

MY  
MEMORIES

by

Hulda E. Schlapfer

IN LOVING MEMORY

This is in memory of my father who was born in the village of Archbold, Ohio on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 1850 and who lived here for nearly 89 years. He was born in a log cabin, the third child of George and Nancy Ditto Leininger.

Hulda E. Schlapfer, 1966

THEY NAMED HIM AARON.....

His parents gave him that name because it was biblical and also at that time they knew of no other Leininger by that name.

Aaron had a number of brothers and sisters--there were eleven in all. The first child was a brother named John who died when he was only fourteen. He was helping his father dig a ditch and caught cold which developed into pneumonia causing his death.

Then came Andrew, born in 1849 in May. He grew up in this village. He helped with the work on the farm until he was about seventeen. My father, Aaron, and Andrew worked on the railroad for a number of years. Later, Andrew, the older of the two, married a school teacher by the name of Phoebe Strubel. Her father was a preacher who, with his family, lived near Ridgeville Corners, Ohio. Andrew and Phoebe had two children. The older was a daughter named Bertha. Bertha married Lee Saunders from the village of Springdale, Arkansas, where they then resided. Bertha and Lee Saunders had two children. Dorothy, the elder, married a dentist, Dr. E. L. McNally. A son, Gust Saunders, a veteran of World War II, also married.

Andrew and Phoebe Leininger had a son Charles who was a veteran of the Spanish American War of 1898. He and his wife later taught music in a conservatory in Oakland, California.

Andrew and Phoebe lived on a farm near Springdale, Arkansas. Phoebe studied medicine and became one of Arkansas' few women physicians. She took care of the sick for many miles around Springdale, answering calls for help any time of the day or night. She had an office in Springdale where she took care of her patients. She assisted in many births during those horse and buggy days. She was highly respected in her town and community.

My father, Aaron Leininger, learned the wagon-making trade from his uncle, Lewis Theobald, whose wife, Sarah, was a daughter of George and Susan Folk Ditto. Sarah Ditto Theobald was a sister to my father's mother, Nancy Ditto Leininger. Lewis had a shop in Bremen, Indiana. Father left his parental home and went to his aunt and uncle's place to work at the wagon-making trade. While there he became sick with typhoid fever and stayed until his aunt could nurse him back to health. After he was able to travel he came back to Archbold. Later he went to Toledo and worked in a soap factory. After that he worked in a door and sash factory. While working in that city he had the opportunity to join the old Milforsted Band, which he enjoyed very much. Many times when he would speak about the olden days, usually after our noon meal, he would mention the names of the young men who played in the Milforsted Band, "Joe Rohner" was one name--the others have faded from my memory.

Later, when he had some money saved, he came back to Archbold and started a wagon-making business. He built many wagons, bobsleds, also mudboats, and in the early days he built buggies. Now and then he would build a covered wagon for some of the men and women who had the fever to go west. He also made wheelbarrows and other farming implements for the farmers in German Township.

He was married to Emma Base, daughter of Andrew and Frederica Koyna Base, on July 2, 1875 at the Base farm home in Clinton Township, Fulton County, Ohio.

A large crowd of invited guests were there to witness the ceremony, as Aaron and Emma had borrowed a horse and buggy and had driven all around the countryside to invite friends and relatives to come to the wedding.

While the day of inviting folks was still young, they drove to Wauseon and had their photographs taken. These pictures, in the same oval frames, are still in the family possession today in 1966.

#### MY GREAT GRANDFATHER DANCED.....

George Ditto and his wife Susan were also at the wedding. After the wedding dinner the young folks began to dance, and great grandfather Ditto showed the guests his talent for dancing which he learned in Pennsylvania when he was a boy. He was a rather small man but was quick on his feet. He was always jolly and was either hunting or fishing when an opportunity came along.

Aaron had done some work in his wagon shop for his grandfather Ditto. The amount came to \$2.50, and on the day of the wedding Ditto went up to Aaron and gave him the money he owed him. Since that was all the money Aaron had, he in turn gave \$2.00 to the minister, keeping only fifty cents for himself. But he and his bride were very happy and knew that if they would stay well they could manage to get along.

They received many useful gifts at their wedding, among which was a set of glass dishes which was given to them by Henry Hirsch, a good friend of Aaron's. His wife Emma prized these very highly and would tell us children, "Be careful of those dishes, they were a wedding gift to your father and me." And so we tried to be careful, at least we thought we were, but like most dishes they were finally broken. And when I dropped the last dish and it crashed to the floor and broke into a number of pieces, Mother exclaimed, "There goes the last of my wedding dishes!" I felt so bad to think that it had to be me who did it. However, by that time Father had saved enough money to buy a new set.

OUR FAMILY .....

There were five children born to Aaron and Emma Leininger, The first child was George born in April, 1875. He was baptized Andrew George, after his two grandfathers: Andrew Base and George Leininger, Sr., and also after his great-grandfather George Ditto. His family called him George, and his great grandfather would call him "my little Georgie"--he was only three years old when his great grandfather died. He attended the public school in Archbold until he was about fifteen years of age.

After that he worked for his grandfather and his uncle, Amos Leininger, on the farm, now part of the town. Later he went to Missouri to the home of his uncle, Philip Leininger, and worked on the farm there. And in that time he got to see the western country. But he only stayed there a few years and then came back to Archbold. He married Ida Merillat, daughter of Peter Merillat and wife. George and Ida started housekeeping in Archbold. They had three children. The first was a little girl who died at birth. Then next was another little girl and they named her Georgia Helen. She was born on a farm near West Unity, Ohio on April 3, 1913. She was baptized and confirmed in the St. Martin's Lutheran Church at Archbold, and graduated from the Archbold High School. In May 1939 she married Harold B. Campbell of Dana, Indiana. They immediately went to housekeeping in Indianapolis where he was employed. She has been a secretary in the office of the president of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Lutheran Church in America for many years. They have no children.

George and Ida had another child, this time a boy. They named him Clifford Donald. He was born in May 1915. He also graduated from the Archbold High School. He was employed in the Greenhouse for a few years and also in the Archbold Post Office. He married Iladeane Fish. Her parents lived here in town, then later moved to Bryan, and still later moved to California. Clifford and Iladeane had four boys: Lavern, Walter, Harold Dean, and Martin. Clifford is now living in Seattle, Washington and is a clerk in the Post Office there.

