

267

THE MESSINGER FAMILY
OF PENNSYLVANIA AND THE WESTERN STATES

The Messinger Family of Pennsylvania
and the western states.

268

Descendants of Michael Messinger (1719--1791), an early settler of Forks township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania (near what is now the village of Tatamy). (See History of Northampton Co., Pa., vol. 2, p. 337, by Wm. J. Heller).

Michael Messinger, the settler of Forks township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was born 10 Nov. 1719, in Basel, Switzerland. He came to America in 1732, according to "Rupp's Collection of 30,000 names", page 75. He was of German ancestry. His ancestors had lived in Germany along the Rhine.

He died in Forks township, Northampton County, Pa., 24 Oct. 1791, aged 71 years, 11 mos., 17 days; buried in the churchyard adjoining the Arndt and Messinger church which is near Bushkill Park, in Forks township, about two miles north of Easton, Pennsylvania.

He married Catharina Abel, the marriage probably recorded in Oley, Berks County, Pa. She was born 13 April 1723; died in Forks township, 1 July 1785, aged 62 years, 2 mos., 8 days; buried beside her husband in the churchyard of the Arndt and Messinger church.

The graves of Michael Messinger and his wife Catharina are marked by rckadstone gravestones, the inscriptions of which are in German. A fac-simile of these gravestone inscriptions is given in "The old Gravestones of Northampton and adjacent counties", page 25 by John Eyerman, P. Z. S., vol. 2, No. 2, 35 Copies printed. Easton, Pa., 1901. This book may be found in the public library of Easton, Pa.

Gravestone inscriptions

Hier ruhet in Gott der seelig verstorben
Michael Messinger er wahr geboheret den
(10^{ten}) November im jahr 1719 und ist gestorben
den 24 October im jahr 1791 alt worden 71 jahr
11 monat und 17 tage.

Hier
Ruhet in Gott die seelig vestor bene
Catharina Messing^{erm} sie wahr gebohren
den 23^{ten} April im Jahr 1723 und ist
gestorben den 1^{ten} Julius im jahr 1785
alt worden 62 jahr 2 monat und 8 tage.

Michael Messinger, Sr. married secondly, widow Elizabeth Butz by whom no issue. She survived him and is named in his Will.

Michael Messinger, Sr., settled first near Oley, Berks Co., Pa. The records and deeds of his property near Oley may be found in the City Hall, Philadelphia. In 1771 he removed to Forks township, Northampton Co., Pa., where he became a large land owner and where he spent the remainder of his life.

His descendants in 1929 hold title to about 300 acres of the original tract which he purchased in 1771 and which is located near what is now the village of Tatamy.

He lived by the old mill in Forks township, called Walter's Mill later owned by Jacob Walter, about two miles north of Easton. He was one of the donors of the burial ground which adjoins the Arndt and Messinger Church. The History of Northampton County, Pa., p. 247, states: "Jacob Arndt (corrected to John) and Michael Messinger were the donors of the site of the burial ground where repose their earthly remains."

"The old gravestones of Northampton and adjacent counties," page 25, by John Eyerman, P.E.S., vol. 2, No. 2, 35 copies printed, Easton, Pa., 1901, has the following: "Arndt and Messinger church yard occupies a commanding position on the hillside overlooking the picturesque Bushkill Valley near Walter's in Forks township, about two miles north of Easton. The yard was laid out in 1775 and the first church was erected in 1826." The Arndt and Messinger Church has a marker set into the front wall bearing the following inscription:

Built in 1826

Arndt and Messinger

Church

Rebuilt 1855

This church, rebuilt in 1855, was remodeled in the year 1914. It is a plain, square stone church, without steeple or tower. The interior had originally a gallery or balcony running around three sides. It overlooks the picturesque Bushkill Valley. It is in the country near Bushkill Park, two miles north of Easton and is reached by trolley car from Easton or by the Easton and Northern Railroad. Two religious denominations are connected with this church, viz., Lutheran and Reformed Union, and both congregations are worshiping in it. The first settlers within the limits of Forks township were chiefly German.

During the American Revolution Michael Messinger, Sr., was a member of the Committee of Observation of Northampton County, chosen 21 Dec. 1774. He was a member of the Northampton Committee of Safety (See Hist. of Easton, Pa., p. 124). Additional reference: Pennsylvania Archives, 2nd Series, vol. 14, pp. 591-592.

A photostatic copy of the will of Michael Messinger, Sr., has been received from the Court House in Easton. Dates of birth of most of his children, as given below, have been contributed by a descendant living in Easton. His Will (recorded in Will Book,

1786 to 1800, p. 142, Northampton County Wills on file at Easton), mentions ten children, seven sons and three daughters, viz., John, Jacob, Philip, Mary Kocher, Elizabeth Stecher, Catherine Wilhelm, George, Daniel, Michael and Abraham.

During the Revolution his seven sons served in the militia of Northampton County, record of service to be found in Pennsylvania Archives, Fifth Series, vol. 8, pp. 200-201).

Children by first wife, all born probably near Oley, Berks Co.:

- i. Mary² Messinger, b. 14 March 1744; m. Peter Kocher.
- ii. John² Messinger, b. 7 April 1746; m. Elizabeth Wilhelm. He was named as one of the executors of his father's will.
- iii. Jacob² Messinger, b. 21 April 1748; m. (1) Maria Maur; m. (2) Margareth -----.
- iv. Philip² Messinger, b. 21 June 1750; m. (1) Susanna Elizabeth Abel; m. (2) Margaret Pyle.
- v. Elizabeth² Messinger, b. -----; m. George Stecher (as stated in "The old Gravestones of Northampton and adjacent counties, p. 25, by John Eyerman) and so given in her father's will. This was probably her second marriage. This Elizabeth Messinger undoubtedly married first, Michael Butz. By right of marriage service rendered by her father as a member of the Committee of Safety and Inspection during the Revolutionary War, one of her great-grand daughters, namely, Mrs. Emma L. McCape, wife of Christopher J. McCape of Philadelphia, Pa., became affiliated several years ago with Independence Hall Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, her national number being #20685 (See D.A.R. Lineage Book, vol. 21, page 240).
- vi. George² Messinger, b. 1755; m. Catherine Babb.
- vii. Daniel² Messinger, b. -----; m. Elizabeth -----.
- viii. Michael Messinger, Jr., b. 31 March 1759; m. (1) Elizabeth Sigman; m. (2) Elizabeth Stecher, widow.
- ix. Henry² Messinger, b. in Jan. 1762; d. when twelve years old.
- x. Abraham² Messinger, b. about 1764; died 30 Sept. 1824 in Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana, at what is now the town of Acton; buried in the old Parsley graveyard near Acton. No gravestone now to be found. He m. Catherine -----, probably in Forks township, Northampton Co., Pa. She survived him and died after 1834 at what is now the town of Acton; buried in the old Parsley graveyard near Acton.
- xi. Catherine² Messinger, b. 27 Aug. 1767; m. Frederick Wilhelm.

Family of Abraham and Catherine Messinger
of Allegheny Co., Pa., and Acton, Marion Co., Indiana.

Abraham² Messinger (Michael¹) (No.), farmer, cooper and millwright, was born probably in Oley, Berks Co., Pennsylvania about 1760-2; was taken by his parents in 1771 to Forks township, Northampton Co., Pa., who settled near what is now the village of Tatamy. He died near Acton, Franklin township, Marion Co., Ind., 30 Sept. 1834; buried in the old Parsley graveyard near Acton. He was the son of Michael Messinger, Sr., of Forks township, Northampton Co., Pa., and Catherine his wife. (See list of children of Michael Messinger, Sr., given on page 25, "The Old Gravestones of Northampton and Adjacent Counties." by John Ayerman, F.S.S., vol. 2, No. 2. 35 copies printed at Easton, Pa., 1901).

He married Catherine -----, probably in Forks township, Northampton Co., Pa., about 1785. She survived him and died after 1834 near Acton, Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana; buried beside her husband in the old Parsley graveyard near Acton. No trace of their graves is now to be found. The land where this old graveyard stood is owned now (1929) by Ernest S. Hamlyn, Esq.

The name of Catherine Messinger appears in the settlement of her husband's estate. Her maiden name is not remembered. She was of Pennsylvania German ancestry and spoke English brokenly. It is said of her that after moving to Indiana she used to gather her grandchildren around her and teach them German.

For the compiler a search was made at Easton, Pa., of the records of the old German Reformed Church, but the marriage record of Abraham Messinger and Catherine his wife was not found.

Abraham Messinger served in the Revolution in the First Company of the Second Battalion of Militia in Northampton Co., Pa., commanded by Col. Roup, Jacob Buss, Captain, Jacob Arndt, Jr., Lieut. (See Pennsylvania Archives, Fifth Series, vol. 8, pp. 200-201).

The name of Abraham Messinger is to be found on the roll of the First Company of the Second Battalion of militia in Northampton Co., Pennsylvania (Jacob Buss, Captain), as it stood in the fall of 1782. His six brothers also served in the same regiment of Northampton Co., militia.

Some time after the Fall of 1782, but before 10 Dec. 1786, he removed to Allegheny Co., Pa., and settled along the Monongahela River. In that day this was spoken of as "going west."

