



# OFA Bulletin

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Oberholtz	Uberholtzer	Overholser	Oberheuser
	Overhults	VanHulser	Overhuls
Overhalser	Overhalt	Atherholt	Obold
	Uberholser	Overholtzer	Overholt
Overhulster	Oberholser	Oberholtzer	

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear OFA Members,

Hope this finds everyone well and staying safe in these uncertain times. Forecasts do not look good for the next several months and through this summer. Out of an abundance of absolute caution, the Overholser Family Association reunion will not be held as originally planned for the first weekend of August 2020. Depending on the course of events between now and March 2021, a decision will be made for next year's reunion with detailed information expected to be published in the 2021 Winter and Summer OFA Bulletins.

Here is more information about family tree research that might be useful:

Genealogy resource websites recommended as being reliable include: (1) Family Search provides limited access with free membership and premium cost membership accesses entire website; (2) USGenWeb.org is a volunteer effort to make records available for free; coverage varies by location in the U.S.; (3) FindaGrave.com has 141 million records available for free; (4) RootsWeb.com is a mix of free resource types and owned by Ancestry.com; (5) books.google.com is an enormous collection of digitized books and excellent source for county histories, unit histories and annual reports.; (6) www.GenealogyGems.com is the Library of Congress online genealogy site; (7) dp.la,digital Public Library of America, as a parternership of more than 1600 libraries across the U.S. with more than 11 million digitized items; (8) wefactyou.com provides access to newspapers as far back as 1752; and (9) your local public library offers access to excellent resources such as Ancestry.com FindMyPast, Fold3, Heritage Quest and Newspapers.com for just the cost of a library card.

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Welcome New OFA Members!!!

Mary Finkbinder, Sumter SC

Claudia Bray Ellerman, KS

### **New Way to CONTRIBUTE!**

You can support the OFA by visiting our website  
at [overholser.net](http://overholser.net) and clicking the Donate button.

We have PayPal for your convenience. Please e-mail  
[gmartin@overholser.net](mailto:gmartin@overholser.net) if you have any questions.

Family history is fun and thoroughly absorbing. If you like detective stories and have a mind for solving puzzles then it may turn into a lifetime of enjoyable work.

A final thought: There's much anxiety in the world, so why worry when you can pray? Trust the Heavenly Father who will be your stay. Don't be a doubting Thomas but lean fully on His promise of never leaving us and continue to always pray.

Michael Shrader, OFA President 2020-2021

*I will not live as a perfectionist.*

*I will not stifle growth in such a sterile environment.*

## ***When Government Documents are wrong.***

### **MV Mark Overholt from Ireland O Line**

The people of any country trust their government to at least not lie to them. That seemingly small and overlooked fact is the foundation for all civility. So when a genealogist, or just a family member, is searching legal documents which are stored by the government, they take the written information as gospel. And so it should be, *for the most part*.

Barbara Ford acquired the death certificates for some of the MV family before she passed away. They have not been looked at since 2009, as there is so much information to go through. Jan Williams of Hawaii wrote to me after the August 2008 Bulletin was released. She mentioned that George W Overholt's death certificate did not mention that he came from Ireland. She had sent along a copy of it, but it was only the upper portion of the certificate. Below is the full copy:

Mrs Lee R Overholt was the one who gave the information on George's parents. Lee R Overholt is the son of George W. Mrs Lee R Overholt's maiden name was Lydia R Galford. The date of George's birth in 1833 matches the genealogy records. But George's father, George William Overholt was born June 15, 1795 in Rockingham Co VA, and not Ireland as stated on the death certificate. Mrs Lee R Overholt had made a mistake in the generations when giving that info.

There was another mistake in the death certificates of this family. William H Overholt, youngest son of George William Overholt was born in 1841. His death certificate was signed by Mrs E W Hale of Princeton W. VA. Mrs Hale is MV404 Emma Gertrude Overholt, daughter of William H Overholt. She gave William's mother as Mary Stephens, which was correct. But she gave the father's name as Mark Overholt, which is his grandfather.

It seems rather odd that Emma married a lawyer, and yet made such a mistake. Yet we must remember that back in the early years of the United States, unlike today, families did most of their communications verbally. It is easy to mix spoken information, and here we have two examples from the same family.

**MV Marcus Oberholtzer** b c1760 was first found on the 1787 tax list in Rockingham Co VA. It has been suggested that he had a 1st marriage with a son Martin b c 1782-no further information.

