

The Families Of

Michael Bentz
York County Pennsylvania
1830 - 1895

5th Generation

Michael Bentz (1830-1895)

5. iii Michael Bentz: (*Jacob Lau-4, Johan Jacob-3, Johan Nicholas-2, Andreas-1*) Michael was born March 8th 1830, and died March 13th 1895. He married Susanna who was born in 1835, and died 1925. Michael and Susan are buried at Barrens Church, 232 Kralltown Road, York County Dillsburg Pennsylvania.

Michael's will, dated May 3rd 1887, indicated he had four children. Tobias and Erwin Bentz were named as Administrators. His daughters were Cordelia who was intermarried with John Hartman, and Bertha who was intermarried to George Firestone, who bought Michael's farm for \$2000.00.¹ Some researchers have mixed up Michael's marriage and his children. Michael's Will contradicts the other researchers. Michael and Susanna Bentz had the following children:

6. i Tobias Bentz (1853-1934)
- ii Cordelia Bentz born about 1857, she married Hartman and lived in Mechanicsburg.
- iii Ervin H. Bentz (1858-1938) Died June 7th 1938, lied in Dillsburg
- iv Bertha Albertis Bentz was born April 9th 1865, and married George M. Firestone of Mount Airy area of Monaghan Township on August 22nd 1882

Some researchers believe Michael was married again to Susan Heiges who was born June 14th 1834 to William and Susan Heikes, and died June 1st 1915. There were two Michael Bentz's and I believe these researches mixed them up. This Susan Heiges died June 1st 1915 at 81 years old, memorial June 2nd 1915, buried June 8th 1915. She was married to Heiges, and had Peter and William Heighes of Franklinton, Martin Heiges of Harrisburg, and Tobias Heighes of Pottstown. This Susan may have also been a Bentz.

6. iii Ervin was born 1858, and died JUNE 7th 1938. He is buried in the Dillsburg Cemetery Carroll Township York County Pennsylvania. He married Louisa Hershey, who was born March 28th 1958 to Edward and Sarah Hershey. Louisa died April 14th 1944, and is buried with her husband at the Dillsburg Cemetery.

6th Generation

Tobias Bentz (1853-1934)

6. i Tobias Bentz: (*Michael-5, Jacob Lau-4, Johan Jacob-3, Johan Nicholas-2, Andreas-1*) Tobias was born December 5th 1853. He had a confirmation on May 3rd 1884, but I can't determine with what church. He was suddenly stricken Friday afternoon at his daughter's home in Kralltown, and died of cerebral apoplexy the next day, July 14th 1934, without regaining consciousness. He was 80 years - 7 months - 9 days at his.ⁱⁱ He is buried at Barrens Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Warrington Township York County. Tobias married Alice B. who was born in 1854. Tobias and Alice lived in Monaghan Township York County Pennsylvania. Alice died June 2nd 1887 resulting from the birth of a William M. Bentz who also died June 2nd 1887. Tobias and Alice B. Bentz had four children.

7. i Albert Earl Bentz (1878-19)
- ii Gertrude V. Bentz was born In March 1881. She married Harry Jacob Burgard in 1903, and who was born April 1875 to John and Mary Burgard. Gertie and Harry lived at the Burgard home on the Mountain Road area of Monaghan Township York County Pennsylvania. Harry and Gertie were laid to rest in the Filey's Church Cemetery, near Siddonsburg and Dillsburg Pennsylvania. Harry and Gertie Burgard's children were: Robert Lee Burgard was born on June 14th 1903;¹ Evelyn M Burgard was born May 12th 1904;² Clair B. Burgard was born November 28th 1906.³ Evelyn married Paul Myers, and they had two boys.

ⁱ Wills and Estate Records, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402

ⁱⁱ News Article, Page Two, The News Comet, East Berlin, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1934; Taylor ~ Graham Families, Boog Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372

- iii Laura V. Bentz was born October 1879. She married Joseph H. Smith April 19th 1898. They made their application for marriage on April 19th 189. ⁴ Their children are: Verna A. Smith was born October 1897; Ida J. Smith was born 1903; Child that had died; Romaine G. Smith was born 1908. Joseph and Laura lived on Mine Bank Road and Wellsville Road Washington Township York County Pennsylvania. In 1930 they lived in Kralltown; this is where Tobias died while visiting in 1934.
- iv William Michael Bentz was born and died June 2nd 1887.

