

THE BROWER FAMILY CIRCLE

Published quarterly Jan Apr Jul Oct. This is Vol I Number 1 dtd Apr 76.

This newsletter is published with the hope that with enough interest some one will send in the necessary information to fill out all the blank spaces in Brower-Brewer-Brouwer lines clear back to the countries in Europe where we all originated from. At the present time there are a lot of unanswered questions.

Anyone having Brower lineage may have their lines published here as long as they send in a release authorizing such publication. Queries are welcomed as well. The cost is being born by the publisher in order to generate interest in the Brower line. Send your lineage to:

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I have several civil war records of Brower's. They are listed below and do have value for the genealogist. Will be sent to you upon request.

Milton Brower b. 16 Dec 1842 in Eaton, Ohio

William H. Brower b. 30 May 1838 in Eaton, Ohio

Theodore F. Brower b. 21 Apr 1850 Preble County, Ohio

Thomas J. Brower b. 20 Dec 1841 Preble County, Ohio

These war records list children in some cases and also the parents and dates of marriage. For example: Thomas J. Brower married 11 Aug 1862 to Mary Siler. The parents of Thomas J. Brower were: George Brower and Christina Snyheart (Swihart).

Do you know of the existence of any of the following relating to earlier members of the family:

Family Bible giving dates of baptism marriage, burial, etc... Family pedigree or written account or notes of the family. Any copies of wills any diaries, note books birthday books, old receipt books, account books, tontine or stock and share certificates, old deeds relating to property, estate maps, bank books, life insurance policies, apprenticeship indentures, family samplers, funeral cards or bookplates. Baptism, marriage, death or burial certificates. Deeds concerning the freehold, leasehold or receipts for upkeep of graves. Letters of past members. Old family portraits, miniatures or photographs. Medals and decorations certificates of service in the Army or Navy. Last but not least, any family traditions of any sort whatsoever, e.g. that they came from such and such a place or country, or from abroad, that they were engaged in a particular trade or occupation.

Your Name

You got it from your father  
It was all he had to give  
So it's yours to use and cherish  
For as long as you live

If you lose the watch he gave you  
It can always be replaced  
But a black mark on your name, Son  
Can never be erased

It was clean the day you took it  
And a worthy name to bear  
When he got it from his father  
There was no dishonor there

So make sure you guard it wisely  
After all is said and done  
You'll be glad the name is spotless  
When you give it to your son.

The children of the head of a prominent family decided to give him a book of their family's history. The biographer they hired for the job was warned of one problem-- Uncle Willie, the black sheep, who had gone to the electric chair for murder.

The biographer promised to handle the situation: "I'll just say that Uncle Willie occupied a chair of applied electronics at one of our leading government institutions. He was attached to his position by the strongest of ties. His death came as a true shock."

Now to some Brower genealogy: In the attic of my aunt, Charlotte Hale of Logansport, Indiana comes the following:

A map of the Netherlands etd 1753 in the Dutch language. Shows a town of Browerhaven.

From my cousin in Denver, Colorado a land grant dtd 25 June 1841 signed by the secretary of President Tyler. For a man named Pauling for 197 acres in the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 4, TWP 28 North of Range 6 East. This is near Wabash, Indiana.

In the possession of my uncle in Casper, Wyoming a Bible that was printed in Germantown, Pa in 1776 in German. The entries are written in old German script for the first generation of births. Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Teal gave the Bible to their daughter Elizabeth when she married Jacob Brower in 1810.

Now for Brower history. Each state has a history of Brouwers or at least some of the states in the East do. Let us start with the state of New Jersey.

"Brouwer Beginnings" The American Genealogist starts in April 1947 by William J. Hoffman M. Mech. Eng., of LaPlume, Penna..

Adam Brouwer Berchoven sailed in 1641 to Brazil as a soldier in the service of the West India Company. We also find at Brazil Jan Gerritson Brouwer and his wife Annetje Laurens who settled later in New Netherland. (Rec. 1936:110) There is no indication of relationship. Adam Brouwer (the name Berchovern) was dropped. Adam married on 21 March 1645 to Magdalenn Jacobs Verdon. His oldest child, Pieter Brouwer baptized in the New York Dutch Reformed Church on 23 Sep 1646 married Petronella Uldricks Clein. He apparently followed his sons to New Jersey.

The will of Abraham Brouwer of Hackensack, New Jersey, Bergen County, Weaver, 29 March 1725. Wife, Lea, executrix. Brothers-in-law Jas., Christy and Pieter De Varest, tutors and administrators of minor children. Oldest son Pieter, son David, son Johannis, other sons: Samuel and David. Daughters: Lea, Rachel, Mary (youngest). Witnesses: Benjamin De Varest, Nikolaes Bon (could this be Nicholas Bunn or perhaps a son of his in Penn?) (Note: These notes from Mrs. Ruth Kiesling of Logansport Indiana) David De Varest. Probated 19 April 1736. Lea Brouwer alias Westerveldt and Peter De Varest qualify. They had ten children, all baptized in the Hackensack Dutch Reformed Church. Son Samuel had two well-known artist descendants.