Marcus came to America by way of Ireland, confirmed in death certificate of grandson George W Overholt.

m 12/12/1789 Rockingham **Margaret Armentrout** c1772 Rockingham VA - c1829

d/o John Heinrich Ermentrault & Mary Magdalena Bauer

REF: Mrs Jan Everly Williams, 47-164C Hui Akepa Pl, Kaneohe HI; Strickler: *Old Tenth Legion Marriages; Armentrout Family History*  
 Margie Overholtz Koutroulis, TX; John L. Overholt, VA

WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD  
 Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIAN'S should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

1 PLACE OF DEATH (Dist. No. <u>2821</u> ) (To be inserted by Registrar) County <u>Mercer</u> District <u>East River</u>		West Virginia State Department of Health DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS CERTIFICATE OF DEATH <u>6412</u> Register No. <u>50</u>	
2 FULL NAME <u>William H Overholt</u>		3 SEX <u>Male</u> 4 COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u> 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED <u>married</u> (Write the word)	
6 DATE OF BIRTH <u>10 19 1841</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)		7 AGE <u>85</u> yrs. <u>6</u> mos. <u>26</u> ds. or <u>min.</u> IF LESS than 1 day, <u>hrs.</u>	
8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed or employer. <u>Farmer</u>		9 DATE OF DEATH <u>5 15 1917</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	
9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Ir</u>		17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from _____, 192__, to _____, 192__ and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at _____, 192__ The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: (Primary) <u>Uremia</u> <u>185</u>	
10 NAME OF FATHER <u>Mark Overholt</u>		18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRAVELERS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) At place of death, <u>yes</u> <u>no</u> to the State, <u>yes</u> <u>no</u> <u>ds.</u> When was disease contracted, if not at place of death?	
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>Don't know</u>		19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Pinecrest W Va</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>5-17-1917</u>	
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Mary Stephens</u>		20 UNDERTAKER <u>Best Undertaking Co</u> <u>Pinecrest W Va</u>	
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>Don't know</u>		ADDRESS <u>Pinecrest W Va</u>	
14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Signature) <u>Mrs E. W. Hale</u> (Address) <u>Pinecrest W Va</u>			
15 FILED <u>5/18</u> 1917 <u>J. L. Bowen</u>			

**MV4 George William Overholt** 6/15/1795 Rockingham Co VA- 11/19/1874 Pocahontas Co WV  
 War of 1812 from Rockingham Co VA

He served in Capt. William Harrison's co. of VA militia from Rockingham in 1814.

m 3/25/1817 **Mary Stephens** 5/16/1800 Rockingham Co-3/6/1890,

bur Buckeye, Pocahontas Co WV

d/o Ludwig Stephen-Elizabeth Wolf: Both Bur Buckeye Presbyterian/Brice Ch Cem WV

REF: War of 1812 pension file; Mrs Jan Everly Williams, Honolulu, HI; Birth: Judy Sharp; Census Data; FHL Film804319 WV, M Koutroulis; The death certificate of George W Overholt states that his father George Overholt was born in Ireland. This may be a reference to his grandfather Marcus Oberholtzer.

**MV46 George W Overholt** 12/12/1833 Rockingham Co VA - Mar 26, 1919 86-3-4  
 farmer certificate of death: heart disease  
 m 12/30/1858 VA to **Mary McClure** 8/1834 VA - Dec 23, 1909 Buckeye WV  
 Both lived in Buckeye, Edray WV  
 He enlisted in Lewisburg WV, 36th Batt VA Cavalry; pardoned May 10, 1865 in Charleston WV,  
 5ft 10in, black eyes/hair

Son Lee forced to have George committed to Weston State Hosp for the Insane  
 REF: IGI batch 7104019-57 FHL 1235146; George's Death Certificate, signed by L R Overholt, Buckeye WV; Co Comm of Lunacy of Pocahontas Co; Letter by George W Overholt to his wife during the Civil War, copy in oFA Files

WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK. THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD. N.B.—Exact form of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

1 PLACE OF DEATH (Dist. No. _____) (To be inserted by Registrar)		West Virginia State Department of Health DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS	
County <u>Putnam</u>		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
District or Town or City <u>Edray</u> No. _____		Register No. <u>91</u>	
2 FULL NAME <u>Geo. W. Overholt</u>		If death occurred in a hospital or institution give its NAME (instead of street and number)	
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
SEX <u>M</u>	COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	3 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (Initials)	18 DATE OF DEATH <u>3 26 1919</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)
9 DATE OF BIRTH <u>12 12 1833</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	10 AGE <u>86</u> yrs <u>3</u> mos <u>4</u> ds or less than 1 day _____ yrs.	17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from _____, 19____, to _____, 19____, that I last saw him alive on _____, 19____, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at _____ m.	
11 OCCUPATION <u>Farmer</u>	The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <u>Ongoing Heart Disease</u> <u>157</u>		
12 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>VA</u>	CONTRIBUTORY (Secondary) _____ UNDERTAKER _____ (Duration) (yr) (mo) (da)		
13 NAME OF FATHER <u>George Overholt</u>	NOTE: State the Disease Character Described, its death from Venereal Disease, State Malaria, or Syphilis, and whether Acute, Chronic, or Recurrent.		
14 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>Ireland</u>	18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRANSIENTS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) At place of death: _____ yrs _____ mo _____ da. In the _____ State _____ yrs _____ mo _____ da. When was disease contracted, if not at place of death: _____		
15 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER _____	Former or usual residence _____		
16 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) _____	19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Buckeye</u> DATE OF BURIAL _____		
14 IN THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Declaration) <u>Mrs. L. R. Overholt</u>			
(Address) <u>Buckeye W</u>			
15 UNDERTAKER _____			
16 _____ ADDRESS _____			