By some error his name has been omitted from the United States Census of 1790. He lived here in Allegheny Co., Pa., for more than forty years. His name should appear as a householder in Allegheny County in the U.S. Census of 1800, 1810 and 1820.

In old age, about the year 1832, he and his wife Catherine removed to Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana, and settled near what is now the town of Acton, where he purchased from the U.S. Government on 4th Sept. 1832, the East Half of the S.W. Quarter of Section 15, Township 14 North, Range 5 East - 80 acres (See Tract Book).

His three married daughters and his son John H. Messinger and family were already residing in Marion Co., Ind., at the time he removed there.

He and his son John H. Messinger built the mill on Buck Creek, n/ near Acton, which was known as the Messinger Mill, but many years later was known as the Rocks Mill. The foundation of this mill on Buck Creek may still be seen.

Abraham Messinger died intestate on or about the last day of September 1834. Barnett D. Faddock was appointed and qualified as administrator of the estate of Abraham Messinger 30 Dec. 1834 (See Order Book B, p. 77). Letters revoked and George Billiner appointed and qualified as administrator de bonis non. Estate settled 15 Nov. 1839 (Order Book B, p. 437, Complete Record 2, p. 176, Marion County, Indiana Probate Records).

In accordance with certain agreements between Abraham Messinger and his son John H. Messinger, the son having advanced certain sums of money to his father, was to receive his father's land in Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana.

On or about the 2nd day of Sept. 1834, the said Abraham Messinger had executed and delivered to his son John H. Messinger "his certain bill of sale or covenant in writing" by which he bound himself to give to his son "all the articles of personal property named in a list thereunto attached" in consideration that his son John H. Messinger "would attend to his the said Abraham's affairs and business for him and his wife Catherine Messinger in sickness and in health, find them in meat, drink, lodging, fire-wood and clothing necessary for their comfort in summer and in winter, and give them a friendly support in their state and condition together with all necessary expenses, and after their death give them a decent burial, with decent palings round their graves, which said articles of personal property are as follows: to-wit: "One yoke of oxen and chain, one rifle gun, that pouch and powder horn, all his the said Abraham's Cooper and Mill-wright tools, one cow, one yearling, one calf, one sow, four shoats, one bench and screw, one ax, his the said Abraham's household and kitchen furniture, all his iron and stone tools, all hay and corn due said Abraham for rent or otherwise, all debts standing out then paid, one hoe, one shovel, one mattox, one clock, all his the said Abraham's growing fruit trees in the nursery, the timber wagon and all the labor done for or at the mill on Buck Creek."

His father dying without having made a will or executing deeds to the property, John H. Messinger filed in Marion Circuit Court 12 June 1837, a Bill of Complaint against the other heirs, in order to obtain legal possession of the land. The suit was settled 15 Nov. 1839 and John H. Messinger was given possession of the land.

The legal proceedings are set forth in Order Book B, page 437, Complete Record 2, p. 176, Marion County, Indiana Probate Records.

At the time of his death Abraham Messinger owned the following tracts of land in Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana: 40 acres off of the North end of the East Half of the S.W. quarter of Sec. 15, Twp. 14, North of Range 5 East; and also all of the land lying south of the North sixRANGE end of the East Half of the S.W. quarter of Sec. 15, Twp. 14, North of Range 5 East, containing

forty acres; and also all the land which he bought of Thomas Rouse, which was patented to John Miller, described as follows: 45 acres lying on the south end of the west Half of the S. E. Quarter of Sec. 15, Twp. 14, North of Range 5 East, all of which property was afterward owned by his son John Hill Messinger.

A part of the 80 acres which Abraham Messinger purchased from the U. S. Government in 1832 and which was inherited by his son John H. Messinger, now comes within the town lines and is included in the late Francis W. Gordon's addition to the Town of Acton, Marion Co., Indiana. This sub-division consists of 22 lots, lots 1 to 9, both inclusive, and 11 to 22, both inclusive, of Gordon's addition to the town of Acton, are located entirely within the boundaries of the southwest quarter of sec. 15, Twp. 14, North of Range 5 East, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 16, p. 127, the chain of title brought down, as appears from the records in the Recorder's office, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Abraham and Catherine Messinger had six children, three sons and three daughters, all born near the Monongahela River, in Allegheny Co., Pa., as follows:

- i. Elizabeth³ Messinger (called Betsy), b. 10 Dec. 1786; m. in Allegheny Co., Pa., in 1807 Robert Brown, b. 5 Feb. 1787 in Staunton, Augusta Co., Virginia, the son of Dr. Brown who came to America from Ireland and who was in his day the most prominent physician in Staunton, Va. she d. in Warren township, Marion Co., Ind., 20 April 1867, aged 80 years, 4 mos. 6 days. She had been married for sixty years.
Robert Brown survived his wife nine years and died at his home in Warren Township, Marion Co., Ind., 20 Oct. 1876 at the advanced age of 89 years, 6 mos., 16 days. Only four children survived him, three sons and one daughter. He left several great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.
The names of his children have not been ascertained. Some of his descendants live in Indianapolis, Ind. One of his daughters married William Monroe Joyce who was always called "Billroe". "Billroe" Joyce married a second wife and moved to Independence, Kansas about 1874. Two sons by second wife, namely "Elick" and Charles Joyce, were residing in Independence, Kansas in 1920.
- ii. John Hill³ Messinger, farmer, millwright, soldier in the War of 1812, was born in 1789; died 4 July 1858 at his home in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa, near Waverly; buried in the old graveyard just south of what is now the village of Denver (Gravestone). He married about 1817 Mary Martha Miller, born 14 Aug. 1800, died 1 June 1871.
Ten children. (Further records hereafter).
- iii. Nicholas³ Messinger, son of Abraham and Catherine Messinger, probably remained in Allegheny Co., Pa. His name is mentioned in the settlement of his father's estate but his residence is not given.
- iv. Peter³

- iv. Peter³ Messinger, son of Abraham and Catherine Messinger, married Mahala ----- . They signed deed to land in Franklin township, Marion Co., Ind., prior to 1845. Peter's name is mentioned in settlement of his father's estate but his residence is not given. A Nicholas Messinger (probably their son) enlisted in the Civil War from Marion Co., Indiana, as a Private in Indiana Ninth Regiment of Infantry, Company D. He died at Nashville, Tenn., 18 June 1865; where buried not reported.

Note: A John and a Jerry Messinger lived for many years in Waverly, Bremer Co., Iowa and Jerry was still living there in July 1911. It is supposed that they were the sons of Peter and Mahala Messinger.

- v. Barbara³ Messinger, daughter of Abraham and Catherine Messinger, married Samuel Searight, probably in Allegheny Co., Pa. They removed to Franklin township, Marion Co., Ind., probably soon after 1830. The names of their children have not been ascertained.

The following is copied from the "Family of Searight in America," by James A. Searight, Uniontown, Pa., Pub. 1893: "Descendants of William Searight who came from near Londonderry in the North of Ireland to Lancaster Co., Pa., about the year 1741. The family of Searwright (later spelled Searight) is of Scotch-Irish origin and its Scotland ancestors were Dalraidan Scots who went from the North of Ireland to strathclyde, Scotland, which, a portion, if not all, of their descendants left, at the time of the "Planting of Ulster" to settle in County Donegal and in and around Londonderry, Ireland. From one of these Londonderry or County Donegal Searwrights was descended William Searwright, founder of the Searwright family whose history is traced in this volume. William Searwright was founder of the Lampeter township, Lancaster County Searwright family of Pennsylvania from which has descended so many families of that name in various states of the Union. He was born about 1720 near the city of Londonderry in the North of Ireland and died in 1771 in Lampeter township, Lancaster Co., Pa., in which he settled some time between 1735 and 1740."

- vi. Catherine³ Messinger, daughter of Abraham and Catherine Messinger, married John Miller, son of Rudis and Abigail Miller. They moved in 1826 to Franklin township, Marion Co., Ind. John Miller purchased from the U.S. Government "45 acres lying on the south end of the west half of the S.E. Quarter of Sec. 15, Twp. 14, North of Range 5 East" which tract was later owned by Thomas Rouse who sold it to Abraham Messinger. John Miller owned other land in Franklin township (his home farm), which he sold in 1853 to William Miller. In the Marion County, Indiana Census of 1850, John Miller is listed as a resident of Franklin township, his age under thirty years, and the head of a family of one son under 5, one son

under 10, one son under 15, one daughter under 5, one daughter under 10, and his wife under thirty years of age.

A complete list of the children of John and Catherine (Messinger) Miller has not been obtained. One of their sons was Henry and one son was Amos Miller, who, tradition says, was killed in the Mexican War. They had another son whose nickname was "Switcher". One of their daughters married Tolliver Fisher of Acton, Marion Co., Ind., and they, the Tolliver Fishers, removed from Acton Indiana to Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa early in the spring of 1846, and were among the very first settlers in the township..

A Philip Miller also settled in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa in the early spring of 1846, coming there from Marion Co., Indiana; and an old family record states that he was a brother of the above-named John Miller.

The Tolliver Fisher and the John Miller families remained in Jefferson township, Bremer County, only a few months and then removed elsewhere.

Settlement of estate of Abraham Messinger
of what is now Acton, Franklin township,
Marion County, Indiana.

