sells a tract of 10 acres and 134 perches in Gtn. with all buildings, improvements, ways, etc., it being the plot which he bought of the ex'rs. of John Zachary on 15 Dec. 1762 [Deed I-1:105]. Ack. 1 Mar. 1763, rec. 24 July 1765. (Plots 63, 65)
- 29 July 1774 D-76:239 Catherine Reser of Gtn., widow of Balltes Reser, and William Colladay, carpenter of Phila., ex'rs. of Balltes Reser, late tanner of Gtn., to Christopher Wulff, victualler of Gtn. For £450, sell 2 1/4 acres and a two-story stone message or tenement thereon (the message being on the former Stricker property), and the right to use water of the run on Balltes's northwesterly adjoining land on Monday and Tuesday of every week. Ack. 22 Aug. 1774, rec. 11 Apr. 1799. (Plots 6, 61)

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- 1 May 1777 JTO-15:373 William Colladay, house carpenter of Phila., and Catherine Raser (widow of Baltes Reser), ex'rs. of Baltes Reser, late tanner of Gtn., to Leonard Nuts, tanner of Gtn. For £1,255, sell a messuage, tanyard and parcel of land of 31 acres and 120 perches in Gtn. Ack. 17 May 1777, rec. 9 Feb. 1867. (Plots 5X, 63-66)
- 17 May 1786 IC-27:325 Conrad Weaver, lumber merchant of Northern Liberties, and wife Magdalen, to Catharine Reser, widow of Phila. For £300, sell a frame messuage and lot of 29 by 38 feet in Northern Liberties on the north side of Duke St., commonly called Artillery Lane, about 77 feet west from Delaware Front St. Ack. 19 May 1786, rec. 30 Oct. 1813. (Tract D)
- 28 May 1810 IC-27:332 John Heyle of Phila., guardian of the persons and estates of William, Thomas, John, George and Mary Raser, minor ch. of Bernard Raser, late of Phila., deceased, of first part; Joseph Miller, tanner of Gtn. and wife Susanna, and Catharine Raser, single woman of Gtn., of the second part; to Catharine Cummings, widow of Phila. For \$1,250 bid at public sale, sell the house and lot on Duke St. (deed IC-27:325) which Catharine Raser the elder, widow of Gtn., deceased died intestate seized of, leaving two daus., the said Susanna and Catharine named above, and the minor ch. of her son Bernard Raser, deceased, to whom the tenement and lot descended. Ack. 28 May 1810, rec. 1 Nov. 1813. (Tract D)

X-30 Ancestors of John Heyl Raser (W-2) and Cylinda Stoughton

Raser and Allied Families, published serially by Edward John Raser in 1962-66, contained an Ancestral Charts section. This material was deemed inappropriate for the current surname genealogy, and has not been included in *Our Raser Family*. Descendants of John Heyl Raser (W-2) who may be interested in this kind of information should contact the author at 465-A New Haven Way, Monroe Township, N.J., 08831-1813.

X-31 Pictorial Items: Credits and Notes

This appendix provides source credits and supplementary information for most of the pictorial items appearing in *Our Raser Family*, keyed to the P-# placed near the illustration. These items include maps, historical documents, and photographs of people, places and family heirlooms.

Images of people have largely been limited to persons born at least two generations before the World War II generation, which for the most part means persons born before 1870. However, in order to provide some coverage for the Matthias and John branches, this cut off was extended for another generation. Most of the portrait photos included herein were taken in the era before amateur photography. Unfortunately, many of the surviving photographs from that era were never, or only belatedly (and sometimes incorrectly), dated and identified. Over the decades the author has had the good fortune to acquire several of the early photo collections of William-branch families, with the result that images taken at various times over a person's lifetime became available—frequently in multiple copies and some with annotation. As a result it became possible to identify the subject of most images and to assemble them in a chronological progression.

As an aid to helping family members identify old photographs they may possess, I have provided information about the actual photo size and photographer's imprint on the published images. When multiple copies were available, the best reproducible photo was used. I have also noted the source/collections from which the published copy came, as well as useful annotation information that was written on this and similar copies. The published images made during the earlier years of photography are described as follows.

Image details

a) print size: Several photos usually were developed on a single rectangular sheet of thin photographic paper, then cut apart and pasted on a cardboard backing. The majority of the early prints were mounted on a card of

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roughly 2 3/8 x 4 inch size, called a carte de visite (CDV). Subsequently, larger prints became popular, and were commonly mounted on a more formal decorative cardboard of roughly 4 1/4 x 6 1/2 inch size, known as a cabinet card. Sometimes un-mounted paper prints (often cut to an oval shape) were distributed to family members who could then paste them in their own photo albums. The size of the thin paper print, before mounting, is given in width x height to the nearest 1/8 inch.

b) pose: if other than a head and shoulders portrait, the bodily extent of the original image is stated.

c) photographer's imprint: the photographer's business name and address, as printed on the back of CDV cards, and (unless indicated otherwise) on the front, at the bottom, of cabinet cards. The exact line-by-line wording (but with all capitals reduced to initial caps only) and punctuation is given, with each line separated by a slash mark (/). When the business name and address are widely separated (as commonly occurs on cabinet cards), the two (or more) portions are separated by a double slash mark (/ /).

d) negative number: some photographers numbered and stored their negatives, in case reprints later were desired. The negative numbers have the potential of at least roughly dating the images. The hand-written numbers are noted, as well as their absence when a printed space was provided for one.

The form and content of the imprint also can be a clue to when the photo was taken. The *Directory of Pennsylvania Photographers, 1839-1900*, by Linda A. Ries and Jay W. Ruby, published in 1999 by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, provides information on the time periods when photographers were active at various addresses. I have noted their information when it may help define the time period in which a particular image was taken.

Source of published image

a) collection, album or individual supplying the image: collective sources (and their current and former owners) are described in the branch chapter introductions.

b) annotation: significant handwritten identification information appearing on one or more identical copies, usually quoted line by line. An effort was made to identify the writers, based on comparison of the handwriting with copies of their correspondence in the author's collections. In some cases several images obviously bear annotation by the same writer, who could not be specifically identified, but has been named as A, B, or C pending someone possibly supplying the person's name.

