

THE BROWER FAMILY CIRCLE

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This newsletter is published with the hope that with enough interest, someone 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. All queries are welcomed as well. The cost is being born by the publisher in order to generate interest in the Brower line. Donations will be accepted. Send your lineage to:

Jay H. Brower
350 Regents Blvd.
Fircrest, Washington 98466

From Mr. Marion Brower of 3900 Sheridan Rd., Muncie, Indiana, 47304, we are indebted for the following information. Believe the information is from old county histories printed in the late 1890's.

ABRAM BROWER

One of the best and favorably known citizens of Milford, Ohio, who for years has been identified with the business affairs of Clermont county, belongs to one of the pioneer families of the county and is now retired from active life. His home is on Mound street, where he is spending his declining years.

Mr. Brower was born at Montgomery, Hamilton county, Ohio, April 3, 1838, and is a son of Charles H. and Anna B. (Branch) Brower, the former of whom was born at Brunswick, New Jersey, February 22, 1812. He came with his parents, Dr. Abram and Elizabeth (Stoutenburg) Brower to Ohio, when they were quite young. The journey was made from Brunswick to Pittsburgh by teams, and from there to Cincinnati by flat boat, soon after settling at Montgomery, Ohio, where Abram became a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church. He later moved to Lawrenceburg, Dearborn county, where he was very active in church work, and his demise occurred at Lawrenceburg, at a ripe old age of eighty-six years.

Charles H. Brower, the father of our subject, grew to manhood on the home farm at Montgomery and there married the daughter of Joseph Branch, a native of Western New York, who purchased six hundred acres of land in Clermont county in the early days. While a new house was being erected on the home farm, The Branch family lived at Montgomery, and there the marriage of our subject's parents took place. The father of Mrs. Brower, Joseph Branch, died of that dread disease, cholera, and "Branch Hill" is named for him. They remained at Montgomery until 1838, when they removed to Branch Hill, where the mother had inherited a portion of the Branch estate.

Abram Brower remained at the home farm of his parents at Branch Hill until he reached the age of twenty-three years, receiving a good common school education and good practical experience in the business of agriculture. His first venture in the business world was in the employ of W.W. Glenn and Company, wholesale grocers. He was thus occupied about one year, when he resigned from this company to accept a position with W.W. Hanley, a wholesale grocer, and was with this company two years.

In 1861, Mr. Brower enlisted in the One Hundred Day Service, in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh regiment, Ohio volunteer infantry, and although his regiment was ordered at once to the front of Petersburg, they went into quarters at Baltimore, and was mustered out at Camp Dennison.

Mr. Abraham Brower was married at Branch Hill, to Miss Anna M. Armstrong, on February 12, 1868. She was a daughter of A. E. and Priscilla (Skillinger) Armstrong, and was born at Cincinnati, where she received a splendid education for her day. Soon after their marriage they moved to a farm in Warren county, Ohio, where they carried on general farming for four years. About the year of 1873, Mr. Brower purchased a farm at Mt. Repose, Clermont county, Ohio, residing there for about six years, after which they lived at Branch Hill for a period of three years, moving to Milford in 1881. He then entered the employ of the Russell and Morgan Printing Company, of Cincinnati, remaining in that establishment for six years, which was his last active position.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brower have been born three children:

William W., whose home is in Milford, Ohio.

Alice E. became the wife of F.D. Balshiser, resident of Milford, Ohio.

Arthur Howard is in the office of the Adams express Company at Cincinnati.

Mr. Brower was reared a Republican, but by his study of the political questions of the day he became a Democrat, and cast his first presidential ballot for Steven A. Douglas. He has served at different times as township trustee and has attended the various conventions as a delegate. He has filled the various chairs of the Knights of Pythias organization, of which he has been a member for many years, representing his local lodge at the grand lodge a number of times. He is a member of the S.R.S. West Post, Grand Army of the Republic, serving as adjutant of the post for several years. He has attended the reunions at Columbus, Ohio, and a number in Indiana. He is by birthright a Presbyterian, having membership at Milford, Ohio, and has served as trustee and elder.