276

- United States
1. To Entry
Abraham Messinger
- Sept. 4, 1832
Tract Book
E. 1/2 S.W. 1/4 Section 15,
Township 14, N. Range 5 E.
30 acres.
2. Abraham Messinger died intestate on or about the last of
September, 1854.
3. Barnett D. Paddock appointed and qualified as administrator
of the estate of Abraham Messinger, Dec. 30, 1854. Order
Book B, page 77.
Letters revoked and George Dilliner appointed and quali-
fied as administrator de bonis non.
- Estate settled Nov. 15, 1859. Order Book B, page 457.
Complete Record 2, page 176, Marion Probate Court.

family of John Hill Messinger
of Acton, Marion Co., Indiana
and Waverly, Bremer Co., Iowa.

277

John Hill³ Messinger (Abraham,² Michael¹), farmer, mill-wright, soldier in the War of 1812, was born in 1789 near the Monongahela River, in Allegheny Co., Pennsylvania; died 4 July 1859, aged 70 years, at his home in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa, a few miles east of Waverly; buried in the old burial ground just south of what is now the village of Denver (gravestone). He was the son of Abraham and Catherine Messinger, both of German descent. His death was instantaneous, due to a "stroke". He was short in stature, had blue eyes and curly hair of yellow tinge.

He married first, in Allegheny Co., Pa., - probably some five or six years before his service in the War of 1812. The name of his first wife is not ascertained.

He and his first wife had three sons, namely, John, George and Peter, who, after they had grown to manhood, went to Illinois where they spent the remainder of their lives. Nothing further is known of them. The following records deal only with the history of his ten children by his second marriage.

He married secondly, about 1817, in Allegheny Co., Pa., Mary Martha Miller, who was eleven years younger than himself. She was born 14 Aug. 1800 in Allegheny Co., Pa., and died 1 June 1871, aged 70 years, 9 mos., 17 days, at the home farm in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa, having survived her husband twelve years. She is buried beside her husband in the old burial ground south of the village of Denver (gravestone).

This was the first cemetery in the township and is located in the northeast corner of Section 25, on the farm which was originally owned by Elias J. Messinger, her son. It consists of about one-half acre of ground and was deeded to the township by Elias J. Messinger. Their graves are marked by gravestones which were in 1931 in a good state of preservation.

John Hill Messinger was of German descent and was of the third generation in America. His signature shows that he did not use his middle name in full but only the initial H. It is said that he was fourteen years of age when he first learned to speak English. He spoke German and "Pennsylvania Dutch".

Mrs. Mary Martha (Miller) Messinger was of medium height and had dark hair and dark eyes. She was twelve years of age when she learned to speak English. She also spoke German and "Pennsylvania Dutch". She was daughter of Rudis and Abigail Miller, both of German descent, who resided in Allegheny Co., Pa., but who had undoubtedly removed from Forks township, Northampton Co., Pa., where many families of Millers were among the early settlers.

John Hill Messinger served in the War of 1812, enlisting from Allegheny Co., Pa., as a Private in Capt. George Mendel's Volunteer Rifle Company, First Brigade, seventh Division, Pa. militia.

After his service in the war of 1812, he and his wife removed from Allegheny Co., Pa., to Butler Co., Ohio and lived a few miles from Hamilton, where his brother-in-law Robert Brown (whose wife was Elizabeth Messinger) had settled in the year 1808, the said

Robert Brown having served in the War of 1812, enlisting from Butler Co., Ohio, John Hill Messinger and his wife resided in Butler County three or four years then moved to Decatur Co., Indiana where they lived for a time. In the fall of 1822, in company with the family of Robert Brown, they removed to Indianapolis, Marion Co., Indiana, then but a small settlement of a few log huts.

Sulgrove's History states that Mr. Brown lived for eight years on the old site where the School for the Blind stood for so many years, this property commencing at what is now Pennsylvania and North Streets; and that he tended his corn several years on the square in which the present Court House stands. The year following his arrival here, he entered his farm south of Irvington, in Warren township, Marion County, where he took up his residence in 1820 and remained there until his death in 1876, which occurred at the venerable age of 86 years. His experiences were typical of all the early settlers in this country.

His farm in Warren township was only seven or eight miles from the home of John Hill Messinger and of George and Mary (Burnight) Tibbetts, in the adjoining township of Franklin, Marion County.

Sulgrove's History also states that Mr. Brown would kill game enough to last his family two or three weeks and then go out to work on his farm, clearing off his land and building his house which he finished in the Fall of 1824, although he and his family did not occupy this house until six years thereafter. When he was building it, the deer would come, two or three at a time, and lie down within fifty steps of the house, in the day-time.

Wild turkeys were also plentiful. Breadstuff was an item at that time as they had to go to a horse-mill in Shelby County, a distance of some 20, or 30 miles, the trip generally occupying three days. For meat they relied exclusively on deer and other game which was in abundance.

Undoubtedly John H. Messinger and his family lived in the vicinity of Indianapolis for a time before they settled on their farm ~~in~~ ^{at what is now Acton,} thirteen miles southeast of Indianapolis.

On Pages 519-520 of Sulgrove's History of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana, is the following:

"John Messinger came from Decatur Co., Indiana and settled in Franklin township in 1824. He was not a land owner in 1829 but became such immediately thereafter and built on his land the mill which was known as the Messinger Mill. In 1845 he sold his property in this township and removed to Iowa."

This old Messinger Mill still stood on the bank of Buck Creek, about half way between Acton and Pleasant View. It was propelled by the waters of Buck Creek and was principally a grist mill but had also a saw-mill attachment but did not saw a great deal of lumber. Usually there was not enough water in Buck Creek to do a great deal of business.

After the Messinger family moved away it was known as the Rocks Mill. It is now (1929) nearly a hundred years since it was built and although it was torn down many years ago, the foundation stones and ruins may be seen today.

The writer regrets that a description of this old mill was not

obtained from the late Francis M. Gordon of Acton, Indiana, who stated in 1918 that he had such a vivid recollection of the mill that he could easily make a model of it, and that it was probably the last mill of this old style left standing in the state of Indiana.

Rev. M. Luther Tibbetts who was twelve years of age when his parents left Franklin township, wrote from Merced, Calif., in 1911:

"I carried many a grist of corn to the Messinger Mill on 'old Gray' and got it ground, but never 'put a stone in one end of the bag,' to balance the grist."

The following abstract shows that in the year 1845 John H. Messinger sold to Wm. A. Doble all his land in Franklin township - 160 acres: John H. Messinger and Mary M. (signed Martha M.) Messinger, his wife,

To Warranty
William A. Doble, his heirs and assigns,
The east half of the S^W. Quarter of Sec. 15, Twp. 14, North of Range 5 East and other real estate, containing 160 acres bethe sema more or less of the land entered at rhe Land Office at Indianapolis, Indiana.

The above-described land was in (1928) owned by Ernest S. Hamlyn, Esq., who has about 280 acres, which includes the Messinger and the George Tibbetts' farms, and who considers his farm the finest in the County.

The farm of John Hill Messinger adjoined that of George and Mary (Burnight) Tibbetts, their dwellings being one-half mile apart.

Two daughters of John Hill Messinger and one of his sons married into the Tibbetts family. He was a resident of Marion Co., Ind., for 21 years.

Late in the Fall of 1845 he removed with his family from Acton, Ind., to Iowa and early in the spring of 1846 settled in Jefferson township, Bremer County.

The History of Bremer County states: "Early in the spring of 1846, a party came from Marion Co., Indiana to Bremer County. These were John H. Messinger with a large family of girls and boys, George Tibbetts with a like family, Elias J. Messinger, Joseph Carberry, Tolliver Fisher and Philip Miller. They all came with ox-teams, spending a number of weeks on the journey."

These families, together with Charles McCaffrey, who had located there a few months before, were the very first settlers. They settled on prairie land north of the "Big Woods", a strip of dense timber ten miles wide and thirty miles in length, skirting the Cedar River. This timber was all cut down and the land cleared many years ago. Of the towns which sprang up later, Waverly and Jefferson (now Denver), were on the north side of the big woods and Zanesville was on the south side.

The History of Bremer County further states. "In 1846 John H. Messinger with his family and his sons-in-law Wesley and Henry Tibbetts and their families were added to the settlement. Mr. Messinger selected a farm in Sec. 35, Wesley Tibbetts located on Sec. 15, and his brother Henry selected a place on Sec. 16. When these families first came to this township, quite a number of Indians made this

their hunting ground. They were generally peaceable and friendly ~~46/~~ however, and left the township in 1849.

The first religious service of the county was held at the home of John H. Messinger in the winter of 1846-7 by Rev. Collins, a Methodist Episcopal minister.

The first township election was held in April 1855. John H. Messinger was appointed one of the judges. Henry B. Boyd was elected as Constable and Elias J. Messinger, son of John H., as one of the trustees.

The first post office established in the Township was in 1849. It was also the first in Bremer County. John H. Messinger was the first postmaster. It was called Neutral P.O., from the fact of its location on neutral ground. The route was from Cedar Falls to Neutral. Mr. Messinger was not paid for being postmaster."

At the time of his death he had been a resident of, Bremer County 15 years. All of his children and their families lived nearby, on the surrounding farms. He was survived by many descendants.