The Early Generations

- P-1 Source: Michelin Map 417, Central-West Germany, 1:300000, 1997/98.
- P-2 Source: U.S. Geological Survey, Germantown, Pa., quadrangle, 1:24000, 1949.
- P-3 Source: *City Atlas of Philadelphia by Wards, Complete in 7 Volumes*. Volume 1, comprising the 22nd Ward, Plate J. Surveyed and published by G. M. Hopkins, C.E., 320 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, 1876. From a copy in the Germantown Historical Society, July 2010.
- P-4 Source: photograph in the Germantown Historical Society. Courtesy of James M. Duffin, 1995.
- P-5 Image: photograph by Edward J. Raser, Jan. 1995. No information has been found about when and why this radical change was made. Mrs. Anne deBenneville Mears, author of *The Old York Road and its ... History ...* (1890), in page 4 of her manuscript notes in the Germantown Historical Society library, only mentions that "The Nice family for 3 generations lived in [the] old house still standing, but transformed."
- P-6 Image: 10 x 8 print of original marriage certificate. Source: gift of George B. Raser III, 19 Jan. 1964. Many copies of this print were distributed to family members during the early 1900s. The present whereabouts of the certificate is unknown.
- P-7 Image: 3 1/2 x 4 3/4 color print. Source: JHRA Coll. For a discussion of this oil painting, see appendix X-22, sixth paragraph under Bernard and Mary (Heyl) Raser.
- P-8 Image: 8 x 10 photo of original insurance certificate, in cardboard folder imprinted: "Portrait / by / Procter / Studios" Source: gift of Thomas M. Raser, 23 Mar. 1994.

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- P-9 Image: 6 3/4 x 9 oval print, probably made by Henry Thomas Raser. Source: gift of George B. Raser III, 19 Jan. 1964. For a discussion of this pastel painting, see appendix X-22, fifth paragraph under Bernard and Mary (Heyl) Raser.
- P-10 Image: 13 x 10 photostat of photo of original Masonic certificate. Source: gift of George B. Raser III, Oct. 1969.
- P-11 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "O. Knipe, / Photograph Galleries, / No. 906 Arch Street, / Philadelphia." According to Ries & Ruby, 153, Oscar Knipe was active here 1864-65. Source: Album A, frame 1-L (see William-branch credits). Annotation by WHR: "Aunt Nancy Heyl / nee Molydore / (Was blind)" Nancy Molledore, b. 3 Jan. 1785, d. 21 Oct. 1864, m. 13 May 1813 John Heyl. Along with her husband and her spinster sister-in-law, Elizabeth ("Aunt Betsy") Heyl, she raised Mary (Heyl) Raser's orphaned children, and later William Raser's son, John Heyl Raser.
- P-12 Image: 2 1/4 x 2 7/8 oval photoengraving, with autograph "John Himrod Vincent" below. Source: a 4 x 6 card included with his Centennial Biography, for which see endnote 2 for Mary (Raser) Vincent (A-13).

The William Raser Branch

The William Raser Branch chapter contains a large number of images taken before the amateur photography era. They include daguerreotypes, carte de visite (CDV) cards, cabinet cards and commercial portraits. Most of these images were originally assembled by a small set of family members, and subsequently were passed on to their heirs or interested family members as groups of loose photos, or housed in commercial albums or mounted in the collector's own photo album. I have tried to outline below the original source of these photo collections [not to be confused with the correspondence/heirloom collections described in Appendices X-21 and X-22] and to whom they passed over the decades. Most of these collections eventually came into the hands of the author, and a broad selection of their images will be found in the Early Generations and William Branch chapters.

When the photos were assembled into an album that has survived, I have described the album and its organization, it being the immediate source given in the P-# listings in this appendix. I have also tried to make available to readers useful annotation information written on the actual photographs or on album pages. In describing the succession of owners, and the writers of annotations, I have frequently resorted to person's initials or nicknames in order to keep the discussion reasonably brief. The writing of three annotators was not sufficiently unique to identify them; they have been named --A--, --B--, and --C--. The following list identifies the individuals whose names appear sufficiently often to warrant use of their initials and nicknames.

CLR	Charles Linnaeus Raser (W-11), "Linnie"
EGR	Edward Goodenough Raser (W-18)
EJR	Edward John Raser (W-30)
GPR	George Prentice Raser (W-9), "Prentice"
HHR	Helen Hull Raser (W-11-1)
JHRA	John Heyl Raser Arms (W-19), "Jack"
PAR	Pauline Ann Raser (wife of W-18)
RPA	Richard Philip Arms (W-32), "Dick"
WHR	William Heyl Raser (W-4), "uncle Will"
WHR II	William Heyl Raser II (W-13), "cousin Will"
WVR	William Vincent Raser (W-17), "Bill"

William Heyl Raser (WHR) Collection

Uncle Will was considerably interested in family history, and engaged in correspondence with Stoughton and Vincent relatives, as well as his siblings. In the process he obtained a collection of CDV cards, which he housed in a double-pocket CDV album (described below as Album A). Following his death in June 1941 (or possibly his widow in June 1943), his correspondence and photo collections appear to have been passed to his namesake, William Heyl Raser II (W-13), who by 1947 had moved to St. Petersburg, Fla. As part of EJRs soliciting genealogical information from family members, in a 7 Jan. 1948 letter to EJRs, Charles Linnaeus Raser (W-11) stated: "I went over to [St. Petersburg to see William H. Raser II] last week and he has all the data which formerly belonged to your Uncle William Raser in N.Y. I tried to wade through it but did not have much time to sift it out." "The old family Bible is very interesting but does not contain a lot of information." No mention was made of the photo album, but it

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is obvious that cousin Will possessed it. Possibly pressed by the death of his wife and the decision to move back north in 1953, WHR II appears to have given his correspondence and photo collections to Linnie, who resided in Winter Park, Fla. After Linnie's death a year later, his family heirlooms, as well as WHR II's collections, passed to his daughter Helen Raser. In August 1969, during a trip north, Helen gave various family heirlooms to EJR, including uncle Will's collections and the CDV album, which is frequently mentioned as Album A in the P-# notes below.

Album A is a tooled-leather covered photo album measuring 8 1/4 inches wide, 5 3/4 inches high, and 1 1/4 inches thick, with two brass clasps (parts now missing) on the right side. The cover contains two glass windows, behind each of which is a photo. The album contains thirteen leaves, each 1/16 inch thick and containing two paper-framed pockets, each capable of holding two CDV-size photos back-to-back. The pockets are accessed by slots on both sides of the leaf, immediately below each pocket frame. For location purposes I have identified each side of a leaf as a page, and the framed pockets as left or right as viewed. All photos in Album A are identified in pencilled handwriting within the printed frame at the bottom of the pocket; the CDV's themselves also bear pencilled annotations on the back—those notes are likely of earlier origin. Many of the notations on the frames appear to have been made by WHR II, while many of those on the CDV's were made by WHR. Possibly the identification on the frames was made in collaboration with relatives, as the writing on frame 7-L looks to be that of George Prentice Raser, and other writings obviously were made by other people. It appears that the album never held photos in more than ten leaves, with the last leaf containing a single CDV inserted in frame 19-L (i.e., 37 photos in all).