The next in line of Aaron and Emma Leininger's family was Laura Orpha, born in July 1878 in Archbold. When she was a teenage girl she often would go to the home of her grandmother, Nancy Ditto Leininger, and help her with the work. She was one of her grandmother's favorite grandchildren and would do many errands for Grandmother. Grandmother would often send Laura to buy some sugar or tea. She would tell her what to buy in Pennsylvania Dutch. One day she said to Laura, "Gae zum Levy und kauf mir zwee yard schwartzzer cattoon." In English, "go to Levy and buy me two yards of black cotton." And Laura, wide-eyed, would try to remember that expression "schwartzzer cottoon" until she got to Levy's store and by that time she had forgotten it. So it was back to grandmother's again to ask the name of the material. Grandmother would chuckle to herself but she never got impatient with Laura.

After Laura was about seventeen years old she worked as a waitress in the Vernier Hotel where she met Vernon Bailey, who's parents lived on a farm near Pittsford, Michigan. He was a telegraph operator for the then Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad. Later it was called the New York Central Railroad. He got his meals and lodging at the hotel where Laura worked, and they fell in love. They were married in June 1897 at the Lutheran parsonage by Rev. Peter Kluepfel who was then pastor. It was the evening of June 3rd and they were going to leave on their honeymoon that night on the midnight train for Denver, Colorado. After the ceremony they slipped out of the back door of the parsonage over to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Coon, where Vernon had been boarding, to pack up his belongings. And after they left the Kluepfel residence, the Pastor and his wife walked over to the bride's parents, which was just a few houses down the street, in order to fool the bellers. After they were inside the house, the bellers, thinking it was the bride and groom, gathered around the house and got ready to bell. But they were tramping on the flowers that our mother had planted, and Dad didn't like that idea at all. So he went out and told them in a stern voice how he felt about it, and the bellers went away, much to the disappointment of Rev. and Mrs. Kluepfel.

The bride and groom came back to our home to pack Laura's things. Mother had a lunch prepared for them and they left for the depot for the train; he with his young bride of not quite nineteen, and we had a new member in our family. To a little girl of ten, this was a great event, and to my parents also --although he was a "Yankee". He couldn't speak German, which was required amongst the people of our town. Still, we in our family circle thought he was a nice young man and we respected him.

After their trip back from Denver, and a stop for a few days' visit with Laura's uncle Philip Leininger and wife in Missouri, they came back to Archbold and started housekeeping in the Roedel house just next door to her parents where they lived that first winter of 1898. It was wonderful for that little ten-year old sister to sleep there with Laura at night, since Vernon worked as operator at night. One could wake up any hour of the night and see the blue flames in the hard-coal burner so near the bedroom...so warm and nice. Our own home was a good place to live as our dear Mother was a good cook and Father was kind and considerate to us.

There were five of us children. Our little brother Floyd was the baby then and a precious one, too. But time and tide wait for no one. The years go by and changes will come.

Our brother Harvey was next in line. He was born in September of 1880. They tell me he was as pretty a little child as one would ever see. He was so full of life and nearly always full of mischief as well. He was a busy boy and had likeable ways and a disposition to match. He had a nice voice and often would sing for various occasions in town. He also played in the band as did George, his brother, also Floyd, and before that, our father played in the first Archbold band.

Father wanted Harvey to learn the wagon-making trade, and he tried to do it. But it was too much for him to be under the watchful eye of his stern father, and the pay was too little for a growing boy of sixteen with big ideas. So one day he went away and found himself a job in Toledo working in a grocery store. After a year or two he met a girl he once knew who had visited her aunt, Mrs. Hardy Spicer. The girl was Mable Aumond of Waterville, Ohio, and they were married. They lived with the bride's parents for a few months. During that time, Harvey took sick and as soon as Father heard of it he took an Archbold doctor to Waterville to see how the boy was getting along and if the medication was proper, according to our home-town doctor's knowledge of medicine. When they found him getting proper care and improving, they left for home again. After Harvey was able to come back home, he and his wife came to Archbold to live.

In 1901 a little son was born to them and they named him Kenneth Lee. Later, Kenneth was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martin who lived in Maumee, Ohio, and at this writing Kenneth and his wife Helen live in Toledo. They have children and grandchildren.

Laura and Vernon Bailey were the parents of four girls: Vera, who married Walter R. Ferguson, lives in Bryan, Ohio--Walter ("Ferg") having passed away in 1961; Uarda, who lives with her husband Scott T. Hurni in Hicksville, Ohio; Coral, who married Ralph Dawson, lives in Napoleon, Ohio; and LaVerne who lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

In 1887 Aaron and Emma became parents again. Another baby girl; they named her Hulda Emelia. She lived with her parents the longest of any of the other children. She attended public school in Archbold and later learned the printer's trade. Fourteen years she worked at that trade in Archbold and also in Stryker. Later, after the death of her mother, she was at home for a while and then accepted a position as bookkeeper at the S. C. Nofzinger Jewelry Store. Then later, at the beginning of World War I, she accepted a job as bookkeeper at the Hub Grocery Store as the salary was much better and she wanted to keep up the home for her father's sake.

In 1920 she was married to John F. Schlapfer. John had been in the Army and during his service with the American troops in France he was in an accident on the way to the Metz Front. He was on a supply truck with two other American soldiers when the driver got lost and the truck tumbled over an embankment. One soldier was killed, one was badly wounded, as was John. They found him unconscious on the ground below. They rushed him to the First Aid Hospital right behind the Front, and kept him there until they could move him. He was in a hospital in France until after the signing of the Armistice. Then they sent him back to America with many other wounded veterans. They landed in New York Harbor where they received a rousing welcome from the citizens, among whom were many prominent people. After a warm welcome and a big dinner, they were sent to Louisville, Kentucky and stayed there until they regained their health enough so that they could be sent back to their homes. After a rest, and when he was able to work again, he got employment at the Acme Level Company. He worked there about four months. Then, William Kutzli and John bought a bakery.

On October 14, 1920, he and Hulda were married at her father's home by Rev. A. Stienecker. They stayed with their father as he requested and took over the responsibilities of keeping up the home and the work connected with it. They were a very happy threesome for eighteen years. Then Father passed away in April of 1939. Many happy memories are connected in living with our father. He enjoyed life in its fullest. He loved to sit by the table after our noon meal and tell about the olden days, and of his grandfather and grandmother, George and Susan Ditto. He also enjoyed going with us on picnics in the warm summer days and on other outings.

When Georgia came to our house to live he was very happy. And Clifford would come real often and he and his grandfather would play domino together.

#### CHRISTMAS AT GRANDPA'S.....

Father always enjoyed having Laura and Vern come to spend a day with us. Especially at Christmas we were all together. The Christmas gifts we exchanged! Not expensive ones, as times were different then. No one had but very little money to spend. But so much love was connected with it all, and each of us was in a happy holiday mood. Those Christmases were really times to be remembered. Ah, yes! Those were the happy days.