He and his wife were members of the Methodist church. His wife was known to all in the community as Grandmother Messinger. She was a good nurse and in that new country where there were no doctors, she gave of her time and strength freely wherever needed. Often when she was seen riding by on her white pony, the comment was made that there must be a case of sickness in the neighborhood or a new baby expected. After her husband's death, she continued to reside in the old Messinger homestead in Bremer County until her death in 1871.

Children of John Hill Messinger and Mary Martha Miller His wife:

- i. Amos L.⁴ Messinger, b. in 1818; m. Hannah Jolly Dilliner.
- ii. Elias Jackson⁴ Messinger, b. 7 Feb. 1820; m. Catherine Perkins.
- iii. Lucinda⁴ Messinger, b. 3 Nov. 1822; m. (1) Joseph Carberry; m. (2) Henry Bishop Boyd.
- iv. Mary Ann⁴ Messinger, b. 5 Nov. 1825; m. Wesley⁸ Tibbetts.
- v. Catherine⁴ Messinger, b. 3 Jan. 1827; m. Henry Charles⁸ Tibbetts.
- vi. Cynthia⁴ Messinger, b. 6 Feb. 1829; m. Charles McCaffrey.
- vii. John Franklin⁴ Messinger, b. 8 Mar. 1831; m. Phebe⁸ Tibbetts.
- viii. Robert Perry⁴ Messinger, b. 1 Jan. 1835; m. (1) Sarah Catherine Michael; m. (2) Sarah Tower Hibbard.
- ix. Henry Maurice Collins⁴ Messinger, b. 22 Oct. 1837; m. Hannah Amelia Denney.
- x. Margaret C.⁴ Messinger, b. 30 March 1841; m. Isaac Conner.

Children and grandchildren of John Hill Messinger and his wife
Mary Martha Miller

281

- i. ^{Amos} Amos L.⁴ Messinger, born in 1818; married Hannah Jolly Dil-
liner. Three children: Alpheus G.; killed in Civil War.
Sarah Ellen; married, as his second wife, Henry Charles
Tibbetts. Elizabeth, married Samuel Stewart.
- ii. Elias Jackson.⁴ Messinger, born 7 Feb. 1820; married Cath-
erine Perkins. Nine children: 1. Martha Jane. 2. John Fis-
cus. 3. Zachary Taylor. 4. Sylvester. 5. Levina.
6. Charles Henry. 7. Elias Floyd. 8. Mary C. 9. Martin Perry.
- iii. Lucinda⁴ Messinger, born 3 Nov. 1822; married first, Joseph
Carberry; married secondly, Henry Bishop Boyd.
Children by first husband (surname Carberry): 1. Amos.
2. Mary Elizabeth. 3. Margaret Jane. 4. John W. 5. Sarah
Ann. 6. Charles L. 7. Joseph Elias, d. in infancy.
Children by second husband (surname Boyd): 1. Martha
Alice. 2. Margaret Catherine. 3. Mary M., d. in infancy.
- iv. Mary Ann⁴ Messinger, born 6 Nov. 1825; married Wesley Tibe-
tette. Eleven children (surname Tibbetts): 1. Lewis Charles.
2. Martitia. 3. Talitha Lucinda, (called "Log"). 4. Nancy
Ann. 5. Elizabeth (twin). 6. Cynthia (twin). 7. Gerilda
Clementine (called "Tillie"). 8. Flora. 9. Sarah A.
10. Eva. 11. Emma.
- v. Catherine⁴ Messinger, born 3 Jan. 1827; married Henry Charles
Tibbetts. Children (surname Tibbetts): 1. Robert Nelson.
2. Cyrus Jeffrey. 3. Mary Jane. 4. Adelia Caroline.
5. John Henry Worthington, (called "Worthy"). 6. Jeremiah
Wellington (called "Wellie").
- vi. Cynthia⁴ Messinger, born 6 Feb. 1829; married Charles Mc-
Caffray Children (surname McCaffrey): 1. William Harden
(called Harden). 2. Floyd Jefferson (Rev).. a minister
of the Methodist Episcopal Church. 3. Mary Caroline.
4. Hannah Reta Ann. 5. Laura Alma. 6. John Wesley.
7. Lestina Amelia. 8. Lewis Alpheus. 9. Owen Orbey.
10. Cyrus Elbert.
- vii. John Franklin⁴ Messinger, born 8 March 1831; married Phebe
Tibbetts. Ten children: 1. Martitia (twin). 2. Melissa
(twin). 3. Lauren G., d. young. 4. Drusilla L., d. young.
5. Mary Isabella. 6. John Marquis. 7. Sarah Ann, d. young.
8. Netta Augusta. 9. Mattie (twin). 10. Mattie (twin).
- viii. Robert Perry Messinger, born 1 Jan. 1836; married first,
Sarah Catherine Michael; married secondly, Sarah Tower
Hibbard.
Children by first wife: 1. Marvin Perry. 2. Phoebe Alma.
3. Mary M.
Children by second wife: 4. Elmer A. 5. Sumner H.
- ix. Henry Maurice Collins⁴ Messinger, born 22 Oct. 1837; married

Hannah Amelia Denney (called "Amelia"). Ten children:
1. Isaac Newton. 2. Elias J. 3. Ira Elson. 4. Charles A.
5. Effie R. 6. Cora A. (twin). 7. Cyrus A. (twin), d. young.
8. Elbert R. (d. young). 9. Herbert R., d. aged 13 Years.
10. Henry Bert.

x. Margaret C.⁴ Messinger, born 30 March 1841; married Isaac Connor.

Children (surname Connor):

1. Lillias Calista. 2. Ada Alice. 3. Sherman Ulysses.
4. Ansel Asbery. 5. Cynthia Letitia. 6. Arthur Otis.

Family of Amos and Hannah Jolly (Dilliner) Messinger
of Acton, Marion Co., Indiana.

283

Amos L.⁴ Messinger (John Hill,³ Abraham,² Michael¹), farmer and school-teacher, was born in 1818 in Butler Co., Ohio, within a few miles of Hamilton. He died of pneumonia in Feb. 1846, in Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana, near what is now the town of Acton, being only twenty-eight years of age. He is buried in the old Parsley graveyard near Acton, but no trace of his grave is now to be found.

He was but four years of age when he was taken by his parents to Marion Co., Indiana, where he grew to manhood. He married in Marion County, 10 Jan. 1842, Hannah Jolly Dilliner who was born 7 Sept. 1818 in Green Co., Pa. She died from after-effects of measles in 1849, aged thirty-one years; and is buried beside her husband in the old Parsley graveyard near Acton.

She was daughter of August Dilliner, of German descent, born 22 March 1791 in Dunkard township, Green Co., Pa., and his wife Elizabeth Jolly, who was of English lineage, born 7 Sept. 1792 in West Virginia, quite near the line of Green County, Pa. (whom he married 4 July 1818 in Green Co., Pa.).

The above-named Augustin Dilliner was son of George² and Sarah (Ramsey) Dilliner, both natives of Green Co., Pa. George² Dilliner was the first white child born in Green County. He was born in 1754/5 in Dunkard township, one mile below the mouth of Cheat River near what is now the town of village of Dilliner, which town was named for his father, the first settler, the date of whose settlement is conceded to have been 1754.

He had built a log cabin and lived there until he heard of Braddock's defeat, when, expecting an immediate raid by the Indians, he fled across the river to Von Swearingen's fort in Fayette County, where he remained until it was safe to return to his cabin home.

(See "Biographical Sketches of Green and Fayette Counties, vol. 1, page 209). (See also, "Hist. of Green County" by Bates, p. 406. Pub. 1888).

In 1836 Augustin and his wife Elizabeth (Jolly) Dilliner settled in Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana, on a farm two miles west of what is now the town of Acton. He died there 27 July 1840, aged 49 years, 3 mos., 5 days, and is buried in the old Morris cemetery near Acton (Gravestone). His widow, Mrs. Elizabeth (Jolly) Dilliner, survived him twenty-four years and continued to reside on the homestead farm until her house burned down in 1865-4, when she went to live with her daughter Elizabeth. She died 19 Dec. 1864, aged 72 years, 7 mos., 10 days, and is buried beside her husband in the old Morris cemetery. This is a township cemetery, deeded to the township and now has perpetual care. After her death, the Dilliner farm was sold by her heirs, in 1864, to Mr. Green Toon; and in the year 1919 was still owned by the Toon and Raybourn families.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Jolly) Dilliner was the mother of seven children, five daughters and two sons, a woman of the highest ideals and greatly esteemed by all in the community.

The fact that she named her two sons George Lashley and John Steel, is evidence that these family names will probably be found in her lines of ancestry. The surname of Jolly is an English name.

Several Jolly and Jolley families are to be found in the state of Virginia during the Revolutionary period and prior to the time.

On the line between West Virginia and Green Co., Pa., there is a village called Jollytown, which the census of 1790 states had at that time 100 inhabitants. This village was no doubt named for the Jolly family, of which Mrs. Elizabeth (Jolly) Dinniner was a descendant.