John Heyl Raser Arms (JHRA) Collection

This large collection of loose photos was for the most part assembled by Jack's mother, Celeste (Raser) Arms (W-8), who was very active in corresponding with family members and relatives. Her collection probably included items originally possessed by her father, John Heyl Raser, who resided with Celeste at the time of his death in December 1901. After her death in 1937 Celeste's personal effects passed to her only child, Jack Arms, and after his death in 1982, to his son Richard Philip Arms. Dick Arms also was much interested in the family background, and in 1992 produced a sizable publication, *Raser Photographs*, by which means he distributed copies of many images in this collection to family members. In March 2005, about a year after Dick's death, his widow, Elizabeth (Widger) Arms, generously gave this photo collection, as well as what remained of the large JHRA correspondence collection, to EJR.

Charles Linnaeus Raser (CLR) Collection

Uncle Linnie and his wife Bessie maintained a photo album (Album C) in which they pasted plain paper (i.e., unmounted) prints over the years. A considerable number of the photos are of Bessie's family members. After Linnie's death in June 1954 his personal belongs passed to his daughter Helen. On 17 Aug. 1969, during a trip to the Washington, D.C. area, Helen gave the album and other heirloom items to EJR.

Album C probably was originally a typical bound black-page photo album, with pages 12 inches wide by 10 inches high. When received from Helen it was a collection of loose brittle pages, some of which were whole but folded, but most were in several pieces. Subsequently the folded pages also fragmented. Paper prints, usually oval in form, were pasted on both the front and back of pages, and a considerable number were identified with white ink captions handwritten around the bottom of the prints. I belatedly made maps of the fragments and their contents so as to identify the images and preserve the wording of the captions, which had become barely readable even under optimum lighting conditions. The images are identified simply by fragment number and photo number.

Edward G. Raser (EGR) Collection

The relevant part of EGR's large photo collection came from the estate of his father, Amand Pfister Raser (W-7). Pfister's contribution consists of a collection of loose photos, and a single-pocket CDV album (Album B). The loose photos include ones that came by way of Pfister's Perry and Goodenough wives. **Album B** is a single-pocket CDV album of mostly unidentified CDV's and tintypes, but with enough Bordentown photographer imprints to suggest the album was kept by Sadie Perry. After Pfister's death in 1937 his collection passed to son Edward G. Raser, and became a part of his larger EGR photo collection. At some later date, and probably under her husband's guidance, Pauline A. Raser (PAR) made annotations on various prints. Eventually the EGR Coll. was acquired by EJR.

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George Prentice Raser (GPR) Collection

Prentice kept a smallish collection of photographs, including snapshots documenting some of his extensive travels. After his death in April 1954 his personal effects were placed in warehouse storage in Wilkes-Barre. On 17 November I arrived at the warehouse at the designated time for distribution of his personal effects, only to discover that a family member had been there earlier and left with Prentice's John Heyl Raser paintings. I was the only other attendee, and retrieved all the photographs, family correspondence (including 1948-49 letters from EJR) and memorabilia items (newspaper clippings, passports, Masonic pins, etc.) that I could find.

Other sources

I am indebted to Cynthia (Raser) Bigej (W-29-3) for loaning me a nice collection of photos of Oliver Burbank Raser (W-6), which made it possible to display a life-span set of photographs for all of John Heyl Raser's long-lived children.

William Raser (W-1)

- P-13 Image: framed silhouette, given by Helen Hull Raser to EJR 17 Aug. 1969. I believe this to be a contemporary silhouette of William, eventually passed on to son JHR and later John's son WHR. Subsequent owners included WHR II and CLR.
- P-14 Image: 10 1/4 x 8 cardboard mounted print, imprinted on bottom right: "Johnson & Overbey / 113 Dauphin St. / Mobile, Ala." Number "2728" appears on the back of two copies. Prentice Raser told Edward G. Raser about the photo distribution in a 7 Oct. 1944 letter.
- P-15 The destruction of the house, with a photograph of the parking lot, was communicated to EJR in a letter from Tina McHugh of Mobile, Ala., 24 Oct. 1994.
- P-16 Images: the Church Street Cemetery photos were taken by Edward J. Raser, late April 2001; the Amand Pfister photo is courtesy of Tina McHugh, Mobile, Ala., 24 Oct. 1994.

John Heyl Raser (W-2)

- P-17 Image: 7 x 5 print of old photo, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. *Raser Photographs* provided the text for this photo. The house was located, using deeds, by Dr. Sydney Davis, a Milton physician and historian.
- P-18a Image: 5 x 3 1/2 photo of a watercolor. One of three Plainfield-area watercolors by John Heyl Raser, painted about 1855; John had attended Plainfield Academy about 1836. The *Norwich (Conn.) Bulletin*, 21 Feb. 1942, reported a gift of sets of 8 x 10 photographs of the three paintings to the church and academy by John Heyl Raser Arms, then owner of the watercolors.
- P-18b Image: print of a 35mm slide taken by Edward J. Raser 19 Aug. 1962, during a visit with William Heyl Raser, Jr. (W-23) of Los Angeles, Cal., the owner of the painting. The portrait, an oil on canvas, measured 17 3/4 x 21 3/4 and was set in a gilded wood frame; no signature or date could be found. [This is the only portrait painting by John Heyl Raser I have ever seen. EJR]
- P-19 Image: photocopy of the contested will distributed to family members in 1954. Source: copy sent to Edward G. Raser; now in EJR Coll.

Portrait section at end of chapter

- P-20 Image: 3 1/4 x 4 1/2 glossy print of a daguerreotype, photographer unidentified. Source: of EJR's four copies, two bear similar notations by WHR; the one used here was from the JHRA Coll. The pictured pair also exist in separated portraits: one of John bears (an erroneous) annotation on back by GPR: "John Heyl Raser / photo taken when attending / Beck's Academy / Lititz, Pa. / About 1840"; one of Cyllinda has a nicely retouched face.
- P-21 Image: 3 x 4 semi-glossy print of a daguerreotype, photographer unidentified. Source: of EJR's three copies, all bear similar notations by WHR; the one used here was a gift from Thomas M. Raser (T-16-1), 1994.
- P-22 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted: "Saylor's / New / Photograph Gallery, / S. W. Corner of / Fifth and Penn Sts. / over / Howard's Express, / opposite Mansion House, / Reading, Pa. No. [blank]" According to Ries & Ruby, 242, Charles A. Saylor was active 1860s-70s. Source: Album A, frame 2-L. Annotation by GPR: "Grand Ma — / Stoughton / Milton, Pa. / taken whilst visiting / Reading / about 1870" Eliza Seydel was b. 28 Jan. 1807, dau. of Jacob Seydel and Mary McCurley.