“Tobias was a well known retired farmer of Kralltown. He had been visiting with a friend Cornelius Krall, a local blacksmith. He then left for home, and stopped across the street from his daughter’s home, to talk to her neighbor, Daniel Wonders. After a brief conversation, Tobias said, “I must go home as we’re going to Dillsburg tonight to hear the Loysville Orphans’ Band.” His grandson was a member of the band. As Tobias crossed the street, he fell to the ground. He was carried to his daughter’s home, and Dr. H. B. Hetrick of Wellsville was summoned. Tobias was a son of the late Michael and Susan Bentz, of near Wellsville, and was the first of the four children to die. Tobias leaves a brother and two sisters, all of whom are past the three score and ten year mark. Surviving are four daughters; Mrs. Joseph Smith at whose home death occurred; Mrs. Roy (Nettie) Firestone, Mechanicsburg; Mrs. Harry (Gertrude) Burgard, Dillsburg R. D.; and Mrs. Samuel (Margaret) Sweigert, New Cumberland; one son Albert Bentz, Homestead; seven grandchildren; a brother, Ervin H. Bentz, Dillsburg; two sisters, Mrs. Bertha Firestone, Dillsburg, and Mrs. Cordella Hartman, Mechanicsburg. ⁱⁱⁱ Funeral services were at the home Tuesday afternoon at 2 o’clock with further services at 2:30 o’ clock in Barrens Lutheran Church. Reverend J. O. Weigle, pastor of the Mechanicsburg Church of God, assisted by the Reverend George A. Livingston of the Dillsburg Lutheran church, will officiate. Burial will be in the cemetery adjoining the church.” ^{iv}

Who is Tobias’s 1st Wife Alice B. (1854 - 1887)

Who is Alice B.? Some researchers believed that Alice B. is a Sollenberger and the sister of Anna Sollenberger-Bentz, Tobias’s second wife.

- 1.) Does Alice B. come from a Sollenberger family? The only current evidence that supports this is a 1900 census record for Christian and Emma Sollenberger of Harrisburg Pennsylvania. In this record Tobias’s son Albert A. Bentz is living with Christian and Emma Sollenberger in Harrisburg. This also correlates to other records of Tobias and Annie living in Harrisburg, as well as other member’s of Annie’s Sollenberger family members. In this 1900 record Albert was listed as a nephew to Christian and Emma Sollenberger. Also living with Christian and Emma was a niece, Alice A. Hildebrandt. The question is; was Albert and Alice the nephew and niece of Christian or Emma? If they were Christian’s nephew and niece, then they are from Christian’s Sollenberger family. If they were Emma’s nephew and niece, then they would be from a Bentz family.

I could not locate an Emma Bentz in any record related to Albert’s father Tobias Bentz, but I did find a possible relationship to Christian and his sister Barbara, who may be Alice Barbara Sollenberger. This assumption is based on Christian’s father being Cyrus Sollenberger and his wife Martha who lived in Carroll Township York County Pennsylvania. But this father son relationship has yet to be verified. Carroll Township borders Warrington, Washington, and Monaghan Townships of York County Pennsylvania. The Barrens Valley Lutheran Church intersects Warrington, Franklin, and Carroll Townships, which I believe is the center of the 1877 to 1890 marriages and burials of Tobias and his wives. More research on this will continue. Also if Tobias did marry two Sollenberger family members; Alice Barbara Sollenberger daughter of Cyrus Sollenberger, and Annie Sollenberger daughter of Jacob M. Sollenberger; there are no sources that link these two Sollenberger’s to the same family line; John Sollenberger (1771-1855) and Barbara Yockey (1775-1836). Cyrus Sollenberger might be related to Jacob M. Sollenberger, ^v but that has not been proven.

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid.

^{iv} Front page, The Gettysburg Times, Gettysburg Pennsylvania, Monday Evening, July 16th 1934; Ibid - Transcribed

^v Jacob M. Sollenberger (1832-1899), Taylor ~ Graham Families, Boog Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372

2.) If Alice B is a Sollenberger, was she the sister of Tobias's 2nd wife, Anna Sollenberger. No! Anna does have a sister Alice, but her name was Alice Susan Sollenberger and she married Calvin Knaub^{vi} in 1890. In 1900 Calvin and Alice Knaub lived not far from Alice's mother, Mary Ann Diller-Sollenberger, and Alice's niece Hattie Arnold who later married Edwin Wrightstone.^{vii}

After Alice B. died in 1887, Tobias married Anna Mary Sollenberger^{viii} on March 18th 1890 by Reverend Heisler.⁵ Anna was born November 22nd 1864 near present day Churchtown, Monroe Township Cumberland County Pennsylvania to Jacob M. Sollenberger and Mary Ann Diller. Anna died from heart failure on March 25th 1920 and is buried with Tobias, and his first wife and son William, at the Barrens Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Warrington Township York County Pennsylvania.

Tobias and Annie had two children. It appears Annie was pregnant before she married Tobias.