**MV461 Lee R Overholt** b 10/14/1859 Buckeye - Nov 13, 1940 WV farmer cod: apoplexy  
 m 10/27/1880 **Lydia Ruth Guilford** June 7, 1868 WV - Feb 23, 1933 64-8-16  
 d/o John Guilford of VA & Mary Simmons of WV Couple lived Buckeye, Edray Dist. WV  
 REF: write-up by Paul & Helen Overholt ; Mrs Jan Everly Williams, Honolulu HI; Lydia's Death Certificate

**MV40 William H Overholt** 10/19/1841 Rockingham - 5/15/1927 Princeton farmer  
cod: complications from fractured thigh  
1st m 1/15/1863 Pocahontas Co WV **Mary Jane McNeill**  
William was a Dry Goods Merchant  
2nd m Mar 25, 1914 Mercer Co WV Roxie L Young ca 1870 WV -

REF: Rebirth of the Old Dominion, cited by Patrick Wardell in *Virginians and West Virginians*; On William's death certificate, Mrs E W Hale names Mark Overholt as father & Mary Stephans as mother, mixing two generations.

**MV404 Emma Gertrude Overholt** b 12/ /1873 WV -  
m 12/26/1901 Greenbrier Co to **Elbert Webster Hale** 1840 - Aug 3, 1935 64-9-2 lawyer  
s/o James W Hale of Va & Catherine Fillingner of VA  
bur Oakwood Cem, Princeton WV  
Couple resided at 104 Circle Street, Princeton, East River Dist, Mercer Co WV cod: apoplexy

REF: Elbert's Death Certificate

When searching for old documents, we need to remember -----  
**the government did not make the mistake(s).** The government does not have the time or resources to proof read everything they are told. They expect the person giving information to state the truth. Besides it is against the law to mislead the government. In a situation like this, we need to put away the judicial accusations, and work out a reasonable conclusion to what has been found.

In this situation with the George Overholt family, the wives were going by what they heard being said many years before. Did they misunderstand from the beginning? Or did time miscue the facts, and she overlaid a generation? There are no concrete answers to such questions. But it is most probable that the information is correct to the degree that Marcus Overholt had come from Ireland.

*My boss is looking for a simple yes or no,*

*But I am looking for a red shift.*

## **An Encouraging Report from Italy**

Testimony gathered by Gianni Giardinelli, translated by Giuseppe Pellegrino  
Permission by Pastor Wane Lawton, OFA member

