REYNOLDS HISTORICAL GENEALOGY COLLECTION
GENEALOGY
OF THE
SWITZERS

DESCENDANTS OF VALENTINE SWITZER
IMMIGRANT TO AMERICA
OCTOBER 13, 1739

Compliments of
Robert Manick & Winn F. Moehl
Philadelphia, December 26, 1912.

Mrs. Cornelia Switzer Burkholder,  
Harrisonburg,  
Virginia.

Dear Madam:

In response to your request I note the following names in THE PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES, SECOND SERIES, VOLUME XVII:


Johannes Schweitzer, Ship Patience, Capt. Hugh Steel, from Rotterdam. Qualified Sept. 17, 1753. (P. 387).

Johannes Schweitzer, same as above. (P. 389).

Nicholas Schweitzer, Ship Snow Squirrel, John Bonn, Master, from Rotterdam; last from Portsmouth. Qualified Oct. 21, 1761. (P. 454).

Trusting this will be satisfactory, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Ernest Spofford,  
Assistant Librarian.
The Switzers in Virginia

"The Switzer family is of German and Swiss origin and was founded in America by three brothers, John, Valentine and Nicholas, sons of John Switzer, who never came to America. About 1770 the three brothers settled in Hardy, then Hampshire County."

FROM "THE HISTORY OF BARBOUR COUNTY"

Cornelia Switzer-Burkholder, a daughter of Daniel Morgan Switzer, a son of Valentine Switzer, a son of Nicholas Switzer, immigrant, who obtained in her life time much information concerning the genealogy of the Switzer family, and at her death left with Frank C. Switzer, of Harrisonburg, Va., certain records and correspondence, made the following statement:

"That Rev. William Franklin Switzer, D. D., of Gary, Indiana, in 1929, wrote me as follows:

"The Switzer family is of German and Swiss origin, and was founded in America by three brothers, John, Valentine and Nicholas, sons of John Switzer, who never came to America. About 1770, three brothers settled in Hardy County, West Virginia, which was then a part of Hampshire County, Virginia."

"This information was given him by Mrs. Olga Switzer Riley of Cary, Indiana, a daughter of Charles Keena Switzer, a son of David U. Switzer and a great-grandson of immigrant John. In 1929, she visited at her childhood home in Phillippi, West Virginia, and found this information in an old history that had belonged to her father.

"Dr. Switzer also wrote 'There is a Switzer Coat-of-Arms.' The record of the same in the Newberry Genealogical Library in Chicago, gives the origin of a certain Nobleman in the Grand Duchy of Hesse, who, by bravery and noble service was advanced to high honor.

"I have somewhere read that this 'Coat-of-Arms' is in the National colors of Switzerland, scarlet and white. The copy that I had was a lithograph, therefore is black and white, of course.' (C. S. B.).

"The National Flag of Switzerland is scarlet with a white cross in the center. The Red Cross organization originated in Switzerland, and for its banner, reversed these National Colors, making their banner white with a red cross in the center.

"The German name for Switzer is Schweitz, or simply Schweiz, the z in the German language having the sound of tz or ts. The termination "er" means an "Inhabitant or native of"; therefore, the origin of the name Schweitzer in German; Switzer in English."

The records of the Pennsylvania Historical Society has this:

"JOHN SWITZER, same as JOHANNES SCHWEITZER."

My grandfather's papers are without exception, signed "VALENTINE SWITZER." (C. S. B.)
HOW VARIOUS TRIBES WERE BLENDED TOGETHER TO FORM
THE SWISS NATION *

"East Switzerland was never so thoroughly recognized and subdued as the western part. Hence, when the Teutonic or German tribes succeeded at last in settling in the country, the power of Rome died out, the Allemanni in the north
west entirely absorbed the Celts who lived there, and who had but little power of resistance, and planted a true German people with their own laws, language, manners and customs.

With the Burdundians, also a German tribe, who settled in the southwest, it was different. While they brought fresh vigor into the country, they were influenced in turn by the Romanized Celts, and were gradually blended with the early settlers, thus forming a new people, the foundation of whose speech was Latin.

This was the beginning of the German speech and a Latin speech, which developed into French, being spoken side by side in the little Central country.

There is no Swiss language today. The larger eastern part still speaks German, like the country it borders on, and the smaller western part, touching France, speaks French. Where the southern part now runs down into Italy, the people speak Italian."


HISTORICAL STATEMENT


Having referred to the month of October and the year 1787, the authority above named gives this statement:

"The same year and month, the town of Watson, (commonly called Capon Springs), in the County of Hampshire, was established. Twenty acres of land to be laid off in lots and streets. Elias Poston, Henry Fry, Isaac Hawk, Jacob Hoover, John Winterton, Valentine Swisher, * Rudolph Bumgardner, Paul McIvor, ** John Sherman Woodcock and Isaac Zane, Gentlemen Trustees."

(Copied by W. F. Switzer.)

* Swisher should be Switzer. (Schweitzer.)