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- P-23 Image: 4 x 5 glossy print of a watercolor miniature, photographer unidentified. Annotation by WHR: "Leonard Stoughton / Born in New Windsor, Conn. / Father of our Mother (Cylinda Stoughton / Raser) / moved with his father & family / to Milton Pa. about 1830" Related notes by WHR (CLR Coll.) and RPA place the "water-color miniature in the possession of Mrs. Emma Shay Montgomery, his granddaughter."
- P-24 Image: page from Richard P. Arms' *Raser Photographs*. Source of original photos unidentified.
- P-25 Image: 2 1/8 x 2 7/8 paper print, photographer unidentified. Source: EGR Coll. Annotation by PAR: "John Heyl / Raser / Dads - father"
- P-26 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / E. E. Hafer, / (Successor to F. M. Yeager) / 433 1/2 Penn St., Reading, Pa. No. 19144" According to Ries & Ruby, 111, Hafer was active here 1873-81. Source: Album B, page 2, but removed by EJR in 2010 and placed in Album A, frame 19-R. Also exists as a postcard print.
- P-27 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 7/8 CDV, imprinted: "E. E. Hafer, / Photographer, / 433 1/2 Penn Street, / Reading, Pa. No. [blank]" (see P-26). Source: JHRA Coll. (and used in *Raser Photographs*). Another copy, from GPR estate, placed by EJR in Album A, frame 14-R, bears No. 20279 and annotation by GPR: "John Heyl Raser / About 1875"
- P-28 Image: 5 x 7 modern glossy print of an old photo, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. (and used in *Raser Photographs*, which bears notation: "Photo believed taken approx 1875"). Probably of a later date, as a sketch of this photo appeared with his 1901 obituary in the *Reading Eagle*.
- P-29 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted "Chas. A. Saylor / Photographer, / S. E. corner Sixth and Penn Sts. / Reading, Pa." (see P-22). Source: JHRA Coll. This portrait image actually was made from a 2 1/4 x 3 3/8 fully-seated CDV, for which see P-94.
- P-30 Image: 2 x 3 1/4 oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: Album C, fragment C-19-1. Annotation in white ink: "Helen Thorp Raser"
- P-31 Image: 4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted: "Sword // 1619 Columbia Ave." and on back: "Philadelphia." and "No. 10265". According to Ries & Ruby, 272, the Swords [*sic*] brothers were active here 1891-1900. Source: EGR Coll. A paper print of this image, in possession of Cynthia (Raser) Bigej, bears annotation: "John Heyl Raser / taken 1901, not long / before his death ..." An identical print but on a different style cabinet card by Sword, numbered 10264(?), gift of WVR, 1968, bears annotation by WVR: "John Hyle [*sic*] Raser, father / of Oliver B. Raser Sr." This style card is identical to the one for Helen Thorp, his wife, numbered 10265, strongly suggesting they were taken at the same sitting. I am inclined to date these two portraits about 1900.
- P-32 Image: 3 3/4 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Sword // 1619 Columbia Ave. / Phila." and number 10265 written on back (see P-31). Source: gift from WVR, 1968. Annotation by WVR: "Mrs. Raser, second wife / of John Hyl [*sic*] Raser"

William Heyl Raser (W-4)

He appears to be the distributor of many of the prints, as the annotations frequently are in his handwriting.

- P-33 Image: 2 5/8 x 3 3/4 photo of a daguerreotype, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation, as quoted, written by WHR.
- P-34 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / Geo. M. Sauerbier, / 517 Penn Street, / Between Fifth and Sixth Sts. / Reading, Pa.", with a 3 cent Proprietary stamp. According to Ries & Ruby, 240, Sauerbier was active here 1864-66. Source: Album A, frame 7-R. Annotation by WHR: "195th Regiment / Pennsylvania Volunteers // Wm. H. Raser / in the Army / 1864 / Hospital / Steward 195th Pa. Vols."
- P-35 Image: 2 3/8 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted with coat of arms and: "F. Gutekunst, / 712 Arch St. / Philadelphia." According to Ries & Ruby, 110, Frederick Gutekunst was active at this location 1867-1900. Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation at bottom: "1868"
- P-36 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn St., Reading, Pa. No. [blank]" (see P-36). According to Ries & Ruby, 309, Yeager was active here 1864-66. Source: EGR Coll.
- P-37 Image: 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 photoengraving, accompanying a biographical account in *The Pharmaceutical Era*, 10 Dec. 1896, pg. 751.
- P-38 Image: 3 1/4 x 5 1/4 knee-length postcard print, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. Facial features similar to prints dated 1916.
- P-39 Image: from a 6 3/4 x 9 1/4 semi-glossy print, containing a 5 x 7 image and a full autograph at the bottom; photographed by "Associated News / Photographic Services, Inc. / 20 West 57th Street / New York City" per a proof copy. Source: JHRA Coll. A proof copy in the EGR Coll. is dated "Memorial Day 1936" by WHR.