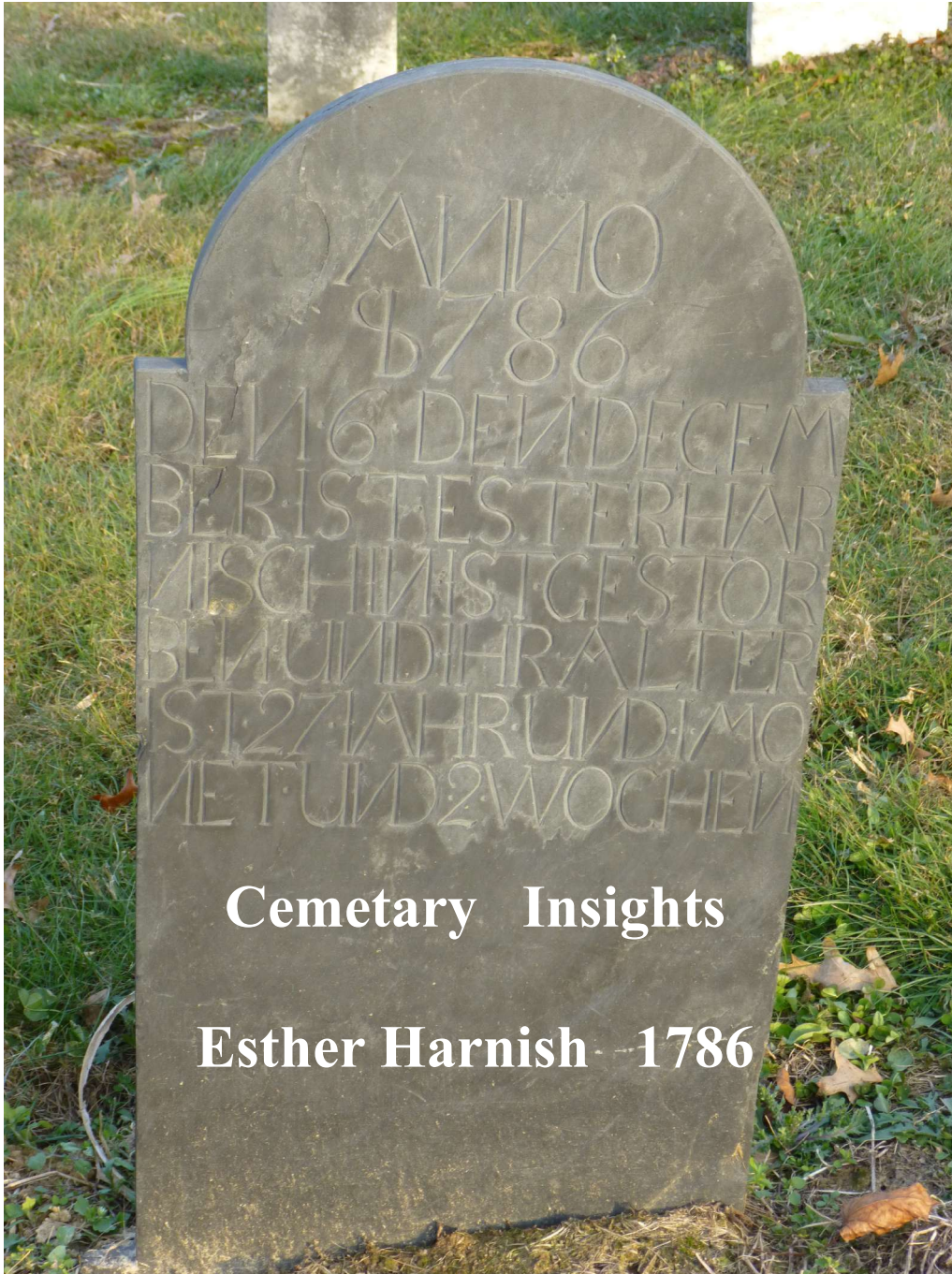
A 38 year old atheist physician in Lombardy Italy is seeing God in all the darkness and chaos there: "Never in my darkest nightmares did I imagine that I would have seen and lived through what has been happening here in our hospital for the last three weeks. And the nightmare only grows; the river becomes bigger and bigger. At the beginning only a few arrived, then dozens, and then hundreds, and now we are no longer doctors, we have become mere sorters who decide who should live and who must be sent home to die; even if they are people who have paid Italian taxes for their whole life. "

"Up until 2 weeks ago, my colleagues and I were atheists. This was normal because we are doctors and we have learned that science proves that God does not exist. I always laughed at my parents when they went to church. Nine days ago, a 75 year old pastor came to us for medical help. He was a kind man, he had grave respiratory problems, but he had a Bible with him and it impressed us that he was reading the Bible to the people who were dying and holding their hands. We were all tired, discouraged doctors, psychologically and physically spent, and so we found that we were listening to him. "

"Now we must admit: as human beings we have reached our limits, there is nothing more we can do, and more people are dying every single day. And we are exhausted. Two of our colleagues have died and others are infected. We realized that we have reached the limits of what man can do. We need God, and we have begun to ask for his help, when we have a few moments free. We speak among ourselves and we cannot believe that we who were fierce atheists are now seeking for interior peace by asking the Lord to help us resist so that we can take care of the sick. "

"Yesterday the 75 year old pastor died. Despite the fact that in the last three weeks we have had over 120 people die in our unit and we are all exhausted and feel destroyed, he succeeded, despite his own condition and our own difficulties, to bring us a PEACE that we no longer hoped to find. The pastor went to the Lord, and soon we will follow him if things continue like this. I have not been home for six days; I don't know the last time I ate something; I realize my own worthlessness on this Earth, and I want to dedicate my last breath to helping others. I'm happy to return to God while I am surrounded by the suffering and death of my fellow men."

*Remember Life is Short, and a Higher Power is there for You!*



**Cemetary Insights**

**Esther Harnish - 1786**



Cousin Noah Oberholtzer Jr and I went cemetery hunting for two years back in the Ots. One Saturday, we made our way west to the village of Conestoga on the east side of the Susquehanna River. On the south side of the village is the Conestoga Mennonite Church and Cemetery. That is where the normal left.

