

John George Einzig (1847-1879)

John George Einzig was born December 4th 1847 to Anton Einzig ⁱ and Elenora Schmidberger ⁱ in the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Parish ² of Freystown, ⁱⁱ Spring Garden Township York County Pennsylvania. ³ John went by the name George.

- The name John George came from two sources; John came from the 1850 census record, and the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Parish 1858 census record, and George came from every record since 1860.
- Since Georeg died in 1879, he nor the name John, were identified in his mother's 1880 Estate Performance Petition, filed in York County Pennsylvania. ⁴

John lived with the family, and after his father died in 1858, John began using the name George. In 1860 George was still with the family, and he became a brush and basket maker who lived in Freystown Spring Garden Township York Pennsylvania.

George was known as Greeny, ⁵ who was an alcoholic; typically being drunk early mornings and for days at a time. When drunk, he would become an ugly and excitable ill tempered person, but when sober George would be amenable and a kind person.

In 1870 George lived with his mother on Ridge Avenue in Freystown. He married Barbara Gehring ⁶ on December 27th 1870, at the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church, York Pennsylvania. ⁷ Barbara was born July 11th 1855. She was the only child born to Andrew Gehring and Maria (Mary) Weisenfahrt ⁱⁱⁱ in York, York County Pennsylvania. Barbara was described as a large woman, 160 to 170 pounds.

George and Barbara lived with George's mother for about 6 ½ years, and by late fall 1877 Barbara left George, and went to live with her parents. The relationship had not been good; physical and verbal abuse brought on by George's constant dinking. George cited that Barbara was being intimate with another married man. Barbara and her children went to live with her parents in the neighborhood of Bull Frog Alley on East King Street. George would frequently visit Barbara and children, and at times staying for days at a time. ⁸

ⁱ George's father Anton married Elenora Schmidt on May 17th 1847, making George her 1st child.

ⁱⁱ Freystown was a flourishing community with a rich history just east of York city, bounded approximately by Broad Street, King Street, Harrison Street and Philadelphia Street. Early settlement centered on what is now East Market Street around Ridge Avenue and Diehl's Mill Road (Sherman Street). Freystown became part of York city around 1900 (sources vary), but not without reluctance.

ⁱⁱⁱ The name Weisenfahrt is also affiliated with Anton's Parents: Elias Enizig and Agnes Wiesenfad. Another spelling of the name is Wisafautin.

At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday January 2nd 1879, George arrived at the Barbara's parent's house to visit, friends also arrived, and everyone was having conversations. There was no drinking during the visit, and the guest left at around 8:15 that evening. At 8:30 George got up from his chair and went outside, when he returned he pulled a six inch butcher knife out of his coat jacket, and cut Barbara's throat from ear to ear. ⁹ Barbara was 23 years old when she died Thursday evening about 8:35, January 2nd 1879, at her parent's home. ¹⁰

After George murdered his wife, he went back to his home, where L. H. Greenawalt, the constable, found him, arrested him, and took him to jail. When the constable asked George why he did it, George said; "I could not have her, and they could not have her." ¹¹

After the murder trial, George hung himself in the Cell #19 of the York County prison on Saturday April 26th or Sunday 27th 1879 at or between the hours of 10:00 o'clock p.m. and 6:00 o'clock a.m. ¹² George could not read or write, ^{iv} but a letter was found in his cell written in German.

50 people attended the burial of George, when he was laid to rest Monday in an unconsecrated corner of the Saint Mary's Cemetery ^v in York Pennsylvania. There was no ceremony for the occasion. ¹³ FAG#: 139995615

The locations of where George and Barbara are buried has not been identified.

George and Barbara may have had four children. ¹⁴⁻¹⁵

- i. Joseph Einsig (1870-1943). ¹⁶ He married Emma Wire.
- ii. David J. Einzig (1873-1923). ¹⁷ He married Mary Ellen Keller.
- iii. Mary Einzig (1876-1912). She married Orpheus Butcher.
- iv. Andrew Antonium Einzig was born April 23rd 1878 to George Einzig and Barbara Gehring. Andrew was baptized May 5th 1878. ¹⁸ Andrew was not mentioned in the petition for guardianship in 1879. ¹⁹

^{iv} George could not read or write does not indicate he could not read or write German.

^v Saint Mary's-Saint Patrick's Cemetery is also known as: Saint Mary Cemetery, Saint Patrick Cemetery at Violet Hill York County Pennsylvania.

Mary Einzig (1876-1912)

Mary Einsig was born September 7th 1876 to George Einsig and Barbara Gehring²⁰ in Freystown Spring Garden Township York Pennsylvania.

