

## Notes on Elisabeth Amalia Knoche

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### Generation 1

1. **ELISABETH AMALIA<sup>1</sup> KNOCHE** was born on January 01, 1826 in Wunderthausen. She died on April 17, 1880 in Kansas City, Jackson, Missouri. She married Georg Gabriel Riedesel, son of Ludwig Riedesel and Maria Gertraud Dreisbach, on February 06, 1853 in Wunderthausen. He was born on September 20, 1809 in Wunderthausen. He died before 1880 in Clay County, Kansas.

Notes for Elisabeth Amalia Knoche:

Born in the house "Auf der Leye" (later Kellers) in Wunderthausen.

Whether it was she or her younger sister Elisabeth Florentine (b. 1831) who married Georg Gabriel (Ludwig) Riedesel is not clear. Researchers in Germany have interpreted the records to say that it was Elisabeth Florentine. However, the marriage record just says "Elisabeth Knoche" so it could be either one. The ship's list in 1867 gives her age as 42 (so born about 1825 and fitting the older sister). The 1870 Census gives her age as 44, matching the older sister's birth year of 1826. Only in 1880 did the widow give her age as 49 (an implied birth year of 1831). It is my judgment that Elisabeth Amalia (b. 1826) was the bride.

Notes for Georg Gabriel Riedesel:

Known as Ludwig. Born in the house "Ludwigs unter der Leye" but established the house in Wunderthausen known as Schreiners/Großeludwigs. His two wives had the same birth names, but the first was apparently known as Maria and the second as Amalia. Ludwig came to America with his second wife and at least three children on the ship Argonaut out of Bremen. It arrived at New York on November 9, 1867. We have newspaper advertisements that he placed in Wittgenstein in the summer of 1867 putting the house, property and harvest up for sale. He owned less than three acres of cropland and a couple pieces of pasture land.

The obituary of his son, Louis D. (from his first marriage), alludes to two half-sisters. One was Catherine and the other was probably the girl identified as "Dina" on the ship's manifest. The latter was--I believe--a common nickname for "Christine." Yet I find no record of her in the Wunderthausen records.

A recent history from Wunderthausen lists a death date in May 1884. However, I find no trace of Ludwig in the 1880 Census but his supposedly widowed wife is living with their son, Phillip.

Georg Gabriel Riedesel and Elisabeth Amalia Knoche had the following children:

- i. **DINA<sup>2</sup> RIEDESEL** was born about 1853.

Notes for Dina Riedesel:

The only record of her existence is a passenger list for the Argonaut out of Bremen carrying other family members; the ship docked in New York out of Bremen on November 9, 1867. She is not listed with them in the 1870 Census nor does any birth record in Wunderthausen look like hers. While she could already have been married by 1870, she may also have died by then. Her half-brother Louis D.'s obituary alludes to two half-sisters in 1929.

It is not out of the question that the young woman named as Dina Riedesel in the ship's 1867 record was in fact not a Riedesel at all but used the name to emigrate with another family.

Dina was normally a nickname for Christine.

- ii. **JOHANNES RIEDESEL** was born on January 19, 1857 in Wunderthausen. He died on October 06, 1859 in Wunderthausen.
- iii. **CATHERINE RIEDESEL** was born on January 24, 1859.

Notes for Catherine Riedesel:

I have no record of her coming to America or her staying in Germany.

- iv. **PHILIPP JOHN RIEDESEL** was born on December 22, 1860 in Wunderthausen. He died on December 13, 1941 in Moundville, Vernon, Missouri (Griffith Cemetery,

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### Generation 1 (cont.)

Wyandotte County, Kansas). He married Augusta Mary Hahner, daughter of August Hahner and Caroline Frances Tertling, on August 07, 1881 in Jackson, Missouri. She was born on December 14, 1862 in Kansas City, Clay, Missouri. She died on May 14, 1940 in Moundville, Vernon, Missouri (Griffith Cemetery, Wyandotte County, Kansas).

Notes for Philipp John Riedesel:

Born in the house Schreiners/Großeludwigs in Wunderhausen. Baptised as Philipp but known as Phillip John (or James) in this country. Came to the U.S. with his parents on the ship Argonaut out of Bremen. It arrived in New York on November 9, 1867. As an adult he lived in the Kansas City, Kansas area; in 1930 they lived in the Center township of Vernon County, Missouri. Several censuses list his place of birth as Iowa or Missouri, which is simply false. It does suggest the possibility that his parents lived for a while around Wheatland. In the same Census, his son Phillip reported his father's birthplace as Missouri! His grave marker says he died in 1940 but state records say 1941.

I find a 19-year old "John P Redzel" living with his widowed mother Elizabeth at Quindaro, Wyandotte County (Kansas City), Kansas in the 1880 Census.

Notes for Augusta Mary Hahner:

Records suggest different versions of her family name: Hainer, Hahner, Höhner, Haner. Augusta bore seven children but we have the names of only six. Her birth year is variously given as 1861 or 1862. I trust the 1900 Census which explicitly gives it as 1862.