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- P-40 Image: glossy print of a 1 3/4 x 2 5/8 oval photo, photographer unidentified. Source: EGR Coll. Annotation by GPR: "Mrs. Wm. H. Raser / nee Josephine Hennessy [*sic*] / About 1902"
- John Bernard Raser (W-5)
- P-41 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed / by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn Street, / Reading, / Pa. No. 8308" (see P-36). Source: Album A, frame 5-L. Annotation by --A--: "John B Raser"
- P-42 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "Davis Mahan, / 31 Fifth Avenue, / Pittsburg, Pa." According to Ries & Ruby, 180, active here 1860s-70s. Source: Album A, frame 7-L. Annotation by --A--: "John B Raser / & / C B Kinsey"; but GPR identified (below the slot) the friend as F. P. Kinsey.
- P-43 Image: 4 1/8 x 5 7/8 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Gilbert & Bacon // 40 N. 8th St. & 820 Arch St., Phila." According to Ries & Ruby, 98, active here 1875-93. Source: not recorded. Annotation by EJ: "John B. Raser while in College of Pharmacy" about 1870, as told by GPR(?).
- P-44 Image: 4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Hafer // 433 1/2 Penn St. / Reading, Pa." (see P-26). Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation by JHRA: "Early 1880s"; but another copy is marked "1891"
- P-45 Image: 3 7/8 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Hafer / Reading, Pa." (see P-26). Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation by WHR: "John Bernard Raser" Prints also exist of a different pose taken at the same sitting.
- P-46 Image: 4 x 6 browntone print on 6 x 9 3/4 heavy paper, embossed at lower right with "DSP8(?) [in superimposed characters] / Reading, Pa." The photographers apparently were Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart (Ries & Ruby, 69). Source; JHRA Coll. Annotation by JHRA: "Approx 1900-1905"
- P-47 Image: 4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, identical mounting as P-44. Source: not recorded. Annotation by --A--: "Mrs. John B Raser / Katie" A copy in the JHRA Coll. bears annotation by JHRA: "Approx 1880"
- P-48 Image: 4 x 6 browntone print, identical style as P-46, but lacking the bottom embossed imprint. Source: not recorded.
- Oliver Burbank Raser (W-6)
- P-49 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 5/8 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed / by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn Street, / Reading, / Pa. / No. 10651" (see P-36). Source: courtesy of Cynthia (Raser) Bigej. Annotation: "Oliver B Raser Sr / age 19."
- P-50 Image: 3 7/8 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted: "John D. Godeus, / Photographer, / No. 10 Sixth Street, / San Francisco, Cal. / Jan., '97." Source: courtesy of Cynthia (Raser) Bigej. Annotation: "Oliver B Raser Sr."
- P-51 Image: 3 1/2 x 5 1/2 postcard print. Source: courtesy of Cynthia (Raser) Bigej. Annotation by WVR: "Dad & Mother Raser / & Ellen" [possibly taken about 1900]
- P-52 Image: 3 3/8 x 5 1/2 family snapshot. Source: courtesy of Cynthia (Raser) Bigej. Annotation: "Oliver B Raser, Sr / Ella V Raser"
- P-53 Image: 3 1/2 x 5 glossy print of an earlier photo, photographer unidentified. Source: courtesy of Cynthia (Raser) Bigej. Annotation: "Photo 1908"
- P-54 Image: 4 x 6 semi-glossy print, photographer unknown; however, this was the photo used in his 1933 obituary. Source: WVR
- Amand Pfister Raser (W-7)
- P-55 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 5/8 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn St., Reading, Pa. No. 11054" (see P-36). Source: Album A, frame 6-L. Annotation by --B--: "A. Pfister Raser"
- P-56 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn St., Reading, Pa. No. 14633" (see P-36). Source: Album A, frame 16-L. Annotation by --B--: "Pfister". An identical copy in the JHRA Coll. bears printed annotation by JHRA: "Amand Pfister Raser / c. 1872"
- P-57 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 5/8 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / E. E. Hafer, / (Successor to F. M. Yeager) / 433 1/2 Penn St., Reading, Pa. No. 19428" (see P-26). Source: Album A, frame 15-R. Annotation by --B--: "Pfister"
- P-58 Image: 4 x 5 1/2 unmounted print, photographer unidentified. Source: EGR Coll. Annotation: "A. P. Raser", as told to EJ by EGR.
- P-59 Image: 4 x 5 mounted print, imprinted on back: "Hafer". Source: JHRA Coll. No annotation. A 4 x 5 1/2 cabinet card mounted print, also in the JHRA Coll., is imprinted at bottom: "Hafer // 433 1/2 Penn St. / Reading, Pa." (see P-26), and is identified as Pfister, as is a similar copy in the EGR Coll.
- P-60 Image: 5 x 7 seated, semi-glossy print, photographer unidentified. Source: EGR Coll. Annotation by GPR: "Armond Pfister Raser / at about 50 years of age" A 4 x 6 seated, folder-mounted print, imprinted at bottom: "Sol. Young / Studios", from the Anna Hurtt estate, bears annotation to left of photo: "A. P. Raser / Christmas 1921"

Our Raser Family

- P-61 Image: 4 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Stauffer(?) Cookman Ave. near Webb St. / Asbury Park, N. J." Source: EGR Coll. Annotation: "Sadie Perry", as told to EJ R by EGR.
- P-62 Image: 4 x 5 1/2 hip-length, cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "J. E. Smith // Bordentown / N. J." Source: EGR Coll. Annotation: "Sadie Perry", as told to EJ R by EGR.
- P-63 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 mounted print, imprinted at bottom: "Knowlton & Underwood, Photo. // Asbury Park, N. J." Source: EGR Coll. Annotation by APR: "Miss Lina Goodenough (nee)", above "Mrs. A. P. Raser / #931 Edgewood Ave. / Trenton City"
- P-64 Image: 4 x 6 seated, folder-mounted print, imprinted at bottom: "Sol. Young / Studios" Source: Anna Hurtt estate. Annotation to left of photo: "L. G. Raser / Christmas 1920"

Celeste Stoughton Raser (W-8)

- P-65 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 1/2 print of a CDV, as reproduced in *Raser Photographs*; photographer unidentified. Annotations by RPA: "1872 Photo" "... first time Lessie wore her hair high like a grownup."
- P-66 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 5/8 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn St., Reading, Pa. No. [blank]" (see P-36). Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation on RPA-reproduced copy: "1876 Photo"
- P-67 Image: 4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Hafer // Reading, Pa." (see P-26). Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation on back by Elizabeth (Widger) Arms (wife of RPA): "Celeste S. R. Arms / 1856-1937"
- P-68 Image: 4 x 5 mounted print, imprinted "Hafer" (see P-26). Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation by Elizabeth (Widger) Arms: "A N A 1848-1917 / ~ 1880 / Augustus Nice Arms ..."
- P-69 Image: 3 3/8 x 4 7/8 oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation by Elizabeth (Widger) Arms: "Celeste Stoughton / Raser Arms / 1906"
- P-70 Image: 2 3/4 x 4 1/2 oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: Album C, unrecorded page. Annotation on bottom of print: "1912"
- P-71 Image: 1 3/4 x 3 photoengraving accompanying his obituary in *The Southern Lumberman*, Nashville, Tenn., 25 Mar. 1916. Source: EJ R Coll.
- P-72 Image: 2 1/2 x 3 3/8 oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: Album C, fragment C-23-2

bachelor George Prentice Raser (W-9)
and twin Seydel Stoughton Raser (W-10)