History of Dearborn and Ohio Counties: Indiana

DR. JEREMIAH H. BROWER was born in New York City in 1798. He was descended from one of those Dutch families that immigrated to the colony in an early period of its history, and aided in laying the foundations of its present greatness. His father was a physician, and educated his son for the profession of his choice. It is believed that for a year or more he enjoyed the superior advantages of the private tutelage of that eminent surgeon and physician, the elder Mot. In the year 1819 the family immigrated to the West, and settled in Indiana; the father Abraham Brower, in Lawrenceburgh, and the son at Elizabethtown, Ohio, where they were respectively engaged in the practice of their profession. Dr. Jeremiah H. Brower assumed his field of labor, in which he continued in an active and exclusive practice until within a year or two of his death. The above dates show that Dr. Brower, for a period of thirty-five years, was in active and extensive practice in the city in which he died. To the practice of this profession he brought more than an ordinary share of learning, zeal and native ability. As a man, a citizen, as a physician, in fine, in all the relations of life he discharged his varied obligations to society in a manner creditable to himself and useful to the community in which he lived, so that himself and his friends could say without ostentation, that the world was better and wiser for his having lived in it. Commencing his professional life as early as 1819, he was closely identified in interest and community of feeling in all of the social, moral and educational enterprises of the community, always a prominent and self-sacrificing laborer for their advancement, and his name and memory will be long held in grateful remembrance by the trusting and confiding community in which he lived and labored. His ardent patriotism and characteristic benevolence were illustrated in his readiness to abandon the comforts of home and a lucrative practice to hasten to the bloody battle-field, to the reeking and malarious hospital ship, to aid and comfort the brave and dying defenders of an imperiled country. Among the medical men of Indiana, with whom he had a large and intimate acquaintance, his abilities early pointed him out as a fit person to be honored with the presidency of the Indiana State Medical Society, a trust he discharged with credit to himself and usefulness to the profession. Dr. Brower's naturally feeble constitution at this period of life, was impaired by his visit and exposures in the South in 1865. He returned with greatly impaired health and strength to the duties of his practice, but his constitution has received a shock from which he never fully recovered. He died August 1, 1866, aged sixty-eight years, and was buried at Lawrenceburgh.

Genealogical abstract of the Anneke Jens Bogardus family compiled from old colonial records and info furnished by the individuals concerned made up for the descendents Assn, Inc. by Thomas B. Wikoff, Scty,. 847 Indianapolis, Indiana.

Note* - I can remember my father in the early 1920's receiving notice from this association to the effect that the Brower's and other families were en joining in a suit to recover Wall St. Lands, Trinity Church and other New York land marks that were worth millions of dollars and were supposedly on leased Anneke Jens Bogardus property. Meetings were held in Indianapolis. A contribution was given by each family for the expense of the trial research. The following is believed to be correct at least to the time of Jacob Brower Sr. (I have his Revolutionary War Records, one of Adam Brower's daughters was living at this time and she attended the Indianapolis meetings by Electric Traction line (interurban) to the city). She would have known Adam's father and grandfather. Also, I have records from Clermont and Brown county Ohio confirming their arrival there and Civil War Records of his sons). Also the DAR records of one of Adam Brower's daughter's.

The Wikoff compilation was found at the Farm Residence of Gail Ferguson Corya, a granddaughter of Almeda Brower. The farm was located near Comisky, Indiana (about 15 miles south of Old Vernon, on Ind. St. Rd #3. This is the center of Adam Brower family activity in Indiana when they arrived from Clermont County, Ohio.