Vera and Walter Ferguson were always in for lots of fun and would usually have an extra "gift" for each member of the family, which when opened would cause shouts and laughs for some time. Even Father would enjoy those "fun" gifts. We were a happy group. The Christmas dinnertable was always loaded with good things to eat. And there always was a tree to enjoy. In the early days, Laura and Hulda would sing German Sunday School songs which the younger ones would enjoy.

Our mother (Emma) passed away in June 1914 and was not with us at these occasions, but I know that had she been with us she would have enjoyed herself as much as we did.



## OUR MOTHER.....

Mother was a good and loving person and did her part to the fullest to be a real helpmate to our father. She worked from early morning until late at night, sewing, mending, cooking so the rest of us could have clean and decent clothing to wear and good things to eat. She could prepare such good food from our larder that it was a joy to come home to eat with mother and father.

Mother's parents, Frederika and Andrew Base, came from Braunschweig, Germany, and when they came to Clinton Twp., Fulton County, they bought a farm between Wauseon and Pettisville, and there they raised their six children. Mother was the eldest of the children. She was born Feb. 27, 1853. Next came Andrew, Jr. who later married Nancy Losier. They had three boys and one girl. Then came Elizabeth who was married to Ferdinand Schmidt, a German. Then came Christian who married Edith Losier, who was a relative to Nancy. They had one daughter, Pearl. After Edith's death, Chris later married Mary Feldman Linfoot and they had two children, a daughter Walda, and a son Mervin. Mervin was in World War I and died while in the service of his country. Walda was a nurse and later married Jay W. Foote. Henry was next and he married a girl from Pettisville whose name was Pollet. She died while young, and Henry went to Mishawaka, Indiana and married again. They had a number of children but since then we lost contact with the family and so nothing more can be said of that family. After Henry came Anna. She was the youngest of the Base family. She married a veteran of the Civil War by the name of Louis Chase. He was a telegraph operator and taught his young wife telegraphy. After his death she kept the position her husband held, and later the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Company sent her to Tipton, Michigan. During that time she met Wilbur Deming and after a short courtship they were married. To this union were born five children, all boys, viz: Virgil, Seward, Harold, Ivan (now deceased) and Douglas. All have families. The parents, Anna and Wilbur, passed away and are buried in Michigan.

## OUR LITTLE BROTHER.....

He was named Floyd Ferdinand and was born May 4, 1894. He was a brown-eyed little child and when his hair started to grow it was curly. Mother would make curls for him which he bore patiently until he was big enough to play with other boys. Then he wanted his hair cut like his playmates. Mother agreed that she would do so, but first he would have to go with her to the photograph gallery to have his picture taken, as in those days there were no cameras around. At least we were too poor to own one, if there were.

So this he did, but as soon as they came home from town he ran for the scissors and cut off a couple of curls before Mother could get off her wraps. He got his hair cut then and he was happy.

Floyd started to school when of proper age in the public schools of Archbold. He graduated from school under Prof. Orr. He was in the high school quartet and in several school plays, and later in the town band. He worked with Father in the wagon shop. He married Elsie Lohse. They started house-keeping in Bryan where Floyd found employment at the Bryan Showcase factory. They also lived in Elmira for a while, Floyd being employed as lineman for the telephone company and Elsie took care of the switchboard which was in the house where they lived.

They moved to Painesville, Ohio where Floyd and Elsie worked at the same factory during the war years. They had two sons, Ralph who lives in Minnesota and Robert in Florida. Both Floyd and Elsie have passed away. Ralph and Robert were in World War II and both were in Army bands. They both have families: Ralph has one son and one daughter, and Robert has three children.

#### OTHER BROTHERS AND SISTERS.....

The next in line of George and Nancy Leininger's children was George, Jr. who also was named after his father George Leininger, Sr., and his grandfather George Ditto. He attended school on days when it rained, like most of the children of that day in Archbold. Later, after he was married to Jennie Spade, and bought his farm which was in Swan Creek Township, he built them a home and raised his family.

There were two girls: Amanda and Myrtle, also three boys: Edward, Rudolph and Albert. Amanda married William Osterhaut and they were the parents of fifteen children, and raised them all to adulthood. Myrtle married Ervin Kirshner. They had one son, Worthy. Edward was married to Fern Schawley who passed away some years ago but left a daughter Marjory. Rudolph married Bess Tucker and they are the parents of two children, a girl and a boy, both married and have families. Albert died when about two years of age.

The fifth child of George and Nancy was a little boy named Simon who was about two years old when he passed away. Both John, the eldest, and Simon are buried on the St. James Cemetery known as the Leininger Cemetery between Archbold and Pettisville.

Next was Susan who married Rev. Adolph Bergt, a young German Lutheran minister who was supply pastor after his father and grandfather who also served as pastors of the Leininger Church, then known as "St. Jacob's" congregation. Most of the members were either Leiningers or had married into the Leininger family, such names as Weber, Krauss, Fankhauser, and others.

Rev. Bergt and his wife Susan later moved to the western states, and were the parents of eight children, viz: Olga, Gotfried, Otto, Agatha, Alfred. (also a Lutheran pastor who is now retired), Ada, Paula (wife of a Lutheran pastor), and Esther.

Then came Amos, the seventh child of George and Nancy Leininger. He went to school in Archbold and later farmed his father's and mother's place. He was married to Mary Rakestraw and to this union were born two girls and two boys. The girls were: Ada who married Walter E. Hoy. They had three children: Paul, Walter, Jr., and Roberta. Then was Meta who married Frank Rupp. They had three children, two girls and a boy.

Rebecca was next. She was the eighth child of George, Sr. and Nancy Leininger, and was also married to a young Lutheran minister, Rev. Emil R. Schuelke. They had three children: Paul who married Alma Teichman. They have a family of children and grandchildren. Paul taught school in Fort Wayne, Indiana for fifty years. He was a parochial (Lutheran) teacher, and at this writing is living in retirement with his wife Alma, in Hobart, Ind. Then came a daughter, Ida, who also was married to a Lutheran school teacher by the name of Albert Wolkenhauer. They had a family of children, one son who also became a Lutheran minister, Rev. Alfred Woekenhauer.

Then Rev. Emil and Rebecca Schuelke had another daughter, Eleanor (Lola), who was married to Herman Pflughoeft, a mortician who has now retired. He also was Mayor of Hobart, Ind., for several years. They have two children, a son Eldor and a daughter Victoria, both married and have grown children.

The ninth child of George and Nancy Ditto Leininger was another daughter named Nancy, after her mother. She married Charles Heupel. To them were born two children, Charlotte (Lottie), and a son Raymond who never married. Charlotte was married to Elmer Vernier and they have one daughter Helen.