Mary was just short of her 16th birthday when her grandfather, Andrew Gehring, gave his consent for her to marry 21 year old blacksmith named Orpheus E. Butcher on September 24th 1892 in York Pennsylvania.²¹ Orpheus was born April 4th 1871 to William Butcher and Elenora Gemmill in York Pennsylvanian.²²

In 1900 Mary's niece Katherine Einsig, the daughter of her uncle David and his wife Mary Ellen Keller, lived with Mary and Orpheus in the old Bull Frog Alley neighborhood of old Freystown; 614 East King Street in York Pennsylvania. Orpheus was still working as a smithy and blacksmith.

By 1910 the family bought a home at 740 East King Street in York; next door to Mary's 3rd cousin, John Einsig, and his wife Maggie.²³ Orpheus was a smithy at a carriage works. Living with them was 27 year old Andrew Lucks.

Mary was 35 years old when she died at home, 742 East King Street, on May 25th 1912. She was laid to rest May 28th at the Prospect Hill Cemetery in York. Her husband was the informant on her death certificate.²⁴ FAG#:128508396^{vi}

After Mary died Orpheus moved to 383 South Albemarle Street in York. He was 68 years old he died October 14th 1939 at the York Hospital. He was laid to rest October 17th at Prospect Hill Cemetery. His daughter, Mrs. Estella Gable, was the informant on his death certificate.²⁵ FAG#:158548489

In 1900 Mary indicated she had three children, but none of them were still living. By 1910 she indicated she had four children, and one was still living.

- i. Unknown Butcher child was born about May 1893, and died prior to 1900.
- ii. Mary M. Butcher was born March 1894 in Freystown in Spring Garden Township York County Pennsylvania. Since birth she had jaundice, and was one month old when she died April 5th 1894 at home. She was laid to rest April 7th at the Prospect Hill Cemetery in York.²⁶ FAG#:158548776

^{vi} Find-A-Grave, FAG, is a web site for cemetery memorials, <http://www.findagrave.com>

iii. Catherine Estella Butcher ^{vii} was born April 1st 1901 ²⁷ to Orpheus Butcher and Mary Einsig in York Pennsylvania.

Catherine ^{viii} was 18 years old when she married Willis Gable ^{ix} on July 5th 1919 in York Pennsylvania. ²⁸ Willis Eugene Gable was born April 6th 1900 to John W. and Cora E. Gable in York Pennsylvania. ²⁹

After they married the couple went to live with Willis's parents, where Willis was a laborer for a chain manufacturer; General Machine Works on Market Street in York. By 1930 the still lived in the area at 383 Albemarle Street in York, where Willis worked as an operator in a movie house.

In 1940 the family lived at 900 East King Street in York. Willis was a truck driver for the Motor Express Company.

Catherine died in February 1979. ³⁰

- a. Lester E. Gable was born in 1921
 - b. Lewis E. Gable was born in 1924
 - c. Viola C. Gable was born in 1928
 - d. Robert M. Gable was born in August 1929
- iv. William Orpheus Butcher was born December 13th 1905 in York Pennsylvania. He just turned 4 months old when he died April 21st 1906 of tubercular meningitis. He was laid to rest April 23rd at the Prospect Hill Cemetery. His father was the informant on his death certificate. ³¹ FAG#:128511504

^{vii} Catherine's name was determined using census records, and her marriage record.

^{viii} The spelling on her marriage application and license was Cathryne

^{ix} Other spellings of Gable are Gabel.

Bibliography

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3. 1860 Elenora Einzig (Einsig) Census: Spring Garden, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: M653_1199; Page: 830; Image: 113; Family History Library Film: 805199; 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
4. 1870 Elenora Auble (Einzig) Census: Spring Garden, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: M593_1469; Page: 351A; Image: 694; Family History Library Film: 552968; 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.
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6. 1879 Andrew Gehring Murder Charge Against George Einsig; The information came from the Clerk of Courts Quarter Session Dockets (1877-1949), Defendant: George Einsig; Charge: Assault with Intent to Murder: Case#: 002; Session: January; Docket: 100; Page: 002; Docketed: Yes; Papers: Yes; Notes: Victim, Andrew Gehring; Year: 1879; York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania, 17402.
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8. 1880 Joseph Einsig Census: Spring Garden, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1207; Family History Film: 1255207; Page: 217A; Enumeration District: 020; 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.
9. 1880 Andrew and Mary Gehring Census: Spring Garden, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: 1207; Family History Film: 1255207; Page: 217A; Enumeration District: 020; 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.
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13. 1920 Willis E. and Catharine Gable Census: York Ward 10, York, Pennsylvania; Roll: T625_1669; Page: 12B; Enumeration District: 136; Image: 863; 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.; Note: Enumeration Districts 819-839 are on roll 323 (Chicago City).
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End Notes

¹ Anton Einsig (1804-1859) Research Paper: Taylor-Graham Library, 479 County Line Rd, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

² John Einzig Name and Birth Date: The information came from the children of Anton and Eleanora Schmidberger, from the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church Parish circa 1858 Census Record, Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church, York Pennsylvania, York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

³ George Einzig Parents Names and Place of Birth: His place of birth came from the 1850 and 1860 census records cited in the bibliography.