Amos L. and Hannah Jolly (Dilliner) Messinger had three children, as follows (all born near Acton, Marion Co., Indiana, and all three of whom were left orphans when they were very young; and they were reared by their grandmother, Mrs. Augustin Dilliner):

- i. Alpheus C.⁵ Messinger, born 29 Oct. 1842 near Acton, Indiana (in Marion County). He served in the Civil War as Private, Company E, 9th Cavalry, 121st Regt., Indiana Volunteers, commanded by Col. Geo. W. Jackson. He was killed at Brentwood, Tennessee, at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., 17 Dec. 1864; where buried not reported (Indiana Volunteers in the Civil War, vol. 8, p. 691). On leaving Indiana the regiment was 100 strong. It returned with only 386 men and officers. (See Indiana Volunteers in the Civil War, vol. 3, p. 230).

During the rest of their lives, the two sisters could never speak of their brother Alpheus and his service in the Civil war without shedding tears. Serving with the 9th Cavalry, he rode away on the 3rd of May 1864, so young and strong and handsome - never to return.

- ii. Sarah Ellen⁵ Messinger, born 11 Sept. 1844 near Acton, Marion Co., Indiana. She married 14 April 1863, near Waverly, Bremer Co., Iowa, as his second wife, Henry Charles Tibbetts, farmer and fruit-grower, who was born 25 Nov. 1826 near Acton, Indiana, the son of George and Mary (Burnight) Tibbetts.

She was a niece of his first wife Catherine Messinger. She died 20 Feb. 1880, aged 35 years, 5 mos., 9 days, in Oswego, Kansas. Her death came a few days after her sixth child was born (still-born). She is buried in Mt. Carmel Cemetery which is on the old Henry C. Tibbetts' farm, one mile south of the town of Oswego. A tall gravestone marks her grave and in which also repose the remains of her infant son and that of the still-born babe.

Henry C. Tibbetts died in San Diego, Calif., 23 May 1902, aged 76 years, 5 mos., 27 days; buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery in lot No. 32, Division 5, Sec. 9. A flat marker is on his grave, giving his name and birthplace.

Children of Henry C. Tibbetts and his second wife Sarah Ellen Messinger:

1. May Tibbetts, born 21 Feb. 1884 near Waverly, Iowa; living now, Feb. 1954 in San Diego, Calif., in her own home at 2827 Lincoln Ave. She married 6 March 1889, Walter Chester Jarvis.

Two children:

- (1) Van Buren Jarvis.
- (2) George Tibbals Jarvis.

Family of Amos and Hannah Jolly (Dilliner) Messinger 285 (cont.)

2. Olive Renah Tibbetts, born Near Waverly, Bremer Co., Iowa 24 Oct. 1867. She married 2 April 1888, Silas Montague Puryear, born 20 June 1865 in Macon, Mo. He died in San Diego, Calif., 25 April 1922, aged 56 years; buried in San Marcos Cemetery beside his parents (Gravestone).

She is residing now, 1954, a widow, in San Diego, Calif. in her own home at 3752 Wabash Ave.

Three children:

- (1) Lee Montague Puryear, b. 14 March 1889; died in an auto crash on the highway near Aberdeen, S. Dakota, as he and his wife and daughter Marian Miner were returning from Chicago where they had attended the 1952 session of the American Baptist Convention. The accident occurred about noon, May 26. Lee suffered a fractured skull and a broken nose and died almost instantly.

The others were badly injured and had to be hospitalized in Aberdeen. So a brief funeral service was held for Lee on May 29 and his body taken to Minneapolis, Minn., for cremation. Later his ashes were sent back to their home in Los Angeles and now repose in the beautiful mausoleum in Inglewood, Calif.

His widow Effie M. Puryear still resides in their home at 1424 W. 46th St., Los Angeles, Calif.

- (2) Arthur Jesse Puryear, b. 13 Dec. 1890; is living now, 1954, a chiropodist, in Bakersfield, Calif.
(3) Allen Bartlett Puryear, b. 8 March 1893, living now, 1954, in Venice, Ill., a small town just across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, Mo.

3. George Tibbetts, born in Oswego, Kans., in 1870; died in infancy and is buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Oswego, Kansas.
4. Arthur Leon Tibbetts, born in Oswego, Kans., 13 Dec. 1873; died at his home near Willard, Wash., 4 Dec. 1935, aged 62 years. He married in San Diego, Calif., 22 Aug. 1903, Jane Elizabeth Marshall. She is residing now, a widow, in White Salmon, Washington. No children.
5. Jessie Pearl Tibbetts, born 8 March 1876 in Oswego, Kansas, She married in San Francisco, Calif., 3 Jan. 1905, Mark Richards Lamb. She resides now, 1954, a widow, in San Diego, Calif.
- Yhree children:
- (1) Dorothy Virginia Lamb.
(2) Thomas Richard Lamb.
(3) Arthur Jesse Lamb.
6. A daughter (still-born in Feb. 1880; buried beside her mother in Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Oswego. Kansas.

iii. Elizabeth⁵ Messinger, born 26 June 1846 near Acton, Indiana. She was born four months after the death of her father, Amos L.

When she was but three years of age her mother died; so she and her sister Sarah and their brother Alpheus C. Messinger were reared by their grandmother, Mrs. Augustin Dilliner, then a widow, near Acton, Indiana.

Elizabeth married 9 Nov. 1865, Samuel² Stewart, at the home of her sister Sarah Ellen (Mrs. Henry C. Tibbetts), near Waverly, Iowa. Samuel³ Stewart was born 13 Oct. 1834 near Mercer, Pa., son of George² and Jane (Nelson) Stewart of Mercer, Pa., and grandson of Lieut. William Stewart, a soldier in the Revolution. For service in the War, Lieut. Stewart was given 200 acres of land in Indian Run, a few miles from Mercer, Pa.

The above-named Samuel³ Stewart was a Civil War veteran, enlisting in the 10th regt. of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

After his marriage he and his wife Elizabeth resided for a few years in Waterloo, Iowa, where he owned a dry goods store; but they removed later to a farm near Mound Valley, Kansas, then in 1880, they removed to North Liberty, Pa. (Mercer Co.), where he and his family resided for 25 years. In 1906 he and his wife removed to Struthers, Ohio, where he died 15 Dec. 1907. He is buried in Lowellville, Ohio. His widow resided with her son, Rev. Leon Stewart, at McKeesport, Pa., for a few years, then later with her daughter (Mrs. Dight Cooper) in the same city. She died at the home of her daughter 12 Jan. 1922, aged 75 years, 6 mos., 17 Days; buried beside her husband at Lowellville, Ohio.

Children:

1. Luella Stewart, b. 25 July 1874 near Mound Valley, Kansas; educated in Public schools of North Liberty, Pa., and State Normal School at Slippery Rock, Pa.; taught school for a time. She married in North Liberty, Pa. 17 Oct. 1894, Dight Cooper. He died in Struthers, Ohio 28 Nov. 1910.

His widow, Mrs. Luella (Stewart) Cooper resided in Struthers until 1917 when she removed to McKeesport, Pa., then in 1923 she and her daughter removed to San Diego, Calif., for permanent residence. She died there 23 Feb. 1953 at her home, 4127 Orange Ave.

Only child:

- (1) Ruth Marie Cooper, A.R., M.A., b. 2 Feb. 1899 near North Liberty, Pa.; was graduated from Rayen High Sch. in Youngstown, Ohio in 1917; studied one year in Teachers' Training School, McKeesport, Pa., and two years in Univ. of Pittsburg, 1922-23; taught three years in public schools of McKeesport, Pa., then removed with her mother in 1923 to San Diego, Calif., where she has been a teacher for many years. In 1938 she was a member of the faculty of State College, San Diego. She and her mother were members of the First Presbyterian Church, San Diego and of the San Diego Woman's Club. Ruth is also a member of the Amphion Club. Is unmarried.

- (2) Rev. Leon Stewart, D.D., b. 9 Nov. 1876 near Mound Valley, Kansas. He died Near Glendale, Calif., where he had been pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

Leon Stewart was graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary at Princeton, New Jersey in 1906. In 1919 the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on him by Grove City College, Pa. He served as pastor of the Presbyterian Churches at Burnham, Apollo, Pittsburgh and McKeesport, Pa., respectively. He married first, in Newcastle, Pa., 15 Nov. 1905, Cora Rhodes, who died in 1915. Their only child was still-born.

He married secondly, 7 May 1919, Glaphy Ray, at the home of her parents in Joliet, Ill. She survived him. No children.

3. Ralph Austin Stewart, born 12 March 1886, in North Liberty, Pa. He resided in Struthers, Ohio for a number of years where he was a painter and interior decorator. He married in Lewistown, Pa., 10 June 1908, Anna Kearns.

Children:

- (1) Bernice Lenora Stewart, b. 2 June 1911; was graduated from High School in Struthers in 1928, then taught school for a few years. She m. 22 June 1937, Wilfred Myers, who was a teacher in the Struthers High School.

Child

- (a) Marilyn Lenore Myers, b. 26 June 1938.

- (2) Leon Kearns Stewart, b. 2 July 1913; was residing in 1942 in East Palestine, Ohio. He m. 28 Oct. 1938, Bessie

Child

- (a) Beverly Ann Stewart, b. 13 Dec. 1940.