** McIvor is correct; this was afterwards written McKeever.

The foregoing data was obtained in September, 1938, from Frank C. Switzer of Harrisonburg, Virginia. Frank C. Switzer is a great, great-grandson of Nicholas Switzer, (immigrant), who came to America in 1761; and one of the three brothers heretofore mentioned. Much of the foregoing correspondence, documents and information had been collected by Mrs. Cornelia Switzer Burkholder, an aunt of Frank C. Switzer and a great granddaughter of Nicholas Switzer, immigrant. (Robert Mauck Switzer, Gallipolis, Ohio.)
In the name of God, Amen. I, Stephen Hotzenbella, of the County of Frederick, in the Colony of Virginia, being sick and weak of body, but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be to God for it. Therefore calling to mind the mortality of the body, and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die; do make and ordain this my last will and testament, in manner and form, to-wit:

**Imprimis:** I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife, Barbara Hotzenbella, the young bay horse, unbranded, one cow, and one featherbed and furniture.

**Item:** I give and bequeath to my daughter, Susannah Seigler, one mare of the value of eight pounds, one side saddle and bridle, two cows, one rug and one blanket.

**Item:** My will and desire is that after all my just debts and funeral expenses are paid and satisfied, that all the rest and residue of my estate be divided equally between my surviving sons and daughters.

**Item:** I give and bequeath to my said beloved wife, Barbara, the plantation whereon I now live during her natural life or while she remains my widow, but after her decease or marriage,

**Item:** My will and desire is that my Executors do sell the said Plantation to the best advantage that can be got and out of the money arising thereby that they pay to my son Jacob Hotzenbella, forty pounds; to my son Stephen Hotzenbella, sixty pounds; to my grand-daughter, Rebecca Bungardner, fourteen pounds; to the Lutheran Church five pounds; and to the Calvinistic Church five pounds, and the rest and the residue of the money arising by the sale of said Plantation, I give and bequeath in manner following: viz., to my daughters, Agnes Bungardner, Mary Switzer, Anne Maria Stroup, Sarah Coffman and Susannah Seigler, and the surviving heirs of my daughters, Catherine Kerns and Elizabeth Huer, to be equally divided between them.

And lastly: I do constitute, make and ordain my son-in-law, Valentine Switzer and my beloved son, Jacob Hotzenbella, Executors of this my last will and testament. And I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannul all and every former testament, wills and legacies by me in anywise before willed and bequeathed. Ratifying and confirming this, and no other, to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this second day of April, 1776.

Stephen X Hotzenbella.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Stephen Hotzenbella as his last will and testament, in the presence of us: Thomas Wood, Frederick Conrad, John Poher, Jacob Poher.
In the name of God, Amen. I, Valentine Switzer, of the County of Hampshires, and State of Virginia, being weak in body, but of sound and perfect mind and memory, blessed be God for the same, I make and publish this my last will and testament, in manner and form, following. That is to say first: I will and desire that after my decease, that all my just debts be paid, and secondly: I will and desire that my whole estate, both real and personal shall be sold and equally divided amongst all my children, both sons and daughters, except my son Peter, and I will him one dollar out of my estate and no more. And I likewise will that my sons Phillip, John and Abraham, and my son Henry's heirs and Valentine shall not pay any intrust on the bonds that I have against them but shall be fully acquitted of the same after my decease.

I likewise will that my son Henry's widow and his children, that she had by him shall have one child part to be equally divided between them.

I likewise except one bond on my son John of three hundred dollars, that he gave the twenty-third of October, one thousand eight hundred and nine. I will that he pay intrust for that from the date, but no other bond that I have against him.

I likewise will that my son Nicholas' part of my estate shall be kept in the hands of Frederick Secrist and given to him as he stands in need of it. I likewise will that the court do take into consideration and bind him to security for the same, for the said Nicholas is not capable of taking care of himself, that he should not become chargeable to the commonwealth.

I likewise will that if he should die without an heir, that his part should be equally divided with the rest of my children.

I likewise will that my daughter, Cathene shall have my clock after my decease for her trouble in taking care of me.

I do likewise will and appoint Phillip Hooper and Frederick Secrist and my brother John Switzer, Executors of this my last will and testament, and I do hereby disannul and make void all wills, wills and testaments by me heretofore maid. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this the day of November, the seventh, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and nine.

Valentin Switzer.

Signed and sealed and acknowledged by the above named, Valenten Switzer, to be his last will and testament in the presence of us.

William Farrill,
Phillip Fisher,
Henry Secrist.
The foregoing will was admitted to probate in Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia) on May 19, 1817. The testator, Valentine Switzer, is the same Valentine Switzer mentioned in the Stephen Hotzenbella will as son-in-law. The wife of the said Valentine Switzer, being Mary Hotzenbella (Hotzenpillar), a daughter of said Stephen Hotzenbella. There can be no question but the above Valentine Switzer is the father of John Switzer, who owned lands in Little Levels, Bath County, Virginia (now Pocahontas County, West Virginia) from 1800 to 1807, at which time he sold same and moved to Gallia County, Ohio, where he purchased lands in 1807 from Phillip Switzer, his brother, who preceded him to Ohio.

The oldest child of John Switzer, Mary Switzer, married George W. Livesay of near Frankford, Greenbrier County, Virginia, (now West Virginia) where she died leaving sons Allen, Joseph, John (Jack), William and daughters Malinda Rodgers and Mrs. Col. John Snyder.