The tenth child of George and Nancy was a son named Philip. This son they wanted to be a Lutheran minister. And so they sent him to St. Louis, Mo., to attend college at Concordia. He was there for a while but could not get used to their meager meals, and so he left there and found employment in another part of the state. He worked on a farm and later married Virginia Custer. They became the parents of one son whom they named George. He married and to this union were born a daughter Virginia, and a son Philip.

The youngest son of George and Nancy was named Henry. He married Malinda Krauss. They were without children. They lived all their married life in Archbold. Henry was a painter and paper hanger by trade. He was very good in that line of work and was in great demand all over the town and surrounding country as he did his work well and was neat and particular. His wife, Malinda, passed away first. After having lived at the Lutheran Old Peoples' Home in Toledo for a number of years, Henry passed away at the age of 89 years. He is buried in the church cemetery near the Home.

All the children of George, Sr. and Nancy Ditto Leininger, except two, lived to a ripe old age. There are many grandchildren still living, also great-grandchildren.

OUR GRANDFATHER; GEORGE LEININGER, SR. ....

The name Leininger (Leiningen) originates from Alsace-Lorraine. There is a spot called Leininger Valley from whence several branches came to America to establish a home. Many came to Pennsylvania and other states as well, and so there are many lines of the Leininger family living in this country. We have a "coat of arms".

George Leininger, Sr. was the youngest child of Jacob and Margaret Leininger. George was eleven years of age when they came here from Europe. He often spoke of their stormy crossing of the Atlantic and their landing in New Orleans. He had four brothers and two sisters. The oldest brother was Jacob, who was married in France. He and his wife, Eva, came over after Jacob, Jr. had completed his term in the French army.

Then there was Michael, who married a young woman from Ohio and later moved to Iowa. Her surname was Fagley. Then came the twins, Fred and John, both of whom married young women from Fulton County. All were faithful members of St. James' Lutheran Church, then called St. Jacob's. Both Fred and John have grandchildren still living in and around Archbold, Ohio.

The sisters of George Leininger, Sr. were Catherine, who married Fred Krauss, and Margaret, who married Peter Weber. All had families, and there are many relatives of the Leininger-Krauss-Weber and also Fankhauser clan still living. Peter and Margaret Weber had a daughter named Margaret Ann, who married John U. Fankhauser. They had a large family.

George, Sr. was a faithful member of St. James' congregation all his life. He was eighty-nine years old when he passed away. He was nineteen when he married Nancy Ditto, who was only sixteen. They never missed church if it were at all possible for them to attend. George and Nancy would sit with the relatives unless Nancy was singing in the choir, as she often did. When the shape of the three-cornered (so-called) "buckwheat" notes changed to round, Nancy refused to sing in the choir, saying she could sing only "buckwheat" notes. Her parents, George and Susan Folk (Foulk) Ditto also attended church there until they joined the Reformed Church. Both are at rest in the Reformed Church's section of the Archbold cemetery.

OUR GRANDMOTHER, NANCY .....

When Nancy and George Leininger, Sr. set May 1846 as the date of their marriage, it was to be held at the home of the bride's parents (George and Susan Ditto). As the hands of the old clock were slowly but surely getting to the eleventh hour, the preacher who had promised to come did not show up. As they waited nervously, Nancy became impatient and talked George into going to Elmira, where they were married by the justice of the peace.

After the noon meal, when guests had partaken of Grandma Ditto's good old-fashioned cooking, they talked and chatted and laughed. About three in the afternoon, much to their surprise, the preacher walked in. No, he hadn't been mistaken in the appointed hour, but had got lost in the woods! (He had to come from near Defiance, Ohio, on horseback, and was unable to find the Ditto cabin).

After the misunderstanding was cleared up and forgiven, the preacher read the marriage ceremony to the young folks, and a new and happy couple began life together.

GEORGE DITTO.....

Our great grandfather, George Ditto, was the son of Francis and Eleanor (Gift) Ditto. He was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in the late 1700's. He had other brothers and one sister. One of his brothers was named John, and his descendants lived in and near Fulton County. A number lived near Wauseon, Ohio. Brother Sam died in infancy. Sister Catherine married George Markley and they owned a farm near Wauseon, where Eleanor, the mother of George Ditto, died. Her husband, Francis, died in Eden Township, Seneca County, where he was buried on his own farm, as was the custom then.

Eleanor was buried on the George Markley farm. Many years after her death, the stone was moved to the Wauseon cemetery by relatives who preferred having it in a proper place where it would be taken care of. I remember my father's speaking of a couple of his grandfather's brothers who came to visit him, but he had forgotten their names.

After the Dittos migrated from Pennsylvania into Eden Township, Seneca County, Ohio, near Tiffin, George and Susan, having heard about Fulton County land, thought they might like to live there. So George started out with his two dogs, a gun and a knife, and some flint stones to Fulton County. When he came to the spot now called Archbold, he decided to build a cabin. He got to work and after many days of hard struggle (and making friends with other settlers who no doubt assisted him), he finally accomplished his task of building.

Later George went back to Seneca County to get his family. Our grandmother often told her children how they would have to remove their shoes and stockings and hold up their hoop skirts in order to cross swells and streams without getting their clothing wet. Also, there were a few Indians still around whom the Ditto children were afraid of. Their father, George, made many friends among the Indians, and had relics which he got from them. He would always give the Indians something in return.

The George and Susan Folk (Foulk) Ditto family consisted of five daughters:

Rebecca, who married Jacob Deppler;  
Nancy, who married George Leininger, Sr.;  
Sarah, who married Lewis Theobald;  
Catherine, who married William Lewis;  
Mary, who married Charley Wright; and Martin, a son who never married.

MARTIN DITTO.....

He was plowing the fields in the vicinity of St. Peter's Catholic Church. He heard the troop train pulling in. He wanted to go to war with the rest of the boys from this vicinity. He didn't have time to find his parents and convince them that he ought to go, too. He just wrapped the lines of the horse with which he was plowing around a tree and cut across the fields and boarded the train with the boys going off to war. He never returned. He died of a fever and is buried in Chattanooga, Tennessee. His name appears on the roster of soldiers from Fulton County who took part in the war.

OUR GREAT GRANDFATHER, FRANCIS DITTO.....

He was born near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, about 1756. Names of his parents are unknown, as all records regarding his family were lost. He and his twin brother, Jacob, were reared by another couple. Their ancestors were said to have come from Ireland.

Francis joined the Pennsylvania Militia during the American Revolution and spent the cold winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge with General George Washington's troops. He was in the infantry of the second regiment of the Pennsylvania troops with John Robb's and Jacob Storey's companies under Colonel Walter Stuart. Higher officers were General Anthony Wayne and General George Washington.