Anneke Webber, daughter of Wolfert Webber, born in Holland 1605, married 1st Jan Roeloffson of Masterland. Their children were Sarah, Catrina, Fytje, Roeloff senior died in 1637. Anneke Jensen married 2nd time to Rev. Everardus Bogarduson 29 Jan 1638. Their children: William Bogardus, born Nov 2, 1638, Cornelius Bogardus born Sept 9, 1640, Jonas Bogarduboen Jan 4, 1643, Peterer Bogardus born April 2, 1645. Jan Jensen, the only son by the first marriage died a bathelor. Jonas the third sone by the second marriage died a batchelor, thus leaving 6 original lines of descent from Anneke Jans William Bogardus- 1st son of Anneke was married 1st to Wyntie Sybrant August 19, 1659: Their children: Everardus Bogardus, 2nd, died in infancy in 1660, Fytze Bogardus born in New Amsterdam, Oct 3, 1661: Annetze Bogardus born Oct 3, 1663, She was married Jan 29, 1681 to Jacobus Brower. He was born at Gowanus, Long Island. Their children: Sybrant Brower born May 6, 1683, married Sarah Webber 1706, Jacob Brower, born Nov 30, 1684, married Patrinola De La Montange (b. 1683). William Brower, b. May 8, 1687, married Marie Hermian. Evardus Brower

b. Dec 8, 1689, married Cornelia De Lancy. John Brower
b. Sept 5, 1691, married Ann Lozier. Adolphus Brower,
born Oct 5, 1693, Jennetze Verdon. Ann Elizabeth Brower,
born Nov 15, 1694, married Jacob Quackenbush. (Note -
I have read the book "The Quackenbush Family" including
the trails of the family with Wifoff, A copy is in the
Library of Congress). Adam Brower, born Mar 29, 1696,
married Deborah Allen. Peter Brower, born Mar 29, 1699,
married Elizabeth Quackenbush. Wyntie Brower, born Oct
1, 1701, married Richard Pettit. Magdalena Brower born
Mar 8, 1704, married John Drake (1718)

Note: I believe the Jacabus Brower - Annatje Bogardus
marriage is probably the most accurate of this disertation
and that my lines trace from here. Some of my research
verifies this.

Jacob Brower, the son of Jacob Brower-Annetze Bogardus,
married Patrinola De La Montagne in Oct 25, 1709: Their
children were: 1. Jacobus Brower, born 24 Sep 1710,
married Marie De La Noy. 2. Johnnes Brower born Mar.
19, 1712, married Susannah Driljet. 3. Lazarus Brower
born in 1714. 4. Abraham Brower born Feb 6, 1717.
5. Anneke Brower, born 13 Mar 1720, died young.
6. Adam Brower born Feb 1722. 7. Anneke Brower, 2nd
born 20 Mar 1728.

My Line Continued:

Johnannes Brower, son of Jacob Brower and Patrinola De
La Montagne married Susannah Driljet in 1733. Their
children:

1. Jacob Brower, born Mar. 6, 1710 (Revolutionary
ancestor, I have his military service record. A private
with a few days service in the defence of New York, NY)
married Margaret Vreeland.

2. Annetze Brower, b. 7 Nov. 1742.

3. Johannes Brower, b. 7 Dec 1747.

Note:

A generation Gap exists here from my calculation.

Jacob Brower, born Mar 12, 1710, married Agnes Allen in
1801, Their children:

Adam Brower, born April 13, 1802, married Janet McMurchy
in Brown Co., Ohio on 12 Oct in 1824. (Have copy of
marriage record from Brown Co., Courthouse.)

Their Children:

Sarah J. Brower, born Aug 10, 1827 (Have photo).
Alameda M. Brower, born Oct 9, 1829 (Have photo).
Margaret L. Brower, born Nov 10, 1831 (Have photo).
George W. M. Brower, born Dec 2, 1833.
Jennette Brower, born Feb 28, 1835.
John M. C. Brower, born April 13, 1838.
Adam Brower, born Jun 29, 1840.
*Lemuel Brower, born Dec 19, 1842.
Eliza D. Brower, born Mar 28, 1846.
Marie (Mariah) Brower, born Dec 5, 1848.
Howard W. Brower, born Feb 12, 1852.
Harrison M. Brower, born Nov 27, 1854.

*Lemuel Brower was my grandfather-See Family sheets for more detailed info.

From Mrs. Derrald D. Ernster of 7957 Blue Lake Dr., San Diego, CA 92119 we have the following:

I have in my possession the book A History of the Church of the Brethren in Southern Iowa, Brethren Publishing House, Elgin, Illinois, 1924. Following is the biography of Jacob Brower as copied from the book mentioned above. This Jacob Brower is a descendant of Hubert and Ann Brower.