Copies of the foregoing wills were obtained by William Franklin Switzer of Gary, Indiana, in 1938. The Valentine Switzer will was found by him in a box containing wills at Romney, the county seat of Hampshire County, West Virginia, the record of such will having been destroyed by soldiers during the Civil War.

He devoted much of his time during many years of his life in tracing his ancestry, but he was never able to be certain that he was a descendant of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, until he obtained copies of the foregoing wills. His paternal great-grandfather, Peter Switzer, and his paternal grandfather, Abraham Switzer, served in the War of 1812. Peter Switzer was a brother of John Switzer, Phillip Switzer and Nicholas Switzer, who are buried in Bethel Church Cemetery, Addison Township, Gallia County, Ohio. William Franklin Switzer states that the archives of Pennsylvania furnish the names of more than 40 Switzers who arrived in the new world and took the oath of allegiance before the Revolutionary War; and that records show 14 of these served in the Revolutionary army.

William Franklin Switzer was born on a farm near Otterbein, Indiana, January 21, 1857, the son of Peter and Catherine Shambaugh Switzer. The seventh of a family of nine children who grew to maturity.

He attended the De Pauw University at Greencastle, Indiana, receiving an A. B. degree from the University in 1884. In 1915, the University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He entered Drew Theological seminary and completed his course there in 1887; and spent more than 55 years in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Newberry Genealogical Library at Chicago, through its Executive Secretary, proposes to accept a loose-leaf volume of Switzer records and bind same and preserve it for public use which he is writing. (R. M. S.)

Switzer Genealogy

Valentine Switzer, (Immigrant) arrived from Germany, Oct. 13, 1749. He was a brother of John and Nicholas Switzer, who arrived in 1753 and 1761, from Germany, and all settled in Hampshire County, Virginia.

Mary Hotzenbella, (Mary Hutsinpillar) Wife of Valentine Switzer, was a daughter of Stephen and Barbara Hotzenbella of Frederick County, Virginia.
CHILDREN:

Phillip Switzer, Born March 15, 1767, died July 3, 1835.
John Switzer, Born 1759; died in Ohio, 1844.
Abraham Switzer, Born April 4, 1767, died in Indiana, January 12, 1838.
Peter Switzer, Born May 9, 1769, died in Indiana, Nov. 14, 1844.
Henry Switzer, Valentine Switzer, Nicholas Switzer, Catherine Switzer, Born 1772 and died August 10, 1839.

Items:

An immigrant in America represents the First Generation in the Genealogy of his family.

Valentine Switzer arrived in America on the ship Lydia Oct. 13, 1743. The ship's master was Captain John Randolph. The ship sailed from Rotterdam with passengers from Wurtemburg, Drielach and Zwerbruck. They were Palatines from the highlands of Germany, Mannheim was their oft-mentioned city. The name originally spelled Schweitzer was soon changed to Switzer.

The family relations of Valentine Switzer are established through the probated wills of Stephen Hotzenbella of Frederick County, Virginia, and his own recorded in Hampshire County, Virginia, now West Virginia. The first named Valentine as son-in-law and the second declares him as ancestor.

The will of Valentine Switzer was made November 7, 1809, and was probated May 19, 1817. The Executors were Phillip Hoover, Frederick Secrist and "My brother John Switzer."

Phillip was probably the oldest of the Valentine Switzer family. It is mentioned that he was born in Hampshire County, Va., and served in the Revolutionary War. He moved to Ohio in about 1802 and in 1807 he sold land to John Switzer, who in that year had arrived from Virginia. Evidently, these men were brothers. (The foregoing obtained from William F. Switzer, Gary, Indiana.)

Phillip Switzer and his brothers, John Switzer and Nicholas Switzer, are buried in Bethel Church Cemetery on Chickamauga Creek, in Addison Township, Gallia County, Ohio.

The son Nicholas is described in the will of his father, Valentine Switzer, immigrant, as an incompetent, and a trust fund was provided for his maintenance. When Nicholas died, August 10, 1839, his nephew, Valentine Switzer, son of John Switzer and grandson of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, was his guardian, and a report by J. P. R. Bureau, Com'r, filed in the proceedings of the settlement of the estate of said Nicholas Switzer in the probate court of Gallia County, Ohio, discloses that Nicholas Switzer, the incompetent described in the will of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, came to Ohio and lived with his brother Phillip until the death of Phillip in 1835, when Valentine Switzer, the nephew, was appointed by the above court his guardian and that he then lived with said Valentine until his death in 1839. (R. M. S.)

Switzers in Gallia County, Ohio

Phillip Switzer, Son of immigrant, Valentine Switzer and his wife, Mary (Hutsinpillar) Hotzenbella, was born in Hampshire County, Va., March 15, 1757, and died in Addison Township, Gallia
Nancy Bridger, County Ohio, July 3, 1835.

Wife of Phillip Switzer was born Dec. 29, 1767, and died August 11, 1829, in Addison Township; Gallia County, Ohio. She was the daughter of John Bridger.