There were three stone markers made of slate. That did not surprise me, for I knew Italian slate cutters had worked in the quarry along the river in the mid 18th Century. As we attempted to read the stone, the name Ester Harnischin caught my attention. I descend from the Harnish family in that area, who settled there in 1718, and had a liquor license since 1726 (Chester County Records), and one from Lancaster County in 1728. They sold rum to the Native Americans from Indiantown in the basement of their home, which now resides with the Conestoga Historical Society. Here are translations of the stone.

*The literal translation:*

Year 1786 the 16 of December Ester Harnischin died and her age is 27 years and 1 month and 2 weeks.

*The idiomatic translation:*

On December 16, 1786, Ester Harnischin died, and her age was 27 years, 1 month, and 2 days.

- both translations by past OFA President Kris Overholt's wife Kathryn

Seems uncomplicated. But the stone reads much more difficult. The word *Anno* is Latin. Also, *IHR* and *IAHR* both stand for the word year (Jahr in German), but begins with an I, which is Latin. *Wochen* is German, but not spelled the normal way. Ester is not our English spelling of Esther, and Harnischin has the Reformation style suffix *-in* which denotes the person to be female.

Another anomaly is that the stone reads like the ancient Mideast scripts. Words are not completed at the end of the line, and just continue on the next line. There are dots too separate the words, which did not occur in the ancient writings.

So what we have here is an Italian stonecutter enscribing German with an English alphabet!

## Harnish Woods in Canton of Zurich, Switzerland

The grove of trees *oberhalb Klein Baterswil* was the homestead of the Harnish family. In 1541 the place is listed in German as *Heisst 1541 Harnatzholz*, and in 1788 as *Hornetsholz*. It was the wooded place where the hornets lived.

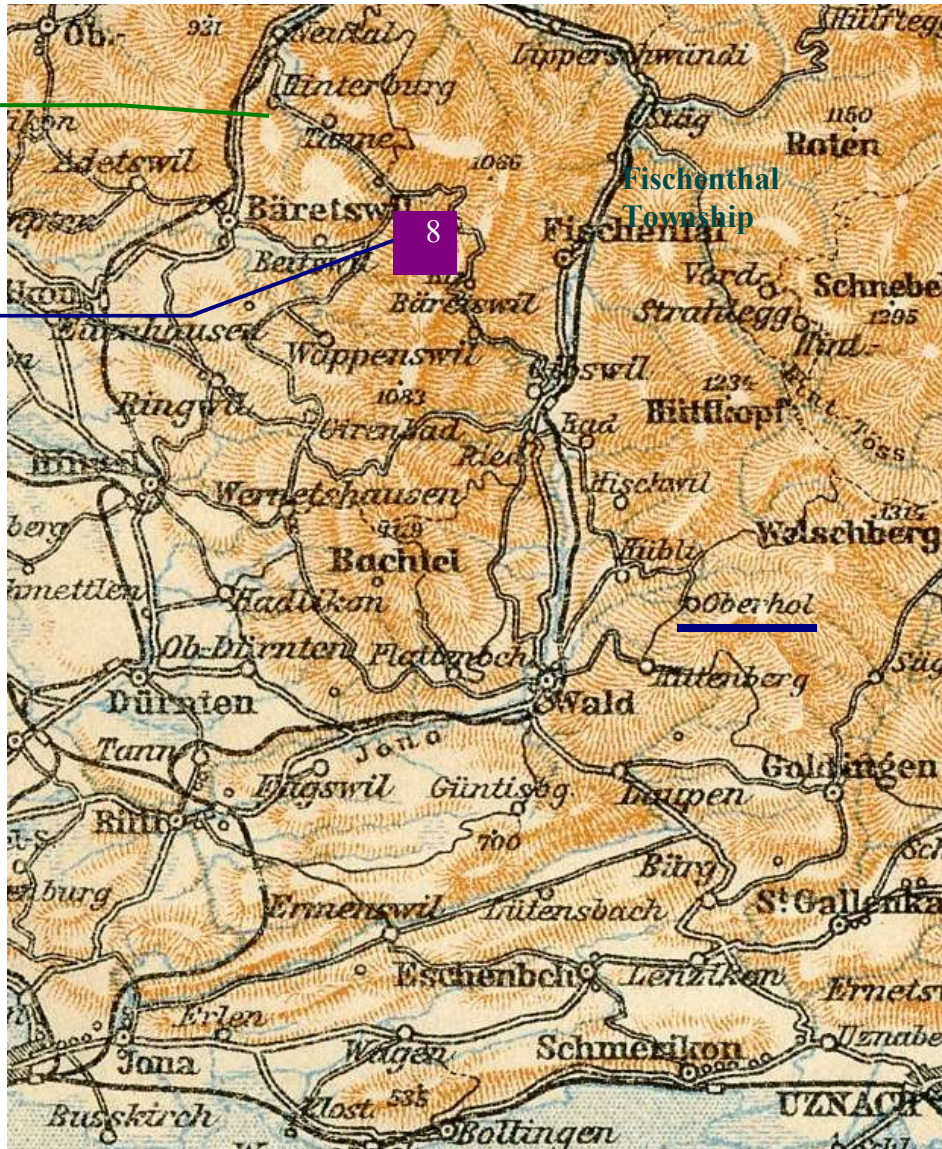
- Pg 304 *Unser Baretswil*, 1983 A Sierszyn, translated by the Editor, OFA