⁴ Anton and Elenora Names of Their Children: The name came from Page 5, Decree Estate of Elenora Einsig, Deceased, Petition for Fredrick Myers for Decree of Specified Performance, Filed May 10th 1880, Book: XX; Page: 133, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania, 17402.

⁵ George Einsig Nickname: The name came from Barbara's mother Mary's trial transcript, Column 3, J.H. Greenawalt, Einsig Murder Trail, Page 1, Saturday, April 26th 1879, The York Daily, York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

⁶ George Einzig Marriage: the information came from George's son, David J. Einzig's Pennsylvania Death Certificate #63858, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁷ George Einsig and Barbara Gehring Marriage: The information came from the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church Records, Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church, York Pennsylvania, York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

⁸ George Einsig Murder-Suicide Research Paper: Taylor-Graham Library, 479 County Line Rd, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

⁹ The Murder Weapon: The information Column 3, Charles Shultz and William Albright, Einsig Murder Trail, Page 1, Saturday, April 26th 1879, The York Daily; York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

¹⁰ George Einzig Murder of His Wife Barbara: The information came from five newspaper articles published between January and April 1889; 1.) Another Atrocious Murder, Page 1, Friday, January 3rd 1879, The York Daily; 2.) The Einsig Wife Murdered, Page 1, Saturday, January 4th 1879, The York Daily; 3.) Einsig Murder Trail, Page 1, Friday, April 25th 1879, The York Daily; 4.) The Einsig Murder Trail, Page 1, Saturday, April 26th 1879, The York Daily; 5.) Tragedy In The Jail, Page 1, Monday, April 28th 1879, The York Daily, York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

¹¹ George and Barbara Children, Identified in the News Article: The information came from Column 2, Andrew Gehring and Mary Gehring, Einsig Murder Trail, Page 1, Saturday, April 26th 1879, The York Daily; York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

¹² George Einzig Death Date: The information came from the following record: George Einsig 1879 Admin Bond 3A-056, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania, 17402.

¹³ George Einsig Burial: The information came from a news article, Page 4, City and County Miscellany, Wednesday, April 30th 1879, Volume XII, Patriot, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Library, 607 South St, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

¹⁴ The Children of George Einzig: Three names of children came from the following record; George Einsig 1879 Petition for guardian, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania 17402.

¹⁵ Barbara Einsig Having Four Children: The information came from several testimonies cited in the news article, Another Atrocious Murder, Page 1, Friday, January 3rd 1879, The York Daily; York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

¹⁶ Joseph Einsig (1870-1943) Research Paper: Taylor-Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁷ David Einzig (1873-1923) Research Paper: Taylor-Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.

¹⁸ Andrew Antonium Einzig Name, Birth and Baptism dates, and Parent's Names: The information came from the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church Records, Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church, York Pennsylvania, York County Heritage and Trust, 250 East Market Street, York Pennsylvania 17402.

¹⁹ The Children of George Einzig: Three names of children came from the following record; George Einsig 1879 Petition for guardian, York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania 17402.

²⁰ Mary Einsig Birth Date and Parent's Names: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #: 50127, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

²¹ Mary Einsig Marriage: The information came from the Marriage Records (1885-1949), Application: 5535; Book: L; Page: 105; York County Archives, 150 Pleasant Acres Road, York, Pennsylvania, 17402.

²² Orpheus Bucher Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #: 92688, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

²³ John Einzig Jr. (1864-1939) research paper, Taylor-Graham Library, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372, <http://taylorgrahamlibrary.net>.

²⁴ Mary Einsig Husband's Name, Death Date, and Burial: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #: 50127, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

²⁵ Orpheus Bucher Wife's Maiden Name, Death Date, Residence, and Burial: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #: 92688, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

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²⁷ Catherine Einsig Birth Date: The information came from her Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007, Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.

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²⁹ Willis Eugene Gabel Name, Mother's Name, Birth Date, and Occupation: The information came from his WW I draft registration; Pennsylvania; Registration County: York; Roll: 1927081;

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³⁰ Catherine Gable Death Date: The information came from her Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007, Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.

³¹ William Orpheus Bucher Birth Date, Parent's Names, Death Date, and Burial: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #: 41143, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.