Hubert and Ann Brower:

One of their sons Christian b. 1715 or 1718, mar Eve?
d. 1771.

Christian and Eve Brower:

One of their sons Enoch b. Nov. 1765, Franklin Co., VA.
mar., Fronica Eichenbert. d. 13 Feb 1840, Augusta Co, VA.

Enoch and Fronica Brower:

One of their sons: Christian b. 5 Sept, 1792, marr. Susan
or Susannah Wine; d. 28 Feb 1851.

Christian and Susan Brower:

One of their sons: Jacob b. 10 Sept 1817, Augusta Co., VA.
marr. Anna Miller, d. 6 Dec 1900, So. English, Iowa.

Following material copied from book:

ENGLISH RIVER CHURCH

Eld. Jacob Brower

Eld. Jacob Brower was born in an humble country home in Augusta Co., Va., on the 10th of September, 1817. He was the eldest of a family of six children of Christian Brower and Susanah (Wine) Brower. His mother was called home when he was in his 14th year.

School facilities at that time were not the best, compared to our modern conveniences, but he improved the opportunities well, and received his education in a log schoolhouse, with slab benches for seats. As one of the main studies in that day was the Bible he early gained and manifested a deep insight in the Sacred Oracles which was characteristic throughout his entire long and useful life.

He had such a strong anxiety for education that he obtained some books and took up some of those branches which he did not have in school.

After his school days were over, in company with two other young men and two older men, he made a trip to Ohio on horseback, about 1838 or 1839, when much of that country was yet covered with timber. This trip was made at least partly to see the country. I think one of the older men was a minister and did preaching whenever there was an opportunity.

He was never physically strong, and during these years some said he would not live long, but this was only one of the many times when humanity did not know.

May 24, 1842, he was married to Anna Miller, of Rockingham County of the same State, who proved herself a true helpmate to him in his later labors in the ministry. It was not then customary for people to unite with the church until they were married and settled down in life. So, soon after marriage, he and his faithful companion united with God's people, and were baptized into the Church of the Brethren in the same county where he was born. It was soon manifest that the young man would be useful in the ministry. No doubt he would have been elected sooner, had it not been the custom not to elect to the ministry until middle life, but in 1847, when he was thirty years old, at the age when Christ entered upon active service, as well as the priests, he was chosen to the ministry. He soon became active and powerful in that office, more especially along expository lines, preaching to edification, with great faithfulness in attending services, going to them usual way, horseback, often with his companion, each taking one or two children.

The church soon saw fit to advance him to the second degree in the ministry, and in 1854 he was ordained to the full ministry in the same congregation where he united with the church.

He had a desire for some years to move west, believing that his efforts might be more fruitful, both spiritually and temporally. Accordingly, in the fall of 1855, with his companion and six children, he made the long trip by private conveyance from his native State to Keokuk County, Iowa, where they united in membership with the little nucleus of members known as the English River congregation. This, then far West, was a vast expanse of prairie, with few inhabitants, but the early settlers soon found the soil very productive, yielding readily to the faithful husbandman, and settlers came. The desert began to blossom as the rose, and calls came for preaching, from far and near. As the means of travel were slow and tiresome, compared with what we now enjoy, he used much of his traveling over the State, as well as other States, doing church work and building up the cause he loved so well. Mission work then meant work, indeed; it meant exposure, with long and tedious journeys. Sometimes he would be gone for weeks at a time, doing church work, his faithful companion at home looking after domestic affairs.

It was not uncommon for a man to come twenty or thirty miles to get Bro. Brower to preach a funeral, and he would saddle his horse and go with him. Sometimes the caller would arrive about the midnight hour, and very early in the morning the two would start on their journey.

He had the oversight of a number of churches during his time. In 1871 he was chosen as presiding elder of the English River congregation, which position he held until 1879, and during his administration the churches prospered and grew in numbers as well as in spiritual strength.