Ruti and Habaeker Homesteads

Harnish grove of trees and house above

Oberholz to the far right above purple line.

Map from Baedeker's Switzerland



## *Obituaries*

**Mary Ellen Longenecker**, died April 18, 2020, wife of Dale Longenecker of Mountville PA. SL Line

**Eldon Field** passed away Aug 3, 2012, and his wife Sue known as Margaret Lucy Suzannah Overholser, d/o Ora Overholser of AV Abraham Line, passed away Nov. 16, 2006

- David E Field, Chesterfield VA

**Richard S Overholser** June 9, 1927 - January 26, 2020 Fishers I N & North Port FL, Survived by wife Joan, son Richard R Overholser of South Bend IN, Robert F Overholser of Quincy IN, and daughter Sara Tharp of Noblesville IN, and sister Joan Houghton of Iowa City Iowa. - Dau-in-law Laura Overholser, Quincy I L

**Claud J Bray, DC** Feb 5, 1925 - Oct 6, 2017 772 N Illinois, Wichita KS and his wife Eleanor Jane (Emrich) Bray d/o Sherman & Zella Oberholser Emrich Nov 19, 1923 - July 10, 2018 She was last of 15 children. Both died at home

*Sent in by Jennie Sperling:*

**Carrie Tyson Wenger**, June 7, 1925 - Feb 14, 2020 age 94 Souderton PA, d/o Jacob Aaron Tyson and Carrie Overholt, and youngest of 5 siblings.

*Sent in by Patrick McGarry:*

**Pearl F Johnson** May 8, 1931 Cable OH - Mar 16, 2020 Springfield OH s/o Kenneth & Naomi Apple Johnson. Survived by wife Wilman Sagle Johnson, son Gary & Jacquelyn Johnson, daughter Pam & Steve Weaver; dau-in-law Debra Johnson

**Floyd E Foureman** Dec 15, 1922 Darke Co OH - April 25, 2020 Greenville OH  
s/o Howard L & Carey Wogoman Foureman, preceded by wife Betty Howe

**Donald W Overholser** Oct 12, 1945 - April 22, 2020 Casstown OH s/o Sylvan & Louise Miller Overholser; survived by wife Carmen Jones Overholser & 4 ch: Tanya Kingrey, Jon Overholser, Linda Lemon, Tia Thacker, and sister Linda O Blumenstock

### **Living and Caring**

Jim and son Trace Oberholtzer, where Trace works at Landis Homes as Human Resource Manager. Keep Safe as you are overworked.

## WHO IS Sarah G Overholtzer 1761 - 2/16/1793? buried Carpenter Family Burial Grounds, Adams Co PA

JL Jacob Oberholtzer died in 1755, so she could not be his daughter.  
She would not be d/o JL2 Samuel, for Sam was not married till 1765, unless he had another wife.  
Sarah would not be d/o JL3, who stayed in Lancaster County PA.  
JL4 Christian is mysteriously 19 yrs older than his wife. Are we missing a generation?

*This Sarah is the d/o Isaac Overholt who was in Frederick Co MD before going to CANADA.*

**IC8 Sarah Overholt** m **Rudolph Swartz**

*Since Sarah is married, she would not have retained the surname Overholt. So this is a different Sarah than Sarah G Overholtzer.*

**JBsr5. Henry Oberholtzer** est 1745, or later if a change of life baby - - referred to by JB6

*This Henry may possibly be the father of HA Henry. But there is no evidence at this time.*

JF14 Henry cannot be related to HA Henry Overholser

*The following couple provides the legal connection between the JA and CA Lines:*

**JA6 Samuel Overholser** 3/7/1774 - 8/10/1832 m **Lucy \_\_\_\_\_** 11/4/1779 - 8/7/1861

1820 Samuel was made guardian of children of CAS Christian Overholser d 1819 Adams Co PA

both bur Hampton Lutheran & Reformes, Reading, Adams Co 8 children living 1834

Orphan Court Rec shows Samuel's land was sold to Lucy Nov 24, 1834 for \$14 per acre.