Children:

William Switzer, married Lydia Lasley.
Valentine Switzer, married David Lasley.
John Switzer, married Samuel Blake.
Mary Switzer, married Theophilus Blake.
Nancy Switzer, married William Guthrie.
Rebecca Switzer, married John Hinkle.
Sarah Switzer,
Elizabeth Switzer,

Items:

Phillip Switzer was a Revolutionary War soldier.

The will of Phillip Switzer, probated in the probate court of Gallia County, Ohio, discloses that his son, Valentine Switzer, pre-deceased him. Valentine was born February 25, 1795, married February 1, 1816 to Lydia Lasley, he died November 6, 1825. (From an old tombstone in Bethel Cemetery). Valentine left the following children: Mary, Estaline, Metilas (Metellus), William and Esther. The above named are found in the account of the executor of Phillip in the settlement of his estate in the probate court of Gallia County, Ohio.

Apparently at the time Phillip executed his will in addition to the above five grandchildren, he also had then living, the following grandchildren, to-wit: Jackson, Clarinda, Elizabeth and Vienna Guthrie, being the children of Sarah Switzer Guthrie, who married William Guthrie. (R. M. S.)

Children of Valentine and Lydia Lasley Switzer:

Mary Switzer, married John Maddy.
Estaline (Estelline), married George Allen, March 28, 1850.
Metilas Cimber, married Mary Margaret Hanlin.
William Switzer, married Electa Allen.
Esther Switzer, married Wesley Rothgeb.

Children of Mary Switzer and John Maddy:

Armina Maddy, married Albert Leonard.
Hudson Maddy, married Eliza Ann Berry (first wife); Louise Preston (second wife.)

Children of Hudson Maddy and Eliza Ann Berry are as follows:

Charles Maddy, married Ibbie Yeager.
Elizabeth Maddy, (Burned to death above Addison, Ohio.)
Belle Maddy, married Leon Bing.

Children of Hudson Maddy and Louise Preston, as follows:

Susan Maddy, married Cora Reynolds.
Fannie Maddy, (now in California.)
William Maddy, 
George Maddy, 

Children of Estaline Switzer and George Allen, as follows:

James Thaddeus, deceased, married Ella M. Bird.
Mary Allen, married Oliver Griffy.
Laura Allen, married William Hollingshead.

Children of Metellus Switzer and Mary Margaret Hamlin:

James Crooks Switzer, born Aug. 16, 1850, married Abigail Watson.
Francisco (Frank) Switzer, born July 1853, died 1922; married Lucy Chapelle.
Ida May Switzer, born April 1862, died Jan. 1863.
Jefferson Davis Switzer, born Jan. 1864, married Lola McCarty, dec'd. He is still living.

Children of Francisco (Frank) Switzer and Abigail Watson:

Anna Belle Switzer, born Nov. 1877, married Henry Reeves, Oct. 6, 1897.
Earl Andrew Switzer, born Oct. 1879, married Eva Mercer, daughter Kathryn.
Jasper Dalton Switzer, born Feb. 1882, married Isabel Sigler, divorced; one child, Joane.
Edna Juanita Switzer, born June 1884, married Nicholas Backus.
Ethyl Wakima Switzer, born July 1886, married John Beckey.
Frank Switzer, Jr., born Dec. 1895, married George Becker.
Kathleen Marie Switzer, born Dec. 1895.

Children of John Harrison Berry and Anna Belle Switzer:

J. Earl Berry, born April 1909, married Marguerite Rood, child, Betty Anne.
Lois Marie Berry, born Dec. 1916.

Children of Henry Reeves and Alta Allen Switzer:

Thelma Reeves, born June 20, 1899, married John Eppel.
Ruth Reeves, born April 13, 1901, married Clarence Wagner.
Abbie Reeves, born May 12, 1903, married John Haner.
Frank Reeves, born Nov. 4, 1905, married Viola Scott; one child, Francis Reeves.
Max Reeves, born May 11, 1915.

Items:

John Eppel and Thelma Reeves have two children—Joanne and John Harold.
Clarence Wagner and Ruth Reeves have the following children: Robert, Jack, Billy, Carolyn and Edward.

Children of John Beckey and Ethyl Wakima Switzer:

William C., Robert, Jack, Kathleen, Esther and Edna.

Americus Valentine Switzer, was married to Lucy Chapelle and lived most of his life in Gallia County, Ohio; later locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he died. He was buried at Hurricane, W. Va.

Children of Americus Valentine Switzer and Lucy Chapelle:


Clyde Switzer, born 1884, married to Margaret lives in Huntington, W. Va.; children Ruth and Leo.

Lewis Switzer, born 1887, married to Ida Hicks, children Janette and Hilda. Later married to Celestie Sherritt, one child, William. Living in Addison Township, Gallia County.

Anna Switzer, born 1891, married to Naaman Canaday, Jr., children, Golden, Cassius, Delmar, Edna, Blanche Mary Lee, Bruce C., Robert Keith, Marshall and Gerald. Has always lived in Gallipolis, Ohio.