When he joined, he was living in McCollisters Town, York County, Pennsylvania. When he left the service he went to Northumberland County, where he married Eleanor Gift. They lived in Northumberland County about thirty years, also in Pickaway County, Ohio, moving from thence to Seneca County, Eden Township. He died there June 25, 1849.

There is a sworn statement in the Archives of the War Department in Washington, D. C. which states that during the second winter in the service of his country he with about thirty others was taken prisoner at Newark. They were taken over the ice to New York and placed as prisoners in the old Sugar House for about three months, spending their nights locked in a Quaker Church. They tried to escape by digging a hole under a wall and a pavement, with only the jawbone of a hog to work with. When everything was ready and they awaited a dark night, a young Hessian soldier, a deserter from the British who had joined the American forces, disclosed to the British their hiding-place. Soon afterwards they were exchanged and rejoined the American Army at Fredericksburg.

When General Wayne took Stony Point, Francis was working at West Point at the large fort on the hill. He had mounted some of the cannon in use when Wayne took Stony Point. The largest cannon was drawn up the hill by sixteen yoke of oxen and about sixty men with drag safes. He spent one winter at White Plains and another at Fredericksburg.

While still in the service but near the close, Ditto was endeavoring to hold up a baggage wagon which had upset. It slipped and severely injured his hip. However, he was soon on duty again, but sustained permanent injury which resulted in his being a cripple for the remainder of his life.

Shortly before his term expired, there was violent tumult among the soldiers because they could not get discharges when their terms expired. Colonel Stewart was driven out of camp at bayonet-point. The soldiers marched toward Philadelphia to list their grievances. General Wayne was with them. Ditto saw repeated instances in which Wayne was apparently in great danger. The soldiers shouted all kinds of unkind things at Stewart. But Ditto states that he took no part in this, as his time had not yet expired. Since he had only two more weeks of service, Captain Whiteman and another officer gave them certificates of discharged signed by General Anthony Wayne.

Ditto also witnessed the hanging of the spies who were sent to them by the British.

Ditto drew \$240 for his services in the American Revolution; after his death in 1849 his widow, Eleanor, received \$80 a year.

Eleanor died at the home of her daughter, Catherine, whose husband was George Markley. She was buried in the burial plot on the Markley farm, and the stone was unnoticed by relatives until many years later, after the farm was sold and bought by other people. Other members of the Ditto family were buried there also, but great great grandmother Eleanor's was the only grave-stone still standing. This stone was later moved by descendants of the Ditto family to Wauseon Cemetery to the Solomon Ditto plot.

Francis Ditto was buried on the farm where they lived in Eden Township, Seneca County, near Tiffin, Ohio. He lies in a private spot overlooking the Mohawk road. It was said that a stone marked his grave at one time, but it has somehow disappeared through the long years.

Francis came about once a year to visit his son, George, and George's wife, Susan. It is said that he always brought them a gift of a hatchet or a saw or some other kind of useful tool when there was plenty of forest to chop down in and around Archbold. He remained very lame after his services in the American Revolution, for the remainder of his life.

When Francis and Eleanor Ditto lived in Pennsylvania, it is said that he dared not plow the fields without a gun on his shoulder for fear of attacks by the many bears roaming about, as well as Indians.

## LOVING MEMORIES.....

My father, Aaron Leininger, was a hard-working man at his trade; he was a wagon maker and was always busy. But he liked recreation as well. He loved to play in the Archbold Band in his younger days. He played a cornet and also, at times, he played a baritone instrument. The band did a lot of marching in those early years, and the children of our neighborhood would walk back of the band when they marched down the street.

W. O. Taylor was the drum major at one time. He was tall and would wear a high hat with a feathery plume on it, and as he would twirl his baton and throw it high in the air, the children would shout with glee. Those were the days of mud roads. So what if one's shoes got dirty and the children's bare feet got muddy? It was worth it all to walk behind the band down Main Street in Archbold, now called north and south Defiance Street.

Father also took part in the affairs of the town. He was on the village council for a while and was always interested in improvements. He was a member of the fire department, and active in church work. He sang in the choir of St. Martin's Lutheran Church for many years and also in the men's quartet. He was always generous to people in need, and in mission work. He would buy many needed items for my grandparents on mother's side and for our aunts and uncles of the Base family; and for other folks who were poor and in need of assistance.

## A MEMORY THAT STILL LINGERS.....

I remember one time on a cold wintry day when the snow was deep, and our family had gathered around the table for our noon meal. A rap came on our front door. Mother looked at me and said, "Hulda, you go and see who's there." So I opened the door and saw an aged man with tattered clothing, a cane, no mittens on his hands. He asked for a bit of food. Father heard him and told me to have him come in. Mother fixed a place for him at our table. She brought him a good helping of rich soup with plenty of meat in it, and some hot coffee and a piece of pie. The old man had the best that we could set before him. Then Father said to me, "Go and get him a pair of good warm mittens," which I did, as Father most always had several pairs of mittens on hand. That old man was so grateful that he thanked us again and again. I could never forget that instance.

Our parents read the Bible a lot, especially in the evenings. We had several Bibles in German, but only one in English which Father bought in 1873. That was two years before he and Mother were married. He made a fancy pedestal for it and the spot where the Bible rested was covered with velvet. It stood in the corner of our parlor for many years. At this writing the good book is still in my possession.



## THOSE SINGING BROTHERS! .....

Father's brothers, one who lived in Arkansas who's name was Andrew, one in Oklahoma by the name of Philip, also George who lived on his farm near Swanton, and Amos and Henry of Archbold--all had good voices. When the brothers from the west would come to visit, they usually would gather at our house and sing. I was elected to play the organ, which I enjoyed doing. They would harmonize for several hours. Our grandmother Nancy Ditto Leininger had a good voice also. She wanted an organ in her home and did not give up until she got one. Her children and her grandchildren sang well.

## BUTCHERING TIME .....

When the weather began to turn cold in the fall of the year, and Father was not too busy in his wagon shop, he and Mother would walk out to the place they kept our hogs which they were fattening for our winter meat, look them over and talk about the date for butchering. Then Father would say, "Well, Ma, you can figure on getting your bread and pies and cakes baked for about next Thursday, and I'll see if Amos, Henry and Sylvanus Walter can come and help--also Grandfather Leininger. Then you can drop your sister Lizzie (in Pettisville) a card to come and help you." So it was agreed.