From a letter dtd 19 Sep 1963 from Mrs Elizabeth M. Thompson of 722 Mathews Street, Union City, Tenn. She mentioned the records of the Dutch Reformed Church, Schraelenberg and Hackensack, New Jersey which have been printed in the First Reformed Dutch Church Records, Hackensack and in Ryker's Harlem, revised; Harvey's History of Bergen County, New Jersey and some printed in the New Jersey Magazine, Vol 3. She says some of them must have lived in Middlesix County, New Jersey. A Hans Brower was in SCLersset County, NJ ca 1735 and she found Brower records in early Bucks County, Pa., probably same family, as there was a great deal of intermarriages of families from Pa., who married in New Jersey. (From notes of Mrs Ruth Kiesling) Her ancestor was Obadiah Higbee who married Anna May or Mary Ann Brower in the Higbee geanealogy given as the daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Ackerman Brower but such a daughter for them is not listed in baptismal records. Her father lived near New Brunswick, New Jersey where she was presumably born on 9 May 1741 and was married 9 Feb 1763. She died in 1812 in Allegheny County, Pa.

New early New Netherland families present as many problems to the investigator as does the Brouwer family. It was composed of more than sixty individuals with the surname Brouwer, whose births occurred between 1667 and 1712. (These descendants of Adam only)

The son of Adam, namely Pieter who married Petronella Uldricks Clein, the daughter of Ulrick Clein (Cleen), and following his sons to New Jersey in 1646, we find that on 10 Oct 1700 he conveys his share of his father's mill to Abraham and Nicholas Brouwer of Brooklyn - signed by mark, "of East New Jersey", witnesses: William Laurence and Anthony Karr. There were Lawrences in Philadelphia area along with Brouwers.

Johannes<sup>3</sup> Brouwer, son of William Brouwer married Elizabeth Simpson (2) Martha Bolton married Aagje (Egge, Aegye)? and removed to Raritan. A will of John Bruer (Brower) dtd 29 Oct 1732 of Somerset County, New Jersey, farmer. Children: John, oldest, Dirck, Antie and last and youngest son. Executors: Johannes Colyer of Long Island, King's County and Tunis Post and Henrick Bris both of Somerset County. Witnesses: William Post, Samuel Bruer, Cornelia Willenje. Probated 30 NOV 1732. Inventory 107-6-7. Lib. B page 328. Of the four children mentioned in the will, the oldest was baptized in 1726 at Flatlands, Dirck the 2nd one in the Raritan Church in 1730, the two remaining known only from the will. (If the oldest child was only six when the father died, shouldn't there of been some sort of Orphans Court Record?) Could John be the Hans Brouwer of 1745 "Estables" of Somerset County? Was the Josip Brouwer with wife Antje who had Elizabeth baptized on 29 Oct 1752, at le Run Dutch Reformed Church, Somerset County, the unnamed child?

Adam Brouwer<sup>3</sup> son of Jacob Brouwer, th child of Adam Brouwer Bercheven<sup>1</sup> baptized in Brooklyn on 29 March 1696. Sponsors: Cornelis Fiele, Kathryn Bogardus. Most authorities consider him the founder of the Monmouth County, New Jersey branch of the Brower-Brewer family. If this is true and I believe it is, he married 1st Deborah Allen, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Hallet?) Allen.

In her will, Elizabeth Allen, wife of George Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, New Jersey, names among others, her grandchildren, children of Adam Brewer. Hannah Lafetra, Margaret, Deborah, Lazarus, George and William. In a list of marriages we have that of Edm Lafetra to a Mary \_\_\_\_\_. A \_\_\_\_\_ Brewer married Philip Mark on 3 May 1760, both of Monmouth, New Jersey. Margaret Brewer married Jas. Lippincott (both of Monmouth) on 22 June 1750. A Mary Brewer of Monmouth and Thomas Blackwell of Hunterdon were married on 4 Dec 1764. Nancy Brewer of Monmouth and Jas. Johnson of Monmouth were married on 24 March 1761.

Elizabeth Morris, Rachel Lippincott and Mary Lafetra, children said to have joined the Quakers dtd 6 Sep 1753.

Four brothers came to America prior to 1690. NOTE: My father, Jay Houston Brower used to say that four brothers came from Browsershaven in Holland in the 1600's to keep from getting hung. It made a good story and was an attention getter. Of the four brothers that came to America prior to 1690, one stayed in New York, one to Penna., one to Va and one to the Carolinas. Compare this with the "Bible Record" of a George Brower, obtained about 15 years ago (1961) in Preble County, Ohio. A Daniel Brower was also in Chester Co Pa.,. Mrs Kiesling feels he may be thee Daniel Brower, who along with an Abraham Brower, was in York (then Adams) Co Pa ca 1765-80. These were descendants of Adam Brower. (Originally Berhoven). Adam took the oath of allegiance in Sep 1687. He lived in Breukelen. (Brooklyn). They had 16 children.