Children of Naaman Canaday and Anna Switzer are:

Golden Canaday, born Feb. 3, 1901.
Cassius Canaday, born July 30, 1903.
Delmar Canaday, born June 16, 1905.
Edna Canaday, born Dec. 26, 1907.
Blanche Canaday, born Oct. 21, 1911.
Robert Keith, born July 25, 1918.
Gerald Canaday, born June 24, 1923.
Bruce C. Canaday,

Children of Samuel R. Davis and Ida May Switzer:

Sylvia Davis, born Dec. 1882, deceased.
Bessie M. Davis, born March 1884, married D. W. Selby.
Frank N. Davis, born May 1890, married Ruth Murphy.
Paul H. Davis, born Sept. 1896, married Mary.......
Maxon U. Davis, born Jan. 1820, married Doris .........; one child, Max Jr.

Floyd W., born Aug. 1878; a son born by a former marriage.

Samuel Harry and Ada Davis have the following children: Aldean, Harry Jr., and Jack.

Will Gray and Nellie Davis have the following children: Margaret, Harry Jack (deceased), Virginia, Evelyn, Joanne. Nellie Davis Gray later married Dr. J. S. Carlton (now deceased.)

Paul and Mary Davis have the following children: Paul, Jr., Larry and infant son.

The children of William (Tell) Switzer and Electa Allen Switzer are: (Who moved to Cottonwood, Gallatin County, Illinois.)

Metellus Switzer, Agnes Switzer,
James Switzer, Fanny Switzer,
John Switzer, Andrew Switzer,

Esther Switzer, daughter of Valentine and Lydia Lasley Switzer, married Wesley Rothgeb.

Children:

Viola Victoria Rothgeb, born Feb. 25, 1847, married Frank Southall.
Zachary Taylor Rothgeb, born Sept. 25, 1848, died Sept. 14, 1866.
Samuel Vinton Rothgeb, born June 16, 1850, married Julia Watson.
He died March 7, 1932.
Mary Melsena Rothgeb, born Jan. 27, 1852; married Robert Fulton.
She died Feb. 7, 1928.
Lyda Jane Rothgeb, born March 9, 1854, died March 9, 1904.
Wesley Livesay Rothgeb, born Oct. 2, 1856, died July 17, 1877.
Reuben Marcellus Rothgeb, born Feb. 15, 1858, died May 31, 1938.
Jessie Adilla Rothgeb, born March 23, 1860, married Nathaniel Rhey.
She died April 23, 1937. (Second husband, John Fulton.)

Eliza Alberta Rothgeb, born March 2, 1862, died March 12, 1872.
Esther Rothgeb, born Dec. 30, 1865 married S. W. Swisher.
He is deceased.

Items:

Wesley Rothgeb, husband of Esther Rothgeb, was appointed 1st Lieut. and Quarter Master of 15th Battalion Infantry, O. V. M. (Gallia County, Ohio,) March 1864.

His son, Zachary Taylor Rothgeb, was a private of Capt. Samuel Rothgeb, Co. F., 141st. Regiment of O. N. G., Vol. Enrolled on 2nd day of May, 1864, discharged Sept. 12, 1864, by reason of expiration of service.

The children of Viola Victoria Rothgeb and Frank Southall are:

Jessie M. Southall, who married Ed Haney.
Imogene Southall, who married Louis Mahood.
Pauline Southall, who married Chas. Litton (7 children.)

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Nettie Southall, who married David Rees, (She is deceased.)

Mary Southall, who married Ed Champ (She is deceased.)

The children of Samuel Vinton Rothgeb and Julia Watson Rothgeb were:

Ella Louise Rothgeb, deceased.
Alberta Rothgeb, deceased.
Infant, deceased.

The following were the children of Mary Melsema Rothgeb Fulton and Robert Fulton:

Robert Fulton, who married D. Walcott.
Kate Fulton, deceased.
Edward Fulton, deceased.
Arthur Fulton, deceased.
Curtis Fulton, married Nellie Burns (6 children.)
Foster Fulton, married A. Whitney.

The following were the children of Jessie Adilla Rhey and Nathaniel Rhey:

Arthur Rhey, deceased.
Esther Rhey, deceased.
Evelyn Rhey, married Al Taylor.
Frieda Rhey, married M. Allen.
Ina Rhey, married A. Whitney.
Jesta Rhey, married Ezra Saunders (2 children.

The children of James Thaddeus Allen and Ella Bird Allen were:

George Allen, Bess Allen,

The following were the children of Allen Griffy and Oliver Griffy:

Georgia Griffy, who married David Rutan (5 children.)
Irene Griffy, who married Oscar Hopfe.
Oliver Allen Griffy, who married Hazel Ary (1 child.)
John Switzer, son of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, and his wife, Mary Hutsinpillar (Hotzebella) was born in Hampshire County, Virginia, 1759, died in Gallia County, Ohio, August 20, 1844. He was married to Rebecca Fries. Wife of John Switzer, was born in Virginia in 1766.

Rebecca Fries Switzer, who married David Rutan (5 children.)

Children:

Mary Switzer, born in Virginia; married George W. Livesay.
Elizabeth Switzer, born in 1788, in Va.; married William Cherrington.

Rebecca Switzer, born Aug. 28, 1789; married John Hawk.
Anna F. Switzer, born in Virginia; married Jacob Hawk.
Catherine Switzer, born in Virginia; married Clement Cherrington.
Sarah Switzer, born in Virginia; married Isaac Hawk.
Leah F. Switzer, born in Virginia; married William Hawk.
Rachel Switzer, born in Virginia; married Henry Hawk.