- (3) Emma Elizabeth Stewart, b. 10 Feb. 1916. She m. 2 July 1940 Fred E. Jackson, an electrician. They live in Poland, Ohio

- (4) Muriel Eleene Stewart, b. 11 Feb. 1923. She attended Youngs, town College and Bowling Green Univ. (Ohio). She worked as a secretary for the Fitzsimmons Steel Co. of Youngs-town, Ohio. She married 16 June 1943 Hilton Jones of Negley, Ohio. For service in World War 2, he was a Tech Sergt. in the Ordnance Corps. and was stationed, in Aug. 1943, at Camp Carson, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Family of Elias Jackson Messinger
of Waterloo, Iowa

288

Elias Jackson⁴ Messinger (John Hill,³ Abraham,² Michael¹), of Waterloo, Iowa, farmer and mill-owner, was born 7 Feb. 1820 in Dearborn Co., Indiana; died at his home in Waterloo 26 Dec. 1889; buried in Fairview Cemetery, Waterloo. He was the second son of John Hill Messinger and Mary Marthe Miller his wife. He was a farmer and millwright and owned the Waterloo Flour Mills.

He was but two years of age when he was taken by his parents to Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana, near what is now the town of Acton, where he grew to manhood.

He married in Franklin township, 1 Sept. 1842, Catherine Perkins, born 21 Jan. 1824 in Henry Co., Kentucky. She survived her husband and died 19 Dec. 1902 in Cozad, Nebraska; is buried beside her husband in Fairview Cemetery, Waterloo, Iowa. She was a handsome woman with dark eyes and black hair, which never turned gray but remained black until the end of her life. She was daughter of Joseph Perkins born 13 Oct. 1776, and Catherine Deskin his wife, born 4 May 1783, who lived in Henry Co., Ky., for many years but removed from there finally to Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana.

Note: The above-named Joseph and Catherine (Deskine) Perkins had the following children: John, Wilson, Joseph, Nancy, Catherine and James (who d. young). Of these Catherine Perkins married Elias Jackson Messinger, above-names. Nancy Perkins married William Gordon who was born 17 May 1807 in Gilford Co., North Carolina, and who removed Franklin township, Marion Co., Ind., removing many years later to Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa. Mrs. Nancy (Perkins) Gordon was a widow for many years and died in Cherokee Co., Kansas, having removed there from Bremer Co., Iowa, with her sons "Aleck" and John.

One of her sons was the late Francis M. Gordon of Acton, Indiana, who died in Acton about 1923, who was a director in the Bank at Acton and owned much real estate and he laid out the Addition known as Gordon's Addition to the Town of Acton, Lots 1 to 9, and 11 to 12, inclusive.

In 1845, three years after his marriage, Elias Jackson Messinger and his wife removed from Franklin township, Marion Co., Ind., to Iowa, staying the first winter in Linn County, then early in the spring of 1846 settled in Sec. 25, Jefferson twp., Bremer Co., Iowa.

His farm was a short distance of what is now the village of Denver. The first sermon preached in the county, was at his home. The first township election was held in April 1855 and Elias J. Messinger was elected one of the trustees. (See History of Bremer County). The first cemetery in the township was located in Sec. 25, in the northeast corner of his farm. It consists of about one-half acre of land and was deeded to the township by Elias J. Messinger. It is just south of what is now the village of Denver. It is here that his parents are buried and their graves are marked by gravestones.

After 22 years' residence there, Elias J. Messinger sold his farm in Jefferson township to John Humbrickhaus and removed in 1867 to Waterloo, Iowa where he engaged in the milling business, and owned a part of the mill power of Cedar River. He became one of the principal stockholders and a director of the Union Mill Company and he

amassed considerable wealth.

Children (nine), all except the two older ones born in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa:

- i. Martha Jane⁵ Messinger, b. 11 Dec. 1843 in Franklin township, Marion Co., Indiana; was but two years of age when she was taken by her parents to Iowa. She m. in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa, 3 July 1866, Hugh McKinley Barclay.
Four children.
 - ii. John Fiscus⁵ Messinger, b. 29 Aug. 1845 in Linn Co., Iowa. He enlisted in the Civil War as Private in Co. B, 14th regt. Iowa Volunteer Infantry; died in barracks at Camp Herron, Davenport, aged 19 years, 12 Jan. 1863, his death due to measles followed by congestion of the brain. Unmarried.
 - iii. Zachary Taylor⁵ Messinger, b. 15 Jan. 1848. He was the first white child born in Bremer Co., Iowa (Further records hereafter).
 - iv. Sylvester⁵ Messinger, b. 29 Oct. 1849. (Further records hereafter).
 - v. Levina⁵ Messinger, b. 10 Dec. 1851; married near Waverly, Ia., 3 July 1867, John Larmon. They removed to Cozad, Nebraska. She died there 10 April 1914.
 - vi. Charles Henry⁵ Messinger, 14 March 1854; resided in Amity, Ore.
 - vii. Elias Floyd⁵ Messinger, b. 22 Jan. 1856. (Further records hereafter).
 - viii. Mary C.⁵ Messinger, b. 26 March 1858; m. 1 Sept. 1879, j. Graham Stearns. They lived on a farm four miles northeast of Waterloo, Iowa.
 - ix. Martin Perry⁵ Messinger, b. 3 March 1860.
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Family of Zachary T. and Mary Irena (Gordon) Messinger
of Waterloo, Iowa.

290

Zachary Taylor⁵ Messinger (Elias J.,⁴ John Hill,³ Abraham,² Michael¹), farmer, was born 15 Jan. 1848, near what is now the village of Denver, Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa; died at his home near Waterloo, Iowa, in June 1909. He was the first white child born in Bremer County. He was the second son and third child of Elias Jackson Messinger and his wife Catherine Perkins.

He was widely known about Waterloo and vicinity, and spent all his life in Bremer and Blackhawk Counties, having settled on his farm between Waterloo and Cedar Falls about 1870. He carried on farming and dairying.

He was married near Waverly, Bremer Co., Iowa, 1 April 1869, to his first cousin, Mary Irena Gordon who survived him. She was born 9 Dec. 1849; died near Waterloo, Iowa, 3 Oct. 1910, aged 61 years. She was the eldest daughter of William Gordon who was born 17 May 1807 in Gilford Co., North Carolina, removed after 1830 to Marion Co., Indiana, removed about 1848 to Bremer Co., Iowa, and his wife Nancy Perkins who was born 25 Sept. 1811 in Henry Co., Kentucky (whom he married in Marion Co., Indiana). (Mary Irena Gordon's brother John Gordon, who removed from Bremer Co., Iowa to Cherokee Co., Kansas, later removed to California and owned a ranch a few miles from Turlock and some of his married children lived near him.

Zachary T. and Mary Irena (Gordon) Messinger had eight children, all born near Waterloo, Iowa, as follows:

- i. Maude Geraldo⁶ Messinger, b. 10 Jan. 1870; m. 25 Sept. 1890, in Waterloo, Iowa, Walter Elias Stoner, b. 29 Jan. 1867. They reside in Waterloo. Mr. Stoner is a farmer and is also engaged in the grocery business.
Three children.
- ii. Oley Vinton⁶ Messinger, b. 3 April 1872; d. 2 Dec. 1927. He m. 9 June 1895, Mabel Edna Lesan and removed about 1903-4 from Waterloo, Iowa to St. Joseph, Montana.
Five children.
- iii. Arthur Oscar⁶ Messinger, b. 23 Sept. 1875; ~~is~~ was a merchant and resided in 1930 at Kenmare, North Dakota. He died 16 Feb. 1934 at Rochester, Minn. He m. 8 April 1902, Hattie Bell Spalding.
Two children.
- iv. Mabel Grace⁶ Messinger, b. 1 June 1878; m. in Waterloo, Iowa, 8 April 1903, John Ole Berggren, of Swedish parentage, b. 16 May 1873 in Jarbo, Sweden, the son of Peter Eric and Christine (Andersen) Berggren, both of whom were born in Sweden and came to the United States in 1881, settling in the state of Iowa. John O. and Mabel Grace (Messinger) Berggren resided in Waterloo, Iowa for 17 years after their marriage but removed in Sept. 1920 to Alameda, California, where they now (1940) reside.
Children, all born in Waterloo, Iowa:
 1. Gladys Christine Berggren, b. 19 June 1904; was graduated from High school in Alameda, Calif. She m. in Oakland, Calif., 15 April 1933, Alben Watts Lloyd, son of Hugh J. and Katherine Lloyd of San Francisco, Calif. They live in Alameda, Calif.
 2. Wayne Edgar Berggren, b. 14 May 1906; was graduated from Alameda High School and from Heald's Business College, Alameda, in 1926.
 3. Blanch Irena Berggren, b. 11 Dec. 1909; was graduated from High School in Alameda, and from State Teachers' College in 1923; taught school three years. She m. in Alameda, 25 Nov. 1936, Harold L. Hutchinson and they reside in Sacramento, Calif.

Family of Zachary T. and Mary Irene (Gordon) Messinger (cont.)

4. Hazel Roberta Berggren, born 6 July 1911; was graduated from Alameda High School and from Heald's Business College in Oakland, Calif., in 1931; in 1941 was Secretary to the president of the Chlorox Chemical Company, Oakland, Calif. She married

v. Walter Gordon⁶ Messinger, born 30 July 1883; m. 5 June 1907, Mary E. Schwanke, of Vedar Falls, Iowa, born there 12 Jan. 1885. They were residing in 1941 in Waterloo, Iowa where he was an employe of the Fisher Tent and Awning Company.

