

Notes on Catherine Elisabeth Pott

Generation 1

1. **CATHERINE ELISABETH¹ POTT** was born on November 28, 1793 in Wunderthausen. She died on January 03, 1866 in Littlestown, Adams, Pennsylvania. She married Johannes Riedesel, son of Johann Ludwig Riedesel and Anna Elisabeth Spies, about 1815. He was born on September 15, 1787 in Wunderthausen. He died on November 03, 1855 in Littlestown, Adams, Pennsylvania.

Notes for Catherine Elisabeth Pott:

Born in Mannes Haus in Wunderthausen. The records show her traveling to America as "Pott" and with a child in 1818. Her husband (to be) left at the same time, but it appears that they were not married at the time they applied to emigrate. The child was certainly the son known later as Johannes Riedesel or Rittase.

Notes for Johannes Riedesel:

Born in Wetzels Haus, Wunderthausen. Came to Pennsylvania in 1818 where he was known as John Rittase. They farmed near Hanover, York County before moving to a farm in Union Township, Adams County. He is buried at Christ Church near Littlestown, PA, in Adams County with the following inscription:

In memory of
JOHN RITTASE
born Sept. 15, 1787
in the canton of
Wittgenstein in the
kingdom of Prussia
and being a citizen
of America for the
last 40 years
died Nov. 3, 1855

It appears that the family eventually agreed on "Rittase" and used that spelling consistently thereafter. Church records when their children were young used some variation on "Riedes." It was a German-speaking congregation and one might have expected the proper name to have endured, but that was not the case. "Rittase" sounds very much like the Wittgenstein pronunciation of "Riedesel" except for dropping the final "L". Everyone with this name appears to trace back to John.

Johannes Riedesel and Catherine Elisabeth Pott had the following children:

- i. **JOHANN GEORG² POTT** was born on March 09, 1812 in Wunderthausen. He died on May 05, 1812 in Wunderthausen.
- ii. **JOHANNES POTT** was born on December 04, 1814 in Wunderthausen. He died on September 13, 1831 in Adams County, Pennsylvania.

Notes for Johannes Pott:

His mother lived in Mannes Haus in Wunderthausen, and that is almost certainly where he was born

Abstracts from the Republican Compiler Adams County, Pennsylvania 1831-1851 by Robert Stover c1976 ; page 1, very first entry "Died September 13, 1831 John, son of Mr. John Redis [Riedesel], Germany Township, this county, aged 17 years." He came to America in 1818 with his mother and father (who were not yet married). In Wunderthausen he would have been known as Johannes Pott as the parents were unmarried at the time.

- iii. **HENRY JACOB RITTASE** was born on April 14, 1819 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. He died on December 22, 1878 in Pennsylvania. He married **RACHEL FREDERIKA WERNITZ**. She was born about 1820 in Bavaria. She died after 1880.

Notes for Henry Jacob Rittase:

Christ Reformed Church (birth?) records lists him as Henry Jacob Riedess. He

Generation 1 (cont.)

was a shoemaker in 1870.

Notes for Rachel Frederika Wertz:

The 1870 Census lists the wife of Jacob as Frederica, but all other indications are that his wife was Rachel, and that she was his only spouse.

- iv. WILLIAM RITTASE was born on September 12, 1823 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. He died on September 29, 1892 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. He married (1) MARGARET SLIFER, daughter of Edmund Slifer and Sarah J. Zook, on May 13, 1851. She was born on December 30, 1829 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. She died on February 07, 1881 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. He married (2) MARY BITTLE MAY in 1851. He married (3) MARAGARET BITTLE in 1875.
- v. CHRISTENA DEANNE RITTASE was born on December 25, 1825 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. She died on May 23, 1913 in Pennsylvania. She married Frederick W. Bald on December 19, 1844. He was born on March 25, 1823 in Germany. He died on December 17, 1898 in Baltimore, Maryland.
- vi. SUSANNA RITTASE was born about 1826.
- vii. MARIA ELISABETH RITTASE was born on March 27, 1828 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. She died on March 09, 1909 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. She married William Bogan on January 29, 1856.

Notes for Maria Elisabeth Rittase:

Christ Reformed Church record refers to her as Maria Elisabeth Riedes.

- viii. ISHMAEL RITTASE was born on March 29, 1832 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. He died on February 24, 1886 in Adams County, Pennsylvania. He married Mary Ann Bart on October 14, 1856. She was born about 1835 in Pennsylvania. She died in 1879 in Pennsylvania.

Notes for Ishmael Rittase:

Christ Reformed Church record refers to him as Reetes.

- ix. MARY ANN RITTASE was born on July 12, 1835 in Union City, Adams, Pennsylvania. She died on February 01, 1920 in Littlestown, Adams, Pennsylvania. She married Amos Jesse Hilbert on November 13, 1856.