When Thursday rolled around, the kettles were filled with water and hung over a big fire to heat the water for scalding the hogs after they were shot, and also for cleaning them. So the butchering began. Our grandfather George Leininger, Sr. was always on hand to help render the lard. The other men would cut the hogs into parts. One would cook the livers and hearts, etc. to be ground up into head cheese and other kinds of meats. The women would clean the casings which would later be used for the sausage meat. Then, too, they would prepare a good dinner at noon. One of the men would take care of the rendering of the lard while Grandfather would be invited in to eat his meal first. After he had rested in a rocking chair for awhile, he would get back to his job again while the other men came in and ate their dinner. The women folks ate last and then sat and rested a while.

After the dinner dishes were washed and some of their butchering chores were finished (such as getting the sausage-stuffing utensils ready and a large wooden tub nice and clean), the women would call Henry to come in as he was the one who always ground up the meat and added the salt and other seasoning. He knew just how much to add and it always tasted real good. Sometimes he would put in a dash of garlic, but our mother liked sage flavoring the best, and so did I, so he would season the meat two different ways.

He would also stuff the casings with the ground meat. When a nice long string of the sausage was finished without a break in the casing, he would say in Pennsylvania German, "Sell iss fer der Pfarrer" (That's for the preacher). Those days the ministers didn't get much salary, and a nice string of sausage was always welcomed.

The hams were soaked in salt brine and then later they were smoked together with the sausage.

All who helped with the butchering got two good meals and also a generous helping of sausage to take home to their families. There were no coffee-breaks

those days, but sometimes a pitcher of apple cider was passed around. That was about all they expected. All the close neighbors got a taste of our meat, and they would return the compliment in some form or another, which we always enjoyed.

#### THE OLD DAYS.....

After the winter months were over and the spring house cleaning was begun, Mother would empty the straw-ticks and wash the muslin ticking and put nice fresh straw in them for the beds. When no straw was available she would shred corn husks and fill the muslin ticks with the husks. It was so pleasant sleeping with the fragrance of the husks underneath one's head. And when we awoke in the morning we could smell the coffee cooking, and sometimes we could smell the pancakes and sausage sizzling on the old wood-burning stove.

Father would get up early those days and go to his shop to get his work done for the farmers. On his way home to eat his breakfast, he would stop at Wonser's meat market and buy some steak or liver and chat a few minutes with Fred, as they always had plenty to talk over and were good friends.

#### APPLE-BUTTER COOKING TIME .....

In our yard there were quite a number of apple trees which Father and John had planted and which produced a lot of fruit. At this particular time in the fall of 1930, we decided to take some of the apples to the cider mill and have them made into cider.

When the cider was ready we had a few close neighbors come in to help peel some of the apples for apple butter. We had a jolly oldfashioned time, and had a freezer full of homemade ice cream to serve them, also cake and coffee.

Father went to town early the next morning to buy spices and sugar, etc. Soon the day of apple-butter cooking had begun. Ben Short and his wife and their daughter Bessie came to help us.

After the apples, sugar and cider were poured into a big kettle, and the spices were added, the men took turns in stirring with a big wooden ladle. When one of them stirred, the other would sit and smoke his pipe, and they would talk about the old days when they were boys and life was still more primitive.

When the apple butter began to turn to a nice smooth texture it would have to be sampled. A dish and spoon were brought and some of the apple butter dropped in. After it was cooled and if it would have a thin skin over the top, it was about ready to be poured into jars for winter use.

Dinner was served at our house to all who had a hand in helping. Among the helpers were William and Priscilla Flory (the son-in-law and daughter of the Ben Shorts) who were close neighbors. Quite a few gallons of apple butter were cooked that day and though there was lots of work involved, we had a very enjoyable time.

## JUST ANOTHER INCIDENT .....

During the second World War things were rationed. John and I churned our own butter. We would buy cream and put in in an oldfashioned fruit jar which was smaller at the top than at the bottom. John fashioned a cover and a plunger for the jar to make a churn, and we had fresh butter always.

We would bake bread, coffee cake, biscuits and pies. There was not much work those days, and there was not much money to be made, but "where there's a will, there's a way."

Father had loaned a farmer some money. He could not get the interest, so we went to the farmer's home and he told us the only way that he could pay the interest was to let us have some sacks of wheat. We loaded up some of the sacks of wheat, took it to a flour mill and exchanged it for flour. The farmer payed the interest and we had the flour and went home happy with dreams of bread and pastry.

## GRANDMOTHER'S COOKING.....

Nancy Ditto Leininger was a good cook, according to the tastes of her children and grandchildren. She didn't have the opportunity to look at recipes from a woman's magazine or from a farm paper, or from a White House cook book. She baked bread and cookies, dried fruit for the winter. She also sewed and knitted, spinned and weaved, and washed by hand and ironed for her husband and children. She also made rag carpets for their home. There were eleven children.

There were three daughters, and as soon as they were old enough they had to do housework for other people who had more of this world's goods. They wanted nice clothes and things which our grandfather George Leininger could not afford to buy for them.

But we children always enjoyed eating at Grandmother's house. She would have chicken with mashed potatoes and gravy, also noodles and lettuce, and a cake she baked with jelly in between the layers. The cake icing was made from egg whites and granulated sugar, and when she wanted to do an extra good job, she would decorate the top and sides with red cinnamon drops. And there was a bowl of prunes and dried apples in the center of the table. She enjoyed seeing us children eat hearty, and our mother and father also.

## GRANDMA'S HANDS.....

Grandmas's hands were always busy making quilts and fancy pillowcases. After her death, at the age of sixty-four, her daughters looked at the hand-work which she had layed away. They found sixty pairs of fancy pillowcases, besides many hand-made quilts and hand-knitted lace on white aprons. Each daughter and daughter-in-law had a fine apron which their month had made for them.

For her son and sons-in-law she knitted wool scarfs. The predominating color was brown, and in between were stripes of dutch blue, yellow and red.

These gifts were all rewarded with hours of labor by her children and their mates. My mother would go and shock wheat during the wheat-cutting season, and she would do other things for Grandfather and Grandmother.

Father would make things out of wood for his parents, such as a box for shoes and shoe polish and various other things. He made a dry sink for his mother. The doors in the front of the sink had screening over them so she could keep the food at room temperature, as in those days there were no conveniences as ice boxes or refrigerators. Such things were unheard of in Archbold.

Father was a good mechanic in his day. He could make lots of nice things for the home. One time he made Mother a lovely center table for our parlor. It was round and beautifully fitted together in a pie-shaped pattern of walnut and maple. In our estimation it was the most admired piece of our furniture. Father had no turning lathe and wanting a round leg for it he hired Jake (Jacque) Bourquin, a settler from France, to make one. At this date (1966) the table is still in use in my home and is in perfect condition.