7. v Nettie A. Bentz was born September 4th 1890. Nettie married Roy Henry Firestone on March 29th 1908. They made their application for marriage on March 24th 1908.⁶ They lived with Roy's parents on Stevenstown Road Carroll Township York County Pennsylvania. Roy was born April 6th 1888 in Dillsburg York County Pennsylvania to Jacob A. and Addie M. Firestone. Jacob and Addie married in 1883. Roy and Nettie Firestone's children were: Gertrude E. Firestone who was born October 28th 1908,^{ix} and at age 20 in 1929 she married John W. Neff. John was 32 years old and was born in 1897. At that time Gertrude and John lived with Roy and Nettie Firestone in Upper Allen Township Cumberland County Pennsylvania. Nettie and Roy were laid to rest in the Mechanicsburg Cemetery.

vi Margaret L. Bentz was born on August 15th 1905.⁷ She married Samuel Henry Sweigart. Margaret and Samuel were laid to rest at the St John's Church Cemetery in Hampden Township Carlisle Cumberland County Pennsylvania.

6. iii Ervin Bentz: (*Michael-5, Jacob Lau-4, Johan Jacob-3, Johan Nicholas-2, Andreas-1*) Ervin was born was born 1858, and died June 7th 1938. He married Louis Hershey on March 10th 1881. She was the daughter of Edward Hershey and Sara Detter. Louis was born March 28th 1858. Ervin and Louise were laid to rest in the Dillsburg Cemetery, Dillsburg Pennsylvania. Their children were:

7. i Ella Bentz was born 1881. She married Adam Kimmel on June 11th 1903. They had a son Ervin Henry Kimmel
- ii Charles Wesley Bentz was born 1882. He married Katie. He died from a mule kicking him.
- iii Hattie M. Bentz was born 1884. She married Milton S. Klugh on February 25th 1909.^x In 1900 Hattie lived with her cousin, her uncle Tobias's daughter, Laura Smith.
- iv Edward Oscar Bentz was born April 18th 1886, and died March 4th 1959
- v Susie G. Bentz was born 1888
- vi Minnie V. Bentz was born 1889
- vii Elizabeth E. Bentz was born 1891
- viii Mamie Bentz was born 1893
- ix Iva Bentz was born 1895
- x Michael L. Bentz was born 1896
- xi Lottie I. Bentz was born 1898
- xii Lloyd C. Bentz was born 1901, and died March 31st 1971. He married Irene Bushey

^{vi} Christian and Catherine Sollenberger Shultz Family Bible, Taylor-Graham Family Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372

^{vii} Edwin Wrightstone (1874-1957), Ibid

^{viii} Ibid

^{ix} The birth date came from Page 39, Descendents of John Sollenberger, Born 1771 – Died 1855, Six Generations, Compiled by D. L. Sollenberger, Shamokin Pa., 1921, as written by the families of John Sollenberger

^x Application # 21632, February 18th 1909, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 1740

7th Generation

Albert Earl Bentz (1877-19)

7. i Albert Earl Bentz: (*Tobias-6, Michael-5, Jacob Lau-4, Johan Jacob-3, Johan Nicholas-2, Andreas-1*) Albert was born October 1877, and baptized March 19th 1893 at Barrens Lutheran Church.

In 1900 Albert was living with his Uncle Christian F. Sollenberger and his wife Emma at 170 North Street Harrisburg Pennsylvania. Christian was an older brother of Albert's mother, Alice Barbara Sollenberger, who died June 2nd 1887. At the time Christian was a commercial trader of dry goods, and Albert was a piano salesman. Albert's mother Alice Barbara, who died in 1887, was Christian's sister. Christian and Alice are the children of Cyrus and Martha Sollenberger of Carroll Township York County Pennsylvania. Cyrus Sollenberger might be related to Albert's father, Tobias Bentz's second wife and her father, Jacob M. Sollenberger.^{xi}

Albert married Hettie A. in 1907. This was Hettie's second marriage. She was born in 1882. Albert and Hettie lived in Homestead Allegany County Pennsylvania. I have a decorative cardboard framed photo of Albert wearing what appears to be a Knights of Columbus outfit. The frame of the photo is marked Homestead PA. In 1910 Albert, Hettie, and their son Clair live in Homestead park, Mifflin Township Allegheny County Pennsylvania. Albert is a motorman on a street car. In 1920 they lived in R.D. #1 Homestead, Mifflin Township, and Albert was a conductor and assistant superintendent for Homestead and Mifflin Railway. By 1930 Albert, Hettie, and Clair lived on Main Street in the borough of Munhall Mifflin Township Allegheny County Pennsylvania. At that time Albert was a dispatcher for the street cars out of the car barn.

Albert was listed in the 1939-1940 Homestead Borough Directory, but he was not in the 1941 directory. In 1939-40 directory Albert and Hettie lived at 4000 Main Street. He was listed as a dispatcher, and would have been 63 year s old. Hettie would have been 58 years old. I lost them after that.

