

Notes on Catherine Schneider

Generation 1

1. **CATHERINE¹ SCHNEIDER** was born on September 21, 1823 in Wunderthausen. She died on September 22, 1894 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa. She married Johann Ludwig Riedesel, son of Ludwig Riedesel and Florentine Althaus, on July 01, 1845 in Galion, Crawford, Ohio. He was born on August 05, 1822 in Wunderthausen. He died on January 12, 1910 in Clinton, Clinton, Iowa.

Notes for Catherine Schneider:

She was born in Althäusers Haus in Wunderthausen. In 1845, she traveled with the extended Riedesel family to New York, arriving on June 7. They made their way to Crawford County, Ohio in a month's time or less, as Catherine and J. Ludwig were married there on July 1. Their family settled near Wheatland in 1855 though moved on to Carroll County, Iowa around 1880. She appears to have been a rather small woman.

Notes for Johann Ludwig Riedesel:

Christened Johann Ludwig, but known as J. Ludwig. He was born in Haase Haus in Wunderthausen. He traveled to New York on the ship Lesmona out Bremen, landing on June 24, 1844. He was in the company of his first cousin, Ludwig Dürr and aunt Elisabeth Althaus (Dürr's mother). Their destination was Crawford County, Ohio around Galion. How they traveled there is a matter of speculation but river boats (Erie Canal, Ohio Canal) are a good guess. Their aunt and uncle, Maria (Althaus) and Christian Gerhardt, had settled there with others in the Gerhardt family a decade earlier.

In 1845, his parents, siblings and fiancée, Catherine Schneider, left for America as well. J. Ludwig and Catherine remained in Ohio until 1855 when they moved on to the Wheatland, Iowa area. He had been naturalized on November 21, 1854, at Galion. Before the founding of St. Paul's in 1861, he is recorded as a founding member of a German Reformed congregation or community (Gemeinde) in 1857. He farmed in Section 32 of the Liberty township of Clinton County, north of Wheatland and at some remove from his brothers there. In 1881, they moved again to a place north of Glidden, Iowa. At the end of his life he was living with his daughter, Florentine Beckman in Wheatland, but died at a hospital in the county seat of Clinton. J. Ludwig is buried in the Merle Hay (West Lawn) Cemetery at Glidden.

"The History of Clinton County, Iowa" by Lucius P. Allen published in 1879.

LUDWIG RIEDESEL, farmer, Section 32; owns 160 acres of land, valued at \$35 per acre; born in Germany in 1822; came to America in 1844, and located in Ohio; removed to Iowa in 1855; and located in this county; in 1868, settled on his present farm. Married Catherine Snyder in 1845; she, too, was born in Germany; have eight children--Susan, Franz, Ludwig, Phillip, Flora, George, John and Anna. Are members of the German Reformed Church; Democrat.

Johann Ludwig Riedesel and Catherine Schneider had the following children:

- i. **SUSAN² RIEDESEL** was born on February 06, 1847 in Galion, Crawford, Ohio. She died on March 08, 1942 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Susan Riedesel:

Spent part of her adult life with the family of the Rev. J. C. Klar in Wyoming. Rev. Klar had served the church Wheatland, and Susie's brother Philip married the Klars' daughter Mary. According to one source, the Klars saw to her education in exchange for what amounted domestic help. In 1930 she was living with the family of her niece, Luella (Beckmann) Heuer in Tulare County, California. She spent her last years back in Wheatland. Known and beloved as "Aunt Susie" to many and that is how her grave marker reads.

- ii. **FRANZ RIEDESEL** was born on October 21, 1848 in Galion, Crawford, Ohio. He died on December 26, 1931 in Charter Oak, Crawford, Iowa (West Lawn (Merle Hay) Cemetery, Glidden). He married Ella Louise Wirth, daughter of Jacob Wirth and Katherina Glass, on October 01, 1878 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She was born on October 09, 1857 in Clinton County, Iowa, USA. She died on October 22, 1952 in Charter Oak, Crawford, Iowa (Merle Hay (West Lawn) Cemetery, Glidden).

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Notes for Franz Riedesel:

Lived in Wheatland and then Carroll County for several more years after marrying, but eventually located to Charter Oak, Iowa (Crawford County) where he was a builder of furniture. I think it is not a coincidence that his father-in-law was a skilled woodworker. In 1908 he owned land in section 19 of the Willow township. Ella's name was on land in section 30. He may have been known as Francis. Franz and his brother John died the same day.

Notes for Ella Louise Wirth:

Her parents were born in Germany. She was informally known as LuElla. I am guessing that she returned to Wheatland to give birth to her first child and that they were not actually living there at the time.

- iii. LOUIS A. RIEDESEL was born on August 23, 1850 in Galion, Crawford, Ohio. He died on May 14, 1922 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa (Merle Hay (West Lawn) Cemetery, Glidden). He married Sophia Katherine Wetter, daughter of Johann Georg Wetter and Sophia Müller, on February 16, 1879 in Carroll County, Iowa. She was born on November 14, 1857 in Sherrill, Dubuque, Iowa. She died on November 11, 1938 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa (Merle Hay (West Lawn) Cemetery, Glidden).

Notes for Louis A. Riedesel:

Christened Ludwig but known to us as Louis A. I am 99% certain that the "A." was only an initial that he took on to distinguish himself from other Louis/Ludwig Riedesels. There is no chance his *echt-Deutsch* parents gave him the middle name of "Arnold" or "Arthur" as a few other researchers have guessed.

