

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

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Children of Wilhelm Steffen and Angela Dillschneider Steffen

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Continued:

### **SUSANNA STEFFEN**

Susanna Steffen b. 06.05.1849 was the eighth child of Wilhelm Steffen and Angela Dillschneider. Susanna was born in Losheim Germany as recorded in the Losheim Family Book. It has been interpreted that she was born in Waldhölzbach which was actually the birth place of her mother. Her birth date has also been recorded as 07.05.1849 which was probably the date of her Baptism.

Two year old Susanna arrived in America with her family in 1852 and shown in ship's records as Susanne Steffen. Little is known about Susanna in my network of genealogy researchers.

The 1935 Diamond Jubilee Celebration book of St. Mary Church Alexandria, KY., records a "Susie Anna Steffen" (Sister Mary Louise, O.F.M) who was a daughter of the Church and entered the Convent in Oldenburg Indian. The Archivist at Saint Francis Monastery is unable to identify Sister Mary Louise. I have been unable to confirm that Susanna was a nun or was a member of the Order of Saint Francis.

Cemetery and Marriage records reveal no clues as to who Susanna Steffen might have been. Perhaps we will still discover more information about this cousin.

## **BARBARA STEFFEN**

Barbara Steffen b. 24.05.1852 was the ninth child of Wilhelm Steffen and Angela Dillschneider. Barbara was also born in Losheim, Germany. At just over three months old she began her journey to America as recorded in the Losheim Family Book, leaving there 01.09.1852.

Barbara arrived in New York 29 Oct. and the manifest was interpreted as “.09 infant”. It took them from Sept 1<sup>st</sup> until Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> to travel across Europe to Antwerp and then to arrive in New York.

Barbara would have been only about 5 months old. Perhaps the hand written .05 was incorrectly recorded as .09. Barbara must have died somewhere in their journey to Kentucky. We find no other local record of her life in America.

## **BARBARA STEFFEN**

Barbara Steffen was the tenth child of Wilhelm Steffen and Angela Dillschneider. This Barbara was born 6/ 9/ 1853 in Camp Springs KY. Her Baptism is recorded at St. Joseph Church 6/ 9/ 1853, the same day as her birth. Sometimes a family chose to name another child with the same name as a recently deceased child.

Angela must have become pregnant just before leaving Germany. She would have traveled an ocean and two continents with an infant who was born just 12 months before this Barbara. Unfortunately this Barbara did not survive to adulthood either. Barbara died 6/ 23/ 1856 at the age of three years old. She was reportedly buried at St. Joseph Cemetery, Camp Springs Ky. I am unable to find her grave there or in any of the other cemeteries of Campbell County. Since many of the cemetery lists have been recorded by researchers who mapped the cemeteries from the location of headstones, it is not unusual if a cemetery does not list a certain person. Barbara either never had a headstone or it is covered or destroyed through the years before Historians recorded cemetery information.

## **MARGARETHA STEFFEN**

Margaretha Steffen was the eleventh and last child of Wilhelm Steffen and Angela Dillschneider. Margaretha was born 9/ 16/ 1856 four years after her family arrived here in Camp Springs, (Four Mile) KY. Sometime during her youth the family moved to the farm in Alexandria Ky. Here she must have enjoyed the attention of her older siblings. At the age of 23 Margaretha married John Kramer on Oct. 28, 1879 at St. Mary Church Alexandria KY. Twenty five year old John Kramer was born 8/ 31/ 1854 in Camp Springs Ky.

Just four years after their marriage, tragedy struck this couple when John Kramer died on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1883 at the age of 29.

After John's death Margaretha lived another 59 years. She died at the age of eighty one – 4/ 1/ 1938. Both John and Margaret are buried in St. Mary Cemetery, Alexandria KY.

As far as my sources have recorded, John and Margaretha Kramer had one child named Maria Angela Kramer. Little is known to me about descendents of their marriage.

John Kramer was the son of Anton Kramer b. 31.03.1821 – d. 4/ 30/ 1874 and his wife Rosalia Schwerzler b. 28.09.1825 – d. 5/ 17/ 1885.

The Kramer name has gone through a spelling evolution through the years. In the German records it can be found as Krämer (a shop keeper or one who travels from village to village, recorded as early as 1294). The “ä” becomes Kr(ae)mer in America. From there it can be found recorded as Cramer, Kremer, Kramer. Here in America the name has also been recorded with various spelling in the same family. Sometimes we pick up on a record and carry that through our writings. Often we may also use the German recorded name, eg. Margaretha when modern records would read Margaret. Accuracy is always our goal but sometimes we fail as a result of a typo or a recorded spelling or date.

This Kramer family is no stranger to the Steffen Family. John was the second child of at least seven children of Anton and Rosalia Kramer.

They must have lived close to the Woeste family, very close.

John's brother William Kramer b.1856 married Sophia Woeste b.1862.

John's brother Anton William Kramer b.1860 married Anna Angela Woeste b.1865.

John's sister Magdalena Kramer b.1863 married Peter Woeste b.1863.

John's sister Carolina Kramer b.1867 married Peter Woeste b.1863 after the death of her sister Magdalena Kramer.

Sophia Woeste, Anna Angela Woeste, and Peter Woeste are all children of John Bernard Woeste and Angela Steffen Woeste (sister of Margaretha Steffen Kramer). Are we confused yet? I am. Let's try to sort it out.

Angela Steffen married John Bernard Woeste.

Angela's sister, Margaretha Steffen married John Kramer.

John Kramer's siblings married into the Woeste family, children of their sister-in-law's sister. No, there was no blood relationship in these marriages. That did however make their brother's wife (sister-in-law) their aunt by marriage.

This is just another example of the Four Mile relationship of our great German roots. We can be proud of our ancestry.

I thank family researchers and cemetery recorders who have contributed to this writing of our family history.

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