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Agnes Switzer, born in Virginia; married Benjamin Mills.

John Switzer, born 1806 in Ohio; married Sarah Rhyne (Ryan).

Christiana Switzer, born 1807 in Ohio; married Cornelius Kearns.

Items:

John Switzer is identified as a son of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, by being named in his father's will and by his own birth year; and by the record of proceedings in the probate court of Gallia County, Ohio, in the settlement of the final account of Valentine Switzer, his son, as guardian of Nicholas Switzer, named in the will of said Valentine Switzer, immigrant. Concerning his marriage to Rebecca Fries and about her family, few facts are known. In 1809 he lived in Bath County, Virginia, now Pocahontas County, West Virginia, and in 1807, he sold his lands there and moved to Gallia County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm from Phillip Switzer his brother, who preceded him to Ohio. Nicholas Switzer, named in the will of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, some time after the death of his father came to Ohio and lived with his brother, Phillip Switzer, until the death of Phillip in 1835, from which time he lived with his nephew, Valentine Switzer until his death in 1839.

Valentine Switzer, son of John Switzer, son of Valentine Switzer, immigrant, and his wife, Mary Hutsinpiller (Hotzenbella) Switzer, was born in Virginia, Oct. 2, 1798, died in Ohio, March 16, 1876. He was married to Evaline Simmons February 8, 1829.

Evaline Simmons, wife of Valentine Switzer, born Feb’y. 3, 1807, died March 13, 1848.

Children:

John Switzer, born Aug. 3, 1830, died Aug. 10, 1830.
Sarah Jane Switzer, born Feb. 18, 1832, died Aug. 23, 1839.
John F. Switzer, born June 23, 1834, died Aug. 16, 1839.
Charles W. Switzer, born Dec. 22, 1836, died Sept. 27, 1839.
Rebecca M. Switzer, born Oct. 17, 1840, died Oct. 21, 1846.
James Switzer, born March 21, 1843, died May 10, 1844.
Valentine Hutsinpiller Switzer, born Feb. 25, 1845, died Nov. 19, 1910.
Melissa L. Mauck, second wife of Valentine Switzer, was married to him Aug. 30, 1860. She was born May 27, 1825 and died in June, 1910.

Children:

Washington Switzer, born Nov. 13, 1861, died Dec. 16, 1861.
Robert Mauck Switzer, born March 6, 1863, still living.
Benjamin Mills Switzer, born June 22, 1865, died March 28, 1937.
Catherine R. Switzer, born Aug. 16, 1868, died Aug. 22, 1868.

Items:

Valentine Switzer was a County Commissioner of Gallia County, Ohio, for a number of years between 1860 and 1870. He is buried in Bethel Cemetery near Chickamauga Creek, in Addison Township, Gallia County, Ohio.

Only four of his fourteen children grew to adults, namely: Valentine Hutsinpiller Switzer and Charles John Switzer, whose mother was Evaline Simmons Switzer; and Robert Mauck Switzer and Benjamin Mills Switzer, sons of his second wife, Melissa L. Mauck Switzer.
Valentine Hutsinpillar Switzer served in the 91st Ohio Infantry Volunteers, during the Civil War and he was sheriff of Gallia County, Ohio, from 1887 to 1892. He was married to Melissa Lydia Plummer, June 26, 1870, who is still living. He died November 3, 1908.

Children:
- Edward Lewis Switzer, born June 26, 1871, died March 8, 1872.
- Arthur Plummer Switzer, born May 16, 1873, died in Feb'y. 1935.
- Charles Herriman Switzer, born Jan. 4, 1876, still living.
- Mabel Switzer, born April 25, 1880, still living.

Arthur Plummer Switzer married Lulu A. Womeldorf, June 5, 1912. She was born May 1, 1889.

Charles Herriman Switzer married Winifred Smith, Oct. 29, 1915. He has been Assistant Postmaster at Gallipolis, Ohio, since 1910.

Mabel Switzer married Jacob Vervenne, Sept. 1, 1923. He was born April 23, 1876.

Charles John Switzer married Evalyn Ella Dowd, May 14, 1884, who was born July 2, 1866 and died July, 1932.

Children:
- Edith Myrtle Switzer, born Oct. 17, 1885, married Alfred Proctor Johnson, Sept. 18, 1907. He was born April 2, 1883.

John Bernard Switzer has been Appointment Clerk of the Interstate Commerce Commission for more than thirty years.

Robert Mauck Switzer, born March 6, 1863, married Alice M. Simmons, Dec. 1, 1896.

Children:
- Paul Benjamin Switzer, born Sept. 13, 1897, married Opal Woodyard.
- Robert Mauck Switzer, Jr., born April 8, 1901.
- Roger Simmons Switzer, born May 13, 1904.
- John Edward Switzer, born July 30, 1907.

Robert Mauck Switzer, Gallipolis, Ohio, was Prosecuting Attorney of Gallia County, Ohio, for six years following January 1, 1894; a Representative of the 10th Congressional District of Ohio, in the United States Congress for four (4) successive terms following March 4, 1911; and City Solicitor of the City of Gallipolis for sixteen years following January 1, 1922.

