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# Die Deutsche Ecke

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The German Corner: #11

Cranberry Prairie

David A. Hoying

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The 2000 emigrants from Oldenburger Münsterland emigrated for the most part in a fifty year period, from 1832 through 1885. Most of them sailed from the port of Bremen and landed either in Baltimore, New York, or New Orleans. This I have written about in a previous *German Corner*. The greatest number of the emigrants, 543 of them, came from Damme (parish of St. Viktor). This was followed by Neuenkirchen (parish of St. Bonifatius) with 251, Steinfeld (parish of St. Johann Baptista) with 124, Dinklage (parish of St. Catharina) with 122, Lohne (parish of St. Gertrud) with 109, Langförden (parish of St. Laurentius) with 101, Holdorf (parish of Ss. Petrus & Paulus) with 99, Bakum (parish of St. Johann Baptista) with 71, and Visbek (parish of St. Vitus) with 60. Smaller numbers of emigrants came from the other villages including Altenoythe, Cappeln, Cloppenburg, Emstek, Essen, Garrel, Goldenstedt, Lastrup, Lindern, Löningen, Lutten, Oythe, Ramsloh, Vechta, Vestrup, and Wildeshausen. Twistringen (parish of St. Anna) is included with 84 emigrants, as it had belonged to Oldenburg until 1817. Coming to west-central Ohio, these emigrants from the *Oldenburger Münsterland* found a home in what I have designated as the *Ohio Münsterland*®. The *Ohio Münsterland*® consists of this: Minster founded in 1832, (St. Augustine Parish, founded in 1834), Jackson Township, Auglaize County; Berlin [Fort Loramie] founded in 1838, (St. Michael Parish, founded in 1838), McLean Township, Shelby County; Saint John [Maria Stein] founded in 1838, (St. John the Baptist Parish founded in 1836, along with St. Rose of Lima Parish founded in 1839), Marion Township, Mercer County; and Saint Henry founded in 1837, (St. Henry Parish founded in 1839), Granville Township, Mercer County. These townships would also include some of the smaller parishes like St. Sebastian and Philothea. Some Oldenburg immigrants did settle outside the boundaries of these townships and parishes, like at St. Anthony. Within the *Ohio Münsterland*® there was a cohesiveness of culture, language, and faith. The greatest percentage of settlers were speakers of Low German. Besides Oldenburg, these came from Hannover and Westphalia. There were groups in these townships who did speak High German and had a different culture. These came from Baden, Bavaria, and Hessen. Even though Low Germans and High Germans were united by their Catholic faith, there does not appear to be much intermarriage between them in the first decades of settlement.

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## ***A German - Latin Lexicon: Dates***

The order for the placement of the year, month, and day according to the European system is as follows: *NUMBER OF DAY* in Arabic numerals; *NUMBER OR NAME OF MONTH* in Arabic or Roman numerals; *NUMBER OF YEAR* in Arabic numerals. When Arabic or Roman numerals are used for the month, periods [.] separate the numerals from the day and year.

Examples: **18 October 1999**   **30.X.1999**   **30.10.1999**

Care must be taken when deciphering the number of the month according to the Latin system. These four should be particularly noted:

<b>7bris</b> =	Septembris (September)	<u>not</u> July	<b>9bris</b> =	Novembris (November)	<u>not</u> September
<b>8bris</b> =	Octobris (October)	<u>not</u> August	<b>10bris</b> =	Decembris (December)	<u>not</u> October

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## ***From whence they came...***

### **KINGDOM OF HANNOVER**

<b>Vörden:</b>	Settlage
<b>Weissenburg:</b>	Danzig
<b>Wittlage:</b>	Wehrman
<b>not known:</b>	Ahlers, Borges, Dickmann, Imholt, Kothmann, Lindhaus, Rodweg, Rotert, Rumschlag, Ruschau, Schrage, Weghorst, Zurlein

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