- P-73 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 5/8 CDV, imprinted "Photographed / by / D. D. Maurer, / Reading, Pa." Source: Album A, frame 6-R. Annotation by --C--: "George Prentice Raser / Seydel Stoughton Raser"
- P-74 Image: 3 1/2 x 5 1/2 postcard print. Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation on front by GPR: "Prentice // Seydel / 1867 / at 6 years of age" A 2 1/4 x 3 1/2 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed by / Patton & Lee, / 538 Penn Street, South Side, / Reading, Pa." appears to be the original. According to Ries & Ruby, 208, Patton & Lee were active here 1864-66. All known copies consistently place Prentice on the left side.
- P-75 Image: 2 1/8 x 3 1/2 paper print of a 2 x 2 7/8 oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: Album A, frame 11-R. Annotation by --C--: "Prentice / Seyde"
- P-76 Image: 2 3/8 x 3 1/2 daguerreotype in 3 1/8 x 4 1/2 paper frame, photographer unidentified. Source: GPR estate. Annotation by GPR: "S. S. Raser Left / Wm. Weis Center / G. P. Raser Right / Atlantic City 1885"
- P-77 Image: 4 1/8 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "The / Gilbert / Studios // 926 Chestnut St. / Philadelphia."; on the back, photo number 7209-24. Ries & Ruby, 98, indicate Conrad M. Gilbert was active here 1890-1900. Source: GPR estate. Annotation by GPR: "About year 1890" Demonstrating the belated dating of photos, on postcard prints of the same image, GPR identifies himself and dates two copies 1885; on another copy JHRA dates the image "Approx / 1881"
- P-78 Image: 4 1/8 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "P. E. Chillman // 914 Arch Street, / Philad'a." According to Ries & Ruby, 48, Philip Edward Chillman was active here 1880-1900. Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation by WHR: "Seyde Stoughton / Raser / Born 1861 - Died 1922 / Twin" A 3 1/2 x 5 1/2 postcard print of the same image (GPR estate) and another (JHRA Coll.) both bear the annotation by GPR: "Seydel S. Raser / 1885"
- P-79 Image: 3 5/8 x 5 3/8 oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: Album C, fragment C-16-1.
- P-80 Image: 5 1/2 x 8 portrait print with 3 5/8 x 5 5/8 oval window, imprinted in lower left corner: "Portrait / by / Mauri-Bank(?) / 1622 Chestnut St. / Philadelphia". Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation at bottom: "1900", but this is much too early.

Appendices

Charles Linnaeus Raser (W-11)

- P-81 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted: "Chas. A. Saylor, / S. W. cor. 5th and Penn Sts. / Reading, Pa." (see P-22). Source: not recorded. An identical CDV in Album A, frame 15-L, bears annotation: "Linnie / Raser"
- P-82 Image: 3 3/4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted at bottom: "Fredricks, / 1889. // 770 Broadway, N.Y." Source: JHRA Coll.
- P-83 Image: 3 3/4 x 5 3/8 unmounted print, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. Copy in *Raser Photographs* is dated "early 1900's"
- P-84 Image: 3 x 8 print in paper folder, imprinted on cover: "Marlborough / Photo Studio / 1343 Broadway, N.Y." Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation on cover by HHR: "Capt. Charles L. Raser"
- P-85 Image: 4 3/4 x 6 glossy print; photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation by HHR: "Charles Linnaeus Raser / 1938"
- P-86 Image: 3 x 4 1/8 oval print; photographer unidentified. Source: Album C, fragment C-2-1. Annotation in white ink: "S. Lilla Hull"
- P-87 Image: 3 x 4 1/8 oval print; photographer unidentified. Source: Album C, fragment C-2-4. Annotation in white ink: "S. Lilla Hull"
- P-88 Image: 3 3/8 x 5 1/4 postcard print; imprinted: "J. A. Labbie, Photographer, / Boothbay Harbor, Me." Source: JHRA Coll. Annotation on front at bottom: "Lilla Hull Raser // 1913"

Thomas Brown Raser (W-2-7)

- P-89 Image: 1 3/4 x 2 3/8 oval print. Source: Album C, fragment 18. Annotation in white ink: "1858 T B Raser 1875"
- P-90 Image: 5 x 7 modern copy of old print, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. (and used in *Raser Photographs*). Annotation by GPR: "Thomas B. Raser / Photo about the year / 1874" A 2 1/8 x 3 3/4 CDV of the same image, in Album A, frame 3-L, is imprinted: "Photographed / by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn Street, / Reading, / Pa. No. 8819" (see P-36), and bears annotation by GPR: "Tom ? Raser" The parting of the hair is different than in P-89.
- P-91 Image: 5 x 7 modern copy of old photo, photographer unidentified. Source: JHRA Coll. (and used in *Raser Photographs*). Annotation by GPR: "Thomas Raser / About 1875" I had suspected this was Seydel even before discovering the Atlantic City source image.

Full View Photos

- P-92 Image: 3 7/8 x 7 1/4 knee-length mounted print, imprinted: "A. Bogardus / Photographer / 872 Broadway, / cor. 18th St. / New York." Source: JHRA Coll.
- P-93 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 5/8 CDV, imprinted: "Photographed / by / F. M. Yeager, / 433 1/2 Penn Street, / Reading, / Pa. No. [blank]" (see P-36). Source: CLR Coll. Annotation by HHR: "Charles Linnaeus Raser" An identical CDV in Album A, frame 19-L, bears annotation by GPR: "Age about 2 ye[a]rs / Charles Linnaeus / Raser / and his chum Jack / or Gack / About 1869"
- P-94 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/8 fully-seated CDV, imprinted: "Morgan & Brusstar. / 1109 Spring Garden Street, / Philadelphia." According to Ries & Ruby, 193, Edward R. Morgan operated here 1864-6. Source: Album A, frame 14-L, with annotation by GPR: "Mrs. John Heyl - / Raser / nee Cylinda - / Stoughton"

The Thomas Raser Branch

I am indebted to Thomas M. Raser (T-16-1) (TMR) of Ashtabula, Ohio, who supplied most of the portrait material for the Thomas Raser Branch chapter on two CDs. CD-1, received in Nov. 2009, contained 14 images sans folder (and which I numbered 1-14), 16 images in a folder titled "Daguerrotypes" (which I numbered 15-30), and two more in a second folder (which I numbered 31-32). CD-2, received in Aug. 2010, contained the image of Harriet (Maus) Raser.

- P-95 Image: xerox copies of original receipt book. Source: copied by TMR for EJR, 23 Mar. 1994.
- P-96 Image: xerox copies of original guide book. Source: copied by TMR for EJR, 23 Mar. 1994.
- P-97 Image: print of framed photo montage made by Henry Thos. Raser (T-10). Source: gift of TMR, 23 Mar. 1994. To improve clarity, the identical montage image from CD-1 (image 12) was substituted within the frame.