Benjamin Mills Switzer, born June 22, 1865, married A jesta Eagle in January, 1893, who died May 10, 1923. (No children.)

John Switzer, son of John Switzer, a son of immigrant Valentine Switzer, was born in 1806, in Gallia County, Ohio, and died in Addison Township, Gallia County, Ohio, August 11, 1844. He was married to Sarah Rhyne, June 16, 1834.
Sarah Rhyne, wife of John Switzer was born Oct. 18, 1806. born April 30, 1835, died Nov. 17, 1902. Married Charles Leonard.

Mary E. Switzer, born July 4, 1836, died August 23, 1844. 

Children: born April 20, 1838, died August 18, 1838. 
Rebecca C. Switzer, born July 16, 1839, died June 30, 1909. 
Sarah C. Switzer, born Oct. 2, 1841, date of death unknown. 
George R. Switzer, born January 12, 1843, died August 16, 1844. 

Valentine F. Switzer, 
Margaret E. Switzer, 

Items: John Switzer was a Colonel of an Ohio Militia Organization. 

Children of John and Sarah Rhyne Switzer: 

George Rhyne Switzer, son of Colonel John Switzer, a son of John Switzer, a son of immigrant Valentine Switzer, was born July 16, 1839; married Mary Eliza Morton, November 4, 1865. Wife of George Rhyne Switzer, was born February 7, 1843, died April 13, 1917.

Mary Eliza Morton, 

Children: 

Ella Belle Switzer, born December 23, 1866, married Isaac Newton Jones, April 22, 1897. 
Ida Jane Switzer, born June 6, 1869, married Burt G. Hodge, February 18, 1891. 
Franklin Davis Switzer, born April 4, 1872, married Carrie M. Culp, July 7, 1897. 
Myrta May Switzer, born March 14, 1877, married Edward Culp, August 12, 1900; she died February 12, 1932. 
Sallie M. Switzer, born June 4, 1881, married Ira J. Copeland, November 18, 1907, who died February 21, 1938. 
Pennell Cherrington Switzer, born November 18, 1883, married Helen Campbell, December 31, 1913. 
Homer Morton Switzer, born July 13, 1886, married Neva Swanson, September 15, 1913. 
Harry LeClercq Switzer, born June 26, 1890, married Edith Mills, September 21, 1913. 

Items: George Rhyne Switzer served in the 91st Ohio Infantry Volunteers, during the Civil War. 

Children of Newton and Ella Belle Switzer Jones: 


Eleanor Jones, born August 7, 1902. 

Mary Ruth Jones, born May 11, 1905, married to Dr. C. W. Thomas, August 7, 1938; one child, Susan Elizabeth, born April 14, 1937. 

Esther Gwinn Jones, born September 13, 1907, married Philip W. Buck, April 29, 1933; one child Sandra Kay, born January 30, 1934. 

Donald Jones, born April 10, 1910, married Frances Clark, December 31, 1936. 

The children of Burt and Ida Jane Switzer Hodge were as follows: May Manda Hodge, John Guy Hodge and Elaine Hodge.

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Children of Franklin Davis and Carrie M. Culp Switzer: Virginia Switzer and Frank Switzer.

The children of Myrta M. and Edward Culp as follows: Mildred, Evelyn, Mary, William and Barbara.

The children of Sallie M. Switzer and Edward J. Copeland, who died March 21, 1938, as follows:

Mary Elizabeth Copeland, born Oct. 27, 1908, married Ralford Snyder, Nov. 16, 1934; one child, Ray Snyder. 
Gladys Lucille Copeland, born Feb. 25, 1917.
Mildred Pauline, born July 1, 1920.

Children of Homer M. and Neva Switzer: Louise, born May 13, 1914, George, born April 1919, Mary Elizabeth, Nov. 1920, and Paula.

Charles Leonard and Mary E. Switzer, a daughter of Col. John Switzer, son of John Switzer, son of immigrant Valentine Switzer, were married Sept. 1, 1857.

Children:

John V. Leonard, born July 29, 1858, died Aug. 10, 1929; married Catharine Malaby.
George U. Leonard, born Jan. 15, 1865, died Sept. 6, 1894; married Ida Shaffer.
Eva B. Leonard, born Nov. 2, 1866, married Thurman D. Wood.
Harland A. Leonard, born Sept. 15, 1871, married Ethel.
Millard F. Leonard, born Nov. 26, 1873, died April 25, 1929; married Lyda Ingels.

Items:

Children of Benton Leonard and Jeslie E. Roush, (married Oct. 1881) are: Claude Ethel, Ina, Floyd, Amos and Way Clyde.

The children of Joseph Pfadt and Margaret E. Leonard: Lizzie, Mary, Marion, Georgia, Carl, Claude, Catharine and Edmond.

Children of Millard F. Leonard (first wife) Lyda Ingels: Edmond and Gertrude, both deceased; (second wife) Elizabeth Nan.

George U. Leonard and Ida Shaffer had one child, Mabel; married James Horace Kail.