Child:

1. Walter Gordon⁷ Messinger, Jr., b. 30 March 1911; m. in 1938, Joan -----.

vi. Edgar Elias⁶ Messinger, b. 10 Dec. 1886; was residing in 1941 in Waterloo, Iowa. He served for a time in the U.D. Army as a volunteer in Coast Artillery. He m. in Waterloo, Iowa, 5 Oct. 1914, Lucille Kerns, b. in July 1887. He was in 1941 an employe of the John Deere Machine Company, Waterloo, Iowa.

vii. Graham Adelbert⁶ Messinger, b. 14 Aug. 1889; d. in Alameda, Calif., 19 Oct. 1941, after a lingering illness. He m. in Waterloo, Iowa, 1 Jan. 1914, Vera Coates, b. in Sept. 1892. They removed to Alameda, Calif., where he was for many years an employe of chain stores.

Children:

- 1. Jean Loraine⁷ Messinger, b. 6 Oct. 1914; m. in 1939 Joseph Lang. She is a graduate nurse. They live in San Francisco, Calif.
- 2. Beverly Mae⁷ Messinger, b. 30 March 1920.
- 3. Jack Gordon⁷ Messinger, b. 2 Nov. 1922.

viii. William Taylor⁶ Messinger, (called Taylor), b. 22 Sept. 1892; m. in Waterloo, Iowa, 3 Dec. 1914, Eula Bertch, b. in June 1897; they were living in 1941 in Berkeley, Calif., where he was an employe of chain stores.

Children:

- 1. Lola Hwendolyn Messinger, b. in 1917.
- 2. Mary Jane⁷ Messinger, b. 4 Sept. 1919.



Family of Sylvester and Marcella (Cornick) Messinger
of Glenville, Minn., and of Puyallup, Wash.

292

Sylvester⁵ Messinger, of line: (Elias Jackson,⁴ John Hill,³ Abraham,² Michael¹), grain buyer, fruit farmer, Justice of the Peace, was born 29 Oct. 1849 near Waverly and near what is now the village of Denver, Bremer Co., Iowa. He died 17 Feb. 1931, aged 81 years, 3 mos., 19 days, at his home in Puyallup, Wash.

He was the son of Elias Jackson Messinger and his wife Catherine Perkins. He married 3 Aug. 1875 at St. Ansgar, Iowa, Marcella Cornick, usually called Nellie. She was born 12 Sept. 1856 at St. Ansgar, Mitchell Co., Iowa, daughter of Levi Cornick and his wife Elmira Boomhower (Elmira Boomhower's parents had lived in Albany, N.Y., and in Schenectady, N.Y.).

In 1868 Sylvester Messinger removed with his parents from Bremer Co., Iowa to Blackhawk County, and settled in Waterloo, where he worked in the flour mill of which his father was one of the owners.

He later became a grain buyer and continued in that line of work for more than thirty years. He left Waterloo in 1874. He resided in the following places: in Bowbells, N. Dakota, 1898-1906; in Albert Lea, Minn., 1890-1900; Glenville, Minn., 1877-1889; Carpenter, Iowa and St. Ansgar, Iowa, 1874-1877; Tacoma, Wash., 1889-1890; and 1913-1914; Little Camas, Idaho, 1914-1918; removed to Puyallup, Wash., in 1918, where he spent the remainder of his life, and where he engaged in berry-raising.

He was justice of the peace and constable in Bowbells; school director at Glenville, Minnesota.

In fraternal orders he was affiliated with the Free Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Children:

- i. Mabel Althea⁶ Messinger, born 25 Sept. 1876 in Carpenter, Iowa. She married first, at Albert Lea, Minn., 24 Sept. 1894, Alfred Bismarck Burnham, born 1871 in Fort Fred Steele, Wyo., the son of Dr. Alfred Burnham of Albert Lea, Minn., and his wife Rachel Hord.

Note: Dr. Alfred Burnham was of Scotch descent. He studied medicine in Brooklyn, N.Y., and practiced medicine many years in Albert Lea, Minn., and in Gig Harbor, Wash. He was the first white man to reside in Gig Harbor; took up a large ranch there).

Bismarck Burnham studied medicine in Berkeley, Calif. Later he was Captain on Puget Sound boat. Mabel procured a divorce from him.

She married secondly Louis A. McGrath. They resided in Bremerton, Wash. He died in 1919. She married thirdly, in Seattle, Wash., 22 June 1922, William Wesley Anderson.

During several summers she acted as hostess for parties being conducted on European tours. She was residing in 1931, a widow, in Little Falls, New Jersey, with her daughter.

She returned to the West and in 1944 had supervising work in a State School in Buckley, Wash. In 1945 she had a position in a Boys' School, the Puget Sound Naval Academy, at Winslow, Wash., on Bainbridge Island. She died in 1947.

Only child of Mabel A. Messinger, by first husband (surname Burnham):

1. Ethel Margaret Burnham, (called Margaret) b. 11 July 1899 in Tacoma, Wash. She married in Bremerton, Wash., 2 June 1922, John Greig. They resided for a few years in Little Falls, New Jersey, but were living in 1945 on Bainbridge Island, Washington.

Only child:

- (1) Marcella June Greig, b. 14 March 1930 in Patterson, New Jersey. In 1944 she was attending a girls' boarding school, "Annie Wright Seminary" in Tacoma, Wash. In 1945 she was attending high school on Bainbridge Island, Wash. Honor student.

- ii. Floyd Elias⁶ Messinger, farmer, born 2 April 1880 at Glenville, Freeborn Co., Minn. He was killed in an automobile accident 11 Oct. 1930; was a resident of Puyallup, Wash. He married in Tacoma, Wash., in Sept. 1919, Ruby Robinson.

Only child:

1. Charles Wesley⁸ Messinger, b. 21 July 1921 at Puyallup, Washington.

- iii. Mildred Catherine⁶ Messinger, born 10 Dec. 1881 in Glenville, Minn.; was graduated from High School in Tacoma, Wash., in 1900. She married in Bowbells, N. Dakota, 3 Sept. 1901, Gilles Bailard, farmer and auctioneer. They were residing in 1931 at Ambrose, North Dakota. She died in 1945.

Children:

1. Helen Catherine Bailard, b. 3 July 1902; d. Oct. 1905.
2. William Sylvester Bailard, b. 25 Aug. 1907.
3. Ruth Marcella Bailard, b. 22 Feb. 1911.
4. Ethel June Bailard, b. in June 1915.

- iv. Phosa Elmira⁶ Messinger, born 16 Sept. 1883 at Glenville, Freeborn Co., Minn. She married in Tacoma, Wash., 26 June 1906, Charles William Schuh, merchant and manufacturer of boxes and berry crates; president of Columbia Box & Veneer Company, now known as the Spruce Veneer Package Corporation. Charles William Schuh served as a member of the state legislature from Pierce Co., Wash., 1913-14. He was affiliated with Tacoma Lodge, No. 22, A.F. & A.M. He was born 2 June 1883 in Galien, Ohio, the son of Rev. Frederick Schuh, a minister of the German Evangelical church, born 17 March 1852, and his wife Julia A. Wernie, born 18 March 1848, the daughter of Carl Frederick Wernie, who was born in Alsace Lorraine. He was grandson of Walter Melchior Schuh, born at Frankfort-on-the-Main, and his wife Catherine Zimmerman, who was also born at Frankfort-on-the-Main.

Charles William Schuh died about the year 1935; survived by his widow Phosa, who now, 1951, continues to reside in their home, 1215 North Tacoma Ave., Tacoma, Wash. She is a member of Elizabeth Forey Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. Her National Number is 272526.

Family of Sylvester and Marcella (Cornick) Messinger (cont.)

294

Children: (three)

1. William Herbert Schuh (called Herbert), b. 19 April 1898 in Eatonville, Wash. He married 5 July 1934, in Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, Calif., Sybil Frances Keolaakalani, daughter of Mrs. John Aimoku Dominie.

They have two children.

2. Gladys Helen Schuh, b. 27 April 1911 in Tacoma, Wash. She m. Lieut. James Parks, who died a few years after marriage.

3. True Elizabeth Schuh, B.A. (Stanford Univ., 1947) born 29 April 1926; was graduated from Stanford Univ., in 1947 and received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. She majored in speech and drama. She married 5 Oct. 1946 in Los Gatos, Calif., John J. Muckey, B.A. (Stanford Univ., 1947), born 15 Dec. 1923, the son of Melvin Jonathan and Louise (Loomis) Muckey, well known residents of Tacoma, Wash. He majored in political science and received from Stanford the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

They reside in Tacoma, Wash.

Child

(1) Jon Charles Muckey, b. 9 Oct. 1946 in Tacoma, Wash.

v. Glenn Everett⁶ Messinger, born 22 June 1885 in Glenville, Minn., is a grain buyer; was residing in 1931 in Henriburg, Sask., Canada. He was a teacher in public schools of Tacoma, Wash., at time of his marriage. He married Irene Hennessey in Alberta, Canada.

