

Reference to the family tree will aid in reading the following history:---

Daniel Althouse, Born Oct. 12, 1805. Died May 28, 1860.

Catharine (Dunkle) Althouse, wife. Born June 10, 1809. Died Jan. 22, 1882.

Daniel was a farmer. He left Northern Berks County, taking over a large tract of land adjacent to Schwartzwald Church. He built a barn to house his livestock and crops. At the time of building, it was the largest barn in the county. He was a successful farmer, acquiring some wealth in his occupation. They are burried in the Schwartzwald Cemetery. Plot located in lower part toward rear of church in cemetery addition. When this portion of land was needed as an addition, Daniel donated the ground with a provision that all lots must be sold, none to be donated. Later he had a death in the family and due to the provision he had made when he donated the land, he was required to pay for his lot. He thus indirectly purchased a piece of his own land.

His wife Catharine was a small woman. As their children were all boys, she needed help in the home. She often had two maids to assist. This was partly necessary for milking the cows. Few men did the milking in those days. It is said that she would take her fishing pole and go to the nearby stream and catch a mess of fish if she wished fish for a meal.

Children:

Edward: Died single. Was burned to death while traveling East with carload of horses. Car caught fire, also his clothes, in leaving the train in a hurry, he jumped into an oil barrel. This happened West of Pittsburgh.

Isaac: Engaged in the coal-mining business was well off financially when he sold out to the Reading Co. Corp. coal Barons.

John Perres: He was short in stature, went by the name of Perres (our branch). As a young man he taught school and was the proprietor of the Schwartzwald Hotel. He went into the brewing business, but due to continual cave-in ripening vaults (thought to be, but not proven, sabotage) the business failed. He started a successful tin-smith business with a

partner in Reading. The partner absconded with the assets of the business leaving Perres with the debts. He made restitution for these debts over a period of years. He farmed for several years in Alsace Twp. near Heckman Hotel, N. E. of Temple. It was a dairy farm making butter and marketing. After that, for many years, until he retired he conducted his own retail coal yard on Green St. below Tenth St. in Reading. He lived retired a few years, dying at the age of 84 years. His home for many years in Reading was at 1007 Oley St.

His wife was Mary Heckman. It is said she was a beautiful young lady. She was a farm girl and always liked it in the country although she spent most of her married life in the city. She was a good mother, a wonderful housekeeper, cook and baker. She suffered half of her life with a swelling on left side of neck, caused by a strain when she was a girl. She and Perres were members for many years before they died, of Covenant Memorial Methodist Church, Ninth and Elm Sts., Reading, although the Althouse family was predominately Reformed.

Daniel: Followed the horse trade, was a buyer for his brother William and other dealers. He was short and heavy. It was always said that he was among the best judges of horses, that he could make a horse run if it had only three legs. Civil War Veteran. Volunteer.

William: Also a Civil War Veteran, Volunteer. He followed the horse trade. He also was short and heavy. For years he had the Wm. Penn Horse Bazaar, Market St., Phila. On busy sales days the auctioneer would sell at the rate of a horse a minute. He raised fast (race) horses on his Stock Farm at Phoenixville, Pa. In 1892 his horse Wm. Penn broke the Worlds record for a two year old and again in 1893 as a three year old.

His wife Emma operated the Wm. Penn Hotel connected with the Wm. Penn Horse Bazaar, located in the 3200 or 3800 Market St. The account is told of William and Daniel that one day while their father was away they decided

to hitch the bull to the buggy. While they were doing this, their Mother came to the kitchen door and called to them to unhitch the bull and stop their foolishness. They said she should go in the house or else they would put her in the buggy and take her along. They drove the bull down to the Schwartzwald Hotel. After that Daniel was nick-named "Bull Althouse".

George: Was the clerical type and was said to be a good accountant. Lived in Reading but died at the age of forty-one.

Aaron: Died single at the age of twenty.

Offspring of J. Perres Althouse:

Irvin Daniel: Our branch. He was 5 feet 7½ inches tall. He was a boy when his Father moved to the farm. About 18 or 19 years of age when they returned to Reading. He learned the trade of stove mounting and worked for the Mt. Penn stove works until his early thirties when he moved his family to a farm he purchased in Maiden creek Twp. The harmful effects of the iron dust in the stove works was the reason for this move. He conducted a successful dairy farm shipping the milk to the coal regions. He specialized in raising potatoes, especially the "Blue Victor" variety. He raised ten acres of potatoes each year. Retailled them in the fall of the year in Reading, nine miles away. This was all done by horse and wagon. He spent his retired years in a home he purchased in Laureldale.