Margaret E. Switzer, daughter of Col. John Switzer, married Wellington Hawkins, Oct. 28, 1876. He was born Nov. 17, 1825. One child, John Jay Hawkins, born July 8, 1877, died April 14, 1917. All deceased.

Switzers of Indiana

Abraham Switzer, son of immigrant Valentine Switzer, and his wife, Mary Hotzenpillar Switzer, was born in Hampshire County, Va., on April 4, 1767, and died near Crawfordsville, Ind., Jan. 12, 1838.

Elizabeth Grant Switzer, was married to Abraham Switzer. She was born September 30, 1777. Died Aug. 10, 1846.

Children:

Polly Switzer, born Sept. 12, 1798.
Peter Switzer, born May 27, 1801.
Sally Switzer, born April 11, 1803.
James Switzer, born March 18, 1805.
John Switzer, born Oct. 6, 1807.
Elizabeth Switzer, born June 3, 1810.
Louisa Switzer, born Feb. 16, 1813.
Gaily Switzer, born Nov. 28, 1815.
Maranda Switzer, born July 20, 1819.

Items:

A tradition held by this family, is, that Abraham Switzer was himself an Immigrant, coming from Switzerland. Concerning his settlement in Kentucky and the family relation of his wife, the record is indefinite. From near Winchester, Ky., he moved his family in 1829 to Montgomery County, Ind., of which Crawfordsville is the county seat. Near this city are still to be found representatives of this family.

In the records of Franklin County, Ky., for Jan. 12, 1797, there is given the marriage of Abraham Switzer and Elizabeth Grant. The tradition that this marriage took place in Pennsylvania is probably incorrect.

James Switzer, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Grant Switzer, married Mary Donaldson, whose family continued to live near Winchester, Ky. This family also lived near Crawfordsville, Ind. The children of James and Mary Donaldson Switzer were Abraham C., William F., John A., Milton James, Eliza, Isabelle and Walker.

Milton James Switzer married Mary Elizabeth Riley Rector, Oct. 8, 1862. Their children were Mattie Switzer Wayman and Guy E. Switzer, both of Los Angeles, Calif., Alberta Switzer Runnell, of Hillsboro, Ind., and Dr. Jesse E. Switzer, Bloomington, Ind. Dr. Switzer holds a Professorship in the State University.

The Abraham and Elizabeth Grant Switzer descendants reveal a mental quality characteristic of Valentine Switzer, the ancestor. They have not varied in the spelling of the name. Many others of undoubted kinship have adopted the spelling Swisher. From one standpoint this is most unfortunate. Genealogy suffers an irretrievable loss by such action. (W. F. S.)

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Peter Switzer, son of immigrant Valentine Switzer and his wife, Mary Hotzenpillar Switzer, was born in Virginia, May 9, 1769, and died in Indiana, Nov. 14, 1844. He was married to Mary Ann Hoover, at Winchester, Va., Oct. 24, 1794. Mary Ann Hoover Switzer, was born in Virginia, May 4, 1774, and died in Indiana, Nov. 26, 1848.

Children:
Abraham Switzer, born July 18, 1795, died Nov. 24, 1863.
Isaac Switzer, born Sept. 16, 1797, died June 21, 1870.
Jacob Switzer, born May 6, 1800, died April 30, 1892.
John Switzer, born Feb. 20, 1803, died Jan. 11, 1863.
Elizabeth Switzer, born Jan. 24, 1806, died Nov. 17, 1845.
Absalom Switzer, born July 20, 1811, died Dec. 1, 1888.
Mary Ann Switzer, born July 20, 1814.
Sarah Switzer, born June 13, 1817.
Wesley Switzer, born March 24, 1821, died March 4, 1904.

The marriage record at Winchester, Va. Court House, gives the date as Oct. 21, 1794, but the family Bible of Peter and Mary Ann Switzer has the date set as October 24, 1794. The date when the license was issued and the date of the marriage ceremony might account for this difference. They were married by Rev. Christian Strieit of the Lutheran Church.

The parentage of Mary Ann Hoover Switzer cannot be determined for lack of specific statement. The family of Jacob Hoover was closely connected with the Switzers in business and religious life. No certainties are available.

Peter Switzer, in 1807, moved his family to Ross County, Ohio, and bought land in what was afterward within Pike County. Here, several children of the family were born. In the war of 1812, Peter Switzer and his son Abraham, both enlisted and rendered service. The D. A. R. organization has made careful investigation and is authority for announcing the military standing of those whose names are in the Public Records at Chillicothe, Ohio.

In 1824, the son of John Switzer, then 21 years old, was sent to Indiana and entered public land in Vermillion County. In 1834, Peter Switzer sold his Ohio property and moved to Indiana, having bought his son John's farm. In the family cemetery on this farm Peter and Mary Ann Switzer rest from their labors.

The family marriages were as follows:
Abraham Switzer married Leah Parrill.
Isaac Switzer married Casandra Foster.
John Switzer married Mary A. C. Dillon.
Elizabeth Switzer married Silas Parrill.
Absalom Switzer married Maria Day.
Mary Ann Switzer married Charles W. Loney.
Sarah Switzer married William Brewer.
Wesley Switzer married Nancy Henderson.

(W. F. S.)