Handwork such as sewing and knitting, and various other kinds of work, seemed to be a joy to the women folks of our family. When I was a growing girl my mother was always busy knitting stockings for us children. And, too, she was always doing kindnesses for people in need or who were crowded with work. Where there was a sick child, or a mother who needed help and didn't know to whom to turn, there was our mother, standing in the doorway with a bowl of soup or a tasty dish of some kind. She also took care of many sick people and often would prepare some healing potion for them. She had scarcely any money with which to buy things, but she had a loving tender heart and she never failed to do for others if at all possible.

On June 29, 1914, at the age of 61 years, she left us all and is now sleeping in the Lutheran cemetery beside our dear father who died 18 years later. By her side are our grandparents, her father Andre and mother Frederika Base, also her brother Christian Base and his wife Mary. Also buried there are her sister Elizabeth and husband Ferd Schmidt and their daughter Alma.

But the hand work and the busy finger routine passed on down to the next generation. My only sister, Laura, was gifted in that line, too. She would sew for all of us, especially for her four girls while they were growing up and going to school and needed many clothes. While her husband was busy at the telegraph office at the C. and N. Depot, Laura was busy tending store. They owned a small but thriving little store in Bryan, Ohio, and also served lunches, as it was near the Ohio Art Company and the Van Camp milk cannery. At the outbreak of World War I, Laura started knitting sweaters and sox for soldiers, besides doing all of her other work. During World War II, she again knitted for the soldiers and spent many hours at the Red Cross sewing rooms.

Laura's youngest daughter, LaVerne, learned to knit and got to be very professional. She has knitted many dresses, sweaters, sox and mittens for her family and for others. At this writing she lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana and is employed as a hostess in the office of a prominent hearing-aid company. Laura's other three daughters were gifted in various ways also. Their fingers are always busy creating nice things for loved ones and friends. The love and

family ties were passed down from great grandmother to all the generations that followed.

There are many more happy memories of my family and relatives, but since God has already allowed me more than "three-score years and ten" on this beautiful earth, and since father, mother, sister and brothers all are sleeping, I, too, must be getting ready and wait in line for my turn to answer the call.

## Aged Citizen Summoned



Aaron Leininger

Aaron Leininger, 88, Archbold's oldest native-born citizen, and grandson of George Ditto, founder of the village, passed away in his home on S. Defiance street, Sunday evening, April 23rd, after a long illness.

Funeral service will be held today, Wednesday afternoon, at the house at 1:45 p. m., and at St. Martin's Lutheran church at 2:00, with Rev. P. Kluepfel of Perrysburg, and Rev. C. E. Spithaler in charge. Burial in ~~Archbold~~ cemetery. *Pittisville*

The deceased spent his entire lifetime in Archbold, was well-known throughout the community, being actively engaged in business until a few years ago, and served as wagon maker in an early day. He was active in community affairs, interested in the early history and growth of the town, was official greeter at Archbold's annual Homecoming celebrations, and had many friends.

Surviving are: three sons, George A., of Liberty Center, H. A. of Birmingham, Ala., and Floyd F. of Plant City, Fla.; two daughters, Mrs. V. B. Bailey of Greenville, O., and Mrs. J. F. Schlapfer of Archbold; nine grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; three brothers: Phillip of Stillwater, Okla.; Henry of Archbold, and George of Toledo; one sister, Mrs. Rebecca Schuelke of Hobart, Ind.

He was for years a member of the Archbold Band. Served on the village council and was always ready to do and say the right thing at the right time. He by his skill produced in his day hundreds of wagons, bobsleds, mudboats, and wheelbarrows, and supplied the public with vehicles in the horse and buggy days. In spite of handicap of fire, financial trouble and competition, he left a priceless reputation for honesty and thrift and neighborliness.

After more than half a century of acquaintance he will be remembered as a model citizen.

THE GIFT AND DITTO FAMILIES OF PENNSYLVANIA  
to Ohio

According to research, and notes in my possession, there were three brothers, HOHAN ADAM, PETER, AND JOHAN NICHOLAS GIFT, who were of marriageable age by 1760 in Pennsylvania. Just when the GIFT family first came to Pennsylvania, I do not know, as no such name of similar sound is listed in my 1965 Index Edition of I. Daniel Rupp's "30,000 names of Immigrants to Penna.", covering the years 1725-1775, when the shores of Pennsylvania became blockaded, due to the Revolutionary War.

We find the following references to the three brothers in the tax records, Vol. 19, 3rd Ser. Pa. Archives:

- p 55, NORTHAMPTON CO., Pa. Weisenburg, Twp. 1772  
NICHOLAS GIFT, Farmer, value of land 3.9.4  
ADAM GIFT, farmer, " " " 4.8.0
- p 117, Lynn Twp. is now in Lehigh Co. --  
PETER GIFT, owned and taxed for 200 acres, 2 horses, 3 cattle
- p 239, 1786 " " " " " " " " " " " "

According to histories, NICHOLAS moved his family south and west of Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., but I do not have the date of their change of residence. Many persons of the name are listed in and around that territory even in 1960 telephone books, and one lady some years ago was asking for information on her ancestor, JEREMIAH GIFT, son of NICHOLAS of Cumberland Co. So the name JEREMIAH is found among the descendants of ADAM and NICHOLAS GIFT.

PETER GIFT is recorded as being a clock maker and that he resided in late life east of Reading, Pa.

Of JOHAN ADAM GIFT we find the following tax records, which give us an idea of about the dates he moved into what is now near Middleburg, Pa. Vol 19, 3rd Series gives us these tax records:

- p. 411, years 1778-80  
ADAM GIFT, land valued at 485.0.0
- p. 450, 1781, ADAM GIFT, taxed on 200 acres, 2 h 3 cattle
- p. 500, 1782, " " " " " " 2 h 2 c 2 sheep
- p. 590, 1782, JACOB CLINE " " 150 " 1 h 2 c

NORTHUMBERLAND CO. CONTINUED,

- Tax records, Penns Typ. 1782
- p. 569, ANDREW CLINE, taxed on 50 acres 1 h 2 c
  - p. 570, GEORGE MARKLEY " " 200 "
  - p. 601, 1785  
JACOB ECKART, " " 50 " 2 h 3 c  
ADAM GIFT " " 200 " 3 h 3 c  
JACOB KLINE, " " 250 " 2 h 2 c  
CHRISTOPHER KLINE " " Senior  
" " Junior
  - p. 608, single man, ANTHONY GIFT
  - 1786
  - p. 662, FRANTZ DIDO, taxed on 2 horses 1 cow  
ADAM GIFT, " " 200 acres, 2 h 3 c.
  - p. 737, FRANCIS DIDDO, " " 300 " 2 h 2 c.