Hattie S.: In late middle life married Leroy E. Reed, manager of Singer Sewing Machine stores. She was short in stature but a very active and capable person. She was a good mother to her three step-children, who were about fourteen, seventeen, and twenty years of age when she married. Always regular in attendance at her church. Mr. Reed was a church man. Methodist.

Katie: Died in infancy.

Edward: Never married. Died at thirty-three years of age. Never followed any special line of work. Was in poor health.

James P.: Was a carriage painter by trade but changed to stove mounting after he could not take the varnish and paint poisoning. From middle life on he worked in the hosiery mills being expert at fixing the knitting machines.

Charles: Died in infancy.

Brooke: Died in infancy.

Jennie: Never married. Lived with her father and kept his home for him after her mother died and sister Hattie married. She did some dress making and fancy work. Was interested in singing and for many years was a member of the choir of Holy Cross Memorial Church (Methodist), Fifth St., Reading. In ill health for many years.

Annie R. Althouse: Short and plump. Good mother to the four boys she raised. Two others died at birth. She liked the city but spent most of her married life on the farm due to husband's health. Moving to the farm she missed the city conveniences. She made the best of conditions, made a pleasant home. Was an exceptional housekeeper, cook, and baker. She never followed any special line of work before her marriage. Ancestry of Annie R. Althouse as near as I (J. Brooke Althouse) her son, recall from experience and told to me by her mother (my Grandmother) Rebecca Rapp.

Ancestry of Annie R. Althouse:

Samuel R. Rapp: Her father was a six foot tall man. He was the only child raised by his widowed mother. Her maiden name was Axe. From what I saw as a child and heard, I would judge that he was of English descent. By trade he was a house painter and paper-hanger. Except for a few years in New Holland, Pa., and at the time of marriage in or near Norristown, Pa., he lived and worked in Reading. His disposition was on the quiet side. He liked reading, was a thinker. He was a regular church man at Covenant Memorial Methodist Church, 9th and Elm Sts., Reading. Civil War veteran. Volunteer.

Rebecca (Cornog) Rapp: Was a short and plump person, raised in Norristown, Pa. Her father was of Welsh descent. He owned and operated canal boats, operating between the coal regions and Phila., and intermediate points. His income was large, but after providing well for his family, he was a free spender and good natured and generous. At one time he owned land that is near or part of the center of Norristown. Grandmother told me that he owned a tract of land on which he allowed a negro to live if he paid the taxes. After a given number of years the tax paying negro owned the land but it did not seem to bother him (her father). He was generous through his carelessness. Grandmother told me that her father and two other men went partnership in having a canal boat built. Her father gave the dimensions to make it ^{SECOND ORDERED IT} larger and the third partner ordered it still larger. After it was built it would not pass through the locks (due to size) at Norristown. The boat could then only be used between Phila. and Norristown. Mrs. Cornog, my Great-Grandmother was a Lee. I know little of her except that Grandmother always spoke well of her and that she must have been a jolly person. She must have been a busy mother as she had six children to care for. It is told that Mrs. Cornog (maiden name Lee) and her family decided to search into their ancestry to make a family tree. After some search had been made it appeared that they were heading toward Gen. (Mad) Anthony Lee of Revolutionary fame, or ill fame, so they dropped the matter as no one at that time would wish to acknowledge lineage from Gen. (Mad) Anthony Lee. Gen. Lee came close to being tried for treason because he ordered retreat at the battle of Phila., when we were being victorious.

I remember Grandmother speaking of two sisters and three brothers. Am writing as I can recall. The brothers all enlisted in the Civil War. I do not recall their names, except that one returned and his name was Adam. He was a drummer boy as they were called. He was very heavy and died young of a rheumatic condition induced through exposure during the war. The other

two brothers were killed. One was cited for bravery because he exposed himself to take flag when it had been shot from the mast. Her sisters' names were Martha and Tamsen, one was married to a Long.

My grandmother Rebecca Rapp was also a member of Covenant Memorial Methodist Church. She was a great reader and a very good story teller. She would entertain her grandchildren by playing games and telling them stories. She was very good with children.

Written by - J. Brooke Althouse

Son of Irvin D. & Annie R.
Althouse