It was not then, as it is now, that people had papers and books to read, but what books he did have were along religious lines. More especially was the Good Bible his constant companion. In it did he meditate much of his time.

I do not remember ever seeing him with sermon notes, but frequently he would say, "Brethren, read some Scripture," and then one of us would open the Book and read. He would begin at the same Scripture and give us a good sermon, and to this day we hear people say, "We never heard others preach as he preached."

He reared a family of eight children, all growing to manhood and womanhood. He lived to see all of them and their companions in the church of his choice, all his sons and his sons-in-law, save one, in the official body; also some of his grandchildren. Three of his sons (all elders) have crossed the river of death ere this.

While his work was mostly in the English language, he also preached some sermons in German, when it seemed best to do so. He did not live in the day of Sunday schools and series of meetings and opportunities such as we now have, but in his later life he did some work in Sunday school, and held a few short series of meetings.

He served his District on Standing Committee at Annual Meeting a number of times, likewise acting as moderator at our District Meetings.

His companion having passed over a few years previously, he, after much suffering, quietly passed to his reward at his home Dec 6, 1900, at the ripe age of 83 years, 2 months, and 26 days. As the wheat is gathered into the garner, so the Lord gathers his own to himself in due time, and their works do follow them.

His funeral was held in the old churchhouse, east of South English (which still stands as a living monument for the work of the pioneer members), conducted by Elders John Gable and H.C.N. Coffman, after which his body was laid to rest in the cemetery near by, to await the resurrection of the just. Peace be to his ashes!

I am indebted to Eld. Peter Brower, deceased, for preparing much of the sketch during his lifetime.

A.H. Brower

South English, Iowa

-----End of story from book-----

Also contained in the above mentioned book are brief biographies of the following Browsers:

C. M. Brower b. 9 Oct 1844, Augusta Co., VA, marr.
Lizzie Flory 2/w Susan Newland, d. 13 Sept 1906.

Peter Brower b. 15 Jan 1851, Augusta Co., VA., marr.
Sarah E. Stoner, d. 9 May 1914.

Samuel F. Brower b. 13 Feb 1863, Keokuk Co., Iowa, marr
Jennie S. Thomas, d. 9 May 1913.

Jacob Henry Brower b. 23 Jan 1897, So. English, Iowa.
marr., Lottie Keiser, d. 13 Feb 1920.

If anyone is interested in these biographies, they can
send a stamped self-addressed envelope to me and I will
copy the information for them.

If anyone has information about Susannah Wine or Anna
Miller, please let me know.

Betty Ebert of RD 2 Clearview Dr., Chester Springs, PA,
19425 has the following lineage:

John Brower Mar ?

B: 28 May 1834

D: 17 June 1920

Children: Anna b. 6 Oct 1861 Amsterdam, Holland

Jacob b. 1866 Amsterdam, Holland

John

Tom

(Jacob mar. twice. Had one son Elza L. by 1st wife. 2
sons Roy and Willy by 2nd).

Anna Brower Mar E. James Garner

B: 6 Oct 1861

B: 1857 in England

D: 2 May 1924

Children: William James b. 21 Apr 1880, Phillipsburg, Ks.

Sadie

(Sadie mar. ?? Ballard and had 3 children Helen, Leona
and Willie).

William James Garner Mar Chloe Melzina Milliron

B: 21 Apr 1880

B: 5 Oct 1886

D: 31 May 1959

D: 4 Mar 1971

Children: Leroy b. 3 Aug 1903 Mar. Ina Craig

Mable Ruth b. 4 Apr 1905

Floyd b. 16 Dec 1908 Mar Ann Palmer

Thelma b. 19 Sept 1910 Mar George Taylor

Mable Ruth Garner Mar.

Russell Ellsworth Dimon

B: 4 Apr 1905

B: 6 Oct 1905

D: 15 Oct 1936

Children: Wilbur Leon B: 29 Sept 1926 Mar. June

Bornbach.

Betty Darlene B: 6 May 1934 Mar. Charles Ebert.