Now, read the last paragraph on page #2 again where we are speaking about a man named Bunn. The will of Peter Bunn of Philadelphia County (Berks Co was a part of Phil., Co until 1752) died in 1745 leaving his wife, Gurchan and children: Harnon, Peter, Nicklas, John, Jacob, Henry and two daughters. A great grand daughter of Hubert's, Hannah Brower, born \_\_\_\_\_ died in 1873, married on 27 Apr 1806 to John Bunn of Amity Twp, Berks Co Pa. They resided in Douglass Township. He was a cabinet maker. It is thought that the John Bunn, son of Jacob Bunn of Union Twp, Berks Co buried 4 Apr 1837 (burial record) and Hannah Bunn, buried 31 Jan 1873, aged 85 years were this couple. (St Gabriel's Churchyard). Also a sister of Hannah Brower married David Jones, and as we have seen, the Jones name turns up frequently in the Brower lines.

In Knittle's Palatine Emigration to New York ca1709-1710 1st list - from Holland to London 3 May 1709. These records have been published without change in New York Genealogical and Biographical Records. The original list gives the occupation, religion and age. The second list contains the names of two widows named Bravere (Brower?). In one list a Jacob Brower aged 14 is listed as an apprentice under Gov Hunter's list of 1710. Another list has Diterick Brouwer, evidently single. Third party - Embarked 5 Jun to 10 Jun 1709 -Johan Bouwer, Tomas Bouwer, wife and 9 children. Mrs Kiesling believes it was a Johan Adam Loesch who was one of the 1st group of Palatines who came from Schoharie, NY to Tulpshocken. American Colonists: Jacob Loesch 1722-1782. Captain of an Independent Company for defense against the French and Indians. Lived in North Carolina and Pennsylvania. Married in 1757 to Anna Blum. 1732-1817.

### A Durable Town

This town is in the area of Germany where many Browers came from and as you read the history of the town you can readily see why they left there.

This is a place in Northern Germany named Schwedt. In the 1600's an argument over whether the princely Hapsburg family should boss Europe embroiled Austrians, Frenchmen, Germans, Swedes and Poles. Their armies fought in and around the North German region plundering as they went. When the Thirty Years War was ended Schwedt, or what was left of it, had changed hands 32 times--a record not likely to be equaled.

Most of the History of the Browers was furnished to me by Mrs. Ruth B. Kiesling of Logansport Indiana in the several years of our correspondence. The Knittle is: Walter Allen Knittle, who wrote Early Eighteenth Century Galatine Emigration originally published in Philadelphia in 1937.

In our next publication we shall go into the early Pennsylvania history and if this proves to be of interest to several people will go into Ohio and Virginia history of the Browers. Last but not least of course will be Indiana and especially of Miami County. Brouer history.

### Query Section

All queries will be printed here if they pertain to Brouer lineage.

Joseph Brouer b. 12 Dec 1811 in Pickle County Ohio died in Miami County Ind on 10 May 1885 and lies in the Greenlawn Cemetery at Mexico, Indiana. He married on 2 Feb 1838 to Elizabeth Harmon (Harman) of Adams County Ia. The marriage took place in Jefferson Township Miami County Indiana. Their issue Rebecca b. 1839 died Oct 1861. William H. b. 1841 d. 14 Aug 1866. Lovina b. 1841 died 1861. Franklin Elijah b. 1843 and died before 1872. Reuben b. 1844 and died before 1872. Sarah b. 1846 and died before 1872. Sarah A. b. 1848 died in 1869 married to Susan Chidester in Grant County Indiana. Susan Chidester was born on 22 Dec 1857. Mary A. born 5 May 1848 and died on 2 Feb 1874 and married \_\_\_\_\_ Ireland. Elijah Newman (family line) b. 15 Nov 1851 and died in Fairshall North Dakota on 10 Dec 1924 was married three times. Adena (Sophia) was born 1855 and died before 1892. Sapropia Mary born in 1856 and died in 1922 in Macy Indiana married to \_\_\_\_\_ Kennedy. Elizabeth b. \_\_\_\_\_ Aug 1859 and died in 1921. Harriet F. or T. was born in 1860. Her date of death is unknown. She married Charles Bond date unknown. From this issue was born Lillie who married John Keyes in 1890. John Keyes died on 14 Oct 1858. Lillie Keyes died Mar 1915.

Who among you know the exact dates of birth of the people listed above their exact dates of death who they married their children if any etc...