Our Raser Family

- P-98 Image: cased daguerreotype, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 29. Multiple image 23 shows the opened case with old label by Elizabeth (Raser) Wilson: "Thomas and Elizabeth / Raser & son / George B. Raser"
- P-99 Image: portrait extracted from photo montage. Source: CD-1, image 12.
- P-100 Image: carded oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 2. Annotation at top: "Elizabeth Brown Raser / wife of Thomas Raser"
- P-101 Image: cased daguerreotype, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 15. Multiple image 23 shows the opened case with old label by Elizabeth (Raser) Wilson: "George Bernard / Raser"
- P-102 Image: 8 1/2 x 11 print of colored photo of original painting taken by TMR. The framed original is actual size 3 1/2 x 4 inches. Source: print courtesy of TMR, 11 Dec. 2006.
- P-103 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted "From / Wager & Churchill, / Photographic and Fine Art Gallery, / Ground Floor, / Above Depot, // 1310 Peach Street, / Erie, Penn." According to Ries & Ruby, 286, S. D. Wager and A. P. Churchill were active 1873-76. Source: Album A, frame 4-R. Annotation by WHR: "Aunt / Annie Raser / sister of John Heyl Raser / died about 1850" Obviously misidentified; almost certainly Ann Eliza ("Annie") Raser (T-6), who was age 22 in 1873 and then a resident of Erie, Pa. CDV possibly acquired by WHR in correspondence with Henry Thos. Raser.
- P-104 Image: cabinet card, imprinted: "Minton, // Bellevue, O." Source: CD-1, image 11. Annotation at bottom: "Martha Raser / Hitchcock"
- P-105 Image: cabinet card, imprinted "Weber // [logo] // Erie, Pa." Source: CD-1, image 1. Annotation, at bottom: "Elizabeth Knight Raser & daughters / Martha Hitchcock / Sarah Belknap [*sic*] / Annie Metzgar"
- P-106 Image: large unframed print, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 6.
- P-107 Image: framed oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 5.
- P-108 Image: print, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-2.
- P-109 Image: daguerreotype, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 22. TMR identifies the couple as "Lewis and Elizabeth Vance Maus, M. Oct. 29, 1839, parents of ..."
- P-110 Image: cabinet card, imprinted: "Bassett // [logo] // 728 State St. / Erie, Pa." According to Ries & Ruby, 13, F. J. Bassett was active here 1890-91. Source: CD-1, image 3. Annotation at bottom: "Elizabeth Vance Maus"
- P-111 Image: cabinet card, imprinted: "Blakeslee / & Moore // 97 1/2 / Main St. // Ashtabula, / O." Source: CD-1, image 10. Annotation at bottom: "Lewis Henry Maus"
- P-112 Image: photo by EJR, 11 Jan. 1948. Source: EJR Photo Coll. All photos on this page were taken in Erie Cemetery, section M, lot 44, which was purchased by Elizabeth (Brown) Raser soon after the death of her granddaughter, Annie Knight Belnap, who was interred here 24 Aug. 1872. Husband Thomas Raser was reinterred here 18 Nov. 1874.
- P-113 Image and source: see P-112. Mary (Raser) Vaughan was interred here 22 Oct. 1879, the third interment in lot 44. The birth year on her son's gravestone is incorrect.
- P-114 Image and source: see P-112. James E. Belnap, born 25 Oct. 1841, died 26 Sept. 1904 in Wabash, Ind., and was interred here 29 Sep. 1904. Sarah (Raser) Belnap was interred here 30 Jan. 1922.

The Matthias Raser Branch

I am indebted to Gary Paul Raser (M-32-3) and Robert Lynn Raser (M-30-3), who supplied all of the portrait material for the Matthias Raser Branch chapter on three CDs. CD-1, received from Gary in Jan. 2010, contained 22 images, while CD-3, received from Gary in Oct. 2010, contained seven images, of which image 00003 was for Thomas Jefferson Raser (M-16). In Aug. 2010 Bob sent me CD-2, containing 23 images in a folder labeled "Raser Family born in 1800's", being pictorial material (mostly portrait and group photographs) which had been collected by his parents, Thomas J. and Mary (Trimborn) Raser.

- P-115 Image: photo of old oval print, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-3, image 00003.
- P-116 Image: family snapshot. Source: CD-2, image R18-6.
- P-117 Image: photo of old glass plate portrait, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-2, image R18-1.
- P-118 Image: cabinet card, imprinted: "Chandler // [logo] // 828 Arch St. / Phila." According to Ries & Ruby, 46, George F. Chandler was active here 1894-1900. Source: CD-2, image R18-7(1).
- P-119 Image: cabinet card?, imprinted: "[C]lifford, // No. 270 South Second Street, / Above Spruce, Phila." According to Ries & Ruby, 50, Henry Clifford was active here 1875-85. Source: CD-2, image R18-12.

Appendices

- P-120 Image: family snapshot. Source: CD-2, image R18-14.
P-121 Image: family snapshot. Source: CD-2, image R18-11.
P-122 Image: cabinet-card-style mounted print, with "Schillare" handwritten in usual imprint area. Source: CD-2, image R18-3.
P-123 Image: family snapshot. Source: CD-1, image 011A.
P-124 Image: family snapshot. Source: CD-2, image R18-8.
P-125 Image: commercial portrait, photographer unidentified. Source: CD-1, image 015A.

The John Reser/Rezer Branch

I am especially indebted to Mrs. M. Kramer Graham (a J-14-6 descendant) for loaning me her old family photos for copying. I also wish to thank Joan (Rezer) Derry (J-24-2) for scanning and e-mailing three images to me, Linda (Rezer) Halvorsen (J-25-3) for copying and mailing me three additional images, and Dennis A. Krebs of Penn Valley, Cal., for two e-mails with various scanned images, including the four noted below.