REF: Adams Co Will #1678, 1832 ; 1834 Tax List

*The following Sarah A Overhalt II could not have been Sarah G Overholtzer; the wife of John H Newcomer because John's son David was born in 1824 and Sarah was only a child, unless an earlier family tracer entered a wrong date.*

**CA7 Sarah A Overhalt II** c1816 (wrong date) - 3/20/1832 ?1<sup>st</sup> m **Samuel Weaver**

m **John H Newcomer** 1773 Yoik Co - 7/12/1843

8 children Moved to German Twp, Fayette Co 1808; bought 133 & 230 acres

John's father was Ulrich Newcomer of Corgemont, Bern SWI, immigrated on Phoenix 10/1/1754. Executor on Ulrich's will was Benjamin Hershey of Lancaster County. This close tie makes Sarah an Overhalt **much more likely than Sarah Garber.**

REF: OFA Bulletin 2/08, Pg 14; OC Adams Co April 10, 1820 pg 356; Barbara Ford's notes; OFA Bulletin Aug 2009

**CA71 Uriah Newcomer**

m **Elizaebeth Messmore**

**CA72 John Newcomer**

**CA73 Samuel Newcomer**

m **Elizabeth Ache**

**CA74 Nancy Newcomer**

m **Simon Snyder**

**CA75 Elizabeth Newcomer**

m **Charles Brownfield**

**CA76 Joseph Newcomer**

m **Mary Ann Sessler**

**CA77 David Newcomer** 1824 - 5/15/1898

m **Abigail Sessler** - 9/25/1900

David received 230 a farm

*JA0 Henry Overholser cannot be from the HA Line, as seen below.*

**JA0 Henry Overholser** 8/7/1786 - 2/11/1853 Adams Co 66-6-4 both bur East Berlin Trinity Church  
m1834? **Sarah** \_\_\_\_\_ 11/10/1791 - 11/10/1877 86-0-0  
executor of Henry's will was George & Henry King  
1834 M King transferred 4 acres to Henry Overholser, a singleman  
Aug 20, 1849 Henry inherited all land in Reading Twp owned by brother Abraham Overholser  
1850 Catharine Bohn 21 PA lived with Henry & Sarah in Hamilton East Berlin Adams Co  
REF: Adams Co Will #3042, 1853; Gen Abstracts Adams Co 1852 - 1853 p51; Cem Rec East Berlin, Hamilton, Adams Co; 1834 Tax list

CA Christian Overholtzer was buried also in Carpenter (Zimmerman) Family Burial Grounds.

*Could Sarah G Overholtzer be a sister to HA Henry? Yes:*

**HA Henry Overholser** c1772 - bef 1803 m **Catherine Peterson** c1773 - bef 1803  
REF: Bible record - Mrs Ira Townsley, Severne Park MD

This Henry cannot be from the JA Line, for JA1 Abraham is a brother of Henry in Ab's will. If JAsr had another son, he would have been at least in his 50's at Henry's birth. But because JA6 Samuel became guardian of the children of CAS Christian Overholser who died 1819, the two families must have been close, and they both did live in Reading Twp. Adams Co.

*This still leaves the question open for the connection to Sarah G Overholtzer and HA Henry.*

**HA1 Christian Overholser** 9/30/1795 York Co PA - 11/5/1875 PA 12 children, 7 d infancy  
m 8/16/1818 First Trinity Ref Church, York Co, **Elizabeth Kann** 3/24/1796 - 4/3/1869  
d/o Daniel Kann 10/2/1770-4/17/1853 m1790 Christina Lauch c1771-4/13/1834  
grd-s/o Henry Kann of Lancaster Co PA  
Christina Louch is d/o George Louch of York Co PA  
both bur Moore's Methodist Ch, Fairview Twp, York Co PA Christian was orphaned and sent to a private home  
where he was mistreated and ran away from Adams Co to York Co  
Christian's tombstone reads: Peaceful by thy silence slumber  
Peaceful in the grave so low.  
Thou no more will join our numbers  
Thou no more our songs shalt know.

Elizabeth's tombstone reads: Oh Mother Dear a short farewell that we may meet again above and rove where angels  
love to dwell where trees of life bear fruit of love.

REF: Loomis MSS 2500 WRHS; 1st Trinity Ref, Part 12, Roll 141-142 & 31, 230; Mrs Ira Townsley, Daniel Overholser Family Bible

Since the findiing of a missing Christian Overholser generation, this leaves the possibility that HA and CA are related, and that Sarah G is related. And is Sarah G a Garber?

More to Come if more circumstantial evidence can be found.