Children:

1. Glenn Elton⁷ Messinger, b. 4 June 1908 at Ambrose, N. Dak.
2. Stacia Janette⁷ Messinger, b. 11 April 1910 at Boise, Ida.
3. Sylvester⁷ Messinger, b. 29 Aug. 1912.

vi. Ethel⁶ Messinger, born June 1887 in Glenville, Minn. She is a graduate of N. Dakota Normal School. She married Ralph Andrews who was engaged in university extension work. They lived in Fargo, N. Dakota. He was a member of Masonic order. He died in the year _____ In 1945 she lived for a year in San Diego, Calif. Removed to Los Angeles. No children.

vii. Sylvester Neil⁶ Messinger (called Neil), b. 31 Dec. 1888. He is a merchant and resides in Fresno, Calif. He m. in Sask., Canada, in Sept. 1918, Elsie Claire.

Children:

1. Shirley Odell⁷ Messinger, b. 12 Jan. 1920 in Tacoma, Wash.
2. Larry Gordon⁷ Messinger, b. 2 July 1921 in Canada
3. Justin Claire⁷ Messinger, b. 2 Mar. 1923 in Fuyallup, Wash.

Family of E. Floyd and Adeline E. (Ladd) Messinger
of Tacoma, Washington

295

Elias Floyd⁵ Messinger (Elias J.,⁴ John Hill,³ Abraham,² Michael], of Tacoma, Wash., merchant, was born 22 Jan. 1856 in Jefferson township, Bremer Co., Iowa, near what is now the village of Denver. He died 27 Oct. 1921, aged 64 years, 9 mos., 5 days at Tacoma, having been a resident of that city 34 years. He was always called by his middle name, Floyd. He was the fifth son and seventh child of Elias Jackson Messinger of Bremer Co., Iowa, latter of Waterloo, Iowa, and Catherine Perkins his wife.

Elias Floyd Messinger was president of the Hunt and Mottet Co., wholesale hardware merchants, in which company he owned a large interest; and he was known as one of Tacoma's most representative citizens.

He married at Amity, Oregon, 24 Feb. 1878, Adeline Elizabeth Ladd, who was born 3 Nov. 1857 in Amity, daughter of James and Mary Ann (Garrison) Ladd of Amity; and granddaughter of Abraham E. and Margaret E. (Miller) Garrison, who removed from Acton, Marion Co., Indiana and crossed the plains in 1852, traveling with ox-teams and covered wagon, being six months on the way, and upon arriving, settled in McMinnville, Oregon.

(Note: The above-named Abraham E. Garrison was born 17 July 1810 in Ohio, the son of Abraham Garrison, born 5 Oct. 1776 in Indiana, and his wife Polly McCullum, of Scotch descent, who was born 22 March 1775 in New York).

E. Floyd Messinger was but twelve years of age when he was taken by his parents to Waterloo, Iowa, in which town he grew to manhood. He attended the public schools in Waterloo, subsequently securing a job as utility boy with the Cutler Hardware Company at a small wage. He continued with this company for two years, then at the end of that time, he became associated with his father who was then interested in the Union Mill Company. For three years he engaged in packing flour for that concern and then was promoted to the position of grain-buyer at a station which the Company had established on the outskirts of Waterloo.

On leaving Iowa, he removed to Portland, Oregon, in Jan. 1875; and later in that year he went to Yamhill Co., Oregon, where for three years he taught school during the winters but the summers were devoted to work on a ranch.

In 1878 he gave up teaching and removed to Amity, Oregon, where he conducted a grain business, built a large warehouse and carried on a profitable trade under his own name. He remained there until June 1887, when he disposed of his business interests in Amity and July 18, went to Tacoma, Wash., where he secured a position with the Hunt and Mottet Company, as shipping clerk.

He soon demonstrated his ability and was advanced to the position of salesman, and in 1895, after Mr. Hunt's death, the firm was incorporated as the Hunt and Mottet Company, with Mr. Mottet as president and Mr. Messinger as vice-president.

In 1906 Mr. Mottet sold his interest in the company and Mr. Messinger succeeded him as president of this big hardware company

which office he held up to the time of his death. Merited advancement from the bottom rung of the ladder to the top through conscientious and efficient work, marked the career of Mr. Messinger.

Starting as a clerk, he advanced to the position of head of one of the largest firms in Tacoma, respected in the community and serving it well. This company is the fourth largest firm dealing in general and heavy hardware and mill supplies, on the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Messinger was a member of the Tacoma Civil Service Board in 1912. He was a Republican in politics but was never an aspirant for public office. He was one of the most active members of the Tacoma Boosters, from which sprang the present Commercial Club, which he aided in organizing, and he served as a member of the first board of trustees.

His interest in the welfare of his city is further indicated by the fact that he was a director of the Tacoma Y.M.C.A., and gave liberally of his time and means in making possible the splendid Association building, of which his city is justly proud.

He was also influential in the erection of a magnificent church edifice for the First Christian Church, and was an elder in that church at the time of his death.

He was a representative of the best type of self-made men, for he rose to positions of importance solely through his industry, aggressiveness and business acumen, and moreover, had at all times, been strictly upright and straight-forward in his dealings.

He was known as one of the 'city builders' of Tacoma, having gone there when Tacoma was a small town, and was one of its most highly respected and best-known citizens. He was known as a man of large means and held many positions of trust and honor in various trust companies, mining companies and the like.

Fraternally he was identified with the Elks Lodge and the Knights of Pythias. He was a member of the Commercial Club and of the Tacoma Country and Golf Club.

Children:

- i. Elias Lindsay⁶ Messinger, b. 11 May 1881; resided in Tacoma, Wash. He was called by his middle name, Lindsay. He married in Tacoma, 30 Sept. 1903, Bessie Gertrude Scott, of Tacoma, daughter of the late Alvin B. Scott of Tacoma, and his wife Urania ----, who was born in Maine.

Lindsay Messinger was for many years City Sales-manager for Hunt and Mottet Hardware Company, of which company his father was president. Later he was a member of its board of directors.

In 1928 he became city sales-manager for the Chrysler Automobile Company.

He is a Free Mason. Is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Firecrest Golf Club, and was at one time president of the City Amateur Baseball League of Tacoma. He and his wife were members of the First Christian Church.

Children, born in Tacoma, Wash.:

1. Leona Kathryn⁷ Messinger, b. 10 June 1904; was graduated

from High School in Tacoma; married in Tacoma 30 June 1927
Harry Joseph Broomfield.

Children (surname Broomfield):

- (1) Jack W., b. 12 June 1923 in Tacoma.
- (2) Betty Kathryn.

2. Lola⁷ Messinger, b. 15 June 1911; attended Univ. of Puget
Sound, Tacoma, Wash. was a Junior there in 1932.

ii. Lois⁶ Messinger, born 23 April 1887; was graduated from High
School, Tacoma, in Feb. 1906. She married in Tacoma, 24 May
1911, John Samuel Gerard, born 11 Nov. 1887 in Marcelline,
Adams Co., Ill. He was for many years sales-manager for the
Pacific Fruit and Produce Company of Seattle, Wash. He was
in 1932 sales-manager of the General Fruit Corporation. He
is the son of David Herard, and his wife Martha Ruddell, both
of whom were born in Marcelline, Ill. He is a grandson of
Samuel Gerard of Marcelline, Ill., who served as a Lieut. in
the Civil War, and his wife Maria Patterson.

Only child:

1. Mary Catherine Gerard, b. 19 June 1923 in Tacoma, Wash.

iii. Catherine Mary⁶ Messinger, born 23 July 1888; married in Tacoma
20 Sept. 1911, Frederick Army Wines, son of the late F. A.
Wines of Tacoma. He is president of the F.A. Wines Printing
and Specialty Company.

No children.

Family of Henry Bert Messinger
of Hollywood, Calif.

298

Henry Bert⁵ Messinger (Henry Maurice Collins,⁴ John Hill,³ Abraham,² Michael¹), born 14th Jan. 1878, near Waterloo, Iowa; resides now, 1934, in Hollywood, Calif. (1131 N. Bronson Ave.). He is son of the late Henry M.C. Messinger of Medical Lake, Wash.; who removed there from Waterloo, Iowa in 1879, and his wife Hannah Amelia Denney who was daughter of Joseph and Eunice (Austin) Denney. This surname also spelled Denny (See Denny-Denney Genealogy).

He married 10 Nov. 1904 in Spokane, Wash., Josephine Elizabeth Hone, born 22 Aug. 1886, in Spokane, daughter of Charles Francis Hone who was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and his wife Elizabeth Ann McQuade, who was born in Zanesville, Ohio.

Henry Bert Messinger and his family came to Los Angeles in July, 1913. He followed lumber mill work in moving pictures, such as building sets and making all kinds of tricks, gags and props.

Of his children, he says: "My three children were all very clever and good looking and were in good demand as child actors in many different pictures. They became quite well-known in all the studios and have been following that line of work ever since."

Children:

- i. Marie Margaret⁶ Messinger, b. 27 Nov. 1905, in Coeur de Alene, Idaho. She married Roy M. Baker, who was b. in Casper, Natrona Co., Wyoming. They reside in Hollywood, Calif.
 - ii. Melvin Joseph⁶ Messinger, b. 26 Oct. 1907, in San Francisco, Calif. He married Marjorie Josephine Montgomery, who was b. in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. They reside in Los Angeles, Calif.
 - iii. Gertrude Dolores⁶ Messinger, b. 28 April 1911, in Spokane, Wash. She married David Hardin Sharpe, who was b. in St. Louis, Missouri. They reside in Los Angeles, Calif.
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