- P-126 Source: *The Old York Road and its Early Associations of History and Biography. 1670-1870*, by Mrs. Anne de Benneville Mears (Philadelphia, 1890), facing p. 60.
P-127 Image: 2 3/8 x 3 7/8 CDV-like cardboard-mounted print, no imprint. Annotation on back: "James Alexander Craig / father of / Robt. W. Craig"; "Sarah Ann Rezer m" was inserted above this notation at a later date. Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-128 Image: 4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted: "Lothrop // 54 N. Ninth St., Philadelphia, Pa. / just below Arch Street." According to Ries & Ruby, 168, David Lothrop was active here 1884-94. Annotation on back: "Elmira Rezer Hartley / dau. of / Benjamin Rezer & / Eliza Brant / Mother of Emily Hartley Tilton" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-129 Image: 4 x 5 3/4 cabinet card, imprinted: "P. E. Chillman // 914 Arch St." According to Ries & Ruby, 48, Philip Edward Chillman was active here 1880-1900. Annotation on back: "Elmira Rezer Craig Miller / mother of Bert Miller"; also number 22762. Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham
P-130 Image: 4 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted: "The Pinero Studio / 2204 Chestnut St. / Phila." According to Ries & Ruby, 215, active here 1895-99. Annotation on back: "Elmira Craig Miller / (aunt Minie)" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-131 Image: 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted: "Geo. Jaeger, / Photographer, / 106 North Eighth Street, / Philadelphia." According to Ries & Ruby, 137, George F. Jaeger was active at this location 1876-80. Annotation: "Albert Miller / father of / Bert Miller" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-132 Image: 3 7/8 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted: "The Pinero Studio / [logo] / 2204 Chestnut St. / Philadelphia." (see P-130). Annotation at bottom: "Annie Virginia Neely - Mother of Edw. Hartley Neely" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-133 Image: 4 x 5 1/2 cabinet card, imprinted: "Dehls // 243 and 245 North Eighth St., / Philadelphia, Pa." According to Ries & Ruby, 65, William H. Dehls was active here 1888-93. Annotation on back: "Edw H Neely / 1847 Nth 28th st"; also stamped number 16532. Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-134 Image: 3 3/4 x 5 1/2 cardboard-mounted print, imprinted on back: "Sol. Young / Studios / [list of 13 addresses, including] 1622 Chestnut Street, Phila." Annotation on front at bottom: "Henrietta Craig Rimel" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-135 Image: 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 full-length tintype. Modern label on back: "Annie Virginia / Craig Neely / Edw Hunter Neely" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
P-136 Image: 2 3/8 x 3 3/4 CDV, imprinted: "O. B. DeMorat / Photographer / 2 Sth. Eighth St. / Philad'a. / No. 346". According to Ries & Ruby, 66, Oliver B. DeMorat was active here 1864-87. Source: courtesy of Joan (Rezer) Derry.
P-137 Image: 5 x 7 matte-finish commercial photograph, photographer unidentified. Source: courtesy of Joan (Rezer) Derry.
P-138 Image: 5 x 7 glossy commercial photograph, photographer unidentified. Source: courtesy of Joan (Rezer) Derry.
P-139 Image: photo of commercial portrait, photographer unidentified. Source: courtesy of Linda (Rezer) Halvorsen.
P-140 Image: photo of cardboard-framed portrait, imprinted: "Holts / 1031 Market St. / 48 N. 8th St. / Phila." Source: courtesy of Linda (Rezer) Halvorsen.

- P-141 Image: photo of commercial portrait, photographer unidentified. Source: courtesy of Linda (Rezer) Halvorsen.
- P-142 Image: 3 3/8 x 5 3/8 postcard print, photographer unidentified. Annotation at bottom: "Cousin / Emily Hartley Tilton" Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
- P-143 Image: 4 x 5 5/8 cabinet card, imprinted: "G. C. Potter & Co., / Studio. // N. W. Cor. / Market & 13th Sts., / Philadelphia, Pa." According to Ries & Ruby, 217, George C. Potter & Co. was active here 1885-97. Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
- P-144 Image: 4 x 5 3/8 scalloped-edge cabinet card, imprinted "Goehrig // Trenton, N.J." Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham.
- P-145 Image: 3 3/4 x 5 1/4 scalloped-edge cabinet card, imprinted "Goehrig // Trenton, N.J." Source: courtesy of M. Kramer Graham. Card similar but not identical to P-144.
- P-146 Image: scan of full-length photo (cabinet card print?). Source: 17 Nov. 2010, 8:00 pm e-mail, "MaryBMalin.jpg" attachment; courtesy of Dennis A. Krebs.
- P-147 Image: scan of cabinet card, imprinted at bottom "Tomlinson Bro's. // Superior / Finish // 518 Broadway, / Hannibal, Mo." Source: 17 Nov. 2010, 7:42 pm e-mail, "John P Razer.jpg" attachment; courtesy of Dennis A. Krebs. Scans of two copies of the same portrait, provided by Malin descendant Karen G. Mullian, bear annotations "Uncle John Razor / Father's half brother / (L.M.C.)" and "John Razer - Son of Mary & / Uriah Razer; after Uriah's / death Mary married Wash Malin." L.M.C is Lyla Mary (Malin) Clark, b. 1895, gddau. of Mary (Youart) Malin. Mr. Krebs stated that he had made his scans from the Malin family photo collection of Delores Ganschow, living near Walnut, Bureau Co., Ill. For more on John P. Razer, see the last minute update information below.
- P-148 Image: scan of cabinet-card-size print. Source: 17 Nov. 2010, 7:42 pm e-mail, "Mary Youart Malin.jpg" attachment; courtesy of Dennis A. Krebs. Joan (Rezer) Derry provided a scan of a complete cabinet card, which is imprinted "E. C. Chandler // Walnut, Ill." and bears annotation: "Grandmother Malin" in the lower left corner.
- P-149 Image: scan of circular-framed old photo. Source: 17 Nov. 2010, 8:00 pm e-mail, "Washington Malin.jpg" attachment; courtesy of Dennis A. Krebs. Joan (Rezer) Derry provided a scan of a funeral card which shows this portrait on the left half of the card.

Last minute update, being a condensation of Razer/Malin research findings provided in November 2010 by Dennis A. Krebs of Penn Valley, Cal., a Malin family descendant. The following childrens list provides information supplemental to that found on page 244.

Children of Uriah Razer (J-13) and Mary Youart:

1. John P., m. 14 Sep. 1869 Anna M. Like in McAlisterville, Pa. She was b. 27 Dec. 1851 in Boggs Twp., Centre Co., Pa., the dau. of John Like and Elizabeth Reynolds. John P. Razer enlisted as a Private in March 1864 in the 3rd Pa. Heavy Artillery, but was soon transferred to Co. H, 188th Regt., Pa. Vol. Inf., in which he served until discharged in May 1865; he subsequently applied for a disability pension. He and Anna apparently were divorced in Kansas betw. 1880-85. In 1889 he is listed as a "Magnetic physician" in Omaha, Neb., and betw. 1890-91 as a "Magnetic Healer" in Minneapolis, Minn., where he d. 24 Oct. 1893. Chn.: Elizabeth, b. May 1870, seemingly d. young; Elizabeth Adell, b. 6 Mar. 1872, d. 19 Mar. 1950, m. (1) unknown, m. (2) abt. 1905 George Chapman Ely; Laura, b. abt. 1875, m. — Akin.
2. Hannah Elizabeth, b. June 1847, appears to have been the mother (unwed?) of Letha J. "Malin," age 2 in the 1870 census, who is listed in 1880 as Aletha Raszor, age 12, servant in the fam. of Jacob Himes. Hannah m. aft. June 1870 Peter L. Varner, who was b. 6 Feb. 1833 in Fayette Twp., Juniata Co., Pa., the son of John Varner and Barbara Lackenton. The Varners were lifelong residents of Fayette Twp., where Hannah d. abt. 1880 and Peter d. 13 Mar. 1902. Chn. (VARNER): John Washington, b. 13 May 1871, m. abt. 1890 Ida Mae Bell; Hannah M., b. 1873, m. David Wagner.