## From: Descendant Report for Milton Overholtz Renner

**IC173 Milton Overholtz Renner** 1/30/1846 Cavetown, Washington MD USA -  
died 3/25/1915 Frederick MD at the age of 69 years 1 month  
s/o s/o Isaac Renner and Sophia Wolf  
m 1867 **Mary Louise Stull**

**IC1731 Laura Jo Virginia** 1/31/1869 New Midway MD - 7/1/1941  
m 1887 **John Burnside Sweeney**  
2nd + **Thomas N Wire\***

**IC17311 Lulu I Sweeney** 11/18/1888 Steelton, Daulphin Co PA - 5/20/1979 Broward FL

**IC17312 John W Sweeney** 1890 - 1953

**IC17313 Bert Brunt Sweeney** 3/23/1896 - 6/30/1967 OR

**IC17314 Anna Irene Sweeney** 1898 - 1910

**IC17315 Frances Catherine Sweeney** 5/30/1902 - 7/12/1995

**IC17316 Zoe V Wire\*** 11/22/1908 - 12/18/1977 Brunswick, Frederick MD

**IC1732 Margaret Isabelle Renner** 10/6/1870 New Midway, Frederick MD -  
died 4/7/1936 Thurmont, Frederick MD 11 children

**IC1733 Clara Ann Renner** 9/5/1872 New Midway MD - 9/8/1944 Frederick MD  
m 1911 **Milton Oliver Smith**

**IC17331 Charles Russell Smith** 1/5/1912 MD - 4/14/1938 Frederick MD

**IC17332 Garnetta Virginia Smith** 9/7/1913 - 4/23/1999 Frederick MD

**IC17333 Wilbur Benjamin Smith** 9/9/1914 Woodsboro MD - 3/2/1982 Frederick MD

**IC17334 James Alton Smith** 9/9/1914 twin - 4/11/1979 Walkersville, Frederick MD

**IC17335 Henry L Smith** 1919 - 1923

**IC17336 Norman Clay Smith** 9/23/1916 - 10/22/1980

**IC1734 Benjamin Abraham Renner** 1876 - 2/11/1934  
+ Miriam Idella Love

**IC1735 Theodore Ellsworth Renner Sr** 12/14/1881 New Midway, Frederick MD  
died 1/18/1975 m 1906 **Minerva Catherine Vanfossen**

**IC17351 Mildred Louise Renner** 8/13/1907 - 3/17/1998 York PA

**IC17352 Theodore Ellsworth Renner Jr** 11/20/1920 York PA - 2/20/1959 York PA

This family has been given to the OFA up to today. If you wish to see the entire line, let us know. It will be put in the IC Line on the Website at a future date.

## 2020 REUNION

The Overholser Family Association has decided to CANCEL the 2020 Reunion due to the age of many of our attendees, and the continued threat of the Covid 19 virus.

Please plan to come join us in 2021. We will try to plan an extra special reunion for that year. In the meantime, Stay Safe, Keep your head clear-minded, and enjoy the hunt for more ancestral stories.

### OFA OFFICERS

#### Lines

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### Articles for the Next Bulletin

Bruce McCrea has done extensive work on the JA & AB Abraham Overholser Lines. He has visited Maryland and Adams Co PA, as well as the Bedford Co area. We will look at how his research has harmonized immigration and homesteading accounts. And find out how a Dr is not a Doctor.

There will also be an article on Mennonite Indebtedness, how the world is indebted to them for bringing new ways of thinking to life.

**OFA REUNION, Southeastern PA,  
THE REUNION FOR 2020 HAS BEEN CANCELLED!  
HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!  
Plan a special trip to get to know your relatives next year!**

Check out the OFA Website: <http://www.overholser.net> or Contact Us at [info@overholser.net](mailto:info@overholser.net); or on Facebook: **Overholser Family Association**

If you need more information, contact one of the OFA Websites, or one of the OFA Officers.

**Send us your O meeting place and date so we can post it here in our Bulletin.**

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The Second printing of  
***The Oberholtzer Book, 1995 by Barbara Ford***

is now available. Price of \$40.00 includes shipping. It includes the first five known generations of Oberholzers in the United States and Canada.

Contact Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer for purchase information.

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### **The New OS European Line is now on the Website!**

All available records of Oberholz descendants from the 1500's to the 1900's in Europe have been tabulated and corrected from past records. This line is coded as the OS (Oberholz in Switzerland) Line on our website. American Lines which can connect to the European Line have Barbara Ford's coding system in brackets after the OS code number. This reduces confusion for those who are familiar with the present coding system, and yet allows a person to continue their line backwards to the first known Oberholzer, that of Farmer Oberholzer from 1438 CE.

*At times, my memory is thinner than a ghost.*