## GIFT FAMILY

From "ANNALS of BUFFALO VALLEY", Pennsylvania, by John Blair Linn, 1877 , pages 170-171, gives a good account as follows:

AARON K. GIFT, Esquire of Middleburg, furnished me with the following narrative of this occurrence, as related to him by his grandfather, JEREMIAH GIFT, who died at an advanced age in 1843.

THE GIFT, HERROLD, and LEPHLEY families came to Middle Creek Valley about the year 1771. JOHN ADAM GIFT (great-grandfather of A. K. GIFT) settled on the left bank of Middle Creek, three miles west of where Middleburg now stands; and owned and occupied the farm now (1877) owned by John H. Walter. His three sons were JACOB, ANTHONY, and JEREMIAH. The militia were then drawn in classes. JACOB, the eldest son, had been drawn, and served a tour in the eastern part of the State of Pennsylvania. The lot drawing in 1779 fell upon JOHN ADAM, the father. Jacob had just returned from duty, and begged to go in his father's place. MICHAEL LEPLEY and \_\_\_\_\_ HERROLD were drawn at the same time. They were stationed at Fort Freeland, near which lived a family named McKNIGHT, a father and son. They secured a guard consisting of fourteen persons, among whom were JACOB GIFT, MICHAEL LEPLEY, and HERROLD, to go to milk their cows. The cows were driven into a pen, and while milking, they were surprised by a party of about thirty Indians, who fired upon them. They were so completely surprised that they could make very little resistance. Lepley with the others, and old Mr. McKnight were killed. Herrold ran for the fort. As he ran along a field which sloped towards the fort, the soldiers in the fort heard the report of a rifle, and saw him fall. An Indian scalped him. JACOB GIFT also tried to make his escape, but was overtaken. When the pursuing soldiers came up, they found evidence of a hard fight; the ground was bloody, his rifle was broken in pieces, and Jacob, himself, had been tomahawked and scalped. He had sold his life as dearly as possible. Young McKnight was the only one who escaped. He jumped Warrior Run, and a tomahawk struck the top rail of the fence just after he cleared it. He was the only one left to tell the tale. Upon JACOB GIFT'S father, the stroke fell heavily. He said, "It was my lot to go, but my son went and gave his life for mine." Michael Lepley left a widow, MARY A., and some children. She drew a pension for many years afterwards."

\* \* \* \* \*

In Snyder County of "HISTORY of the SUSQUEHANNA and JUNIATA VALLEYS of Pennsylvania", two volumes by Hungerford of about 1,600 pages, contain a good record of the GIFT family. (Page 1560 volume 2):

In 1789, the GIFTS and FRANTZ DIDO and the KLINES are listed as being in the part of Penns Township that was called (1789) Beaver Township. The following family is given:

1. JOHAN ADAM GIFT, wife not named, nor his dates. Son:
2. JEREMIAH GIFT, married CATHERINE KLINE, and had these children:
3. ANTHONY GIFT, JACOB GIFT, JOHN GIFT, married ELIZABETH KERN, a daughter of JOHN KERN and CATHERINE ROYER, his wife.

JONATHAN GIFT, SIMON GIFT, MICHAEL GIFT, DANIEL GIFT, REBECCA GIFT,  
BARBARA GIFT, ELIZABETH GIFT



JOHN GIFT and ELIZABETH KERN had these children. (They were married in 1826). John died in 1866 and his wife in 1876.

AARON KERN GIFT was born November 19, 1827. He was a surveyor in 1886. He married AMELIA ROYER in 1855, a daughter of JOHN ROYER. WILLIAM D. GIFT, at whose home his mother died in 1876  
AMELIA and BARBARA GIFT

Of the daughters of JOHN ADAM GIFT, the pioneer, we find ELEANOR GIFT, born in 1762, died in Fulton County, Ohio, south of Wauseon, Ohio, at the home of her son-in-law, GEORGE MARKLEY (1855-58) married in March 1782 to FRANCIS DITTO, born 1758 and who died in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1841.

FRANCIS DITTO, as mentioned, was born in 1758 and served in the Revolutionary Army. A very good family and war record is in possession of a descendant, Mrs. John Schlapfer, of South Defiance Street, Archbold, Ohio, who joined the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION on his war record, which came from Washington. He was married in March of 1782 to ELEANOR GIFT, a daughter of JOHAN ADAM GIFT, and a sister to JACOB GIFT, who was killed near Fort Freeland in 1779 by Indians.

FRANCIS DITTO and his family left Pennsylvania and came to Seneca County, Ohio, where he bought a farm and on which, in a small private burial plot, he was buried in 1841. His widow, ELEANOR, came to live with her daughter and son-in-law and was buried on their farm a short distance south of Wauseon, Ohio, at the age of ninety-three years. The grave plot has been for many years used as a chicken park for a farmer who later bought the old Markley farm, and the local DAR have tried various times to have the burial ground put in good condition, but most of the stones have been taken down and used to drain off water into a nearby creek!

We have a record of the following children:

MARY DITTO, born December 31, 1788, died September 3, 1861. She married in Pennsylvania ADAM SMITH, born February 16, 1786 and died in December 1836. They resided in Pennsylvania and did not come to Ohio (see page 697 DAR LINEAGE of Pennsylvania).

CATHERINE DITTO, born in Pennsylvania, died in Wauseon, Ohio. She married GEORGE MARKLEY in 1806. He came to Fulton County, Ohio, and purchased a farm on the old Ridge Road south of Wauseon, Ohio, where they both died.

GEORGE MARKLEY'S will was filed at Fulton County Court House May 29, 1859 (see a record contained in THE KLINE KLAN, page 24-25, by Harriet (Seaman) Stoll, of Fostoria, Ohio.) We found the following children recorded:

1. JOHN H. MARKLEY, born 1812, married SUSANNAH KLINE of the Kline Klan.
2. ANDREW L. MARKLEY, 1819-1890, married JULYETTE \_\_\_\_\_
3. FRANCIS DITTO MARKLEY born 1822, married SOPHIA ECHART (JACOB and SOLOMON ECKERT came to Fulton County with George Markley about 1835-36)
4. SARAH MARKLEY, married first BENJAMIN COLTER, died in Pennsylvania; second, \_\_\_\_\_ Miller
5. MARIE G. MARKLEY, married \_\_\_\_\_ LAIRIMORE
6. MARY R. MARKLEY, married \_\_\_\_\_ HERALD, who came to Fulton County, Ohio
7. ELEANOR JANE MARKLEY, 1828-1907, married MATHIAS KLINE
8. GEORGE J. M. MARKLEY, 1818- \_\_\_\_\_, married CATHERINE DITTO
9. MARTIN MARKLEY