Queries

From Mrs. Gates Collier of 7216 Wabash Ave., Dallas, Texas
75214

Her Father:

John Henry (Bro(U)wer, son of Jacob Mott Brower of Mt. Kisco, New York, son of Jacob S. Brower and Hannah ??). Both said to be buried in the Quaker Cemetery in Chappaqua, New York. Can anyone help fill in the blanks on this line?

Mrs. JoAnn Dyson of #6 The Court of Greenway, Borthbrook, IL 60062 has the following:

My ancestor was Mary Brower b. 1 Oct 1728 m. 10 Jan 1745 to Jan Willemse. Willemse thought to have lived in Elizabeth, New Jersey and Pa. They had a daughter and named her Mary Brower Willemse b. 21 Oct 1845 and she married Louis Kinney who was b. 27 Feb 1735 in New Jersey. They were married 5 Jan 1762 in Sussex County, New Jersey. Mary Brower Willious died in 1823 in Perryville, Ashland County, Ohio. (Willemse/or Williams). The Browsers, according to family "tales" were the Browsers related to the Annetje Bogardus estate. So far, no luck in finding a connection. Can anyone help with tying her Browsers to Bogardus?

Mrs. Derrald D. Ernster of 7957 Blue Lake Dr., San Diego, CA, 92119 has some questions as outlined below:

Seeking information about Annie G. Brower (nee) Hastings b. 21 March 1855 in Ohio. Married Jacob J. Brower 2 April 1874. Died 21 July 1883 Deep River, Poweshiek, County, Iowa. Who were her parents, brothers and sisters?

Does anyone know where I might obtain the book Eichenberg Genealogy, or this book could be entitled A History and Genealogy of the Peter Eichenberg Family, Church Center Press, Myerstown, PA, c. 1955, by Chas S. Ikenberry. Book contains many Brower names.

Christian Brower b. 5 Sept 1792, prob. Virginia; d. 28 Feb 1851, prob. VA., Marr. Susan or Susannah Wine, date/place unknown. She d. ca. 1831. 2/w Sallie Miller. His father Enoch Brower; mother Faronica Eichenberg. Children of C. Brower and S. Wine: 1) Jacob b. 10 Sept 1817, Augusta Co., VA., Marr. Anna Miller 24 May 1842, Augusta, Co., VA.; he d. 6 Dec 1900, So. English, Iowa. 2) Enoch-no other info; 3) Mary - no other info;

4) John - no other info; there were 2 more children - names, etc, unknown. Does anyone have information on Susan Wine or the last 2 children? Also need information on Anna Miller b. 2 May 1819, prob. Rockingham County, VA., d. 19 Feb 1897, South English, Iowa.

Incidentally, do you know of H. Paul Brower, 2600 A Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52405. I heard that he was working on Brower information for publication; however, that was many years ago. I wrote to him in 1969, but never received an answer.

From Mike Callahan of 9229 Loma Vista Dallas, Texas 75243 we have the following querie:

"Does anybody know the parentage of Abraham V. Brewer, B. Apr 19, 1791 in Mercer County, Ky and who married first Anna Cozine 1/11/1814 and second Delilah Rice on 5/17/1831 and who moved to Johnson County, Indiana about 1834. I am wondering if he could be a grandson of Daniel Brower and wife Maria Koning of Bergen county, NJ and who died in Mercer county KY in 1791. Also, could Anna Cozine be a granddaughter of this Daniel Brower through the marriage of his daughter Mary to Cornelius Cozine, The pastor of the Oonawago Dutch Community in York County, Pa."

Mona L. McFarren of PO Box 68, Roanoke, Indiana 46783 has the following querie:

Seeking all information: Parents, place of birth, etc. for Sussannah Brewer/Brower b. 22 Mar 1808 in Ohio d. 9 Jan 1880 Henry Co., Ind., Married George Moyer/Myers (b. Pa.) 18 Sept 1825, Wayne Co., Ind. George b. 25 Jan 1799 d. 22 Aug 1867. Buried Brick Church Cemetery, Wayne Co., Ind. Resided in Liberty Twp., Henry County. Living with Susannah in 1870 was Benjamin Brower b. 1817-1818. He married Elizabeth Becntell.