Born in Crawford County, Ohio, but moved with his family to Wheatland in 1855. At the time of his marriage in 1879, he is said to have accumulated \$200 and a team of mules, so was ready to begin farming on his own. His parents and in-laws moved to the Glidden area where he farmed. He eventually bought 140 acres north of town, and worked it until 1909 when son Ralph took over. Louis, Sophia and the younger children moved into town in October 1909 (to a house his brother, John C., had owned).

If Louis spoke much English, it was only after the children learned it in school. He died of a stroke. The few stories that have come down to us suggest he was a strict, no-nonsense person. Yet several of the children had a streak of good humor, so I believe he had another side as well.

Notes for Sophia Katherine Wetter:

Like her husband, Sophia located to the Wheatland area as a child. Family stories tell that she lived part of her childhood with her aunt and uncle Fiock. The latter had no children and it would not have been uncommon to "borrow" a young relative to help with the work of keeping house and farming. However, Sophia was enumerated in her parents' household in the 1870 Census. Her parents (and the aged Fiocks) moved to Glidden too.

- iv. CATHERINE RIEDESEL was born on February 21, 1852 in Galion, Crawford, Ohio. She died on November 30, 1863 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Catherine Riedesel:

According to the diary of Rev. Klar, Catherine was ill with diptheria for several weeks before she died.

- v. PHILIP A. RIEDESEL was born on April 16, 1855 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on March 22, 1913 in Laramie, Albany, Wyoming (Greenhill Cemetery/Laramie). He married Mary Katherine Klar, daughter of John Conrad Klar and Katherine Krause, on March 18, 1884 in Navarre, Stark, Ohio. She was born on August 05, 1856 in Bucyrus, Crawford, Ohio. She died on August 22,

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1934 in Laramie, Albany, Wyoming (Greenhill Cemetery/Laramie).

Notes for Philip A. Riedesel:

Lived in Stark County, Ohio after marrying and up to at least 1898. He eventually operated a large ranch north of Laramie, Wyoming. I doubt that the middle initial of "A." stood for anything.

Notes for Mary Katherine Klar:

She only lived in Wheatland for a few years in the early 1860s, yet married Philip some 20 years later. She bore one other child whose name I do not know.

- vi. FLORENTINE RIEDESEL was born on February 27, 1859 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She died on March 15, 1927 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). She married Dietrich Beckmann, son of Dietrich Heinrich Beckmann and Sophia Ludwig Engleking, on March 13, 1877 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He was born on July 24, 1853 in Ösdorf, Hannover. He died on December 10, 1938 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Florentine Riedesel:

She was born in and spent her life around the community of Wheatland, Iowa.

Notes for Dietrich Beckmann:

References to his actual place of birth are inconsistent, but it is likely that it was Ösdorf, now part of the town of Bad Pyrmont in the area of Hanover. Beckmann is a fairly common name, and there are many in Pyrmont today.

"The History of Clinton County, Iowa" by Lucius P. Allen published in 1879. DIETRICK BECKMANN, farmer, Sec. 7; P. O. Wheatland; son of Dietrick and Sophia Beckmann; born July 24, 1853, in Hanover, Germany; his mother died in Germany in 1861, and in 1866; he came with his father to the United States, locating on the farm upon which he now lives, which contains 240 acres, valued at \$40 per acre. His father married a Mrs. Christine Acker, whose maiden name was Sittler. in March, 1867; father died Aug. 1, 1876. Mr. D. Beckmann, Jr., married Miss Flora Riedesel, daughter of Ludwig and Catharine Riedesel, March 13, 1877; she was born in this county Feb. 27, 1858; have one daughter, Ernestine. Members German Reformed Church; Independent.

- vii. GEORGE RIEDESEL was born on March 17, 1860 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on April 08, 1945 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa (West Lawn/Merle Hay Cemetery, Glidden). He married Nellie Caroline Fobes, daughter of Ed Fobes and Elizabeth Ann Hoon, on February 23, 1888 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa. She was born on December 30, 1870 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa. She died on July 28, 1952 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa (West Lawn (Merle Hay) Cemetery, Glidden).

Notes for George Riedesel:

Farmed near Glidden, Iowa.

- viii. JOHN CONRAD RIEDESEL was born on February 17, 1862 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. He died on December 26, 1931 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa (Merle Hay (West Lawn) Cemetery, Glidden). He married (1) MARY LAUNSPACH, daughter of Philipp Johannes Launspach and Luise Elisabeth Wetter, on March 08, 1886 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa. She was born on January 15, 1866 in Dubuque County, Iowa. She died on January 25, 1898 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa (Merle Hay (West Lawn) Cemetery, Glidden). He married (2) WILHELMINA GREEN, daughter of Ezra West Green and Margaret Holley, on March 05, 1912 in Pottawattamie, Iowa. She was born about 1864 in Chicago, Cook, Illinois. She died on November 24, 1930 in Glidden, Carroll, Iowa.

Notes for John Conrad Riedesel:

Farmed at Glidden; then managed the Glidden Farmers Co-op elevator from about 1906-1930. John and his brother Franz died the same day.

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Notes for Wilhelmina Green:

Her first married name was probably Hemming.

- ix. ANNA SOPHIA RIEDESEL was born on June 27, 1864 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa. She died on June 20, 1929 in Sebeka, Wadena, Minnesota (Lanesboro Cemetery, Carroll County Iowa). She married Henry Wetter, son of Johann Georg Wetter and Sophia Müller, on April 10, 1884 in Carroll County, Iowa. He was born on January 29, 1861 in Sherrill, Dubuque, Iowa. He died on October 01, 1945 in Otter Tail County, Minnesota (Lanesboro Cemetery, Carroll County Iowa).

Notes for Henry Wetter:

Originally bought and farmed his father's land but sold it and moved to Sebeka, Minnesota.

- x. INFANT RIEDESEL.
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