8. i Clair C. Bentz was born May 1908.

8th Generation

Clair C. Bentz (1908-19)

8. i Clair C. Bentz: (*Albert-7, Tobias-6, Michael-5, Jacob Lau-4, Johan Jacob-3, Johan Nicholas-2, Andreas-1*) Clair was born May 1908. There is a newspaper article; Big Damage Suit involving Clair Bentz of Munhall Pennsylvania. From Pittsburg Common Pleas Court, W. Roy Wilson and his wife were seeking \$50,000 in damages for the death of their son, Wilbert R. Wilson, 28 years old from Munhall Pennsylvania. Clair Bentz is named as the defendant in the suit. In August 1931, Wilson was a passenger in the car driven by Clair, when it hit a tree on Clairton Road, and Wilson was killed.^{xii}

^{xi} Jacob M. Sollenberger (1832-1899), Taylor~Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs PA, 17372.

^{xii} Monessen Daily Independent, Volume 30, No. 22, Front Page, Friday February 26th 1932

Bibliography

Page 39, Descendents of John Sollenberger, Born 1771 – Died 1855, Six Generations, Compiled by D. L. Sollenberger, Shamokin Pa., 1921, as written by the families of John Sollenberger

Bentz Families (Includes Pentz Families) of York County, Pennsylvania And Surrounding Areas", (October 1998), York County Heritage Trust, 250 East Market Street, York, PA 17403

1870 Michael Bentz Census: Warrington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: M593_1470; Page: 398B; Image: 84; Family History Library Film: 55296, 1870 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.; Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132, 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

1880 Michael Bentz Census: *Warrington, York, Pennsylvania*; Roll: *1206*; Family History Film: *1255206*; Page: *257A*; Enumeration District: *5*; 1880 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1880 Tobias Bentz Census: Monaghan, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1205; Family History Film: 1255205; Page: 211A; Enumeration District: 2; 1880 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1900 Ervin H. Bentz Census: Warrington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T623_1502; Page: 8B; Enumeration District: 177; 1900 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

1900 Albert Bentz Census: Harrisburg Ward 4, Dauphin, Pennsylvania; Roll: T623_1402; Page: 8A; Enumeration District: 52; 1900 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Washington, D.C., National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

1900 Laura V. Bentz-Smith Census: Washington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T623_1502; Page: 6B; Enumeration District: 179; 1900 United States Federal, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Washington, D.C., National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

1910 Ervin H. Bentz Census: Warrington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1434; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 102; Image: 856; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1910 Albert Bentz Census: Mifflin, Allegheny, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1295; Page: 8B; Enumeration District: 156; Image: 1554; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls), Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1910 Laura V. Bentz-Smith Census: Warrington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1434; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 103; Image: 879; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls), Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1910 Russell Bentz Census: Lemoyne, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Roll: T624_1335; Page: 12A; Enumeration District: 19; Image: 424; 1910 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls), Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1920 Albert Bentz Census: Mifflin, Allegheny, Pennsylvania; Roll: T625_1514; Page: 4A; Enumeration District: 246; Image: 433; 1920 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1920 Laura V. Bentz-Smith Census: Washington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T625_1668; Page: 11B; Enumeration District: 107; Image: 710; 1920 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls), Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

1920 Laura V. Bentz-Smith Census: Washington, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: 2166; Page: 11A; Enumeration District: 80; Image: 628.0; 1930 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census, Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930; T626, 2,667 rolls.

WWI Roy Henry Firestone Draft Registration: York County, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1927082; Draft Board: 1; World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C., National Archives and Records Administration; M1509, 4,582 rolls.

WWI Joseph H. Smith Draft Registration: York County, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1927083; Draft Board: 1; World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, M1509, 4,582 rolls.

WWI Albert Earl Draft Registration: *Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*; Roll: 1852292; Draft Board: 6; *World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States, Selective Service System. *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, M1509, 4,582 rolls.

1930 Albert Bentz Census: Munhall, Allegheny, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1968; Page: 26A; Enumeration District: 697; Image: 438.0; 1930 United States Federal Census, Provo, UT, USA; Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census, Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930, T626, 2,667 rolls.

Ends Notes

-
- ¹ Birth Records (1893-1906) Book 04, Page 014, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402
- ² Birth Records (1893-1906) Book 04, Page 01, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402
- ³ Birth Records (1893-1906) Book 05, Page 021, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402
- ⁴ Marriages (1185-1929), Application #10620, License Book Q, Page-304, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402
- ⁵ Marriages (1885-1929), Application #3361, License Book I, Page 166, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402
- ⁶ Marriages (1185-1929), Application #20669, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402
- ⁷ Birth Records (1893-1906) Book 05, Page 009, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402